

The Pathfinder

Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.
Psalm 119:105

Nurture - Develop - Educate

Principal's Message

Power, Love, and Self-Control (Part 1)

"...for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control" (II Timothy 1:7). I'm sure everyone is aware that this is our theme verse for this school year. Last month, I looked at the first half of the verse and how we are trying to teach our students to live boldly and to focus on the fear of the Lord instead of fearing man. Over the next 3 months, I would like to try and explain the last half of the verse and how it applies to what we teach our students. I will concentrate on the words: power, love, and self-control. This month we will look at the word power.

Here are some Bible verses regarding power: "But He said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me" (II Corinthians 12:90). "May you be strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy," (Colossians 1:11). "His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us to His own glory and excellence," (II Peter 1:3). "That your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God" (I Corinthians 2:5). "For I am not ashamed of the Gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek" (Romans 1:16). "For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God" (I Corinthians 1:18). "That according to the riches of His glory He may grant you to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in your inner being," (Ephesians 3:16). "For His invisible attributes, namely, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So, they are without excuse" (Romans 1:20). "Awesome is God from His sanctuary; the God of Israel-He is the one who gives power and strength to His people. Blessed be God" (Psalm 68:35)! "Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working" (James 5:16). "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth" (Acts 1:8). "Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you" (Luke 10:19). "Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us," (Ephesians 3:20). "He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might He increases strength" (Isaiah 40:29).

As you can see from above, God tells us over and over again in His Word about the power He provides for the believer. Because of the power of God, we can live a joy filled life. At Peoria Christian School, we teach our students that apart from God we can do nothing (John 15:5); however, because the Holy Spirit indwells the believer, we also teach that we receive power (not from our own strength but from God) to live without fear and be salt and light to a lost and dying world (Acts 1:8). We also teach that the same God, who conquered sin and death (I Corinthians 15:54-55), can also empower us in our everyday battle against the evil one (Luke 10:19).

The verses I listed above are only a few of the many in the Word of God; thus, I encourage you to do a study on the power of God.

Thank you for your continued support,
Jeremy Copenhaver



Peoria Christian School Board News

School Board Meeting: Oct. 5, 2019

The Board sang from PH253. President Adam Fynaardt read from 1 Chronicles 16:11 and opened with prayer. All members were present except Mike Vander Hart with notice.

Minutes of the September Board Meeting were read and approved.

- ↪ School Visitors assigned for the month of September were Mark Franje and Adam Fynaardt. Both visited classes during the month and gave favorable reports.
- ↪ The Fall Music Festival will be held on November 12. The choir and band will participate in a recording session at the PCHS that will be parsed together with other schools to create a virtual concert. We will conclude the day with a concert with Sully Christian in Sully.
- ↪ Chad Dirkse from CASE will speak at the Fall Board Workshop on November 5th.
- ↪ Principal Jeremy Copenhaver reported on a successful field trip to Living History Farms.
- ↪ The Bus Committee reported that the buses have passed inspections.
- ↪ The Tech Committee reported on work being done to purchase a computer monitor with a swivel mount for the resource room, as well as, a new portable projector that will work with the new laptops.
- ↪ Next meeting: Monday, November 2nd, 7:00PM.

Dan Hol closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Spencer Fynaardt, Secretary

School Circle Meeting: Sept. 24, 2020

Members present: Barb Vande Voort, Stacie Fynaardt, Laura Fynaardt, Clarice Meinders, Patty Veenstra, and Susan Veenstra.

Mr. Copenhaver visited and talked about students and accountability after school the day of the bazaar. It will be communicated to parents that they need to be responsible for their children after school before the bazaar.

Bazaar Preparations:

- ↪ Childcare: Clarice and Stacie are going to ask Angela Veenstra if the Sully 8th graders would like to help again along with some of the parents. Also, ask Peoria's 8th graders to help.
- ↪ Lisa and Heidi are proceeding as normal as possible with the bazaar prep.
- ↪ To go meals will be offered this year with pick up from 4:30 to 5:30. Reservations for these are requested to be made by noon Nov 13th, to Suzy Veenstra.
- ↪ Supper is going to be: Pulled pork sandwiches, cheesy hash browns, green beans, fruit salad, and buttermilk brownies.

