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February 2026

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!!

“Readers Cove” is this year’s reading theme! The students had their kick-off meeting on Monday, February 2. There are prizes for each top reader in each class! The students are also working hard to meet the school-wide goal of 60,000 by March 3. If they reach this total, a school-wide celebration will be held! Activities throughout the month include Pajama Day, Read ‘n Feed, Hat Day, dress as your favorite book character, painting beach bags and a talent show. 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 2026-2027 school year. Please return this form to ICS or CRC mailbox #159 by March 8.

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 23, 2026 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.

SonLight Preschool

Registration for 2026-2027

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 23, 2026 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, 2026

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 2 - Hearts & Hands Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
February 3 - Reading Month Kick off
February 4 - Chapel
February 5 - Preschool Games with Grandparents
February 9 - Skating Party, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
February 10 - Read & Feed & Pajama Day
February 10 - School Board Meeting
February 11 - Celebrate Valentines Day
February 12 - No School
February 13 - No School
February 16 - No School
February 17 - Hat Day, Reading Month
February 24 - Book Character Day, Reading Month
February 26 - Choir Festival
March 3 - Reading Month Finale
March 4 - Chapel
March 9 - School Board Meeting
March 19 - Parent/Teacher Conferences
March 19 - End of the 3rd Quarter
March 20 - No School, Parent Teacher Comp Day
March 27 - Grandparents Day
March 27 - 11:30 a.m. dismissal, carpool

Inwood Christian School SWOT Analysis & Long-Range Planning Night

Our school will be conducting a SWOT Analysis on March 12 at 7:00 PM, and we want to invite parents and society members to join the school board and teachers for this important long-range planning activity.

A SWOT Analysis is a structured discussion that helps an organization identify its Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats. As a school, this process allows us to celebrate what we do well, examine areas for growth, recognize new opportunities, and consider challenges we may face in the future.

The benefit of conducting a SWOT Analysis together is that it brings many perspectives to the table. Input from families and society members helps ensure that our planning reflects the needs, hopes, and vision of our entire school community. The insights gathered will help guide future decisions, priorities, and strategic goals.

We encourage all interested parents and society members to attend and contribute as we work together to strengthen and plan for the future of our school. Please contact the school office by Monday, March 9 if you are interested in participating in this evening of planning.

We look forward to seeing you on March 12! The meeting will begin at 7:00 PM and refreshments will be available at 6:45 PM.

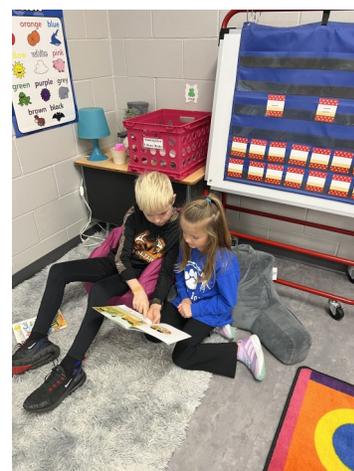
SONLIGHT PRESCHOOL

We have been very busy in preschool learning and having lots of fun! We just finished working on our 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 also created our own preschool city and named it "Flamingo City." The students were very proud of the different buildings they made for the city! We have been doing a lot of celebrating, whether it is class parties, birthdays, or holidays! We also had a great time celebrating Christmas all together and singing in the gym with the whole school. We got to decorate Christmas cookies, went on a scavenger hunt to find Jerry, the gingerbread man, and had a Christmas pajama party!



KINDERGARTEN

We are blessed to be Kindergarteners at Inwood Christian School - we are learning so much while having a lot of fun! We just finished our Polar Bear unit in science. Did you know: a polar bear can grow to be 10' tall, have paws as big as dinner plates, are good swimmers, and don't really have white fur?!?! Students made polar bear dioramas and enjoyed a polar bear/pajama day. Ms. Dayton continues to visit our classroom once a month and her visits are so welcomed and informative! We continue to read, read, read . . . and the students are doing great! We've partnered up with 3rd/4th graders to have a "reading buddy" once a week where they read to one another - it's been well received on both sides. They dressed as penguins the same day we had our polar bear/pajama day so of course we had to take a picture - even though they are on opposite sides of the poles. We've been working diligently on addition and subtraction skills. They enjoy reinforcing their skills with games like Make 10, Four Square, and Speed. One of their favorite activities in our schedule is Centers. Centers is a time when they do fun activities that reinforce skills we are working on in the various subjects in the classroom: addition/subtraction, rhyming, CVC word formation, reading popcorn words, STEM activities, beginning/middle/end sounds, games, etc. Entwined throughout our whole day, not just Bible class, is the importance of "putting on" kindness, gentleness, humility, compassion, and patience. These are virtues we strive to help make our classroom family stronger by making loving choices. What kindness was shown when my room parents organized a wonderful birthday celebration for me and my students! Love and joy was present at the Christmas Program and the Christmas Carol Sing! We have had some great months in Kindergarten!



1ST/2ND GRADE

This past month, 1st/2nd grade had so much fun becoming different kinds of scientists in Science!

We observed changes in states of matter by making inferences about which would melt faster: chocolate chips or butter. We even used a hair dryer to melt crayons and discovered that this was a reversible change. Students also became physicists as they built ramps and observed which ramp designs created the most speed.

