

The Pathfinder

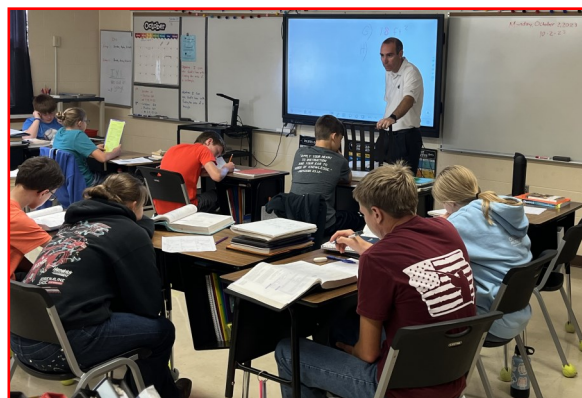
Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path. Psalm 119:105

Nurture - Develop - Educate

Principal's Message

Math

As most of you know, I teach 5th - 8th grade Math. At Peoria Christian School, we use the Saxon Math book, which is not a Christian publisher, and it would teach that Math is neutral in nature; however, subjects are not neutral in nature. We learn that Mathematics is created by God to show His power, glory, and order in our world. We read in Colossians 1:16 that all things were created by God (including Math) by Him and for Him. We then read in the very next verse that He also holds all things together. So, the same God that created Mathematics holds all the laws that He created to still apply today.



Over the next few weeks, we are planning to work on lessons 20-30 in the book. We will see common themes such as: numbers and operations and problem solving. We can see God's order, design, and laws with these concepts. Students love to learn when they see God's amazing design and order even in Mathematics. Here are some upcoming Christian objectives that we will be using in class.

5th Grade Lesson 20: I can understand how God designed a division problem.

5th Grade lesson 21: I can understand God's design of an equal groups equation to solve word problems.

6th Grade Lesson 20: I can use God's law with finding the greatest common factor.

6th Grade Lesson 21: I can understand God's covenants with the divisibility tests with 2, 3, 5, 9, and 10.

7th Grade Lesson 20: I can use God's law with finding the area of a rectangle.

7th Grade Lesson 21: I can understand God's design of prime and composite numbers.

8th Grade Lesson 20: I can use God's law with finding the area of a triangle.

8th Grade Lesson 21: I can see God's order when solving problems by using the order of operations.

When you see these 5th - 8th grade students, please take time to ask them about what specifically they are learning in Math about God and His amazing order and design.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support,
Jeremy Copenhaver

"For by Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together" (Colossians 1:16-17).

"Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth." II Timothy 2:15.

School Calendar October

- October 5**
No School
Staff In-service
- October 6**
No School
- October 13**
1:20PM Dismissal
- October 18**
12:20PM Dismissal
- October 19**
PK-2nd Grade to Autumn
Acres in afternoon
- October 25**
11AM Mary Poppins at PCHS
- October 26**
8:30AM Chapel
4-8PM Parent Teacher
Conferences
Report Cards Go Home
- October 27**
No School
- October 30**
Grace Counseling

November

- November 3**
5th/6th to Russell Wildlife
- November 7**
12PM Veterans Day Lunch &
Program
- November 8**
12:20PM Dismissal
- November 9**
Fall Music Festival
- November 10**
Bazaar
- November 14**
7PM Society Input Meeting
- November 16**
5th-8th Military Museum &
Terrance Hill
- November 17**
8:30AM Chapel
- November 18**
9AM Society Input Meeting
- November 21**
PCHS 8th Grade Visit Day
- November 22**
1:20PM Dismissal
- November 23 & 24**
Thanksgiving Break, No
School

Peoria Christian School Board

School Board Meeting: October 2, 2023

The Board sang from Psalter Hymnal #555, Lead On Oh King Eternal. Adam Fynaardt read from 2 Corinthians 10:5 and opened with prayer. All members were present.

Minutes of the August meeting were read and approved.

From the Education Committee:

- Adam Fynaardt and Drew Van Wyk visited school in September. Dennis Veenstra and Kody Roos will be visiting in October.
- Approval was given for the entire school to attend Mary Poppins at PCHS on October 25 and for PreK and Kindergarten to Jasper County Conservation days at Sully Christian.

