



MODUS VIVENDI

SPECIAL GRADUATION EDITION 2007



CONGRATULATIONS “007”

The class of 2007 (whose theme became “007”) completed its “mission” with truly extraordinary accomplishments. Read more about this graduating class, its honors, awards, and reflections inside this special graduation edition of Modus Vivendi.

In addition, our Middle and Upper School students who were named to the Head’s and Dean’s List are recognized on pages 12-13.

FAREWELL



FAREWELL TO THE CLASS OF 2007

by Karen Beman

This is a day of great celebration! Congratulations to our guests of honor, the Class of 2007, who woke up this morning as seniors, sit before us now as graduates and will leave us this afternoon as official Bear Creek alumni.

As graduates, you are experiencing the satisfaction of a job well done. You have overcome many obstacles and challenges to get here and have made life-long friends in the process. Your senior reflections have captured the true spirit of your class, and your words bring forward memories that will last a life time. Mrs. Reese's words of wisdom will help you navigate all parts of life—especially the many challenges ahead.

I have but a few more thoughts for you to consider as you look ahead to what the future may hold.

A few weeks ago I pulled out my Webster's dictionary and on page 285 there appeared something quite subtle, yet unassumingly profound.

The word COMMENCEMENT was preceded by the word commemorate and followed by the word commission...I had never considered the significance of these three words linked together.

To commemorate—"the act of remembering...to honor the memory of, to serve as a memorial"...

Seize this moment to cement the foundations that have been built in you: qualities of intellectual curiosity, the confidence to challenge status quo notions, and the courage to live out your faith daily in both word and deed. Individually and as a class, you have shown great compassion and a heart for service, despite the personal cost.

You have wrestled with what it means to live as Christ would have you. You have tested your faith and bear witness to the deep transformation that is promised throughout the scriptures. Your teachers have invested their hearts and souls into the training up of your mind to discern Truth and detect the world's fiction. Many will question and attempt to discredit what you hold dear—but never fear

to stand in the gap, and boldly articulate what you know to be true without reservation.

As you commemorate this moment, I ask that you look to your right and to your left...as the class of 2007, hold each other accountable to nothing short of what is mentioned in Philippians 4:8 "...whatever is noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things." Whatever you have learned, put it into practice.

Do not be afraid of the power that is in you.

In this day and age, you have been born into a culture that celebrates very few public rites of passage. In two of our senior project presentations, Evan Dunn and Will Sanger both recognized the significance of a rite of passage in other cultures. Although we don't have a drum or machete to offer you, I invite you to mark this commencement day as your rite of passage. Your passage of time and experience at The Bear Creek School has prepared and equipped you well to transition to the next season of your adult life.

Although the past 18 years have been filled with tremendous growth, today calls you to something much higher. It calls you to the third word found on page 285.

Webster's definition of commission and what Christ has termed the Great Commission both share a very similar meaning: "an expectation to perform certain duties; an entrusting of certain powers; authority to act on behalf of another."

Cherish your past, but step forward and do not be afraid to become the person that God intends you to become. The words of Paul to the Ephesians speak loud and clear to each today. He says, "It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers,to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we reach unity in the faithattaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ."

You may pursue medicine or journalism, business or ministry, but each of you have been given the power of choice to live to your potential and reflect the light that has been given to you—it all starts with the intentional act of choosing.

Eleanor Roosevelt once said, "You must do the thing you think you cannot."

Look into the face of the thing you must do—and never doubt your ability to do it.

Set your sights not on temporary things: the attainment of wealth, status, worldly wisdom or the praise of your peers...but instead....

Surround each day forward with a fresh hope and renewed courage to make YOUR difference in the world. For some, your impact will be within a small circle, others a larger one—but what you all have in common is the immeasurable opportunity ahead and our belief that the person you are today is just the beginning of GREAT things to come.

Remember page 285—commemorate, commencement and commission. Commemorate this day. Celebrate our Commencement as your rite of passage and commit yourself daily, not to just any commission, but to the only Great Commission.

Graduates, a farewell is not actually a good-bye. Instead, let this be the beginning of many future hellos. You have an open invitation to return here often and in doing so, you grant us the privilege of sharing in the ongoing celebration of your grand journey.

May you be richly blessed. You mean the world to us!



THE FOLLOWING IS A REPRINT OF THE COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

by faculty speaker *Caroline Reese*

Congratulations, seniors, you deserve a true Davy and Eric slow clap applause for the hard work and spirit you have shown as you pushed yourselves toward this graduation day. Family, friends, and faculty, you also deserve congratulations today as you have loved, supported, encouraged, taught, and quite probably nagged this wonderful group of students over the past thirteen-plus years of schooling. Graduation is an event to be celebrated by all of us. I am honored to be a small part of this day.

Seniors, I want thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today. When Mac and Kiersten first invited me to speak to you, my mind began racing. What do I have to say to you that hasn't already been said in the four years we have spent together in the Upper School? We have shared many math classes (who could forget my ninth-grade geometry class that missed waffle day?), office hours (some of you stopping by never to talk about math), advisory (quality time testing my newest baked goodie and talking about the ups and downs of being a sophomore or junior), coffee runs, and the trips to IceBreaker, the Bahamas mission trip, and the Oregon Coast biology trip. We have talked about everything from your trigonometry homework problems or geometric proofs, to your Homecoming or Prom plans, to the plans you have made for next year and beyond. You have shared so much of yourselves with me, and I thank you for that. Today I want to share a portion of my journey after high school and what God has taught me about being His witness.

I well remember my high school graduation. I didn't know what I wanted to do for college or for a career. I remember wondering how I could be the valedictorian of my high school class and still not know what I wanted to do with my life. I know it may be a surprise to some of you that I didn't always want to be a high school math teacher. When I graduated from high school, I was hoping to become either a missionary or a teacher. As an elementary school student, our family attended a Bible study at the home of some wonderful

missionaries. Tom and Coral ran an organization called Films Afield. Their organization made Christian films in different countries and languages, so missionaries in the field could use them to share the Gospel. I loved to hear them talk about the people they met and places they had been. Someday I wanted to be like Tom and Coral traveling and sharing Jesus with people all over the world. In the fall after high school graduation, I moved into the dorm at Multnomah Bible College and back out the next day. I didn't know where God was leading. Luckily, my parents believed me when I said I needed to come home and reevaluate what I wanted to do. It was through this time that I came to understand one of the most important verses for my life.

