



Warrior Connection

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER—SULLY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
MAY 26, 2017

From the Desk of Mr. Warden...

In his first letter to the Corinthians, Paul encourages his readers to run as one desiring to win the prize. Unlike today where everyone is declared a winner, in ancient times only the first place runner received a prize. On one end of the spectrum, the runners do not really need to train very hard, and on the other end, there seems to be a lot of work put in by those who end up with little to show for their efforts. I would like to believe that Paul was merely describing the race and its results as they existed at that time, and not how God views it should be. Thankfully, the prize the Lord provides is not determined on our efforts, but on his grace.

Let us not forget Paul's words of encouragement to train for a "crown that will last forever." (9:25) Our training is not simply for this life, but for eternity. I find it exciting to think that my education, whether it is to increase knowledge, develop talents, hone skills, or mature attitudes, or grow in righteousness is not simply done for this life, but also for the next. God has plans for each student at Sully Christian School to put to use his or her talents for the furtherance of His kingdom, while it is coming, and after it arrives in its fullness.

2016-17 was a wonderful year at Sully Christian School. The children not only "trained" hard for the Lord's service, but they also embraced our theme "Sermon in Shoes." I enjoyed their zeal in providing shoes for those in need. May the children enjoy their summer, may parents take pleasure with some extra time with them, and may the staff receive a blessing as they recharge and re-energize for next year.

In Christ's Service,

Jim Warden



Spotlight on Mrs. Van Zante



Years at SCS: 2 years

College Attended: Dordt College

Places I have lived: Pella, Des Moines, Grinnell, and Sully

Children/Grandchildren: 2 children; Alexa - 5, Noelle - 1 1/2

Favorite childhood books: The Giving Tree, Babysitter Club books, Crazy Love by Francis Chan, Anything by Jennie Allen.

Favorite books as an adult: Mark of the Lion Series by Francine Rivers

Favorite vacation spots: Puerto Rico

Places you would like to visit: Maine

Favorite Bible verse or passage and why: Hebrews 12: 1-3 "The Christian life is a race. This is an encouragement to not just sit on the sidelines, but to race to Heaven." We need to get to heaven out of breath, having done all we could do for God's Kingdom.

An influential person(s) in your life: My mom

Very few people know about this about me but, I absolutely hate roller coasters. I have only been on one... because my mom made me!



1st/2nd Grade School Daze... by Mrs. Van Zante

The first and second graders at Sully Christian have had a fantastic year! They've worked hard and made steady growth, while having a lot of fun at the same time. Along with field trips to Camp Creation and the Science Center, a few other highlights include play performances, delivering May baskets, STEM enrichment activities, and a Wax Museum.

After hosting chapel in December, our class performed plays for the parents and grandparents. The second graders did "Bob, the Goofy Reindeer" and the first graders did "The Gingerbread Boy". Students enjoyed donut holes and hot chocolate as a result of their great performances and their clear, expressive reading. And now after studying different types of communities, our class recently did another play, "Country Mouse and City Mouse", for parents and the other classes at SCS.

We've tried to incorporate more STEM throughout the last quarter of the year. After students finish their math assignments and facts, they have the option to complete a STEM challenge. The most recent challenge was designing a catapult. After finishing the catapults, we went outside and measured the distances shot by each catapult. Elliot had the winning distance. His marshmallow flew 21 feet. However, Cameyon later shot one that went 33 feet!!

May Baskets have become a tradition for our classroom. Grandparents who visited on Grandparents' Day helped the students assemble some of the things for the baskets, and we delivered them around town the following

week. We split into groups and visited 14 different locations. Our class really enjoys this, as do the recipients. As one man said, "it's just nice to be remembered."

Our Wax Museum was held on Tuesday, May 23 from 10:30-11:30. As a conclusion to our unit on nonfiction and biographies, each student chose a well-known person and designed a poster of the person. The students also prepared speeches from their person's point of view. Better yet, each student gets to dress up as his or her person. If you came to this event, you seen a wide variety of people, including: Orville Wright, Helen Keller, Ruby Bridges, Cleopatra, and Harry Houdini.

