Yount/Nanke Farewell

It’s always hard to say good-bye, especially when it’s two amazing and long-time Isaac Newton teachers.

Mrs. Bonnie Yount has taught Kindergarten at the Academy for 18 years. She will be moving to Madison, WI this summer to join her husband Russell, who has been working there for the last year.

Mrs. Kristi Nanke has taught technology and supported our IT needs for the last 20 years. (Think about how much technology has changed in the last 20 years!) She plans to spend more time with her grand children and pursuing what God may call her to do next.

Join us as we celebrate these awesome women of God on Tuesday, May 21 immediately after school, with a reception in the Patriot Center to thank them for their dedication to Christian education.

If you cannot make it, feel free to drop off a note of thanks or encouragement. They will both be dearly missed.

Banquet Update

Thank you to everyone who supported, attended and prayed for this year’s annual “Thanquet”. Attendees enjoyed a variety of desserts along with a performance by our Drama Club. Gloria Telecky, former teacher and board member, alumni parent, and current grandparent, helped us remember God’s faithfulness by looking back at all God has done, especially over the last 7 years of major construction projects and the start of the High School program.

Our “Trailblazers” (class of 2020) entertained us with a nod to Jimmy Fallon’s Thank You Notes segment. They got a big laugh when they thanked the administration for holding school in –30 degree temperatures.

Finally, Mr. Ridder spoke about the amazing accomplishments of our students and praise from the ACSI accreditation team report. He shared the many “firsts” that God is doing at the Academy, including our first student to earn a 35 (out of 36) on the ACT.

The Thanquet raised more than $40,000 for the annual fund, which helps close the gap between what families pay in tuition and the actual cost of educating a child at Isaac Newton.

If you were not able to attend the banquet, you can view the banquet video and read Mr. Ridder’s full speech on our website. There is also still time to donate at: www.incaonline.org/giving.

Thank you for your support and your prayers. We look forward to seeing you at next year’s Thanquet.

Junior Jackson Ridder plays the piano as Mr. Casey delivers “Thank You Notes” from the Trailblazers.

Relationships is a newsletter for supporters of The Academy.
College Visit tour

High School students had an opportunity to tour several Christian colleges in the Midwest this winter. Mrs. Loraine Potter, college and career counselor, organized the 6-day tour that stopped at College of the Ozarks in Missouri, John Brown University in Arkansas, and LeTourneau University and Houston Baptist University in Texas. In addition to the college tours, students were able to do some rock climbing and visited the Space Center Houston.

Track Meet

Our 5th-8th graders had an opportunity to participate in a track meet in Oskaloosa with other Christian schools. Students prepared during PE classes for several events to give them a taste of different track events.

Spring Concert

Students performed to a packed house at our annual Spring Concert on April 30. This was Mrs. Audrey McCoy’s first concert with the Academy since joining the faculty in January.

“I am extremely proud of all the students and their performance. It brought joy to my heart and to those who came to the concert,” said Mrs. McCoy.

Following the event, many stayed to enjoy an ice cream social to support the Booster Club.

Art Show

Our annual Art Show will be held on Thursday, May 23. Our theme “Feast your Eyes” will feature all of the clay food items created by our students. Guests will also be treated to background piano music provided by students as they walk throughout the art gallery in the Patriot Center.

A juried art show will award ribbons for first, second and third place, and honorable mention, for Kindergarten through 8th grade, in addition to a special high school category.

Under the direction of art teacher Mrs. Amy Hughes, the art program encourages children to create and explore their inner artist, glorifying God with the color and textures He has given us to enjoy.

ASCI Accreditation—Approved!!

We received official notice that Isaac Newton was unanimously approved by the ASCI Regional Accreditation Commission for a full 5-year renewal of our accreditation. Our next accreditation will come up for renewal at the end of the 2023-2024 school year.

The academy was found to “Exceed Compliance” or be “Compliant” in 67 of the 88 indicators that were measured during the visiting team’s stay in March. This is unheard of and shows that Isaac Newton is a leader in the Christian Education community. The accreditation team had some wonderful things to say about the Academy. Here are some excerpts from their report.

“The Isaac Newton Christian Academy curriculum is challenging, coherent, relevant, and purposely designed to meet the academic, social, emotional, and spiritual development of the students in a variety of ways.”

“Isaac Newton Christian Academy has attracted and maintained a high-caliber staff, instructional faculty, and coaching staff who collaboratively advance the mission of the school.”

“Students and parents consistently report that the teachers are the best thing about Isaac Newton Christian Academy. Parents express confidence in the care for and instruction of their children by the school’s teachers and support staff.”

“The school has a well-established, biblically-centered foundation that is evident in its thoroughly documented philosophical statements, guiding policies, and long-range strategic plans.”

“The school has established a tremendous biblical worldview integration approach to education that is distinctive of their programs. The impact of consistent instruction in this area is evident in their student body. It is directly observed in the classroom, and stories are told of the way Isaac Newton students are challenging the worldviews they encounter.”

Happenings Around Isaac Newton

College Visit tour

High School students had an opportunity to tour several Christian colleges in the Midwest this winter. Mrs. Loraine Potter, college and career counselor, organized the 6-day tour that stopped at College of the Ozarks in Missouri, John Brown University in Arkansas, and LeTourneau University and Houston Baptist University in Texas. In addition to the college tours, students were able to do some rock climbing and visited the Space Center Houston.

