



# The Ireton Christian **BEACON**

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## PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Dear Families,

As we settle into these mid-winter weeks, I find myself looking out across the dormant fields and reflecting on our theme, "Still Waters, Strong Faith." In this season, our rural landscape moves into a time of necessary rest; there is a profound peace in the quiet, frost-covered fields that mirrors the promise of Psalm 23. Just as the land waits patiently for the seasons to come, we are teaching our students to find strength in the "still waters" of God's presence, allowing the Good Shepherd to restore our souls even during the coldest months.

I am so thankful for your continued partnership as we navigate this first year together; watching your children grow in wisdom and spirit remains a constant blessing. To ensure our school continues to flourish in the years to come, I invite you to join us for our School Society Meeting on Monday, February 9, 2026. This is a vital time for our community to gather and steward the future of our school. During this meeting, we will:

- Vote on the 2026-2027 school year budget.
- Elect new board members to lead our mission.
- Review and approve the details of our new strategic plan, which outlines our vision for long-term growth and student success.

Let us continue to lean into this season of peace, trusting that He who leads us through the quiet fields is the same who provides everything we need.

Blessings,

Laura Moes, Principal



*You are invited to attend our*

## DINNER & DESSERT DASH

HOSTED BY

Ireton Christian School Auxiliary

FRIDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 27  
DOORS OPEN 6 PM  
DINNER 6:30 PM

ENTERTAINMENT: PETERSON FARM BROTHERS

Hawarden Community Center

TICKETS: \$25 PER PERSON  
OR TABLE OF 8 FOR \$200

Make reservations by  
calling/texting  
712-441-5296 or  
scan the code.


SCAN ME

# KIDS OF THE KINGDOM PRESCHOOL

As the seasons changed from fall to winter, our preschool classroom stayed busy with learning, laughter, and festive fun. It is always special to celebrate Thanksgiving and Christmas with little ones—especially when it's their very first school experience with these holidays. During the holiday season, our preschoolers spent time learning about thankfulness and the joy of Jesus being born. They strengthened fine motor and creative skills through festive, homemade crafts, all while keeping up with their daily learning of letters, numbers, and important social skills like sharing, listening, and kindness. December brought even more fun as we embraced the winter season. . .



The preschoolers especially loved spending time outdoors enjoying the snow! They were quite disappointed to see the big snow pile disappear and are currently hoping that God will send us more snow to enjoy. As their teacher, I am continually blessed by these students. As their teacher, they continue to fill my cup each day with their smiling faces and joyful personalities. I am excited to see all that they will learn in the second half of our school year together!

*Miss. Roghair*



## KINDERGARTEN

As the school year reaches its halfway point, it is fun to reflect on the accomplishments of this kindergarten class. Students have mastered their letter sounds and are well on their way to reading words and sentences. They have been reminded of some familiar Bible stories, but have learned some new ones as well! Kids who were unfamiliar at the beginning of the year have now become friends. It is exciting to think about all that could be accomplished in the second half of the year.

According to the students, some of their favorite things about ICS are learning about God and Jesus through Bible class, playing with friends at recess, specials like PE, art, library and music, learning to read, and hanging out with the older chapel buddies.

Even though this time of year is cold and passes by slowly, we look forward to learning what we can and enjoying this space that God has given us to learn.

*Mrs. Kuperus*



# 1ST GRADE



Even though the middle of the school year can sometimes feel quieter, our classroom has been busy learning, exploring, and growing together in many meaningful ways. We have the joy of hosting a student teacher, Emma Westphal, a senior at Northwestern College. She has been an absolute blessing to our class so far, and we're looking forward to having her in our room through the end of February.

In science, we have been learning about different habitats and the amazing adaptations God gives animals to help them survive. We began by studying the tundra, where we experienced how blubber helps insulate animals living in the Arctic. We then learned about the plains region and even created our own prairie dog tunnels. More recently, we explored pond habitats, where we studied the life cycle of a frog. We are excited to continue learning about many more habitats and to see how God's creation is perfectly designed.

In math, we are working hard on double-digit addition and subtraction with renaming. We have been learning different strategies to solve problems, but our class has decided that we prefer to solve them "the old-school way." It has been fun to see students grow in confidence as they practice and master these skills.