Fundraisers:

- ↪ Butter braid and Cookie Dough fundraiser \$1374
- ↪ Tractor Ride fundraiser \$3040.93
- ↪ Future and new fundraisers were discussed.

Next meeting: Thursday, January 14th, 2021, at 6:30 at the school library.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzy Veenstra, Secretary



A Note from Music

During the month of October:

- ↪ I am so glad to be back in the classroom with all of the students!
- ↪ The 5th graders have finally started band and are excited to learn their new instruments.
- ↪ Each music class is enjoying being able to sing together! Being able to sing together is such a blessing. Using our voices together to bring praise to the Lord!
- ↪ Soli Deo Gloria ~Mrs. Ansley

Pre-K & Kinder

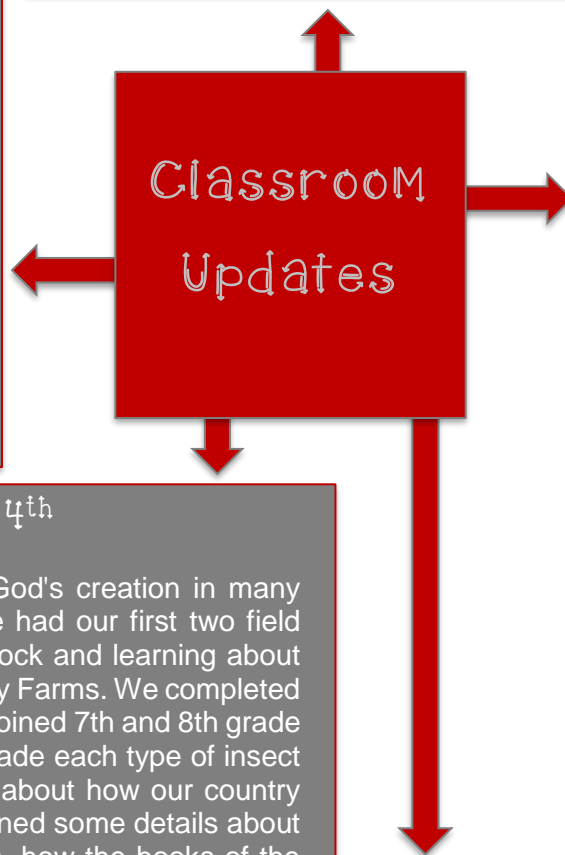
This first full month of school has seemed to fly by. The kindergarteners have been busy learning the sounds of letters and the correct way to write them. We have also been exploring different math manipulatives that we will use all year. In Pre-K, we have learned letters a-h, colors, shapes, positional words, and numbers 1-3. In Bible, we began the year by studying the days of creation, Noah, and are beginning to learn about Abraham. We learned a song to help us remember the days of creation and we even learned a fun song about a hippopotamus! ~Mrs. Klaasen

Spanish Spotlights

Enjoy reading what each grade has been focusing on this month in Spanish!

- 1st Grade:** Numbers! Ask your child to play our number game with you.
- 2nd Grade:** Animals! Ask your child to name an animal in Spanish.
- 3rd Grade:** School Supplies! Ask your child to name a school supply they use every day.
- 4th Grade:** Big and Little Animals! Ask your child to identify the name of a small 'gato'.
- 5th Grade:** Animals! Play a round of animal charades with your family.
- 6th Grade:** The Calendar! Ask your child what day and month it is.
- 7th & 8th Grade:** Characteristics! Ask your child to describe you in Spanish.

