



The Ireton Christian Beacon

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Principal's Corner

What is the greatest responsibility of a parent? At our PTA meeting, Mrs. Rose Van Engen, spoke to the audience about what this means, especially a "Cure for Entitlement" for Christian parents in this day and age.

Some of the "Entitlement" perceptions (myths) that have been seen over the past 3 or 4 decades are: self-esteem, make kids feel good or important, they need to be better off than I, no guilt, uniqueness-be yourself, entitlement-I deserve the best just because I exist.

These disguise themselves as love and generosity, but it really turns out to be a thief-tearing apart families, instilling worldly ideas and possessions as most important because they are never satisfied, always want more, manners and thankfulness are gone.

Through her discussion she talked about what Love and Logic has to say on "entitlement" and what parents need to do or not to do. Love and Logic says students need to; fail perseverance and empathy, feel sadness and its consequences, be emotional-show love and pain, pursue greatness-not perfection. She used the idea of an artist starting with a large rock, when a child falls or stumbles, it's like a chip off that large piece of a rock that the artist is working on. At first those little chips make people look at kids as less valuable. Even though those little chips don't seem like anything, but every "chip" brings the artist closer to the end product, the same is true for our kids-every time they falter (fall, stumble, or trip) and learn from that mistake they grow closer to knowing their purpose as a Christian. Parents need not rob their children of these experiences by always protecting, helping, or actually doing things for them, but letting the child do it for themselves.

Her final point was for parent not to be like "helicopters" always hovering over them and rescuing them from the hostile world or like the "drill sergeant" who commands and directs their every waning moment of the child's life. But to be a "consultant" provide guidance for your child, be a resource for them. Have them still solve their own problems.

So, what is the greatest responsibility of a parent? Teach them wisdom, teach them to turn to God for wisdom.

Mr. Schoonhoven

Christ Is Born!

As Christmas season begins, hopefully we are looking for ways to impact our communities through acts of generosity, hospitality, kindness, and love. Thinking of ways we can be God's hands and feet in a world that has lost sight of the "true" meaning and the immense value (God's grace) of sending His only Son, to rid this world someday of the sin and suffering for all those who call on His name.

This holiday season remember to include Christ; in your conversations with others, in your family gatherings, and in your work. Be a beacon of light for others to see, Joy to the World, the Savior has Come!



November Chapel

Our November chapel included lots of singing of thanks to our God for all that He has given to us. Our verse (Colossians 2:6-7) is wonderful!! It includes your whole life. Think about the different parts:

1) "So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord"-wow!! Each of us has made that commitment to be a Christian!!

2) "Continue to live in Him"-That means every day, every hour, every minute, every second of our life!!

3) "rooted and built up in Him"-Like a tree growing by the streams (Psalm 1)

4) "strengthened in the faith as you were taught"-wow!! That's why we come to Ireton Christian School-so we are strengthened and built up for battle!

5) "and overflowing with thankfulness"-It can't be a trickle, puddle, or drizzle of thankfulness. It has to be like flooding conditions of thankfulness!!

The children played the bells for "When Peace Like a River". We prayed a prayer of thanksgiving together. As living groups we took the cans of food that we had taken from home around Ireton to different people who need of our help. We are so blessed and we need to share that blessing to those around us. Have a nice Thanksgiving being a blessing.

Veteran's Day Celebration

For our Veteran's Day observance, the students came together to see a short video about the meaning of Veteran's Day and how we could be of help to veterans. The singing of patriot songs was fun after saying the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and singing our national anthem. Mr. Don Mulder talked to us about how the men of the military sacrifice their time and lives so we can be free. We also are in a battle against Satan and we need to be fighting for the sake of Christ.

*Am I a soldier of the cross,
A follower of the Lamb,
And should I fear to own His cause,
Or blush to speak His name?*

TRIP News

Upcoming TRIP orders are November 30 and December 14, by 9:00 a.m. Remember these are the only 2 order dates before Christmas! Make sure to order TRIP to use for all your holiday gift purchases as well as groceries, eating out, etc. To keep up to date on merchant changes or to download an order form, check out the TRIP link on the ICS website. Hardees has joined our retailer list with \$10 gift cards at a 8% discount.

To order any on hand inventory call Donna at #278-2506 (home) or #278-2105 (work).

Thanksgiving!

I'm sure there were plenty of things to be thankful for during the past Thanksgiving. We have countless blessings afforded us through God's love and compassion for humankind. Our lists of thanks and praise to God should be endless. Think of all the ways in the past year that God has blessed you. I bet your list gets to be very long and that should help us to humbly bow to God and thank Him for these blessings.

