

Iles School News

1700 South 15th Street, Springfield, IL 62703 • 217-525-3226 • Mrs. Susan Rhodes, Principal



Calendar of Events

December 13th

Iles School Winter Band Concert
(Iles Gym)
6:30pm – 7:30pm

December 15th

Iles School Pizza Hut Fundraising
Day
12:00pm – 9:00pm

December 20th

Winter Classroom Parties
1:00pm – 2:00pm

EARLY DISMISSAL

2:00pm

December 21st – January 2nd

NO SCHOOL
Winter Break

January 3rd

NO SCHOOL
Teacher Inservice



THANK YOU!

By Mrs. Susan Rhodes

I want to thank all of the parents and families for their support of Iles Celebrates. It is a wonderful event and sets an example of what can be done when everyone works together. Seeing the smiles on everyone's faces makes all of the efforts worthwhile.

We have a start in reaching our goal to acquire 25 iPads for every grade level. Through the donations received for Iles Celebrates, we are able to purchase 12 iPads for classroom use. I went out on the afternoon of *Black Friday* and was able to purchase 5 iPads and receive a \$45 discount for each iPad. The savings for each machine will pay for the necessary protective covers. The other seven iPads have been ordered at the regular price and hopefully will arrive soon. I am optimistic that by working together we will reach our goal. The iPad applications for Chinese and the supports for math and our inquiry units are a great fit in meeting the needs of our students.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank you for being involved in supporting your child's education. Whenever you volunteer or take the time to listen to your child read or assist with homework, you send a very clear message to your child that you value education. When you take the time to talk with your child's

teacher, you send the message to your child that you are working together to assist in your child's education. When you support the decisions of the adults at Iles School, you are teaching your children to be respectful.

I have the opportunity to observe your children daily and I like what I see. I see children running into the school in the morning, eager to begin their day. I see children playing in a respectful manner with one another with smiles on their faces. I see children caring for a friend when they are hurt. Through the faces of these children, I see parents taking the time to teach their children important lessons. You are giving your children a most important gift and for that I want to say, "Thank you."

End of Day Safety Reminders

At the end of the day, students who are car riders are to go to the blacktop area. For the safety of our children, parents are to park their cars and go to the black top area to escort their child from the blacktop area. Due to the hazardous conditions, parents are not to park on Spruce Street and have their child cross the street to get into their cars.



December IB Eye

Ms. Sandy Bauer

International Baccalaureate PYP Coordinator

Thank you to the PTO and all volunteers who will make our IB/international culture night, Iles Celebrates, such a huge success! It was a night to remember with the huge turnout, amazing auction items, yummy food, celebration cake and recognition of our IB/PYP status!! We know that many of you spent countless hours on Iles Celebrates, but it wouldn't have been as successful without the incredible organizational skills of Mary Beth Burke! Just amazing! Thank you

FYI: Most of us are eager to share the fact that Iles School is an international world school, and the use of the IB logo is certainly one way. As with any trademark, there are certain restrictions, so I would like to include how the IB views its logo:

The World School logo indicates a school's special working relationship with the organization, i.e. its status as a school authorized to offer an IB programme. Hence, the logo may be used on the school's stationery, publications, web site and non-commercial promotional material. The right to use this logo within the school's community is restricted to the school itself via its IB coordinators and administrators. It is not for use by parent or student groups.

As an IB School one of the five parts of the written curriculum is for students to "take action." We

received a notice from Governor Quinn's office that he will be taking holiday cards to the men at Landsduhl Regional Medical Center in Germany where our most severely wounded soldiers are being treated. As a school (students, teachers, staff, everybody), we are creating holiday cards for Governor Quinn to take with him. We invite you, our parents, to also send a card or a note to these men who are serving our country and have been wounded in the process. We must have all cards and notes by Wednesday, December 14 to be included in our box. Please take the time to "take action"!

Chinese New Year Celebration!

Damon McParland

This year will be the year of the Dragon for the Chinese New Year. We are very excited to announce our first annual Chinese New Year Celebration! It will take place on January 31 from 5:30 to 7:30 in the evening. We will have live entertainment and many activities for the students. A traditional lion dance team will perform for us at 6:30. They will also give two classes in lion dance performance. The classes can have up to 50 students each. There will be a sign up for those classes later on. Also, we will have Dan Keding, an internationally renowned storyteller telling ancient Chinese folk tales. The students will also be performing Chinese folk songs. Each class from grades 1 to 5 will be singing. The middle school band will perform a selection of

Chinese songs. There will also be instruction in Taichichuan. Some of the other activities will be Chinese calligraphy, Chinese chess, tangrams, Chinese riddle competition, Beijing opera mask painting, as well as Chinese landscape painting. The students will spend a good deal of time in class helping to get ready for the New Year's, both by learning their songs and also helping to make decorations for the school. We will also need some parent volunteers to help with activities. There will be some requests later for volunteers but if you already know you'd like to help, please contact me (Mai Laoshi) Mark your calendars for January 31 and get ready for some Chinese New Year's fun!



