



The Ireton Christian Beacon

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The Mission of Ireton Christian School is to develop knowledge and understanding in each of God's children so they can effectively relate to God, to others, and to creation.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SUPPORT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

By becoming a Foundation member? Please join us anytime of the year, Christian education is an ongoing thing and we need your help. The board would like to invite anyone to help promote Ireton Christian School. For a yearly fee of \$25.00 or a lifetime membership of \$500.00, you can become an Ireton Christian School Foundation member. Please visit the school office or mail \$25.00 or \$500.00 to Ireton Christian and you will be added to the membership list! (List will be updated every month) ALL proceeds will be placed in our Endowment Fund. The money raised will help defray the cost of major repairs and educational expenses encountered throughout the year, as well as helping keep the cost of education at a minimum.

THANKS for your support!

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

In the news lately has been much discussion about education and education reforms. Whether that be for our nation or our states, government wants to see improvement in student performance. The media is quick to note that the United States does not rank very well in the area of education compared to other modernized countries. A number of these countries provide a choice of schools. If the school does not produce, parents find a school that does.

We in the private Christian schools have a good reputation for a quality education, but we cannot be satisfied with the status quo. We need to keep looking for ways to improve our methods of teaching, our curriculum, and especially our teaching from a Christian perspective. If our school is not distinctive in its whole educational program, we are wasting the money our parents are investing.

Teachers, administrators, board, and parents must be open to looking at better ways of doing education. It may mean that our whole school may look quite different than the traditional school we are so used to. It is clear that more money being thrown at our educational institutes is not the answer nor will it ever be. We also need to stop protecting special interests groups and recognize who is making positive progress towards a better educational outcome for its students. We need to make some changes. Even our Christian schools need to make changes to compete in this global world. The top five jobs in the world did not even exist in 2004! Believe that? That is astonishing! We need to be equipped to meet those needs and the future needs of each student that walks through our doors. We need to meet the needs of the student with: a learning disability, a physical disability, that is talented and gifted, comes from a broken home, who needs intervention, etc.

One of the factors we have to look at is parental expectations. Some parents expect quality and are really involved in seeing that it happens. Others find education something of a necessary evil and they don't encourage their child to do his/her best each day.

Changing the teaching methods and structure of the school has taken some serious thought and study. We have been really emphasizing inclusion of all teachers curriculum to be intertwined with many subjects. We have truly grasped the need to have technology inclusion in as many academic areas as possible, technology in the classroom, whether that be smartboard, Ipad, laptops, or other media tools. We have given our teachers the opportunity to expand their instructional approaches through professional development that speaks specifically to the needs of each student in their classroom. But we need to continue to strive too make our school the best it can be. We ask that as parents and society members you embrace the journey we are on to help our students be some of the "best" Christian educated students in the world!

Mr. Schoonhoven

KIDS OF THE KINGDOM

PRESCHOOL

We are having a wonderful January in our room. The weather has been nice enough to go outside most days. However, we have some friends who would really like to see the snow:) I am sure we will get our share of it yet.

Some of the letters we are working on this month are J, S, D and P. The highlights of these letters are creating snowmen with craft items, jumping, having donuts with dad and going to the Pizza Ranch for letter P.

In Bible we have learned about a scary storm on the water and Jesus calmed the storm. We also learned about a boy named Samuel, Joshua's coat of many colors, Daniel in the lion's den and we watched a Veggie Tales book on the Smart board about Junior. Our puppets of Junior were really fun to make.

We are looking forward to a fun month in February with Valentine's day. We also participate with the "big kids" with fun Friday's. We get to come to school with crazy hair, wear our pajamas and have lollipops. YEAH!!!!

Thanks for all of your support throughout the year. Feel free to come and visit anytime!

*God Bless,
Mrs. Tammy and Miss Michon*

KINDERGARTEN

In Kindergarten we are studying a Bible unit about Joshua, Gideon, and Samson. We have learned how God kept his promise to the Israelites by giving them the land of Canaan. The main issue during the era of the judges was God's kingship over Israel. The conflict between Israel's desire to serve Baal and God's demand for total allegiance is constantly showing up.

In Math they have studied the numbers one to ten. They can count on and count back on a number line. They can identify, show, and draw groups of ten. They are learning to use ordinal numbers first through tenth to identify position. They practice this while in line for lunch, in line to go home, in line for library or music, and any other chance we have.