During Bible time, we are learning about Joshua and the Battle of Jericho. This story has been a powerful reminder of God's faithfulness to the Israelites and His promise to bring them back to the land of Canaan. It also reminds us that God is faithful to us today and always keeps His promises.

We are also looking forward to many exciting events coming up, including Student Appreciation Day, Valentine's Day, Pixie Week, and more. While the school year is already halfway over, we still have so much to learn and enjoy together.

*Mrs. Oolman*

## 2ND GRADE

This quarter, our 2nd grade classroom was excited to welcome two new friends, Kenzie and Maddie! Their arrival brings our class total to 14 students, and they have been wonderful additions to our learning community. Together, we have explored many new topics, including the beginning of our unit on habitats. So far, students have learned about the plains, desert, and tundra. After studying the animals that live on the plains, the second graders enjoyed creating their own prairie dog burrows. We continue to be amazed by God's creatures and the unique adaptations He has given them to thrive in their environments.



In Bible class, we have been learning more about Jesus' ministry, including stories from His childhood such as The Boy Jesus in the Temple and lessons about John the Baptist. In math, students are building their understanding of three-digit numbers by exploring place value and representing numbers using a variety of math tools.

We are looking forward to another great quarter of learning and growth!

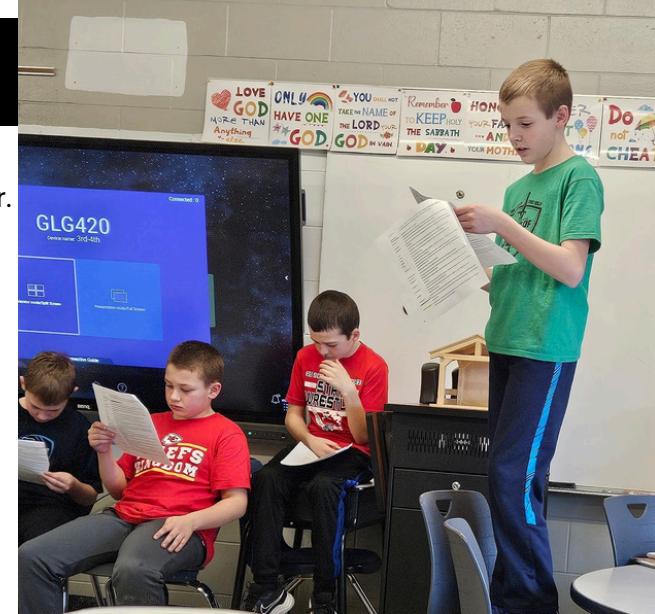
*Mrs. Vander Berg*

# 3RD & 4TH GRADE

Here are a few highlights from our room since Christmas break! We are loving getting to know Miss T, Calena Topete, our student teacher. She goes to college at UNI but is from Ireton and lives just down the street from the school. It is fun to get new ideas from someone and the kids love telling her all about themselves!

We finished up our science book by learning about electricity and magnetism. We were able to get the lightbulb to work with the batteries but didn't get it to work with the magnets. We aren't sure if we did it wrong or if the bulb was burnt out. Haha! They LOVED "playing" with the magnets.

In Bible we are learning about Saul, David and Jonathan. We really enjoy watching videos about these stories. We also did 2 skits from 1 Samuel and the kids did great! (Vincent is Goliath in the picture)



We have been learning about different forms of art in Wit and Wisdom. We are currently reading a book called Alvin Ailey about a dancer and have enjoyed watching his choreography to some gospel songs.

Another fun thing we are doing is called "Book Taco". We get to read books, take quizzes about the book and earn points to play games on the chromebook. It is a great incentive for them to read. We also enjoy our visits from Sioux County Conservation leaders and this month we had a live owl visit too. We are looking forward to student appreciation day this week and going bowling and watching a movie. We also plan to go ice fishing this month and are supposed to snow shoe, but that may not happen if we don't have any snow.

We hope you are staying warm and cozy during these winter months.

