



Principal's Newsletter

October 4, 2024

Welcome to October!

September was an incredibly busy month as we kicked off the new school year. Burlington Christian Academy was vibrant with life and activity, from the engaged learning environment in the classrooms to the laughter and play at recess. I'm proud to share that we recently participated in soccer tournaments, and our Senior Boys Soccer Team claimed the 2024 championship—a milestone that hasn't been achieved at BCA in 30 years!

Another wonderful event was the Welcome Back Social, hosted by our Parent-Teacher Association. We enjoyed beautiful weather, delicious food, great conversations, and fun prizes. A heartfelt thanks to the PTA for organising this event and to the entire BCA family for joining us. It's these gatherings that truly reflect the strength of our community, and I encourage everyone to embrace opportunities like this to come together and support one another.

Looking Ahead to October

The month ahead promises to be just as exciting! We continue to hold our Monday morning chapels from 9:00 to 9:40 AM, and it has been a blessing to see more families attending. I encourage you to join us, witness what your children are learning, and foster meaningful conversations with them at home. At BCA, keeping Christ at the centre of all we do is essential, and chapel is a powerful part of that mission. Mark your calendars and join us on Mondays in the gym from 9:00 to 9:40 AM.

Important Dates to Remember:

- **Friday, October 11:** Professional Development Day for staff. There will be no school for students, giving them an extended break as they will also be off on **Monday, October 14**, for Thanksgiving.
- **Wednesday, October 16 & Thursday, October 17:** IEP meetings will be held via Zoom.
- **Friday, October 18:** Our Cross Country team is in full swing! Open to students from Grades 3 to 8, Cross Country is a sport for everyone. We're excited to see our students practising and preparing for the big meet. Encourage your child to participate, and let's aim to bring home another banner!
- **Wednesday, October 23:** Photo retakes, as well as SK and Grade 8 graduation photos.
- **Thursday, October 24:** Progress reports will be available. I encourage you to maintain open communication with your child's teachers. A strong partnership between school and home is key to our students' growth in both education and discipleship.
- **Friday, October 25:** Toonie Casual Day
- **Thursday, October 31:** The annual Fall Festival is approaching, and students are invited to wear casual dress in fall colours. Grade 8 students are organising games and activities for the afternoon, with Grade 6 & 7 students helping to lead the younger students through the stations. We are also looking for parent volunteers, so if you're able to help, please contact Miss Hawton. We're excited for a fun-filled afternoon and look forward to seeing you there!

"That all students may know Christ and share their faith, living it out daily as they become successful learners."



Drop-off and Pick-up Procedures

A quick reminder regarding our procedures:

- **Drop-off:** Please aim to arrive between 8:20 and 8:45 AM. The bell rings at 8:45 AM, and it's our goal to have all students in their classrooms and ready to begin learning by then.
- **Pick-up:** The process has been running smoothly. For those parking and entering the school, please use the designated areas. Our goal is to keep the line moving efficiently to accommodate after-school activities.
 - JK to Grade 3 pick-up begins at 3:20 PM, and Grade 4 to Grade 8 pick-up begins at 3:30 PM. For shorter wait times, we recommend arriving 5 to 10 minutes after pick-up begins.

Reflections

These first five weeks of school have been a true joy as our students deepen their academic knowledge and grow in their faith. Our hope is that BCA students not only become successful learners but also compassionate individuals who will impact our community, nation, and world for the glory of Christ Jesus.

"Heavenly Father, You have brought each of us to BCA for a unique purpose at this time. May we pursue excellence in all we do, using the individual talents You have blessed us with to bring You glory. As we delight in You, may You receive all the honour and praise. Thank You for the precious gift of Jesus Christ. Amen."

I have truly enjoyed meeting many of you—whether at school, the social, or on the soccer field cheering alongside you. I look forward to deepening these relationships as we grow together as a community. Wishing you all blessings throughout October, and please know my door is always open.

In Christ's Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joel Gibson", written in a cursive style.

Joel Gibson, M.Ed. / Principal
Burlington Christian Academy