Mrs. Vos was in charge of the chapel message in January. The theme of the month was on the "Shoes of Peace." Satan tries to create worry and confusion in our lives, but knowing Jesus brings peace. The first way to put on your Gospel of Peace shoes is to believe what Jesus did for you really paid the penalty for your sins. Another way to put on your Gospel of Peace Shoes is by making peace with others. Be sure you are wearing your Gospel of Peace Shoes so you will be prepared to tell people the good news about Jesus.

Mrs. Vos

1ST AND 2ND GRADE

The first and second graders welcomed Maddie Dekkers to our class. She is a daughter of Myron and Holly Dekkers. We are happy she has joined us and pray she will enjoy her time as we all learn together.

Our Hundreth Day of School was held on January 26. We wrote our name in 100 squares and then colored the pattern of the letters we wrote. Playing "Cat and Mouse" with 100 dots can be a challenge. We read the parable of the 100 sheep and the one who became lost. The children brought 100 items to eat and 100 items to share. It is a fun way to celebrate 100.

Our Bible stories have taken us to the New Testament and the beginning of Jesus' ministry. When John the Baptist baptized Jesus, the Father spoke to His Son and the Holy Spirit descended like a dove. We made a mobile using a world, cross, and dove to hang from a triangle shape. Many of the children remember seeing the triangle shape in their churches to show the trinity, also. We are singing a song this month by Chris Tomlin called "Praise the Father, Praise the Son".

The second graders are getting really good at regrouping or carrying when they add. But now they need to really work hard on borrowing when they subtract. Taking things away is always harder than adding. First graders are learning lots of things about numbers—how many tens and ones, estimation, and how to write out numbers. It is really important to know our facts quickly and so we spend lots of time mastering our facts, too.

Mrs. Goslinga



3RD AND 4TH GRADE

The month of January was a warm one in 3rd and 4th grade. Twice the kids got to go outside for recess without coats! We took full advantage of the beautiful weather, going outside and having extended recess whenever possible.

When we had to be indoors, we worked very hard. The 3rd graders continued to work on their multiplication and added some new division problems. The 4th graders worked hard learning measurement and time. All of them did a great job!

We were able to start our first Social Studies unit this month. Already, the kids have shown a great interest in learning about the United States and the different environments and cultures. They are all excited about the first history character dress up day!

In Bible, we had great discussions about the Israelites and their cycle of turning to and from God. We talked about how silly they were for so quickly forgetting that God is the one true God. However, we turned that discussion to ourselves and took a look at our lives. We wondered if the Israelites were alive today, and could read a book about us, what would they think? Would they see us as devoted Christians, or as people who know God and His Word, but turn from it time and time again. This discussion gave us a great opportunity to think of ways that we can spend more time with God each day.

We also welcomed a new student this month to our classroom. Edyn Dekkers joined our 4th grade and we are so glad to have her! We have had a lot of fun getting to know her and teaching her about Ireton Christian.

As we begin 3rd quarter and the second half of our year, I am continually amazed at hard each of my students work. I feel so blessed to have them in my room and that I can not only teach them, but that God uses them time and time again to teach me.

Mrs. Mills

5TH AND 6TH GRADE

The start of the new year had us wrapping up the first semester and starting the second semester in the middle of January. The students had to diligently complete some final papers, reports, and tests before the end of the first semester. The class is becoming good listeners and active participants in our class discussions. They continue to want to know and grow in their academic understanding each week. They are very helpful in their subject matter with one another. We have had some bumps along the way with completing our work, but that too seems to be making a turn for the better.

The fifth grade is working on multiplying and dividing fractions, whole numbers, and using the customary measuring system in their math classes. The sixth grade has been working with proportions, unit rates, and problem solving in their math classes.

The Social Studies/History has been focusing on World War I and World War II in the events that have taken place during that time.

Mr. Schoonhoven

7TH AND 8TH GRADE

Phew! We've accomplished the first semester! It feels great to have half of the year under our belt, look back and see how much we've learned, and look forward to what the year still has to come.

A few things the 7th and 8th graders have worked hard on the past several weeks is their study of Proverbs, using percentages and decimals in different situations, studying various elements of the periodic table, writing VERY creative stories, creating a class magazine, defending a position on a controversial topic, as well as reading and discussing the book *The Outsiders*.

Looking ahead, we will be studying the Prophets, learning how to solve various equations, expository writing, science compounds, and much more! The second semester also means the 8th graders have a lot to think about as graduation approaches.

With basketball and other activities the students are involved with, schedules get filled very quickly. As the year progresses, responsibilities are accumulating and we continue to work on time-management in class. Daily we ask that God will guide us through our studies of his creation and help us follow Christ's example of godly living.

