



CRUSADER CHRONICLES

OSKALOOSA
CHRISTIAN

www.oskalooosachristian.net

April 25, 2025

UPCOMING EVENTS

Apr. 25	TK-4th Musical, 9:30 performance for Grandparents, evening at 7:00
Apr. 25	Noon Dismissal with no lunch and NO Oskey Buses
Apr. 26	8th Grade Banquet
Apr. 28	Mrs. Vander Leest in Grades 1, 3, 4
Apr. 28	State History Day
Apr. 28	Oskey Track Meet at Lacey Complex, 4:30 Boys only
Apr. 28	PC Track Meet at Eddyville, 4:30
Apr. 29	5th Grade Concert at Penn Central Mall, 6:30pm
Apr. 30	TK, K & 4th Graders' Mile Run
Apr. 30	2:15 Dismissal with Oskey Buses
Apr. 30	Marching Band Practice at 2:45
May 1	Noon Dismissal with no Oskey Buses and no school lunch served
May 1	Our band marches in 2:45 Tulip Time parade
May 1	Oskey Track Meet at Chariton, 4:30 Boys only
May 1	Oskey Track Meet at Knoxville, 4:30 Girls only
May 2	Noon Dismissal with no Oskey Buses and no school lunch served
May 2	Our band marches in 8:30 pm Tulip Time parade
May 3	Our band marches in 2:45 pm Tulip Time parade
May 5-9	Staff Appreciation Week
May 5	Mrs. Vander Leest in Grades TK, K, 2, 5
May 5	Oskey Track Meet at Pella, 4:30 Boys only
May 5	Oskey Track Meet at Lacey Complex, 4:30 Girls only

The FAITH NEWS Musical is tonight! We are excited to share six Bible adventures of faith with singing and acting. All SONshine-fourth grade students need to be in their rooms by 6:45 p.m., ready for our 7:00 p.m. performance. We look forward to sharing these stories of faith while we grow our own faith!

Staff Appreciation Week May 5 - May 9

Staff Appreciation Week can mean many things, and nothing is ever required or expected from parents for it. If you would like to do something for a staff member or a teacher, it could be a meaningful note letting them know your appreciation, a meal, or a small gift. There are so many options, but sometimes it is nice to know some things that people enjoy. Willing Workers put together a favorites list and had the staff fill it out. A list of those items is attached in hopes it might make things easier in finding a way to show appreciation. Thanks for helping our staff feel loved!!

-Willing Workers Committee



GRANDPARENTS/FRIENDS DAY

A BIG thank you to all the grandparents and friends who visited our school today! We were excited to welcome you and we hope you enjoyed time with your grandchildren!



REMINDERS

•WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Parents: we have partnered with CACE (Center for the Advancement of Christian Education) to survey our parents, staff, and students to get an accurate picture of how we are doing at Oskaloosa Christian. Please look for an email with a link to fill out this survey next week. We value your evaluation of us as we continue our pursuit to provide an exemplary Christian education.

•A reminder to families who live outside the Oskaloosa School District: Your mileage reimbursement forms must be turned in to your residing school district by May 1. Extra forms are in the office and can be emailed to you or sent home with students.

•ESAs for 2025-26: OC Parents, the Students First Education Savings Account (ESA) program is now open for applications for the 2025-26 school year. An email with more details including a link was sent to all parents last week. The deadline is June 30 but **we suggest that you apply as soon as possible.**

•Colorful Days! The SONshine Preschool staff has scheduled 2 days of each month for their students to wear a specific color of clothing. This year the TK-8th students are invited to wear the same color clothing on these designated days. You can support our SONshine Preschool students by wearing **black** on May 7 and/or 8!

•NOON DISMISSALS! A reminder that we will dismiss at noon next Thursday, May 1 and Friday, May 2. There will be no school lunch served and no Oskey buses for both dismissals.

