

Principal's Message Christmas

When you hear the word Christmas, what are the first words that come to mind?

- Coal?
- Ebenezer Scrooge?
- Presents?
- Toys?
- Mistletoe?
- Hot Chocolate?
- Green?
- Red?
- Snow?
- Caroling?
- Christmas Lights?
- Christmas Tree?
- Bethlehem?
- Nazareth?
- Inn?
- Mary?
- Joseph?
- Wisemen?
- Magi?
- Shepherds?
- Angels?
- Virgin Birth?
- Manger?
- Immanuel?
- Savior?
- Messiah?
- John 1:1?
- Genesis 3:15?
- Isaiah 9:6?
- Isaiah 7:14?
- Luke 2:10-12?
- John 1:14?
- Isaiah 53:5-6?
- Galatians 4:4-5?

At Peoria Christian School, we teach that Christ is always the main character, and so I hope each one of our students would answer: Jesus Christ, born to die.

Thank you for your prayers and financial support this past year,

Jeremy Copenhaver

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God" (John 1:1).

"I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel" (Genesis 3:15).

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6).

"Therefore, the Lord Himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel" (Isaiah 7:14).

"And the angel said to them, 'Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger'" (Luke 2:10-12).

"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth" (John 1:14).

"But He was pierced for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities; upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with His wounds we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned - every one - to his own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all" (Isaiah 53:5-6).

"But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons" (Galatians 4:4-5).

Peoria Christian School Board News

School Board Meeting: December 6, 2021

The Board sang from Psalter Hymnal 454, "Now Thank We All Our God." President Spencer Fynaardt read from 2 Timothy 3:10-17 and opened with prayer. All members were present.

Minutes of the November Board Meeting were read and approved.

Eric Fynaardt and Drew Van Wyk reported on their school visits and had positive reports.

From the Ed Committee, a motion was brought to allow a field trip for Pre-K – 4th to AgVenture day at PCHS. Motion passed.

From the Ed Committee, a motion was brought to approve the selected program for Grandparents Day. Motion passed.

From the Ed Committee, a motion was brought to approve Christmas caroling at Fair Haven and at 818 Forward with Faith on Dec 21st. Motion passed.

From the Ed Committee, a rough draft of the 2022-2023 school calendar was shown for initial feedback.

From the Ed Committee, an update on IXL scores was presented.

Mr. Cope reported on a job fair that will be held at Central College in early February.

From the Promotions Committee, an update on the planning of future event plans was given.

From the Bus Committee, an issue with the alternator on Mr. Larry's bus has been resolved.

From the Building Committee, an issue with the stalls in the girl's restroom has been resolved.

From the Building Committee, the water heater in the teacherage was replaced.

From the Building Committee, both furnaces are now working properly in the gym.

Next meeting: Monday, January 3rd, 6:30PM.

Eric Fynaardt closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Kevin Van Der Hart, Secretary

THANK YOU!!

We want to thank everyone for your continued support through this past year. Your words of encouragement, prayers, and financial gifts were greatly appreciated. We are excited to see what God has in store for us in this coming year! Please make sure to check out the latest postings on Facebook and share with your family and friends the amazing ways that God is blessing us here at Peoria Christian School (James 1:17).



A Note from Music

We are looking forward to our Christmas concert this week and sharing our gift of music. All grades have been working hard on memorizing all our songs. Some things to look forward to at our concert are:

- ✦ Christmas carols played by our band students,
- ✦ 5th grade band performing for the first time,
- ✦ 3rd-4th graders will be performing their first chimes song,
- ✦ The 19 students in 5th-8th grade will be playing a chimes song that has 32 chimes across 4 octaves,
- ✦ Focusing on the promises of God that were fulfilled in Jesus Christ!

See you there! - Soli Deo Gloria, Mrs. Ansley

Pre-K & Kinder

As we end this calendar year, we are starting many exciting things in PreK and Kindergarten. The Kindergarteners have learned how to properly form all the lowercase letters. This month, we are going to start learning how to form the uppercase letters and read! In PreK, we have learned all of the letters and their sounds and are now working on writing the lowercase letters.

We took time this past month to learn about the first Thanksgiving. We also discussed all the things we have to be thankful for; the most important being that Jesus came, died on the cross, and rose again to save us from our sins.

~ Mrs. Klaasen



1st & 2nd

For the month of December, the 1st and 2nd graders are focusing their attention on how every story in the Bible “whispers” the coming of Jesus. The idea of the Bible whispering the name of Jesus was a little confusing at first. But as we read each story with the perspective of looking forward to our coming Rescuer, we see how the main character of the Bible, Jesus, was whispered from the very beginning of creation! ~ Mrs. Vos



Classroom Updates

3rd & 4th

The 3rd and 4th graders have been very busy this last month! The 3rd graders have now learned all their lowercase cursive letters and are working on the uppercase letters. They are slowly starting to do all their daily work in cursive as well. The 4th graders are learning multi-digit multiplication in math. We had our first visit from Mrs. Adams for Ag in the Classroom. We learned about how pizza is made, from the farm to the home, and everywhere in between. She will be coming two more times later this year. The week before Thanksgiving, the students decided they wanted to cover our classroom door with things we are thankful for. We ended up with 160 different things we were thankful for! God has truly blessed each and every one of us! ~ Miss Taft



