



BRADENTON CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

# Panther Press



OCTOBER 2024

The month of October has been full of many events, emotions and blessings. From hurricanes to Homecoming and Spiritual Emphasis Week, our campus has been busy. We would like to thank all the families, students, staff and faculty who have helped within our community in a variety of ways. Together we make one another better! In the moments of need, we are able to lean on each other and be the hands and feet of Jesus. Thank you for being that blessing.

Homecoming week was full of laughter, creativity and joy. The amazing hallways that were decorated in the High School to the costumes and theme days celebrated on campus, it was fun to see. Staff and faculty joined in each day as well. As God would have it, He blessed us through the overflow of school spirit during the week of Homecoming.



Each day during Homecoming Week, classes are able to earn points for participating in theme days and the friendly competitions. We are happy to announce the class of 2025 are the winners of Homecoming week! Congratulations Seniors, way to represent your Panther Pride.





# Panther Spotlight

Meet Mrs. Bradshaw, our dedicated Student Council Sponsor, Spanish teacher, and Head of Learning Services at Bradenton Christian School. She is currently working tirelessly alongside the student council representatives to create an exciting and meaningful Homecoming Week that will bring joy and school spirit to our entire community.

Despite her busy schedule, Mrs. Bradshaw never compromises her commitment to her students in the classroom. As a Spanish teacher, she brings language and culture to life, and as the head of Learning Services, she ensures that every student receives the support they need to thrive. Her passion, dedication, and hard work are truly an inspiration to both her students and colleagues. Thank you, Mrs. Bradshaw, for all that you do!





# Panther Spotlight

## Julie Cunard

Mrs. Julie Cunard, the dedicated high school counselor at Bradenton Christian School, has been serving the school community for over 28 years. During her time at BCS, she has been a vital resource, not only for students but also for staff, offering guidance and support to help students prepare for their futures. Whether it's helping them navigate the college admissions process or exploring alternative post-high school opportunities, Mrs. Cunard ensures that every student is ready for their next steps. Her college readiness newsletter is superb, providing essential tips, deadlines, and insights for both students and parents to stay informed and on track.





# CAMPUS NEWS

## Homecoming Week 2024



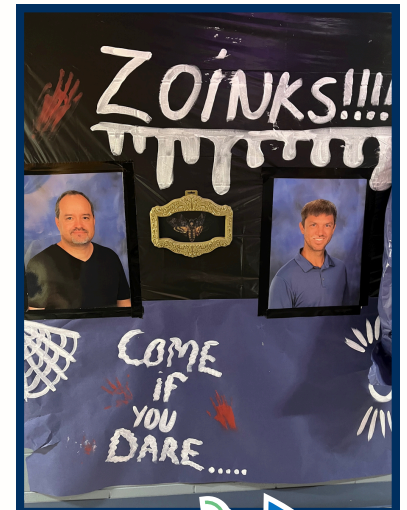


# CAMPUS NEWS

## Homecoming Week 2024



**Congratulations to the Juniors for winning hallway decorating this year!**





# CAMPUS NEWS

## High School Lip Sync and Skits



The skit winners are the Juniors as the Scooby Doo Crew, CONGRATULATIONS!



SO  
MUCH  
FUN





# CAMPUS NEWS

## High School Lip Sync and Skits





# CAMPUS NEWS

## Homecoming Week 2024

During Homecoming Week, our Elementary students, teachers and staff enjoyed dressing up for color day. We are so blessed as a school community to share in such special memories together.





# CAMPUS NEWS

## High School Chemistry Lab

Possibly the most common question a chemistry teacher gets from students on Back to School Night and during the first week of school is, 'Do we get to blow stuff up/burn things?' My answer is always- "Yes!" Some of my own best memories of chemistry in high school and college are of the laboratory experiences I shared with my lab partners, and it is important that my students get to do the same. Bunsen burners, flames, chemical reactions and dangerous chemicals are the things that draw many students in to chemistry and get them excited. Of course, this is not an everyday thing, and it needs to be relevant to the content standards and also done in a safe way!

In class, we have been investigating atomic structure and the movement of electrons within atoms. When electrons absorb energy, they can 'jump' to a higher energy level within the atom. In order to return to their normal 'home' level, electrons need to release this energy. We see this as light, with each element producing characteristic colors of light and also their own emission spectra (kind of like an elemental fingerprint) due their electron configuration.

In order to prepare for the lab itself, we spent the day before the lab reviewing safety and practicing how to use a Bunsen burner. For many students, this was the first time they had ever lit a match before! Students learned how to light a match, use it to ignite the Bunsen burner, adjust the flames, and then safely turn it off. Safety is always important- and even more so when flame tests occur.

On the following day, students used the Bunsen burners to burn samples of different elements- strontium, potassium, copper, lithium, sodium, calcium and zinc. They made observations on the colors of light produced, and used this information to draw conclusions about the relative amounts of energy released by each element. Mr. Ruta was even able to join in the fun during 6th period chemistry!