•Parents, a reminder to check your hot lunch balance on FACTS and submit payment. All accounts must be up to date at all times. All payments must be made through FACTS.



Tulip Time Marching: The middle school marching band invites you all to attend the Pella Tulip Time parades as they march with the Central Iowa Christian Schools Marching Band. We are the only marching band in the parade with Dutch attire, red wooden shoes and all! We will be marching in the parades on Thursday, May 1 at 2:45 pm, Friday, May 2 at 8:30 pm, and Saturday, May 3 at 2:45 pm.

5th Grade Concert: Please make plans to join us at our annual Spring Concert that will be hosted by our award winning 5th grade musicians next Tuesday, April 29th at 6:30 p.m. This year the concert is being held in the atrium at the Penn Central Mall in Oskaloosa so that we can be a blessing to our entire community. We will be featuring our entire band, some soloists; and a couple vocal arrangements by the entire 5th grade music class. This would be a great opportunity for you to invite your neighbors, friends, and extended family to a school event that is out in the community. We hope to see you there!

BUS SCHEDULE: Mark your calendars!

- Friday, April 25: Noon dismissal with NO Oskey buses
- Wednesday, April 30: 2:15 dismissal with Oskey buses
- Thursday, May 1: Noon dismissal with NO Oskey buses
- Friday, May 2: Noon dismissal with NO Oskey buses





HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Mrs. Tiffany Roozeboom	April 23
Mrs. Colleen Platt	April 27
Lincoln Reisetter	April 27
August Glandon	April 28
Kaden De Jong	April 29
Callum Jorgensen	April 30
Mrs. Jenessa Kaisand	April 30
Abigail Bruxvoort	May 1

TRIP (Tuition Reduction Incentive Program)

TRIP orders are due by Noon in the office on these dates,
and can be picked up on Fridays of the same week.

Upcoming order dates: April 28, May 5, 19

*If you have any questions feel free to contact Kristin Plate at
trip@oskaloosachristian.net or 641-670-0583.*

Giving Tree! You still have the opportunity to bless our teachers and staff through the Giving Tree! Many items are still available for purchase. Stop by the school office or email Mrs. Patti at westrap@oskaloosachristian.net if you are interested.

The dates below have been designated as dress-up days for TK-8th students. Participation is optional. A reminder to follow our school's dress code. No offensive apparel will be allowed.

Monday, May 7 - Dress Like a Teacher Day

Tuesday, May 8 - Neon vs. Pastel Day

Wednesday, May 9 - Career Day



Come Join our Team! We are actively searching to fill the following position at Oskaloosa Christian for the 2025-2026 school year! Contact the office (641-672-2174) or check out our website for application forms and more information.
www.oskaloosachristian.net

- TK-8th Guidance Counselor (part-time)



District V Track and Field Meet

THANKS to everyone who had a part in this year's

District V Track and Field Meet on Monday, April 14.

All your efforts made this year's meet a tremendous success!

It was a little windy, but we still managed to break one record!

Head Timer: Steve Kaisand

Timers: School reps, Kristi Jabaay

Runners: Keri Spronk and Sophia Plate

Recorders: Shawna Goemaat and Haley Albright

Results Recorder: Patti Westra

Clerks: Jenessa Kaisand, Mary Beth Jackson, Lisa De Bruin, Melissa Bowen

Assistant Clerks: Treana Drost and Michelle Hol

Checkers: Arlys Van Kooten, Leah Stam, Shannon Semini

Starter: Autumn Reisetter

Exchange Zones/Cuts: Shannon Semini, Colleen Platt, Dennis Rietema

Announcer: Joel Rietema

Track Meet Organizer: Renee Van Kooten

Student Helpers: Joy Mitchell, Keri Spronk, Colleen Platt

Track Volunteers: Leon Van Kooten, Dennis Rietema

Ribbon Writers: OC Teachers

Bus Driver: Caleb Stam

HOT LUNCH MENU

(milk provided with every meal)



April 28-May 2

Monday: Walking Tacos, Green Beans, Peaches, WG Dinner Roll

Tuesday: BBQ Pork on WG Bun, Broccoli w/cheese sauce, Applesauce, Bar

Wednesday: Popcorn Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Mixed Fruit, WG Dinner Roll

Thursday and Friday: Noon Dismissal - no school lunch

Meet more of our newly hired staff for 2025-2026!



