5th Grade Pen Pals

Our 5th grade students are getting to know Haitian students through a pen pal program led by Ricardo from Volition and Action Haiti (VAH). The letters to and from Haiti are translated by Ricardo and his staff before our students can read them. They are enjoying getting to know each other through this new friendship.



VAH's mission is to empower children with education and the love of Christ, using business as a mission to help alleviate poverty through business training and microfinance while sharing the gospel of Christ with low-income families and business owners.

"It's really cool that we can meet people from Haiti and have the opportunity to be friends with them.

We can tell about our faith and what Jesus is doing in our lives."

—Eva

"I've never been outside of the country and I'm really excited to be pen pals with someone outside of our country, so I can learn about the people and culture. It's so cool that we can have friends who love Jesus across the world."

—Miles

2022-2023 Theme Verse

"Therefore, as God's chosen people, clothe yourselves with COMPASSION, KINDNESS, HUMILITY, GENTLENESS, and PATIENCE."

—Colossians 3:12



RELATIONSHIPS

Fall 2022

High School Trailblazer Camp



"Trailblazer Camp gave each high school class the opportunity to come together as a community where we had the opportunity to ask for forgiveness and grow closer together as a class."

-Ruth

Our high school students set out for another "Trailblazer Camp" at East Iowa Bible Camp in September. Chapel services were led by Dillon Rairdin and Ms. Kasner, and the students participated in daily group activities and small groups. Students enjoyed team building time through activities including 9 Square, GaGa Ball, Human Foosball, Big Swing, Paddleboards (on which they tried to fit 6-7 people) and other activities.

"My favorite parts of Trailblazer Camp were paddleboarding on the lake with my friends and reading my devotional on the swings seeing the beauty all around us."

—Brynn

2022—2023 School Year Updates

On a beautiful sunny morning, our faculty and staff welcomed 273 students to the Academy for the 2022-2023 school year. The enrollment office was busy meeting and completing enrollment for 34 new families. This year we have two sections of first, second grade, and third grade. We also welcomed several new teachers and faculty to our staff: Ms. Kasner, Secondary Principal; Mr. Schoon, Secondary Bible Teacher and Director of Spiritual Formation; Mrs. Riggs, Pre-K Teacher; Mrs. Leeland, General Music Teacher; Mrs. Barrett, Vocal Music Teacher; Ms. Thomas, Beginning and Intermediate Band; Mr. Wentworth, Concert Band; Mrs. Clair, Art Teacher; Mr. Bran, Spanish Teacher, and Mrs. Kirkegaard, Director of Food Services.



Relationships is a newsletter for supporters of the Academy.

Grandparents Day

We had the honor of hosting grandparents and special guests on Friday, October 7, at Isaac Newton Christian Academy's annual Grandparents Day. Our Parent Teacher Fellowship (PTF) provided a delicious breakfast in The Patriot Center to start the day.



High school students welcomed our grandparents and several students provided beautiful music on the grand piano during our welcome time. Our high school worship team led us in worship by Mr. Nick Schoon, Director of Spiritual Formation.

"What a wonderful grandparents day event! Thank you for making this day a special time to be at the school and spend time with my grandson."

-Isaac Newton Christian Academy Grandparent



Pre-Kindergarten through 6th grade presented special songs, poems and readings. Grandparents and their grandchildren helped create bookmarks for our service project for Gems of Hope, to bring hope to cancer patients and their families. Our senior class helped our guests navigate the hallways. We had fun activities in our STEM, science, and computer labs. Grandparents took photos with their grandchildren to remember this special day. A special thank you to Pastor Shields for emceeing our event, and to Pastor Perry and Pastor Wentworth for driving our Patriot vans to help our guests to the front door after they parked their vehicles.

Tomatoes Aloft Tower STEM Challenge

The 7th grade recently had the opportunity to apply the design thinking process in a fun collaboration project called "Tomatoes Aloft Tower STEM Challenge". They practiced the process steps: plan, build, test & analysis, record, reflect, share and discuss. The team project goal was to figure out how to design and build a "school supply" tower using the specified criteria (requirements) and constraints (limitations).



Their tower needed to be freestanding with the tomato placed at the top of the tower. Using a handout which guided students through the process steps, they were able to practice good communication skills to meet the goal by using only the provided materials within a build time of 25 minutes. In addition to learning and practicing the process steps, this activity also gave students the opportunity to practice working as a team and honing public speaking skills to the class as they outbriefed responses to reflection questions.

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 reminds us: "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up."

Our students are learning and practicing the 4C's of critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and creativity while exploring and understanding God's design for the world goes hand-in-hand with our Christian faith.

Alum Helps With Invention Project

Joy Curry, an alumni of Isaac Newton and the daughter of 4th grade teacher Mrs. Curry, came back to demonstrate to the 4th graders the time-consuming task of spinning wool into thread. First, she showed them how the wool comes apart if it isn't spun. Then she showed them how spinning by hand worked, and explained how many tasks are involved in making clothes—shearing the sheep, carding the wool, spinning it into thread, weaving it into cloth, cutting the cloth, and finally sewing it into a garment. Joy used this to explain why the Bible talks about people tearing their clothes, because it was a cultural expression of intense emotion to destroy something that had taken so many hours of effort. In fact, it is most often in the Bible when people are expressing their repentance, so it shows how strongly we should feel about turning from our sin.



Joy then went on to tell the class about the invention of the spinning jenny, which was able to spin eight threads at once at the beginning and within a few years had been improved to spin over one hundred threads at the same time. The fourth grade is currently learning about the growth of industry in the late 1800s. This demonstration gave the students the background knowledge needed to understand the impact of machinery and industrialization on American life. To further enhance the experience, Joy came in a mostly authentic 1890's dress. The students had many questions and enjoyed getting to feel the wool and the thread.

Joy is currently a history major at the University of lowa with a specialization in museum studies. In her free time, she makes historical outfits and is a member of a medieval reenactment group called The Guardians of the Forest.

New Junior High Electives

7th Grade Differing Worldviews — This course is designed to help students understand competing worldviews from a Biblical perspective. Using Summit Ministries' Competing Worldviews textbook, students will study compare and contrast Christianity to Islam, naturalism, and new spirituality.

8th Grade Financial Peace — This course is designed to help students understand how to handle money from a Biblical perspective. Using Dave Ramsey's Foundations in Personal Finance, students will learn about the truth about debt, budgeting, saving, and investing. Thank you to the donor who funded this course.



These courses are being taught by Ms. Michels.

High School Teacher Assistants

At Isaac Newton Christian Academy, our secondary students have the opportunity to serve their school as a Teacher's Assistant (TA). In this role, students explore their career interests in light of who God made them to be. Senior, Ethan Bowe, is Mr. Joyce's TA in P.E. this year. God made Ethan to be a creative kinesthetic learner who loves to stay active. As a TA, he gets to experience using these gifts as a teacher and a coach under Mr. Joyce's wise counsel.



SAVE THE DATE

Isaac Newton Christmas Concert
Antioch Christian Church — December 6, 2022

Isaac Newton Annual Fundraising Banquet
Doubletree Hotel — Friday, April 28, 2023

Isaac Newton Christian Academy

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2