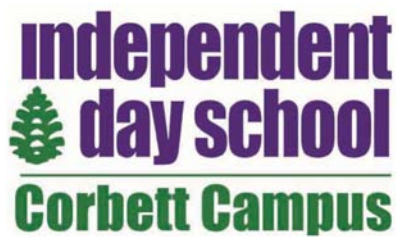


IDS YES!!!



<http://www.idsyeh.com>

HEADS' LETTER

JANUARY 21, 2010

CONGRATULATIONS to the 100 students who participated in the school-wide Spelling Bee on Tuesday, January 19. They were all winners in their willingness to go above and beyond and take on the spelling challenge. Each student was well-prepared for a Spelling Bee that looked and acted just like the real National Spelling Bee. Their classroom teachers had prepared them so well for how to ask for definitions, parts of speech or to use the word in a sentence, and of course they all wore their IDS "**presence and poise**" as well as their green polo shirts with khaki or black pants or skirts. They were all quite impressive and the competition was exciting right to the last minute. A huge gratitude applause goes to fourth grade teachers Kim Rostick and Vickii Ausburn for spreading the Spelling enthusiasm among the staff and students while spearheading and coordinating this event.

The Second Grade Brilliant Bugs, Cool Cats and Mighty Monkeys had a Spell-off last Friday and Carter Cabassa, Riju Datta, and Daiton Roberts proudly represented Upper Primary in the School-wide Bee.

The top 21 Spellers were: Noah Blackman-5th, Dante Bosnic-8th, Carter Cabassa-2nd, Riju Datta-2nd, Jordan Fuller-7th, Alicia Grand-5th, Nicole Krogman-3rd, Caroline Leeflang-8th, Abby Melnick-4th, Brendan Minick-3rd, Mike O'Drobinak-3rd, Nirja Patel-8th, Anthony Pellingra-8th, Colin Pomet-8th, Zach Roberts-6th, Victoria Rodriguez-4th, Shivani Saini-5th, Nikhil Saligame-5th, Brett Sokol-7th, Damascus Thorpe-3rd, and Danielle Wilson-7th.

The last six spellers will have the final Spell-off on February 2. The winner will represent IDS at the Regional Spelling Bee. They are: Dante Bosnic-8th, Caroline Leeflang-8th, Nirja Patel-8th, Zach Roberts-6th, Damascus Thorpe-3rd, and Danielle Wilson-7th.

MIDDLE SCHOOL 7TH GRADE COMBINED TECHNOLOGY WITH GEOGRAPHY AND CURRENT EVENTS: TEACHERS MAKE IT HAPPEN: LIVE FROM IPY (*International Polar Year*): On Monday, January 11, 7th Grade students gathered with Social Studies teacher Mr. Shoe to participate in *Live from IPY! with Heidi Roop and the team at WAIS Divide, Antarctica*. Students were able to hear how the team at the West Antarctic Ice Sheet Divide (WAIS) is living and working in the summer conditions of -11 Fahrenheit and winds that approach hurricane force. The researchers are in a three-year process to drill, retrieve and analyze a two-mile long core sample of ice from Antarctica. They will compare the findings to ice core samples from a similar project in Greenland. IDS has a direct connection to this project through 7th grader Kevin Banks! His wonderful and adventurous Aunt Maria is part of the team at WAIS Divide!

HAITI and THE PRE-K 3 FLOWER PATCH: The teachers led the **three-year old class** to each classroom early Tuesday morning with each student carrying his/her own decorated hand-made flower pot. The students, along with parent volunteers, worked feverishly Friday morning preparing the pots for "Change for Haiti." They are requesting that we help raise funds as they continue to the chant: "Change for Haiti." All proceeds will go to the Red Cross.

IDS EASTSIDE TECHNOLOGY PREPARES STUDENTS TO SOAR WITH MIDDLE SCHOOL HIGH TECH CLASSES! MR. MEL IS PROUD!: **Third and fourth grade students** have been learning how to create powerful presentations using **Keynote, Apple's answer to PowerPoint**. To connect with their International Baccalaureate unit, How We Organize Ourselves, they looked at the central idea, "Systems of past civilizations influence the survival of cultures", and examined the current systems in Haiti. The students created presentations which demonstrated the Haitian systems that were affected by the current disaster and how this might present challenges to their recovery, and ultimately, their survival. This has been an insightful way for the students to connect their studies of ancient civilizations with the tragedy taking place today.

