



# August Newsletter

Issue 3. 2022

## Who we are and how we ought to live...

Dear BCA Families,

I was unsure if I would finish this newsletter in time to call it the “August” newsletter. There is important living going on at BCA. Not that this newsletter is unimportant, but August has brought new life within our walls. I have found myself often asking, “Where does the time go?”

*Orare, Laborare, Ludere* - To pray, to work, to play. These actions are included throughout our day for all students and we had a special discussion about the time and place for each of these before we began class today. Praying and working are necessary parts of a healthy Christian life. Play is important too, but it is mostly enjoyable and, for the most part, we don’t have to try so hard to do it.

We begin and end each day with prayer here at BCA. Together. 3 year olds up to middle schoolers. Throughout the day, teachers also pray with their class. Play happens at recess, a little bit at lunch, and at other down times decided upon by the teacher. We also have scheduled some fun, school-wide activities this year that our middle schoolers will be organizing and leading. But, today’s discussion was focused on work and the important work that we come to school to do. We needed a reminder.

Who we are and how we ought to live are important things for us to know. We are human beings, made in the image of God. That translates to many attributes of His that we get to enjoy as His creation, but today we focused on work. As an adult, whether we labor inside or outside of the home, or both, work takes up a lot of time. Whether it is school, a job, housework, gardening, caring for others, it is how many of our hours are spent.

Work is necessary for us to grow and learn, and to support and care for our families. Work is also just an outright good thing to do (as opposed to sloth). However, there is even something more fundamental about work- it corresponds to the nature God gave us as human beings. Who we are and how we ought to live are questions that are answered for us through the Bible, the only authoritative word of God. Right from the beginning we find that God required work of Adam: to exercise dominion over the other creatures, to be fruitful and multiply, to fill and subdue the earth. Who we are - human beings made in the image of God; How we should live - in accordance with how he created us and instructs us in His word. These are underlying beliefs that frame our work here at BCA and allow us to work within our purpose here at school.

So, today we talked about the importance of our work and the right behavior that allows such important work to happen. We are focusing on a few main things this week. Namely, raising hands and staying silent

during class. Teachers have also chosen one or two other misbehaviors that are specific to their class to focus on this week.

We do not want to overwhelm the students and we recognize that some bad habits have already been formed. I must admit that much of this is my fault, as I didn't have a specific enough plan on day one. But, we are all learning and that's okay. So, this week is our practice week.

We are going through all of the steps for correction and follow-through, but it is practice. Their name goes on the board if they break the rule. If they break the rule again, they fill out a little piece of paper and give it to me at some point during the day and I speak with them about it. I visit classrooms randomly throughout the day as well, in case there is an opportune time to discuss their misbehavior in the hallway. I explain what the punishment will be if they continue to break the rule after this week's "practice time." Part of the punishment, beginning next week, will be that I will call you. If you refer to page 23 of the handbook, this protocol can be found under the "Office Visit Policy." Breaking a rule multiple times fits under I.A. Disrespect and I.C. Rebellion, (i.e. outright and/or **continued** disobedience in response to instructions).

Students are sure to be upset if they break the rules. They might be a little anxious, there will be some disappointment, maybe some vexation. Let us help them understand that these emotions aren't signs that someone else has failed, but rather they are suffering the consequences of their own misbehavior.

Oh, let us go deeper then and pray that they see sin for what it is. That they see more and more the sin in their own life before they see the sin in their friend's life. That they see how our sin is sometimes felt by those around us. That then they will all remember and see their need for a Savior. And let us pray those things for ourselves as well as we continue to learn who we are and how we ought to live.

In Christ, Andrea Hutchins

## **NEWS & UPDATES**

**BOARD UPDATES:** Board meeting dates and times will be posted on the website and at the secretary desk at least one week before a board meeting. A general agenda will also be posted.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** If you are not receiving Reach Alert texts every Tuesday for announcements, please call the office and let Sarah know.

### **DATES:**

- **BCA Family Night (Induction & Training):** Monday, September 12th at 6:00 pm, Parkway's Sanctuary

***Be sure to check our website and social media regularly for new teacher bios to be added!***

**If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out!**  
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