

## HEADS' LETTER

OCTOBER 30, 2008

### UPDATES AND REMINDERS

1. The **Faculty/Staff/Student Sports Challenge has been rescheduled**. It has been moved from Friday, November 7, and we will begin the 2009 New Year with this fun IDS community school event on Friday, January 9, 2009.
2. **The new LUNCH session begins Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>**. There are already 325 students signed up for the lunch program. The first lunch is Chef Garret's delicious chicken delight nuggets with roasted potatoes, fresh fruit and beverage. It's a real savings to order ahead of time (from November 3<sup>rd</sup> through February 27<sup>th</sup>).
3. **October 31<sup>st</sup>** will arrive tomorrow with eager anticipation for a memorable and fun day of Halloween Festivities. Please parents, this is a friendly reminder to have all children bring only **appropriate costumes**.
4. Please remember that IDS students are participating with the University of South Florida in the **Hoops of Hope** Fundraiser on **Thursday, November 6<sup>th</sup>** at USF at 4:00 p.m. The IDS Middle School student council is organizing this event. It would be great to have IDS family support for this special connection with USF. See the article on page three for more information.



### EDU-NEWS: HIGHLIGHTS AROUND CAMPUS



On Friday, October 24, the entire Middle School said farewell in a grand fashion to our 12 Study Tour students and two teachers from Llédó School in Castellon, Spain. During snack time when the Middle School Presidents said the code words "IDS line-up", suddenly the entire middle school walked to the center of the gym forming a two-line passage from the back of the gym to the door. As the Llédó students walked through the two lines receiving and giving high fives, hugs, and waves, there were cheers, tears, smiles and laughter to bid them adios. Before our Spanish students departed, the Student Council Presidents presented them with cards from every homeroom and farewell posters for them to keep forever.

On Thursday night (October 23) host families and their Llédó student guests met together for a farewell dinner in the Grand Room with our Spanish teachers Odette Figueruelo, Charmaine Jennings, Sonia Morgan, and International Activities Coordinator Betty Norlin. All the students received t-shirts with a picture of the visitors and IDS hosts and class buddies. They sang Karaoke in Spanish and English, signed each other's t-shirts, gave farewell speeches, and enjoyed their last moments together as families and friends. Bravo to our IDS parents who went "above and beyond" to welcome our guests into their homes as a new member of their family. It was really a "world" experience - more than words can describe.

**Middle School:** On Wednesday morning, all middle school students met in their Advisory Groups, as they do each week, to discuss projects, standards for communicating with one another, and to create a family time for sixth, seventh, and eighth graders to bond and learn together. This week, they were busy reflecting on their Community Service Day experiences. Teachers guided them to identify plusses (areas that were really meaningful and positive) and deltas (areas they would like to improve for the next time.) Some Advisories were writing and sharing reflections on the impact of their experience. We have already received thank you notes from some of the ten community service sites that provided our students with the opportunity to give graciously while learning at the same time.

**INTERMEDIATE DIVISION PREPARES FOR ANNUAL OCTOBER 31<sup>ST</sup> HOLIDAY FALL FESTIVAL:** Did you every wonder how so many great things happen at one time around here? Well, it comes from trust, talent and teamwork. The Intermediate Division teachers (Grades Three, Four and Five) meet together once a week to plan all events, discuss curriculum, and brainstorm the best activities for our students. The Holiday Fall Festival that occurs every Halloween is also a joint effort by our RPCs, parent volunteers and teachers. Teamwork can accomplish a lot. Tomorrow morning with good weather and great planning will be another example of how all of us working for a meaningful project can produce excellent results. Thanks to all.

**THIRD AND FOURTH GRADE:** Exploration is a major part of Cycle 2 for our Units of Inquiry for Third and Fourth Grade. There are 12 units that are covered in-depth in a two-year period for 3rd and 4th graders. Lessons are filled with active learning, reading resources, and activities that tap into both the left and right hemispheres of the brain incorporate the eight multiple intelligences that were identified by Harvard Professor Howard Gardener. Students have utilized mapping skills, plotted routes for exploration, charted continents, countries, and bodies of water while gaining an historical understanding of the past. Their focus has been guided by seven reasons for exploration under the global theme of “Humans are Naturally Curious and Inherently Search for the New and Undiscovered.” Our students are really getting a sense of the impact of exploration around the world. Columbus to them is more than just a day in October or a city in Ohio. Students are also connecting the past to the present by identifying modern day explorers, and learning there are many!

