

THE SCORPION SCOOP

Official Brandon Academy News



From the Head of School

October 16, 2020

Dear Colleagues, Parents, Students, and Friends,

Growth Mindset describes an educational position which suggests that, if you cannot do it today, with time and effort, you will be able to do it tomorrow. It is an optimistic view of the potential in every child to get better at their studies, as long as they work hard and believe that they can improve and change over time. It gives confidence to teachers and learners that positive change is always possible. No matter how smart or how limited you believe yourself to be, there is always room for growth.

Last week, we discussed this concept in our faculty meeting. Someone said recently that the world runs on optimism. Certainly the life of a child does. We should, therefore, begin from this basic belief in human perfectibility when planning out our daily efforts to educate. Even the smallest possibility that a child's future can improve should incite the greatest endeavors in us all. As we reach the end of the first quarter today, students, please note there is enough time left to improve your grades, so take advantage of good planning to give yourselves the best opportunity of exceeding your own expectations. Parents, focus on the positive growth your child has made to date. Do not compare your child to other children, and make sure to look at the entire picture, not just one low grade. Take a look at the example below. Are you focused on my mistake, or are you proud of me for answering 9 out of 10 problems correctly?

$2 \times 1 = 2$

$2 \times 2 = 5$

$2 \times 3 = 6$

$2 \times 4 = 8$

$2 \times 5 = 10$

$2 \times 6 = 12$

$2 \times 7 = 14$

$2 \times 8 = 16$

$2 \times 9 = 18$

$2 \times 10 = 20$

Students often make mistakes, but it's how students receptively acknowledge and correct those errors that help them to grow as individuals. Of course, as parents, we want our children to get good grades and excel in school. However, character traits, such as grit, effort, time management, and academic ownership, are just as important in the development of students. Q1 grades and comments will be emailed to you on Friday, October 23.

Finally, over the Fall Break, my reading uncovered the interesting character of John Mason (1773 – 1839) who started out as a tailor and ended up a successful president of Chemical Bank in New York in the early years of the nineteenth century. Among other achievements, he is attributed with the following quotation, which I think accurately sums up my own view of education as being more than just a process of instruction and knowledge delivery. Mason wrote, “Don’t fall into the vulgar idea that the mind is a warehouse, and education but a process for stuffing it full of goods. The aim of education should be to convert the mind into a living fountain and not a reservoir. That which is filled by merely pumping in, will be emptied by pumping out.”

As we begin the important second quarter of the school year, let’s make it our aim to be a community where fountains, not reservoirs, dot the BA landscape.

Kind regards,

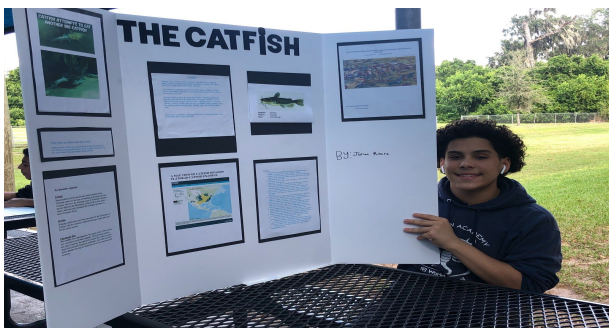
Eric Miles
Head of School

News From Around Campus

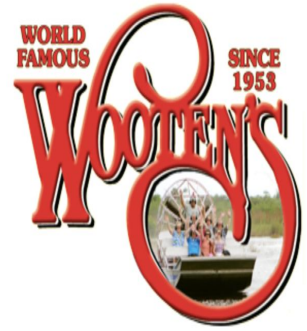
Two weeks ago, our very own Durham Shivel, grade 5, competed in a three day 10U AAA hockey tournament in Nashville, Tennessee.

His team played well against some of the country's best teams and ended with a 3-1-1 record, securing a Second Place trophy for the Tampa Bulls. Adding to the excitement, the Tampa Bulls are now ranked #25 in the nation out of all the country's 10U teams.

