

Iles School News

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



Calendar of Events

March 5-8

ISAT Testing 3rd-5th grades

March 5-8

Spring Book Fair

March 7

Personal Best Art Show
PTO Book Fair & Family Night
5-7pm

March 15

End of 3rd Quarter
EARLY DISMISSAL 2:00PM

March 19

All City Music Festival
UIS Sangamon Auditorium
7-9pm

March 28-April 5

Spring Break
NO SCHOOL

April 8

Teacher Institute
NO SCHOOL

April 11

Spring Picture Day



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Mrs. Kenyatta Revelle
Iles School Principal

Dear Families,

Iles School will be administering state-required achievement tests to students in grades 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th on March 5th – 15th. Students in grades 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.

IB Eye, March 2013

Sandy Bauer

IB Coordinator

Wouldn't you just love to sit in a class and listen to Betsy Irwin share information about Lincoln Memorial Garden or Edina Fezlic share immigration information or Tom Tomlinson explain Lincoln's Funeral or Jackie Beam give you pointers about good nutrition? In this month's message, I would like to highlight and thank the parents, friends, relatives and community members who enrich our IB curriculum and the children's knowledge. They have been coming to school to share their expertise for the past three years. I have tried to keep track of these wonderful volunteers on the bulletin board outside the office. As you could see, speakers have

been especially prominent during Exhibition and the Old State Capitol project! The other grade levels certainly have their fair share of speakers as well. A very large thank you to all of you! To those of you who would just love to speak to a class about your expertise relative to a unit of study, please don't hesitate to contact a teacher.



Cancellations

We have added a new page to our Iles website. On the left side of our Iles homepage you will now see a gray box titled "Cancellations". On days when we have inclement weather, we will post any afterschool activities that have been cancelled. You should also be receiving calls from coaches or whoever is in charge of the activity.

March Student Support News

Mrs. Sherry Frachey

Student Support

Making Positive Decisions

In all elementary classrooms, we have learned and practiced the bulk of our Relaxation Response lessons. We are referring once again to our International

Baccalaureate Learner Profile Attitudes and Attributes and the I.B. Think, Choose, Reflect Action Cycle to learn how to manage conflicts peacefully, set short term and long term goals, recognize and understand the difference in the consequences between negative and positive decisions. We will continue the RR Stress Reduction practices in each class for a few minutes before the lesson begins. I hope you are seeing and hearing your child using these skills and strategies, and more importantly, helping them to be more peaceful.

Middle School Electives

Mondays: 8th graders are almost finished with our Iles Yearbook! I am really proud of them and appreciate all of their dedication and hard work! If you haven't ordered, the deadline is past. However, we will gladly accept last minute orders until Friday March 8, 2013. Forms are in the office and may be placed in my office mailbox.

Fridays: 6th graders have finished their reports on girls'/womens' issues, and have begun their iMovies or keynotes. Stay tuned!

T/Th: 6th - 8th graders in the theater workshop are enthusiastically in full rehearsals for our middle school musical. "The Point" will be presented at in the LRS Theater at The Hoogland Center for the Arts on Thursday, April 25,

2013 at 5:30 p.m. Please come and show your support for all of their hard work and dedication! Admission is free, but donations will be accepted. All proceeds from those donations will benefit our Free the Children School in Kenya. The Oleleshwa School for Girls project provides clean water so the girls are free to get a good education.



I also want to thank ALL OF THE MIDDLE SCHOOL PARENTS (also Elementary Parents and Alumni Parents!) WHO SO FREELY GIVE OF THEIR TIME AND TALENTS!!! (Can you tell I appreciate you? I hope so!) Because of the hard work of the students and your willingness to help, we have quite a snappy little production going on. Also, we have a plethora of community volunteers who are helping with everything from costumes to lighting, to props and sets to make this project successful. I am grateful that there are so many people in our community who want to help create wonderful learning experiences for our children. They will all be listed in the program so

you can thank them personally.

"Happy Ads" for the program are available now for a \$10.00 donation to our Iles Theater Workshop fund. Please make checks payable to Iles School. Space is limited, so please let me know if you didn't receive the form, and I will send it to you.

Thanks for all you do to help support your child's successful Iles School experience.

Cafeteria News

Sue Jacobs
Cafeteria Manger

We want to remind parents to keep a positive balance on their child's lunch account. We have had several students "charging" lunch. You can view the balance on your child's lunch account through your parent access account. If you do not have an account set up, please see Mrs. Keys in the office.

Band News

Dia Langellier
Instrumental Music Teacher

The list of names on the Band Fear Factor Board is growing! Keep encouraging students to practice those IMEA scales.

Coming up next on our performance schedule is the St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 16, 2013. If your child is new to marching band, please get to your local music store to purchase a lyre for your child.

Solo & Ensemble Contest this year is on April 26, 2013. The contest is open to 4th and 5th grade band students who wish to participate. Look for an information letter to come home soon. It will be due back to me by March 1st with the appropriate fees attached.

Music News

Amy Taylor
Vocal Music Teacher

Please mark your calendars for the Spring Music Program: Grades 1/2 and Grades 4/5 will be on April 18, 2013. Grades 1/2 will perform at 6:30 and Grades 4/5 will perform at 7:15. Grade 3 will have their own performance on May 7, 2013 at 5:30. A more detailed note will come home at a later time. Hope to see you all there.

Fifth Grade and Middle School students have an opportunity to participate in solo and ensemble contest for vocal performances. Contest is April 26, 2013 at Springfield High School. Notes have been given to those students who are interested. If your student has not received a permission slip and note about contest, please have your student see me for the information.

Chinese

Damon McParland
Chinese Teacher

During the month of February, the students were busy working on Chinese New Year items. The first

graders are just about done performing their lion dances. The second graders made dragon dance puppets and are also in the middle of learning one of my favorite Chinese songs, Feng Yang Flower Drum Song. The third graders are in the middle of finishing their lucky character decorations. Fourth grade are having fun combining calligraphy with Chinese water color painting (using our special water color colored pencils). The fifth graders are doing short skits based on songs from Beijing Opera (using their own Beijing Opera Masks). The middle school students had a Chinese Luncheon to celebrate the New Year as well.



PTO News

Dear Iles Families,

As we move our clocks forward and spring into the next season, we are very excited about all we have to look forward to as well as all we have accomplished over the past few months. The 5th grade wrapped up a successful Exhibition where students presented the results of their Unit of Inquiry into current world issues. Iles second graders during their economic unit of inquiry took action by organizing a food drive for the Central Illinois Food Bank. They collected a grand total of over 400 cans. Scholastic Bowl and basketball are in full swing. ISAT testing starts on March 5th.

Coming up, we have our PTO Meeting on March 5th. To help facilitate a large attendance for both our meeting and the school board meeting, we are moving the

start time of the PTO meeting to 5:00 at school.

We're still in need of volunteers for the PTO Book Fair and to help serve dinner on March 7, if you can help please call Michael Little at 622-6988.

Save the date for Iles Celebrates! It will be on April 20! More information will come home regarding our fun family celebration. We hope to see you at these events. As always, we thank the many volunteers, teachers and families that support the Iles PTO and its programs. It is through your dedication to our organization that we are able to provide the programs and support that enhance the learning of our children.

The PTO Board

Michael, Kyle, Lana & Karen

Lost & Found

As the school year progresses, our lost and found continues to grow. We will be doing spring cleaning during our break in April. If you know (or suspect) your child has lost an item this year, please have them check our lost and found before March 28th. All items left will be donated over spring break. Any parents who wish to come and look for lost items are welcome to do so.