Band News

Dia Langellier

We have had a rash of lost instruments this year. Two of these have not been found and are presumed stolen. Please talk to your child about the responsibility of taking care of these very expensive items. I am constantly amazed at how carelessly children leave their instruments lying around as if they were a cheap toy. Please let them know how much you paid for them, and how important it is to you that they are responsible for them. I constantly remind them of this, but it

means so much more coming from Mom and Dad. Also, if you do not have a name tag with contact numbers on your child's instrument, please take care of this a.s.a.p. Usually, lost instruments are found by honest folks who would like to return them to the rightful owners. Make it easy for them to do so with a name tag containing your contact info.

Our annual Winter Band Concert will be held on Dec. 13, 2011 at 6:30 pm. Details will be coming home with band students in a letter, next week. Please watch for it. The concert will feature all groups from the Beginning Band to the Middle School Band, as well as the new Jazz Band. We will also be wearing our new band shirts, designed by Mr. Marcy.

During the month of October I rewarded 2 students for having the most practice time on the practice charts that they turned in. The highest score was held by Bala Ramaraju with over 500 minutes of practice time. Second place went to Anneliese Paton. Both girls received Baskin Robbins gift certificates. From now until Winter Break, how many students can beat that score of over 500 minutes? Let's cheer them on parents!! Help them remember to practice their instrument.

DONOR'S CHOOSE PROJECT

I have a project on donorschoose.com/Langellier that is about \$170 from completion. It is for a

new pair of crash cymbals for the band. If you would like to contribute, please watch my district web page (<http://www.spsi86.org/teachers/di>) for a match code. During the week of Dec. 5-12, donors choose will double all donations made with that code. I will post the code on my site as soon as I receive it.

Swinging Singers News

Amy Taylor

Swinging Singers will be performing their holiday show on several occasions this month. You won't want to miss out on listening to these wonderful holiday selections sure to put you in a festive spirit. Swinging Singers will be performing at The Early Learning Center at 10:30 and again at 1:20 on December 16th. They will also perform for the students, staff, and parents on December 20th at 12:30 with classroom holiday parties to follow. Hope to see you at one of these performances.



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Girls on the Run

Carolyn Korza

Spring Session

Iles would like to offer Girls on the Run for 3rd-5th grades, and possibly a Girls on Track for our middle school girls. To make this happen, we need some volunteers to coach. You

don't need any experience, and don't even need to be a runner yourself. Curriculum and a 2 hour training is provided for coaches. We can schedule the days around coaches' availability. It is very rewarding and lots of fun! Please contact Carolyn Korza at Iles if you would like to volunteer or learn more.

Student Support News

Sherry Frachey

This quarter we are focusing on the decision making process. Students should be able to name the steps and describe the process: 1. Think, 2. Predict, 3. Choose, 4. Do, 5. Reflect.

This corresponds with our International Baccalaureate Action Cycle of Choose, Act, Reflect. In the intermediate grades, we are developing storyboards for iMovies involving these steps. I will post those on my web page when they are complete. We are also discussing these vocabulary words:

immediate gratification

delayed gratification

Impulsive

Short and Long Term Goals

The difference between a dilemma and a problem.

Iles Cafeteria

Just a quick reminder from our cafeteria – please write your child's name on any checks for their account.

Thank you!
Sue Jacobs

PTO

Mike Little , President

Dear Iles Parents,

The Iles PTO thanks all of you for supporting our 11th annual multicultural family event Iles Celebrates. This year's celebration was extra special as Iles School received our authorization as an International Baccalaureate World School.

Thanks to your support and participation, we raised over \$30,000 of which \$6,175 will go towards the purchase of iPads. The remainder will help the PTO implement and fund programs that all of our students enjoy, such as Chinese, Art, Music, Intramural Sports, Field Trips, Library Books, Teacher Grants, Classroom and Office Supplies, Popcorn Fridays, Middle School Events, Writers Workshop, End-of Year Parties and International Baccalaureate Learning Tools for our students and teachers.

We'd like to take this opportunity to say a special thank you to our Iles Celebration Chairperson, Mary Beth Burke who spent almost a year planning for our celebration, and to our many dedicated volunteers. We truly appreciate their time and efforts to make this year's Iles Celebrates our largest one to date. We'd also like to thank the following restaurants for providing great food for our fun family night of celebration: Dairy Queen, The Inn at 835, Little Saigon, Magic Kitchen, Popeyes Chicken, Hickory River, Nelson's Catering, Yanni's Gyros, Xochimilco, Gateway to India, Darcy's Pint, Ross Isaac, Cafe Moxo and Angela's A Taste of Italy.

Thank you again for all of your generous support. We could not have done it without you!

Sincerely,

Your PTO Board

Parents, Take Action!



**Send a holiday greeting card with a message to our troops at Landsduhl Medical Center in Germany.
(Read December IB Eye for details!)**