

## HEADS' LETTER

## NOVEMBER 6, 2008

### DATES TO MARK ON YOUR CALENDARS

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11 – SCHOOL HOLIDAY TO HONOR NATIONAL VETERANS DAY.** At every Monday Morning Meeting we take time to recognize the blessings of living in a free country. Our veterans have helped to insure the freedom we enjoy in the United States of America today. This is also a good discussion for family time. The excitement of the current election reminds us of how we all have a voice in the present and future of the U.S. It is a perfect time to thank a veteran or someone in the service for insuring the freedoms we enjoy in this great nation. (Read about the IDS election on page two.)



**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22 - IDS HONORS AND CELEBRATES 40 YEARS AT THE ANNUAL FUN RUN AND FALL FESTIVAL FAMILY DAY! This family day includes:**



**9:00 am** - The Fun Run Begins on Middle School Buchanan Sport Field

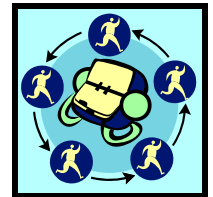
*All other events are on the east side*

**10:30 am** - The Fall Festival Begins

**11:30 am** The 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Program in Corbett Hall  
(all are invited while Fall Festival resumes at 12:30 pm)

**12:30 pm** - The Taste of IDS Begins

**12:30 – 2:30 pm** - The Fall Festival resumes.



**GRANDPARENTS DAY: WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26 at 10:00 am is all about honoring others!** Please remember that **GRANDPARENTS DAY IS FOR “SPECIAL GRAND-FRIENDS” AS WELL AS GRANDPARENTS.** This day is for **all students** at IDS, with or without their own personal guests. Everyone prepares in music and in their classrooms for weeks for this special performance followed by our guests visiting classrooms. Dismissal for all students is 12:00 Noon on that day! **MOST IMPORTANT:** This is a special opportunity for children to **give** service to others by their smiles, deeds, and appreciation for “*spans of time.*” We expect our students to be at school, join in, and do their part. Thanks for allowing every student to contribute AND give community service “at home.”

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28 THROUGH SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6 – PLAN AHEAD FOR THE ANNUAL IDS FALL BOOK FAIR** at Barnes & Noble. The IDS Laney Library/Media Center receives 25% of all sales from the book fair. All purchases, INCLUDING café consumables, count toward the book fair. Also, when Barnes & Noble Scrip gift cards are used for purchases, the school receives additional funds. Look in this week’s Thursday folder for your Scrip order form. Order your Scrip now to receive them in time for Book Fair Week.

All students in grades three through eight will travel to the book fair on a class trip. Please remember to wear your IDS field trip polo shirt. The permission slip for this field trip will be enclosed in next week’s Thursday Folder. Primary Night for PK3 through second grade will be on Wednesday, December 3. The talented *Spirit of IDS* will perform at 5:00 pm.

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5 at 10:00 am THIRD ANNUAL IDS-CC BOUTIQUE AND BRUNCH! Make your reservations now** to shop, eat, and enjoy meeting new parents, greet friends, and bring guests! The boutique will feature over 20 local vendors. To reserve a spot, please fill out the form in your Thursday folder or contact PFA Boutique Chairperson, Billie Valloreo at (813) 961-3087 x391.

# CAMPUS KUDOS AND HIGHLIGHTS!!!

**IDS STUDENTS VOTE IN THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION:** On Monday, November 3, all IDS students voted for the President of the United States by going to the first floor of the Middle School, where Middle School Social Studies teacher, Mr. Shoe and his Civic Elective students had prepared voting booths with an internet website that tallied over 500 student votes from IDS. They all received "I Voted" stickers. On WIDS, Mr. Shoe and his elective students announced the results after Dr. Swarzman, dressed in red, white, and blue, shared how fortunate we were to have two great leaders running for President with such passion and love for their country. The IDS results were 54% McCain/Palin and 38% Obama/Biden; the remainder was for independents. Congratulations to both McCain, in his concession speech, and Obama, in his victory speech for modeling the best of America for our students in the tone of their speeches!!!



