



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

Joy to the World! The Lord has come! Christmas time, what a wonderful time of the year! This year the students and faculty put on a Christmas musical called "The Great Christmas Giveaway." This was a spectacular program with many heartfelt and wonderful songs that truly represent the whole Christmas season in the right and perfect way. The students; whether actors, soloists, singers, helpers did an amazing job! Hopefully you had a chance to witness the event. I have been at Ireton Christian School for 19 years and can truly say this was one of the most uplifting programs the students have delivered and it showed! Wow! The Holy Spirit was definitely at work in each and everyone!

The students sang from the bottom of their hearts, the actors-acted, everyone carried out their part to perfection and with a desire to truly be reminded of the reason for this time of the year and send the message about Christmas to their mothers, fathers, uncles, aunts, grandpas, grandmas, and friends.

So hopefully if you got to see it you came away upbeat, with a joyful heart and an uplifted spirit! Remembering the reason for the season helps each one of us know how truly blessed we are during this festive season. Also knowing that He was born, given up by His Father, to come to this earth, to save us from our sin, so that some day we may have eternal life! **WHAT A GIFT!**

Mr. Schoonhoven

KIDS OF THE KINGDOM

PRESCHOOL

What a wonderful holiday season we are having in our room. By the time you read this the official holidays will be over but Christ's love is here year round! Praise the Lord!

Some of the highlights in our room for the month included a field trip to T and S Christmas Tree Farm. We got to take a wagon ride, watch them decorate a wreath, pick a tree and eat cookies. Yummy! It was a great day. We have also been decorating the tree with pine cones and bird seed, popcorn, and cranberries. Our little bird friends will love it. We also have a tree in our room that everyone helped decorate with an ornament from home. We are busy singing Christmas carols and coloring a lot of Christmas pictures.

We are focusing on letters O, Q, and G this month as well. These are tricky letters to write for us but we are learning. One thing we liked doing is writing our letters in shaving cream on a cookie sheet. We also did fun things with colors blue and green.

In the new year we will be learning the rest of our letters, numbers, and shapes and focusing on Nursery Rhymes.

We pray you had a very good holiday season and wish you God's blessings in the new year.

Mrs. Tammy and Miss Michon

KINDERGARTEN

The Kindergarteners have been enjoying the Christmas season in the Kindergarten room. They loved making chains and stars and nativity scenes. Their assignment was to take the "nativity" home and tell mom/dad, brother/sister about the real meaning of Christmas! The little fireplace has seven stockings hanging from it. Singing Christmas songs by the fireplace is so much fun. Their highlight was singing in the all school Christmas program.

The Kindergarteners are sailing through the alphabet, as they have learned fifteen letters already. They can sound out many CVC words and they have memorized many High Frequency words. It is so rewarding to see them begin to read more and more!

Every day brings new information for them to learn. Math is something everyone seems to enjoy this year. They are in the process of learning counting order and ordinals first to tenth.

I want to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Mrs. Vos

1ST AND 2ND GRADE

The first and second grade children have been busy with learning many songs and verses for Christmas programs. The school musical took many hours of work to learn all of the songs and actions, but we enjoyed giving the program to all of you. The third and fourth graders joined us for a special program about "Joy" as we celebrated the words of "Joy to the World". We gave that program for chapel, at the Senior Citizen's Center in Ireton, and Hillcrest Nursing Home in Hawarden. As we gave the program, we helped spread the joy of Christmas.

The second graders have learned how to "regroup" or "carry" the one ten to the top of the ten's column. It took us a long time to work with our tens and ones cubes, but now we can just do it on paper and it goes so much faster. That is why we need to know our math facts very well and fast. Practice, practice, practice. The first graders are working on all kinds of different graphs—picture, tally marks, Venn, and bar graphs. It is a good way to sort out information.

In Social Studies, we learned that we have needs and wants. If we are to pay for all of our goods, we need to work in order to have money to spend for needs and wants. Some people work for no money and volunteer their time at school to help us learn. We are very thankful for their help and made them "thank you" cards.

At this Christmas time, our Bible lessons focused on Jesus' birth and the story of all the other people involved with Joseph, Mary, and Jesus. We made a picture for each lesson and put them into a card for mom and dad. It is also fun to hear the story as told in "Adventures in Odyssey". We hope you celebrate and rejoice in Christ's birth.

