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February 2025

The mission of Inwood Christian School is to provide an atmosphere in which each unique child of God is challenged both academically and Biblically to live as a Christian, serving Him in all areas of life.

EXCITING MONTH OF READING!!

“DONUT Stop Reading” is this year’s reading theme! The students had their kick-off meeting on Friday, January 31st and created a classroom donut to display the total minutes for their class. There are prizes for each top reader in each class! The students are also working hard to meet the school-wide goal of 45,000 by the end of February. If they reach this total, a school-wide celebration will be held! Activities throughout the month include Pajama Day and Read ‘n Feed, Donut Bingo, and dress as your favorite book character. Watch our school Facebook page for more photos of our activities!



♥ Welcome to
Kindergarten

The Inwood Christian School Board is asking all parents of preschoolers who will be kindergarten age next fall to complete the Kindergarten Survey that is attached to this newsletter. This survey will help the school board in developing their budget and supply needs for the 2025-2026 school year. Please return this form to ICS or CRC mailbox #159 by March 10.

The Inwood Christian School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities, generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.



KINDERGARTEN ROUND UP

March 17, 2025

6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

It is Kindergarten Round Up time! We are eager to meet prospective kindergarten students and welcome them to Inwood Christian School. We will begin Kindergarten Round Up at 6:30 p.m. with a parent meeting, that will be held in the gym, while the prospective kindergartners will be involved in activities with Mrs. Greene in the kindergarten room. After the meeting is completed, parents are welcome to stay and fellowship with the other parents or visit the kindergarten room.

If you have questions about Kindergarten Round Up or need to schedule another time to visit with Mrs. Greene, please contact the school office at 753-4541.

If you know a family who might be interested in sending their child to Inwood Christian School or who has a kindergarten age student, please contact the Inwood Christian School office. We will be happy to send information about ICS to them.



(Summer birthdays are celebrated on the student's/ staff member's half birthday during the school year.)

- February 1 - Ryker Blom (half birthday)
- February 3 - Mrs. Vander Veen
- February 3 - Alaina Schaeffer
- February 6 - David Jones (half birthday)
- February 9 - Mrs. Lucas
- February 11 - Mrs. Hoogendoorn
- February 15 - David Chew
- February 16 - Jayla Van De Stroet (half birthday)
- February 21 - Vivienne Reinke
- February 26 - Haven Lucas
- February 28 - Carson Gacke
- February 28 - Emily Attema
- March 9 - Lydia Nieuwendorp
- March 14 - Isaac Attema
- March 18 - Miss Hawf
- March 18 - Tayvia Williams
- March 29 - Tatum Van Beek
- March 31 - Mrs. Klarenbeek
- April 4 - Charlotte Reinke
- April 10 - Scarlett Grevengoed
- April 15 - Micah Van De Stroet
- April 18 - Elsie Van Beek
- April 19 - Weston Van Grouw
- April 19 - Mylah Van De Stroet
- April 21 - Blakely Schroder
- April 27 - Avery Stearns

SonLight Preschool

Registration for 2025-2026

SonLight Preschool is a part of the Iowa Universal Preschool. This allows us to offer preschool free of charge to Iowa students.

Registration will be held at
Inwood Christian School
March 17, 2025 from 6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Parent Meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m.

Classes will meet Monday through Thursday from
8:00 - 11:20 morning session or
12:10 - 3:30 afternoon session.

First come first serve for choice of class times.

*Must be 4 years of age on or before
September 15, 2025

For more information contact
Stephanie Klarenbeek, Director, 712-753-4541

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Feb. 14 - No School
- Feb. 17 - No School, President's Day
- Feb. 27 - Parent Teacher Conferences
- Feb. 28 - No School, P/T Comp Day
- Mar. 5 - Chapel
- Mar. 10 - School Board Meeting
- Mar. 13 - End of the 3rd Quarter
- Mar. 14 - Early Dismissal, 1:30 p.m.
- Mar. 17 - Preschool Registration, 6:00-6:30 p.m.
- Mar. 17 - Kindergarten Round-up, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
- Mar. 27 - Early Dismissal, 1:30 p.m.
- April 2 - Chapel
- April 7 - 11 - Assessments
- April 8 - Soccer vs Sanborn Christian (home), 4:00
- April 14 - School Board Meeting
- April 15 - Spring Musical
- April 17 - Early Dismissal, 1:30 p.m.
- April 18 - Good Friday, No School
- April 21 - Easter Monday, No School
- April 22 - Soccer vs Ireton Christian (away), 4:00
- April 24 - Soccer vs Rock Valley Christian (away), 4:00
- April 25 - Grandparents Day
- April 25 - Carpool a.m. & p.m.
- April 28 - Soccer vs Hull Protestant (home), 4:00
- April 29 - Solo Ensembles

