

The Ireton Christian Beacon

Published by
Ireton School for Christian Instruction

www.iretonchristianschool.com

Vol.48 No. 7 • March 2010

Principal's Corner

February was "SPIRIT" month at Ireton Christian School. The students and faculty participated in numerous special events throughout the month building on the theme of school unity and being tenderhearted.

The students and staff had a school colors day and pep rally on February 5. Many students had their black and red colors or ICS apparel on during the day. The whole school participated in the pep rally at the end of the day. We had some cheers from each class, we had Living Letters group scooter races and the "famous" 8th grade vs staff basketball game. For the week of February 8-12 we celebrated with our annual "pixie" week in which the students drew names of other classmates or staff and exchanged something special each day throughout the week. A way to get to know other students in the school. On February 19 we had pajamas, slippers, and crazy hair day, many laughs and giggles throughout the day, on February 26 we had hats, shades, and gum day, again many unique hats and shades. Our final wrap up for the month will be our Read-A-Million minutes party on March 3. We required each class to read so many minutes per week and if they made their goal, they could attend the "Olympic" party on March 3.

With all the events and activities in the month of February it does help the students understand the importance of building unity and spirit in our school. It also is a great way to help the students see the importance of building their relationships with all school mates. It helps the students live a life that can be called distinctively Christian and different from worldly ideas. These are little ways in which we can engrain Christ into the lives of our children each and everyday.

Mr. Schoonhoven

*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.*



School Calendar of Events

March 3	"Olympics" Read-A-Million Minutes party
March 8	Society/PTA/Auxiliary meeting at 6:30
March 16	Junior High Choir Festival at Dordt College 6th grade Math Bee at Boyden
March 18	Pre-4th Drama at 1pm "The Velveteen Rabbit" at Unity Chr.
March 19	Grandparent's Day
March 26	7th grade Math Bee
April 1	Makeup day, we will have school
April 15	Kindergarten Roundup

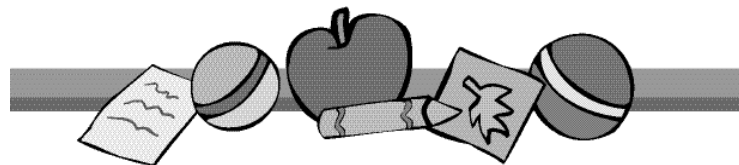
March Birthdays

March 10	Jeremy Mills
March 16	Mary Goslinga
March 21	Hannah Bonnema Derek Ulmer Mitchal Punt



An Invitation to All of Our Grandparents:

Ireton Christian School is hosting Grandparents Day on Friday, March 19. We extend an invitation to all of our grandparents of student's preschool thru 8th grade to join us at school that day beginning at 9:00. You can't pass up a sweet offer like this! What could be more fun than going to school with your grandchild!!! You will be able to meet their classmates and teacher, sit in on classes, go out for recess! And best of all have lunch with them! Please plan on joining us for that morning, make reservations with your grandchildren today. Lunch will be served at 11:30. Dismissal is at 12:30 that day because it is the end of our 3rd quarter. Please join us, we would love to have you!



Kindergarten Roundup

Ireton Christian School will have its Kindergarten Roundup on April 15. Your child is invited to come to school on this day, beginning at 8:30 and concluding about 1:45. At 1:00 there will be a parent informational meeting with Principal Schoonhoven in the All Purpose room. Mrs. Vos will be present for any additional questions you may have for her after the parent informational meeting. The children will go home with their parents after the informational meeting. If you have any questions, please call Mr. Schoonhoven or Mrs. Vos at school, 712-278-2245.

Kindergarten

The Kindergarteners learned that Samuel -like Isaac, Joseph, and Samson - was a promised child who had a special place in God's kingdom. The students learned that just because we pray for something does not mean that we will automatically receive it; however, we can take comfort and joy in the fact that God hears all of our prayers. The students learned of God's faithfulness to his people even when they rejected him and wanted a King.

In Math lessons they learned to identify rectangles, squares, triangles, cylinders, cones, pyramids, and spheres such as boxes, cans, cones, pyramids, and balls. They had fun making shapes by tracing around the faces of solids.

The Kindergarteners have been learning how to read the many little booklets from our new Reading Series. They have memorized twenty three high frequency words. They have learned eighteen letters now and they can sound out words made from those letters. They are enjoying the selections of fiction, folk tales, legends, and fables. They are learning with each selection to develop specific comprehension strategies.