In Acts 1:8, Jesus is talking to His disciples when He says, "And when the Holy Spirit comes on you, you will be able to be my witnesses in Jerusalem, all over Judea and Samaria, even to the ends of the world." For me, this verse became critical. I knew that Jesus was calling me to be a witness wherever I was, whatever I was doing. I believe this

is the same call Jesus is giving each of you today. He wants you to be His witnesses at the different schools you will be attending and the different paths you will take after leaving The Bear Creek School. I would like to look briefly at what it means to be a witness, the places we are called to be witnesses, and some ways you have been and can continue to be witnesses. God has used many of you through your years at Bear Creek and will continue to do so.

According to The MacArthur Bible Commentary, witnesses are "people who tell the truth about Jesus Christ." The commentary goes on to explain that the Greek word for witness means "one who dies for his faith," because that was often the cost for being a witness. In today's world, it is unlikely that any of you will have to die for being a witness. According to the Nelson Study Bible, "Our task is not to convince people, but to testify to the truth of the gospel." In your time at Bear Creek, you have learned much

about the Bible through your classes, teachers, and friends. You must now take this knowledge and be ready to share it with others. We are to be witnesses in three places: Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

The verse calls us to be a witness in Jerusalem. When Jesus spoke this message to His disciples, they were living in Jerusalem. This verse does not mean that we are to travel to Jerusalem; it means we are to be a witness where we live. For you, Jerusalem has been the Eastside. In your time at Bear Creek, I have seen many of you acting as a witness. Some of you get up early every Tuesday morning



Caroline Reese, Upper School Math Department Chair

to practice music, prepare PowerPoint presentations, or set up the sound system to lead chapel. By your actions and words, you show the Bear Creek community Jesus Christ. Others of you have collected food for the yearly TBCS food drive. As a class, you have amazed me with your food drive collections. I'll never forget the day that I returned from faculty prayer to find my couch and floor covered with hundreds of cans of food for Hopelink. You showed Jesus Christ to your neighbors as you collected food, the Hopelink volunteers as you donated food, and the needy of the community who received the food. I can think of many more examples of the witness you as a class have provided for Jesus Christ. Now that you are leaving Bear Creek, I challenge you to continue showing Jesus Christ to those around you. You will have many new opportunities to share with the people where you live. You may be able help a student move his or her boxes of treasures into his or her dorm on the first day of school, help another student study for a quiz or test, invite a friend to church, pray with a struggling roommate, or share Jesus Christ with a non-Christian. Please remember that you are to be a witness for Jesus Christ wherever you live. Your actions and words will be closely watched by those around you. Your Jerusalem may be changing, but I trust your witness will continue.

Secondly, we are called to be witnesses in Judea and Samaria. Judea is the region in which Jerusalem was located and Samaria is the region to the north of Judea. As students of Bear Creek, your Judea and Samaria has been the area surrounding the Eastside. I picture this area as Washington State. A couple of events that I will never forget from your class's witness have to be the day I spent at the food bank in downtown Seattle with the junior girls, the bus trip to Spokane for the state basketball tournament, and a recent pizza delivery to the Union Gospel Mission. Last year, my junior advisory group spent one day making sandwiches, sorting food, and distributing food at a food bank in downtown Seattle. Each of you showed such compassion as you talked with the clients and gave them the food they needed. Jesus shined through you! Although I didn't have the pleasure of spending a night in Ellensburg with many of you this spring, I have heard numerous times what a testimony you were to your chaperones and those around you. In a difficult circumstance you showed the true spirit of Christ. Recently, a couple of you felt called to take up a collection of money and deliver pizza to the homeless at the Union Gospel Mission. Through your work, I believe over ninety pizzas were delivered for dinner. What a blessing you were to the homeless but also to the workers at the Union Gospel Mission. When you go away next year, you may have to look more closely for ways to get off your college campus and show Jesus to the surrounding area. It is easy to become saturated with college life, but remember that you are called to be a witness beyond your campus. Next year, try to find a couple of times through the year when you will purposefully leave your campus and do something in the surrounding area for Jesus. Take some of

your new friends and show Jesus to the surrounding areas by working at a homeless shelter, helping out at a Special Olympics event, or picking up trash along the highway. People will wonder what makes you different, and you may have the opportunity to share Jesus with them through both your actions and words.

Lastly, we are called to serve as witnesses to the ends of the world. Many of you have traveled on church or school mission trips to Honduras, the Bahamas, or Mexico. College is a time when you may have more opportunities for travel. As you travel, remember that you are showing Jesus Christ to those you meet. In our society, we also don't have to travel to reach the ends of the earth. Brian and I have been supporting an orphan in India for about four years. Each month as we send the check to Calvary Chapel, we also include a short note of encouragement to Stephen. We are able to share Jesus with him through our gift for his care and the words we send him each month. It's always fun when we receive a letter in return from Stephen. He typically shares his school news and his prayers for us. His English is improving, but he still seems to have a problem seeing the difference in Brian (B-R-I-A-N) and Brain (B-R-A-I-N). About half of the time, we get a note to Aunt Caroline and Uncle Brain. We have enjoyed sharing in Stephen's life and hope to someday meet him. In your colleges you will meet many students from foreign countries. In many ways, the ends of the earth will come to you. You can show Jesus Christ to your fellow students who can then take it back to their home country. Another way that you can go to the ends of the earth without physically traveling is by supporting a missionary. In [The Great Omission](#), Steve Saint says, "I believe some of the heaviest crowns in Heaven will be worn by hardworking men and women who denied themselves the benefits society said they deserved, in order to help finance the Great Commission." You can donate a small amount of your money to help a missionary make a great impact in his or her work. Some of you may be called to an overseas mission field; the rest of you I hope will find a way to reach the ends of the earth from the place where God calls you.

As you can tell, I did go back to college after a year off. I spent five years studying to be a teacher. After one quarter in a kindergarten class, I decided that I would much prefer to spend time with teenagers. I have always dreamed of living on the mission field, but I now know that the mission field is where each of us lives. I plan to continue serving the Lord by teaching math to high school students. God has called me to this place. He is calling each of you someplace different (although I would love it if one of you were called back to Bear Creek as a math teacher). Although we may be in different places, each of us is to live our lives as a witness for Jesus Christ. In closing, please don't forget the lessons you have learned here. You have been, and I pray will continue to be, witnesses for Jesus Christ in your Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. Let His light shine through you wherever He leads!

