



*"Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace, good will toward men."*

Luke 2: 14

Christmas Assembly

We encourage visitors to come to our Christmas Assembly this Friday, December 20 at 1:15 pm. School will dismiss at the conclusion of the assembly (approximately 2:15 pm). Please note: **Buses will not be running that afternoon.**

Christmas Collection

Each year in lieu of gift exchanges at school between students and teachers, the opportunity is given to the students, teachers, parents, and friends to contribute to a worthy cause. This year we are taking a collection for Northwest Iowa Protestant Reformed School (Doon). The staff has a heart for our smaller western schools. When asked how we could help, their Board President replied: "We are currently raising funds for our building expansion project, with the goal to raise \$750,000 to begin Phase 1 of that expansion. Phase 1 of the expansion will include two classrooms, a kitchen and commons area, and restrooms. The expansion will also include remodeling our existing kitchen into a dedicated special education space. We would recommend that your collection be allocated for the building fund in order to support this expansion project."

Collection boxes have been placed in each of the classrooms and the school office. You can donate by way of cash or checks (make out to "Hope School"). I Corinthians 9:7, "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver."

Christmas Vacation

There will be no school Monday, December 23 through Wednesday, January 1 as we together celebrate the birth of our Savior with family and friends. Classes will resume on Thursday, January 2, 2025.

Athletics

7th Boys' Basketball – Coach: Dan Hanko (616-669-5575)

Wednesday, December 18 Home vs. Dutton Chr. 4 pm

8th Boys' Basketball – Coach: Andy Bylsma (616-822-4450)

Monday, December 16 Home vs. Byron Center Chr. 3:30pm

This ends the season for the boys. Thanks to the coaches and all those who assisted the teams in any way.

Please have uniforms washed and returned.

7th Girls' Basketball – Coach: Jon Engelsma (616-260-8062)

Tuesday, December 17 Practice 3-4:30 pm

Thursday, December 19 Practice 3-4:30 pm

8th Girls' Basketball – Coach: Val Minderhoud (616-808-1655)

Monday, December 16 Practice 3-4:30 pm

Wednesday, December 18 Practice 3-4:30 pm

Jr. High Band / Choir Concert

The junior high band (6th-8th) and choir (7th-8th) will present their concert **this** Thursday, December 19 at 7 pm in our school gym. 6th-8th band students are required to wear their band shirt and black pants. 7th & 8th non-band students should wear all black.

Rental House Available

The school-owned house at 1485 Wilson Ave. (corner of Wilson and Riverbend) is available for immediate rental. Please contact Tom Huizinga at 616-862-2843 if you are interested or for more information. Spread the word.

Red and Green Day

This Friday, December 20 we encourage everyone to wear red and green to help us celebrate the Christmas season.

MAP ASSESSMENTS

The students in grades 3-8 will take the 2nd round of the MAP ASSESSMENTS during the week of January 20-23. Please avoid appointments during this time if possible.

Pinewood Derby

Hope School Foundation is hosting the Pinewood Derby on Saturday, March 8, 2025. Flyers were sent home last week. The sign-up deadline is this Friday, December 20. This is an opportunity for children to design, build and race cars created from a simple pinewood block. Car kits are \$25. Workshop nights will be hosted on February 26 and 27 from 7-9 pm. Come out and support Hope School Foundation!

School Circle News

Hot Lunch / Snack Sale – December 18

Hot Lunch: Pizza Servers (please be to school by 11 am): Shannon Bylsma, Laura K, Tamara K, Amanda K, Betsy K

Snacks provided by: Ella Miersma, Sonya Minderhoud, Aubrey Rutgers, Lily Rutgers, Hannah VanderVeen, Keira Wassink, Zachary Bylsma, Elizabeth DeBoer, Cole Doezema (Please have 24 homemade, prepackaged snacks to the school kitchen by 9am. Thank you!)

Fun Night – Help Needed

Fun Night is set for Saturday, January 18, 2025 – less than five weeks away! Donations are needed:

1. Pop (cans) – for our popular pop can toss.
2. Gatorade or Powerade – make another prize choice for some of our games.
3. "Fun" hats and wigs for our Hat Walk - *NOTE* our supply choice is quite low. So unless we get a goodly supply of donations this game will be put on hold until next year.
4. Suckers – full size tootsie pops or blow pops for our lollipop tree.
5. Candy and Tricketts – for our grab bags.
6. Clean, good condition beanie babies for our Farmer Fling game.
7. Baked Goodies – If willing to donate to the Baked Bood Sale, please let Jodi Koole know (616-724-8878).

Please label all donations "Fun Night" and place them in the school kitchen anytime.

The Sign Up Genius for volunteers workers will be coming out sometime this week.

THANK YOU!

Keycard Books

We have fewer than 20 keycard books left. What a great way to do your Christmas shopping without all the crowds. We would love to have these all sold before Christmas. Get yours before they are gone!

TRIP

TRIP will be sold every Tuesday morning from 8:15-9:00 AM in the classroom to the right at the bottom of the ramp. Please contact Sharla Moelker at 791-6091 with any questions.

Requested Announcements

The Voices of Victory will present a concert on December 31 at 7 PM. The Choral Ambassadors Octet will also be joining us. The concert will be held at Zion Reformed Church in Grandville, MI – 4457 36th St SW, Grandville, MI 49418. You are invited to come and go as you please any time throughout the night. A free will offering will be taken for Harmony Communities. Coffee and cookies will be provided.