

HEADS' LETTER

SEPTEMBER 23, 2004

**CONGRATULATIONS to the entire IDS COMMUNITY
on being named a**



2004 NCLB* BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

by the United States Department of Education!

We were notified of this prestigious honor on Friday, September 17.

The award will be presented in Washington, D. C. in a ceremony on

November 5. The website is <http://www.ed.gov/programs/nclbbrs> . The

Press Release and a published article are enclosed. *NCLB - No Child Left Behind

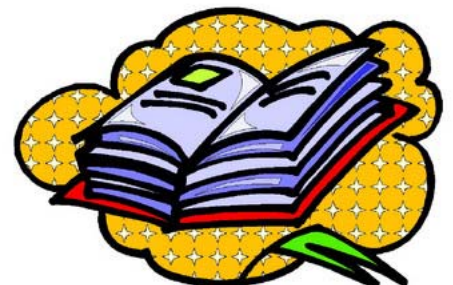
“SCHOOL-FREE DAYS” FOR PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES
Thursday and Friday, September 30 & October 1

Students have “school free days” while teachers meet and update parents on their child’s progress. In some cases there will be student-led conferences. The conferences are designed for both the parents and teachers to learn more about your children. By exchanging information, we set the stage for two-way conversations to benefit our IDSers throughout the school year. **Because time is limited, we suggest that you jot down and prioritize key questions to discuss, so that you feel that you have addressed the issues important to you.** For example:

- Information I want the teacher to know about my child...
- Questions I would like answered...

Suggested questions for parents may also include:

- How are my child’s work habits?
- How does he/she use his/her time?
- What are the expectations for homework?
- What can I do at home to help my child’s success at school?



Teachers will share areas in which students:

- Are demonstrating strengths.
- Need to improve or stay on target.
- Will seek to raise the bar or extend strengths.

Our goal at IDS is to keep our students moving forward. Together, in cooperation, we can all be very successful! We look forward to seeing you next week!

SCHOOL PICTURES

Monday, September 27 – Wednesday, September 29

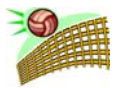
School pictures will be taken next week, Monday, September 27 through Wednesday, September 29. The photographer recommends clothes with bright colors for the best pictures. Send a small comb or brush so students can look their best. If you have any questions, please call Maureen Dempsey at (813) 994-0100.

Proofs will be available for review prior to purchasing these portraits. Orders will be filled prior to gift giving season in December. Also, the photos will be in our IDS yearbook. **SMILE & SAY, "IDS YES!"**

Monday, September 27-----Pre-K – 2nd

Tuesday, September 28-----3rd – 5th

Wednesday, September 29-----Middle School



GIRLS VARSITY VOLLEYBALL TEAM wins

Tampa Prep Invitational Tournament September 17 & 18.

IDS won matches over Tampa Prep, Nativity, and

Berkeley Prep in the finals.

Congratulations to the whole team and Coach Dewey and Coach Sheehan.

It took great teamwork to succeed!

*****Check the Sports Update Line and come our support volleyball, soccer and cross country teams.**

IDS STATS FOR FALL 2004

We are proud to have:

530 students Pre-K thru 8th grade attending IDS.

54 teachers and two interns (one from USF and one from St. Petersburg College).

130 students enrolled (including adults) in the new IDS Community Music School (Press Release enclosed).

204 students enrolled in a variety of enrichment opportunities in After School Activities.

139 students enrolled in our sports program coordinated through the Athletic Program.

HELP IDS Assist Hurricane Victims through Book Donations

The Florida Council for Teachers of English (FCTE) will be coordinating a paperback collection to assist teachers who have lost their personal classroom libraries due to the storms. IDS English teacher, Michael Vokoun, feels the loss for these teachers especially because he has amassed a great personal library that he shares generously with his students. He, along with others throughout the state, will work with FCTE Public Relations liaison, Dr. Joan Kaywell (USF College of Education Professor of English and IDS eighth grade parent) to help restore classroom libraries destroyed by Hurricanes Charley, Frances and/or Ivan.