SENIOR REFLECTIONS

LEIGH ANN GREENFIELD

I was walking today along the halls and out in the big breezy field behind the school, looking at sports pictures on the walls, puttering in the library, and tripping over backpacks in the Upper School hall when I suddenly realized that it was my very last day of school. All of



a sudden my free period-induced boredom suddenly seemed too short; it was my very last day at Bear Creek.

I have been at Bear Creek for six years, ever since seventh grade, and sometimes this place feels so familiar I could swear my uniform might actually be welded on. I could talk to you about everything—from which classes give the

most homework to the fact that walking through the foyer doors can be dangerous, watch out for the bar stuck in only one set of doors (ouch!). While there have been times in the last several years that I thought if given the chance I might bolt for freedom and never come back, that would be during AP season the thought of having to leave forever makes me unexpectedly sad.

I started thinking about what exactly it was I would miss so much about Bear Creek. It is easy to pinpoint the few things I know I am not going to wish could accompany me to college, like the uniform and the oh-please-scrape-me-off-the-floor-with-a-spatula kind of stress. However, it is a bit harder to sum up what it is that is making me wish I didn't have to let go quite so soon.

There are the sweaty, muddy, and amazingly fun cross country seasons, the choir concerts held together with a prayer and a passion for music, the light bulb moments in English, and even math class. I know I will miss cheering at games until my voice gives out and trying to figure out how on earth to do a charade for an orange cup coral.

There are many moments, experiences, and activities I will miss, but what ties them all together are the people I do them with. It isn't so much the admittedly very interesting biology classes, it is more that

I know I can relate to my teacher as a friend, that she knows about my life and wants to be there for me. It is the fact that when I walk down the hallway I know almost every face, and the fact that many of them have been a part of my life from when I was about five inches shorter till now. I finally know what it is that I will miss the most. It is the friends who taught me that it is all right to let my real self show, and the teachers that encouraged me to get used to speaking up in class. It is the faces in the halls and the fact that the lunch lady knows my name.

The people here are what make Bear Creek so special to me. Yes, the academics are great, and I feel as though this education has really been very valuable, but the memories I will carry with me are those of the friends, teacher, and others who have watched me grow and helped shape me during my time here. I've come to realize that Bear Creek is, in that same occasionally annoying but ever worthwhile way, a family to me, and that is why I can say I feel really blessed to have been here.

RIA CALDWELL

"The US Constitution: Principals and Concepts". My teacher's voice echoes through the room as we scribble down the words trying to keep up. I am writing in a circle, well, more of a spiral really, the line of purple ink getting longer and longer. The circle starts in the



center of my page and goes out, but it never reaches an edge. There is no edge. There are no lines, no markings that I do not make, no stains of color to interfere with my writing, no need to worry about my marks blending in; it is a tabula rasa.

"The World is too Much With Us" by William Wordsworth: Thematic

Elements". I turn my gigantic piece of white butcher paper about ninety degrees so that I can start a new line. I accidentally bump the girl next to me; she laughs as I fidget my notes away from her. "Lurking Variable – a variable that is not among the explanatory or response variable in a study and yet may influence the interpretation

of relationships among those variables". I wonder as I write: How many of us are aware of the lurking variables surrounding us? Is not this place one of them? Or is it explanatory?

"Homogeneous Mixture – no discernible parts to the mixture. Heterogeneous mixture – discernible parts to the mixture". Which are we? I want to say homogeneous but that doesn't seem fair to those who strive to be different. I continue to sit in class, spinning my paper round and round, my thoughts having momentarily been pushed to the back of my mind by the need to take notes. The girl next to me is turning the page of her notebook to start a new sheet of well-organized, gray notes, but I never run out of room.

"Aquinas" Cosmology – Everything moves. Everything that moves must be set into motion by a mover. There cannot be an infinite regress of movers. Without a first mover, there can be no subsequent motion. There is motion; therefore there must be a first mover". I marvel at how everything is connected; each lesson, each subject, each thought, each word of my notes – they build off each other, getting wider and wider.

And then the bell rings. Has it been four years already? I'm in no great hurry to get home so I take my time packing my things. On my way out the door, my teacher stops me and asks, "Why do you always write on butcher paper, it must be hard to keep track of?" I answer truthfully, "Because I can." He/she responds, "Hmm...the world would certainly be a more interesting place if we all did things just because we could." I nod my agreement and set off for college.

JEFFREY KETTMAN

I still remember the day my mom told me that I would be leaving Redmond Elementary and be attending The Bear Creek School starting in second grade. I'm going to be honest, I wasn't very excited about this, and I definitely was not expecting to find myself, still here, eleven years later. I knew maybe two people when I came here in second grade, but I quickly adapted and made new friends. The next few years are kind of a blur to me now, but I remember sixth grade because it was the year before the dreaded middle school. The thought of changing classes and having six different teachers in the same day blew my mind. The single, long hallway was intimidating, the bigger kids were intimidating, and the classes were intimidating. Little did I know that these would be two of the best years of my life. From Mr. Brown handing out "points on the

big board," to Mr. Forrester doing a gorilla dance, and laughing until I cried almost every day at lunch. However, at the end of eighth, most of my best friends decided to leave Bear Creek. I have since learned that deciding not to follow them to the other school was one of the



best decisions I have ever made, because my friends realized that the grass isn't always greener on the other side. But because most of my friends had left, I was once again in a situation where I was friends with just one or two people. As high school progressed though, I once again drew closer to many people. I love the way this class has been able to accept anyone who has wanted to become a part

of it. Our class really came together as one last year on the biology trip, and we have sustained that unity throughout our senior year. As I sit here today thinking, "I am actually going to miss this high school thing," trust me, it's not because of the work, it's because of each and every one of you.

JAMIE PERRY

The "Classhood" of the Traveling Seniors of '07

To my fellow forty-three senior classmates, the "classhood" of 2007, we are forever united in style and spirit. Bound together by countless shared experiences and tight-knit connections, these unique memories will travel with us forever. So, with a nod to a favorite book, *The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants*, I set before you the following rules that will assure good fortune as we embark on our new adventures. If we follow these rules, the past years of joy and meaningful experiences will flourish for an eternity and never die.

