



Warrior Connection

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER — SULLY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

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From the Desk of Mrs. Hackert...

January is typically the time when people make New Year's resolutions. A few weeks ago during a morning chapel time, the students and teachers talked about making a resolution or commitment to three important S's: **SMILE, SHARE, and SERVE**. We always have a **smile** ready to give. Smiles never need to be updated, never need electricity, never go out-of-style, and are never misplaced. Smiles can encourage, comfort, and motivate and can help us **share** our faith. Followers of Jesus Christ are called to share their faith with others. We are reminded in Acts 1:8, "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" - by smiling and sharing, we **serve** God. Serving God is the calling of every Christian, young or old. Words from John 4:35, "Lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest," also remind us of our calling to witness for God. No matter what grade or age, we can all resolve to ask Jesus to guide our lives and grant us the spiritual strength to be better servants and disciples for our Creator.

Iowa Assessment tests will be given each morning the week of January 23. The following information in bold print is copied from the Iowa Testing Program website:

✓ The Iowa Assessments help determine how students are performing on the state curriculum as described in the Iowa Core.

✓ The Iowa Assessments measure student growth and progress from year to year.

✓ The Iowa Assessments help teachers identify a student's strengths and identify areas that may need additional emphasis. The assessments produce information that enable sound decision making and provide a focus for teachers to evaluate their instruction.

✓ The Iowa Assessments provide information about your child's performance relative to the school, the state of Iowa, and the nation.

Using the results of the assessment, we encourage you to work together with your child's teacher to identify and address educational needs. The results will help prepare your child for the next step on their educational path.

Students are often reminded about the importance of eating a nutritious breakfast every morning. During the week of testing, eating breakfast is especially important. Breakfast means "breaking of fast," and since students most likely do not eat a meal in the middle of the night, they have actually been fasting while they sleep. Our brains need an abundant supply of fuel in order to function, and the brain needs to refuel by eating breakfast. A student's best time to focus and study is during the morning hours; therefore, testing is administered in the mornings. Expecting students to concentrate and focus during these tests without eating breakfast is simply not in the best interest of the student. The results of the Iowa Assessments will be used by our teachers to reflect on what areas need improvement and to develop strategies to meet improvement goals.

What we **LOVE** about Kindergarten!

A...A friend loves at all times.

B...Be still and know that I am God.

C...Create in me a pure heart, O, God.

These are some of the verses the Kindergarten class has been learning this year which we call "ABC's in my Heart". As we add a new verse we keep reviewing all the previous verses we've learned. Our favorite verse so far is **H**...Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord Almighty – the whole earth is full of his glory. Our goal is that by the end of Kindergarten we will have all 26 verses memorized for life. We are half way there!

This year we have 7 Kindergarten students who love to listen to books being read to them, love to sing and dance, and come to school each day wondering what they get to learn that day! They wanted to share with you some of their favorite things about Kindergarten.

Makenna Six

I love the field trips we go on like to the Civic Center to see **Imaginotion** and when we went with the whole school to see Beauty and the Beast. I also love free time and I love our devotions about animals we read every morning. I actually love everything we do.

Andrew DeVries

I like learning how to be the line leader. That's my favorite job. I love doing the calendar and the weather. I really like writing, too.

Isaac Vos

I love doing work! I love to build with the letter Legos and make words. I really love playing with magnets!

Keagan Fopma

I like my friends in my class and my teacher. I love changing jobs every day and all the work we get to do. My favorite job is Line Leader and my second favorite is Calendar.

Trevor Veenstra

I like all the things we learn about in science and I loved when we learned about magnets. I think PE is really fun, too. I love all my friends in Kindergarten.

Tysen DeVries

I like learning about our Reading Strategy animals like Eagle Eye, Lips the Fish, Stretchy the Snake, Chunky Monkey, Skippy the Frog, Tryin' Lion, and Helpful Kangaroo. My favorite is Chunky Monkey!

Josiah Vos

I like learning about math and making patterns with different things. I also love lunch recess because it's so long!



We love school!

Mrs. Howerzyl

January Board Highlights

The board is thankful for several checks received as end of the year donations. Laurie will be contacting these donors to thank them as well as to verify their intentions for allocation of these funds. The finance committee will be looking at the appropriateness of the current by-law which states undesignated checks over a specified amount are to be placed in the endowment fund. They will also begin working on the budget for the 2012-2013 school year.

The teacher's have requested space for a science lab. With this in mind Inspiration's request for additional space was denied. There was discussion on how to assist Inspirations with their space needs. Several other requests to use the school's gym were also discussed.

Cookie walk generated \$2966.31 income for the fundraising committee. The pre-orders were very well received and those that helped with this fundraiser are appreciated.