For chapel during the month of November, the students had a chance to impact their community by distributing some of the canned food items collected. All the classes brought in donated food items and brought boxes of goods to a number of households in Ireton and the other local communities. Thank you students and families for your ability to be a blessing to others in our communities!

December Birthdays

December 16 Kaitlyn Calkhoven
December 21 Luke Dekkers
December 23 Mrs. Christina Obbink
Mrs. Marlene Abbas
December 29 Andrew Schouten

School Calendar

December 23 1:30 dismissal
December 24-31 Christmas break, no school

Basketball Schedule

December 10 Home vs. Hull Protestant, 4pm
December 14 Away vs. Hull Christian, 4pm
December 17 Home vs. OCCS, 4pm
December 21 Away vs. SCCS, 4pm
January 7 Away vs. Inwood Christian, 4pm
January 12 Away vs. Sanborn Christian, 4pm
January 14 Home vs. NWIP, 4pm
January 21 Home vs. SCCS, 4pm
January 28 Away vs. OCCS, 4pm
February 2 Away vs. RVCS, 4pm
February 8 Away vs. Sheldon Christian, 4pm
February 6 Girls basketball tournament at Unity TBA
February 13 Boys basketball tournament at Western TBA

ICS Welcomes A New Staff Person



Joni Van Ginkel recently joined our staff as coop teacher. Joni lives in Rock Valley with her husband, Myron and their two youngest. Myron works for the city of Rock Valley. Their oldest son Travis lives in Sioux City, their daughter Nicole attends college in Mason City. Daughter Allison is a junior at Rock Valley High School and son Josh is an 8th grader at Rock Valley Middle School. Myron, Joni and family love to camp and attend sporting events. Another favorite past time for Joni is reading. We welcome her to our ICS family!

Fall Musical

The fall musical was held on Thursday, November 19. We had fun preparing for and presenting "Jailhouse Rock!" Jailhouse Rock is a musical about our freedom in Christ as believers. God has a marvelous way of being able to work all things together for good...regardless of the situation. Included in the musical were miraculous jail stories of Paul and Silas, and also Peter. We learned how strong the power of prayer is, but also that God doesn't always answer our prayers as we want, He is in control. Our prayer is that through this musical those in attendance either learned or were reminded that "If the Son has set you free, you are free indeed!"

A musical doesn't just happen. It takes the cooperation from a lot of people. For fear I'd miss someone I don't want to name names, but I'd like to thank the students for all their work, whether it was learning many words to many songs, learning speaking parts, helping with props, giving ideas, etc. These are some great kids! Thanks to the staff at ICS who helped in many different ways and gave us time out of their day to practice. A big thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Mills for playing the parts of "Andy's" parents, and to Mrs. Noteboom for accompanying us. Most of all we thank and praise God for the gift of music and pray that He is praised and glorified in all we do.



Mrs. Byker



Kids of the Kingdom Preschool

October in Preschool ended with a trip to Diane's Pumpkin Patch. With cooperating weather we were able to pick and paint pumpkins that were just for us. We also visited the animals and explored the many kinds of pumpkins and gourds grown at Diane's. The children enjoyed spending the whole class day outside!



November is off to a great start. With warm and sunny temperatures, clothes to wear and food to eat throughout the

day, we have a lot to be thankful for. However, not every child experiences the blessings that many of us do. Kids of the Kingdom Preschool is excited to participate in Operation Christmas Child this Thanksgiving and Christmas season. We have been collecting gifts of hope for almost four weeks and are ready to pack our shoe boxes. When all the gifts are wrapped, we will be sending them to our friends around the world.



It is truly an amazing feeling, to be able to spread the gift of hope to others. Our preschool families have been wonderful in helping to share that Christmas joy.

Mrs. Obbink

Kindergarten

On November 11, the Kindergarteners learned about what Veteran's day is. We sang some special Patriotic songs. We listened to a speaker at an assembly and learned about the sacrifice many soldiers have made to fight for our country. The month of November also finds us singing lots of thanksgiving songs. The Kindergarteners are busy with making things for their Thanksgiving Feast. They made drums, Indian vests, teepees, Indian head bands, and placemats. The Thanksgiving Feast will take place on November 25. The Kindergarteners will be dressed like Native Americans and the first graders will be dressed as Pilgrims.

When asked, "*What are you thankful for?*", the Kindergarteners said:

Benjamin - food, toys, family, pets

Brett - mom & dad, warm beds, school, good weather, a Wii to play on.