We are pumped to welcome Jenessa Kaisand to the additional new role of Athletic Director. Jenessa is married to Steve, who is a math teacher at Pella Christian High School, and they have two daughters, Aubrey (8th) and Avery (5th) at Oskaloosa Christian. The Kaisands attend Oskaloosa 1st CRC where Jenessa teaches Sunday School and serves as a GEMS counselor. As a family they love following the Iowa State Cyclones in all sports and spending time working with show goats and show cattle. Jenessa said, "I have been blessed to be a part of Oskaloosa Christian School for the past 17 years as a teacher's aide and consider it a huge privilege to walk aside these kids in helping them grow in their gifts that God has given them, in their academics and sports".



We are so very appreciative to announce Kat Groenenboom as the additional aide in the Middle School for next year. Kat is the daughter of Joel and Laura Groenenboom and was raised on the family farm with her ten siblings. She loves to read, bake, help on the family farm, and volunteer in the Oskaloosa community. She loves being a GEMS counselor at Central Church, Oskaloosa which has been influential for her spiritual growth and also influencing her to take this next step to serve at Oskaloosa Christian. Kat remarked, "I am extremely fortunate and grateful to have attended Oskaloosa Christian while growing up and know the important role it played in my faith, and I hope to be able to pay forward what was given to me".



We are delighted to announce Mrs. Lisa Groenendyk as the K-2 paraeducator for 2025-2026. Lisa is married to Bruce who are parents / grandparents to Alan and Lindy and their 5 children (in Jenison, MI) and to Nathan (in Phoenix, AZ). The couple attend church at Calvary CRC in Pella but frequently participate in other church services for accompanist reasons. Lisa boasts of nearly 45 years of teaching experience in 5 Christian schools (in this area and in NW Iowa) plus logging many hours of subbing experience in the area in recent years. She refers to her and Bruce as "partners in grime" living and working on the family farm one mile north of Leighton. She also enjoys walking, running, hiking, biking, gardening, reading and music - she plays in Pella's summer City Band and serves as an organist/pianist in five area churches.

Lisa commented, "The blessing of Christian education is the wonderful freedom to proclaim Jesus' lordship over all of life and learning. As Psalm 24:1 says, "The earth is the Lord's and everything in it; the world, and all who live in it." I am eager to partner with Christian families and the church in equipping children to be effective disciples of Christ as our God is glorified in every aspect of life".



We are excited to introduce Denise Nichols as the new Kindergarten Aide for next year. Denise and her husband enjoy camping, hiking, reading, and spending time with our 3 children and 5 grandkids. Denise and her husband are active members of College Avenue Friends Church. Denise proclaimed, "We are Iowa State fans, go Clones!" Additionally, she added, "I am looking forward to joining the educational team at Oskaloosa Christian School! Working at Oskaloosa Christian School is a perfect way to pair my love for learning with my love for Christ". Her favorite verse comes from Psalm 51:10: "Create in me a clean heart, Oh God; and renew a right spirit within me".



We are pleased to announce Ms. Cora Groenenboom as the new 1st Grade Full Time Aide for 2025-2026. Cora is an alum of Oskaloosa Christian (2015) and has served as the 4th grade aide this year. She attends First Christian Reformed Church of Oskaloosa and enjoys reading, spending time with family and friends, as well as spending time outside in God's creation. Cora said, "I am thrilled to return to Oskaloosa Christian in this new role and work with the kids. Knowing the impact Oskaloosa Christian had on me, I look forward to seeing the students grow in their walk of faith."