Fifth grade is currently creating a video tour of the east side campus to share with schools in China, Spain and Sweden. Students are divided into teams, each documenting a specific location on campus. Using just a MacBook, with the iMovie software and the built-in cameras, students are both the on-camera talent and video editors. They are excited to share their tour with their friends abroad and are also looking forward to watching the videos created by their global friends in these other countries.

First and second grade students have also been introduced to Keynote, as they connected with their IB unit, Me On The Map. The students are learning how to create a dynamic slideshow that provides a tour of the computer lab, reinforcing what they have learned in their classrooms about directions and mapping.

MORE CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS cont. on page 2

MORE CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS cont. from page 1

MIDDLE SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY CONNECTS TO A MODERN DAY HERO! Students in 6th and 8th grade were able to use Google Earth to see historic landmarks of the Civil Rights Movement and how **Dr. Martin Luther King's** life touched so many people. Instead of lecturing and showing images of Dr. King's life, students were able to use Google Earth to travel to his birth home in Atlanta, GA. Then they traveled over to Selma, AL. to the Edmund Pettus Bridge, which was the bridge that protestors marched across during the Bus Boycott. After discussing the significance of the Edmund Pettus Bridge, students then traveled over to Memphis, TN. to see the Lorraine Motel, which was the place where Dr. King was assassinated. At the very end of their journey, they were able to view a video of Dr. King's interview just days before his death using "Videos on Demand" through NBCLearn.com, an educational website that archives thousands of videos for classroom use. We were able to connect their learning in the classroom with actual video footage of Dr. King and what it means to keep his dream alive. (Kudos to Middle School Teacher and Instructional Tech. Director, Darina Glover for the creativity and relevance she brings to technology in her classes!)

MIDDLE SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY ANYWHERE and ANYTIME: Teaching and Learning is always happening in the technology class, even when the teacher is away at a conference! Last week, Mrs. Glover had the opportunity to attend the Florida Educational and Technology Conference in Orlando where she attended sessions and learned even more about classroom integration, online safety, and the latest in software and hardware. While she was learning in Orlando, the 6th grade students were at IDS learning how to use Inspiration 9, which is a concept mapping software that helps students organize their thoughts. Students used Inspiration 9 to create their key timelines for their People Fair Projects.

While away at the conference, Mrs. Glover used Skype to connect with the students and continue the instruction of the class. Students were able to see Mrs. Glover on the SmartBoard, ask questions, and receive feed forward during the class session. While Mrs. Glover was at the conference learning more about Inspiration 9, she was able to support the learning of the class that was actually using Inspiration 9 via Skype! What a real life way to keep the fire burning for the love of technology with the students!

MIDDLE SCHOOL ATHLETICS-IDS CHEERLEADERS had a big weekend. Due to their outstanding performance at the last competition, the girls received an invitation to compete at the Game Day Competition in Kissimmee, FL. The night before the competition, two courageous members of the team were injured at practice. Just like any other sport or group performance, the girls learned the valuable life lesson that the show must go on. They definitely won the "Overcoming Adversity" award from their coaches taking two girls out of the routine and welcoming back veteran cheerleader Melissa Mainzer to fill in with her talent. The 11 girls relearned their whole routine, including 13 formation changes and 7 stunts, in the mere 45 minutes prior to competing. Even with all of those extreme changes, they still won first place in the Small Junior High Division. When the coaches got the score sheets they were also happy to see that the girls came in second over all the junior high teams, including the Large Division. WOW!!!

Their coaches, Mrs. Thomas and Mrs. Rivera, are very proud to teach the girls about cheerleading, but also about how to stick to something, even when it gets tough. They were also gratified to see some of their IDS Basketball Cheerleaders travel all the way to Kissimmee to cheer their teammates on. After the competition the girls were met at the school by the rest of the Basketball Cheerleading squad for their "Annual Cheer Sleepover". The girls had a talent show, manhunt, make over, watched cheer videos and ate lots of their favorite food. The coaches thoroughly enjoyed the girls, even if they did stay up too late. They felt that the girls treated each other with the love and respect of a family. They love the girls' energy! Thanks to the parent volunteers, the girls all had a healthy breakfast, cleaned up and were out of the school by 10:30 a.m.