**"THE COOL CATS TRAVEL THE USA" WILL BE PRESENTED IN THE FARISH CENTER ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7<sup>th</sup>.** Ms. Brockmeyer, Mrs. Petty and Mr. Richter have been guiding their Cool Cat multi-age class through their unit on **American Symbols** as they enthusiastically learn all about the symbols of our country during this historic election time. All are excited to perform on stage as they teach their audience, which includes parents, the Upper Primary students, and the IDS Kindergarten, all about what they have studied! The Cool Cats have found a "purr-fect" time to discover the values of freedom, liberty, and the American way.



## **MIDDLE SCHOOL MATH TEACHERS ACCEPT HONOR TO GIVE AND RECEIVE!**

For the second year in a row, Tom Bronson and Thelma Rosenberg have been chosen to present at the National Middle School Association's Annual Conference in Denver, Colorado. Their two presentations on how to "*Effectively Teach Math While Utilizing Multiple Intelligences*" and their session on using "*The Concept of Text Messaging in the Classroom*" reached over 300 participants at this national gathering. Mr. Bronson and Mrs. Rosenberg have been presenting at conferences since 2000 and have presented for the Florida Council of Teachers of Mathematics, Texas Instruments, IB International, and, the National Middle School Association. They enjoy speaking at these conferences because it allows them to take what they do at IDS-CC everyday and make a global impact. They also learned a lot by attending sessions that captured their own interests and added to their "bag of options" for teaching their passion - which is Mathematics. So, even while they were helping other teachers to sharpen their skill set, Tom and Thelma dived into the opportunity to "sharpen their own". Bravo and Welcome back!

## **HUGE KUDOS TO EIGHTH GRADE ENGLISH TEACHER MICHAEL VOKOUN!**

If you are in Education and want to publish an article, you really know how big this is...you see, Mr. Michael J. Vokoun and his co-author, Terry Patrick Bigelow of their book, "What Choice Do I Have?", published an article in the Association of Supervision's (ASCD) Journal for this month. It is one of the most highly read and respected journals in the education field, especially if you are a practitioner. The ASCD organization's national conference is usually the largest with the most cutting edge leaders in education! Congratulations Michael!! This is a tribute to you and your professional leadership.



**CONGRATULATIONS** to Michael LeBlanc and the Early Primary Division team of students and teachers, Pre-K3, Pre-K4, and Kindergarten, for being on the front page of the Tampa Tribune insert Carrollwood News & Tribune (click here for the link: <http://carrollwood2.tbo.com/content/2008/nov/05/cw-lighting-a-jurassic-spark/news/>). It was a great article and you can find pictures of Mr. LeBlanc narrating the integration of music along with classroom instruction and activity. Thank you Michael and Early Primary for practicing what we preach!



CAMPUS KUDOS AND HIGHLIGHTS!!! CONT. ON PAGE THREE

**WHAT IS LEARNING REALLY?** It sure is important to learn facts, memorize details, and gain base knowledge. That information helps us to make bigger connections that add meaning to what we do. However, how do you take the basics and translate the information so that it makes sense, creates understanding, and goes beyond the rote process and locks it into long term memory? Our school is a big proponent of making history come alive by building on the basics. Below is an example of bringing the facts to life and a perfect example of how our Specials integrate their work with our classroom teachers for all subject areas! Thanks for working together Mrs. Thomas (Eighth Grade Social Studies) and Coach Heller (Athletic Director). Mrs. Thomas reported:

"What does "Capture the Flag" have to do with the American Revolution? Everything if it is part of a History Alive! activity. In early November in PE, the eighth grade students played "Capture the Flag" with Coach Heller and it was totally unfair. All the experienced players were on the red team, except for the leader of the blue team. The red team outnumbered the blue team 2 to 1. The red team stretched and warmed up per Coach Heller's instructions, not the blue team. So why did our cooperative-learning-loving, every-student-gets-a-fair-shot, PE coach set up such unfair rules? Because they were part of a history simulation! "Capture the Flag" was to have very specific guidelines. Every one of these guidelines had a direct tie to something that happened in the American Revolution. The red team represented the British Army, the Red Coats, or Lobster Backs. The blue team represented the Continental Army, Patriots, or George Washington's men. Other students also represented the French troops and the African Americans. The simulation also helped explain war strategies and battles. It showed how it was possible for the blue team to win against what seemed like insurmountable odds, just like in the real American Revolution. This activity was followed up by a debriefing by Coach Heller and detailed notes that went along with a textbook reading in Mrs. Thomas' social studies classes. Now the students have a physical experience to help them understand the complex topics of the American Revolution. It was fun and educational."

