



The Ireton Christian **BEACON**

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PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

ICS Community,

I trust this message finds you well! At ICS this year we continue our study of the Beatitudes. We are continually reminded of the wisdom and truth found in the Gospel of Matthew. In Matthew 5:8, Jesus shares the profound truth, "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." These words are a great reminder that call us to cultivate purity in our hearts, minds and actions. Let's unpack the meaning of this verse and consider how it resonates with our lives with the ICS community.

- 1. Purity of Heart: We continue to instill in our students our devotion to what is good, righteous and true.*
- 2. ICS Community: In our academic community, let us approach knowledge with a pure heart, seeking truth and understanding. Interactions within our community are encouraged and continue to be marked by kindness, compassion, and empathy - a reflection of pure hearts in action. Leadership roles, both in classrooms and extracurricular activities, should embody integrity, honesty, and a commitment to the well-being of others. As a body we continue to invest in the spiritual lives of our students.*
- 3. Living Out Matthew 5:8: God calls each of us to strive to take on purity in all areas of our lives, fostering an environment where sincerity and authenticity continue to develop. We are challenged to encourage one another to live in pursuit of God's goodness, acknowledging the true blessings.*

As we nurture these virtues in our lives, let us remember that God blesses the pure in heart. May our actions and choices reflect the purity that leads us to a deeper connection with God!

*In God's grace,
Mrs. Kooima*

**Dash
with us!**

Ireton Christian School Auxiliary
Invites you to our
**WINTER SOCIAL &
DESSERT DASH**

Friday | February 23, 2024

Social Hour 6:00 PM
Dinner 6:30 PM
Entertainment by Slap Happy Comedy
Dessert Dash

Tickets are \$25 or a table of 8 for \$200

RSVP to office@iretonchristianschool.com
or 278-2245
if you'd like to attend

If you are unable to attend, but would still like to make a donation, please send it to
Ireton Christian School, 104 5th Street, Ireton IA 51027

KIDS OF THE KINGDOM PRESCHOOL

December and January were months of remarkable growth, celebration, and play in preschool. In December, we celebrated the birth of our King and Savior, baby Jesus! The preschoolers' favorite Christmas memories at school included making homemade ornaments for their parents and watching For King and Country's "Little Drummer Boy"! After break, we were welcomed with an abundance of snow, which has made recess a time of pure joy for our preschoolers! In January, the preschoolers came up with their own 2024 goal. I love the dreams these students have! We are praying for a new year filled with growth and joy for these students!

Coen: This year I want to ride my bike without training wheels.

Jenna: This year I want to learn to read books.

Hudson: This year I want to learn to drive a boat.

Jacey: This year I want to see dolphins.

Beckett: This year I want to learn how to make cookies.

Harlow: This year I want to learn to write my letters.

Ty: This year I want to help make cookies with my mom.

Riggs: This year I want to count to 100.

Millie: This year I want to go on a cruise ship.

Blair: This year I want to learn how to count to 100.

Talon: This year I want to count to 100.

Jackson: This year I want to learn how to make a cookie from my mom.

Jameson: This year I want to go on a vacation to a house on the water.

Jax: This year I want to share more.

Adaline: This year I want to learn to bake cookies.

Karston: This year I want to help clean the house.

Zoey: This year I want to learn to read.

William: This year I want to learn to make cookies.



Mrs. Roghair and Mrs. Plendl

KINDERGARTEN

Our class has been busy! Do you ever wonder what we do in kindergarten? It is more than playtime and crafts! Just this month, in our Bible class, we have been working on memorizing scripture (we are working on Psalm 23 - we have memorized Psalm 100 already), learning to pray, and hearing stories of Jesus's life in the New Testament. We have been learning to read by blending sounds, using digraphs, making past tense verbs, and noticing long vowel sounds. For our science class, we are exploring wood's density and how particleboard and plywood are made. In Math, we are adding, but exploring more than just numbers. We have added money, counted by 10s and 1s using dimes and nickels, and are always exploring and identifying numbers up to 100. There is a lot of learning going on, and lots of stories being shared. Our class loves to chat, tell stories, and pray for those they love. What a blessing to be with these students each day!

Mrs. Kuperus



1ST & 2ND GRADE

It is hard to believe we are into the 3rd quarter of school already! The first and second graders had been hoping and praying for some snow to play in at recess...and God answered their prayers!!! While as adults we may not love the snow, the kids at school sure do see the joy it brings. And what kid doesn't love a few snow days?! (maybe their teachers as well?!) We have been busy since Christmas break and dove right into some great topics in class. In social studies, we have been learning all about government. We learned about local, state, and our national government. We also learned all about the election process and the students got to vote after a VERY heated debate: Oreos or Chocolate Chip Cookies? This was such a fun unit that taught the students how to register to vote, how to campaign for a "candidate", vote, and count the ballots. Find a 1st/2nd grader and ask them who won our election! We may just have some future politicians in our midst!



Something else we've started in our room is our STAR Student of the Week! Each week, one of our classmates gets to be our special friend for the week. On Mondays they share with us a poster all about them, Tuesday they bring in 5 pictures of themselves, Wednesday they bring in something special to show the class, and Thursday we read a letter that is written by their parents. The contents of the letter are a surprise for even the STAR student! That week our STAR also gets to bring a mystery reader into our classroom. This can be a parent, grandparent, aunt, uncle, etc. The class loves getting to hear someone besides their teacher read a story to them! Each student will get a turn in our classroom throughout the next few months to be our STAR of the Week. God truly made these students to shine, and this is just one more way we get to celebrate how special and unique we are to Him!