As a part of the Classhood of the traveling seniors, we hereby instate the following rules:

#1- We must always cherish the minutes, hours, days, weeks, months, and years that we spend living and learning with each other.

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SENIOR REFLECTIONS

JAMIE PERRY CONTINUED

#2- For many of us, but not all, we must remember moments shared in Lower School, Middle School, and Upper School.

#3- We must remember the cozy portables at the Woodinville campus, watching the new Redmond campus get built and moving in as 6th graders in 2000.



#4- We must never forget Mrs. Jones' 6th grade class who deviously made it through an entire day without a substitute teacher.

#5- We must never forget the earthquake in 6th grade when we were sure those loud, obnoxious BIG kids were running again upstairs and making the building shake.

#6- We must never take for granted the 7th grade girls' U.S. History class with Mr. Corbin and how we perfected the art of braiding hair.

#8- We must always remember R.A.M. in Middle School and the enriching experience of cleaning bathrooms, hallways, and classrooms.

#9- We must never forget our 8th grade trip and the emotional girls' cryfest, also known as our unforgettable 'bonding experience'.

#10- We must never forget the 10th grade fiasco when many of us basketball players ended up in a ditch, in a bus, on the side of the road, after games in Lummi at 11 o'clock at night.

#11- We must never forget the awesome teamwork in 11th grade when we gathered together 1,400 cans (which is almost 2 tons) to win the Upper School food drive competition.

#12- We must always appreciate the time Mac and Davy spent organizing FNF and how much fun they were.

#13- We must never forget playing charades on our 11th grade biology trip and the hilarious animal impressions we all came up with.

#14- We must never forget when Katie Ross rolled on top of her own teammate Kyoung and accidentally broke his glasses during an icebreaker game.

#15- We must always remember whitewater rafting and all the people who went overboard (you know who you are).

#16- We must remember the inventive Survivor tribal council we all orchestrated at the end of icebreaker.

#17- We must never forget our crazy "senior days" which included Cape day, Crown day, and Face Paint day.

#18- We must always remember the creativity of our all-night senior prank: Mr. DeYoung's office, the piñatas, Mrs. Hernandez's tin foiled office, the water guns, and the huge banner in the front of school are just a few of many.

#19- We must remember the class breakfast at Family Pancake House, Mark Henry's intercom speech, skip day, and the feeling of "SENIOR POWER"!

#20- Finally, we must always remember the absolutely amazing musical, dramatic, athletic, spiritual and academic achievements we accomplished over the past twelve years. We rock!

Having made this pact, we can head off to colleges and take new paths, leading near and far to our different destinations. Our new adventures will change our lives. But from here our common launching point, The Bear Creek School, our memories, connections and friendships with one another will live on forever.

MARK HENRY

Well, Bear Creek, it has been a long road. Since kindergarten I have walked your halls, eaten your food, and basked in the presence of the good friends you have introduced to me. Now I am about to leave those halls forever, and the reality of this still has not hit me.

I am a Bear Creek veteran: I have witnessed over a decade of school development; I have attended countless classes, stayed up countless hours, and enjoyed countless laughs with instructors and peers. For the greater part of my life I have attended this school,



such that it has become like a second home to me. The prospect of leaving this home is to me an incredible thought; to this hour I am not completely convinced that it will happen; yet it will happen, and it must.

Bear Creek, you have been with me from the very beginning. I thank your instructors for the ceaseless devotion they have shown

me in helping me to accomplish my goals. Time and again they have been with me to help me solve a difficult problem or provide me with new insight into a profound issue. They have been my mentors, guiding me along the road of life, helping me to better understand my own identity.

I distinctly recall one night during the bio trip last year. Our entire senior class was at Camp Magruder, seated around an open floor, and each person would go out into the center of the floor to imitate the marine organism that he or she had researched in a type of charade, for the rest of us to guess. When it was Kyoung's turn, I remember seeing him to go the center of the circle. The next thing I knew, he was lying on the floor, flopping his body into the air and landing on his shoulder with an expression of excruciating pain. Amidst the uproarious laughter, I saw him do it again, and started to wonder what he was getting at. After this second try, he apparently had had enough, and promptly yielded the floor while we were all trying to recover. To this day I can't say exactly what creature he was imitating, but I sure hope that, whatever it is, it is still living today.

My senior class: many of you I have known for years. Though you all know me for being a man of few words, I am sure it is safe to say that I have exchanged a word or two with each one of you. I can only wish you the best as we all go our separate ways; and even though I didn't get to know all of you personally, life just won't be the same without you.

KELCEY MORTON

You know when you look back at your life and analyze it, trying to figure out why you made the choices you did and how they affected you? I do that a bit too much sometimes, but I can learn a lot from my life that way. In this case, I've often wondered why and how I actually ended up staying at Bear Creek from 2nd grade. 11 whole years... for a girl who loves adventures, who adores trying new things, it doesn't make a whole lot of sense.

I've been thinking a bit about that lately... how where you go to school can really affect how you turn out as a person. After talking with a few people about the quirks of this school, it seems like in general, students are pretty kind to one another. I like that. There were some times that I thought that there was no way possible that I would pass the next year. There were times when I questioned why I had ever taken that AP class, why I chose to do a certain project or why I did a

certain sport. There were MANY times when I wondered who it was who lied to me and said that senior year was easier than junior year (well, maybe it is if you can easily figure out what you want to do after the year ends!). After all, it's a combination of all of those little things that make you who you are.

I'll admit, I definitely have taken Bear Creek for granted. The fact that I've been able to know some of my best girlfriends since 2nd grade to form these incredible friendships, the fact I don't have to be shy about my faith, the fact that teachers here actually care about you, the fact that Mrs. Beman, the head of school, has taken time out from her busy schedule to talk with me individually about college – this is normal at Bear Creek. But normal anywhere? Hah..definitely not.



Sticking it out through the tough times has been a huge adventure. In the end, it's the good times that stick out. Like going to districts for volleyball...or living with a French family in Normandy on the French trip...OH, being a part of that legendary sixth grade class who went without a teacher for a day...oops! Or how fun it was on the senior prank all-nighter talking under the stars...I've learned how

different people turn out to be when you take the time to get to know them. How much teachers truly support you, who go out of their way to tell you that they love to catch a glimpse into your mind. How exciting it was to find out that there were colleges who actually wanted me to be a part of their freshman class.