From the Promotions Committee:

- Culvers night raised \$1,733.51, thank you for your support.
- Pella Motors "Test Drive for Peoria" event raised \$1450. Thank you to all that came and a special thanks to Craig Ford for hosting the event

From the Bus Committee:

- Still looking for bus and van drivers

From the Building Committee:

- Final estimate for new card entry system was approved

Next Meeting: Nov. 6 at 7 p.m. Drew Van Wyk closed in prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Eric Fynaardt

RE-ACCREDITATION UPDATE

The school is preparing for re-accreditation with Christian Schools International (CSI) in Spring 2024. This accreditation cycle is called "Measuring the Mission." To help Peoria Christian measure its mission, we are hosting two opportunities for parents, former students (including recent graduates), supporters, and society members to give input for a "Self-Study." These meetings will be Tuesday, November 14, at 7PM, and Saturday, November 18, at 9AM. Both meetings will be held in the school gym. The focus of these meetings is to use guided questions to determine how well our school is working toward its mission and purpose. It is important that we have good representation from both our parents and society members at these meetings. Please make plans to join us on one of these dates.

Peoria Christian's Mission is: Nurture – Develop – Educate

The purpose of Peoria Christian School is to nurture each child's unique potential as an image bearer of God, develop the student's capacity for the enjoyment of the created world, and to educate the total person.

Classroom News

PreK & Kindergarten

It's hard to believe we are already through our first month of school! We have learned so much. In Science, we finished our unit on ways to keep ourselves healthy. Now, we need to remember these practices as we go into the time of year when illnesses happen more. We also enjoyed our field trip to Camp Creation! It was a great way to remember and review what we have been learning in Bible. We praise the Lord for the beautiful weather we had that day.

~ Mrs. Krista Klaasen

Upcoming Field Trips

PK-2nd Grade: Autumn Acres in Oskaloosa, Thursday, October 19

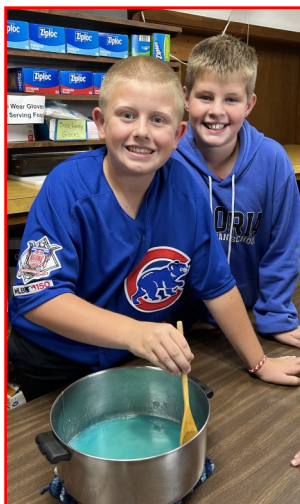
1st-8th Grade: Mary Poppins at PCHS, Wednesday, October 25

5th & 6th Grade: The Environmental Learning Center at Russel Wildlife, Friday, November 3

***Parents** please see the Weekly Pathfinder or your classroom newsletter for more details regarding field trips.

CHAPEL

Lord willing, our next chapel is scheduled for Thursday, October 26th. It is themed around the Reformation and Reverend Lubbers from Covenant church is our scheduled speaker. We hope to see you there.



1st & 2nd Grade

In Science, the 1st & 2nd graders have been studying about worldview, and more specifically, what it means to have a Biblical Worldview. Using the following 4 topics, we were able to see that what the world teaches and what the Bible teaches are different, and as Christians we have to look through our Biblical Worldview to answer them correctly. See if you can answer these questions from a Biblical Worldview. Bonus points if you can name a Bible passage to support your answer! (Possible answers on page 5)

1. Where did our world come from?
2. Why do things work together the way they do?
3. Who are we? Why are we here?
4. Why is science important?

~ Mrs. Melinda Vos

3rd & 4th Grade

In 3rd and 4th grade, we have been learning about God's work in the 1800s. Our focus, in history, has been on the Reconstruction period, right after the Civil War. It was a time of unrest and change, but God's hand can be seen through it all. We were able to go on a class field trip to Nelson Pioneer Farm in Oska to look at a lot of buildings and items from around this time period as well. The students got to experience washing clothes with a washboard, soap, and a hand cranked wringer. They also got to haul water, empty the water, and hang the clothing. Most of them enjoyed experiencing that chore. A few of them ended up with some wet shoes when they emptied the water. A few other favorite activities from the afternoon were watching



a log be cut into planks at the sawmill, and making hand-churned butter. Most of them tried the butter they made on some crackers and they all said it tasted like real butter. We praise God for good weather for our trip and for all the blessings He has given us in our daily lives.

~ Miss Erica Taft

5th & 6th Grade

In 5th and 6th grade, we started our year learning about sentences. We are working on remembering to write complete sentences with correct end punctuation and capitalization in all of the work that we do. Our ability to write correct sentences is one way that we can glorify and honor God. I Corinthians 14:40 says, "But all things should be done decently and in order." God created our world in a specific order to show His glory and control in creation. At the tower of Babel, man took over and created chaos, so God separated man by using language. Despite our tendency toward disorder, God created the parts of a sentence to be in a specific order to give us joy and help us to write clear and coherent sentences.

