

## Reinforce good behavior

Recognizing students when they demonstrate core values

***“We give our CIA (Christianity in Action) Report on Fridays at chapel.”***

Brad Davis, Principal  
Orangevale SDA School

Many schools in our conference are already reinforcing positive behavior with various personal or public acknowledgements.

Keep it up and connect it to the core values you've chosen. Here are a few examples of how.

### Record kids (and staff) doing good things

I've shared examples of this before -- teachers and staff notice and fill out a form (put in a collection jar for the week) when they see kids demonstrating the core values you want to encourage. The important thing here is to list your school's core values on the form so those are the ones you are watching for and reinforcing.

Here is Loma Linda Academy Elementary's [form for acknowledging students](#). I love using the phrase, "You're Grounded." What a great play on words!

You're Grounded!
You've been caught showing:
<input type="checkbox"/> Emotional Intelligence
<input type="checkbox"/> Respect
<input type="checkbox"/> Grit
<input type="checkbox"/> Integrity
Name:
Teacher:
Comments:

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In addition, they have a [similar form for recognizing teachers](#) demonstrating the core values.

## Give a weekly CIA Report in chapel

Don't you love that title? CIA (Christianity in Action) Report. And I'm sure that your school's chosen core values will demonstrate Christianity in Action.

Here's what Orangevale does:

- This past year they have been focusing on "being helpful and kind" so the staff watch for random acts of kindness and write a note to be added to the list.
- This list is read by a 7th/8th grader in chapel each week.
- To reinforce their core value of humility each week's reading starts with "names are not listed to maintain a humble attitude."

One note: while I fully understand and support the reason for not including names, I hope you will share those events with parents so they a) see your efforts at encouraging both kindness and humility, and b) can double the reinforcement by also acknowledging their child's good choice.

Here's what LLA Elementary does:

- They use the "You're Grounded" notes shown above.
- When students get note they are also entered into a drawing to win a wristband with the value they were caught showing.

## Mail a letter to parents

To close the loop and ensure parents realize the great values your school is instilling in their child, send a letter home. I recommend these letters go to both sets of parents for students from split homes.

Here is a [sample letter](#) from Lodi Academy.

LLA Elementary gives parents a bumper sticker that not only touts their school, but also concisely reinforces that it is a Christian school. You could include a bonus bumper sticker in your letter to parents.



**Delegating:**

You can delegate creating the forms for recognizing students and staff displaying your core values, compiling the weekly list to be acknowledged, creating and sending form letters to parents, creating a bumper sticker for your school if you choose to do this.

**Credits:**

Thank you again to Clayton Koh and Linda Tambunan Nystrom of Loma Linda Academy Elementary for your willingness to share your great ideas and hard work.

Thank you also to Brad Davis of Orangevale SDA School and Tim Kubrock previously of Lodi Academy for sharing what your schools have done.

**Binder tab:** June

**School size:** All

**Marketing process step:**

- 1) Who are we?
- 2) What do families want?
- 3) What needs to change?
- 4) How do we tell our community?
- 5) How do we track results?