Pixie week was really fun for the Kindergarteners. They did a good job of keeping their identity a secret all week long. Tenderheartedness is a trait they have worked on during the month of February.

Mrs. Vos

Pixie Friday - Revealing your pixie



Left to right: Jessica Osterkamp, Hanah Van Beek, Kennedy Vander Windt, Nicholas Abbas, Connor Weida, Travis Viet

1st and 2nd Grade

February is always our most favorite month. We do something exciting every Friday of the month. On February 5 we had a pep rally where we each got to ride in a scooter race. On February 8-12, we had our annual Pixies-giving a friend gifts all week. February 15 was our Valentine's Day party with a card exchange. On February 19 we got to wear our pajamas to school, which is the most exciting thing of all!! And on February 26, we finally got to chew gum in school.

On February 5, we celebrated our 100th day of school. The day was devoted to counting to one hundred, making hats that had 100 circles, writing the letter of our names in 100 squares and then finding the pattern in our name, and sharing 100 items to eat as our snack. We looked cool in our 100th day glasses and hats.

For our healthy eating, we studied the cow and how the cow produces milk that helps keep strong bones and teeth. Kristi Palsma, the Sioux County Dairy Princess came over to visit us and talk about how much water and food a cow needs to eat each day. She brought us a bucket of food to look at-how do you get milk out of that?

The children are reading very nicely. The first graders have practiced a play called "Smile, Mike". The baby (Mike) is crabby and only smiles when the dog comes in and chases his tail. The second graders practiced "Small Deer's Magic Leaf". The Small Deer tricks his friends into pushing him out of a deep hole. We gave the plays to the preschool through 4th graders. It is fun to see them all enjoy reading!!!

Mrs. Goslinga

100th Day



Front row left to right: Sara Feekes, Hanah Van Beek, Annie Endrulat, Kylie Van Donkelaar, Miranda Mulder, Josee Abbas.
Second row: Page Fedders, Cali Mulder, Jenna Dekkers, Benjamin Abbas, Dylan Riebeling

3rd and 4th Grade

February has been a fun month for the 3rd and 4th graders. We had the pep rally for the 8th grade boys and everyone had a fun time watching the teachers play basketball. The 4th graders, although one of the smallest classes, had the loudest voices in the victory chant and were named the winners! The next week began pixie week. The students did a wonderful job of bringing gifts for their pixies and being thankful for what they received. It was a fun week of practicing being giving and tenderhearted.

With the theme of tenderheartedness, we have talked a lot about love and kindness towards our peers. We have learned that it is a lot harder to do than we thought! However, all of the kids have worked hard at having good attitudes and loving one another as Jesus loves us.

For class work, it seems to be getting harder the further into the year we get. But the kids never give up! The third graders are continuing to work on multiplication. They have done a fantastic job learning their multiplication facts! The 4th graders, too, are working on multiplication. They have begun to multiply two two-digit numbers which takes some thinking! Both classes have had fun spending time in the computer lab playing math games as well.

In social studies, we have been studying the southwest region of the United States. We have talked about the climate, the environment, the people, and the culture. When we are done with the unit, we will be having a day where we get to eat foods that are specific to that region. It should be fun!

We are full swing into accelerated reader in our classroom also. The kids have done a wonderful job so far! Some of them come each day having read two or three books the night before. They kids are divided up into three teams and are having a balloon race to see which team will reach 500 points first. It looks like a very close race so far! The first team to reach the goal will get to decide on what to do for our AR party at the end of the quarter. All of the students have set a personal goal for themselves as well. So far with still several weeks to go in the quarter, most students have already gone above and beyond their goal! Keep up the great reading!!

Even though the weather is not always nice, the boys and girls in 3rd and 4th grade keep high spirits and make coming to school every day fun and enjoyable.

Mrs. Mills



5th and 6th Grade

The class has been very excited about the the last couple of weeks in school, why? Because the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympics have been taking place in Canada. They have been doing a unit on Canada, specifically Vancouver, British Columbia and the Olympics. They have found many interesting things about Canada, that they previously didn't know and just as importantly, they have been keeping up with the Winter Games. They have brought in newspaper or magazine articles from recent events, made a wall display, they have researched some of the athletes competing in the Winter Games, completed numerous worksheets in reading, creative writing, and math on the Olympics, and they have watched a movie that portrayed 4 bobsledders trying to make it to the Olympics and the honor it brought their country.

