

## HEADS' LETTER

**MARCH 13, 2008**

### DATES TO REMEMBER

- **SPRING BREAK BEGINS ON MONDAY, MARCH 17.** Have a terrific, joyful, restful, and safe time!!! Please note that:
- **SCHOOL RESUMES ON TUESDAY, MARCH 25!!!** Parents: please, please and please again make the last 10 weeks of the school year with on time arrivals!!!! It is so helpful for the children to arrive on time or even early so that they have time to settle in and feel ready for each and every class!!! Thanks for that help!!!
- **SESSION 4 OF AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES BEGINS ON TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 2008, AFTER SPRING BREAK.** The dates for session four are Tuesday, March 25 through May 16, 2008. All registration forms are due by Friday, March 14, 2008. Please be sure to sign up for one of the 21 different options available! Call Marie at (813) 961-3087 to inquire about availability or e-mail her at [mmassara@idsyes.com](mailto:mmassara@idsyes.com).
- **FIELD DAY – TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 2008 – 1:00 – 2:30 PM.** Field Day for Pre-K through 8<sup>th</sup> grades will be the afternoon of April 8. The PE team runs an incredible Field Day with the help of our volunteer parents. We need you this year, too. Please hold that date and volunteer to help make this a special event. More later in future Heads' Letters!
- **SAT TESTING** days are Wednesday, April 2 through Wednesday, April 9, 2008. Please be sure students are present, well-rested, and arrive promptly at school. Any test missed will need to have a make-up date. Thanks for your help.
- **KUDOS AND THANK YOUS! PANCAKE BREAKFAST WAS A WINNER FOR THE ARTS!!!** Thousands of pancakes and continuous performances for 3½ hours, made for a very joyful morning. IDS families made new friends, saw old friends, and enjoyed the benefits of having an amazing Fine Arts team that brings out the talents in our IDSers. It's also so much fun to be a part of a performance with your friends. Once again, our students showed poise and confidence whether in the band, or in a solo opportunity to play an instrument, the chorus, or through musical theatre; they were a delight! Congratulations to the art team of Debbie Kerr and Amber Roberts, the music team of Michael LeBlanc, Barbara McBride and Tom McColley, for orchestrating and coordinating a great morning, congratulations to the musical theatre team of Seth Travaglini, Lisa Kelly, and Victoria Watson, as well as Middle School teachers Jeanne Rivera and Barbara Soulé for amazing teamwork. A **HUGE BRAVO** also goes to all of the many wonderful parent volunteers, headed by PFA parent Susie Willard, for an early morning set-up, for cooking, cooking and more cooking, for serving and for taking down in time for High School Musical practice and PE on Monday morning.
- **A DATE REMINDER AND TIME CHANGE ALERT!!!** The Spring Fine Arts Program on **Thursday, May 8, 2008**, will now move to two daytime presentations...one in the morning and one in the afternoon with a full day and week of visiting times for the school-wide "IDSer Art Exhibit". You may be asking, "Why the Change?" There are a number of reasons, **1.** Primary parents are the first to fill in the front rows at evening presentations and too many leave early for bedtimes and frankly, it's unfair to our performers to play to empty seats. We want you to be able to enjoy the whole show! **2.** In the Spring, we compete with Sports teams and their tournaments at night. It's tough on students who have to make a choice between two important obligations that both depend on them. **3.** Students work so hard all year for only one performance and this will give them a chance to perform twice. **4.** Parents can have a choice now between a morning performance (9:00 am) and an afternoon performance (1:00 pm) and **5.** There are other reasons but the above four are a start!

# **IDS MIDDLE SCHOOL: ABOVE AND BEYOND OPPORTUNITIES**

**IDS MIDDLE SCHOOLERS SEE THE FUTURE RIGHT IN FRONT OF THEIR VERY EYES.** At the end of February, IDS sixth, seventh, and eighth graders may have been the first students at a school to witness a totally battery operated car that was just brought here from Mexico. Going green will bring many innovations to our current society and a totally battery operated car may be one of them.

After hearing a wonderful presentation about this upcoming transportation option, they actually saw a real retrofitted car from the inside out followed by a demonstration of how the car drives and works. The Oooo's and Ahhh's were in abundance. "Where was the sound," they asked? None, it is as quiet as can be, drives like a dream, and relies solely on battery. Length of driving time was a huge question, as well as so many other questions that were generated by our students. Victor Juarez, parent of three-year old IDSer Juliana, patiently answered all of the questions. He delighted in their surprise to see the car and what it could do. Do you think that Henry Ford started this way with the engine? How long before we have battery operated cars? Many inquiring minds asked many good questions about what the future holds for 21<sup>st</sup> Century transportation?

