

# Iles School News

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



## Calendar of Events

March 6<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>

ISAT Testing

March 6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>

PTO Book Fair

March 8<sup>th</sup>

Personal Best Art Show  
& Family Night

March 9<sup>th</sup>

End of 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter - 2:00pm  
Dismissal

March 15<sup>th</sup>

Pizza Hut Fundraising Day

March 30<sup>th</sup>

2:00pm Dismissal

April 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>

NO SCHOOL – Spring Break

April 9<sup>th</sup>

NO SCHOOL – Teacher Institute



## It's ISAT Time at Iles School!

*Mrs. Susan K. Rhodes, Principal*

Iles School will be administering state-required achievement tests to students in grades 3-8 on March 6 – 14 with necessary make-ups to be completed March 15 –16, 2012. Students in grade three; five, six and eight will be tested in reading and mathematics. Fourth and seventh grade students will be tested in reading, mathematics, and science. The tests are a part of the Illinois Standards Achievement Test (ISAT) program, and are being given to all students. The results of the state tests will be reported to you on the School Report Card in the fall. We will review state test results along with other information to help us improve our school program. In addition, you will receive information in the fall about your child's performance on the state tests he or she took.

You can help your child do his or her best on the test by:

1. Ensuring that your child arrives to school on time—students who arrive after a test session has started will have to wait in the office until the test is completed and will have to make up the test at another time;

2. Attending school on the days of testing;
3. Making sure your child gets a good night's sleep the night before testing;
4. Providing breakfast on the mornings of testing;
5. Reminding your child to ask the teacher questions if he or she does not understand the test directions;
6. Letting your child know that you have confidence in his or her ability to do his or her best; and
7. Advising your child not to worry about the test—just do the best he or she can.

PLEASE do everything you can to avoid having your child miss a test that is being administered by the classroom teacher. It puts your child at a disadvantage because the make-up session will be held outside of your child's classroom with another staff member. Your child will lose the advantage of taking the test in a familiar setting with supportive posters displayed on the wall.



Please contact your child's teacher or myself if you want additional information or have further questions about these tests. We look forward to sharing the ISAT results with you this fall. As a result of parents supporting our students, Iles School has a rich tradition of doing well on the ISAT tests. It takes everyone working together to achieve the best results possible.

## March IB Eye

*By Sandy Bauer, IB-PYP Coordinator*

Iles School as an authorized IB World School has begun the mission of sharing its knowledge and expertise of the PYP with other schools. Recently, Iles School has been visited by the Principal of Holy Family School in Peoria, the PYP Coordinator at Charter Oak Elementary in Peoria, and the PYP Coordinator at Garden Hills Magnet in Champaign. Each school is at a different spot in its journey toward authorization, and, of course, the faculty at Iles School is more than happy to help. During their visits, the visitors were given a tour of the school, visits to the classrooms, and discussions with the teachers during IB planning. I must say all were extremely impressed by work of the students displayed in the hallways and the interaction between the students and their teachers.

In addition, last spring the faculty

of Fairview School in Springfield visited us, as they were deciding whether to pursue a PYP application. After studying the components of PYP and visiting a couple schools in Chicago, I am pleased to report that Fairview will submit an application to become a PYP Candidate School on April 1. In the coming year(s) we will be sharing our knowledge with them, as well!

At this point in the year, all classes are Inquiring about their fifth planners, or will begin right after ISAT testing.

- 1st – Exploration
- 2nd – Weather
- 3rd – Water
- 4th - Media impact
- 5th - Old State Capitol

More information about the fifth grade Exhibition on May 23<sup>rd</sup> will be forthcoming. YOU ARE INVITED to the culminating event for our Iles PYP students! This may be an event that you all will want to visit!!

## Student Support News for March

*By Sherry Frachey, Student Support*

In Student Support classes we are still working on thinking, feeling, and doing habits, which create our Personal Power. Some of you got a chuckle from the silly mnemonic to help the students remember about Personal Power! Our lines of inquiry are more structured since

they are taken from the text "Whispering Shadows". This helps the students identify and challenge their negative self talk through clear and star thinking.

1st graders use a character education book series to help them define and identify how to deal with conflict in an assertive, positive way.

THANK YOU for making the Fair Trade Store a huge success!! The thank you letter from Fair Trade is displayed in the lower level hallway outside Room 4. Not only do we have a \$1000.00 check for Free the Children, but also we sent \$413.87 to Fair Trade to support micro-financing projects in several 3rd world areas. The "Me to We" Leadership Team is now collaborating with Ms. Albertson to organize a spring talent show for students. Stay tuned for details!

Think Spring!



## Nurse's Notes

*By Valerie Rogers, RN, CSN*

Avoid the rush. It is time to schedule a physical for all students entering kindergarten, 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall. Due

to the increase in pertussis (whooping cough), a new law also requires that all 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade students must have a Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis) immunization in order to start school in August. Please schedule an appointment for your child now. If your child receives a physical and immunizations before the end of school this year, you may send completed forms to the school office. I will include them in your child's health folder and mark them as compliant for the fall.