Thank you for your hard work!

The new hot lunch software system has been well received by the teachers and the glitches are being worked through. Thank you to Laurie for her hard work.

The building and grounds committee reported that the stage curtains have been fire proofed and a hand rail to the upstairs storage room has been installed.

The technology committee reported the new website is being used and hits on the site are being analyzed.

Dates were approved for All about Kindergarten night and Kindergarten round-up. The dates are 2/8 and 4/19 respectively.

Donation has been received and approved to continue the Accelerated Reader program.

PRAYER WARRIOR'S CORNER

1. Prayers of thanks for the incredible winter weather we have had and prayers of safety for everyone out on the roads now that we are starting to see "real" winter weather conditions.
2. Prayers for wisdom and motivation as the students prepare to take the ITBS tests.
3. Prayers for staff and families as they consider their intentions for next year.
4. Continued prayers for baby Owen Vos and family.



SCS Wishlist

- Plastic forks & spoons
- Small paper plates
- Clorox Wipes
- Sturdy tape dispenser: 1st & 2nd Grade Classroom
Approximate Cost: \$5.00 - \$10.00
- Kids games, new or gently used for 1st & 2nd grade
(Examples: Hi-Ho Cherrio, Ants in the Pants)
- 3rd & 4th Grade Novels: Approximate Cost: \$80.00
- Metronome for Band/Music: Approximate Cost:
\$20.00-\$100.00
- Trap Set (Drum Set) for Band - Approximate Cost:
\$200.00 - \$1000.00



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exceptions of June and August.

FOOD & FUN NIGHT

Mark your calendar for **FOOD & FUN NIGHT** on March 3

Committees are hard at work preparing for a fun-filled night of fellowship. It takes many people and donations to make this a successful event. Please see the requests below and consider helping out in any way you can. If you have any questions or ideas, please contact one of the Steering Committee members – Scott & Diane Roose (594-3146) or sdroose@netins.net or Randy & Jodi De Vries (625-4243) or rdevries@iowatelecom.net.

FOOD COMMITTEE: A list will be coming home with students of what each family will be asked to donate for food. In addition to that, they are asking for donations of food or money towards the purchase of the following items:

Pies

Hamburger (100 lbs)

If you can help out with any of these items, please contact Sharon Fopma at 527-2882 or sfopma6@netins.net.

GAMES COMMITTEE: A list will be coming home with students to let each parent know when they have been assigned to work. Other items needed are:

Additional workers to donate a small amount of time to help host the games.

Yummy cakes for the cake walk

Sponsors for the games. This money will be used to help purchase prizes for the games. If interested please send a check payable to Sully Christian School
attn: Games Committee.

If you would be willing to help out the games committee, please contact Heather Vander Leest at 780-0812 or heathervanderleest@gmail.com.

AUCTION COMMITTEE: The Auction Committee is looking for ideas and suggestions of items to be on the Silent Auction. If you are willing to donate money toward the purchase of an item, or if you have an item that you are willing to donate to the Auction, please contact Lisa Van Sant (594-4372) or email vansant6@netins.net.

Schedule of Events for the Evening:

Food: Served from 4:30 – 6:30 pm

Silent Auction: 4:30 – 7:00 pm

Carnival Games: 5:00 – 7:00 pm

Live Auction – 7:15 pm

Please be sure to check the SCS website for updates!



Sully Christian School students are photographed wearing their new school t-shirts. These shirts, originally purchased by the School Board, have been donated by Karen Harrill, an alumnus of SCS. The front logo represents the Christian connection of home, church, and school, and the back side displays "Warriors for Christ." The royal blue shirts with white lettering will be worn by the students on special days and field trips. All teachers and staff were also given a shirt, so EVERYONE extends a huge thank-you to Mrs. Harrill for her wonderful gift!

CENTENNIAL NEWS!!

The SCS Centennial committee has been busy organizing for our 100th year celebration!!! Save the weekend of August 30, 31, September 1, 2013 to join the celebration—we would love to have all alumni, supporters, parents, staff (both previous and present) attend. We will hold all events here at school.

Currently we are asking for anyone interested in the promotion side of this event to let us know if this could be your gift to SCS. We would like to get started very soon making contacts and advertising this event thru mail, email, Facebook, SCS website, etc.

If you have any other ideas or suggestions you would like to offer to us, please feel free to contact one of the committee members listed below.

Watch for information updates coming frequently. We are excited for this special event to celebrate God's faithfulness to Sully Christian School, we think you will be too!!!

Bryce Engbers

Mike Vander Molen

Jeff Pastoor

Brenda Van Kooten

Candy Van Zante

Linda Zylstra