



THE LION'S ROAR

OF BERKS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Proudly celebrating 30 years of God's blessings!

VOLUME XXX

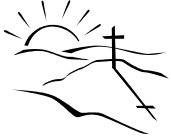
April, 2006

Issue 5

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 12 – No AM or all day Kindergarten
Grades 1- 12 dismissal at 11:45

April 13 thru and including April 17- School Closed



EASTER VACATION

April 18 –8:10 AM School Re-opens

April 21 – Jr. Sr. Banquet at Sterling Mansion

April 22 – Mulch Sale to benefit Volleyball

May 5 – WALK-A-THON at Gring's Mill

May 20 – Family Fun Day and Chicken Bar-B-Q

REGISTRATION FOR 2006-07

Just a reminder to those of you who have not already re-enrolled your students for next year. Get those re-enrollments in before April 15 to get the \$75 rate. After April 15 the re-enrollment cost is \$150.

As of today we have over 80 students enrolled which is far above most years. We still have space left in the PreK 3 and PreK 4.

FIRST ALUMNI DINNER

On Saturday, March 25th BCS held its 1st annual Alumni Dinner. Perry Heliger and his staff prepared the chicken cordon bleu meal for over 80 people including alumni from the class of 1980 all the way through last year's graduates. The meal was a great success, and we hope to build on it for next year! We would also like to send out a BIG thank you to all the families who gave up their Saturday to help prepare the meal, as well as the students who babysat and served the meal. It was great to see so many people pull together to provide the event for the alumni.

SPRING FUND RAISER

BCS is all charged up for the big spring fund raiser! We began our events with a school-wide door decorating contest to get ready for our "Go for the Gold" pep rally.

DOOR DECORATING CONTEST

During the week of March 20 groups of students could be seen huddled outside classroom doors, speaking in hushed but excited tones, scurrying around the school with paint brushes, tape and shiny gold paper, and in some cases strings of lights draped around their necks. It was obvious that something was happening, and it was not the week before Christmas. Such team work is rarely exhibited off the sports fields. There were whispers about judges, but no one seemed to know the identity of those mysterious individuals. They would be doing the judging on Friday after school hours when the halls would be silent, so they could give their full attention to the difficult task of deciding which doors were worthy of the PRIZES. Some teams had very attention grabbing ideas --- like music, cookies, and flashing lights. Some teams enlarged the area to be decorated using paper frames. It all began with brainstorming ideas and much compromising.

Many talents were put to use from painting trees to purchasing cookies and gold coins; from curling ribbon to crafting miniature palm trees; from searching for scissors and duct tape to incorporating scripture verses. Then came the long wait to find out which secondary and which elementary class would be judged prize-winners. The winners would be announced in an all-school chapel on Wednesday morning. As far as this writer could tell this was all kept very top secret. There were no information leaks.

On Wednesday excitement was running high, because it was finally time to reveal the winners. It was dubbed "**GO FOR THE GOLD**" DAY. Dress for the day was casual with **GOLD** the featured color.

The winning class will receive a pancake breakfast, a homework exemption, and a day out of BCS uniform, while the 2nd place team receives a pancake breakfast. The winners are... Elementary: 1st place- 5th grade (Miss Kline), and 2nd place was Kindergarten (Mrs. Crabtree) and in High School: We had a two way tie for 1st place between 9th grade (Mrs. Becker) and 10th grade (Mr. Warner). The 1st place winning teachers will also receive a half-day off with pay and a lunch certificate! Congratulations to all classes, your doors were amazing!

KICK OFF DAY

Wednesday, March 29 was Kick Off Day for the WALK-A-THON SPRING FUND RAISER. Each student in the school received a packet to get them started on this exciting adventure which features many truly exciting prizes both for the students and for families including mall gift certificates, tickets to the movies, Dorney Park or Hershey Park passes, and a new bike. Our grand prize is a choice of a Limo ride to the King of Prussia mall with lunch and shopping money for the student and 3 friends, or tickets to an Eagles/Sixers/Flyers/Phillies game, or an Xbox 360!



