

Bay Area Christian School exists to provide quality, Kingdom education to the next generation, empowering them to make disciples of Jesus at home, in society, and through the church.







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Homecoming is a joyful reminder of what makes BACS so special: faith, community, and a shared commitment to Kingdom education.

Dear BACS Family,

Homecoming week is one of the most exciting times of the year at Bay Area Christian School! This month, we celebrate 53 years of God's faithfulness to our school community. From the parade and pep rally to the chili cook-off, themed dress-up days, and the big football game, Homecoming is a joyful reminder of what makes BACS so special: faith, community, and a shared commitment to Kingdom education.

As we celebrate, we pause to thank God for His goodness and provision over the decades and through the generations of Broncos who have called these 48 acres home. We're grateful for our alumni, for the faithfulness and obedience of our founding families, and for the dedication of our faculty, staff, and administration who continue to invest in the next generation.

Homecoming reminds us that we are part of something bigger than ourselves, God's ongoing story of grace and purpose at Bay Area Christian School. As we celebrate our heritage, may we also renew our commitment to the mission before us to provide quality, Kingdom education to the next generation, empowering them to make disciples of Jesus at home, in society, and through the church.

It's a great day to be a Bronco!









A message from our Early Learning Academy Director,

### ANITA PIERCE

Happy October! As we welcome cooler weather, falling leaves, and all things pumpkin spice, we are filled with gratitude for the beauty of God's creations. "Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!" – Psalm 150:6

Homecoming is such a special tradition. The ELA is celebrating 43 years as a Preschool! This is my 19th year on campus. My, how we've grown! We have increased from 6 classrooms to 12. We have part time and full time programs. We have parents who attended BACS who now have their own children enrolled in our school.

#### Reminders

As the days get a bit cooler, please check to make sure the extra clothes in your child's backpack are appropriate for the weather. Please pack a sweater or light jacket since outdoor play is part of our daily routine. Please label sweaters and jackets in case they are lost.

Check your child's folder daily for artwork and important notes.

#### **Mark Your Calendar**

Thursday, 10/16 K4 Teddy Bear Day

Homecoming Dress Up Days
Monday, 10/20 Hawaiian Day
Tuesday, 10/21 Animal Print/Camo Day
Wednesday, 10/22 Team Shirt Day
Thursday, 10/23 Crazy Hair Day
Friday, 10/24 Bronco Spirit Day

**Wednesday**, **10/29** K4 Fall Festival, Super Hero/Princess Day - P2 M/W

**Thursday, 10/30** Super Hero/Princess Day - All other classes







God creates such beauty in the seasons of change.

A message from our Elementary Principal,

### **IRENE PERELLO**

Do you have a favorite season? My favorite season is autumn. I grew up in the state of New York and always enjoyed walking in the crisp fall weather, watching God's hand change the colors of the leaves. It was simply beautiful. God creates such beauty in the seasons of change. Leaves changing colors is a slow process. New changes in our lives also take time to adjust and it can be challenging. Have you ever asked yourself how to define change? To me, change is a process of diving into the unknown, and navigating new territories. Changing seasons in life may be seen as a time of forced humility because it may be something you have never done before, and you are figuring it out one step at a time.

As we prepare to celebrate another Homecoming at our school, it is always fun to see the memories through pictures of all the changes over the years. Every year students, families, staff and teachers experience change with the start of a new school year, such as new students, staff members, new systems, etc. It has definitely been a slow but a good process as we changed this year and learned new things.

Humility is the word that comes to mind because in order for change to happen, we must follow Christ, the most humble servant leader. In order for our lives to have changed, our Lord had to humble Himself to be a man, die on the cross, so that we all could have the opportunity to change and surrender our lives to Him. As Scripture says, in 2 Corinthians 5:17, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." In closing, don't be afraid of change, embrace it and allow your heavenly Father to guide you each step of the way. As you allow change to happen, watch the leaves in your life transform to beautiful vibrant colors.