Track Meet

Our 5th-8th graders had an opportunity to participate in a track meet in Oskaloosa with other Christian schools. Students prepared during PE classes for several events to give them a taste of different track events.

Spring Concert

Students performed to a packed house at our annual Spring Concert on April 30. This was Mrs. Audrey McCoy’s first concert with the Academy since joining the faculty in January.

“I am extremely proud of all the students and their performance. It brought joy to my heart and to those who came to the concert,” said Mrs. McCoy.

Following the event, many stayed to enjoy an ice cream social to support the Booster Club.

Art Show

Our annual Art Show will be held on Thursday, May 23. Our theme “Feast your Eyes” will feature all of the clay food items created by our students. Guests will also be treated to background piano music provided by students as they walk throughout the art gallery in the Patriot Center.

A juried art show will award ribbons for first, second and third place, and honorable mention, for Kindergarten through 8th grade, in addition to a special high school category.

Under the direction of art teacher Mrs. Amy Hughes, the art program encourages children to create and explore their inner artist, glorifying God with the color and textures He has given us to enjoy.

ASCI Accreditation—Approved!!

We received official notice that Isaac Newton was unanimously approved by the ASCI Regional Accreditation Commission for a full 5-year renewal of our accreditation. Our next accreditation will come up for renewal at the end of the 2023-2024 school year.

The academy was found to “Exceed Compliance” or be “Compliant” in 67 of the 88 indicators that were measured during the visiting team’s stay in March. This is unheard of and shows that Isaac Newton is a leader in the Christian Education community. The accreditation team had some wonderful things to say about the Academy. Here are some excerpts from their report.

“The Isaac Newton Christian Academy curriculum is challenging, coherent, relevant, and purposely designed to meet the academic, social, emotional, and spiritual development of the students in a variety of ways.”

“Isaac Newton Christian Academy has attracted and maintained a high-caliber staff, instructional faculty, and coaching staff who collaboratively advance the mission of the school.”

“Students and parents consistently report that the teachers are the best thing about Isaac Newton Christian Academy. Parents express confidence in the care for and instruction of their children by the school’s teachers and support staff.”

“The school has a well-established, biblically-centered foundation that is evident in its thoroughly documented philosophical statements, guiding policies, and long-range strategic plans.”

“The school has established a tremendous biblical worldview integration approach to education that is distinctive of their programs. The impact of consistent instruction in this area is evident in their student body. It is directly observed in the classroom, and stories are told of the way Isaac Newton students are challenging the worldviews they encounter.”

National Honor Society induction

In April, the very first Isaac Newton Christian Academy students were inducted into our chapter of National Honor Society. The National Honor Society is the oldest, largest and most prestigious student recognition program in the nation. Students apply after their sophomore year to become members and are chosen by a faculty advisory committee. Students must display excellence in the four qualities that serve as standards for the Society:

Scholarship: Scholarship denotes a commitment to learning. “Give instruction to a wise man and he will be still wiser; teach a righteous man and he will increase in learning.” Proverbs 9:9

Leadership: Leadership should exert a wholesome influence on the school. “Do you see a man skillful in his work? He will stand before Kings; he will not stand before obscure men.” Proverbs 22:29

Service: Service is a willingness to work for the benefit of those in need. “For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God.” By their approval of this service, they will glorify God because of your submission flowing from your confession of the gospel of Christ, and the generosity of your contribution for them and for all others.” 2 Corinthians 9:12-13

Character: Character is the application of Christlikeness within the individual through the functioning of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. “Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity and sound speech that cannot be condemned, so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us.” Titus 2:7-8

Congratulations to our first inductees: Zane Eastman, Laura Howard, Elliot Potter, Jackson Ridder, Jacob Santel, Zachary Slama, Jaret Van Zee and Alec Zerpa.

The Commons/Display cases

The Commons display cases are now complete! This open area just outside the office now houses beautiful display cases and seating to allow for a variety of uses. The area is a beautiful showcase for artwork, athletic achievement and academic foundations. It also includes a television to display video or website content to visiting families. If you have not stopped by to see it, please pop in to look at the ever-changing displays. One of the student’s favorite displays is the baby pictures of some of our teachers and staff. They had a blast trying to figure out who was who.

Still to come is a historic mural on the opposite (south) wall. We are in need of historic items for this. If you have pictures, programs, or other Isaac Newton memorabilia, please contact the office. We will scan it and get it right back to you!

Isaac Newton Christian Academy

Josh Davis, Board President

Dean Ridder, Head of School (dridder@incaonline.org)

Sarah Jackson, Director of Development (sjackson@incaonline.org)

Tracy King, Director of Enrollment (tking@incaonline.org)

1635 Linmar Drive NE - Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

Phone: 319-362-9512 Website: www.incaonline.org

Isaac Newton Christian Academy

Josh Davis, Board President

Dean Ridder, Head of School (dridder@incaonline.org)

Sarah Jackson, Director of Development (sjackson@incaonline.org)

Tracy King, Director of Enrollment (tking@incaonline.org)

1635 Linmar Drive NE - Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

Phone: 319-362-9512 Website: www.incaonline.org