

THE SCORPION SCOOP

Official Brandon Academy News



From the Head of School November 19, 2020

Dear Students, Colleagues, Parents, and Friends,

"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them." The words of President John F Kennedy ring very true as we approach the season of Thanksgiving. This is a time when we look back at the year coming to a close, forward to what awaits, and reflect on how our words and actions can positively affect what comes next in our lives.

When you are a very young school student, the small things matter. You are thankful that your snack tastes great today or that your teacher gave you her special smile. As you become an older student, you are grateful that you did the homework last night because the teacher called on you in class today. Or perhaps you are grateful that you really took all your teachers' advice to heart on that college application because now your top university is about to accept you. There are great things to be thankful for in the life of a student, and most of them begin with a teacher's words and deeds. Have no doubt--the faculty and I relish that responsibility, and in turn are grateful for the opportunity to teach and guide all our students at Brandon Academy.

To all those parents who supported this year's Book Fair, thank you so much for your support. On your behalf, I would like to thank our wonderful PTO volunteers for their great efforts in making the event such a success.

Tomorrow, we celebrate BA's 19th annual Grandparents' Day. [Here is the link](#) to this year's presentation. Lower school students will be bringing home a copy of the program as well as a treat for you to enjoy while watching the show!

The Grandparents' Day celebration provides a marvelous opportunity for our whole BA community to reconnect with extended family members, albeit via video this year. Traditionally, Grandparents' Day links us with friends and family from many distant miles and from across the generations. This resonates with us because our grandparents remind us of what our school education can do for us and where it can lead us. A special thanks to Jessica Wallen, Robert Mitchell, Cindy Strickland, Stephanie Thomas and the lower school teachers for organizing,

teaching, filming, and editing this year's edition. Our students sang their hearts out, and I hope you enjoyed it as much as we all did.

The next edition of our Scorpion Scoop will be coming to you on Friday, December 4th, which also happens to be the same day of my next Coffee. We will meet via Zoom, and I will send out a link on Wednesday, December 2.

A reminder to all Scorpion Scoop readers that the school offices will be closed next week for Thanksgiving. We reopen at the usual time on Monday, November 30th.

Enjoy a well-deserved and peaceful Thanksgiving break, everyone.

Kind regards,

Eric Miles
Head of School

News You Can Use



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HAPPY THANKSGIVING
EARLY RELEASE TOMORROW, FRIDAY,
NOVEMBER 20 @ NOON.
NO EXTENDED CARE AFTER SCHOOL.



Over the course of a week, the school donated **1,437 pounds of food** for Metropolitan Ministries and Trapnell Elementary! The 5th grade class brought in **306 lbs of food** and earned a free dress day, and the winner of the pizza party was the 3rd grade class, which brought in **407 pounds of food**! On behalf of the Middle School Builders Club and the High School Key Club, thank you to everyone who participated in helping others this holiday season.



Congratulations to senior, Hannah Rog, who was admitted to the University of South Florida this week! With a 1460 SAT score, we are certainly very proud of both of her accomplishments!

Congratulations to the following Lower and Middle School Spelling Bee Winners!

4th Grade
Lydia Muluken
Zania Rivera

5th Grade
Bethel Muluken
Ariel Signore



6th Grade
Alaina Mendoza
Eliel Lebron

7th Grade
Colin Karch
Aiden Fawcett

8th Grade
Aiden Chiarilli
Zi'ahre Jahami- Steele

Looking to test your vocabulary skills, [here is a link](#) to a NY Times spelling bee.

5th Grade



Taste of Middle School

The fifth grade class visited the Middle School on Wednesday, November 18 to experience a mini middle school schedule. They participated in a math, science, English, and social studies class during their visit. Each middle school subject teacher presented a lesson to the class and discussed what life is like when you are a BA middle school student. The students discussed A days and B days and how the schedule works in middle school. They were introduced to electives and the Fine Arts “wheel” that is being implemented into the curriculum. The students asked many questions and were very eager to learn about what a middle school day looks like. Because of all the interest, Mr. Miles provided each student with a copy of the schedule at the end of their experience. If your child is in our current fifth grade, ask them to share about their experience as a middle school student!

Athletic News

BA MS Soccer Games

Monday, Nov 30 vs. (Home) @ 3:30 pm/ 4:30 pm
TBA Playoffs

BAHS Basketball Dates 2020-2021

Friday, Dec 4 vs. Gulf Coast HEAT (Home) @ 5:00 pm
Tuesday, Dec 8 vs. Cristo Rey (Home) @ 5:00 pm
Thursday, Dec 10 vs. Bell Creek (Home) @ 5:00 pm
Tuesday, Dec 15 vs. Cristo Rey (Away) @ 6:00 pm
Friday, Jan 8 vs. Cambridge Christian (Home) @ 5:00 pm
Tuesday, Jan 12 vs. Universal Academy (Home) @ 5:00 pm
Thursday, Jan 14 vs. Foundation Christian (Away) @ 6:30 pm
Tuesday, Jan 19 vs. Cambridge Cristian (Away) @ 6:30 pm
Monday, Jan 25 vs. Brandon HS (Home) @ 5:00 pm
Friday, Jan 29 vs. Universal Academy (Away) @ 5:00 pm
Monday, Feb 1 vs. North Tampa (Home) @ 5:00 pm
Friday, Feb 5 vs. Gulf Coast HEAT (Away) @ 6:00 pm

District Tournament – Feb. 8,10, 12