**ADIOS TO OUR NEW FRIENDS FROM SPAIN.** Three weeks have flown by so fast and we all learned so much! Betty Norlin, Middle School teacher and International Coordinator, writes: "Traveling abroad is a way to gain firsthand knowledge of a culture. Living in a different culture is a way to experience language, customs, and friendships in a lasting and impactful manner. Ramón y Cajal School in Madrid, Spain and Independent Day School are just completing our first "student visiting experience" program. Eight open-minded, risk takers from seventh and eighth grade in Madrid, Spain have lived with eight trailblazing IDS "host" families and students for three weeks. Our Spanish students will be returning to their families and friends on Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup>.

The goals of this program, and others like it in the future, are to provide an opportunity for students of different cultures to practice different languages, learn about family and societal customs, experience the purchasing power of a currency other than their own, and become a member of a family for several weeks. Inés, Paloma, Natalia, Carlos, Alvaro, Paula, Rocio, and Nur have attended classes at IDS for about 50% of their time here; have participated in excursions to learn about our local culture - including a trip with third grade to Ybor City and a trip to an architectural firm to learn about how America is building healthy buildings. They also work with their own accompanying teachers from Spain to keep up with their curriculum from home.

We wish to thank the Hoff, Mills, Stiles, Cogar, Tillotson, Ellis, Tomlin and Brown families for being our first IDS Middle School host families. We will have another opportunity to host families in April and interested families should contact [bnorlin@idsyes.com](mailto:bnorlin@idsyes.com) or a member of the Spanish teaching team.

Our Spanish teachers will take the first group of IDS students to Madrid in June 2008 to experience the Ramón y Cajal School, practice their Spanish, begin to experience the Spanish culture in Spain, and see some great sites. The gifts the students and host families received included an academic experience and friendships that can cross over oceans and time. Thank you to all - families, teachers and students - that made this a great first experience!"

**STRAIGHT TALK FROM THE FBI: BEING PROACTIVE IS KEY!** Why wait for something to happen? Be proactive and educate our children over and over and over again. That is our philosophy on internet, cell phone, and general safety. Special Agent Earl, from the IINI (Initial Images National Initiative) department of the FBI's Cyber Crimes Program, spoke to sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students on Tuesday, March 11. In one hour, he successfully held their attention about the risks of technology and the dangers that await innocent actions as simple as sharing where I go to school and where I buy my pizza.











The IINI is an intelligence-driven, proactive, multi-agency, investigative initiative of the FBI to combat the challenges that technology has brought to our modern society and unsuspecting users of the wonders of technical equipment available to youth today. Special Agent Earl was a tremendous resource, and we are so grateful that he shared his time with us. This is the second year we have provided this type of seminar, and we will continue to do so yearly. There is always new information and regular reminders keep us alert and smart about our actions.

Parents can help join in educating our children by educating ourselves and staying up-to-date with the latest information. We all have a lot to learn about how to monitor and help all children. That's why we are a school; we're all here to learn and grow together!

**ON TUESDAY, MARCH 26, AT 6:00 P.M., FBI SPECIAL AGENT EARL RETURNS TO TALK TO PARENTS ONLY.** We hope to see as many of you as possible in the Grand Room on the second floor of the new building.



## FACTS ABOUT THIS FUN-RAISER AND FRIEND-RAISER!!!

-  The party is from 6:30 pm to 11:00 pm.
-  *Your ticket price includes admission to the event and unlimited trips to our dinner buffet and open bar.*
-  This is an adult event. Babysitting is available in Corbett Hall for \$15 per child. Limited space is available. (See insert in today's Heads' Letter to register.)
-  *Extra tickets are available in the office or at <http://www.idsy.es.com> so you can invite your neighbors or friends.*
-  Dress for the theme or as you would for a sports event or a night out. Most people will wear their favorite sports team t-shirts, jerseys or caps! The Big Event is a casual night.
-  *This year's theme promises a ton of fun. We have putting greens and pool tables and a dunking booth and batting cages to name a few. Bring your competitive spirit!*
-  Ticket prices have remained the same for twelve years! This night is a true bargain, but pre-order your tickets as soon as possible, as ticket prices are higher at the door. (\$50 Prepaid, or \$65 at the door)
-  *When you send in your RSVP, we register you in advance. Pre-registered guests will receive a registration packet with all you need when you arrive. Your "tickets" will be waiting for you at the door!*
-  Come to the Big Event to hang out with friends, enjoy delicious food and drink, as well as to shop for items of all sizes in all price ranges.
-  *The only reserved seating at the Big Event is at the PATRON tables. Other guests are able to choose a table to seat themselves. To have reserved seats right by the dance floor with a good view of our Live Auction, you will want to get 10 people together to purchase a Patron Table.*

JOIN US FOR MEETINGS EVERY THURSDAY at 8:15 am!