# Elementary Echos





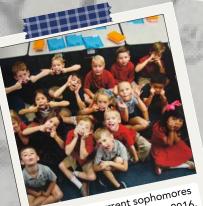
Our very own JH principal, Mr. Fuqua, in 6<sup>th</sup> grade in 2004!



Mrs. Hunt's sixth year of teaching at BACS in 1986.



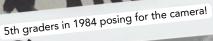




Some of our current sophomores being silly in kindergarten in 2016.













Junior High is the period of transition and training for students before they run the big race in high school.

A message from our Junior High Principal,

### JARED FUQUA

The apostle Paul frequently used athletics, specifically running, as an analogy for living the Christian life. He exhorted the early church to train their hearts and minds in order to run their race well, because it was going to be a difficult life as a Christian, especially in that time period. I am by no means an apostle Paul, however, I want to exhort our Junior High families to train hard and run their race well. Junior High is the period of transition and training for students before they run the big race in high school. Our faculty have the hard responsibility of molding and shaping our students into responsible individuals who know how to study well and think critically. This process is not always fun, and it is definitely not easy. In fact, it is arduous and can involve tears as students are experiencing the hardship of learning standards and study habits, sometimes the hard way. But if one were to lift their eyes from the urgent present and look ahead to the future, they would see that the training, the hard work, and the tears were all worth it, for they have produced a well-rounded individual who can both accomplish work and think independently. I am proud of the students who leave this building and are prepared for what awaits them at the next phase of life. There is no better feeling to see students who struggled, who furiously dog-paddled to keep afloat in JH, walk across the stage and receive their diploma. It is a beautiful thing. So I exhort our students to train, learn from mistakes, go to helps class, endure a moment of failure. If applied appropriately, the lessons learned from those experiences will result not in an individual who withers at the first sign of failure, but instead a trained individual who is strong in heart, mind, body, and soul.

#### Mark Your Calendar

Friday, October 10 No School

Monday, October 20- Friday, October 24 Variety Dress Week / Homecoming Week

**Thursday, October 23**Homecoming Pep Rally



## Joys of Junior High

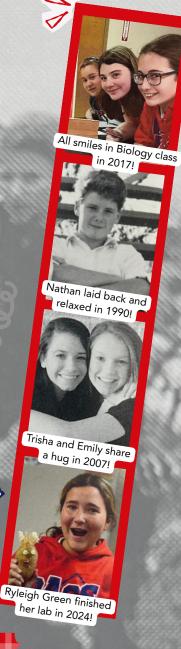


7<sup>th</sup> graders pose for a picture while eating lunch in 2005!

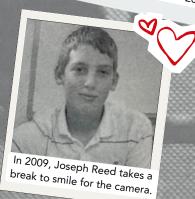




7<sup>th</sup> graders playing tug of war at a pep rally in 2020!









Girls hanging out after school in 2002!



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In this season of reflection and gratitude we recognize the foundation that has been laid and the legacy we now carry forward.

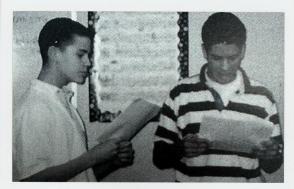
A message from our High School Principal,

### HAROLD PAYNE

Homecoming is always a special time for us to pause and reflect on those who have come before us, forging the trail so that we can enjoy the many opportunities we have today. In this season of reflection and gratitude, we recognize the foundation that has been laid and the legacy we now carry forward. In this season, I want to personally thank Ms. Fuqua for her many years of faithful service and leadership at the high school. Her dedication shaped the lives of countless students and staff, and her influence continues to ripple through our community. Scripture reminds us in Romans 13:7 (ESV), "Pay to all what is owed to them... respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed." This Homecoming, we celebrate where we are because of where we have been, and we take joy in honoring those who have helped us along the way. This Homecoming I hope you all have a great time as we celebrate wearing mums so big you need a spotter just to pin them on. Let's show up to cheer our Broncos to victory with all our Bronco pride!



## High School Highlights



Freshmen Ben Dyer and Jeremy Bratton saying their speech in 2000!



at night in 1978!



