The Ireton Christian
BEACON
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Principal's Corner

As we come to the end of October, so much is happening at Ireton Christian School, and there is so much to be thankful for. Our hallways are busy, our students are learning and growing, and we continue to look ahead with excitement at what God has in store for ICS.

One of the biggest things on our hearts right now is our building campaign. We have spent many months planning and preparing, and now we are at the important stage of inviting others to join us in making this vision a reality. Our first goal is to raise the support needed to move forward with Phase 1—four new classrooms, including a classroom designed to better teach science/STEM. We need donors and partners who believe in the mission of Christian education and want to invest in the future of ICS. Whether through a financial gift, a pledge, sharing our story with others, or faithfully praying for the campaign, everyone has a place to be part of what God is doing here. I am excited to see how He provides through the generosity of our school family and community. We would love to have the fundraising in place for Phase 1 by December 31.

We are also looking forward to one of my favorite ICS traditions —our Rally Day Auction! There is always something special about seeing our gym filled with families, friends, alumni, and community members coming together to support our school. We have been blessed once again by businesses and individuals who have generously donated items, as well as the many volunteers who give their time to make the evening possible. More than simply a fundraiser, Rally Day is a wonderful reminder of the community that surrounds and supports our students and staff.

And perhaps that makes the timing especially fitting. As October gives way to November, we have an opportunity to intentionally turn our attention toward gratitude. In the busyness of a school year, it can be easy to move quickly from one event, project, or need to the next. This season invites us to notice what God has already provided—the people who serve, the families who partner with us, the students who bring life to our classrooms, and the countless ways God continues to sustain our school.

My hope is that in the weeks ahead we will take time to recognize those blessings and give thanks to the One who provides them. There is much ahead for ICS, and there is plenty of work still to do, but there is also so much for which we can already say, "Thank you, Lord."

Laura Moes- Principal



kids of the kingdom preschool

Little Hands, Big Learning, and Many Blessings!

Our preschool classroom has been filled with excitement, laughter, learning, and many wonderful memories this fall! It has been such a blessing watching our little learners grow, build friendships, and discover new things each day.

Throughout October, our preschoolers have been busy developing important early learning skills through hands-on activities, stories, songs, and play! We have been learning about Mat Man, a fun way to help children recognize shapes, develop body awareness, and build foundational pre-writing skills. We have also been exploring our emotions, learning how to recognize and express our feelings, and practicing ways to show kindness and care toward others.

One of our favorite classroom experiences was reading Peeny Butter Fudge and making our very own fudge! Our preschoolers learned about recipes, ingredients, measuring cups, and the importance of following directions. What a fun and delicious way to explore early math skills!

October also brought some exciting adventures outside our classroom! We visited the Ireton Fire Station, where we learned about fire safety and the important work firefighters do in our community. We also celebrated with our Fall Party and Fall Mini-Concert! Our preschoolers worked so hard practicing their songs and motions, and we were incredibly proud of their performance. Thank you to all the families who joined us for this special day!



As we enter November, we look forward to continuing our learning while focusing on thankfulness, kindness, and the many blessings God has given us. We are reminded each day that even our littlest learners can share God's love in BIG ways!

We are so proud of our preschoolers and can't wait to see what wonderful things November brings!

Mrs. Culberson & Mrs. Hoekstra





first grade

It is hard to believe we have already finished our first quarter of school! The time has gone so fast, and we are having the best time in first grade. We have been busy learning, growing, and making lots of memories along the way.

One of our favorite adventures so far was our fall field trip to Country Apple Orchard near Harrisburg. We had so much fun picking out pumpkins, jumping on the giant pillow pad, playing in the huge corn pit, and petting the farm animals. The kids were so good, and we were even lucky enough to have the entire place to ourselves for the afternoon! It was such a fun day, and we came home with lots of smiles and great memories.



We are also wrapping up our big dinosaur unit with a special Dinosaur Day! The entire day is centered around dinosaurs, with fun activities and learning mixed into everything we do. The kids have a blast, but they are also learning so much along the way. As a teacher, it takes a lot of work to put a day like this together, but seeing the excitement on their faces makes it all worth it. These are the kinds of days I hope they will remember for years to come!



As we enjoy pumpkins, learn about dinosaurs, and explore the world around us, I am reminded of just how amazing our God is. The same God who created the dinosaurs long ago also created the pumpkins we pick in the fall and every wonderful thing in between. What a blessing it is to help these little learners discover more about His amazing creation!

I am so thankful for the fun, laughter, and learning we get to share in first grade. I can't wait to see what the rest of the year brings!