As you can see, we had a busy year! Summer is approaching, and I think it's time we all have a break. But what a fun year we've had!



May Board Highlights

Building and Grounds Committee reported that a part of the roof has been leaking with the recent rains. The Committee is looking into getting something in place to repair that section of the roof. June 2nd, 3rd and 5th have been set for school cleaning.

An update was sent to the Society to show the progress from our December 8th meeting.

2017-2018 budget was reviewed and approved with a \$100.00 tuition increase. A \$50.00 credit will be used from the Tuition Assistance Fund and will be subtracted from the May statement. Bus fees will remain the same for the 2017-2018 school year.

The agenda of the 2017 Annual Society Meeting was approved.

A representative from Ambassadors thanked the Board of their service and served refreshments for Board appreciation month.

Graduation will be held on May 25. Linda Menninga will be the speaker.

Society Meeting will be held on June 21 @7 pm at SCS.

Results of the 2017 Iowa Assessments

At the end of January, all students in grade 1-8 participated in the 2017 Iowa Assessments. These assessments measure a variety of skills and knowledge in Reading, Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. Students are scored in comparison to students around the country. Individual student achievement is also reported to us as being considered as not showing proficiency, as showing proficiency, or as indicating an advanced level of achievement.

The scores help us to determine if students are performing at the grade level to which they are assigned, and if they have achieved an acceptable level of growth from the previous year. These tests also give us a glimpse as to how we are doing as a school. Performances help us determine if our curriculum and/or instruction needs to be reviewed or updated. In addition, they may be used to identify any students who might benefit from working with a resource teacher.

As always, these tests are but a "snapshot" of a child's abilities and must never be used to judge a child's potential by themselves. There are many areas such as music and the arts, as well as desire and motivation, that are not examined by this assessment. With that being said, we may be very pleased with the students at Sully Christian School. Each class achieved at above average grade level, with several scoring well above grade level. Our middle school students have scores equivalent to the average students in our nation's 11th and 12th grade classes. We are also happy to report that over a third of our students were deemed "advanced" on the science portion of the test, and about a half of them scored in the advanced range in Reading and Math. To put that in perspective, only the top 10% of scores nationwide are placed in the Advanced Level.

We at Sully Christian School are grateful for the opportunity to work with the children given to us. We pray that you will continue to support our school, and ask that you keep us in your prayers as we seek to create "sermons in shoes" for God's Kingdom.

PRAYER WARRIOR'S CORNER

1. Prayers of thanks for another great year at SCS.
2. Prayers for an enjoyable summer to all of our SCS students and families.



A Look Ahead

June 21 - Society Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.

July 8 - SCS 4-person best shot Golf tourney @ Diamond Trail Golf Course

August 7 - School Registration 6p-8p

September 23 - Hostess Supper



SCS Fundraising

Save The Upcoming Dates On Your Calendars:

Saturday, July 8, 2017 - SCS Golf Tournament will start at 8:00am at Diamond Trail Golf Course in Lynnville. Hosting and organizing the event will be, Darrell & Angela Veenstra and Jon & Samantha Manatt. Please contact them to sign up your team!

Saturday, September 23, 2017 – Annual Fall Hostess Supper at SCS with dinner and entertainment. The entertainment this year will be David Ferrell. David's performance is 100% clean and suitable for all ages and backgrounds. He has performed for numerous Fortune 500 companies such as Proctor & Gamble, IBM, Nortel, and The Gap. He has made audiences laugh at venues ranging from Trump's Castle in Atlantic City to universities and comedy clubs all over the country. David has done several civic functions and numerous churches across the country, and is actively involved in fundraisers for schools, hospitals, and non-profit organizations.

Sully Christian School Golf Tournament

Reserve Saturday, July 8 for the Sully Christian School 4-Person Best Shot Golf Tournament to be held at Diamond Trail Golf Course in Lynnville. Shotgun starts at 8:00 a.m. Registration is \$70 per person. Your registration fee includes golf, cart rental, mulligans and lunch. Please contact Darrell and Angela Veenstra to register your team at 641-625-4161 or adveenstra@yahoo.com. Get your team together and come out and support SCS.



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The Warrior Connection is published monthly with the exceptions of June and August.