Read-A-Million Minutes took place during the month of February with all classes in school participating in the reading challenge. The students who make their assigned reading goal will get to go to the Winter Olympics (our own games) on March 3. There will be 8 different events they are participating in throughout the late afternoon with their "Living groups." Each group will be competing against the other groups for the Gold, Silver, & Bronze Medals. Good luck and a great way to reward the students who have met their goal for the month and very fitting with this year being an Olympic year! Oh yeah, the ones that don't make their goal get to be with Mr. Schoonhoven and spend sometime reading. Go USA!

Mr. Schoonhoven

Kids of the Kingdom Preschool

With fall gone and winter almost behind us, there are only two words on everyone's minds, "Think Spring". In preschool, we also are getting ready for warmer, brighter weather. However, no matter the weather, the learning continues onward.

Bible: We will begin reading the parables of The Lost Lamb, Jesus and the Children, and Jesus and Zacchaeus. After the parables, we will learn about the blessings of Easter.

Small Group: We will continue learning about our alphabet friends and explore our interests using hands on learning

Large Group: Large group time is always full of excitement. We will be singing and dancing to songs of spring and getting ready for "Malts with Mom", where Mom's will be invited to eat a snack with us!

Spring is just around the corner. But no matter what the weather does until then, we know God's hands are guiding us throughout our days filled with learning and excitement.

Mrs. Obbink and Mrs. Tammy

7th and 8th Grade

What a month this has been. The snow still falling and travel seeming to be more and more eventful as this winter season seems to be sticking with us. However, in the 7th/8th grade room we are trying to think warm. We have started looking ahead to our May activities which include our class trips and Rocket Day! May seems so far away, yet so close at the same time.

In Bible class we just finished up with our study of the book of Jeremiah. We looked over the tough message Jeremiah was given from God to give to the people. I can't imagine how difficult it must have been to be given a message from God, and have to go and tell the people all of the sinful acts they were committing that were causing God to become angry with His people. It was great to see the students as they looked at the life of Jeremiah, who became a prophet at a very young age, and realize that they too can be instruments of God's word and bring forth a message to a world that is struggling much like the people were in Jeremiah's time.

In 7th Math we have looked at the concepts of simple and complex interest for bank accounts, along with the interest rates involved with credit card use. They seem to be amazed at just how fast money can seem to appear and disappear from accounts. It seems that we have wandered our way into the discussion of what it means to be a steward of our own money. For the 8th grade we have started the discussion of Scientific Notation. It has allowed us to realize that sometimes God's creation is so immense that we are incapable of writing things out numerically in standard form. At times we need to use scientific notation to show just how large some things can be, for example the amount of time it would take a ray of light to transfer from the Sun to the Earth. What an amazing creation God has blessed us with! In March we will be sending a group of students to both the 7th and 8th grade Math Bee, so keep your ears open for that. We have some very gifted students in the area of Mathematics and I am excited to see just how well they will do at this event.

Mr. Mills

Chapel News

With our February theme of "tenderhearted", our chapel focused on love and what that means for Christians. Singing songs about God's love, we expressed our love to God. The children in grades K-4 gave many examples of love found in the Bible, while the fourth graders did a play about showing a tender heart to your friends. Mrs. Goslinga told a Bible story about David and Jonathon and their friendship. In our friendship families, the children played a game where one person had to guess who was the leader, who was beginning a motion that the other children were copying. They had to use a tender heart and not get upset when they could not figure out the person who was leading the motions. It was a good theme for this month.

TRIP News

Upcoming TRIP order dates are: March 15, Tuesday April 6, April 19, and May 10. Please take note of the April dates. April 6 is on a Tuesday because of Easter Break and we are also ordering 2 weeks later on April 19.

To check what I have on hand for purchase in between order dates call me at #278-2506 (home) or #278-2105 (work).

ICS FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance on hand	\$15,949.34	Educational Disbursements:	
Receipts:		Administrative	63.54
Bridge of Hope	94.80	Band	69.08
Bus (state)	25.00	Copier	75.50
Concert Fund	15,000.00	Dues	249.90
Hawarden CRC	2,415.00	Library	28.00
House Rent	400.00	Miscellaneous	295.56
Interest	4.66	Supplies	292.39
Ireton CRC	2,500.00	Technology	620.35
Lebanon CRC	3,450.00	Textbooks	377.38
Memorial	50.00	Sub Total	\$2,071.70
Education Partners	5,125.00	Building Disbursements:	
Rent	180.00	Bldg. repairs	-454.98
Tuition and TRIP	26,669.83	Fuel	1,048.47
Total	\$55,914.29	Janitor Supplies	151.07
Receipts & Beginning Balance	\$71,863.63	Utilities	923.78
Salaries:		Sub Total	\$1,668.34
Cooks Wages & SS	1,650.16	Bus Disbursements:	
Educational	16,107.26	Bus Wages	1,476.67
Educational Pension	1,272.65	Gas & Oil	1,272.65
Educational SS	1,311.38	Insurance	-362.00
Janitor	555.74	Repairs	148.45
Medical Employee	1,494.92	Social Security	74.84
Medical Employer	831.65	Sub Total	\$2,610.61
Sub Total	\$23,223.76	Total Disbursements	\$29,574.41
		Balance on Hand	\$42,289.22

