

September IB Eye

Sandy Bauer, PYP
Coordinator

Welcome back to Iles School where we work to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who will create a better and more peaceful world through the Primary Years Programme. As you know, we are beginning our third year of IB Authorization and our sixth year of involvement with the IB Organization.

The classrooms are filled with IB-PYP reminders, and the teachers are just beginning their first transdisciplinary planners. Monthly meetings with grade level teachers will begin next week to "backwards plan", discuss inquiry, fit our program into the common core standards, reflect and refine. It is such a delight to work with teachers who are inquirers and fit the Learner Profile, themselves, and are experts in a combination of child development and curriculum. Please be sure to read "General Regulations: Primary Years Programme" which was attached to the grade level-designed worksheet that was handed out at Parent Orientation. To send this home each year is a requirement from the IB Organization.

I will be holding an orientation meeting about the International Baccalaureate Organization/Primary Years Programme and how it has been unfolded at Iles School on Thursday, September 26 at 11:00 in room 14. You are most welcome to

attend to learn more about our programme! If possible, please e-mail me to tell me you're coming, so I have enough materials for everyone.

We're off to another excellent year!

August/September Student Support News

Mrs. Sherry Frachey
Student Support

Welcome back returning families, and WELCOME to our new Iles families!

The next 2 weeks we will be doing an orientation and student survey in the elementary Student Support classes. These sessions include information for students about the peer mediation process, conflict management expectations and an overview of our first Lion's Quest unit, "Building Community." I hope you are hearing about "peace class"! We will also be watching video clips about "Getting Along" in grades 1 and 2, and "Working Together" in grades 3-5. Concepts include interdependence, perception, body language (non-verbal communication) and peaceful conflict management. In middle school, we also have some orientation which includes information about Enrichment, yearbook, CICO (Check In/Check Out) and our various service learning projects. The peer mediation process was also explained.

We will be watching Tom Shadyac's documentary, "I Am" to kick off our service learning projects. Notes

were sent home on 8-26 (8th grade) and 8-27 (6th and 7th). Our first school wide activity will be on September 21st. We will be celebrating International Peace Day with our project, "Pinwheels for Peace". Mr. Marcy does pinwheels in art class. In student support, we write our peace wishes for the world. I will also record and post a video of our activities. Stay tuned!

Noontime Volunteers

We are always looking for volunteers willing to help with the lunch shifts. Please let the PTO know if you are available!

Middle School

I will meet with most Middle School students for end of the day enrichment/electives. Students will be engaged in projects supporting social/emotional learning and their core academic subjects, as well as applying those skills in our projects. This is not a graded class. I will keep you informed through my web site and this newsletter.

On Mondays, 8th graders will be working on the Iles Yearbook as well as other projects. I am administering and scoring an Interest Inventory to determine how to best meet their needs. Also, any special accommodations will be honored at this time. So students needing to finish assessments or who have any special educational plans will receive support as needed and/or requested by their core teachers.

Lunch

Any parent wishing to donate new or gently used items for 1st/2nd grade lunch recess would be greatly appreciated! Sidewalk chalk, jump ropes, and any kind of catch games are welcome. There is a box in the lower hallway for recess supplies.

I am so grateful to work at Iles, and look forward to serving you and your children this year! Please call if you have any concerns or questions.

Health Update

Sue Hutches RN

School Nurse

Hi Parents! Welcome back! I hope everyone had a relaxing and peaceful summer :)

Just a few reminders for the beginning of the school year:

-All 2nd graders must have proof of a recent dental exam

-All 6th graders must have proof of a physical examination within 1 year of the first day of school, a recent dental exam and proof of receiving a TDAP vaccine

-Also, if any medications are to be given during school hours, there must be an order from a physician for that med. Please feel free to call me with any questions!

Wishing you all a happy and healthy school year :)

Chinese

欢迎!!!

Damon McParland

Chinese Instructor

Welcome back to Chinese class!

We are spending the first few classes reviewing. If your child is new to the school, please have them review the words in the packet that was handed out.

There are several links on my site that can help with pronunciation.

Same as in the past, all students in grades first through fifth will have Chinese for an hour each week.

For first and second grade, they have it three times for twenty minutes each, and I go to their classes. Third through fifth grade come to my room twice a week for thirty minutes each time. Middle school has it every day for half an hour.

This year is our turn to celebrate our Chinese New Year's as a school with an evening celebration! It will be the Year of the Horse. If you would like to volunteer to help, please contact me at

dmcpar@sps186.org. We will be sending out sign up sheets for volunteers later on this fall.