Mrs. Oolman

7TH & 8TH GRADE

Our recent Bible lessons in 7th and 8th Grades have included studying the book of Proverbs, which we learned has much wisdom and knowledge, even (or especially!) for middle school students. At the beginning of January we were invited to Unity Christian to hear a lawyer talk about some of the dangers of social media. He had some practical advice for our students to keep themselves safe. We pray they can each use the wisdom and knowledge they are learning in and out of the classroom through all aspects of their lives!

In 5/6 Science we just wrapped up a unit discussing dinosaurs and fossils. We were challenged to read different perspectives and discern whether they were from a biblical viewpoint or not. Starting in 7/8 Science we are learning and discussing evolution, Darwinism, the fossil record, the biblical flood, and how all of these topics relate to our own Christian lives.

Mrs. Hoogland

3RD & 4TH GRADE

What a January we had.....snow, wind, and cold with snow days pretty much sums it up. We are thankful for warm homes, school and vehicles to get us here to learn. Here are the highlights of what we have been learning recently:

Bible-We just finished a chapter on Samuel. We learned about how he served God every day of his life. We also learned about what kind of king you would want to have and had a good discussion about how we need God as our king. This led to political discussions as well and these kids are really good thinkers in our room and have a lot of good questions and conversations about hard things.

Science-We are finishing up a unit on plants. We are doing an experiment right now to see where plants grow best-in the light or in the dark? The kids are doing a great job caring for them.

Wit and Wisdom-We are still learning about the heart. We are amazed at how our hearts pump blood through the whole body and how God has made us just right to keep our hearts pumping and beating.

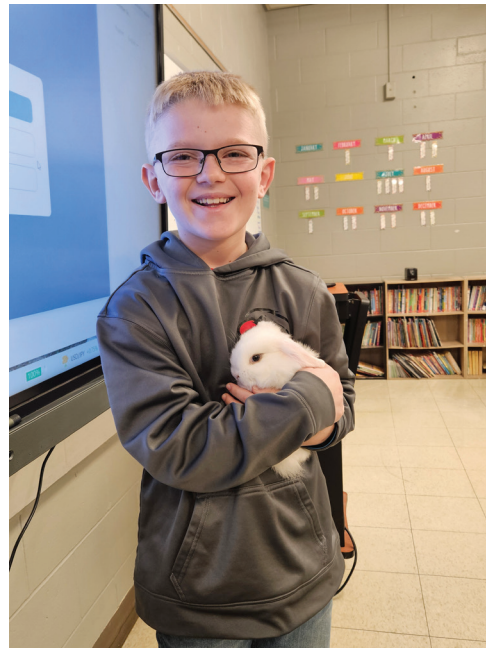
3rd Math-We are learning about measurement with weight, mass and capacity.

4th Math-We are learning about angles, lines, rays, diameter, radius etc.

We are looking forward to going ice fishing next week. I should say the kids are anxious to go. (I am not a huge lover of frozen water-haha) The kids are enjoying playing in the snow and being creative making things. We hope this finds you warm and healthy.



Blessings, Mrs. Sieck & Mrs. A



5TH & 6TH GRADE

The 5th and 6th graders have enjoyed lots of breaks from school, some which were planned and some not! We enjoyed celebrating Christmas as a class, especially with our party on the last day of school before Christmas vacation. A highlight of that day was being able to play games with the 1st and 2nd graders! We also played games as a class and ate way too many treats! Now we are back at school and trying to get into the groove of learning again, but with the winter weather we've experienced, it has been challenging! We are reading *Phantom Tollbooth* by Norton Juster in literature. It is an interesting book which keeps us guessing! We are looking at how authors use wordplay to keep their readers interested. In grammar, we wrapped up a large unit on verbs and will start learning about nouns. Learning the parts of speech and their functions definitely improves their writing skills! In history, we are studying the rise of feudalism in Europe. We continue to learn each student's life verse and why they chose it for their verse. There are many comforting verses these students are hiding in their hearts, and it is my prayer that each one of them will have the understanding of the value in reading and studying God's Word.

Mrs. Zylstra



FEBRUARY & MARCH BIRTHDAYS

February 7	Peter Bos
February 8	Abram McInnis
February 10	Austin Wielenga
February 21	Jacey Bultman
February 25	Riggs Koopmans
March 1	Mrs. Julie Hoogland
March 2	Owen Westergard
March 14	Mia Weida



*Gifts given in memory of
Johanna Wielenga-Miller*

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 8	Society Meeting
February 12-15	Pixie Week
February 19	Full Day of school (Snow make-up day)
February 23	Winter Social & Dessert Dash
February 26	Ladies Auxiliary Meeting
March 14	End of 3rd Quarter
March 28-April 1	No School (Easter Break)
April 5	Grandparent's Day

TRIP NEWS

Upcoming order dates are: February 26, March 18, April 15, May 13.

TRIP Order forms can be printed off the school website if you need one. Orders need to be in the TRIP box in the school office or given to Donna Koopmans by 8:00 AM on order dates in your family envelope. No late orders will be taken.

2023-2024 Ireton Christian School Covenant Foundation Members

Brenda Van Wyhe
Marion and Janice Van Soelen
(2021 - 4 years)

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*
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Michael J. Jongma*
Randy and Glenda Van Wyhe *
Gerrit and Tracy Byker*
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Don and Verla Van Sloten *
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Stan and Beth Vanden Berg *
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Shirley Ten Napel *
Lynn Juffer **

* 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!

Ireton Christian School does not discriminate in its employment policies and practices, or in its educational program on the basis of race, color, age, sex, handicap, national origin, or ancestry.