I feel like Bear Creek has really prepared me for the future. But most of all, as much as I don't really want to admit it, I'll miss this bubble that I used to want to run from. I feel so lucky to be part of a senior class filled with some absolutely amazing people. There are so many people that I respect here, SO many people who have incredible futures ahead of them, so many who may have no idea how much they've influenced me for the better in these past years of my life. Really, I can't imagine graduating with a better group of people—I'll miss you all so much and I can't wait to see that the future has in store for all of us!

SENIOR REFLECTIONS

MAC GRAHAM

I have not always been a student here like some of you, but I am pretty sure I know how your school careers began, probably similar to everyone else's. It began with the ABCs. Over the last few months I have found what they really stand for; in kindergarten they told you that A was for apple and B was for boy, but I beg to differ.



A is for aspirations. Academically we are an impressive group with six commended National Merit Scholars and four finalists and check out all the colleges that

accepted us on the banner out front.

B is for Bond, James Bond, since we are the class of 007 it had to be our unofficial class theme for the year.

C is for community service. Together we have served the community for more than 7000 hours lead by the efforts of Nick Elliott, who won the community service award last year.

D is for diligent. Liz van der Stroom has been most impressive in her ability to always have homework in on time and be prepared for quizzes the rest of us forgot about. **D** is also for daring. For his senior project, Matt Brown learned the dangerous sport of skydiving.

E is for energy. Our class runs off Eric Chalk's energy. He is one of the biggest leaders in the class and when he gets excited about something, like senior cape day or the senior prank, the rest of us can't help but get excited, too.

F is for fellowship. Every week Caitlin Blanchard and Kiersten Petesch volunteer their time at Young Life for kids with disabilities and give them a chance to have fellowship. **F** is also for flamboyant, which perfectly describes Quinton's personality. Always looking to make a joke or have fun he has also been a great asset to the worship team the past two years.

G is for great. Great at skateboarding, great at art, great with kids and great with a hammer and tar on the roof on the Bahamas mission trip Nick Connell you're great!

H is for humor, and Greg Einfeldt definitely has a good sense of it. Everyone in our class has grown to appreciate and expect a wardrobe of hilarious T-shirts from him. **H** is also for history buff. Of all the people in our class we have several, but Kyoung Min stands out as one of the best; he really knows his stuff.

I is for inspiring. Evan Dunn is extremely inspiring whether it is on the basketball court or at Friday Night Fellowship where he spoke for nearly an hour about urgently seeking Christ, his spiritual maturity is truly inspirational.

J is for Ju Song, whose cheerful demeanor even after a hard math test is an encouragement to others.

K is for kindergarten. We have several people in our class who have been here since then including Whitney Engel, Graeme Erickson, Ryan Tilton, Mark Henry, and Caitlin Blanchard.

L is for lost. On the biology trip, a ten minute walk accidentally turned into more than an hour-long hike through thick underbrush for Davy Clark, Kelcey Morton, Ryan Tilton, Kierstin Petesch, and Nick Williams.

L is also for leadership. Kyul Ko has demonstrated great leadership skill and potential as he lead the National Honor Society this year. Under his direction, the NHS collected over a ton of canned food for Hopelink, fed the homeless and adopted a road.

M is for memories. Together we have many. I'll always remember Kelly Hughes on the eighth grade trip at Whitman College where she was huddled around the TV watching sports center with all of us, checking on tennis and her beloved Yankees. **M** is also for math team. They will miss their top scorers, Brendan Smith, Kyul Ko and Will Sanger. Music is another important '**M**'. Nick Williams is our most famous musician. He has traveled the country playing his French horn and was even written about in the local newspaper.

N is for natural. Heather is a natural journalist, her exceptional writing ability has made her stand out in the journalism class. **N** is also for note. Tara Sackman always sings the correct one. Her voice was key to the choir's success on its trip to Disneyland.

O is for ASB Officers. Aside from myself, Kiersten Petesch was the vice president, Katie Ross was the secretary, and Liz van der Stroom was the treasurer. Together we made progress in developing a truly “student led” student government and shaped its role in the school.

P is for perfect, which was exactly what Davy Clark’s half court shot was at Green and Gold night to earn him one hundred dollars! **P** is also for par, Jeffery Kettman, our school’s best golfer shot close to it in every match and placed highly in state twice. **P** is for prom. This year’s prom was great and none of us will forget it, but especially for Morgan Mankis, who nobly used her prom dress money and collected donations to purchase 94 pizzas for homeless people. She borrowed a dress and I think she still had a great evening.

Q is for quiet. The person who comes to mind is Sunny Hong; she didn’t always have a lot to say, but when she did everyone listened. Her skating exhibition last week was incredible too.

R is for robotics class, where Jason Lin spent much of his free time this spring perfecting his robot and programs.

S is for sports. This year Senior captains Alex, Eric and I led the soccer team to a State Championship, while Kelcey Morton, Jamie Perry, and Kiersten Petesch, led the volleyball team to the playoffs. In cross country, Leigh Ann Greenfield anchored the team and won league. Our lone swimmer and lacrosse player, Jessie Wang also did well in her sports. In basketball, Will Sanger led the boys to the playoffs, while Gretchen Esau and Jamie Perry led the girls to the first-ever state appearance for a Bear Creek basketball team. Then, in track Matt Brown took 5th in the 200. In baseball, Graeme Erickson nearly broke the single season hit record and even hit a homerun. The tennis team made its way to state this year with the help of Kelly Hughes and Katie Price, who placed third in State.

T is for terrific. In-Sung Kim is a terrific artist who was often asked to draw comics for the school newspaper. **T** is also for talent. Because of his talent with computers and photographs, Reed Probus designed a web page for a missionary group for his senior project, using his talents to benefit others.

U is for unbeaten. Thanks to the efforts of all the seniors this year, we lengthened our reign of NHS food-drive dominance, with hundreds of dollars donated for several Costco runs, which helped

us oust the Juniors. Better luck next year guys.