**FIFTH GRADE:** So how do you show students what it might have been like for families to differ on favoring the North or the South during the Civil War? Certainly videos downloaded on our Smart Boards were helpful as well as teachers’ presentations, well-written books, role plays and simulations. But sometimes a simple connection to everyday life brings home the message in a big way. Their metaphor was to compare modern day sibling rivalry and disagreements to the disagreements that occurred during the Civil War era. While discovering how “key events, individuals, and ideas impact decisions to go to war,” students got a sense of the tension that occurred thinking about their own lives and the differences of opinion that arise. Every year, the students culminate their study with a peak experience travelling with their class and parents to Savannah, Georgia and Charleston, South Carolina to visit the heart of the historical sites that make “history come alive.”

**THE ELECTION:** So all over IDS, teachers are busy bringing the election to life for our students. With less than a week to go, excitement about the right to vote and freedom to participate in an election was engaging students of all ages throughout the campus. For example:

**UPPER PRIMARY: Brilliant Bugs** (Multi-Age ½) experienced more about the privilege to live in a free country, as their teachers created lesson plans to inspire learning about the candidates and the role of the President! Do you know that the last president to serve more than two terms was (F----- R-----)? Do you know the term limitation for a President now? Do you know the criteria about age, birth place and where you can live in order to be President? Well, just ask a Brilliant Bug. Through timelines, Venn diagrams, and cooperative learning structures, candidates Obama and McCain became more than a news clip as they learned that they were Senators, where they went to College and the political party each represents. Scholastic News and a video on the history of the presidency supported these efforts with the entire **UPPER PRIMARY DIVISION FOR THE MIGHTY MONKEYS, THE COOL CATS, AND BRILLIANT BUGS.**

**EARLY PRIMARY DIVISION: A “WOW” CAPTURED BY 100’S OF PICTURES! !** On Monday, October 27, Kindergarten and PreK-4 students enjoyed the **Grand Finale** of their **Earth Rocks Unit** which connected to their overall theme “**Sharing the Planet**”. The area behind the library was transformed into a paleontologists dream and became the **DINO-DIG!** After learning about metamorphic and igneous rocks, the next natural step was to move to sedimentary rocks and the excitement that comes with learning about fossils and of course dinosaur bones. The direct report from the Early Primary Division is.....see page 3



*“It was so exciting when our Early Primary Division Frogs and Beach Buddies (also joined by the Flower Patch) were transformed into paleontologists! With hard hats, shovels, and brushes in hand the students ventured toward uncharted territory with the rumor that dinosaur bones had been discovered. They worked tirelessly digging, cleaning, and piecing together the story of these giants from long ago. Dinosaur bones were unearthed from the sand with treasures in abundance. Using their newly discovered bones, all students created their very own dinosaur three-dimensional pictures. After a visit to Dinosaur World, they were all jazzed about living the experience of a paleontologist. The smiles and excitement were thrilling for all of us.*

*We would like to extend a very special thank you to Mr. Andrew Slywka for constructing the dinosaur pits. We would like to also acknowledge all of the RPC’s and parents who helped to make our dig such a success.”*

## IDS WELCOMES VISITORS FROM SPAIN AND CHINA

1. Please join us in welcoming three star teachers from **Peleteiro School in Santiago, Spain**. This wonderful private school is the home of our family from Spain who was here last fall while “Dad” Alberto had a semester Sabbatical in the USF Physics Department. Our visiting teachers, Isabel, Maria and Raquel have brought warm regards from Pablo (third grade last year) and Maria (Kindergarten last year) and their parents Alberto and Maria. The teachers visiting will be with us for two weeks learning more about the M.O.R.E. Approach and sharing with our amazing faculty and staff. It’s an honor to have them with us for the next two weeks.



2. On **Wednesday night, October 29, IDS-CC hosted the International School Connection (ISC)** dinner that honored the return of Professor Xinmin Sang from Nanjing University in China. He has been travelling to MIT, Harvard, and the University of Michigan on this trip as he shares the next leap in Educational Technology and communication for educating students. His presentation last night was riveting as representatives from the ISC were invited to hear about his work. His first trip to Tampa was for the October 2006 ISC Summit Conference hosted by us in the Farish Center for four days. All those attending the 2007 Summit in China will also remember that he coordinated the Beijing event in which 29 of us participated.



