



HEADS' LETTER

March 4, 2004

THIS WEEK EDUCATORS FROM PRIVATE SCHOOLS IN SPAIN VISITED IDS CLASSROOMS AND STUDIED IDS BEST PRACTICES

Within the last six weeks, we have hosted approximately 425 educators desiring to learn more about how we do what we do to accelerate learning for our students. Our newest visitors come from across the ocean. Ten educators from three prominent private schools in the vicinity of Madrid, Spain, visited schools in the area. They went to two model schools in Pinellas County, two in Pasco County and Independent Day School. On Tuesday, they toured our campus, had a "walking seminar" throughout the morning and had a study session with information about the MORE approach (see our book It's All About Kids) followed by many, many questions and answers. We enlisted Sonia Morgan to act as a translator, and Odette Figueruelo (Spanish teacher PreK-6th) joined when she was available during the day. Our visitors' jobs included Directors of the schools, Assistant Directors and a couple of School Psychologists along with the business and school consultant Luis Perez Martinez who organized the visit. They were totally delightful to be with and very interesting and dedicated professionals.

So you ask, "How did they like our school?" The answer is simple, they were literally blown away by our teachers, the level of work of our students, all of our varied approaches to create a brain-friendly environment, the poise and joyfulness of our students, our IDS teachers' enthusiasm and energy, our learning community, our continuous training atmosphere for our faculty and staff and again, so much more.

The result will be hosting more teachers and more schools from their national Spanish consortium of Private Schools, potential exchange of students for two - three weeks in each other's schools as well as other ideas that technology allows for building global connections. This was all made possible because of our new link with the International Schools Connection and the author of Living on the Edge of Chaos: Leading Schools into the Global Age Dr. Karolyn Snyder, former USF Professor and leader in translating systems thinking for the advancement of Education in schools. Dr. Snyder's work has influenced our approach to managing our school by building systems where teachers are both empowered and highly accountable. Our visitors returned today for a seminar with Dr. Snyder and a think- tank session for exchanging the best of what we all know to help kids soar...CHILDREN FIRST!!!

NINE MORE DAYS TIL THE BIG EVENT..AHOY MATEYS, BE SURE TO BE THERE FOR THE EVENT OF THE YEAR!!!!

So much fun to be had! We all deserve a fun night !!!

The catalog, with a shipload of options, will be in your child's backpack. See Dr. Swarzman walk the plank. This is also a chance to bid on *Headmaster of the Day* for the whole school...a once in a life time day of memories and leadership just for your child...See page 4 for **BIG EVENT** details.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST THIS SATURDAY!!!

MARCH 6th CORBETT HALL 8:00 – 11:00 A.M.



Our 8th ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST will take place this **Saturday, March 6th**. It will be held in **Corbett Hall from 8:00 AM - 11:00 A.M.** There will be hands-on art activities that our Visual Arts Department is sponsoring.

Tickets will be sold at the door for \$7.00. The pre-purchased tickets will be waiting for you at the door as well. If anyone has a **griddle or juicer** that we may borrow, or would like to help with the art/craft activities during the Pancake Breakfast, please call Shalimar Allen at 601-9696 (cell) or 926-9696 (Home). Thank you from the Fine Arts Division!

Students from every class will be exhibiting their talents for your entertainment and enjoyment! Our IDS Bands, Choruses, and the drama programs will be performing throughout the breakfast. Please see the schedule below for your child's performance time:

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|------|-----------------------------|-------|--|
| 8:00 | Advanced Band | 10:00 | Middle School Musical Theatre |
| 8:30 | Primary/Primary Drama | 10:10 | 4 th /5 th Grade Drama |
| 9:00 | Beginning Band | 10:20 | Intermediate Division |
| 9:20 | <i>Spirit of IDS</i> Chorus | 10:40 | <i>Warriors' Pride</i> Chorus |
| 9:45 | Middle School Drama | | |

NEW SESSION BEGINS: AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Enclosed in today's Thursday folder is the **IDS AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES BROCHURE**. The new session will begin Monday, March 29th, the day we return from spring break. Please fill out the form and return it quickly as these activities are very popular. Also, please note that a number of our activities from the 3rd session are still going on. Please refer to your last brochure to check the dates. We look forward another fun session!

YEARBOOK AD FORM ENCLOSED – LAST WEEK TO RECOGNIZE YOUR BUSINESS, YOUR CHILDREN ETC.