The 2009 - 2010 IDS Cheer Squad includes Allegra Beachy, Sara Chowdhari, Mimi Coto, Amanda Gamm, Melissa Mainzer, Alana Nelson, Nina Nicotera, Daniela Silva, Allison Wertheim, Morgan Zwirn, Jenny Astell, Mackenzie Dyer, Jordan Fuller, Nakisa Ghannad, Lauren Harrison, Reagan Harrison, Zoe Hoefle, Alexis Karpodinis, Briana Mayberry, Julia Peacock, Grace Rogers, and Bianca Watson.

IDS BOYS BASKETBALL season is coming to a close and our teams are finishing strong. Our boys varsity purple team is undefeated in the Florida West Coast League as we enter the championship tournament next week. The boys varsity green team is playing in the inaugural varsity "B" tournament hoping to bring home the top spot. Finally, our boys 6th grade silver team finished up an outstanding season on Friday here at IDS.

IDS GIRLS BASKETBALL capped a tremendous week with a sweep of Trinity School at the University of Tampa last Saturday. The girls had the opportunity to play before the University of Tampa Lady Spartans and put on a show to make the whole school proud. Our girls varsity purple team is seeded 2nd in the Florida West Coast League and expects to make the finals for the 7th year in a row. Our girls varsity purple team is hosting the inaugural varsity "B" tournament next week with hopes of defending the home court and winning their own championship.

IDS WRESTLING finishes their first season representing Independent Day School in a tournament this Friday at Berkeley Prep. It has been an exciting season with many individual victories and many new firsts for our team. This is a very young team, improving with each match and learning to compete each time they climb onto the mat. We look for the individual improvement coupled with experience to make next season's squad even more successful.

PARENT FACULTY ASSOCIATION NEWS

FROM DR. SWARZMAN to the PFA: As you read pages one and two of this week's Heads' Letter, it is clear that we are so blessed with both outstanding faculty and cutting edge technology. Your generous donations to Annual Giving help to support an elite and enviable team of extraordinary teachers. Your generous support of the PFA events and fundraisers both large and small help to provide all of the above and beyond materials and technology you see in the classrooms and at the fingertips of our TEACHERS. This is just a reminder to you that we are full of sincere gratitude for all you do from the smoothies, to the lunches, to the giftwrap to big event donations!...parents a *world of thanks* to all of you!

School Mall Fundraiser - It's here...the official School Mall Fundraiser launches today!

Look in today's Thursday folder to find your booklet of postcards for School Mall. IDS will receive \$2.25 for every completed booklet that we can return to School Mall. Additionally, we will earn up to 50% of any purchases made through www.schoolmall.com by IDS supporters. Many popular retailers such as Target, Babies R Us, and Oriental Trading Company participate in this program, so be sure to bookmark the site on your computer, register as a friend of IDS, and begin your online shopping there. Remember, all shopping takes place directly through your chosen store's website, and your payments go directly to them with a portion of your purchase price being donated back to IDS. Read the booklets for more information on how your child can win a free t-shirt! If you have any questions, feel free to contact Vanessa Minick, PFA Fundraising Project Manager, at vminick@hotmail.com or (813) 629-1630.

IDS Parent Book Club Update: Thank you for a GREAT discussion this week! Our next book is The Girl Who Played With Fire by Stieg Larsson. This story continues to follow the mysterious girl with the dragon tattoo, Lisbeth Salander, as we try to solve a triple murder involving the Swedish Secret Police, government officials, judges and journalists. Join us to discuss this page-turner on **Tuesday, February 16 at 1:30 p.m. in the PFA conference room, on the 2nd floor of the New Building**. Our March book selection will be Goddesses of Kitchen Avenue by Barbara Samuel. Contact Vera Murphy Trayner, Book Club chair, with any questions at vpmurphy@comcast.net.