V is for Voices. We have three that are note worthy. Colin Maass truly brings life to the text whenever we read in class. He knows just when to stress the words so you know exactly what the author intended. Hye Rim Lee also has a unique voice. When she reads aloud in class there is almost no sound more soothing. It is like listening to wind through trees. Last, but not least there is Mark Henry, who played the Man Upstairs when we Seniors ran through the halls tossing candy into class rooms after our prank. It would not have been the same without him.

W is for Whitney Engel who’s witty and nice. You can always count on her for some wise advise.

X is for expert. Ryan Tilton, also known as DJ RT, is an expert sound tech, DJ, Web designer, video producer, and entrepreneur.

Y is for you, yes you Kaitlin Schirmer you’re driving my dream car to school every day, a red mustang convertible.

Z is for zany, which perfectly describes Ria Caldwell’s cutting edge fashion sense and unique personal style.

These are the ABCs of the class of 2007. Now that you have seen a snapshot of our class, look for even greater achievements in the years to come as we continue to use our own unique alphabet to write our life stories. Now I’ve said my ABCs, won’t you please graduate me!



HONORS

HEAD'S LIST 3.50+ GPA

(Middle and Upper School Students)

Grade 7 Abtahi, Nima
Grade 9 Abtahi, Payum
Grade 9 Ahn, Joon Sung
Grade 7 Alleva, Joseph
Grade 7 Bachesta, Malia
Grade 9 Baker, Carson
Grade 7 Baker, Dillon
Grade 11 Ball, Katherine
Grade 8 Bangs, Natalie
Grade 11 Bartlett, James
Grade 7 Benson, Garrett
Grade 8 Benson, Joanna
Grade 9 Blankenbeckler, Kyle
Grade 8 Booth, Emily
Grade 11 Brammer, Jackson
Grade 9 Brudnicki, Ben
Grade 7 Burge, Jonathan
Grade 9 Camp, Dillon
Grade 10 Castle, Michael
Grade 9 Cheever, Megan
Grade 8 Chittenden, Thomas
Grade 10 Cho, Hyun Sun
Grade 7 Cody, Luke
Grade 10 Connell, Paige
Grade 10 Conway, Sydney
Grade 11 Crowe, Benjamin
Grade 7 Daugherty, Grant
Grade 9 Davisson, Michael
Grade 7 DiGenova, Aaron
Grade 7 Dixon, Blake
Grade 7 Domas, Erik
Grade 10 DuBois, Danielle
Grade 8 DuBois, Dominique
Grade 11 Dunn, Kyle
Grade 8 Easley, Madelyn
Grade 7 Engelstone, Kendall
Grade 10 Ersek, David
Grade 9 Felker, Sydney
Grade 7 Fernandez, Elizabeth
Grade 7 Fernandez, Lucas
Grade 9 Finkelson, Alexander

Grade 10 Firminger, Brianna
Grade 8 Firminger, Joshua
Grade 8 Forrester, Isaac
Grade 11 Frantz, Chelsea
Grade 9 Frantz, Henry
Grade 10 Geiger, John
Grade 8 Geiger, Kira
Grade 8 Gomulkiewicz, Abigail
Grade 10 Graham, Elizabeth
Grade 8 Hagan, Andre
Grade 8 Hammond, Amanda
Grade 11 Harrang, James
Grade 11 Heine, Carolyn
Grade 11 Heiser, Kara
Grade 11 Hester, Michael
Grade 8 Hill, Michael
Grade 11 Hooker, Jennifer
Grade 10 Hughes, Timothy
Grade 9 Ihn, Hye Jine
Grade 10 Ihn, Sung
Grade 7 Imam, Jacob
Grade 7 Isbell, Danielle
Grade 9 Jacobson, Joy
Grade 8 Jensen, Hayley
Grade 7 Jones, Gweneth
Grade 7 Jones, Laurel
Grade 9 Kadeg, Emily
Grade 11 Kelley, Kristin
Grade 9 Kelley, Robert
Grade 8 Kesinger, Cameron
Grade 10 Kesinger, Courtney
Grade 9 Kim, Hui Yong
Grade 11 Kim, Hyo Keun
Grade 11 Kim, Hyunjin
Grade 11 Kim, Min Gi
Grade 7 Larson, Abigail
Grade 8 Leuenberger, Erica
Grade 11 Lien, Tin-Yu
Grade 8 Lobet, Hanna
Grade 7 Magee, Madelyn
Grade 9 Martucci, Angela
Grade 7 Matson, Brandon
Grade 11 Matson, Nathaniel
Grade 9 Mehta, Tajel
Grade 9 Meissner, Ashley
Grade 7 Meissner, Monique
Grade 7 Meyer, Bethan
Grade 9 Meyer, James
Grade 10 Miller, Alexis

Grade 10 Miller, Molly
Grade 11 Miller, Timothy
Grade 11 Mueller, Marc
Grade 11 Nozari, Maryam
Grade 7 Ochoa, Olivia
Grade 10 Oh, Seung Min
Grade 10 Pattillo, Christopher
Grade 11 Perara, Megan
Grade 9 Pereira, Sandra
Grade 8 Peterson, Haley
Grade 8 Peterson, Lucas
Grade 7 Peterson, Nicole
Grade 7 Petesch, Morgan
Grade 8 Pittman, Ashley
Grade 8 Pomeroy, Catherine
Grade 8 Postings, Thomas
Grade 8 Price, Jennifer
Grade 7 Rial, Morgan
Grade 10 Richardson, Erik
Grade 7 Richardson, Luke
Grade 9 Ross, Robert
Grade 9 Sackman, Collette
Grade 10 Sanger, Elisha
Grade 8 Saw, Nigel
Grade 8 Schutt, Emily
Grade 8 Seiler, Julia
Grade 9 Shands, Clara
Grade 11 Simova, Asya
Grade 7 Smith, Christina
Grade 9 Smith, Joel
Grade 11 Smith, Joshua
Grade 10 Song, Hye Yoon
Grade 7 Springfield, Jake
Grade 8 Stansell, William
Grade 8 Strandin, Ryan
Grade 10 Stump, Madison
Grade 7 Stump, Reeves
Grade 7 Twentymen, Joy
Grade 7 Uhrich, Lauren
Grade 10 van der Stroom, Anton-Pieter
Grade 10 Vander Weide, Brittanie
Grade 11 Webber, Brett
Grade 9 Wetter, Anna
Grade 11 Wetter, Jesse
Grade 11 Wierleski, Morgan
Grade 9 Witt, Zachary
Grade 9 Worman, Annie
Grade 7 Wyman, Jake