# GET INVOLVED

## Calling All Panther Parents!



The Panther Parents is an organized volunteer group to help promote the school's mission and come alongside the school to help facilitate events and coordinate volunteerism. Current parents and guardians are automatically a part of this group. This group is also open to alumni and grandparents who desire to volunteer for Bradenton Christian School.

This group will operate off suggested dues of \$50 and/or donations (The \$50 is a suggestion, not a requirement to be a part of Panther Parents. Dues and donations are a tax write off.) The dues/donations will help cover the cost of staff appreciation throughout the year and any other needs that arise at BCS with approval from administration. We are excited to support BCS in so many ways!

Looking to dive in? Current Panther Parent opportunities that are open:

- Carousel's Creamery Parent Playground Day-  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E44A9AE29A6FAC70-50861817-carousels>
- Auction- Are you connected in the community? Do you know local business owners? We are looking for volunteers to help gather items for the auction and sponsorships. Click [HERE](#) for more info.

If you have any questions, please contact Amanda Bowman at [abowman@bcspanthers.org](mailto:abowman@bcspanthers.org)

## Church Connection

Throughout the school year we connect with several local churches to guide our youth to stay "plugged in" and growing in Christ. Please check out the website links below:

- **Bradenton CRC:**  
<https://bradentoncrc.org/ministries>
- **Bayside Community Church:**  
<https://www.mybayside.church/ministries/bayside-youth>
- **West Bradenton Baptist:**  
<https://fortheneighborhood.com/students/>
- **Grace Community Church:**  
<https://www.gracesarasota.com/ministry/high-school>
- **North River:**  
<https://www.gonorthriver.org/students>
- **The Bridge Church:**  
<https://www.bridgechurchfl.com/students>
- **First Baptist Church of Bradenton:**  
<https://firstbradenton.com/>

If you would like your church featured in Panther Press for youth events, please email BobbiJo Norris at [bnorris@bcspanthers.org](mailto:bnorris@bcspanthers.org).

If you would like to speak at Middle or High School chapel services for BCS please contact Calvin Morley at [CMorley@bcspanthers.org](mailto:CMorley@bcspanthers.org).







# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Important Dates

- November 4- Junior Parent Workshop
- November 5- LATE START
- November 8- Movie Under the Stars
- November 11- Veterans Day
- November 14- Elementary Field Day
- November 15- Bouwer Cup Golf Tournament
- November 18- Hispanic Honors Society Induction
- November 25-29- Fall Break/NO SCHOOL

# November

## Late Start Details

- Start time on these Tuesdays is 9:00am for Elementary School and 9:10am for Middle and High School.
- Elementary drop off begins at 8:40am, that is when supervision begins.
- Students will be admitted to class at 8:55am(Elementary) and 9:00am(Middle & High).
- Parents who need to drop students off before 8:40am need to register for Before School Care.
- Before School Care for students in K-5 will be offered from 7:40am – 8:40am for a fee, please register for Before School Care by clicking [HERE](#).
- If you have any questions, contact Kirsti Brown at [kbrown@bcspanthers.org](mailto:kbrown@bcspanthers.org) or call 941-792-5454, ext. 157.

## Harvest Blessings Festival and Auction

This is our 40th BCS Auction now with a **NEW DATE of Saturday, January 11, 2025.** Through much prayer and thoughtfulness, we are changing the date of our BCS Auction to focus on helping our families and community bounce back from the storm. We look forward to having some wonderful fun and fellowship in a few months for the Festival and Auction! You may still get involved for this event now. Please see the attached flyer. This event is so great for the ENTIRE family! Volunteer, sponsor, donate, and share your God given talents to bless our school. Please check out this link and see the new attached flyer for ALL the information:

<https://bcspanthers.maestroweb.com/> Any questions, contact BobbiJo Norris at [bnorris@bcspanthers.org](mailto:bnorris@bcspanthers.org) or 941-792-5454 x 114.

*Same Fun But a New Date!*

Bradenton Christian School

**Harvest Blessings**

Festival & Auction

**SATURDAY**  
**JANUARY 11, 2025**

**BCS CAMPUS – 3304 43RD ST W**

**FESTIVAL 4 – 5:30 PM**

**SILENT AUCTION 4 – 5:30 PM**

**LIVE AUCTION STARTS AT 5:45 PM**

Scan the code or visit [bcspanthers.maestroweb.com](https://bcspanthers.maestroweb.com)

**Get Involved!**

Whether you are looking to volunteer, donate, sponsor, or simply come and enjoy the event there is a place for you!

Visit the website above or call BobbiJo Norris for more information: 941-792-5454 ext. 114

**Current Needs**

**Donations for the Auction**  
(vacation homes, gift certificates, activities, services, electronics & more)

**Volunteers**

**Grade Basket Lead Parents**

**Sponsors**

**Festival Booth Participants**  
(open to parents, churches, BCS organizations, and sponsoring businesses)

**Event Highlights**

**FREE ADMISSION Auctions**  
Bid on exciting items in our silent and LIVE auctions and participate in our ticket drop auction to win fantastic prizes.

**Festival Games & Activities**  
Enjoy bounce houses, a maze, face painting, a water booth, and other fun games!

**Tickets**  
\$1 each to use on food, games, & ticket drop.

**Wristbands**  
Good for unlimited Festival Games and childcare/youth activity. \$20 for the 1st child & \$10 for all others in the same family.