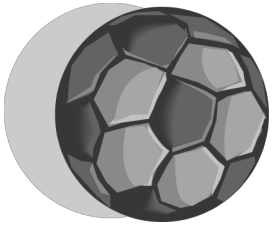
BCS FAMILY FUN DAY

We are looking forward to celebrating God's provision for BCS on Saturday May 20th for our BCS Family Fun Day and Chicken-Bar-B-Q! More details to come on this event!

MERCY COMMUNITY CRISIS PREGNANCY CENTER

Recently classrooms had collection jars in them for donations for this very worth while organization. I am thrilled to report that God blessed this collection, and we were able to send them \$309.40

Thanks to those 7th graders who faithfully collected the coins, and counted and wrapped many pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters.



Lions Roar Sports

Varsity and Middle School Track-

Coach Becker and Coach Riccardelli are working hard to prepare the track teams for continued success! There are almost 30 students participating this year and the season is off to a good start. A select group of varsity athletes recently participated in the Liberty University Invitational held in the warm weather climate of Lynchburg, VA! (Ironically the meet was moved indoors due to SNOW!) While it is early in the season the track team is already seeing good results from their hard work.

Congratulations to Brittany Murray! New School Record in the High Jump 5'2"!

You are invited to see our varsity teams in action on Saturday, the 15th in our closest to Home meet of the season at Exeter High School at the Don Seltzer Relays beginning at 9:00am.

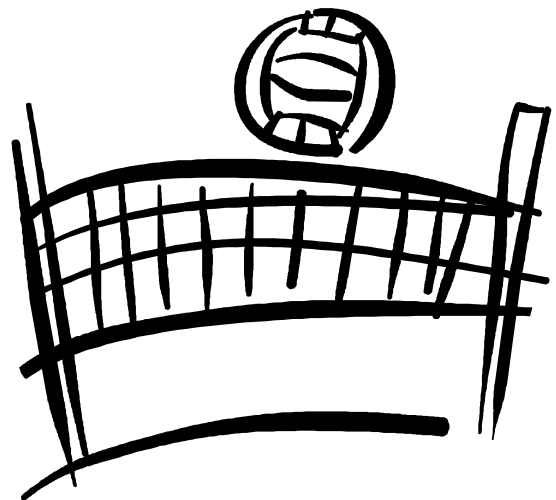
Varsity Girls' Soccer

Coach Ermold and Coach Sutowski are leading our Lady Lions soccer team this year. They are off to a 1-1 start--losing to Harrisburg Christian 0-4 and defeating Linden Hall 2-1. The team faces the challenge of inexperience; half the team has never played soccer before! Senior defensive captain, Tiff Ragland, will look to anchor a solid defense to keep the Lions in every game, while offensive captain, Camie Ragland, will lead the charge for BCS! Give it your all girls, we are behind you!

Girls' Soccer Schedule

4/10/06	Home	Upper Bucks Christian
4/11/06	Home	Lititz Christian
4/13/06	Away	Bible Baptist
4/18/06	Away	Linden Hall
4/25/06	Away	C.S. York
4/28/06	Away	High Point
5/02/06	Away	L. Word Academy
5/04/06	Home	Dayspring Christian
5/09/06	Away	CCAC
5/11/06	Away	CCAC

Mulch Sale to support BCS Lions Volleyball! Saturday, April 22nd from 9:00 am until 12:00 noon! Monty's Mulch (owned by BCS parents) will be providing mulch with a portion of the proceeds benefiting the girls who wish to go to volleyball camp! More details will be distributed soon!



Coaches wanted- The Berks Christian School Athletic Dept. has a need for coaches in the following sports. Middle School (5th-8th grade) Boys Soccer, and Boys and Girls Basketball. If you are interested or know someone who might be, please contact Mr. Love!

Is it worth it?

That may be the four-word question you're contemplating this spring as you either have already considered or are currently considering whether to continue enrolling your student(s) in the Christian school. Please allow me to challenge your thinking in regard to one particular matter.

As I watched a television interview on a recent evening, the topic centered on whether a father should be forced to pay child support for a baby he had fathered with his girlfriend. Since she refused to abort the baby, the father concluded—and was filing suit to prove—that he should not be held responsible for the child's support. As the interview continued, his attorney argued that this “father” was responsible only for creating a fetus—a collection of cells that she had chosen to keep.