DEAN'S LIST 3.0-3.49 GPA

(Middle and Upper School Students)

Grade 11 Amela, Alex
Grade 11 Aronson, Karlee
Grade 11 Bader, Morgan
Grade 9 Baker, Chelsea
Grade 10 Bangs, Britton
Grade 11 Bassi, Melissa
Grade 11 Beman, Katelynn
Grade 8 Binford, Catherine
Grade 8 Blanchard, Jennifer
Grade 11 Calcagno, Julian
Grade 7 Cantos, Daniel
Grade 11 Castle, Nathaniel
Grade 8 Cheever, Mark
Grade 8 Clough, James
Grade 7 Dippenaar, Marie-Louise
Grade 8 Dixon, Dakota
Grade 9 Domingo, Jordan
Grade 7 Eisenmann, Matthew
Grade 7 Elliott, Alexis
Grade 7 Emery, Blake
Grade 9 Erickson, Joshua
Grade 7 Ersek, Elisabeth
Grade 7 Evans, Shannon
Grade 8 Forbes, Jeffery
Grade 10 Forbes, Lauren
Grade 9 Hamilton, Jacob
Grade 10 Hamilton, Rebekah
Grade 11 Jeoung, Jae-ick
Grade 11 Jung, Kyunghwa
Grade 7 Kindel, Christine
Grade 7 Knott, Taylor
Grade 9 Linnenkohl, Bethany
Grade 11 Linnenkohl, Cara
Grade 9 Matson, Brian
Grade 9 Matthews, Jacob
Grade 10 Maurer, Justin
Grade 8 McCahill, Charles
Grade 10 McCahill, William
Grade 10 McLaughlin, Matthew
Grade 8 Morantes, Jessica
Grade 8 Morgan, Conner
Grade 8 Mueller, Christianna
Grade 11 Patterson, Alex
Grade 11 Pedersen, Stephanie
Grade 8 Pereira, Deborah

Grade 11 Pomeroy, Samuel
Grade 11 Pryor, Taite
Grade 10 Ramsay, Lois
Grade 11 Rehfeld, James
Grade 8 Roberts, Samuel
Grade 8 Simpson, Evan
Grade 11 Strandin, Christopher
Grade 7 Van Baak, Nicholas
Grade 9 Wadhvani-Napp, Georgina
Grade 10 Wallis, Courtney
Grade 8 Walsh, Shannon
Grade 10 Watson, Ryley
Grade 7 Whiteman, Katherine
Grade 10 Wolfram, Kathryn
Grade 11 Zylstra, Shannon

HEAD'S LIST

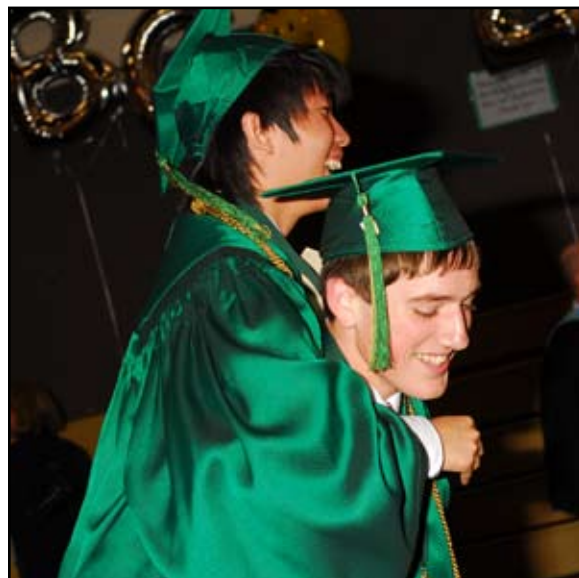
(Graduating Class)

Brown, Quinton
Caldwell, Ria
Chalk, Eric
Connell, Nick
Dunn, Evan
Engel, Whitney
Esau, Gretchen
Mac Graham
Leigh Ann Greenfield
Mark Henry
Alex Higinbotham
Kelly Hughes
Heather Hunt
Jeffrey Kettman
In-Sung Kim
Kyul Ko
Hye Rim Lee
Colin Maass
Kelcey Morton
Kiersten Petesch
Katie Price
Reed Probus
Katie Ross
Will Sanger
Kaitlyn Schirmer
Ju Song
Liz van der Stroom
Jessie Wang
Nick Williams

DEAN'S LIST

(Graduating Class)

Caitlin Blanchard
Graeme Erickson
Sunny Hong
Jason Lin
Kyoung Min
Jamie Perry
Tara Sackman
Ryan Tilton



Ju Song and Will Sanger



Caitlin blanchard, Mrs. Kaplowitz, and Jamie Perry



Kyul Ko and Nick Connell

SCHOLARSHIPS

Bear Creek's Class of 2007 received over a million dollars in scholarship commitments, mainly from the Universities to which they were admitted.

WASHINGTON STATE HONORS AWARD

Each year, the state of Washington recognizes the top 10% of graduating seniors statewide with the Washington State Honors Award. Thirty Bear Creek seniors (70% of the class) received this recognition. Bear Creek's high representation in this award is a testament to the hard work of our students, the incredible quality of our teachers, and the dedication and support of families to the learning endeavor.

PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD

Congratulations to Kyul Ko on receipt of the President's Volunteer Service Award for his continued and robust efforts in serving the community. Kyul is tremendously bright, equally articulate in two very distinct languages, and sincerely cares for the well-being of those around him. One way this care shows itself is by Kyul's concern for those who are less fortunate. Kyul's senior project allowed him to be involved in Seattle's current tent city project, where his exposure to the homeless only helped him see more how much minds like his (and all of us who have been blessed with so much) are needed in helping solve the most complex problems that face our world today.

QUESTBRIDGE SCHOLARSHIP

Nick Williams received a unique offer from a third party organization – this was the first such offer in Bear Creek's history. Through a grueling application process to the Questbridge Scholarship program, Nick was awarded a full-ride, four year scholarship to (fittingly) Williams College in Pennsylvania. Congratulations and best of luck to Nick as he pursues his study of architecture.