## MORE NEWS:

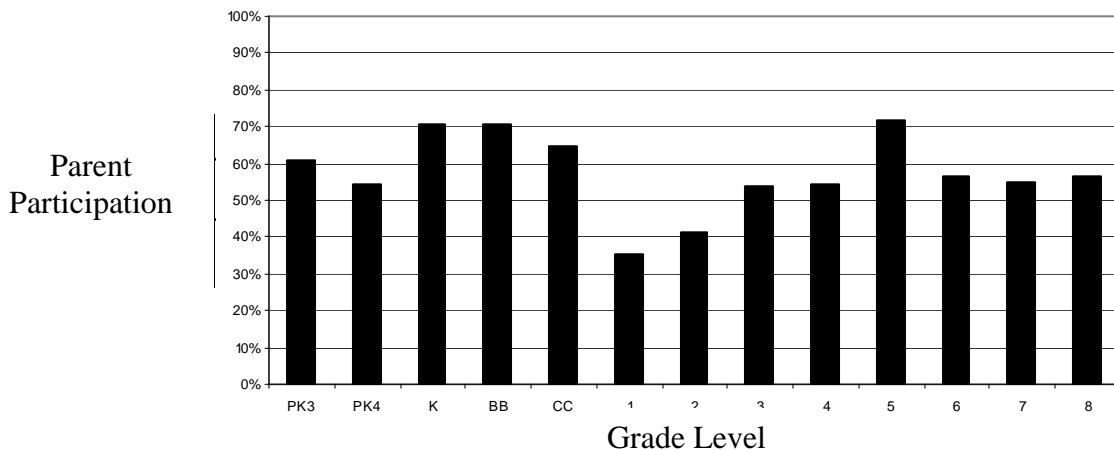
**SPORTS POWER!!!** – Track and Field **RAISES** the bar in IDS Sports History. Please see the enclosed Press Release for details.

**THIRD GRADE LEARNS THAT FLORIDA HISTORY IS RIGHT IN THEIR BACK YARD.** After lessons on inquiry and generating thought provoking questions, our inquisitive third graders were well-prepared for their day in Ybor City to learn about Florida history, right here in Tampa Bay. Museums, walking tours, and lunch in the park were highlighted by an informative and fun tour by third grade Dad, Casey Gonzmart of the Columbia Restaurant. They all learned how the Columbia was an important part of the historical significance of Ybor City.

**SO WHERE ARE THEY? WELL, THE FOURTH GRADE IS "GOING PLACES"!** Yes, that's their class theme! And they **are** going places. In fact, they are in Tallahassee visiting our state government as part of their unit on government and law-making. Stay tuned for their report after the break. The two bus loads of parents and students return Friday, late afternoon, just in time to begin Spring break. Representative Kevin Ambler is on hand to insure that they have a lot of great opportunities on their visit to Florida's capital.

### ANNUAL GIVING UPDATE: HELP US MOVE THAT MARKER UP!!! EVERYONE COUNTS!

IDS-CC Annual Giving Update  
Help us move the marker!



### PROUD MOMENTS SOAR FOR OUR IDSers



TO OUR IDS FAMILIES, PLEASE SHARE SPECIAL MOMENTS SO THAT EVERYONE CAN ENJOY WITH YOU.

Connor Leach (Kindergarten) i9 flag football team, the Carrollwood Jaguars, won the Super Bowl in Riverview this past Saturday, March 8, 2008, to become the Regional Pee Wee Flag Football Champions. Their team had an undefeated season, 11-0. WOW!!!



Congratulations to Alexa Grace (IDS Seventh Grade) for making the Raymond James All Star Soccer Team!! She was asked to play last Saturday for U14, and got to play on the field of the Raymond James Stadium. The games were intense regardless of how cold the weather was Saturday morning!! Great job Alexa!!



It is very exciting to have IDS Alum news from former IDS parent Dr. Bruce Cochrane who moved from USF to Miami University in Oxford, OH. He writes about his two sons; John Cochrane (Graduating Class of 2004) was admitted to Cornell by early decision - he is also a National Merit finalist and John is very excited and proud. Steven Cochrane (Graduating Class of 1998) is doing very well in graduate school in Windsor. He is enjoying his teaching and is very happy with his committee.