~ Mrs. Laura Fynaardt

Wish List

Looking for a unique way to support PCS? The Wish list is a list of items that the school needs. Items can be purchased and dropped off at school. This month we are requesting donations of the following items:

- ~ Forever Stamps
- ~ Disinfecting Wipes (Clorox, etc)
- ~ Mr. Clean Magic Erasers
- ~ Small Styrofoam Cups
- ~ Kleenex

SCHOOL DIRECTORY

School directories have been printed and sent home to all school families. If you are in need of a directory, please contact the office.

VALUE CARDS

Cards are still available for purchase at a cost of \$10 each or 3 for \$25. Contact a 7th or 8th grade student or the school office to purchase your cards.



7th & 8th Grade

In the month of September, we had the opportunity to bless a community member who willingly supports our school. We helped Mr. Arvin Roose by picking pumpkins and gourds, and we also cleaned up some vines. Some of our highlights included: getting to work hard, being able to bless a fellow community member, and getting to work together. In Matthew 5:16 it states, "In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." While we were working, we came up with an alliteration that was involved around pumpkins. The alliteration we came up with was, "Paula and Paul picked a patch of plenteous, pretty pumpkins in picturesque Peoria." We were thankful for this opportunity to serve together.



~ Josie Hol, 8th Grade

IXL

My overall theme in leading the IXL Program at Peoria Christian School is to nurture each child's whole God given potential by meeting them right where God has academically placed them. IXL provides different levels of difficulty for each skill. This potentially allows, for example, two fourth grade students to be working on the same skill at an eighth grade level and second grade level. I aim to nurture the entire image bearer of God through building relationships with earned coupons, miniature activities, and lunch and recess breaks. I also hold them accountable with a touch of apologetics since IXL is not a Christian program, and enforce finishing the older students' given skills.

~ Mrs. Amber Fynaardt

Music

The music classes have been learning musical skills with fun folk songs this month. When we start a new song, they go through a 4 step process. 1) I can read, speak, and clap the rhythm. 2) I can read, sing, and sign the solfege. 3) I can read and sing the lyrics. 4) I can do an activity with the song. Sometimes the activities are movement/actions with the song or a clapping game. The 6th-8th grade band is also working hard on their songs for the Fall Festival.

~ Mrs. Carolyn Ansley



Curriculum

Melinda Vos, our 1st/2nd grade teacher, recently traveled to Uganda with a group from her church. They visited a Christian school and gifted them with some reading curriculum from Peoria Christian that was no longer being used. This curriculum was written from a Biblical perspective and was a welcome gift as most of their curriculum is written from a secular perspective. The student's smiles and interest in the books speaks to their thankfulness! We have been blessed to be a blessing to these students in Uganda!



1st & 2nd

Possible Answers

1. God created a perfect world. Genesis 1:1
2. God designed the parts of the earth to work together. Genesis 1:29-30
3. We are made in God's image to rule over the earth. Genesis 1:26-28
4. We learn science to take care of the earth and help people. Genesis 1:28, Mark 12:31



YEARS OF SERVICE

We give thanks to the Lord for the following staff members and their years of service to Peoria Christian School. These individuals were recognized at the Board/Staff Supper for their year of service through the end of 2023/2024 school year.

- Carolyn Ansley - 10 years of service
- Laura Fynaardt - 5 years of service

VAN DRIVERS NEEDED

Peoria Christian School is in urgent need of individuals who can drive our van route. No special qualifications or trainings are needed to drive the van and compensation is provided. We want to thank Nikki Hol, Pam Vander Linden, and Jameson Roose for being willing to help drive in the mornings. We are still needing people to drive the van in the afternoon and others who are willing to fill in. If you are able to assist one or more days a week or morning/afternoon, please contact Mr. Jeremy Copenhaver at principal@peoriachr.org.

VETERANS DAY LUNCH & PROGRAM

We are planning a Veterans Day lunch and assembly on Tuesday, November 7. If you are a veteran or know someone who is, please save this date on your calendar. We would love to honor you on this special day with a meal and short program. Please RSVP to the office (office@peoriachr.org) by Friday, October 27, with the number attending and eating lunch. Lord willing, we hope to see you there. Everyone is welcome to attend, but please RSVP.

JOB OPENINGS

We are continuing to look for the following positions for the 2023-2024 school year:

- Part time Job Share IXL Teacher (2 days)
- Part time Spanish teacher

Individuals interested in any of these teaching positions, please contact Jeremy Copenhaver (principal@peoriachr.org) for more information.

- Bus Drivers

Individuals interested in this position, please contact Sean Rozenboom (boomerstruckstuff@gmail.com) for more information. Please continue to pray that the right people will step forward to fill these positions.