Have fun! Have so much fun that you're going to 'reventar' (burst)! ~Mrs. McConnell



1st & 2nd

What is the favorite subject of most 1st and 2nd Grade students? When asked that question, usually I tell them that PE, Lunch, Recess, and Art are not a choice! Art would be one of their favorites every time if they have a choice. Once again this year, we have the privilege of having Mrs. Lisa Ver Meer as our teacher in Art. She has helped students learn skills in cutting, drawing, and painting with water color paints. Using these skills, students have made many wonderful projects that are displayed in the hall by our room. Please take a minute to stop by and see their work and how they have used the creative talent that God has given each one. Thank-you Mrs. Ver Meer for teaching us how to use our talents to praise God with our artistic ability! ~Mrs. Van Wyk

3rd & 4th

We have been enjoying God's creation in many ways this past month. We had our first two field trips, a bike ride at Red Rock and learning about early farms at Living History Farms. We completed our insect collections and joined 7th and 8th grade to learn about how God made each type of insect unique. We have learned about how our country started. We have also learned some details about writing in early Bible times, how the books of the Old Testament are ordered, and overviewed the first eight books of the Bible. All these things are setting us up for the next areas of study in October. We will be finishing our study of insects and spiders in science, we will be learning about our government in history, and we will be starting to learn the history of the kings of Israel in Bible. We are also working on our project for the Bazaar as well as some other fun things. It will be a full, yet fun October! ~Miss Taft



7th & 8th

This year we picked pumpkins again to raise money for the Eight Grade Fund. We had about ten people there helping us clear out Arvin Roose's pumpkin patches. After finishing, Mrs. Roose, Arvin's wife, had a great lunch prepared for us. Everyone got very muddy while working due to previous rain, but we all had an amazing time! Some of the pumpkins and gourds were enormous, too, which added to the excitement of the morning. We earned a total of \$125 helping Mr. Roose. Thank you to those who helped, to Mr. Roose for allowing us to come help again this year, and to Mrs. Roose for the amazing lunch!

"Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." Matthew 9:38 ~Submitted by Rebecca De Haan, 8th Grade

* * * * *

The 7th and 8th graders are enjoying encountering God in our study of the characteristics and classification of life. They have completed their insect collections. Seven of them are on display on our back bulletin board. The two large ones are on display in the hallway near our room.

Our next project is making a leaf collection over the next two weeks. Students have been given a rubric to guide them. Each specimen will be a twig with leaves attached, rather than just a single leaf. When the leaves have dried, the students will mount them on sheets of paper, leaving room to add a twig with buds, a specimen of seeds, and a specimen of flowers from the tree as the school year progresses. Our goal is to praise God for His marvelous work in trees as we demonstrate we can recognize and name many of the different kinds of trees God is enjoying with us here in Iowa. ~Mr. Bandstra, Science



5th & 6th

Did you know that Henry Ford's motivation for inventing the car was because his mom passed away at a young age, and he blamed it on hard farm labor? His goal was to invent a car that was both affordable and reliable. One way he made this possible was by manufacturing cars on an assembly line. This allowed production and quality to increase and the price to decrease. In 5th and 6th grade, students experienced what it may be like to work on a car assembly line. They assembled candy cars the way many cars are assembled today. It was so much fun to see students work together to make their line the most efficient and to build a sturdy candy car. Afterwards, we discussed how God gave us such order, knowledge, and ability to have the cars we have today. ~Mrs. De Zwarte



Resource Room

We have now entered the beautiful system of routine. Of course, we are always making improvements such as facilitating ways for students to take ownership of their learning. For example, we discussed their midterm scores and how to do even better. Also, the fifth through eighth graders will be graphing their weekly scores on Google Sheets. The children have been working very hard to grow 11 (1.1 months) points in math and 23 (2.3 months) in English language arts at midterm since the beginning of the academic year. I am pleased with the talents and abilities God has given each individual at Peoria Christian! ~Mrs. Fynaardt



WHAT'S
EVENTS
 HAPPENING



FACILITATORS

We want to praise God for supplying for our special facilitator request (Philippians 4:19). If you would still like to help facilitate or know someone that does, please email or call Jeremy Copenhaver (principal@peoriachr.org or 641-625-4131) as we are always in need.