## PARENT FACULTY ASSOCIATION (PFA)

1. **PFA EVERYDAY "FUN" DRAISING** – Co-Chairs Vanessa Minick and Heather Lee "do it again" as they bring us another opportunity for a fun gathering and fun raising at Chuck E. Cheese for IDS families on Monday, November 10, 2008, from 3:00 – 9:00 pm. Chuck E. Cheese's will donate to IDS-CC **15%** of all food, drink, and token sales that are made between 3:00 – 9:00 pm. *Please be sure to purchase your tokens at the counter rather than at the automated machines.*
2. **IDS FUN RUN - SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22** at 9:00 am, please see page one.  
**IDS 40<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION FALL FESTIVAL- SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22** at 10:30 am, please see page one.
3. **THE BIG EVENT COMMITTEE** will be meeting next Thursday morning, November 13<sup>th</sup>. Please join us! All are welcome! 8:15 am in the Grand Room (above Kindergarten in the "New" Building!) We look forward to seeing you all there!
4. **SCHOOL SPIRIT STORE IS NOW OPEN!** Many of us have been asking for this and now it is here! The IDS School Spirit Store is open! This is where you can locate one of the IDS Prism Polos... a soft and cozy IDS polo shirt in any one of 10 colors of the spectrum. Also, stop by to pick up one of the popular IDS t-shirts you have been seeing around campus. Please remember to order your sweatshirts and jackets for the upcoming cooler months. Come see what fun and exciting items are available to you! The store is conveniently located inside Corbett Hall and store hours are:

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings from 7:45 – 9:00 am and  
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday afternoons from 2:00 - 3:30 pm.



## PROUD MOMENTS SOAR FOR OUR IDSers



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

**Caroline Pomet**, (IDS Sixth Grade), placed First in the Midget Cheerleading division at the Plant City Strawberry Showdown. Caroline did a spectacular job of representing the TBYFL Northside Dolphin cheerleaders. Way to go Caroline!



# IDS OFFERS A FULL SERVICE PROGRAM!!!

So, we want to thank all of our wonderful families for their kind e-mails to and/or about our IDS teachers, that express how much they appreciate the many wonderful things that are done for students every single day from Pre-K3 through eighth grade. Your words of praise and gratitude for so many different things are truly very special to us. We also appreciate when you send in information that always helps us become even better. School is a partnership between the home and the school. Your perspective always keeps us "raising the bar"! Speaking of "raising the bar," there are so many wonderful opportunities going on right here at the IDS campus for all of our students. For example...

1. **SPORTS:** Fall sports have ended and will be recognized by Headmaster of the Day, Christian Gonzmart and the Coaches at our Monday Morning Assembly on November 10. Winter Competitive Sports began this week for Middle Schools' Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, and Cheerleading. Track begins in January and includes fourth through eighth grades. There is still time to try out for these sports. In addition, IDS has begun its new Wrestling Club for the third through eighth grades. There is a lot of enthusiasm for this new program. Call IDS at (813) 961-3087 and ask for Coach Joe Taylor if you are interested.
2. **AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES:** Based on popular demand, we are offering **five** sessions of after school activities this year so that students can choose different or even the same options through out the year. These activities are designed to add to the school day which is truly packed with as much as possible during regular school hours. The nice part of additional afternoon opportunities is that they are right here on campus and offered by our teachers as well as some highly talented outside specialists. **So: The third of five sessions begins in 10 days.**

**After School Activities Coordinator Mrs. Bronson says: "Be sure to sign up for Afterschool Activities, Monday, November 17 through Friday, January 23, 2009. The brochure is enclosed in your Thursday folder. Remember to send your form in early so your children can have a spot to enjoy our terrific activities. We have a great time and learn a lot."**

3. **COMMUNITY SCHOOL OF THE ARTS:** The Community School of the Arts (CSA) is offering new classes in art, dance and musical theater during the second trimester. Please see the enclosed brochure for an array of Fine Arts options that grow brain cells and create connections that make the arts come alive joyfully for our students and the community.