Resource Room

The students continue to work hard with some positive and negative reinforcement. The kindergarten and first graders only have positive reinforcements with stickers and dojo points if they master their objective. Grades three through eight receive both. Their positive reinforcement includes classroom cash, dojo points, and coupons. Their negative reinforcements are a loss of those rewards and some recess. After implementing these things upon my return, the school as a whole has grown +32 (3.2 months) since the beginning of the year in both math and language arts. We are thankful to God for providing growth!! ~ Mrs. Fynaardt

7th & 8th

In 7th and 8th grade, we have been reading Up from Slavery by Booker T. Washington. This book has opened our eyes into the education of slaves. We have been so incredibly blessed to go to a Christian school. Booker grew up in slavery and was determined to get an education along with most of the slaves. Later, after he was freed, he went to Hampton Institution to get an education. Following his graduation, he went to Tuskegee, Alabama. In Tuskegee, he founded the Tuskegee Institution. A quote from Booker T. Washington is "In all things that are purely social we can be as separate as the fingers, yet one as the hand in all things essential to mutual progress." (*Up From Slavery*, p.117) Booker was a very determined and kind person so we, as a class, decided to put a compliment box in the hallway. We encourage anyone to write a nice compliment to someone. "Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing" (1 Thessalonians 5:11) . ~ Submitted by: Maria Meinders

5th & 6th

The 5th and 6th graders had so much fun on our field trip to the Environmental Learning Center in Oskaloosa. We started the day off enjoying God's beautiful creation at the Russell Wildlife Area, where we searched for fossils. We found many different types of sea creature fossils. Then, we went to the Environmental Center and learned about woolly mammoth bones that were found right here in Iowa. Students even got to hold these bones and look at them closely. We were so amazed at how large God made these creatures. Finally, students had the opportunity to hold one of the corn snakes and watch it eat a live mouse! We were so blessed with this opportunity to be in God's creation and experience some of the wonderful creatures He has made living and deceased. ~ Mrs. De Zwarte



Thank You!

Thank you to Senator Ken Rozenboom for coming and visiting our school at the end of November.



Spanish

Enjoy what each grade will be focusing on this month in Spanish!
1st Grade: The first graders will be using Spanish words to discuss the Christmas story.
2nd Grade: The second graders are identifying animals God has created.
3rd Grade: The third graders are identifying the days of the week God has created.
4th Grade: The fourth graders are learning about the different foods God has created.
5th Grade: The fifth graders are naming body parts God has created.
6th Grade: The sixth graders are using their God-given knowledge to use question words in sentences.
7th/8th Grade: The seventh and eighth graders are telling time in Spanish, using God's order for time. ~ Mrs. McConnell

WHAT'S EVENTS HAPPENING

FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES

Did you know that everyday you can do little things to help raise funds for Peoria Christian School? Many companies have opportunities available to all of us that may seem small, but when we all do them it makes a big difference. Some of these are Amazon Smile (great to use during Christmas shopping!), Casey's Rewards (we all fill our cars up with gas), Box Tops (check those cereal boxes), Bredeaux Pizza (clip the proof of purchase next Saturday night), Coke Rewards (save those codes), Shop With Script (gift cards for everything) and empty ink cartridges from your computer's printer. Contact the school office for more details on any of these opportunities.

MAP TESTING

Our winter Map testing is scheduled to take place on Monday, January 10 – Friday, January 14. Parents, please try to avoid any appointments during this week especially in the morning as their attendance is really important on these days. Overall, please pray for our students as they strive to do their best.

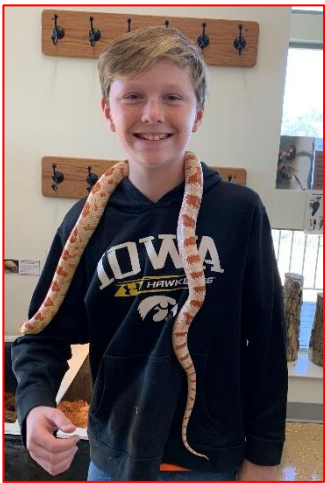
CHRISTMAS BREAK

School dismisses at 1:20 PM on Wednesday, December 22. Christmas break will be from December 23 – December 31. Classes will resume on Monday, January 3.



USED CHROMEBOOKS

The Technology Committee is selling used Chromebooks for \$40. They are available on a first come, first served basis, with first preference given to the families of current students. Families will be able to purchase one per student currently enrolled at Peoria Christian. Please contact Kevin Van Der Hart at tech@peoriachr.org to purchase a Chromebook or with any questions.



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DECEMBER	
December 10	2:20PM Dismissal
December 10	7PM Christmas Program
December 15	5th – 8 th Grade Field Trip to Neil Smith Wildlife
December 17	8:30AM Chapel, Pastor Greg Lubbers
December 17	Christmas Program Make-Up Date
December 21	Caroling at Fair Haven & 818 House
December 22	Christmas Spirit Day
December 22	1:20PM Dismissal
December 23-31	Christmas Break – No School
JANUARY	
January 3	Classes Resume
January 7	Report Cards Go Home
January 10-14	Winter MAP Testing
January 19	2:40PM Dismissal
January 25	Take Your Parents to Lunch
January 28	8:30AM Chapel Mr. Nolan Wiersma

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:

- ~ 8oz Styrofoam Cups
- ~ Forever Stamps
- ~ Power Strips

SAVE THE DATE

Mark your calendars for our Take Your Parents to Lunch Day on Tuesday, January 25 at noon.

CHAPEL

Chapel will be held on Friday, December 17 at 8:30 AM in the Gym. Pastor Lubbers from Covenant Church will be our speaker. We hope to see you there!