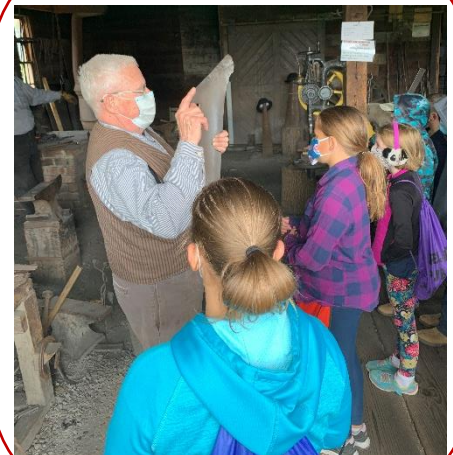
BUTTER BRAID

The School Circle would like to thank everyone who supported the Butter Braid and Cookie Dough fundraiser! Our profit was \$1374.00.



CHAPEL

Our next chapel will take place on Friday, October 23rd, and Joel Vander Molen is scheduled to be our speaker. Chapel starts at 8:30 AM in the gym. Please come and join us. We hope to see you there.



WHAT'S
EVENTS
HAPPENING



AUTUMN
ACERS
FIELD TRIP

Our students, in Pre-K – 2nd grade, are scheduled to go to Autumn Acres on October 29th. Please look for more details in the weekly email.



PICTURE DAY

Picture Day will be on **Thursday, October 22nd**. This will be for all our students, Pre-K – 8th grade. Pictures will begin at 8:30 AM in the morning. **Parents of Pre-K students**, please have your child to school by **8:20 AM** on this day. They will have their picture taken first so they may go back home until later in the day.

VETERANS DAY LUNCH

We are tentatively planning a Veterans Day Lunch for **November 10**. If you are a Veteran or know someone who is, please save the date on your calendar. We would love to be able to honor you on this special day. We have a special lunch and assembly starting at noon. Please make sure to RSVP to office@peoriachr.org with the number attending. Lord willing, we hope to see you there!



WHAT'S
EVENTS
HAPPENING



MIDDLE SCHOOL MUSIC FESTIVAL

Please save the date of Thursday, November 12th, for this event for our 5th – 8th grade students. This year we are planning to combine with Sully Christian School and have a middle school music festival with just their school. This will be in the evening of **November 12th** at Sully Christian. More details will come as the date approaches.

USBORNE BOOK FAIR

We will have our annual book fair on the week of **October 26th-29th**. It will end the night of Parent Teacher Conferences (Thursday, October 29th). Please take time to view the Book Fair at this link to see the available books:

<https://d6532.myubam.com/1778522>

Any questions, please contact Linda De Jong (library@peoriachr.org).

KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS

Our kindergarten students will be adding a fourth day to their week starting Monday, October 19th. Starting that day, students in kindergarten will be going to school on Monday in addition to Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. Please remember to pray for these students and their families as they make this transition in their routines.



WHAT'S
EVENTS
 HAPPENING

SECRETARY POSITION OPENING

After much prayer and consideration, Richarla Den Oudsten will be stepping down as our secretary. We want to thank her for her service at Peoria Christian School as a Godly example and for all the hours she put in to take care of all the secretarial duties. She is still willing to work until we find a new person, but we want to wish her many blessings in her future endeavors. With that being said, we have an immediate opening for a part time secretary. If you are interested or know someone who is, please contact Jeremy Copenhaver (principal@peoriachr.org) regarding this position. Please be praying as we look to fill this position.



PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent-Teacher Conferences are at the end of this month on Thursday, October 29th, from 4-8PM. Schedules will be going home with your students today. Please be sure to look at them so you know what time to come and meet.