Mrs. Goslinga

KIDS OF THE KINGDOM FINANCIAL REPORT

For One Month Ended November 30, 2011

Income:		
Fundraiser	30.00	Cash on Hand on 11/30/2011
Tuition	<u>980.00</u>	\$23,983.37
Total Income	1,010.00	
Expenses:		
Educational		
Miscellaneous	150.00	
Supplies	274.96	
Salaries		
Payroll Taxes	207.19	
Teacher	<u>2,708.32</u>	
Total Expenses	\$3,340.47	
Net Ordinary Income	-2,330.47	
Interest Income	2.00	
Net Income	-2,328.47	

3RD AND 4TH GRADE

The month of December has flown by for us in 3rd and 4th grade. We had a fun month learning many new things! Most of all we enjoyed the decent weather for an Iowa winter! We thanked God often for the chance to play outside!

Some of the 3rd and 4th graders favorite parts of December were math and reading. In math, both classes worked on multiplication and division. They worked on math minutes every day and tried to improve how quickly they could solve 60 problems. It was so fun to see them improve each week! In reading, we started chapter books. The 4th graders read *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. They had a great time reading about the Herman family and all the crazy things they did! In the end, it was great to see how the Herdman's are not so different from us or people in the Bible. We even saw the connection that God can use Herdman's to do His work!

The 3rd graders read *Mr. Popper's Penguins*. They enjoyed reading about the Popper family and their crazy adventures with all those penguins! They are becoming wonderful readers! It is so fun to see them improve in their ability to read and understand harder books.

Bible was the favorite for me this month. We spent time studying the book of Ruth. It is amazing how God uses everything in our lives to teach us lessons. We talked about how the people in the story of Ruth made both wise and unwise choices during their lives, and how God used those choices for His own glory and purpose. It was a great lesson, once again, that reminded the students and myself that God works in His own way. There are times when we don't understand the circumstance we are in, and we may never understand, but God has a plan and we need to trust in it. Naomi and Ruth may have never known that their decisions would one day lead to the birth of our Savior, but they learned to trust in God and follow His righteous plan. And we are all thankful they did! As we celebrate our Savior's birth this Christmas, we hope everyone is reminded of how glorious and wonderful our God truly is!

Mrs. Mills

5TH AND 6TH GRADE

The class has experienced the Passover/Lord's Supper "first hand" (in a sense). The students had a couple activities that involved them reading through the various parts of the Lord's Supper in the Bible and in commentaries, studying the Lord's Supper through a various workbook pages, but also got to draw the scene they envisioned from reading about it and they culminated this with actually going through the event of the "Passover/Lord's Supper" as a class. They got to experience the eating of Lamb, unleavened bread, bitter herbs or vinegar, haroset, and wine/juice (Passover in OT) but also the representation of the "bread" and "wine" in the New Testament at the "Lord's Supper."

Mr. Schoonhoven

7TH AND 8TH GRADE

Joy to the world! The Lord has come! The seventh and eighth grade class has so much to be proud of and so many reasons to celebrate! All of them did a fabulous job at the Christmas program; I want to thank all of you who helped memorize their lines and support them in their performances. We've accomplished a lot in the classroom as well and have gotten through many tests and projects before it was time for Christmas break. Thank you, students for all of your hard work!

The main thing our classroom has been based on this year is the idea of RESPECT. Students found out early on that their behavior at all times needs to show respect to God, all the teachers, their classmates, and themselves as well. This has been something that we all need a constant reminder of, including an assessment of our attitude. Now is a great time to really remember the blessings we have and the opportunity that we have being involved with a Christian school.

With the new year approaching, we can also look ahead into the future and anticipate even more accomplishments. It is clear that as time goes by, our world is continuously changing and I hope that we can all set high expectations for ourselves to be an effective citizen in God's kingdom!

Miss Van Beek

MID SIOUX

ADOPT-A-FAMILY

The students at Ireton Christian School do not exchange gifts with one another, instead they have chosen to collect donations for Mid Sioux Adopt-A-Family program. This year nearly \$400 was collected to purchase gifts for a family in Sioux County. Since our Christmas musical was called "The Great Christmas Giveaway" we thought it very fitting to once again be reminded of what the season is about. Each room purchased items for one of the members of the Adopt-A-Family, gift wrapped them, and then we brought them to Mid Sioux to be given to the family for the Christmas Season. We have been blessed in so many ways and it makes the kids see and realize that they can enjoy Christmas by giving to others in our community. We hopefully truly follow what our mission is in our school-to be more like Christ each day. Thanks to everyone for the donations and participation in giving at Christmas time!