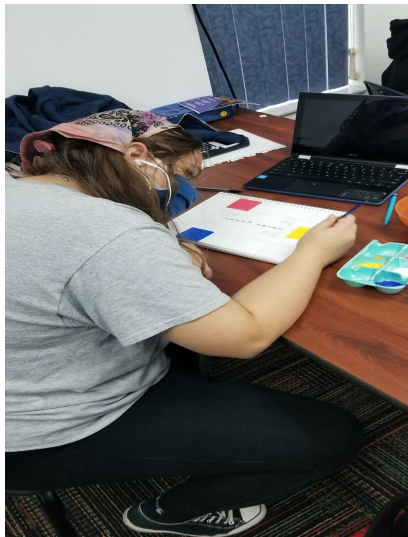
Congratulations, Durham!



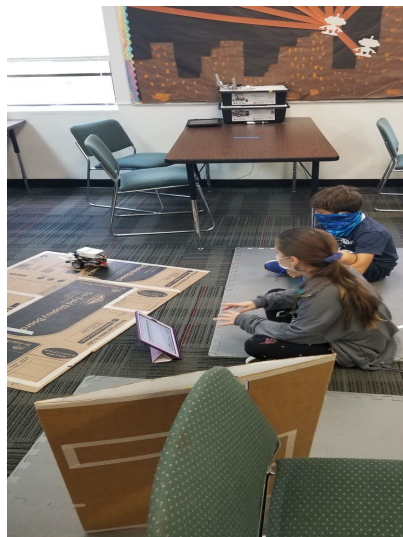
The 9th grade Environmental Science students present their Invasive Species project via carousel to their classmates.



The 8th grade Environmental Elective class took a field trip to the Florida Everglades. The students, parents, and teachers had fun learning about how important and fragile the Florida ecosystem is. Students got to ride an airboat and swamp buggy, held alligators, and had gator nuggets for lunch in Everglades City.



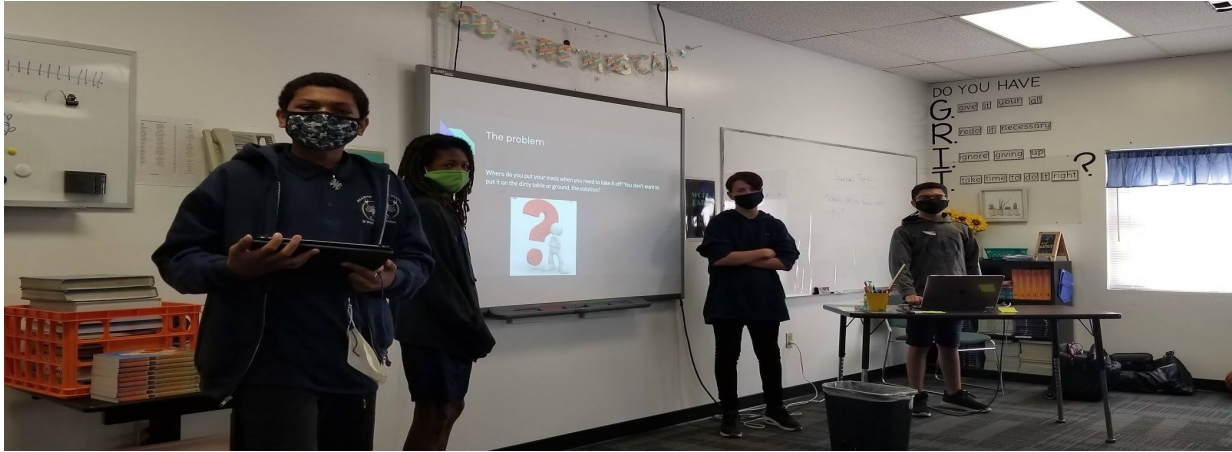
11th Grade IB Art Class



Middle School Robotics



8th Grade ELA



The Middle School Design Thinking Elective invited the administration to a presentation of 3 new COVID-19 created issues and introduced possible solutions. Their goal was to implement their solutions on campus this fall. One of the solutions was to paint stars on the lower school lunch tables to remind students of where they should safely sit. Well done, students!