Mrs. Oolman



kindergarten



Kindergarten has had a fantastic fall! We were able to learn in the classroom but also experience learning outside of the classroom! For literacy, we started with a unit called "Wild about Books." A bookmobile drove into a zoo, and the animals became "wild" about reading. We did not have a bookmobile, but we did wrap up the unit enjoying the Book Bank in Maurice. We spent about six weeks studying trees and ended our unit with a trip to Oak Grove! We were able to do a nature hike to explore the trees, but we also looked at animal tracks, webs, scat, and nuts! During our traditional trip to the fire station, the Ireton Volunteer Firefighters taught us about fire safety, let us spray the fire hose, and fed us cookies! Always an enjoyable trip! The Northwestern theatre department invited us to see a funny play called Squirrelock Holmes. Many of us had never seen a play! Our biggest day of hands-on learning was our trip to the pumpkin patch in Harrisburg. It was a huge fall festival with so many things to experience and enjoy. Even though we spent some time out of the classroom, inside the classroom we still study the Bible every day (we are currently learning about the life of Moses), and do our reading, writing, math, social studies, keyboarding, and specials each week. We need a little rest during the day and have play time scattered in as well. It has been an enjoyable first quarter in kindergarten!



Mrs. Kuperus

second grade



We have had a busy 1st quarter here in 2nd grade! From watching a play at Northwestern College to moving around in the room for different learning stations, the 2nd graders have been an active group. In reading, we have focused on discovering changes in fall through a variety of texts and pictures. Students learned how to write an informative paragraph using a topic sentence, three pieces of evidence, and a conclusion. After reading A Color of His Own by Leo Lionni, students made their own camouflage chameleons! They are on display in the 2nd grade hallway if you'd like to take a look at their creativity.



This past month, our focus in Bible was primarily on the ten plagues, taking time to reflect on each one. We saw God's power through these plagues and miracles and learned that we can trust Him to do what He says He is going to do! We will continue practicing our Bible memory passage, Luke 2:1–20, so we can share the Christmas story with our friends, family, and neighbors in December. Looking forward to another great quarter ahead!

Mrs. Vander Berg

third and fourth grade

Our class has been learning about ecosystems and each of them made an animal waterer or feeder for their backyard. They all were very creative and my favorite part was that they designed them with their parents and grandparents help.

In Bible class we reviewed the days of creation and made a creation mobile. Now we are learning about Noah and the ark and did a skit for that. Some of these kiddos love acting.

4th grade math has been learning fractions and has been a little confusing but we are getting it. 3rd grade math just finished a unit on graphs, charts and tables.



Our Language lessons have been focusing on segregation and injustices. This has led to great discussions in our room. I love to hear their thoughts and beliefs.

We are getting excited for Thanksgiving and Christmas already in our room. It seems these holidays come quicker and quicker every year.

Have a blessed fall,
Mrs. Sieck



fifth and sixth grade

What a year it has been for us already! This group of students work diligently every day and are dedicated to everything they do. One of the biggest highlights of our year has been our class rewards! We have already reached two major goals. For our first reward, we enjoyed donuts during our morning Bible time. Our second reward was a "reading party," where students enjoyed reading their independent reading books while eating some fun snacks! It has been so encouraging to see how hard these students work each day to reach their goals.

In Bible, we have been focusing on sharing what we learn in creative ways! One of our recent projects involved creating children's books based on God's covenants. It was so fun to see students express their creativity while sharing what they have learned! In Grammar and Writing, students have also been working on personal narratives. Through this assignment, they are learning how to take a personal experience and turn it into a meaningful story for their readers. The students have especially enjoyed sharing some of their favorite memories and experiences with one another.



Overall, we have had a wonderful start to the school year! I am so proud of the hard work, creativity, and dedication these students have shown, and I cannot wait to see what the rest of the year brings!

Mrs. Raymon

seventh and eighth grade

The 7th and 8th Graders are studying the human body and all the systems it encapsulates. We had a speaker from Community Health Partners, who talked to us about the dangerous and addictive behaviors of vaping and smoking. She emphasized how young teenagers are targeted and how important it is to stay away from such things. We are to care for our bodies as temples of the Holy Spirit, which brings us to our Bible lessons, where we have been learning about the Holy Spirit coming upon all believers at Pentecost and continuing to live in our hearts and lives today. We have been practicing sharing our faith, so please ask any 7th or 8th grader about their faith!

The 5th and 6th graders are learning about ecosystems in science. We have been discussing all the natural disasters occurring in our world and what effects they have on each ecosystem. In math we are learning about the order of operations, exponents, and fractions!

This past Thursday we had our annual volleyball match between our 8th graders and teachers. The 8th graders did a fine job!



Our student council will be hosting a concession stand during the rally day sale on Friday, October 30! We will be selling baked goods, cotton candy, popcorn, and pop to raise money for our middle school trips to Kentucky and Des Moines. We thank you in advance for your support!

Mrs. Hoogland





volleyball season wrap-up

As our volleyball season comes to a close, we want to take a moment to recognize and celebrate our players and all the hard work they put in this season. We are proud of the growth, teamwork, and determination we saw from our athletes both on and off the court.