From Mr. McColley: "Please note that students who are currently enrolled in **CSA** classes and lessons will automatically be enrolled the second trimester. **You only need to contact us to change classes.** New students should complete the registration and student information forms and return them to the IDS-CC office. The **CSA** is open to the entire Tampa Bay community. Thanks to many of you for sharing our information with friends and neighbors. **We also offer adult lessons.**

**RECITALS BEGIN IN THE BEAUTIFUL FARISH CENTER!** Students currently enrolled in private and pair music lessons have the opportunity to perform in a recital next week. We have three performances to choose from, Friday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm or 7:30 pm, or Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am. If you still need to sign up for a time please contact us at [csa@idsyes.com](mailto:csa@idsyes.com). **ALSO, Please remember that November 10 - 15, is a week of make-up lessons only. Trimester 2 lessons will be on November 17<sup>th</sup>.** Thank you for a great first trimester.



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



**Yes! Our family will attend the IDS 40<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION  
FALL FESTIVAL on Saturday, November 22, 2008! Time: 10:30 A.M. – 2:30 P.M.**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ No. Attending: \_\_\_\_\_ Children's grade(s) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **YES! Our family will be having lunch at the Taste of IDS.**

Restaurants represented at the Taste of IDS are:



1. Café Eden at Abby's Health and Nutrition
2. Columbia Restaurant
3. Dinner Done
4. IDS Catering Services
5. Jamba Juice
6. Six Tables Restaurant
7. Sonny's BBQ Wesley Chapel
8. The Red Elephant
9. The IDS Girl Scout troop will be having a Bake Sale for dessert!



**Thank you to Chef Tony Kelly, The Gonzmart Family, The Nasser Family, Chef Garret, The Bottini Family, and The Hoff Family, Aaron Sang (GM for Jamba Juice), and Carl Sahlsten (VP for Red Elephant) for donating their time and food to this event!**

Food tickets are \$6.00 when purchased in advance or \$10.00 at the Festival.

\_\_\_\_\_ Total number of meals x \$6.00 per person \$\_\_\_\_\_ Enclosed

*For all prepaid orders on the day of the event, please go to the Bell Tower and we will give you your food ticket at that time.*

**Prepaid orders are to be turned into the main office by November 14, 2008.**



**IDS 40<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION FUN RUN**



\_\_\_\_\_ **Yes! Our family will attend the IDS FUN RUN!**

**Attention all Runners .....It's time to get out your running shoes for the FUN RUN!** Come enjoy a beautiful Run or Walk on our **Buchanan Sport Field at our Middle School!** Our 2 mile run begins at 9:00 a.m. (*for all runners*), our 1 mile run/walk begins at 9:30 a.m. (*for beginning runners or fast walkers*), and our ½ mile Primary Trot will follow at 10:00 a.m. (*for primary kids or walkers*). All runners will receive a special Run for Fun T-shirt, a medal, food & drinks. **Top Finishers will receive a gift card to Target!**

**Yes! Sign our family up**

NAME	Group*	Elite	2 mile	1 mile	Primary Trot

\* **Group** - P (Primary), Int (Intermediate), MS (Middle School), A (Adult)

Total number of Runners x \$15.00 = \$\_\_\_\_\_ Enclosed

T-Shirt Sizes: \_\_\_ YS \_\_\_ YM \_\_\_ YL \_\_\_ AS \_\_\_ AM \_\_\_ AL \_\_\_ AXL

Indicate the size of shirt and the number of each size needed

**PLEASE RETURN THE ORDER FORM INTO THE MAIN OFFICE BY NOVEMBER 14, 2008.**

**PLEASE MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO IDS**

