

IDS YES!!!

HEADS' LETTER

MAY 11, 2006

TONIGHT!!! - SPRING FINE ARTS NIGHT
EXPLORING THE POSSIBILITIES



6:00 to 6:55 P.M. In the IDS Theatre/Training Center, a **School-wide Art Show** featuring every IDS student with over 500 pieces of extraordinary, original art. *An additional viewing will be available after the show until 9:30 P.M.* **The art exhibit will continue to be on display May 12, 15, and 16.** Directed by Art Teachers Susan Bossard, Debbie Kerr and Renee Holden.



7:00 to 8:15 P.M. School-wide Performance in Corbett Hall directed by Michael LeBlanc, Barbara McBride, Tom McColley, and Seth Travaglino. All students must wear their IDS green polo shirt and all musical choruses must wear their white polo shirts.



WHO PARTICIPATES: Every child participates; so all parents please come and enjoy the final 2005 - 2006 event for the whole IDS family. The arts give us the perfect chance to celebrate the joy of a great year TOGETHER!!!



PARKING OPTIONS: There will be deputies on duty as well as our staff to assist us in parking. We have listed our parking options here:

- 1.) IDS main school parking lot on the East Side,
- 2.) IDS Middle School on the West Side,
- 3.) Our grass parking lot on the East Side, and
- 4.) Parking at the corner of Fletcher Avenue and Orange Grove Drive (formerly the Roadhouse Grill Restaurant) with our bus service to bring you back and forth from our overflow parking area.



NEW PARKING OPTION →

COME DREAM WITH US...

Every year the IDS Board of Trustees re-examines the Long Range Plan (LRP). They use surveys, town meetings, and interviews to check our progress as they continue to work to insure that IDS is a national and international leader in education. This year a new committee has been formed to once again take on this project. Under the leadership of Jeff Leck, the LRP Committee has brainstormed several new strategies for charting the future as well as monitoring the progress of our current status. This committee would like you to dream with them. Yes, really dream a vision of what can be...what you would like to see, feel, and hear about in an IDS education for your children and the children who will follow in the future.

To those who responded to our survey sent in March, we thank you and have already begun to act on your suggestions. That was designed to get a read on how we are doing and where we can get even better. This is different. This is a creative opportunity. You have the option to be anonymous with your ideas **or** give your name so that you can join us in talking further about them. Please complete the enclosed open-ended opportunity. And thanks ahead of time for your willingness to **COME DREAM WITH US!**

ATHLETICS AWARDS NIGHT

WHEN: THURSDAY - May 18, 2006 – 6:30 p.m.

WHERE: CORBETT HALL

WHO: For all fourth through eighth grade student athletes and their parents

WHY: Honoring all: **FALL SPORTS:** Soccer, Volleyball, Cross Country
WINTER SPORTS: Boys' Basketball, Girls' Basketball, Track, Cheerleading **SPRING SPORTS:** Baseball, Softball, Tennis



UPPER PRIMARY'S UPtown: An Extraordinary Achievement



You may know them as Brilliant Bugs, Cool Cats and Top Bananas, but for the past several weeks they have been citizens of UPtown as a part of a simulation on becoming “money wise” during the Upper Primary unit planner “Money Matters”. Every member of UPtown received a paycheck each week of \$10.00. Students then had the responsibilities of paying bills (on time), keeping track of their earnings and expenses in a ledger, and making choices about spending money on things they wanted versus things they needed. Student reflections throughout the unit demonstrated an awareness of how to be financially wise by budgeting, saving, and keeping track of expenses. As a culminating activity, the citizens of UPtown traveled to the Carrollwood branch of Bank Of America where they got a sneak peek behind the scenes of the every day operations of a bank. A special thanks to Ann Shaler for coordinating this trip for our Upper Primary students!