FALL MUSIC FESTIVAL

Please save Thursday, November 9, for the Fall Music Festival at Pella Christian High School. Our 5th - 8th grade students will be participating in a band and choir concert with other area Christian schools. Parents, please look for more information in upcoming Weekly Pathfinders.



Soccer Game with Sully

We want to thank God for allowing us to have this community building event with Sully Christian School. We also thank God for keeping each player injury free. The weather was a little hot but everyone played hard and kept a great attitude. Also, it was a great day that we could enjoy God's beautiful creation while playing soccer. Take a few minutes to catch some of the pictures on our Facebook page.

Kindergarten Students

Please note that Monday, October 16th starts the first Monday of our kindergarten students coming 4 days a week. Please remember to pray for Mrs. Klaasen, our students, and their parents as they make this transition in their schedules.

Test Drive for Peoria

We want to thank everyone that prayed for our fundraiser and those that came and test drove a car at Pella Motors this past Saturday. We had 29 people test drive a car and so we raised \$725 for our school. Then Pella Motors decided to bless us again by doubling the amount and so we made a total of \$1,450. We want to thank Craig Ford and Pella Motors for blessing our school, but most of all we thank God from whom all blessings flow (James 1:17).

Facilitators

If you are interested in helping in the classroom, please let us know. We are always looking for more facilitators. They are an important part of helping reach the mission and vision of our school. Maybe you can help one morning a week, two mornings a week, one afternoon a week, or maybe only every other week. All these options are perfectly fine. If you would like to join our group of amazing facilitators, please contact Jeremy Copenhaver (principal@peoriachr.org) to get the process rolling.

Flamingos!

There is a large flock of flamingos that has arrived in our area and they are visiting some of our families and businesses! They are making visits to local yards to spread the word about Peoria Christian School! Not interested in hosting the flock in your yard? Insurance is available for purchase by contacting Stacie Fynaardt 641-780-1894. The flamingos are spending a maximum of three days in these yards and then they move to their next location. Trained professionals are taking care of moving the birds as they are delicate and need to be handled properly. If you find them in your yard, please follow the instructions taped to your door and have fun with us while we spread the word about Peoria Christian! Keep your eyes open for them and check out pictures on our Facebook page as they journey around the area!



Peoria Christian School

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641-625-4131

office@peoriachr.org

<http://www.peoriachr.org>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/PeoriaChristianSchool>

Instagram:

<https://instagram.com/peoriachristian?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=>

YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/@peoriachristianschool-pell248>



ALOHA!

Peoria Christian School Auction & Bazaar

NOVEMBER 10, 2023

Bake Sale - 3:00-6:30PM

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

Coffee Time - 3:00-4:30PM


Supper - 5:00-6:30PM

Childcare - 6:45PM in the school

Live Auction - 7:00PM in the gym



Follow our
Peoria
Christian
Bazaar
Facebook
page!



**“Mightier than the thunders
of many waters, mightier
than the waves of the sea,
the Lord on high is mighty!”**

Psalm 93:4

PEORIA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL AUCTION & BAZAAR

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

BAKE SALE DONATIONS

We need your delicious baked goods and confections for the bake sale at the annual bazaar.

Cookies, bars, pies, bread, rolls, cupcakes, fudge, Christmas cookies & candy, jelly, jam, home canned fruit, vegetables, salsa etc.

Please have your labeled items in the gym by noon on November 10. Styrofoam trays, bags, and labels will be available at school a few weeks before the bazaar.

Questions? Please contact Clarice Meinders
641-780-0126; e-mail glennmeinders@iowatelecom.net



Put on your favorite Hawaiian shirt & flip flops, and Hula on over for some fun as we support our favorite school!



NOVEMBER 10, 2023

at the Peoria Christian School Gym

SUPPER

Menu:

Roast Beef
Potatoes & gravy
Green beans
Fruit salad
Dessert

To-Go Meals:

Available 4:30-5:30pm
To request, please contact Suzy Veenstra at 641-780-8856 by noon on Friday, November 10.

Are you willing to help the supper committee? We need willing volunteers to serve food and to help with clean up.

There will be a sign up sheet in the office and at P/T conferences on October 26, 2023.



CONTACT US TO DONATE:

If you would like to donate something to make this fundraiser successful or have any questions, please contact us. We appreciate all your help as we strive to support Peoria Christian School.

Lisa Ver Meer #641.780.8542
Stacie Fynaardt #641.780.1894
Heidi Van Wyk #641.780.9755