

Friday, February 17, 2012

Dear Parents,

Community Christian School will be giving the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills for students in grades K-5 starting Monday, March 5th. The testing will be done primarily in the morning hours and will take 5-7 school days. Please do not schedule any doctor, dentist, etc. appointments that would take your child out of class during these days.

We do not intend to cause undue stress or anxiety in our students with these tests. The results are NOT used to determine grades on report cards and they would not be the only factor used to determine whether or not a child should be retained. They will be used to help us see areas of strength and weakness in both our students and within our curriculum.

There are several things you can do to help us and your child:

- Be sure to talk with your child about the tests. Reassure them that the results will not be used for report cards. Encourage them to do their best and let them know that you will be satisfied with diligent effort.**
- Be sure your child has adequate rest each night. We recommend 8-10 hours of sleep, especially during the testing time.**
- Be sure your child has a nourishing breakfast before coming to school. We know that a child who is hungry cannot give his/her best attention to the test.**
- Be sure your child is on time every day. The tests have specific timing requirements and must be administered to the whole class at once.**
- Please send two (2) new #2 pencils with good erasers with your child on the first day of testing. These tests will be machine scored and must be completed with #2 pencils.**

After completion we will be sending the tests to be scored and expect to have the results in six to eight weeks. Reports of your child's scores will be given to both parents and teachers.

Thank you for your assistance.

**Mrs. Forsythe, Mrs. Hoggatt, Mrs. Anderson, Miss Telle,
Mrs. Holwerda and Mrs. May**