MIDDLE SCHOOL PERFORMS TO RAVE REVIEWS

If anyone should ask, the answer is YES. Our Middle School is amazing and full of talent. On Wednesday morning the following performances delighted the audience: 1.) *A Best of Broadway Review II* performance by our Musical Theatre Elective, 2.) *The Auditioners* by our Drama/Forensics Elective, and 3.) *A Talent Show Supreme*. They were all superior and the audience was so appreciative! Thanks to Musical Theatre Teachers Seth Travaglino, Barbara McBride, and Barbara Soulé; Drama Forensics Teachers, Victoria Watson and Michael Vokoun; and Seth Travaglino for the Talent Show.

PROUD MOMENTS SOAR FOR IDSers

To our IDS families; please share special moments so that everyone can enjoy with you.



Abigail Melnick, Kindergarten, placed third all-around at the AAU Gymnastics State Meet at the Wide World of Sports in Disney World. Congratulations!

Kayla-Destiny DeEsch, 3rd grade, attained an Elite Level 4, all-around third place, second place Beam, seventh place Floor, third place Vault, and fourth place Bars at the Florida State Championship at Disney's Wide World of Sports in Orlando, on April 30, 2006. Congratulations!

Vimala Shila, 6th grade, and her family are featured in Tampa Tribune's newest “Life Printed Daily” TV ad, which runs throughout the day on several different networks.

Haakon Hansen, 7th Grade, received an Award of Merit at the State Science Fair in Orlando, April 19-21, 2006. It is the equivalent of a 5th place award. Congratulations!

PFA NEWS

HUGE THANKS FROM THE FACULTY AND STAFF...Parents and students, on behalf of the whole faculty and staff, we thank you for making Teacher Appreciation Week so special. Everyone enjoyed the surprises throughout the week, making all feel very special, in the same way we work to do with your children each and every day. The children also enjoyed making it a bright week with flowers everywhere! RPCs deserve huge accolades for their creativity and organizational skills in planning a perfect week.

THE ONLINE POST – Don and Kathi Baruch, in conjunction with the PFA Executive Committee would like to thank those who brought their items this morning. We would like to remind you that you may drop off items at school tomorrow at the IDS Bell Tower between 7:45 - 8:30 A.M. We are accepting donations at The Online Post store in Carrollwood before Thursday, May 18. The auction will begin on May 15 and run a total of two weeks. Once all auctions are completed and paid, The Online Post will send IDS a check. Thank you for your continuing support of IDS!

CALLING FOR VOLUNTEERS - The PFA Fine Arts Committee would like to ask for assistance in taking down the art from the Fine Arts Night Art Show in the Farish Center after Tuesday, May 16. Please contact Cindy Donovan at (813) 920-7110.

◆ **REMINDER: LAST DAY OF LUNCHES - FRIDAY, MAY 19, 2006**

◆ **REMINDER:** Thanks to all who have responded before the deadline. **Please remember that tuition is due for 2006 - 2007 on Monday, May 15.** Very important to be prompt to reserve your spot



IDS COMMUNITY MUSIC SCHOOL RECITAL



The IDS Community Music School Recital will have shows on **Wednesday, May 17, 2006 at 6:00 P.M., Friday, May 19, 2006 at 6:00 P.M., and 7:30 P.M. Saturday, May 20, 2006 at 10:00 A.M. Best yet... IT IS FREE!!!** We will be presenting **ALADDIN on Saturday May 20, at 6:00 P.M. and Sunday May 21 at 2:00 P.M. and 6:00 P.M.** The summer time is approaching quickly and we will have available summer music camps. **Band** (June 5-16) , **Strings** (June 5-16), **Musical Theatre** (June 5-30), **Piano** (June 12-23) For more information, please contact Mr. Tom McColley at (813) 961-3087 or at tmccolley@idsyes.com.

A Letter to the IDS Community from our Headmaster Dr. Joyce Burick Swarzman (For Fine Arts Night)

May 11, 2006

Dear IDS Parents,

Welcome to our Annual Spring Fine Arts Night. Tonight we combine the heart and mind through art and performance. Every IDSer has the opportunity to perform, to feel the excitement of contributing to the energy of a community, and to enjoy the results of hard work. Our talented faculty both in Specials courses and in core subjects have teamed together to make this great event happen. Thank you so much for taking time to be with us to support your child and every child at IDS.