## REFLECTIONS CONCERT: A REAL TREAT!

**Congratulations** to all of the families who attended the Reflections Concert on Sunday, October 26. You experienced classical music at its best. The presentation of Peter and The Wolf, the beautiful view from the Farish Center while listening to classical music, the parade, the expertise and talent of the musicians, and the organization to every detail by our music department and Community School of the Arts all combined to make it a very special Sunday afternoon. Bravo to all involved!

## PARENT FACULTY ASSOCIATION (PFA)

The next PFA General Council meeting will be on **Thursday, November 6, 2008**, at 8:05 a.m. in the conference room on the second floor of the new building.



## ATHLETICS: EXERCISE AND SPORTS HELP TO GROW NEURONS!



**Championship Week**-Last week both our Middle School Soccer and Volleyball teams advanced to the finals of the Florida West Coast League tournament. Both teams finished as runner-ups in their tournament! All of our coaching staff takes pride in the effort all our teams made this season. They had a great time, worked hard and learned a lot together!



**Winter Sports** – Basketball, for both the Boys and Girls teams, and Cheerleading for girls begin next week with practices starting on Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. We encourage all middle school students to come out and join in the winter sports season. Team sports build athletic, social, emotional and physical skills, while building life-time memories!



**HOOPS FOR HOPE**- All middle school students are being encouraged by our middle school student council to get involved in the Hoops for Hope charity. Basketball instruction for all middle school grades began this week to try and get our students excited and get them prepared to participate in Hoops for Hope. This is a great cause with proceeds going to the education of children in Africa whose parents have lost their lives through Aids. **The event takes place on Thursday, November 6, right** after school.



Students **who have turned in their bus permission slip** will be bused to USF Athletic Center to participate in the event and returned to IDS at the end of the evening for pick-up. Both the USF Men's and Women's basketball teams will be available at the event to cheer on students and sign autographs. Bus permission slips and sign up sheets are in the Thursday folder again this week, extras are in the middle school office with maps to the event for parents who would like to go. Students with at least one sponsor can participate. We are currently at 31 participants and would like to see many more involved TV stations and local newspapers will be covering the event. Congratulations to our Middle School Student Council who has taken on this challenge for IDSers! For further information, please call Coach Heller or Coach Chumbley for more information or see the website; <http://www.hoopsofhope.org/>.

## SCHOOL PICTURE PROOFS AND ORDER FORMS

Please use the form included in your Thursday folder if you would like your child to have a re-take opportunity, please call the school at (813) 961-3087 to let us know. Our school photographer will be here next **Friday morning, November 7.**



## ENCLOSURES



1. November 2008 School Calendar
2. IDS 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Fun Run, Fall Festival, and Taste of IDS sign-up form
3. School Picture Proof Order Form



**SAVE THE DATE!!!**  
**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2008**



**IDS 40<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION FUN RUN AND FALL FESTIVAL!**

**Please see  
"All School"  
enclosures  
found in  
Thursday Folder.**

# November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Daylight Saving Time Ends 	3  Day 3	4  Day 4	5  Day 5	6 PFA General Council Meeting 8:05 am  Hoops for Hope Event at USF 4:00 – 7:00 pm Day 1	7 School Picture Re-take “Cool Cats” Play 1:30 pm  End of Trimester I Day 2	8
9	10 <b>HEADMASTER OF THE DAY CHRISTIAN GONZMART</b>  Early Primary Living Thanksgiving Begins Day 3	11 <b>VETERANS DAY/ SCHOOL HOLIDAY</b>	12 Fifth Grade Savannah Trip Departs 6:00 am  Day 4	13 Fifth Grade Savannah Trip Seventh Grade Wolfcreek Meeting for Parents 7:00 pm  Day 5	14 Fifth Grade Savannah Trip Returns 6:00 pm  Comm. Music School Music Recital 6:00 & 7:30 pm Day 1	15 Comm. Music School Music Recital 10:00 am
16	17  Day 2	18 Middle School Hosts Multi-Cultural Day  Day 3	19 PFA Hosts Book Club 1:30 – 2:30 pm  Early Primary Living Thanksgiving Feast 10:00 – 11:00 am Day 4	20 FCIS Conference Orlando, FL.  Day 5	21 FCIS Conference Orlando, FL.  Day 1	22 <b>IDS 40th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION</b> <b>Fun Run 9:00 am &amp; Fall Festival 10:30 am – 2:30 pm</b>
23	24 PreK3, PreK4, and K Tampa Theatre Field Trip 9:15 am - 1:30 pm  Day 2	25  Day 3	26 <b>GRANDPARENTS DAY/ NOON DISMISSAL</b>  Day *	27 <b>THANKSGIVING/ SCHOOL HOLIDAY</b>	28 <b>THANKSGIVING/ SCHOOL HOLIDAY</b>	29
30						