Miss Van Beek

**HAPPY
VALENTINE'S
DAY**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Feb. 1-10	ITBS Testing Dates
February 13	TRIP order date (8:45 AM)
February 20	Presidents Day - No School
February 28	Society/PTA/Auxiliary Meeting 7:00 PM
March 16	Grandparent's Day 9:00 am
	End of 3rd Quarter (44 days)
	Dismiss at 12:30

BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

January 31	Home vs Rock Valley Christian (boys play first) 4 PM
February 2	Home vs Sanborn Christian 4 PM
February 4	Girls basketball tournament at Unity Christian TBA
February 11	Boys basketball tournament at Western Christian TBA

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

February 6	Maria Byker
February 10	Hanah Van Beek
February 14	Laney Bonnema
	Mikaela Broek
February 19	Jacob Folkerts
February 21	Joey Schoonhoven
February 23	Cody Davelaar

KIDS OF THE KINGDOM FINANCIAL REPORT

For One Month Ended December 31, 2011

Income:		
Donation	250.00	
Fundraiser	3,195.00	
QRS Grant	500.00	
Universal Grant	4,438.15	Cash on Hand on 12/31/2011
Tuition	<u>650.00</u>	22,846.08
Total Income	9,033.15	
Expenses:		
Educational		
Milk	54.30	
Office Supplies	70.00	
Supplies	127.85	
Fundraiser Expense	2,279.50	
Rent Expense	4,000.00	
Salaries		
Payroll Taxes	310.78	
Teacher	<u>4,062.48</u>	
Total Expenses	\$10,904.91	
Net Ordinary Income	-1,871.76	
Interest Income	2.16	
Net Income	-1,869.60	

TRIP NEWS

Upcoming order dates are: February 13, March 5, March 26, April 16, May 7. Orders need to be in the TRIP box in the school office by 8:45 AM on the order dates or they can be put in Donna Koopmans' church mailbox (Ireton CRC) by 7:00 PM on the Sunday night before. Please try to remind your child to bring the order to their teacher or to the office as soon as they get to school, so that orders will not be forgotten or late.

If there is ever a late start on a TRIP order date, the orders will be due at the time school starts. If school is cancelled for the day, the order date will be the next school day, but the orders might not be ready by that Friday.

Also during the school year, on hand inventory is now only going to be available on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:15-2:00 at the school office.

ICS FINANCIAL REPORT

For One Month Ended December 31, 2011

Income:		Educational Disbursements:	
Bus Income	25.00	Administrative	137.50
Donation	1,590.00	Copier	75.50
Education Partners	600.00	Misc.	1,681.48
Fair Share		Supplies	38.90
Bridge of Hope	400.00	<u>Technology</u>	<u>777.44</u>
Hawarden CRC	2,880.00	Sub Total	\$2,710.82
Ireton CRC	3,000.00		
House Rent	645.00	Other	
Other Income	253.13	<u>Rent Expense</u>	<u>25.00</u>
Preschool Rent	4,000.00	Sub Total	\$25.00
Refund	524.69		
Rent	260.00	Salaries:	
Tuition	6,539.30	Accounting Expense	732.00
Total Income	\$20,717.12	Cook	2,254.89
		Insurance	2,388.00
Building Expenses:		Janitor	1,124.16
Building Insurance	5,087.00	Medical Ins. Employee	501.85
Building Remodel	2,501.06	Payroll Expenses	1,333.52
Building Repairs	1,492.18	Payroll Taxes	2,103.81
Fuel	1,349.90	Pension	1,346.20
Janitor Supplies	70.20	Secretary	535.50
<u>Utilities</u>	<u>563.96</u>	Substitute	175.00
Sub Total	\$11,064.30	<u>Teacher</u>	<u>23,662.32</u>
		Sub Total	\$36,157.25
Bus:		Total Expenses	\$55,833.93
Bus Gas & Oil	1,948.35	Net Ordinary Income	-35,116.81
Bus Insurance	1,273.00	Interest Income	1.12
Bus Misc.	412.50	Net Income	-35,115.69
Bus Repairs	457.78	Cash on Hand	-3,560.67
<u>Bus Wages</u>	<u>1,784.93</u>		
Sub Total	\$5,876.56		