News You Can Use

Friday, October 30 Dismissal moved to 1pm

It has been a long standing tradition for BA students to wear appropriate costumes to school for Halloween. This year, it is our intention to maintain the positive and fun spirit of this event. Wearing a costume is considered a school privilege. Students are allowed to wear their costumes during the course of the day. Each year, our students display some of the most well designed costumes that require a lot of thought and planning. This year should be no different. I look forward to seeing the creativity of our students when they arrive at school on October 30th.

Trunk or Treat

While many families are trying to figure out how to celebrate Halloween during COVID, we are pleased to announce that BA will have a Trunk or Treat for students in grades JK through 3rd grade at 8:45 am on Friday, October 30. We are limiting the number of cars to 30. Thank you to the families that have already signed up!

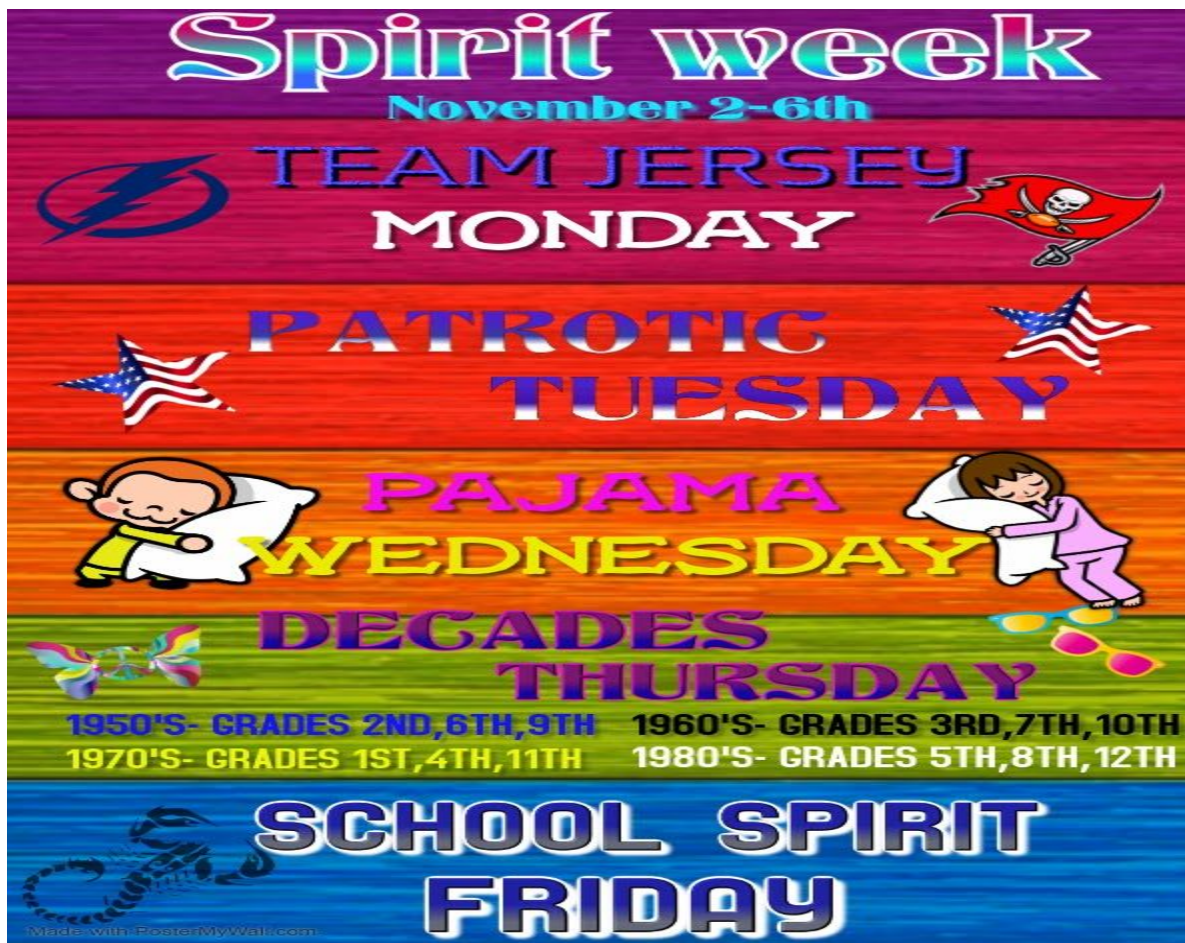
Parents that want to participate need to [sign-up here](#).