Connor - parents, a Wii to play on, animals, school, my bird named Joe

Jorja - warm bed, toys, books, God's love

Kaitlyn - homes, grandma & grandpa's kittens, sisters, mom & dad

Levi - mom & dad, warm bed, food

Lila - my family, my dog named Dollie and my cat named Tiger

Mikaela - grandpa & grandma, my toys, the whole world, lovely things that God created, presents

Olivia - food, beds, houses to live in, birthdays, different seasons, blankets, clothes, mom & dad, friends

Sydney - mom & dad, God, money, food, parks, toys

I hope all of you can find lots of blessings to be thankful for this Thanksgiving. Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Mrs. Vos

5th and 6th Grade

5th & 6th grade students have done many "extra" tasks in the month of November. Such as; they wrote stories or letters to veterans, they made thankfulness posters, they built pyramids (replicas), they presented skits on some Proverbs, they took part in the Fall Musical-Jailhouse Rock, they brought in food items for our Thanksgiving offering and chapel, and they distributed the food items to community families. These are just the "extra" things they did besides their regular subject work and daily work requirements.

Thank you students for all the EXTRA work you do as you learn and grow to be lights in this world!

Mr. Schoonhoven

1st and 2nd Grade

The month of November is just speeding past and we have been busy making Thanksgiving items. The first and second graders join the kindergarteners for a Thanksgiving feast on November 25. We decorate the tables with center pieces, place mats, and nut cups to have a nice table. After the food, we play some games together. Then we will have chapel with the entire school to give thanks to God.

Our class went to the Nursing Home in Hawarden on November 24. We sang lots of songs, played our bells for two songs, and gave a little play for the residents. We like to see their faces and watch them smile as we sing and move about the room. We pray that the people may have been brought closer to God by our songs.

The first graders are beginning to read so nicely!! It is exciting to see them want to read more and more. They want to have more words and a new story every day, but we need to reread and practice the old stories every day too. They just learned that "c" goes with ca, co, cu, and "k" goes with ke, ki, ky. Did you know that? Also, you put a "ck" only on short vowel, one syllable words. Did you know that too?

The second graders are learning how to add three numbers in their head. Then they are given several problems that take several steps to complete. Tom had 16 hens, 5 flew away, but then he got 4 more. How many does he have now? Did you figure it out? Every day we do a "problem of the day" story problem too so our brains really need to think. It is good exercise.

We pray you will have time to say "thanks" to God for the good times and also the not so good times in your life. Go to church and enjoy the celebration there with God's people.

Mrs. Goslinga

3rd and 4th Grade

It has been another exciting month in 3rd and 4th grade! The kids worked on Bible plays about the capture and return of the ark during Samuel's time. They each had the chance to perform their plays for the rest of the class and a few parents who came to watch. In math this month, both classes spent a lot of time working with money. They had a lot of fun pretending to be cashiers and making change for me when I bought items from them :)

Reading proved to be a challenge for us this month. We finished up our first chapter book. The 3rd graders read Mr Popper's Penguins and the 4th graders read Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry. Both classes did a great job reading, answering questions, and looking up vocabulary words in the dictionary. The dictionary soon proved to be their least favorite part:) They also had great discussions about the book. The 4th graders did an excellent job discussing the issue of racism and why it is wrong. They took on a great Christian perspective and applied it to their own lives.

In science, we finished learning about the characteristics of animals. Each student chose a vertebrate and an invertebrate to research, then created one of three projects to present to the class. Some kids made posters, a few wrote reports, and the rest made games. They all did an excellent job!

We also spent time making cards for veterans and cards for people we are thankful for. We learned that our lives are very blessed by the people around us, including our family and friends, and the men and women who serve in the army to ensure our freedom.

Mrs. Mills

7th and 8th Grade

Another month here and gone already. It is incredible to think we have already moved through one whole quarter, and now are looking forward into the winter months. We had a great first quarter in the 7th and 8th grade classroom. The students are working very hard and even making a few adjustments as we have now welcomed Mrs. Van Ginkel into our classroom for Spelling and Writing time. We have also started the introduction of another member to our classroom. Our classroom will be introducing a guinea pig into our room as our classroom pet. We will be holding a school wide contest as we look to find a name for our new member.