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

Perhaps no single large award program is more recognizable and prestigious than the National Merit Scholarship competition. Certainly,

no other award program causes as much stress and consternation among Bear Creek's competitive population.

Based on PSAT scores from a test taken in the fall of the junior year, the National Merit Scholarship competition takes the top 3% of test takers and begins a competitive process that ends with a very small number – fewer than 1% nationally – of participants being named as Finalists.

Like most other things related to achievement, the Class of 2007 hoarded more than their share of National Merit Scholarship achievement. While 3% of students in the US were invited to participate in the first stages of the competition, nearly 25% of Bear Creek students received these letters of commendation.

It bears noting that, on average, our National Merit Scholarship recipients have attended Bear Creek for an average of almost 9 years. One, Whitney Engel, has been here since Kindergarten, and each has been here for at least 6 years. This is just one more testament to the teachers and educational philosophy of Bear Creek – as well as to the community of positive competition that has developed among this graduating class.

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP – COMMENDED

Evan Dunn	Whitney Engel
Leigh Ann Greenfield	Kelcey Morton
Katie Ross	Elizabeth van der Stroom

NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

A division of the National Merit program, the National Achievement Award recognizes African American high school students who demonstrate academic achievement, classroom success, and leadership. Kelcey Morton, who was also named National Merit Semifinalist, is the first Bear Creek student to be named a Finalist in the National Achievement competition, which recognizes fewer than 1% of an original group of more than 130,000 test takers.

The final step in the National Merit Scholarship competition is the naming of Finalists. Students who are named National Merit Semifinalists are invited to apply for Finalist standing, which is ultimately determined by classroom achievement, student essays, and faculty letters of recommendation. Each of Bear Creek's four Semifinalists were named Finalists, give Bear Creek the second highest percentage of National Merit Finalists of all high schools in the state of Washington.

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP – FINALISTS

Gretchen Esau	Alex Higinbotham
William Sanger	Brendan Smith



Morgan Mankis and Kiersten Petesch

GRADUATION AND RECEPTION PHOTOS

To view and order photos from this year's graduation and reception please visit http://www.joleschorders.com/view_event.asp?EVENTID=18851 There are wonderful photos of the graduates along with their families and friends.

"EVENING OF HONORS" AND 2007 COMMENCEMENT DVDS

As a gift to our graduates, Bear Creek will provide a complimentary copy of the 2007 "Evening of Honors" Banquet DVD which will include the Senior Video. To order your copy of The 2007 Commencement Day DVD's or your copy of the 2007 Evening of Honors DVD, please use the following URL to access the online order form <https://survey.finalsite.com/viewform.cfm?id=q13bsywnuvsodoo>. These DVD's are available at a cost of \$25.00 each. Please fill out and submit an on-line order form, then drop off your check or mail it to the Redmond Campus. (There are paper copies of the form available at the Redmond Campus front desk if you prefer.)

THE GRADUATING CLASS OF 2007 AND THE COLLEGES THEY WILL ATTEND

Blanchard, Caitlin	California Polytecnic University - San Luis Obispo
Brown, Mathew	George Fox University
Brown, Quinton	University of Southern California
Caldwell, Ria	St Andrews College (Scotland)
Chalk, Eric	University of Arizona
Clark, Davy	The Evergreen State College
Dunn, Evan	University of Washington
Connell, Nick	University of Southern California
Einfeldt, Greg	Gonzaga University
Elliott, Nick	Whitworth College
Engel, Whitney	University of Washington
Erickson, Graeme	Gonzaga University
Esau, Gretchen	University of Southern California
Graham, Mac	Gonzaga University
Greenfield, Leigh Ann	Willamette College
Henry, Mark	Northern Arizona University
Higinbotham, Alex	University of Southern California
Hong, Sunny	University of Washington
Hughes, Kelly	St Olaf College
Hunt, Heather	Wheaton College
Kettman, Jeff	University of Arizona
Kim, In Sung	New York University
Ko, Kyul	Columbia University
Lee, Hye Rim	University of Washington
Lin, Jason	Western Washington University
Maass, Colin	Seattle Pacific University
Mankis, Morgan	Mission Field
Min, Kyoung Rok	Ohio State University
Morton, Kelcey	Stanford University
Perry, Jaime	University of the Pacific
Petesch, Kiersten	Santa Clara University
Price, Katie	James Madison University
Probus, Reed	Seattle Pacific University
Ross, Katie	University of Southern California
Sackman, Tara	Whitworth College
Sanger, William	University of Tulsa
Schirmir, Kaitlyn	Trinity College (Ireland)
Smith, Brendan	Harvey Mudd College
Song, Ju	Cornell University
Tilton, Ryan	Seattle Pacific University
Vanderstroom, Elizabeth	University of Washington
Wang, Jessie	University of Washington
Williams, Nick	Williams College

LOOKING AHEAD

August

- 20 **US Fall Sports begin**
- 29 **New LS Family Ice Cream Social – Redmond**
- 29 **New M/U Family Dinner**
- 30 **New LS Family Ice Cream Social – Valley**

September

- 4 **First Day of School**
- 4 **Back to School Parent Assembly**
- 10 **MS Fall Sports begin**
- 15 **All School Sports Kick-off**
- 18 **MS Curriculum Night**
- 20 **Redmond LS Curriculum Night**
- 22 **MS PTF Social**
- 25 **Valley Curriculum Night**
- 27 **US Curriculum Night**
- 29 **M/U PTF Class BBQ's**
- 29 **US PTF Bonfire**

October

- 5 **LS Walk-a-thon**
- 17 **Grandparent's Day (No school Oct. 18 and 19)**

The mission of The Bear Creek School is to provide a high-quality, Christian liberal arts education in a nurturing environment that will enable each student to become the individual God intends.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Kurt Maass	Bill Binford
Ted Robinson	Curt Kraft
David Smith	Stephen Meyer
John Rial	Sue Diamond
Andrea Lairson	Patrick Carruth
Marc Mueller	

Head of School	Patrick Carruth
Communication Director	Sue Sanford
Development Director	Justin Coleman
Publications Manager	Marla Zylstra

Modus Vivendi is a publication for The Bear Creek School community, past and present. Article suggestions should be sent to modusvivendi@tbcs.org.