WHEELS IN MOTION: REMINDER - PLEASE BE MORE AWARE

Parents we really need your help. Driving and parking are always an issue to be resolved. When we have a physical disability, where our means of travel also includes a wheel chair, it becomes even more complicated. That is why the laws of this country require all designated parking spaces to be reserved for those with a special sticker or tag only...even if it is only for a few minutes...Did you know that blocking a handicap spot is just as much a \$250 violation as parking in the spot? Did you know that blocking the ramp is just as much a violation as parking or blocking the parking space?

Perhaps you knew already... some of us just need to be reminded. Let's all model the best behaviors for our children by caring for special needs and by obeying a Federal Law. We will teach them to be more aware by our modeling and explaining why this occurs.

By following the law, those of us who have two walking legs have the opportunity to be very considerate of those moving around with four wheels. Please remember that anyone parking or blocking a space or ramp designated for disabled will be in violation of the law. **Thanks for reading *Wheels in Motion*...**

FROM 7:45 – 8:00 AM - TURN IN AND OUT OF BOTH SIDE OF IDS RIGHT ONLY

THURSDAY FOLDER ENCLOSURES: Tuition Credit Opportunity/Pirate's Paradise; Yearbook Ad Form; Fun Open Gym Night for IDS Students, March 13 For Big Event; Welcome Spectators (Middle School Only)

**EARLY DISMISSAL 12:00 P.M.
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10th**

Please remember to arrange for all children to be picked up at **NOON**. The afternoon will be a Teacher In-Service Seminar. This continuous training is a key element to provide our students with the results of the *M.O.R.E. Approach: Multiple Options for Results in Education*.

**EXTENDED DAY OFFERED FOR EARLY DISMISSAL
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10th**

Please note that **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10th IS EARLY DISMISSAL**. **EXTENDED DAY** will be offered from 12:00 to 6:00 P.M., the cost will be \$15.00. Please send your child's lunch with them; fresh fruit and snacks will be provided. *Sign up in the main office with Marie Massara at (813) 961-3087, by **Monday, March 8th** to reserve your space.*

**SECOND GRADE POPSICLE FUNDRAISER
FRIDAY, MARCH 5th**



The second grade **Top Bananas** will be selling Popsicles (100% fruit juice) on **Friday, March 5th**. The cost is \$1 per popsicle, and the profits will go toward second grade's cost of the Busch Gardens sleepover at the end of the year. The popsicles will be on sale during the lunch periods, and second graders hope you will treat yourself to a refreshing, nutritious dessert.


**FIRST GRADE UNITES WITH RAIN FOREST TODAY
CONGRATULATIONS COOL CATS**

COMMUNITY ADVERTISEMENT

BIRLYBIG Productions presents

PAIN

SO FUNNY IT HURTS



The Acting Studio
122 Flagship Drive
Lutz, FL 33549

**Thursday - Saturday,
March 18th - 20th
8:00 pm**
(Doors open at 7:00 pm)
Tickets \$12

Winner, Talent of Tampa Bay 2002
Finalist, California Funniest Female Contest, 2003

"A 90-minute near death experience."

Present this ad for **FREE** refreshments.

**For info and reservations call:
727.556.0865**

**Congratulations to
Comedienne
Suzanne Willett,
an IDS Parent!!!**

If you are interested in running an advertisement in the *Heads' Letter*, please contact: *Celeste Ross* at 961-3087. ¼ page \$50., ½ page \$75., full back page \$150., and flier insert \$200. *Advertisements run only when space is available.*



Yo Ho Ho and A Bottle Of Fun!



ONLY 9 DAYS UNTIL THE INVASION!

REMEMBER TO TURN IN YOUR RSVPs.

Tickets are \$50 now and \$60 at the door for a night of fun-raising and fund-raising here at Warrior Bay!

There is pirate booty worth a king's ransom at this year's **Big Event!** Check your child's backpack

- Trips to NYC, Colorado, the beach and more!
- Exquisite works of art!
- Autographed Sports Memorabilia!
- Experiences of a lifetime for your child including *Headmaster for the Day*, excursions with IDS staff, Corbett Hall Sleepover and more!
- Class baskets on every theme imaginable!
- Priceless Class Creations designed and completed by your child!

SOMEONE IS WALKING THE PLANK
IN JUST 9 DAYS.....

WHO DO YOU THINK IT WILL BE?



See the insert to the Heads' Letter for your opportunity to send an IDS member to PIRATE'S PARADISE and to purchase your annual Tuition Credit Opportunity Raffle tickets!

TCO (TUITION CREDIT OPPORTUNITY) RAFFLE FORM ENCLOSED!