**Concessions & Dessert Room**  
Enjoy BBQ sandwiches, burgers, dogs, and more, plus don't forget the desserts!

**Childcare & Youth Activities**  
Childcare and Youth Activities during the LIVE auction - \$10 / child or included with the purchase of a wristband!



BCS is always looking for talented, Christ-centered faculty and staff members! Please check out the link if you are interested in opportunities at BCS <https://www.bcspanthers.org/about-us/employment-opportunities>

If a loved one of yours wants to receive The Panther Press or you want to feature a story about BCS, please contact BobbiJo Norris at [bnorris@bcspanthers.org](mailto:bnorris@bcspanthers.org)



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Bouwer Cup Golf Tournament



The annual Bouwer Cup Golf Tournament four player scramble event has earned a reputation for "great prizes and fair competition." The Bouwer Cup, a Waterford Crystal Trophy, is presented to the Gross Division Winners. The trophy is named in honor of Don and Marilyn Bouwer, and it commemorates the many contributions the Bouwer family has made to Bradenton Christian School and Panther Athletics.



Please join us on **Friday, November 15, 2024** for the Bouwer Cup Golf Tournament as we will have fun teeing it up for BCS! The event will take place at Manatee County Golf Course, with a shot gun start at 8:30am. There is still time to register a team!

For more information, please click the link [HERE](#).

We would love to have you join us in supporting our mission to prepare the Hearts and Minds of God's Children!



**Thank you to the Bouwer Family and Ten-8 for sponsoring our driving range.**

### BCS BOUWER CUP GOLF TOURNAMENT



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# ANNOUNCEMENTS



Grandparents, you are a blessing in your grandchild's life and we are thankful for the impact you make on your grandkids. Your Christ-centered faith and the wisdom you provide make a difference in the life of your family. We cherish our grandparents here at BCS and pray that you will join us on **February 14, 2025** for a special day to celebrate you and the influence you have on your grandkids. Please save the date, more details to come. Thank you for being an important part of our BCS community, we look forward to seeing you on Grandparents Day!



HAPPY  
GRANDPARENTS  
DAY



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# ATHLETIC CORNER

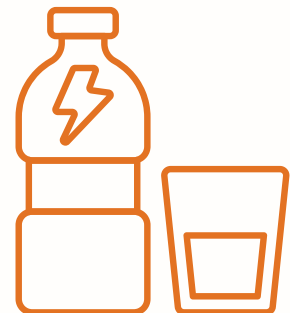
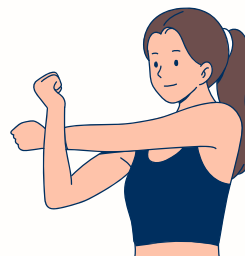
## Athletic Training Tidbits with Dr. Kemper

### Fall to Winter Sport Hydration Transition

A friendly reminder that while many fall athletes are conditioned as they venture out to winter sports, the key factor here is their hydration. Many athletes suffer from cramping, which is a heat-related illness, as they transition from an indoor sport in the fall to an outdoor sport in the winter? You may be thinking why... and the reason is because of the various factors that account for human hydration. Although the winter sports are taking place during a cooler outdoor season than fall sports, it still carries more humidity than inside in the gymnasium. So the athletes that are used to the indoor conditions still need to go through a general heat acclimatization process and increase both water and electrolyte consumption to prevent heat-related illnesses, which most commonly starts as muscle cramps.

### TIPS-

1. Increase water intake throughout the day. A general rule is to drink about half of your body weight in ounces per day. Example: You weigh 100 pounds, you should always aim to drink a minimum of 50 ounces of water daily. Increase that if you are participating in athletics by at least 16 ounces.
2. Include electrolytes in your everyday diet. Bananas, citrus fruits, adding salt to meals and chicken, pickles. You can also use sports drinks such as Gatorade, Powerade, etc.
3. Keep in mind, the body needs a balance of both water and electrolytes to prevent cramping.
4. STRETCH! Keep those muscles warm, stretch before activity, and even stretch before bed.



Nicole acquired her Bachelor's Degree in Athletic Training from the University of Tampa.

She then went to A.T. Still University in Missouri where she received both her Master's Degree in Athletic Training and her Doctor of Athletic Training Degree. This is her 7th year working as a High School Athletic Trainer, making this her 3rd year at BCS! She also teaches the Introduction to Sports Medicine class at BCS to allow students a deeper look into the athletic training and other sports medicine fields. Nicole and her husband love spending their weekends together outdoors or working on home projects.



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# Thank You Sponsors

We invite you to take the opportunity to sponsor the Panther Press. The Panther Press is a monthly publication during the school year that showcases our BCS community and all the amazing events, happenings, students and faculty. These newsletters are sent electronically which means timely delivery and accurate information. Additionally, all publications will be uploaded to our website. Imagine the exposure for your business throughout the school year for a minimal cost of \$200.

For more information contact BobbiJo Norris at [bnorris@bcspanthers.org](mailto:bnorris@bcspanthers.org).



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