A NOTE FROM YOUR SECRETARY

Dear Peoria Christian School & Community,
 After much reflection, discussion, and prayer, my husband and I have decided that I need to step down from the role of secretary to better serve the needs of our family at this time. I have enjoyed working with the staff and families of the school and will miss being able to interact with you in this capacity. I look forward to still being able to connect with you as a fellow parent and volunteer. I will not be leaving immediately in hopes that we will not be left with an empty spot in our school. Thank you for the opportunity to serve our school as your secretary. I pray that God leads the right person to the school board to fill this position.

Your Sister-in-Christ and Secretary,
 Richarla Den Oudsten

WHAT'S
FALL BAZAAR
 HAPPENING



Rooted in God's Word



"The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever." Isaiah 40:8

CLASSROOM BASKETS FOR AUCTION

Pre-K/K: "Picnic" Basket

Paper product, table cloth, cooler, bug spray, fruit, gift card to Subway, etc.

1st/2nd: Desserts & Sweets

Candy, chocolate, sprinkles, frosting, brownie mixes, cupcake liners, gift cards to DQ, etc.

3rd/4th: Mexican

Chips, salsa, nacho cheese, gift cards to Taco Johns or El Charro, etc.

5th/6th: Activities to Do!

Games, puzzles, books, craft activities, Legos, etc.

7th/8th: Freezer Meals

Meats, casseroles, pies, or anything you can freeze!



Nov 13
2020

Coffee Time: 3:00-4:30

Bake Sale: 3:00-6:30

Browse-n-Buy: 3:00-6:30

Supper: 5:00-6:30

Live Auction: 7:00 in the gym

Childcare: 7:00 in the school

Supper Menu:

Pulled Pork Sandwiches, Party Potatoes, Green Beans, Fruit Salad, Buttermilk Brownies & Ice Cream
~Freewill Donation

Fun for the Kids too...

Please plan to join us for games, prizes, and activities for kids of all ages starting at 7:00!

New this Year: To Go Meals!

Meals will be available between 4:30-5:30. To request one, please contact Suzy at 641-780-8856 by 12:30 on Friday, November 13th.



Like us on Facebook to get updates and to see items that will be auctioned!

Thank you for supporting Peoria Christian School! Please contact Lisa Ver Meer (780-8542) or Heidi Van Wyk (780-9755) if you have any questions or have an item to donate.



S
C
H
O
O
L



C
A
L
E
N
D
A
R

OCTOBER	
October 1	All School Field Trip to Living History Farms
October 2	NO SCHOOL ~ Staff-In-Service
October 9	TRIP Orders Due
October 16	2:15PM Dismissal ~ End of 1 st Quarter
October 21	12:15PM Dismissal ~ Curriculum Mapping
October 22	8:30AM School Pictures
October 23	8:30AM Chapel ~ Joel Vander Molen
October 23	TRIP Orders Due & Report Cards go home
October 29	Pre-K – 2 nd Grade ~ Autumn Acres Field Trip
October 29	4-8PM Parent-Teacher Conferences
October 30	NO SCHOOL
NOVEMBER	
November 10	Veterans Day Lunch & Assembly
November 11	12:15PM Dismissal ~ Curriculum Mapping
November 12	7PM 5 th – 8 th Grade Fall Music Festival
November 13	Fall Bazaar
November 18	2:35PM Dismissal ~ Staff-In-Service
November 20	8:30AM Chapel ~ Pastor Dale Slings
November 24	8 th Grade Visit Day at Pella Christian High School
November 25	1:15 Dismissal ~ Thanksgiving Break
November 26-27	NO SCHOOL ~ Thanksgiving Break

PCS WISH LIST

Are you looking for a different way to help support our school? The PCS Wish List is a list of school supplies that we need. You may purchase the items and then donate them to the school. All donations may be dropped off at the school office. This month we are requesting donations of these items:

- ~Hand Sanitizer
- ~Sanitizing Wipes or Spray
- ~Standard Postage Forever Stamps
- ~Armless Office Chair (for use in front office)