October 30th Schedule

8:15 Parents that have signed up for Trunk or Treat park by BA gym
8:30 LS Parade for JK - 3rd Grade Students
8:45 Trunk or Treat Parade by the Gym
10:00 Lower School & Upper School Haunted House
11:00 Lunches
1:00 Dismissal

Activities will be provided for students that can not be picked-up at 1:00 pm. Extended care will start at 3:30 pm as usual.

The 2020 BA Homecoming Week
Football Game at 7pm Under the Lights
Senior Night/ Homecoming King & Queen Announced at Half-time





Don't forget to pack your child a water bottle and extra masks!



Fall Open Houses

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.

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!

Below is the schedule for the week. Zoom links will be sent out on Friday, November 6.

Monday, November 9

Current and prospective families will be able to access a video to learn more about BA's plans for the 2021 - 2022 school year.

Tuesday, November 10

Lower School Day
(Pre-K to Grade 5)

Zoom Session at 8:30 am for all current 5th grade BA families to discuss the BA middle school program.

Lower School Open House Zoom Sessions

Open to all current BA families, as well as new, interested families at 10am and again at 6pm.

Wednesday, November 11

Middle School Day
(Grades 6 - 8)

Zoom Session at 8:30 am for all current 8th grade BA families to discuss the BA high school program.

Middle School Open House Zoom Sessions

Open to all current BA families, as well as new, interested families at 10am and again at 6pm.

Thursday, November 12

High School Day
(Grades 9 -12)

High School Open House Zoom Sessions

Open to all current BA families, as well as new, interested families at 10am and again at 6pm.

“Stepping Up” Program for students in grades 5 and 8.

From the Athletic Director, Mr. Galzerano.

BA Volleyball Season Recap



We had four volleyball teams this year represent BA - two junior varsity volleyball teams, a middle school varsity team, and a high school girls varsity team. All of the teams played hard and competed in every game throughout the season. The players' and coaches' enthusiasm was evident at every game, and I was most proud of the fact that the teams/players cheered for each other no matter what the score was!

A special thanks to Coach D and Coach Miles for taking the time to impart their knowledge, patience, and guidance onto their teams. We look forward to even more success next year. Great job to all the players and thanks for your hard work. **GO SCORPIONS!**

Football Game Changes

There have been date and time changes with the upcoming home high school football games.

- The game scheduled this Friday, October 16, against Classical Prep has been rescheduled for November 17 at home at 3:00 pm.
- The November 6 game against Geneva Classical has been moved to 7 pm. This is our Homecoming game as well as Senior Night. *This will be the first night game at BA!*
- The November 13 game against Village View is now scheduled for a 3 pm kickoff.

The complete, updated schedule:

Date	Team	Opponent	Time
10/30	BA Football	Hernando Christian (Away)	7:00 pm
11/6	BA Football	Geneva Classical (Home)	7:00 pm
11/13	BA Football	Village View (Home)	3:00 pm
11/17	BA Football	Classical Prep (Home)	3:00 pm

Middle School Silver & Navy Soccer Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
Thu 10/29	Game vs. Central Baptist	BA Game Field	3:30 & 4:30
Mon 11/2	Game vs. Bayshore Christian	BA Game Field	3:30 & 4:30
Thu 11/5	Game @ Faith Christian Academy	Away	3:30 & 4:30
Fri 11/13	Game @ Family of Christ	Away	3:30 & 4:30
Tue 11/17	Game @ New Jerusalem	Away	3:30 & 4:30
Mon 11/30	Game vs Bell Shoals	BA Game Field	3:30 & 4:30
Fri 12/4	Playoffs - TBD		
Mon 12/7	Playoffs - TBD		
Thu 12/10	Championship - TBD		