Board Meeting - Monday, January 12, 2011 at 7 PM

1. Call to Order
2. Opening Prayer & Devotions by Board President Jim Viet
3. MINUTES of last meeting read for approval MSA
4. No Items were added to the agenda
5. Old Business
 - a. Benjy Weida handed out candy & gifts on Dec 21 to students and staff/faculty
 - b. Education Committee meet with staff/faculty before January meeting (one-to-one)
 - c. Budget for 2012-2013 (Finance & Education Committees) recommendation were received from Faculty representatives
 - d. Administrator Evaluations-will be turned in to Board President, Jim Viet by February 1
 - e. Society/Auxiliary/PTA meeting will be on Tuesday February 28 @ 7:00pm
 - f. Hire additional KOK teacher assistant for Tuesday and Thursday mornings, Motion to Board: Hire Michon Moget for Tuesday and Thursday mornings for 2nd semester
6. Principal's Report
7. Bills/Donations
8. Committee Reports were given
 - a. Building-a few repair items were needed for immediate action
 - b. Education -sent out intention slips to staff/faculty
 - c. Finance -discussed tuition progress, and 2012-2013 budget draft
 - d. Bus-routes were changed for 2nd semester
 - e. Endowment-added one new family to endowment list
 - f. Preschool-added 1 new student, will be purchasing a laptop, and additional teacher assistant time
 - g. Technology Google Docs for board
 - h. Promotion/Concert-packets were sent out to families last week to be completed and turned back in to committee
9. Finance Committee Reports
 - *Approval of Principal report, Committee reports, and Finance reports MSA
10. New Business (Items for Action)
 - a. Budget 2012-2013 rough draft
 - b. Salary recommendations (CSI Compensation Report) was discussed, finance and education committee will meet and discuss staff/faculty recommendation
 - c. Snow cap renewal (\$250) MSA
 - d. 2012-2013 Calendar year was discussed, Marlin will have a review copy by next board meeting
- e. Thank You cards to board for Christmas gifts from -M Schoonhoven, M Byker, T Sieck, M Moget
- f. CSI Insurance is being looked at for possible change in insurance coverage
- g. Rental House - Look at renting out and will also look into future updates
11. Reviewed Board Policy 500-525 Finances (26-28) - made adjustments (1-12-2012)
12. Board Visit report by Dave Van Donkelaar Next: Greg Van Beek
13. Next meeting Monday, February 13, at 7pm (committees will meet at 6:30pm)
14. Concept Minutes read/motion to Adjourn MSA
15. Dave Van Donkelaar closed with prayer

2011-2012 Ireton Christian School Covenant Foundation Members:

Eric and Cheryl Van Wyk
Randy and Tammy Sieck
Ryan and Angela Zomermaand
Scott and Jennifer Miedema
Chris Mueller
Dale Hennings
Marlin and Leah Schoonhoven
Allen and Phyllis Schoonhoven
Margaret Kooistra
Stan and Beth Vanden Berg
Roger and Linda Broek
Jason Meyer *
Nicholaas and Arletta Dorhout*
Brent and Cindy Davelaar*
Tena Kramer *
Curtis J. DeVries**

Sadie De Vries**
Leroy and Joan Punt*
Evonne Wielenga*
John and Alice Jongma*
Allen and Clara Eisma *
Jim and Mandy Viet*
Rick and Jill Schouten*
Michael J. Jongma*
Randy and Glenda Van Wyhe *
Gerrit and Tracy Byker*
Kelly and Carmen Noteboom*
Darrell and Kate Noteboom*
Warren and Ruth Dekkers*
Lawrence and Dinah Ter Horst*
Duane and Lee Ann Bonnema*
Earl and Toots Kooi*

Dan and Sharon Byker*
Gerald and Rhonda Postma*
Stan and Barb Hoekstra*
Jay and Marlene Broek*
Verlyn and Karel Dekkers*
Brian and Sharla Gradert*
Allen and Ruth De Jager*
Roger and Joann Obbink*
Dick and Harriet Bonnema *
Tim and Lori Bonnema*
Bryan and Deanne Dekkers*
Doug and Cinda Faber *
Delbert and Betty Zwart * (4 year member)

* Lifetime members (\$500.00)
Yearly Members (\$25.00)

Would you like to support Christian Education by becoming a Foundation member? The board would like to invite anyone to help promote Ireton Christian School. For a yearly fee of \$25 or a Lifetime membership of \$500, you can become an Ireton Christian School Foundation member. Please visit the school office or mail \$25 or \$500 to Ireton Christian and you will be added to the membership list! (List will be updated monthly). ALL proceeds will be placed in our Endowment Fund. The money raised will help defray the cost of major repairs and educational expenses encountered throughout the year, as well as helping keep the cost of education at a minimum. THANKS for your support!