The interviewer then challenged the attorney, declaring that he would accept the idea that the fetus was a collection of cells and not a human being only “when you become the deity.” The attorney's astounding response needs to be considered closely: “That's the public opinion now that's widely accepted, and it's the law of the land.”*

Please, please, catch the attorney's point—articulated clearly and succinctly. Since it's a common and widely accepted belief that a fetus in the womb is just a collection of cells rather than a human being—and since it's the law of the land—that's that; subject closed. The result is new “truth” and new “reality.”

I would be quick to point out that this incident is merely in multiplied instances within our culture. It is further strengthened by the notion that not to move in this stream of thought is to be narrow-minded, intolerant, and ignorant.

* The interview referenced above was between television host Bill O'Reilly and his guest Mel Feit of the National Center for Men; it aired on television in March 2006.

Your Christian school has a distinctive educational agenda that it is crucial to understand, an agenda centered on teaching and learning within a framework that has a biblical foundation.

Such a foundation recognizes that there *are* timeless and unchanging truths that people need to understand and embrace. Your students in the Christian school are being immersed in that framework, which is designed to help in developing hearts and minds that embrace God and desire to pursue life from the perspective of biblical truth.

Such an education is based on core biblical truths that will enable students to adopt or challenge opinions about every aspect of life. Social conduct and cultural responsibility are framed differently for the student who has been so educated. Knowing God's Word and believing in its reliability provides the student with a plumb line to test those “broadly accepted views and laws of the land.”

So, *is it worth it?* I am convinced it is—but for your own children and family, the call is one that you will have to make. The decision to continue your children's Christian schooling bears a significant economic and time investment. Nearly everyone recognizes the importance of investing in the right materials for the foundation of a building. Regardless of what is built above the ground, the most significant and important investment is in what is poured into the ground—the foundation. Your child's years of formal education are brief when seen against a lifetime, but that foundation is critically important.

Be assured, the educators in your Christian school know the importance of those foundational years. Which would you prefer that your children live by—the changing perspective of public opinion and acceptance, or a deep understanding of timeless biblical truth?

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Recently the BCS Committee adopted 25 Expected Student Outcomes for our school. These outcomes are the same as ACSI. They will serve as a tool to help us shape our curriculum, spiritual emphasis, activities, sports, and all we do here at BCS. With this issue of the Lion's Roar, we will present number 13 through number 25 of these outcomes. In the previous issues we presented the first 12 of these outcomes. It is our goal to produce graduates who...

13. *Know, understand and apply God's Word in daily life.*
14. *Possess apologetic skills to defend their faith.*
15. *Are empowered by the Holy Spirit and pursue a life of faith, goodness, knowledge, self-control.*
16. *Treat their bodies as the temple of the Holy Spirit.*
17. *Are actively involved in a church community, serving God and others.*
18. *Understand, value, and engage in appropriate social (community) and civic (political) activities.*
19. *Embrace and practice justice, mercy, and peacemaking in family and society*
20. *Value intellectual inquiry and are engaged in the marketplace of ideas (open honest exchange of ideas).*
21. *Respect and relate appropriately with integrity to the people with whom they work, play, and live.*
22. *Have an appreciation for the natural environment and practice responsible stewardship of God's creation.*
23. *Are prepared to practice the principles of healthy, moral family living.*
24. *Are good stewards of their finances, time (including discretionary time), and all other resources.*
25. *Understand that work had dignity as an expression of the nature of God.*

FINE ARTS AWARDS

Recently the Art Department sent some work by BCS students to The Fine Arts Festival in Lancaster. The following is a list of awards from this event:

Senior High School

Ashley Ziemer	Clay Bowl	Good
Stephanie Pena	Pastel	Good
Sarah Thomas	Mosaic	Excellent
Ethan Timberlake	Acrylic Painting	Excellent
Christi Ciliberti	Jewelry	Excellent
Jamie Raker	Jewelry	Excellent
Jamie Raker	Jewelry	1st Place Medal

Junior High School

Natalie Harper	Print	Excellent
Quang Nguyen	Acrylic Painting	Excellent
Tyler Clark	Mixed Media	Excellent
Tyler Clark	Sculpture – Dragon Mask	Superior &

BEST OF SHOW TROPHY