SONLIGHT PRESCHOOL

We have been very busy in preschool learning and having lots of fun! We have been working on the building study, learning all about different types of buildings and how they are built. During choice time, the students have been building their own farms, volcanoes, houses, castles, and so many more fun things. We have been doing a lot of celebrating whether it is class parties, birthdays, or holidays! We have a "Warm Fuzzy Jar" in class and we fill it by making "green" choices and beating the clean up timer. When the jar is full we get to have a party day. One of the party days we had was Book/Movie Character Day! We also had a great time celebrating Christmas all together and singing in the gym with the whole school. The students enjoyed celebrating the lovely weather we had the last week of January! They loved spending a little extra time outside to enjoy God's creation!



KINDERGARTEN

The real feel temperatures at the beginning of January went right along with our polar bear unit! The kindergarteners enjoyed learning the many different facts about polar bears and were especially surprised to learn their fur is not really white, it is clear! The many activities and projects they did made for a fun and exciting polar bear week: blubber experiment, informational videos, making a polar bear booklet, crafts, "arctic" games in P.E., and a pajama day while enjoying a polar bear movie and eating popcorn!

They continue growing their hearts and minds: learning about God is their favorite part of their day, their ability to read and write continues to blossom, they had fun creating movement pattern units (ask them to make one up for you), and they are excited about the spring music program as they sing the songs in class well after music class is over!



1ST/2ND GRADE

Lots of fun things are happening in 1st and 2nd grade! We had a fun time with all of our Christmas activities and sang our hearts out during our carol sing. We had Curt Stensland come and talk to us about what farming was like “back in the day”. The kids loved asking questions and even got to hear about how Miss Hawf helped on the farm when she was a kid. The kids earned a ‘swap day’ where the teachers dress like students and the students dress like teachers. We did lots of fun swap activities such as switching the order of things. We also recently celebrated the 100th day of school.



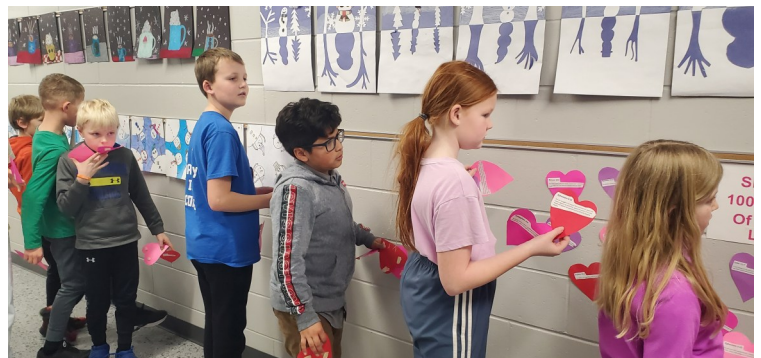
3RD/4TH GRADE

In December, the third and fourth graders had a special visitor, Laura Beyenhof from the ISU Extension Office. Laura directed a STEM activity called “Merry and Bright!” Through this program the students completed different tasks of circuitry. We love it when Laura comes!

It’s also hard to imagine that January has come and gone and it’s already February! A highlight in our room this month was completing a novel study on the book The Sign of the Beaver! This book is historical fiction set in the northeast region during the time white settlers began to settle the area. The main character is a boy, about the age of our classmates, who goes with his father to claim land. He is left alone while his father goes back home to get the rest of the family and needs to learn to survive. The students loved the adventures and how the Native Americans helped him!