Looking forward to another wonderful year with your children!

SPEECH CONTEST

We are already getting things together for this year's speech contest. Speech contest is open to Middle School students and is an IESA sponsored activity. It is basically acting. The students choose a script, memorize it and then act it out in front of a judge.

There are no props or costumes, just the actor's ability to convey the story with their voice and actions. The students can choose to work with a partner or a small group. They may also do a monologue. Seventh and eighth graders may also choose to do an improv (they must do a scripted piece as well.) Our performance date is Sat. Nov. 2 at Illini Central in Mason City. Permission slips were passed out this week and are due on Friday August 28. There will be a short organizational meeting at lunch. We do need parent volunteers to help coach the groups. It is actually easier than it sounds so please feel free to step up and help.

Band News

Dia Langjellier

Band/M.S. Music/Technology

As we get the band program up and running this year, there are a few things you should know.

1. Concert dates are listed on my website on the performance calendar. Pay attention to whether it is listed as an Elementary or Middle School function.
2. There was a meeting at 5 pm on September 3, 2013 to give parents information on our beginning band program. If you missed it, you can download the registration and information forms from my website "Info" page (sps186.org/teachers/dial)
3. The beginners will start on Sept. 9th with instruction on note and rhythm reading, breathing and blowing and music terms. All new

students will need instruments, books and equipment by the 16th. 4. I have 2 projects on the DonorsChoose.org website that I am trying to get funded. If you can help with a donation, no matter how small, please visit the website and look for my projects: "Storage Wars" and "Midi Keyboards for Composing." If you cannot donate at this time, please consider spreading the word for me by sharing on Facebook, Twitter, or email family and friends. Thank you for your help!

Middle School Band Parents:

ALL Middle School Band Parents are asked to sign up for the Remind 101 text messaging service this year. I will be sending notices about concerts and reminders/changes in routine, using this service. If your child did not bring home the instruction sheet, it is on my website under resources. If you do not have text messaging service on your phone, please write me a note asking for emails instead. I WILL NOT be sending paper notifications home this year.

Starter Strings Meeting

We will have a meeting to register students for Starter Strings and to measure for the correct size instrument on Tuesday Sept 24th, at 7:00 pm in the school library. If you have a child in 2nd-5th grade that would like to learn an orchestral instrument, please attend this meeting with your child.

Physical Education

Bobby Noll,
PE Teacher

Running Club

Each morning the students have a chance to participate in running club. This consists of running laps around the playground. 10 laps-1 mile. We are working collaboratively to see how many miles we can go. Our goal is to run the length of Route 66, a total of 2,451 miles. Follow our progress throughout the year by checking Mr. Noll's classroom webpage.

Middle school students who are interested in trying out for athletic teams at Washington Middle School, please see Mr. Noll.

From the Kitchen

Sue Jacobs
Kitchen Manager

Parents, please remember the students at Iles are required to pay for breakfast and lunch as we are not a school included in the federal program providing free meals. If you like to apply for the free/reduced lunch program, please ask the office for an application, or visit the Food Service webpage on the Springfield Springfield School District 186 website.

Please try to keep a positive balance on your child's account, and if you cannot, please call me and we will work with you to resolve the issue.'

PTO News

Maybe it was the crazy summer weather, but it's hard to believe our kids are already back in the swing of school again. On behalf of the Iles PTO, I'd like to greet returning parents and welcome new parents to our community. Please take a few minutes to check out the Iles PTO Website (blue box on the left side of the Iles homepage).

This is where you can find all the information you need about PTO meetings, activities, and volunteer opportunities. We can't do all we do without you! Why not try something new this year, like Popcorn Friday or Art Outreach or the Book Fair? I can tell you from the last seven years that participating with my kids (and yours) in their school environment is an enlightening experience. If you have any questions or concerns, the Board Members' contact e-mails are available on the PTO website. And mark your calendars for our next PTO meeting on Tuesday, October 1, from 5:30-6:30 p.m., where we will have child care available. See you then!

From the District

The Springfield Public Schools needs YOUR input in the search for a new Superintendent of Schools!

The Board of Education for the Springfield Public Schools is currently searching for a new Superintendent of Schools and is looking for input from the

community. Springfield residents are encouraged to take a brief survey. The results of this survey will be used to help define the qualities important to the community in the next superintendent.

Please visit

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/JNF7KMP> to take the survey and give your input into this important process.

Additional information regarding the search process can be found by visiting the Springfield Public Schools homepage at

www.sps186.org.

We look forward to receiving your input and thank you for participating in this process!