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

## Breakthrough Year For IDS-CC Track & Field Team

*For immediate release: March 13, 2008*

*Tampa, Fla.*



***Independent Day School - Corbett Campus Track & Field Team 2008***

This year has been a breakthrough year for Independent Day School-Corbett Campus (IDS-CC) Track & Field. These proud and conscientious athletes set 15 new IDS school records; the boys set nine records and the girls set six.

Fourteen athletes were a part of these records: Vincent Leto (8<sup>th</sup> grade), Deuce Gruden (8<sup>th</sup> grade), Max Pautler (8<sup>th</sup> grade), Greg Erskine (8<sup>th</sup> grade), Mitchell Streu (8<sup>th</sup> grade), Jordan Strawberry (8<sup>th</sup> grade), Zach Dyer (8<sup>th</sup> grade), AJ Beeble (8<sup>th</sup> grade), Morgan Mills (8<sup>th</sup> grade), Corinne Moriarty (8<sup>th</sup> Grade), Noelle Keith (8<sup>th</sup> grade), Lauren Scallon (8<sup>th</sup> grade), DeeAnn Laney (6<sup>th</sup> grade), and Caroline Pomet (5<sup>th</sup> grade). Between the Varsity and JV, the track team won 24 total events in relays and individual events.

Congratulations to the Boys' Varsity team, which won the Florida West Coast League (FWCL) Track & Field Championship with 402.5 points! They were over 200 points ahead of the nearest competitor.

Our Boys' JV team gave an epic performance on the final day to finish as the FWCL Runner-Up, only 4 points behind first place!

Our Girls' Varsity and JV teams moved up to 4th place in the FWCL this year, a strong improvement in a year where Track & Field competition was at its finest. Every team has set the bar for future IDS teams.

*Founded in 1968, Independent Day School - Corbett Campus is a fully accredited, independent school located on Orange Grove Drive in northwest Hillsborough County. The school serves 550 students in PreK3 through 8th grade and offers the International Baccalaureate program of study for all middle school students. At IDS, all children experience learning in a nurturing and highly academic environment focused on excellence and developing a positive self-concept. IDS-CC has become recognized as an exemplary school with over 3,500 visitors observing and learning from and with IDS-CC teachers about the school's M.O.R.E. Approach to education. For more information about IDS visit <http://www.idsy.com>.*

**Contact: Pam Barfield, Director of Admissions - Independent Day School - Corbett Campus Telephone: (813) 961-3087**



# IDS SPORTS JAM!

## YOUR BIG EVENT CHECKLIST

### Have You:

- Turned in your RSVP?
- Donated to your class basket(s)?
- Donated to the General Auction?
- Registered for IDS babysitting?
- Picked up extra invitations from the office so you can invite neighbors and friends?
- Planned to come help decorate the week of March 31 – April 4 in the Middle School Gym?



**We will be in the gym and Dean Dining Hall all week during and after school. If you are volunteering, your child may stay in Extended Day that day for free. We would love for you to come help for an hour or for a day!**

**T h e B i g E v e n t w i l l b e a B A L L !!!**

**YES, I will be there to help decorate the week of Big Event!**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**I plan on helping on the following day or days:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# WEEKLY SPORTS UPDATE

March 24-28, 2008

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



Date	Time	Team/Sport	School	Location of game	Pick-Up	Comments
Mon. 03/24	off	Athletes' Day off	off			
Tues.03/25	5:00	Girls Volleyball	Club	Corbett Hall	7:00	
Weds.03/26	3:00	Baseball-Red Team	Practice	Baseball Field	4:00	
	3:00	Baseball-White Team	Practice	Baseball Field	4:30	
	3:00	Softball-Red Team	Practice	Batting Cage	4:30	
	3:45	Softball-White team	Hillel	Softball Field	5:30	
	3:00	Tennis	Practice	MP Tennis	5:00	MS Gym
Thur.03/27	3:30	Baseball-Red Team	Cambridge	Cambridge	6:15	MS Gym
	3:00	Baseball-White Team	Practice	Baseball Field	4:30	
	3:30	Softball-Red Team	Tampa Prep	Softball Field	5:30	
	3:45	Softball-White Team	Hillel	Hillel	6:00	MS Gym
	3:45	Tennis	CDS	MP Tennis	6:15	MS Gym
Fri. 03/28	4:00	Baseball-Red Team	Tampa Prep	Tampa Prep	6:30	
	3:00	Baseball-White Team	Practice	Baseball Field	4:30	
	3:00	Softball-Red Team	Practice	Cage	4:00	
	4:00	Softball-White Team	St. John's (G)	Softball Field	6:00	
	4:00	Tennis	St. John's (E)	MP Tennis	6:30	MS Gym