

# THE SCORPION SCOOP

Official Brandon Academy News



## From the Head of School November 6, 2020

Dear Colleagues, Parents, Students, and Friends,

It seems that the rainy season may be just about coming to an end here in Tampa, and we are settling into the cooler months of the Florida fall. As patterns of school life and routine create new challenges and opportunities for our students across the grade levels, the early energy of the summer months and the back-to-school feel is fading away. One such routine is Homecoming Week, which will end this evening with the Homecoming football game at 7 pm. Our school demands a lot of its students in terms of their participation and achievement in many areas of academic, sporting, and creative endeavors. We also ask them to join equally as enthusiastically in the traditions of our school. Homecoming is no exception. I hope to see you at the game.

November 1<sup>st</sup> signals an important deadline in the university and college application process. Early Decision and Early Action applications must be filed by this date. I know that in the midst of everything else going on at school, many seniors and their families were busy working towards this important date. The Class of 2021 has submitted applications to some excellent colleges and universities so far, and the list includes: [University of Florida](#), [University of South Florida](#), [Florida State University](#), [Florida A&M](#), [Florida Gulf Coast University](#), [Florida Southern College](#), [Georgia Tech](#), [University of Miami](#), [Eckerd College](#), [Florida Institute of Technology](#), [Georgia State](#), [Florida Atlantic](#), [University of Central Florida](#), [University of Tampa](#), [Vanderbilt University](#), and [New York University \(NYU\)](#).



A BIG congratulations to senior, Rheeya Patel. She was admitted to the prestigious [Oglethorpe University](#) today!

The Fiske Guide to Colleges named **Oglethorpe** a “Best Buy” in 2019 and 2020 — a list of only 10 private and 10 public colleges and universities in the country. Oglethorpe earned an “A” in diversity. Oglethorpe was listed in the top 5 Georgia colleges and ranked 66th nationally of the 1713 U.S. colleges evaluated.

We are so proud of you, Rheeya!

I look forward to updating the BA community on future college admissions as well as with the final Class of 2021 matriculation list in May.

Enjoy your weekend,

Eric Miles  
Head of School

## Fall Open Houses

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The BA student is one who strives to achieve in the classroom, on the stage, and on the playing field. BA is committed to shaping and developing the scholar, artist, and athlete within each and every student who walks our halls. At BA, everything we do is in support of developing the mind, spirit, and talent of a well-rounded and civically minded individual.

Monday, November 9 kicks-off Articulation Week, which includes our annual Open Houses. The purpose of Articulation Week is to give parents a preview of what's in store for the 2021-2022 school year. Here is the schedule of the Open Houses for new families:

<b>Tue, November 10</b> <b>Lower School Open</b> <b>House Zoom Sessions</b> (Pre-K to Grade 5)	<b>Wed, November 11</b> <b>Middle School Open</b> <b>House Zoom Sessions</b> (Grades 6 - 8)	<b>Thu, November 12</b> <b>High School Open</b> <b>House Zoom Sessions</b> (Grades 9 -12)
Open to all new, interested families. Session 1 at 10am Session 2 at 6pm	Open to all new, interested families. Session 1 at 10am Session 2 at 6pm	Open to all new, interested families. Session 1 at 10am Session 2 at 6pm

If you have friends who wish to be considered for admission to Brandon Academy in August 2021, please pass on this information and invite them to participate in one of the upcoming Zoom Open Houses. [Here is the link to sign up.](#)

Any additional questions can be directed to Cindy Strickland for the Lower School or Eric Miles for the Upper Divisions. Thank you!

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### **Brandon Academy is Officially Accredited by [Cognia](#).**

Cognia has served education institutions and students since 1895. That's when they began their legacy of accomplishments in school improvement and accreditation, and they have been leaders in assessment for close to four decades. Cognia's focus is firmly on seeking what works in your schools, providing learning forums for skilled educators, and helping you provide students with the opportunities that knowledge brings.