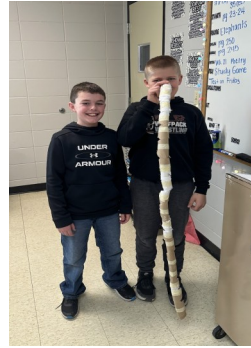
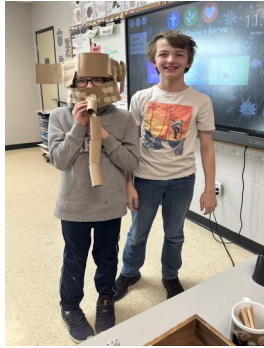
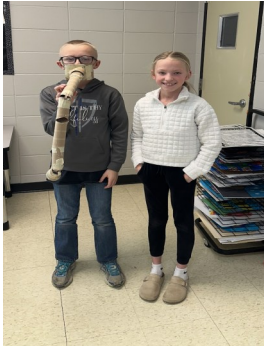
Another highlight this month was celebrating “The 100th Day of School” on Monday, February 3. All activities centered around the number 100: making 100 hearts with verses to share God’s love, making Math problems with the answer 100 and had two or more operations, listing 100 things that make them happy, flipping a coin 100 times to find the probability of heads and tails, rolling a dice and coloring that many squares until a hundreds chart is filled, just to name a few!

We have accomplished so much already this year! It’s such a gift to watch them grow physically, academically, and spiritually. We are thankful for all your support through words of encouragement and your prayers!



5TH/6TH GRADE

We have been very busy this winter season! We are currently doing a novel study on the book, *The One and Only Ivan*. The kids have been enjoying the book so far and all of the activities that come with it. They were challenged with a STEM project to make a working elephant trunk. They were only allowed to use toilet paper/paper towel rolls, tape, and scissors. It took some critical thinking skills and really challenged them to think outside the box! They came up with some very unique creations!



7TH/8TH GRADE

In the cold of winter, the 7th and 8th graders are embracing it! We're diving into the novel *Call of the Wild*, as we follow Buck through the northern tundra of Alaska as he journeys through the wilderness. The students are really enjoying the novel and getting a look at the intensity of what it takes to survive. After doing our Survival Skills field trip this fall, it's fun to think about what that would look like in the winter!

We're also gearing up for following the Iditarod, starting in March! We'll select mushers to follow along the trail, send in our trail mail for a musher to take along with him or her on the race, and we'll have a kick-off watch party for the ceremonial start of the Iditarod! It's always something the students look forward to each year!



Another fun component to it this year, is that it's the 100-Year Anniversary of the Serum Run. If you've seen the movie *Balto* or *Togo*, you know about the relay of sled dogs that transported a life-saving serum to the children of Nome, Alaska, who were dying of diphtheria. We've studied the original event, and are now following a man, Jonathan Hayes, who is doing a reenactment and racing his sled dogs across Alaska to commemorate the 1925 Serum Run. It's fun to see how many keep history alive through the events of today!

SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

December 19, 2024

Josh Van Grouw opened the meeting with devotions followed with prayer. The minutes of the November 11, 2024 meeting were read by title and approved. The agenda was established with the following present: Pete Van Velzen, Amy Stearns, Todd Reinke, Darren Davelaar, Michael Grevengoed, Josh Van Grouw, and Jaron Van Beek. Tyler Attema was absent with notification.

Principal's Report

Principal Van Velzen's report was reviewed. NICSTO goal has been met.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report was given, and profit and loss statements were reviewed. Tuition concerns were discussed. Financial reports were discussed.

The fall drive was discussed.

2025-2026 salaries will be approved at the January meeting.

The Form 990 was completed by Van Bruggen & Vande Vegte. It was approved by the Board.

Education Committee Report

Todd Reinke gave a positive report on his school visit.

There will be a new student in 7th grade after Christmas break.

Building/Grounds Committee Report

TV's & Security cameras need to be installed. A phone line will be run to the library.

Other Business

Bus inspections will be on January 24.

Bus issues were discussed.

Intention slips will be handed out on January 6.

Staff Christmas gifts were discussed.

Staff health insurance will be renewed as is.

The next school board meeting will be held on Monday, January 13, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. Concept minutes were read and approved. Closing prayer was given by Michael Grevengoed.

Michael Grevengoed, Secretary

January 13, 2025

Josh Van Grouw opened the meeting with devotions and followed with prayer. The minutes of the December 19, 2024 meeting were read by title and approved. The agenda was established with the following present: Pete Van Velzen, Amy Stearns, Todd Reinke, Josh Van Grouw, Darren Davelaar, and Tyler Attema. Jaron Van Beek and Michael Grevengoed were absent with notification.

Principal's Report

Principal Van Velzen's report was reviewed.