In our classes we are moving full steam ahead in all classes. The seventh grade has just finished a chapter on Rational numbers, exponents, and scientific notation. They did very well in taking in the various new ideas, and concepts behind how things work in the mathematical world. It is amazing to look at the complexity that lies within the most basic numbers, and how each number fits into a certain style of math. The eighth grade is currently working on the order of numbers and the various formulas used to place numbers in a specific order. With this order in mind we have also moved forward in science into the concepts of Chemical Reactions. We are looking at how a scientist writes a sentence by merely using the elemental symbols and number of atoms present. It is fascinating to see how scientists communicate in a language of symbols and numbers that allow us to see the atoms present at the beginning, and then be able to watch, in writing and visually, as a chemical reaction takes shape and then completely changes everything present in the formula.

The students are now currently working on a group project dealing with Isaiah in Bible. They are looking into the images and themes present in Isaiah, and then dive into what this tells us about our current relationship, and the historical relationship the Jewish people had with God. They are working very hard on this project and I am very excited to see their final product.

Mr. Mills

Board Meeting - November 10, 2009

1. Call to order-roll
2. Opening Prayer & Devotions read from Psalm 1 by Rick Schouten, discussed compassion
3. Approval of MINUTES of last meeting
4. Items to be added to agenda
5. Old Business
 - a. Bus inspections
 - b. Board/Staff Party on Nov. 14 at 6:30pm in all purpose room
 - c. DVD promotion-checking on cost
6. Principals Report
7. Committee reports (be prepared to bring motions to the whole committee for discussion & approval)
 - a. Building-Scott -repairs: ceiling fan, cracks, gym door, exhaust fan
 - b. Education-Rick-approved the hiring of Joni Van Ginkel, coop teacher
 - c. Finance-Tim-discussed tuition updates
8. Finance Committee Reports
 - General (Tim)-\$51,403.75
 - Tuition Asst.(Tim)-\$662.75
 - Building (Glen) \$2050.00
- *APPROVAL of REPORTS
9. New Business (Items for Action)
 - a. Christmas Gifts for Staff approved
 - b. Building Toward Our Future Campaign- contact letters were sent
 - c. Administrator contract renewal discussed
 - d. Education Committee is going to meet with staff in December
 - e. Building insurance Umbrella (\$9525) year
 - f. Camp Foster 5-8 tabled
 - g. Auxiliary info of past fundraising amount totals
10. Bills submitted
11. Review Education Policies 427-442
12. Board Visit- Glen Bonnema gave a positive report
Next: Rick Schouten
13. Next meeting Dec. 14, 2009 at 7:30
14. Concept Minutes
15. Closing Prayer-motion to adjourn

ICS FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance on hand	\$38,237.69	Educational Disbursements:	
Receipts:		Administrative	840.76
Bridge of Hope	282.74	Band	213.63
Bus (state)	2,322.58	Copier	170.95
Endowment Fd Int	123.34	Miscellaneous	2,142.60
Hawarden CRC	1,610.00	Promotion	7.50
House Rent	400.00	Supplies	574.95
Interest	9.26	Technology	981.08
Ireton CRC	4,000.00	Textbooks	681.18
Rally Day Sale	16,645.50	Sub Total	\$5,612.65
Rent	105.00	Building Disbursements:	
Tuition and TRIP	19,873.95	Bldg. repairs	648.24
Total	\$45,372.37	Janitor Supplies	165.54
Receipts & Beginning Balance	\$83,610.06	Utilities	1,147.40
Salaries:		Sub Total	\$1,961.18
Cooks Wages & SS	1,419.70	Bus Disbursements:	
Educational	14,968.59	Bus Wages	1,811.89
Educational SS	1,009.78	Gas & Oil	1,126.43
Janitor	753.11	Miscellaneous	50.90
Medical Employee	980.06	Repairs	1,308.74
Medical Employer	1,203.27	Sub Total	\$4,297.96
Sub Total	\$20,334.52	Total Disbursements	\$32,206.31
		Balance on Hand	\$51,403.75

Church	09-10 Goal	Received	Balance	%Paid
Haw CRC	8,050.00	1,610.00	6,440.00	20%
Ire CRC	31,050.00	6,300.00	24,750.00	20%
Lebanon CRC	3,450.00	0.00	3,450.00	0%
Bridge of Hope	3,450.00	282.74	3,167.26	8%
Ed. Partners	14,375.00	0.00	14,375.00	0%
Totals	56,925.00	7,912.74	49,015.00	14%

ISB Financial Network	646.26
ISB Financial Network	27,276.92
Endowment CD's and Savings	48,271.38
Tuition Savings	662.75
Concert Fund Checking	23,833.98
General Fund Money Market	15,674.35
GPPE Stock	440.00

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*** 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!