PLAN AHEAD! SSSSHHH! It's a secret.....Please join the school wide, PFA sponsored celebration: SWEET SPECTACULAR. We invite you to participate in a special sensational surprise for our teachers and staff on Thursday, February 11, 2010. The teachers and staff will be celebrated at the SWEET SPECTACULAR by receiving a "take home" box to fill with lots of sweets and treats. Here's how you can be a part of this yummy event:

- ★ Send in sweets made with love from your family or lovingly chosen from the bakery.
- ★ Individually wrapped items are ideal for the take home boxes.
- ★ We will have volunteers at morning drop-off on the east and west side to collect the baked goods or you may drop the goodies directly in the Grand Room the morning of Thursday, February 11.
- ★ Direct questions to Stacy Leeds at sleeds3@yahoo.com or Linda Simonton at linda@lindasimonton.com.

HELPFUL REMINDERS

JANUARY 28 AND 29...PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES. JANUARY 28 is a half-day noon dismissal. Extended Day will offer a complimentary service to watch our IDSers for parents who have multiple conferences or need childcare for a SHORT PERIOD DURING A CONFERENCE. If your child is in regular half day Extended Day, the cost will be \$15.00. Please call the office or check in with Ms. Marie to advise her of your need.

IMPORTANT AFTERSCHOOL ACTIVITIES REMINDER: SESSION FOUR BEGAN THIS PAST TUESDAY, JANUARY 19! Be sure to reserve your spot in our fun-filled activities lead by our fabulous Teachers and staff! If you need another brochure, please go online to <http://www.idsys.com/afterschool.html> or call the office, and we would be very pleased to send a brochure home with your child.

BIG EVENT UPDATE:
SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 2010 – BOARDWALK BLAST!
HELP IDS PASS GO AND COLLECT FOR OUR SCHOOL!

The Big Event is your pass to the biggest game in town! Mark your calendar to attend this year's Big Event – "Boardwalk Blast" – Casino Night on **Saturday, March 6, 2010!**

Your banker and dealers want you to know that EVERY penny from this event benefits EVERY student on campus. So roll the dice, take a CHANCE and remember to:

- ☺ **Donate items for the Silent & Live Auctions!** Keep those fantastic auction items rolling in! If each family donates two items (big or small) to the general auction, our event will be fantastic!
- ☺ **Become an Underwriter!** Underwrite the event for the ultimate opportunity for your business to network with families at IDS! This is also a great way for individual families to show their STRONG support of IDS!
- ☺ **Purchase an Advertisement in the Auction Catalog!**
- ☺ **Participate in the Student Cover Contest!** Encourage your kids to enter the catalog cover contest. The guidelines are on the website, and time is ticking. Each entry is posted at the event, giving each child a chance to really shine!
- ☺ **Buy your Tuition Credit Opportunity (TCO)!** – A chance to win \$5,000 towards next year's tuition (only 125 tickets will be sold!).
- ☺ **Send in your RSVP as soon as your invitation arrives!** Formal invitations will be coming soon! Ticket prices are STILL \$50/person after fourteen years! Your ticket includes: *Dinner, Silent & Live Auction, Casino Tables, DJ & Dancing, and Drinks.* You will also receive monopoly \$\$ to use at the Blackjack/Poker tables!
- ☺ **Look out for new benefits to becoming a Patron of the Big Event!** This year Patron Tickets will include a *Private Patron Preview Party, Reserved Seating for Dinner & Live Auction, and MORE!!*
- ☺ **Join us as we continue to plan this great event!** We meet every Monday morning!

All Big Event forms (i.e., Underwriting, Advertisement, Cover Contest, Tuition Credit Opportunity) can be found on the IDS website, in the office, or at the Big Event Info table during pick-up!)

BIG EVENT MEETINGS EVERY MONDAY AT 8:15 A.M.
PFA Conference Room on the 2nd Floor of THE NEW BUILDING

Call your Big Event Chairperson to ask questions or get involved!

Thanks! Julie Salek (813) 382-2525

CHINESE FUN FACT: BY MIDDLE SCHOOL AND CHINESE TEACHER/EXPERT, MR. DAVE FREEMAN: Did you know that many people are investing in China? On average, American companies are making a 42% return on their China operations. Blessed with an average GDP growth of 11% since the early 90's, China is extremely attractive to foreign investors.