Two best friends posing for a picture in 1989!



Student Council member diligently at work in 1982!



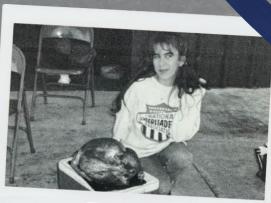
The best of buds in 1991!



Juniors being goofy in 2006!



Seniors on a firetruck in 1995!



Turkey Time in 1991!





cooking up some fun in 1991!



A message from our Academic Counselor,

### NANCY GADD

October is a busy month! Nineweek exams, the high school retreat for juniors and seniors, the PSAT, and HOMECOMING! Thanksgiving will be here before we know it.

In the midst of the hustle, don't forget to pause and make time for what truly matters. Enjoy the fun, embrace the moments, and cherish the memories. We're creating experiences that will last a lifetime.

God is so good in His blessings to us. Let's walk through this season with gratitude and joy!

#### **Mark Your Calendar**

Tuesday, 10/28 PSAT All 9th - 11th grade students will be in testing from 7:45-11:15 am. The remainder of the day will be a normal schedule. Seniors will attend their regularly scheduled classes. PSAT practice is available through College Board.





A message from our Fine Arts Director,

### MARIANNE MORRISON

#### **BACS Fine Arts Spirit Store**

The Fine Arts Spirit Store is OPEN NOW! If you are interested in purchasing any items, please click on the link above to place your order.

Please note that the store will close at 11:59 on Monday, October 13th. NO LATE ORDERS WILL BE ACCEPTED. Additionally, there is a minimum of 12 orders on each item. If we do not meet the minimum requirement, the order will not be processed. Spirit items will be delivered in the first week of November.

#### 2025 Annual Chili Cook-Off

The Bronco Band is excited to host our annual Chili Cook-Off on Friday, October 24, from 5:00–7:00 pm To make this event a success, we need your participation! Click the link above for more information!

#### **Choir Coffee House**

Join us at our upcoming Choir Coffee House on Monday, October 27th. Doors will open at 6:00 pm for Dessert and Coffee, and performances will begin at 7:00 pm. Admission is free, and Red Cup Coffee will be on site to provide coffee and soda. This will be a fun night to enjoy fantastic performances by some of our High School Choir students!

#### **TAPPS Marching Band Festival**

High School Marching Band will be participating in the TAPPS Fall Marching Band Festival on Monday, October 20th. They are amazing, and we look forward to hearing about their success!

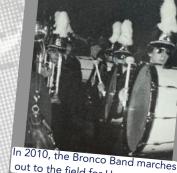


## Fantastic Fine Arts





In 2008, our marching band prepares to play at a pep rally.



out to the field for Homecoming!



Orchestra plays during the spring concert in 2017!



The Bronco band plays during half time at a game in 2003.



carols in chapel in 2003!



Orchestra gives a topnotch performance in 2016.



The Bronco band takes a group shot at the TAPPS competition in 2024.



In 2001, the Sound Principle Guys sing during Christmas chapel!





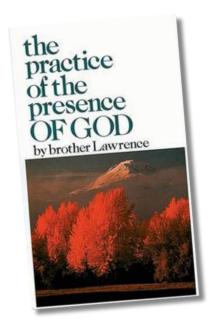


In those moments, the Holy Spirit gently reminds me of my first priority: to know God and to worship Him, especially through intentional conversations with my family.

A message from our Director of Student Support,

### MIKE AMMONS

October is one of the busiest months in the life of our school. Athletic seasons are ending and beginning, retreats and Homecoming are in full swing, and fall festivals arrive on top of the everyday rhythm of classes and homework. I love seeing our community so vibrant, full of fellowship and fun. Yet even good things can crowd out the most important thing, being with the Lord as families. If you're anything like me, it's easy to collapse on the couch after a long day and scroll on a phone or binge a show. In those moments, the Holy Spirit gently reminds me of my first priority: to know God and to worship Him, especially through intentional conversations with my family.