"The Great Christmas Giveaway - The Gift Goes On"

On Thursday, December 8, the students of Ireton Christian presented the Christmas musical, "The Great Christmas Giveaway–The Gift Goes On." The story was about four students who were in charge of buying a gift for their teacher. As the students shop, they encounter people who help them find "the perfect present." They discover that "it is better to give than receive," and that "love's the perfect present we can give throughout the year." They begin to understand that it's not about what they buy, but how they give...with a heart of gold–giving from your heart, and giving your very best. The students did a great job preparing for this, and I appreciate all their work. Thanks, too, to the ICS staff for their help and flexibility.

The musical taught us that God gave out of love, He gave his best–His one and only Son, and He gave in response to our great need, not what we deserved. God knew we could never repay Him and yet He still sent Jesus. Our prayer is that through this musical we were all reminded to give like God gave to us. That's where true JOY is found!

Mrs. M. Byker

As I reflect on this past month the phrase that keeps coming to mind is "All is Calm." Last week the band presented their winter performance. After weeks of rehearsal and practice it was a wonderful time of worship and joy to share our music with the Ireton Christian Community. One piece we performed was based upon the hymn Silent Night. No matter what our cultural background, the holiday season is the time of year when we all reflect upon the joys in our lives. This month is also a very busy time of activities and preparations for most people. It can be hard to slow our pace, take a deep breath, and reflect. It is during the quiet moments that we experience inner peace and calm that allows us to recognize all that is beautiful and good in our world. This particular piece though familiar to all, brought new meaning to me as I soaked in the beauty of its simple and profound message. Though the band room is abuzz with activity, this month we will take some time to reflect and enjoy the season and songs of Christmas! May you each receive the blessings of this Christmas season as you celebrate and reflect upon the good and beautiful in your life. Merry Christmas!

Mrs. Miller



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 3	Classes Resume
Jan. 13	End of 2nd Quarter (45 days) Dismiss at 11:30
Jan 20	Early dismissal 12:15 (Teacher Inservice)
Jan. 23	Parent-Teacher Conferences Open house from 4-6pm (no schedule)
Feb. 1-10	ITBS Testing Dates

BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

January 5	Away vs Inwood 4 PM
January 24	Away vs Sioux Center Christian 4 PM
January 27	Home vs Orange City Christian (boys play first) 4 PM
January 30	Away vs Sheldon Christian 4 PM
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

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

January 4	Jared Nohava
January 9	Joseph Abbas
January 10	Sara Dekkers
January 11	Cali Mulder
January 12	Brevan Obbink
January 27	Dustin Endrulat, Anna Hennings, Kortnie Bonnema, Adam Van Beek
January 30	Jenna Van Wyk
January 31	Wyatt Hulshof

TRIP NEWS

Upcoming order dates are: January 3, January 23, 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.

On hand TRIP is now available in the school office on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:15 to 2:00. To purchase TRIP on other days call Donna at #278-2506 or e-mail dkoopmans@hotmail.com.

ICS FINANCIAL REPORT

For One Month Ended November 30, 2011

Income:		Educational Disbursements:	
Band Income	170.00	Copier	336.20
Bus Income	240.29	Dues	88.50
Donation	600.00	Office Supplies	102.60
Endowment Income	500.00	Supplies	55.92
Fair Share		Technology	636.30
Bridge of Hope	270.00	Telephone	35.34
Ireton CRC	6,500.00	<u>Textbooks</u>	<u>108.81</u>
House Rent	1,800.00	Sub Total	\$1,363.67
Memorial	175.00	Salaries:	
Other Income	90.50	Beacon	70.00
Rent	180.00	Cook	1,503.26
Tuition	9,266.20	Janitor	1,134.96
Total Income	\$19,791.99	Medical Ins. Employee	2,023.51
Building Expenses:		Payroll Expenses	6.80
Building Remodel	230.83	Payroll Taxes	1,485.79
Building Repairs	586.39	Pension	1,603.15
Janitor Supplies	61.20	Secretary	794.25
Utilities	430.75	Substitute	545.00
Sub Total	\$1,309.17	Teacher	15,774.88
Bus:		Sub Total	\$24,941.60
Bus Gas & Oil	2,468.06	Total Expenses	\$31,782.48
Bus Misc.	100.00	Net Ordinary Income	\$-11,990.49
Bus Repairs	469.01	Interest Income	2.95
<u>Bus Wages</u>	<u>1,130.97</u>	Net Income	-11,987.54
Sub Total	\$4,168.04	Cash on Hand	\$27,574.27

