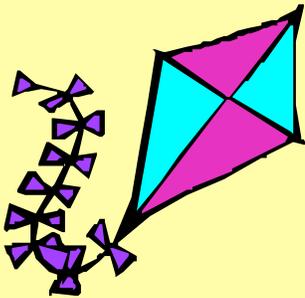




Springfield Public Schools District 186/ 217.525.3226

MAY 2006

Volume II, Issue 9



Calendar Of Events:

- May 8 Spring Band Concert, 7 PM
- May 26 **Early Dismissal 11:30 am**, Tchr. Workshop Day
- May 29 **NO SCHOOL** Memorial Day
- May 31 Fun Fest Day
- June 5,6,7
2:00 Early Dismissal
- June 8 **Last Day of School, 10:00 Dismissal**
- August 9 School Registration Day
- August 22
1st Day of School

NEWS FROM MRS. RHODES...

It is always exciting to get something new. Because of the tremendous support from parents and friends of Iles School, we have been able to work with our new computers. Twenty-eight computers were installed in the computer lab adjoining the library during Spring Break. A special thanks goes to Mr. Robert Marcy and Mr. Jason Curry for donating their time to assist with the installation of these computers. In addition to the new computers at Iles School, our school district's web site team has unveiled a new web site for the entire district to use. The teachers at Iles School have out done themselves in utilizing this new tool to be able to communicate more efficiently with both parents and students. I strongly encourage you to go to our school web site on a daily basis at www.springfield.k12.il.us so you will be able to keep up to date with what is happening at Iles School.

Thank you for your support in our spring fundraiser. The money that was earned from the sale of candy will be used to pay for student assemblies, field trips, classroom and technology supplies along with paper and toner used to copy student materials. A total of \$4326 was earned during this fundraiser. Michael Neposchlan raised the most money during the event and earned the cash prize of \$100. Thank you so much Michael for your generosity in donating \$50 of your prize money back to the school. This money will go towards the purchase of a DVD player for a TV in the computer lab.

Student evaluations from the third annual writing conference held on April 21 indicate that it was another success. Thank you to Sabrena Campbell and Kellie Robinson and the efforts of many other parents and grandparents in making this event possible for our children. We are still accepting the \$3 student fees to help pay for the expenses of this event.

(Contd. on pg. 2)

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Principal**

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Physical Time...Once again it is time to make appointments for school physicals. It is a state law that all students entering kindergarten, 5th grade and 9th grade must have a school physical. Please contact your doctor today to make an appointment for your 4th grader to get their physical before they begin 5th grade in the fall. Physicals that are done before June 7th should be returned to school as soon as possible. Don't forget that parents need to complete the health history section. Thank you for your assistance.

Dental Exams...State law requires that all Kindergarten, 2nd and 6th graders have a dental exam. Completed forms are due by **May 15th**. The examination by your dentist must have been done within 18 months prior to the May 15th deadline. If you have an appointment scheduled within 60 days after the deadline, please have your dentist's office fax a note with the appointment date to Iles at 525-4408. A waiver from this requirement may be obtained if it causes an undue burden or if there is not access to a dentist. Call me at 525-3226 for questions.

Valerie Rogers R.N., BSN
School Nurse

Iles Cafeteria News...A reminder to parents to keep a positive balance on your child's lunch account. Please make all checks to cover your child's meals through the end of the school year. Feel free to call Sue Jacobs, Cafeteria Manager, with any questions and to find out the balance of your child's account. Also, all students who will be eating the special FUNFEST lunch will be charged \$1.35.

Important Reminders!!

Spring Pictures...

This is a final reminder to please return the spring pictures and/or money by Friday, May 6th.

Parents—Please make every effort to have your child at school at 8:25 in the morning. We make our morning announcements at this time and also do student recognitions. Once the students go to their classrooms, teachers enter the daily attendance on the computer along with the lunch count. When your child arrives to school late, our lunch count is not accurate and your child has missed hearing important information.

Parental Survey

Springfield Public School District 186 is committed to work in collaboration with parents and community in our mission to achieve outstanding results for all students. Our strategic plan calls for the administration of parental surveys. Your input is very important to us. Beginning May 8, you may log onto our web site at www.springfield.k12.il.us click the parent survey icon located on the homepage and complete the survey. Please let your child's teacher or principal know if you do not have access to a computer, and a paper copy will be provided.

SAP NEWS...Mrs. Frachey **Peaceful Conflict Resolution**

I see many students in my office each day I am at Iles. Most of these students come to me for help resolving conflicts with peers. The goal is to teach strategies, so they will be able to apply them without my help when they occur in the future! Here are a few we use a lot:

"I Statements"

"I Hear You Statements"

Assertiveness rather than Aggressiveness

Active Listening

Apologizing and Accepting (or not accepting) the Apology

These are only a few. One day a group came into my office, and we resolved an on-going issue. At the end of each session I ask the students about what they learned from this experience, and what goals they have for future encounters. One student excitedly replied, "I learned never to argue again!" Well, we all know that's not too realistic, so I suggested that rather than set an unrealistic goal and end up sad and disappointed, make a plan to resolve whatever comes up as it occurs using direct communication. Here is the 6-step strategy for problem solving:

1. Stay cool. **DO NOT** try to solve a problem when you are too angry!
2. Identify / name the problem.
3. Discuss this with the person involved (as opposed to "messengers!") using "I Statements"
4. **LISTEN** to the other person's point of view. Use "I Hear You" statements.
5. Brainstorm solutions.
6. Try one. If it doesn't work, try something else!

For more information, go to the Iles web site, click on classroom news, and then click on "frachey".



May is Teacher Appreciation Month

(contd. from pg. 1)

As we are holding our series of three open houses for the parents and students of next year's first grade class, I continue to emphasize the importance of parent engagement and support that is necessary for the success of our students at Iles School. This year the volunteers for Iles School are being publicly recognized during the Spring Band concert being held, Monday, May 8th at 7:00 PM. If you volunteer to help with the playground, room parties, Popcorn Fridays, field trip chaperones, PTO events, the writing conference, and upcoming Fun Fest, and are not able to join us on May 8th, I want to take this opportunity from all of us at Iles School to say "THANK YOU!"