One of the special parts of our season was starting practices and games with devotions and ending practices with affirmations. These moments gave us an opportunity to encourage one another, build confidence, and remember that we are part of something bigger than the game itself. It was a great reminder that being a team means lifting each other up, believing in one another, and growing together.

Throughout the season, our players continued to learn, improve their skills, and demonstrate perseverance and sportsmanship. Volleyball is about more than wins and losses; it's about the friendships we build, the challenges we overcome, and the lessons we carry with us beyond the court.

Thank you to our players for their dedication, our families for their support, and everyone who cheered us on throughout the season. We are grateful for the memories made, the growth we witnessed, and the opportunity to be part of these athletes' journeys.

-Coach Amy Noyes & Coach Alissa Richardson

ROOTED IN FAITH.
GROWING FOR GENERATIONS.
IRETON CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
BUILDING A CHRIST CENTERED EDUCATION

Invest in today. Impact tomorrow.

Rooted in Faith. Growing for Generations.

Through God's faithfulness and the generosity of His people, we have an opportunity to create spaces that will serve students and families for generations to come. Thank you for prayerfully considering how you might partner with Ireton Christian School.

MY/OUR COMMITMENT

I/We intend to give a gift of:

$ _____

I/We plan to begin giving by:

_____

Gift preference (check one)

- ☐ One-time gift
- ☐ Monthly for ___ months
- ☐ Quarterly for ___ years
- ☐ Annually for ___years
- ☐ Other:_____



MORE WAYS TO PARTNER

PRAY - SHARE - GIVE - PARTNER

PRAY
I commit to praying for the campaign, our students, and God's provision.

GIVE
I would like to make the commitment as a one time gift or pledge for scheduled donations

PARTNER
I would like someone to contact me about a significant gift or specific portion of the project.

OTHER GIVING
Please contact me about gifts of stock, grain, estate gifts, or another way to give.

Contact information:

Name: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

I'd like to have a conversation

- ☐ Please contact me about the buidling project
- ☐ I'l like to learn more about a major gift
- ☐ I'd like to learn more about a memorial or honor gift
- ☐ Our business/church may be interested in partnering

This card represents an expression of intent and is not intended to create a legally binding agreement

MORE THAN CLASSROOMS

A Brighter Future for Generations

Our building project will provide the space and resources to continue our mission, serve more families, and create learning environments where students can grow academically, spiritually, and personally- rooted in Christ and prepared to make a difference in the world.



4 New Classrooms

Additional classrooms will allow us to welcome more students while maintaining small class sizes and providing flexible learning spaces.

Secure Entrance

A renovated, secure front entrance will enhance safety, improve traffic flow, and create a more welcoming environment for students, families, and visitors.

Renovated Spaces

Updated and reimagined spaces will allow us to make better use of our existing facilities.

A Stronger Future

This project is an investment in today's students and generations to come- ensuring that Ireton Christian is a leader in Christ-centered education for the future.

november and december birthdays

November 4	Deacon Oolman
November 9	Harper Hooyer
November 10	Tammy Sieck
November 14	Weston Hoekstra
November 16	Caden Noteboom
November 16	Randy Van Wyhe
November 19	Lincoln Kramer
November 19	Walker Groeneweg
November 20	Hudson Blankespoor
November 20	Ty Eisma
November 20	Laura Moes
November 21	Krista Oolman
November 30	Kalli Eisma
December 1	Hudson Byker
December 8	Hunter Kroese
December 9	Jade Bultman
December 10	Charlotte Chadwick
December 14	Marcus Kiel
December 18	Donna Koopmans
December 21	Taylor Hoogland
December 21	Ruth Coons
December 25	Amy Culberson
December 30	Kason Dekkers
December 31	Gianna Lutter

upcoming events

November 9 & 10 - Parent Teacher Conferences

November 25 - 11:30 dismissal

November 26 - No School (Thanksgiving)

December 10 - Fall Musical 7:00 PM

December 18 - ½ day of school (11:30 dismissal)

December 21-January 1 - No School (Christmas Break)

2026-2027 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*
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 *
David and Tammy Noteboom *
William & Nancy Kingma *
June Erickson *
Paul & Karen Bos *
Kathy Van Wyhe *

Dean and Jean Bos *
Jim and Angela Dekkers *
Carl and Ellen Klompien *
Sadie De Vries Memorial **
Arie Jr. and Mary Noteboom *
Louis and Gloria Kingma *
Delbert and Betty Zwart *
Jason and Laura Dekkers *
Doug and Sue Ten Napel *
Bud and Delma Vreeman *
Don and Verla Van Sloten *
Alfred De Jong Memorial **
Doug and Betty Elgersma *
Cory and Arla Van Sloten *
Stan and Beth Vanden Berg *
Doug & Betty Elgersma *
Shirley Ten Napel *
Lynn Juffer **

* LIFETIME MEMBERS ($500.00)
YEARLY MEMBERS ($25.00)

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