I have just returned from a month of work in China and Spain (with two days in between at school) where the **IDS M.O.R.E.** Approach (**M**ultiple **O**ptions for **R**esults in **E**ducation) was the central focus of work. Through the International School Connection organization, a team of 13 of us met with top Universities, schools and educational organizations from all over China. The meetings were held in Beijing and Nanjing to share

potential educational connections. Our team included educators from Sweden, Singapore, the U.S., and Taiwan with IDS being the only featured school. As a result of that trip, we have opened connections with Chinese schools for visits to IDS, classroom visual internet exchanges classroom to classroom, and terrific Chinese University students to have internships at IDS to teach our students about the Chinese language and culture. In addition to helping our students appreciate our own American culture, we will now develop an international perspective through real life exchanges and experiences. It is the future...

After this trip of working with approximately 300 educators in Spain, we now have a total of 8 prestigious private schools who have embraced a brain-friendly learning approach for teaching and learning. This is only the beginning. In addition to continuing the school intensive training and visits by teachers from Spain, we hope to have exchanges between students and teachers on a regular basis right in our classroom. One of the best ways to give importance to learning a language is to use it with those who speak it everyday using the technology we have acquired. Perhaps even our choruses will sing together. The amazing music teachers in Marni School in Valencia have already connected with Michael LeBlanc eye to eye through the use of visual internet technology. Our new technology opens so many opportunities for connections on a regular basis.

There are many exciting opportunities that await our teachers and students. At the same time, while we look to make dynamic connections with people on different continents, we must always remember to appreciate and take care of what we have right here at home. Certainly we rank among international leaders in education, but what about our own campus? I want to personally thank all of us who helped to contribute to our new building. We will all enjoy this beautiful new addition to our campus. Our kindergarten team is already holding classes in the new building on the first floor as they move in gradually and allow our current kindergarteners to enjoy the new facility. The second floor has a new room, which is perfect for parent committee meetings and a variety of uses. The second floor also has the GRAND ROOM, which is very spacious and will be used by all grade levels as well as some performances.

Thanks to the generosity of many, we have pledges of over \$700,000. The building and all therein will be approximately 1.3 million dollars. So we still need help. *Everyone* has been so generous this year. Please believe me that we all thank you for that. Please also forgive me for this "re-request". As you well know, an independent school thrives on the generosity of those who can give. We need your help to complete this campaign. In each endeavor that we have undertaken during my ten years at IDS (this year makes 10), an individual or individuals come forward to make "it" happen. I am calling out for angels. Also, there are opportunities to leave a great legacy by naming the Grand Room, the entire building, classrooms, and other areas, which are so important to lead the way. Each gift brings us closer to our goal.

I would like to close with a few key thank yous. The IDS Board of Trustees is an amazing group of people who are dedicated to the school, to working behind the scenes and to protecting the current school while creating a great vision for the future. Thanks to President Jim Conlin and all of the Trustees for caring to make a great difference. The PFA - Parent Faculty Committees RPCs and all of the generous support of parents is just incredible. Both our teachers and students are blessed with their energy, commitment and endless hours of hard work. Thank you to President Gina Shannon, the Executive Committee and Executive Council for leading an award-winning year of successes.

Finally, I want to give a **standing ovation** to our Teachers, Office Staff, Facilities, and Administrative team for working together as a learning and giving community to bring the best to this school working on behalf of **every** child at IDS. I could only work to make those international connections because they do what they do best...serve others and each other with excellence!!! Bravo and thanks to them along with a special thanks to Pam Ripple. Due to SKYPE, we could both see and talk to each other on most days. It is fun to be on the cutting edge of technology for communicating, and it is a joy to work with Pam who has maintained the excitement of teaching and leading for 28 years at IDS!!! Thanks Pam and thanks to one and all! Together we all *Catch the Spirit with IDS!!!*

With appreciation,
Joyce