**Please see
"All School"
enclosures also
found in
Thursday Folder.**

WEEKLY SPORTS UPDATE

January 25-29

Daily Sports Hotline: (813) 961-3087, ext. 399



Date	Time	Team/Sport	School	Location	Pick-Up	Comments
Fri. 1/22	5:00	Boys Basketball - Purple	Tampa Prep	Tampa Prep	6:45	Schedule Change
	5:00	Boys Basketball - Green	Tampa Prep	Tampa Prep	6:45	
	4:00	Boys Basketball - Silver	Tampa Prep	Tampa Prep	6:45	
	4:00	Girls Basketball - Purple	Tampa Prep	Tampa Prep	6:45	Schedule Change
Mon. 1/25	3:00	Boys Basketball-Purple	Practice	Corbett Hall	5:00	
	6:00	Boys Basketball-Green	Berkeley Prep	St. Mary's	7:45	Study Hall from 3:00-4:45
	3:00	Girls Basketball-Purple	Practice	MS Gym	4:00	
	4:00	Girls Basketball-Green	St. John's (E)	MS Gym	5:00	FWCL Tournament
	3:00	Wrestling	Pictures	Dean Dining Hall	3:45	Dean Dining Hall
	3:00	Track	Practice	8th Grade Deck	4:45	
	4:00	Cheerleading	St. John's (E)	MS Gym	5:00	
Tues. 1/26	TBA	Boys Basketball-Green	TBA	CDS	TBA	If we win Monday
	4:00	Boys Basketball-Purple	TBA	Corbett Hall	5:00	
	TBA	Girls Basketball-Green	TBA	MS Gym	TBA	If we win Monday
	Off	Coed Volleyball	Off			Canceled b/c tournaments
	3:00	Indoor Soccer	Practice	TBA	4:30	P/U Dean Dining Hall
	5:00	Club Volleyball	Practice	MS Gym	7:00	
Weds. 1/27	4:00	Boys Basketball-Purple	TBA	Corbett Hall	5:00	If we win Tuesday
	TBA	Boys Basketball-Green	TBA	St. John's (E)	TBA	If we win Monday & Tuesday
	4:00	Girls Basketball-Purple	TBA	MS Gym	5:00	FWCL Tournament
	Off	Girls Basketball-Green	Off			Season Complete
	3:00	Track	Practice	Forest Hills	4:45	*Parent Meeting
	3:00	Wrestling	Party	CiCi's	4:30	
	4:00	Cheerleading	TBA	MS Gym	5:00	

SEE REVERSE SIDE

Date	Time	Team/Sport	School	Location	Pick-Up	Comments
Thur. 1/28	Off	All Boys Basketball	Off			Team Party Next Week
	Off	Girls Basketball-Green	Off			Team Party Next Week
	4:00	Girls Basketball-Purple	AHN	AHN	5:00	If we win Wednesday
Fri. 1/29	Off	All Athletes	Off			Parent/Teacher Conferences

DIRECTIONS:

TAMPA PREP SCHOOL: 727 W. Cass Street, Tampa, 251-8481.

Dale Mabry south to Martin Luther King. Left onto Martin Luther King. Right onto N. Boulevard. The school is on the left.

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL: 2101 South Hubert St., Tampa, 254-5224.

Dale Mabry south. Right onto Henderson (KFC on corner). Henderson turns into Manhattan. Right onto Hubert. The school is on the right.

CDS BASKETBALL: Played at Tampa Bay Baptist Conference Center:

North on Dale Mabry. Turn right on Bearss (Ehrlich). At 3rd traffic light (Lake Magdalene Blvd.) turn left. Go 1 mile, conference center will be on the right. The gym will be straight ahead. Ignore any signs about paying, the facility is rented and there is no charge.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL New Middle School: Take Dale Mabry / Left on Kennedy / Right on Willow / 2ND Light LT on Platt / Go ¾ Mile – School is on the Left Side / Yellow Building.

ACADEMY OF THE HOLY NAMES: Take I-275 south to the Howard/ Armenia exit. Take the second left, (Armenia Ave.), which is one way to the left, and go about 1 mile to the light at Kennedy Blvd. Go right on Kennedy Blvd. Then, go a short distance, and turn left onto MacDill Ave. (light). Go about 2 miles until you go under the Crosstown Expressway. The next light is the school crosswalk light. Turn right at that light and that will take you into the school and gym.