Years ago I read Brother Lawrence's classic, The Practice of the Presence of God, a simple devotional from the 17th century. He worked in a monastery kitchen, where tasks could be dull and repetitive. Yet in the middle of dishes and daily chores, he deliberately turned his mind toward God. That picture still speaks to our century of constant notifications and nonstop calendars. Whether we're shuttling from event to event or loading the dishwasher for the third time today, we can practice God's presence. We can set our minds on Christ, invite Him into ordinary moments, and let our homes become small sanctuaries of prayer and encouragement. This October, as schedules swell, let's choose what is best. Let's lead our children not only to do for God but to be with God. And as we do, our serving will grow out of abiding; our activities will be offered back to Him in love.

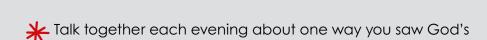


Philippians 2:4 (ESV) says, "Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others." May this guide how we spend our time and how we serve one another at school and at home.

## Simple ways

faithfulness today.

### to practice God's presence this month



- \*Pray as a family before school, at meals, and before bed. It can be brief but it must be consistent.
- Read a short passage of Scripture and ask one question: "What does this show us about God?"
- \* Memorize Philippians 2:4 together and look for chances to put it into action.
- Make one night a week "screen-light," put phones away and take a walk, play a game, or visit someone who could use encouragement.
- \*\*Bless our school community. Write a thank-you to a teacher, coach, or staff member and pray for them.

May the Lord meet you in the whirl of October and give your home the peace and joy that come from His presence.

It's a great day to be a Bronco!





A message from our Director of Curriculum and Instruction,

### LINDA MUDGETT

While the curriculum is not directly related to Homecoming, there have been many changes over the years regarding all things curriculum. Not too long ago, Bay Area Christian School didn't have a curriculum department. The divisional leaders, along with the Head of School, decided what materials to use and then the assistant to the Head of School took one day and ordered all the materials needed for the year. Today, however, ordering is just one aspect of the curriculum department and many people are involved. The process for ordering materials for the next school year begins once the new year has begun. Curriculum is reviewed and considered, a determination is made on what materials to purchase and what is needed, a budget is built and proposed, and then ordering takes most of the summer. We also inventory school-owned books.

Other than curriculum materials management, the curriculum department helps identify, along with divisional leaders and teachers, what professional learning opportunities to seek; procures Title II funding from the public school; manages The Iowa Assessments; and oversees and ensures mapping and alignment of our program. I'm sure that this department will continue to grow and develop as we head into the future.







A few words from our fall season coaches...

A message from our Athletics Director, KYLE KENNEDY

#### **Varsity Cheer**

"The Varsity Cheer Squad has been bringing incredible energy and spirit to the football field each week, leading the way in building Bronco pride! Their enthusiasm and dedication take our game-day atmosphere to the next level. A special shout-out goes to our four Seniors for their leadership, commitment, and hard work that have helped shape this team into what it is today. We are grateful for the impact they've made on Bronco Cheer!" - Coach Thompson & Coach Slafka

#### **Varsity Cross Country**

"The high school cross country team has reached the halfway point of the season, and the drive toward the finish line is stronger than ever. Our girls' team continues to impress with outstanding determination and teamwork, steadily improving their times meet after meet. On the boys' side, several runners have recently hit personal bests, showing the payoff of their hard work and commitment. With intense practices and a clear focus, both teams are building momentum and are eager to showcase their progress at the upcoming district meet this month." - Coach Meyer

#### **Varsity Football**

"The Broncos are off to a fantastic start, hitting the halfway mark of the season with a 4–2 record. Week after week, the team has displayed toughness, determination, and steady growth, building momentum with each game. With the second half of the season ahead, the Broncos are locked in on finishing strong and making a big statement down the stretch." - Coach Kennedy

#### **Varsity Volleyball**

"The varsity volleyball team has competed with top programs around the city this season. The girls have shown determination, resilience and grit day in and day out. They have continued to adjust to each opponent and adapt in all situations. The girls are halfway through district play and are still in the hunt to secure a playoff spot. Keep up the good work!" - Coach Fry



### Athletic Archives



Blake Bebar tackling the opponent in 2020!