We have seen an increase in several different illnesses recently including strep throat, influenza and a stomach virus. Please encourage your child to wash their hands frequently and to cover their cough to decrease the spread of illness. It is also important to remember that children should not return to school following an illness until they have been symptom free for 24 hours without medication. Thanks for helping to keep our children healthy.

## CHINESE NEWS

*By Damon McParland, Chinese Teacher*

The students are doing a great job in their Chinese classes! The first and second graders are in the middle of learning about

Chinese characters. All first and second grade classes will be using calligraphy brushes and our "magic paper" and water to write their characters next week. The older classes spent the past couple of weeks learning how to "haggle" in Chinese and are starting to learn some weather terms.

This spring, a Chinese Lantern Festival is coming to the St. Louis Botanical Gardens from May 26 through August 19, 2012. There will be a large number of lanterns and it is sure to be spectacular! Here's the address to the garden's website so you can check it out!

<http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/things-to-do/events/special-exhibitions/lantern-festival.aspx>

Tickets cost \$22 adults (ages 13 & over) \$10 children (ages 3—12). This exhibition will only run from 6:00pm to 10:00 pm. The price is only for evening admission and does not include daytime viewing. The Botanical Garden has a wide variety of garden styles and has a wonderful Chinese Garden section and a beautiful Japanese Garden section (try to time it so the cherry blossoms are in bloom!).

Be sure to check this out! It would make a great way to add

some Chinese Culture to your summer!



## Spring Vocal Music Programs

*By Amy Taylor, Vocal Music Teacher*

The vocal music programs on April 19, 2012 have been rescheduled. First/Second Grade will perform on May 3, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. Fourth/Fifth Grade will also perform on May 3, 2012 at 7:30. Third grades vocal music program will be announced at a later date. We rescheduled the programs due to many of our students performing in another show on the same day. We thank you for your understanding! Information regarding the third grade performance will be sent home to third grade parents.

Thank you!

## Band News

*By Dia Langellier, Instrumental Music Teacher*

Thank you to all who donated to our Donor's Choose projects. Next time you are in the building, check

out our new white board in room 122 and our new Stand Cart and Drum Rug, all purchased through Donor's Choose donations. If you would still like to donate, I will be putting up 2 new projects this week. Try the "Zonker" code at checkout to double your donation. I don't know if that one is still active, but a new one to double donations will be coming out next week, effective for 1 week only! Encourage your friends and relatives to make a donation. It doesn't have to be large, every little bit counts! Visit our projects at:

[www.donorschoose.org/Langellier](http://www.donorschoose.org/Langellier)

Please check my website for upcoming performances and information. St. Patrick's parade music can be downloaded from my Resources>Downloads>2012 Parade Music if your child has misplaced his/her music.

Congratulations to all the contest participants this past weekend! Iles instrumentalists came home with 63 – 1<sup>st</sup> Place medals, 7 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place medals and 1 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place ribbon. Keep up the practicing! It really pays off!

## Cafeteria

By Sue Jacobs, Kitchen Manager

We are requesting that when you send money to cover your child/children's lunch accounts, that you put the student's name on the envelope or put the

student's name where it says "Memo" on your check. We have many students in the district that have different last names from their parents. It can be difficult and time consuming to match the payment with the correct lunch account. If you know the student's account number, please put this on the check also. Your help is much appreciated.



## Lost & Found

After March 30<sup>th</sup>, any unclaimed items from lost & found will be donated to Goodwill. Please have your children check for any lost items before they leave for Spring Break.

## From Your PTO

Dear Iles Parents,

We would like to take this opportunity to say a special thank you to our teachers and parents that volunteer their time to make Iles an exceptional school. The PTO Book Fair/ Family Night and the Personal Best Art show is this Thursday March 6, from 4:30 – 8. Our next Pizza Hut night is scheduled for March 15; the vouchers are on the PTO website. The next PTO meeting is scheduled for March 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 in the

library. It will be an important meeting. We will be voting on by-law changes, surplus money in the budget and nominations for next year's PTO Board. Surplus money request forms are on the PTO website. They need to be completed and returned to Iles by March 15<sup>th</sup> to be considered at the PTO meeting. If you would like to run for a PTO board position, please e-mail any of the following board members by March 22.

Michael Little:

[mlittle2300@gmail.com](mailto:mlittle2300@gmail.com)

Christina Race:

[chrisrace@gmail.com](mailto:chrisrace@gmail.com)

Anglican Salazar:

[ansaga.vi@gmail.com](mailto:ansaga.vi@gmail.com)

Amy Ballinger-Cole:

[ballinger-cole@consolidated.net](mailto:ballinger-cole@consolidated.net),

Debbie Parker:

[debbieparker63@gmail.com](mailto:debbieparker63@gmail.com).

We need your help! Research shows that student achievement is directly linked to parent involvement. So, we are asking for your help with playground, popcorn Fridays, book fair, field trips and in the classroom. We welcome parents, grandparents, family friends and relatives to take part. There is truly something for everyone to do.

The PTO is grateful to all our wonderful Iles Families! It takes an entire school community to make a difference! We look forward to working with all of you.