## The Brandon Academy Fall Book Fair



You're invited to shop our Scholastic Book Fair online from **November 9 – November 22!** All purchases benefit our school and connect kids with new books, favorite characters, complete series, and more. You'll love the **NEW** option to shop for **Book Fair exclusives** directly from the interactive booklist and enjoy these special online shopping features:



- Over 6,000 items, including new releases, best sellers, and value packs.
- All orders ship **directly to your home.**
- **FREE shipping** on book-only orders over \$25\*.
- All purchases **support our school** and earn 25% in rewards.
- **Look for the link on Monday, November 9!**



13791 N. Nebraska Ave. Tampa, FL 33613  
386-767-8882, CFC # 31529  
SupportOurTroops.Org  
Instagram @supportourtroops\_inc

02 November 2020

Brandon Academy  
801 Limona Road  
Brandon, FL 33510

Dear Brandon Academy,

Thank you for your charitable donation to the Support our Troops Care Pack Program! Support Our Troops, Inc., TIN33-1112829, is a 501(c)(3) public purpose charity that aims to boost the morale and welfare of our active duty troops and their families. Its success is a testament to the character of many of America's civilians, and thank you for being part of making it happen!

The Support Our Troops Care Pack Program ships care boxes to the front lines containing items specifically requested by the deployed troops. This is especially important outside the established holidays. Here's a look at how your donation is making a difference:

"Your organization's dedication to the morale and well-being of the unit significantly enhanced the success of our mission. Support Our Troops' selfless service reflects great credit upon the organization and its volunteers."

-Chris, Active Duty Soldier

"I have received the care packages, and I can't thank you guys enough. Items were spread around the office and there was so much that we reached out to others on our small camp. Everyone is incredibly grateful for the packages, I hope you guys understand how much they mean to us out here."

-Shane, Active Duty Soldier

We are pleased to send your donation to our soldiers overseas like Chris and Shane that request care packages from home. If your company has product with best by dates that are less than the amount that can be sold but not yet expired, they can be donated as well. Your gifts are greatly appreciated by our active duty troops.

Thank you for thinking of them.

Sincerely,

Support Our Troops®  
America's Military Charity

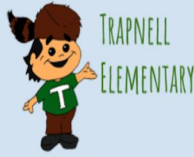


## THANK YOU, BA!

The Middle School Builders Club had a very successful drive. Many thanks to all of the families that contributed items!

# Boxes of Hope Food Drive

In partnership with



Please fill your classes' Box of Hope with as many of the following items to help families during the holiday season!

- |                                |                             |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Cereal Boxes                   | Can of Gravy                |
| Stuffing Boxes                 | Cake Mix                    |
| Canned Vegetables              | Canned Fruit                |
| 2 Small or 1 Large can of yams | All-Purpose Flour***        |
| Boxed Mashed Potatoes          | Vegetable Oil***            |
| Canned Beans                   | Adobo Sauce***              |
| 1 Can/Jar of Cranberry Sauce   | Bag of Dried Rice***        |
| Canned Soup                    | Bag of Dried Pinto Beans*** |

\*\*\*Items specific for Trapnell Elementary

**DRIVE ENDS FRIDAY NOV 13TH!**

Sponsored By



**Key Club and Builders Club  
of Brandon Academy**



The MS Builders Club and the HS Key Club will be holding a food drive next week to benefit [Metropolitan Ministries](#) and Trapnell Elementary School.

Winn Dixie will be donating turkeys for Trapnell families and BA will provide the fixings. Just as importantly, we will be collecting items to replenish the shelves at the Metropolitan Ministries food bank.

**THE CHALLENGE:** Each class's mission is to bring in 195 lbs. of food, the weight of Mr. Miles. (A typical can of food weighs about 16 oz or 1 lbs)

**THE PRIZE:** For every class that brings in over 195 lbs. of food, students will have a free dress day on Thursday, November 19. The class with the most food, measured in pounds, will receive a pizza party on Thursday, November 19.