Travis Westfall dribbling past the defender in 2005!





Track clearing the bar in 2014.



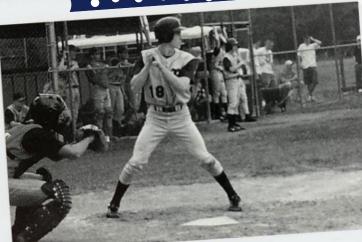


Varsity Football in the huddle in 2004.



Bay Area finishing in first in 2017.





In 2001, Morgan Gotcher waiting for the pitch!



Swinging for the fences in 2016!

Noah Box preparing for the match in 2020.



The varsity soccer team celebrating a win in 2007! OCTOBER 2025

## All in the Family

Meet a few of our multigenerational Broncos!





### **Fun Facts!**

"Ainsley's Gran still works at BACS...Deena Heidemann!"





### **Fun Facts!**

"My mom would bring baby Liam to watch Cyndie Kai's high school basketball and

volleyball games; My son is having class in the rooms I went to high school in; I went to high school with Britnee and Josh Mascorro; their sons and my sons will all be in high school together!"









#### Fun Facts!

"Our current FUN story is that Rylan went off to school to play football and is now back coaching Junior High Football at Bay Area Christian."









October 9, 2025



LAST CHANCE FOR BRONCO SOCKS! We have a few pairs of socks left. They are \$10 each. Cash only. They will be for sale during lunch on Tuesday, October 14. Please help your child with his/her shoe size.

Order Socks Size based on your Shoe Size		Socks Size					
		А	В	С	D	E	F
Shoe Size	Youth	K 10-13	1-3	3-5	5-7/		
	Women	9		4-6	8-8	8-10	10-12
	Men					6-8	8-10

Friday, October 10 will be a Teacher Work Day. Students have the day off and a long weekend, but teachers GET to work!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR! Our annual Grandparent's Day Celebration will be on Friday, November 21 with kinder leading us off at 8:15, 1st & 2nd grades at 9:00, 3rd & 4th grades at 10:00 in the Worship Center. Fifth and sixth graders will have a picnic with games, popcorn and soda at 10:30 at the Pavilion on the east side of campus. Guests of kindergarten - 4th grades can begin registering for a name tag now. Click here.



Did you know BACS has our own app for your phone? Take us with you everywhere you go! It contains info regarding key updates, announcements, calendar, red star, schedule, homework, grades, lesson plans, attendance, lunch, financials, contact us, social media athletics, give, watch, careers, newsletter, shop, forms, Bronco Backers, handbook and school supply lists. Download the free app from your app store!



#### From our BACS Clinic

- Please report all illnesses to the clinic at nurse@bacschool.org.
- Hearing and vision screenings will be in October for K, 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, and all new students.



Join us at our upcoming Choir Coffee House on Monday, October 27th. Doors will open at 6:00 for dessert and coffee, and performances will begin at 7:00. Admission is free, and Red Cup Coffee will be on site to provide coffee and soda. This will be a fun night to enjoy fantastic performances by some of our High School Choir students!

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. 6 In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. Proverbs 3:5-6





We are finalizing the plans for the 2025 Homecoming Parade and Evening Pep Rally on Thursday, October 23 at 6:30 pm on our campus! The All School Evening Pep Rally will follow the parade on the football field. LAST CALL FOR Parade participants. Click here for more details. Parking was tight last year. Plan on arriving before 6:00 pm as the middle and west driveways will close promptly at 6:00 or earlier if the parking lots are full. A parade route map is attached. Sno cones, coffee and possibly real food will be available for purchase. More details next week.



Get your best chili recipes ready and come support the BACS Band as we host our annual Chili Cook-Off event! The **Chili Cook-Off** will take place on HOMECOMING, Friday, October 24th, during the pre-game in the Fellowship Hall. Winners will be announced during halftime. Click **here** for important details and sign-up information!

### PARADE ROUTE