NEW TECHNOLOGY

The students in grades 3-6 have had the opportunity to use a new piece of technology in their classrooms. What is it, you ask? The iPad2. Student have been able to do many basic educational applications to math, grammar, & reading.

The students in grades 7-8 have been using Google Docs in their computer class and getting familiar with some of the applications that can be used with Google Docs. These pieces of technology have helped students to be more engaged and interactive with their classwork. Especially among the students in some daily assignments and individually helping them understand important concepts and skills.

NICSTO

Thank you! Thank you! To everyone who has made donations to NICSTO for 2011. Our goal has been reached, taking in over \$23,000. This will be distributed to help offset tuition for families that have requested assistance. We continue to be thankful for the many wonderful supporters of Christian Education and Ireton Christian School!

Board Meeting - Monday, December 19, 2011 at 7 PM

1. Call to Order
2. Opening Prayer & Devotions by Board President
3. MINUTES of last meeting read MSA
4. Items to be added to agenda
5. Old Business
 - a. Vision for ICS 1)Spanish Class (K-2); 2)iPads for lower grades; 3)SmartBoards in all classrooms
 - b. TRIP use -need to make people use it more (offset tuition cost) How? BEACON, Posters, email, online ordering
 - c. Hot Lunch prices -state requiring everyone under Free/ Reduced lunches (need to raise meal prices to \$2.77 by 2020) Hot Lunch prices will be raised \$.10 from \$1.75 to \$1.85 per meal starting in January 2012 MSA
 - d. E-rate class-Josh F & myself would like to attend (Date?) Approved
 - e. Marlin is granted the opportunity to attend the CSI convention in Denver, Colorado, July 24-27 MSA
 - f. Education- After school/Get a Jump program- Title I & remedial students could use reinforcement in core subjects: options: 1) hire additional remedial during the day, 2) college students as volunteers, with 1 teacher supervision before/after school, 3) add a 2 week program before start of new school year, 1-2 teachers-paid thru donors or grant to offset cost Marlin will look into the college students first then others, nothing as of now
6. Principal's Report-was given
7. Bills/Donations
8. Committee Reports
 - a. Building-kitchen hand sink & leak under dishwasher, door holder brackets need to be made, rental house needs to be checked out-no longer occupied by Kluvers
 - b. Education KOK additional teacher assistant help possibly needed next semester (contract), additional students for 2nd semester (Jan 16)
 - c. Finance NICSTO distribution process was discussed and will be revised for 2012-2013, budget for 2012-2013
 - d. Bus- extra bus not DE inspected yet, repairs made to both busses
 - e. Endowment-added 1 lifetime membership
 - f. Preschool-additional student on Tues/Thurs, Tammy/Michon asking permission to attend PD on Jan 27
 - g. Technology Goggle Docs for Board Google
 - h. Promotion/Concert-two group contracted Link Family/Knutsen Family
9. Finance Committee Reports
*Principal report, Committee reports, and Finance reports MSA
10. New Business (Items for Action)
 - a. Benjy Weida handed out candy to students & gifts to teachers on December 21
 - b. Education Committee will meet with staff/faculty before January meeting
 - c. Budget for 2012-2013 (Finance & Education Committees) get recommendation from Faculty representatives meet and discuss finances or issues before January board meeting
 - d. Administrator Evaluations-turn in to Board President by February 1
 - e. Society/Auxiliary/PTA meeting on Tuesday February 28 @ 7:00pm
 - f. Hire Michon Moget for additional KOK teacher assistant for tuesday and thursday mornings, MSA
11. Review Board Policy 450-451.9 At Risk Students was discussed
12. Board Visit report by Jim Dekkers was a positive visit
Next: Dave Van Donkelaar
13. Next meeting Thursday, January 12, at 7pm
(committees will meet at 6:30pm)
14. Concept Minutes read/motion to Adjourn
15. Jim Dekkers 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 *

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

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