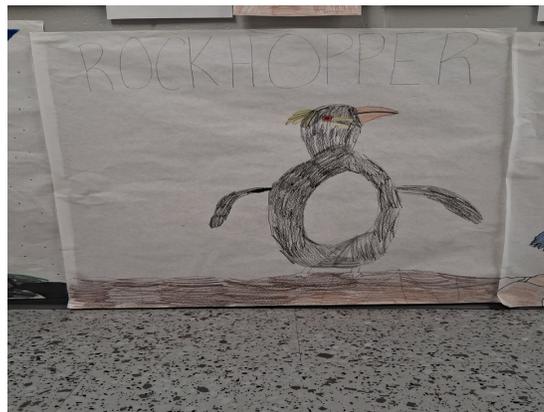
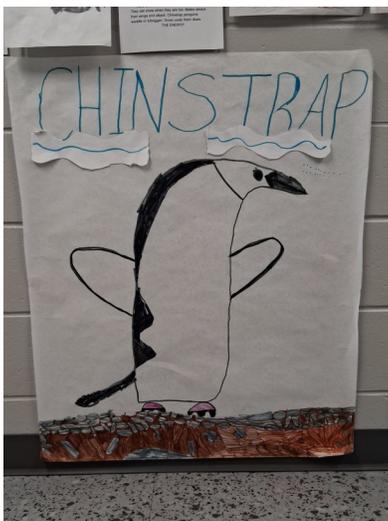
As geologists, we studied how God created the Earth perfectly, including how it moves around the sun and the different layers of the Earth. While learning about landforms, students were challenged to solve the problem of sand dune erosion. They made inferences and tested different designs to help prevent erosion.

While we had a lot of fun with these hands-on activities, we also learned how important it is to study God's world and to carry out the command He gave us to take care of the Earth and everything on it.



3RD/4TH GRADE

Third and fourth grade students spent the month of January reading *Mr. Popper's Penguins* and learning about penguins. Working in pairs, students researched a penguin species, wrote about the information they found, and drew life-size models of their penguins. On the final day of the unit, we dressed up as penguins or members of the Popper family, watched *March of the Penguins*, and graphed our favorite kinds of goldfish. This project was a fun and engaging way to integrate science, reading, writing, math, social studies, PE, and teamwork.



5TH/6TH GRADE



5th and 6th Grade has been busy! We kicked off reading month by decorating our door that matched the Reader's Cove theme! The door was made and drawn by all of the students!

We have also been going to Fellowship Village this year. For Valentine's Day, our class was able to bless the residents there by creating Valentine's to be handed out. This was a fun activity that reminded us to focus more on others!



7TH/8TH GRADE

The 7th-8th Grade class recently completed a Science unit on how maps and satellites are used. What better place to check out than the EROS Data Center, just outside of Sioux Falls?!

We found out a lot about the center - it is the only national archive and research facility for land remote sensing data in the Lower 48. They have land satellites that continually capture images to record and upload online. The center was established in the 70's, and has many records over the past 50+ years.

Our tour guide showed us how the satellite images are used, the area where they store the super computer, and so much more! It was an interesting look into a truly unique place! And we finished with a 7th vs. 8th grade giant puzzle race! It was definitely a neat learning experience!



SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

December 18, 2025

Josh Van Grouw opened the meeting with devotions followed with prayer. The minutes of the November 10, 2025 meeting were read by title and approved. The agenda was established with the following present: Matt Vande Vegte, Todd Reinke, Michael Grevengoed, Josh Van Grouw, Jaron Van Beek, Tyler Attema and Amy Stearns. Pete Van Velzen joined by phone call.

Old Business

An intercom system will be installed by Alliance Communications.

Principal's Report

Principal Van Velzen's report was reviewed. NICSTO goal has been met. SWOT Analysis will be held on March 12. Kindergarten will start 5 days a week after Christmas.

A new family with 2 children will be joining school at the 3rd quarter.

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.

2026-2027 salaries will be approved at the January meeting.

Education Committee Report

Jaron Van Beek gave a positive report on his school visit.

Other Business

Head Teacher evaluations were reviewed. Staff Christmas gifts were discussed. Intention slips will be handed out on January 5. Contracts will be handed out on January 26 and will be due back on February 2. Recess will be held outside if the temperature feels like above zero.

The next school board meeting will be held on Monday, January 12, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. Concept minutes were read and approved. Closing prayer was given by Michael Grevengoed.

Michael Grevengoed, Secretary

January 12, 2026

Michael Grevengoed opened the meeting with devotions and followed with prayer. The minutes of the December 8, 2025 meeting were read by title and approved. The agenda was established with the following present: Pete Van Velzen, Amy Stearns, Matt Vande Vegte, Todd Reinke, Michael Grevengoed, Josh Van Grouw, Jaron Van Beek, and Tyler Attema.

Old Business

SWOT analysis was discussed.

An update was given on the sound system in the gym.

The new telephone/intercom system has been installed.

Principal's Report

Principal Van Velzen's report was reviewed. Discussion was held on the hot lunch program. Project requests from teachers were approved. Preschool registration and Kindergarten round up will be held on Monday, March 23.

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.

2026-2027 salaries were discussed.

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

Education Committee Report

Intention Slips have been received and reviewed. Contracts will be handed out on January 26.

Building/Grounds Committee Report

The City of Inwood would like to use the gym for the community open gym.

The Cadets will be using the gym on April 8.

Inwood First Reformed church will be renting the gym on March 21.

Other Business

An additional bus route was added.

Additional sub bus drivers were approved.

The next school board meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 10, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. Concept minutes were read and approved. Closing prayer was given by Tyler Attema.

Josh Van Grouw, Secretary pro tem

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 2026

As we make plans for the 2026-2027 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 9, 2026**. 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.