**GOOD LUCK!**

## High School News

The BA High School is officially Team Facehugger in the [Virtual Drone \(VRAD\) competition](#). In this NASA-themed challenge, participants will program drones to operate on Mars and race to collect resources for their space base. Real-time programming (Python) in a martian environment creates an "ingenious" powerplay between exploration and innovation for any programming experience level.

There will be preseason matches - 1v1 with one student competing from each team, and then competitive season matches - 1v1 with 1-3 students working collaboratively per team. Good luck, Jacob and Kai!

## Pictures from Around Campus



Second graders practicing their spelling words.



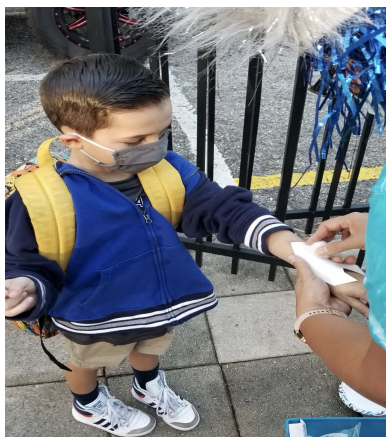
The 9th Grade Biology Class evaluating each other's projects.



The Administration dressing up on Decade Day during Homecoming Week.



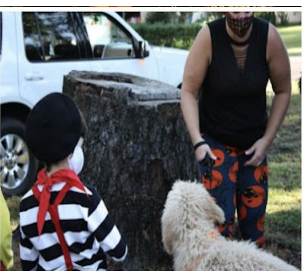
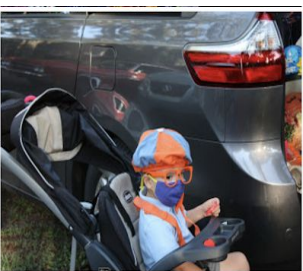
The Third Grade Class reacting after listening to a debate on which candy is better: M&Ms or Skittles and then voting. Skittles took the election!



First grader, Rocco, gets a scorpion tattoo from Mrs. Wallen, while Mrs. Moffett, Eliel, and Alaina sport their 50's attire on Decade Day.

**Pictures from last week's Halloween Parade, Haunted House, and Trunk-or-Treat.**

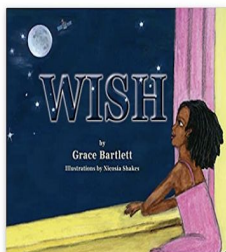






## Wish Hardcover – August 5, 2020

by Grace Bartlett (Author), Nicosia Shakes (Illustrator)



> See all formats and editions

<b>Hardcover</b> \$24.95 ✓prime	<b>Paperback</b> \$16.95 ✓prime
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2 New from \$24.95 2 New from \$16.95

Wish is about a little girl who sits in her room By the window looking out at a bright star and wishes to explore her world... She shines like the star... She rises with the sun... She sails through the sky... She blows cool like the breeze... She drives to the bottom of the sea... Like the moon, she is full of light goodnight

Congratulations to Grace Barlett, mother of Konjoi, Tiyanchi, Saturi, Zi-ahre, and Abeba for publishing her first book called **Wish**. Her book is available on Amazon!

## Athletic News

### BA Varsity Football Games

Friday, Nov 13 vs. Village View (Home) @ 3:30 pm  
Friday, Nov 20 Play-offs TBA

### BA MS Soccer Games

Tuesday, Nov 10 vs. (Home) @ 3:30pm/ 4:30 pm  
Friday, Nov 13 vs. (Away) @ 3:30 pm/ 4:30 pm  
Tuesday, Nov 17 vs. (Away) @ 3:30 pm/ 4:30 pm  
Monday, Nov 30 vs. (Home) @ 3:30 pm/ 4:30 pm

### 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