Church	09-10 Goal	Received	Balance	%Paid
Haw CRC	8,050.00	4,830.00	3,220.00	60%
Ire CRC	31,050.00	19,700.00	11,350.00	63%
Lebanon CRC	3,450.00	3,450.00	0.00	100%
Bridge of Hope	3,450.00	770.14	2,679.86	22%
Ed. Partners	14,375.00	5,125.00	9,250.00	36%
Totals	56,295.00	33,105.00	23,820.00	58%

Endowment CD's savings	\$50,848.39
Tuition savings	\$663.59
Concert Fund savings	\$8,833.98
General Fund Money Market	\$15,674.35

Board Meeting - February 8, 2010

1. Call to Order-Roll
2. Opening Prayer & Devotions by Rick Schouten
3. Approval of MINUTES of last meeting
4. Items to be added to agenda
5. Old Business
 - a. Enrollment projection for 2010-2011 (7students)
Ed. Comm. & Principal visit with prospective families
 - b. School calendar 2010-2011
 - c. Budget for 2010-2011
(tabled with more options for Feb meeting)
 - d. Society/PTA/Auxiliary meeting (budget & ICC)
March 8 at 6:30pm, school board
to meet afterwards
 - e. ICC meeting #2 January 28-Mary G. & Marlin S
 - f. Heartland teacher workshop for grade 3 & 5 on
Feb.5
6. Principal's Report
7. Committee Reports
 - a. Building-Scott reported on repairs and Karr
tuckpointing estimates, building campaign
estimates of project completions were discussed
 - b. Education-Rick will talk to Ed. Representatives
(1.5% salary increase)
 - c. Finance-Tim discussed some tuition payments and
presented budget for 2010-2011
 - d. Bus-Randy few minor repairs on both busses
 - e. Endowment-no report
 - f. Preschool-Glen reported on preschool projections
and planning a budget for 2010-2011
 - g. Technology-no report
 - h. Promotion/Concert -committee will be handing out
business contacts to families
8. Finance Committee Reports
 - General-\$42,289.22 Tuition Asst-\$663.59
 - Building-\$21,936.53 KOK Preschool-\$4227.88

*Approval of Reports
9. New Business (Items for Action)
 - a. Update from ICC meeting on January 28 and
implementation requirements (alignment)
and any needed follow up to meeting information
or questions from society
 - b. CSI Convention in Chicago July 26-29, 2010,
motion made and approved to send Marlin
 - c. Heartland Marketing-ICS was awarded \$300 to use
toward radio ads
 - d. Thank you from staff members for Christmas gifts
 - e. FYI-ISB Financial Network & GPRE increases
 - f. Budget for 2010-2011 (3% tuition increase,
1.5% salary increase)
 - g. Make up day-April 1 motion made and passed
 - h. Board vacancy-Scott Dorhout will be leaving for
duty in spring
 - i. School Counselor salary was discussed
10. Bills submitted
11. Review Board Policies 445-446
12. Board Visit-Eric Van Wyk gave a positive report on his
full day of classroom visits
Next:Brad Fedders
13. Next meeting March 8, 2010,
following PTA/Society/Auxiliary meeting
14. Concept Minutes were read and adjourned
15. Closing Prayer

2009-2010 Ireton Christian School Covenant Foundation Members:

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*
Greg and Chris Van Beek
Ryan and Angela Zomermaand
Brad and Sheila Dekkers
Brian and Sharla Gradert
Eric and Cheryl Van Wyk
Chris Mueller
Dave and Tami Noteboom

Bryan and Deanne Dekkers
Chad and Jerianne Abbas
Scott and Gail Dorhout
Bruce and Susan (Bosma) Odsonl
Marlin and Leah Schoonhoven
Margaret Kooistra
Stan and Beth Vanden Berg
Stan and Mary Goslinga
Johanna Zomermaand
Dell and Lori Vos
John & Carol Westra
Allen & Phyllis Schoonhoven

*** 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!