If you have paperback books of any level (elementary thru adult) at home and you would like to donate, please send them to the office. Mr. Vokoun will take them to the FCTE Conference on October 14-16, where they hope to distribute the books to teachers in need. Thanks a million for helping.

THIRD GRADERS LIVE “CARE, SHARE, HELP” MOTTO!

With smiles and enthusiasm, IDS third graders and their teachers reached out to a senior neighbor in our community to clear the debris from the effects of hurricane Frances. Third graders volunteered to help gather and clean the tree branches and other debris around the home. We are very fortunate to have such kind, caring members of our third grade family. The students worked hard and felt the joy of giving. Comments like “I feel so good inside!” and “It’s like we are really making a difference to our community!” were part of their reflections on that day of contribution. Their words brought great pride to their teachers!! Bravo third grade!!!

THIRD GRADE COMBINES A PICNIC LUNCH WITH GARDENING

On Saturday, September 18, Third Grade RPC’s coordinated a successful picnic to welcome new families and renew friendships. With a great turnout, the third grade succeeded in enjoying a beautiful day with the playground to themselves, parents connecting, and the Third Grade Garden getting ready for the 2004-2005 year.



**SALLY FOSTER
DEADLINE EXTENDED TO
MONDAY, OCTOBER 4**



**SCRIP is AVAILABLE in the OFFICE for
SHOPPING, SHOPPING, and SHOPPING!**

NEW INFO: You may e-mail your SCRIP ORDER to Celeste at cross@idsyes.com
or give her a quick call at IDS (813) 961-3087 Ext. 303.

SNO-CONE SALE – MIDDLE SCHOOL

TO BENEFIT FINE ARTS – Friday, September 24 at Lunch

Our PFA volunteers will be selling the Sno-Cones. Cost \$1.00 – all proceeds go to Fine Arts.

PARENTNET BOOK CLUB MEETING

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12 at 8:15 AM

Books available at Barnes & Noble’s front counter - Keep on reading!

How to Talk so Kids will Listen and Listen so Kids will Talk

ATTENTION ALL IDS BOYS IN GRADES 1 THRU 5

Do you like to go camping, launch rockets, and learn about new things? Then come and join the Cub Scouts. They meet every Tuesday night at St. Mary's Parish Center located at 15520 North Boulevard, from 7 PM to 8 PM. For more information please contact IDS parent Lisa Herscovici at 961-9721 or the Cub Master, Jeff Wingfield at 948-9464.

You Are Invited

The memories of sleep-away camp mellow into a nostalgic glow of summers long ago. Now it's time to consider sending a new generation of children to camp and parents wonder "Will it, can it, be the same?" The answer is "Yes, but better."

Judy Levine, Director of **Summer Camp & Trip Resources**, an international summer program referral service, will speak on the various programs and opportunities available for your child.

Some of the topics to be discussed will include:

What is the right age for overnight camp?

What types of camps are appropriate?

What is the right time frame?

Who: Sponsored by **Summer Camp & Trip Resources**, a FREE personalized advisory service focusing on the individual needs of each child and family

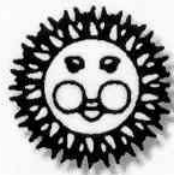
What: An informational meeting for this free service

Where: Independent Day School—Corbett Campus

When: Tuesday, October 19 at 7:00 PM

Why: How to select a camp
Exceptional opportunities for children and teens
Programs for students with learning disabilities

Please respond by October 17 to Judy at 1-800-362-2267
or email judy@summercampsandtrips.com



Summer Camp & Trip Resources

Call 1-800-362-CAMP (2267) or 508-877-3648

Offices in Massachusetts and New York

www.summercampsandtrips.com

If you are interested in running an advertisement in the *Heads' Letter*, please contact: Celeste Ross at (813) 961-3087. **Advertisements run only when space is available.**