Mrs. Sieck

## FEBRUARY & MARCH BIRTHDAYS

February 8	Landon Kiel
February 8	Abram McInnis
February 10	Austin Wielenga
February 13	Zion Van Driessen
February 21	Jacey Bultman
February 24	Daxton Visser
February 25	Riggs Koopmans
February 28	Noah De Kam
March 1	Julie Hoogland
March 14	Mia Weida
March 22	Marissa Schiebout
March 26	Rhett Price



## UPCOMING EVENTS

February 9	ICS Society Meeting 7 PM
February 9-12	Pixie Week
February 16	No School
February 23/24	Parent/Teacher Conferences
February 26	Choir Festival
February 27	Dinner & Dessert Dash
March 2	Preschool/Kindergarten Open House/Registration
March 12	End of 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter
March 31	Band Festival
April 2-6	NO School - Easter Break

## 5TH & 6TH GRADE



We have just entered the third quarter and are ready to start the year off fresh. The 5th and 6th graders continue to stay busy and are excited to be finishing their novel on the Civil War and start their new book about baseball. They have worked so hard to understand and use the new skills they have gained.

In Bible class, we have been studying the importance of God's death and resurrection. We spent time drawing what we thought would be the most beautiful sky ever. But, they learned, it would be nothing compared to when Jesus comes back.

Finally, they have started their second quarter in Social Studies and have begun learning about WWII. Many students are enjoying reading Number the Stars By: Lois Lowry, a novel taking place during WWII.

We continue to remember God's many blessings each day in and day out.

Miss Schiebout

## 7TH & 8TH GRADE

We cannot believe we are into the second half of the school year already! At the end of the second quarter, we said goodbye to Martha as she transitioned to another Christian school in her hometown. We miss her already but pray she is a blessing wherever she goes!

Our student council, which is comprised of the seven 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys, Miss Lila, and me meet approximately once a month throughout the school year. We meet over lunch and go through our agenda which usually consists of planning events throughout the year. At Christmas time, we planned some fun days including dress up days as you can see in the picture. Now we are in the midst of planning pixie week and a basketball pep rally for February. We also try to pray for different parts of our school, and this month we are praying for 1<sup>st</sup> Grade!



During our class time we are spending lots of time working on math facts and daily mental math problems, as well as our daily lessons about fractions and proportional figures. In science, the seventh and eighth graders are learning about changes in nature through creationist and evolutionist viewpoints. We are reminded of how we must always be aware and discern what is right and wrong based upon what the Bible says. In Bible class we are going through the book of Proverbs, which has a great deal of wisdom and knowledge for young people. We are reading every chapter and verse and picking out which ones resonate with us the most. We are praying for wisdom as James 1:5 tells us, "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given to him."

Mrs. Hoogland





## IRETON CHRISTIAN SCHOOL Preschool & Kindergarten Enrollment

### Why Choose Us

- Christ-centered educational foundation
- Engaging, play-based curriculum
- Caring and experienced teachers
- 3-day 4-year-old Preschool (must be 4 by Sept. 15)
- 4-day Kindergarten (must be 5 by Sept. 15)
- Social, emotional, and academic development

Enrolling for 2026-27

Limited Spots Available!

For more information:

[www.iretonchristianschool.com](http://www.iretonchristianschool.com)  
or call 712-278-2245



Ireton Christian School  
104 5th St  
Ireton, IA 51027

A Bright Beginning for Your Child!

Give your little one the best start on their learning journey! Our preschool and kindergarten offer a warm, nurturing environment where children grow, explore, and thrive.



## 2025-2026 IRETON CHRISTIAN SCHOOL COVENANT FOUNDATION MEMBERS

Brenda Van Wyhe  
Arlene Feekes (2025 - 4 years)  
Porky Pine Farms  
Jason Meyer \*  
Nicholaas and Arletta Dorhout\*  
Brent and Cindy Davelaar\*\*  
Tena Kramer \*  
Curtis J. DeVries\*\*\*\*  
Sadie De Vries\*\*\*\*  
Leroy and Joan Punt\*  
Evronne Wielenga\*  
John and Alice Jongma\*\*\*\*\*  
Allen and Clara Eisma \*  
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Rick and Jill Schouten\*  
Michael J. Jongma\*  
Randy and Glenda Van Wyhe \*  
Gerrit and Tracy Byker\*  
Kelly and Carmen Noteboom\*  
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Warren and Ruth Dekkers\*  
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Jim and Angela Dekkers \*  
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\* LIFETIME MEMBERS (\$500.00)  
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