Discussion was held on the CSI site visit.

Discussion was held on the hot lunch program.

Project requests from teachers will be approved by text.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report was given, and profit and loss statements were reviewed. Tuition concerns were discussed. Financial reports were discussed.

A report was given on the fall drive and various gifts that have been received.

2025-2026 salaries were discussed.

Education Committee Report

Intention Slips have been received and reviewed.

Tyler Attema gave a positive report on his school visit.

Building/Grounds Committee Report

The tv has been hung in the office.

Paint in the front hallway needs to be touched up.

Other Business

Bus inspections will be on January 24 at West Lyon at 8:30 a.m.

The next school board meeting will be held on Monday, February 10, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. Concept minutes were read and approved. Closing prayer was given by Tyler Attema.

Josh Van Grouw, Secretary pro tem

SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

February 10, 2025

Todd Reinke opened the meeting with devotions followed with prayer. The minutes of the January 13, 2025 meeting were read by title and approved. The agenda was established with the following present: Amy Stearns, Todd Reinke, Michael Grevengoed, Darren Davelaar, Jaron Van Beek, and Josh Van Grouw. Tyler Attema joined by phone call.

Principal's Report

Principal Van Velzen's report was reviewed. Contracts were reviewed. Project requests were approved by text. Long term plans were discussed. We will continue with the theme "Believe, Grow, Serve" for the 2025-2026 school year. Preschool Registration & Kindergarten Roundup will be held on Monday, March 17. Christian Education week was discussed.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report was given, and profit and loss statements were reviewed. Tuition concerns were discussed. Financial reports were discussed. The first payment has been received from West Lyon for the 2023-2024 preschool year. A report was given on the income and expenses of the ICS Auction and Supper. The 2025-2026 Budget was discussed.

Education Committee Report

Josh Van Grouw gave a positive report on his school visit. We will need to hire a 3rd/4th grade and 5th/6th grade teacher.

Building/Grounds Committee Report

The renovation of the classrooms was discussed. Various repairs were discussed.

Other Business

The staff/board supper was discussed. It will be held on February 13.

The next school board meeting will be held on Monday, March 10, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. Concept minutes were read and approved. Closing prayer was given by Todd Reinke.

Michael Grevengoed, Secretary

FOUNDATION NEWS

Thank you to all the members of the ICS Foundation who have been so diligent in submitting their dues when they become due and for all of the extra gifts that we have received. Your continued cooperation and sharing have helped to educate our children in an environment that allows God's name to be honored and glorified in all aspects of the curriculum and extra-curricular activities.

ICS Foundation Board

STATEMENT OF FAITH AT INWOOD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

* We believe there is one true God who is holy and perfect. We believe that God reveals himself to us as God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

* We believe that man was created in the image of God. We believe that man was created perfect, but through choice, man sinned. We believe that it is only through the grace of God through Jesus Christ that man is brought back into fellowship with God.

* We believe that the Bible is the inspired word of God. It is our source for instruction, the center of focus for our education, gives instruction for a godly lifestyle and all that happens at Inwood Christian School. The Bible, the Word of God, provides the final authority concerning truth, morality, and the proper conduct of mankind and of all we believe. For purposes of Inwood Christian School's faith, education, policy, discipline, and use of its facilities, everything must be done in accordance with God's Holy Word.

KINDERGARTEN SURVEY

INWOOD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
302 East Madison, Inwood, IA 51240
712-753-4541

To: Parents of Prospective Kindergarten Students
From: Inwood Christian School Board
Date: February 2025

As we make plans for the 2025-2026 school year, we need to compile information relating to projected enrollment. A part of this includes the prospective kindergarten students. This information is helpful and needed in developing our budget and supply needs. Please check the appropriate blank below and return to school by **March 10, 2025**. Thank you!

- Yes, we plan to enroll our child in kindergarten at Inwood Christian School next year.
- Our child is old enough to attend kindergarten next year, but we are still undecided whether or not we will send him/her because of age.
- No, we have decided to wait one year before enrolling our child.
- We would like more information about Christian education in general and ICS in particular.

Parents' Names _____

Address _____

Child's Name _____ Male/Female Birthdate _____

MISSION STATEMENT OF INWOOD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

The mission of Inwood Christian School is to provide an atmosphere in which each unique child of God is challenged both academically and Biblically to live as a Christian, serving Him in all areas of life.