2008



**Yes! Our family will attend the IDS 40<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION FALL FESTIVAL on Saturday, November 22, 2008! Time: 10:30 A.M. – 2:30 P.M.**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ No. Attending: \_\_\_\_\_ Children's grade(s) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **YES! Our family will be having lunch at the Taste of IDS.**

Restaurants represented at the Taste of IDS are:



1. Café Eden at Abby's Health and Nutrition
2. Columbia Restaurant
3. Dinner Done
4. IDS Catering Services
5. Jamba Juice
6. Six Tables Restaurant
7. Sonny's BBQ Wesley Chapel
8. The Red Elephant
9. The IDS Girl Scout troop will be having a Bake Sale for dessert!



Thank you to Chef Tony Kelly, The Gonzmart Family, The Nasser Family, Chef Garret, The Bottini Family, and The Hoff Family, Aaron Sang (GM for Jamba Juice), and Carl Sahlsten (VP for Red Elephant) for donating their time and food to this event!

Food tickets are \$6.00 when purchased in advance or \$10.00 at the Festival.

\_\_\_\_\_ Total number of meals x \$6.00 per person \$\_\_\_\_\_ Enclosed

*For all prepaid orders on the day of the event, please go to the Bell Tower and we will give you your food ticket at that time.*

**Prepaid orders are to be turned into the main office by November 14, 2008.**



**IDS 40<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION FUN RUN**



\_\_\_\_\_ **Yes! Our family will attend the IDS FUN RUN!**

**Attention all Runners .....It's time to get out your running shoes for the FUN RUN!** Come enjoy a beautiful Run or Walk on our **Buchanan Sport Field at our Middle School!** Our 2 mile run begins at 9:00 a.m. (*for all runners*), our 1 mile run/walk begins at 9:30 a.m. (*for beginning runners or fast walkers*), and our ½ mile Primary Trot will follow at 10:00 a.m. (*for primary kids or walkers*). All runners will receive a special Run for Fun T-shirt, a medal, food & drinks. **Top Finishers will receive a gift card to Target!**

**Yes! Sign our family up**

NAME	Group*	Elite	2 mile	1 mile	Primary Trot

\* **Group** - P (Primary), Int (Intermediate), MS (Middle School), A (Adult)

Total number of Runners x \$15.00 = \$\_\_\_\_\_ Enclosed

T-Shirt Sizes: \_\_\_ YS \_\_\_ YM \_\_\_ YL \_\_\_ AS \_\_\_ AM \_\_\_ AL \_\_\_ AXL

Indicate the size of shirt and the number of each size needed

***PLEASE RETURN THE ORDER FORM INTO THE MAIN OFFICE BY NOVEMBER 14, 2008.***

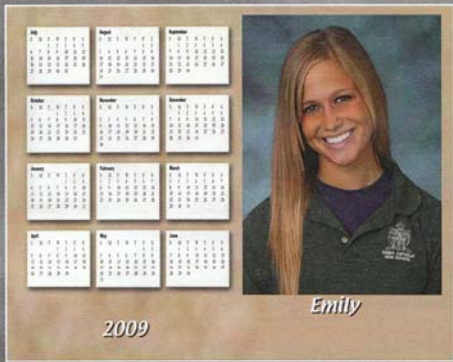
***PLEASE MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO IDS***

# Studio Artistry, Inc.

Portraits by Bryan Manicchia

1717 W. Hillsborough Ave., Tampa, FL 33603 ~ 813-873-7959

Order your child's portrait  
and have it placed in one of  
the exciting products shown below!



8x10 - 2009 Calendar



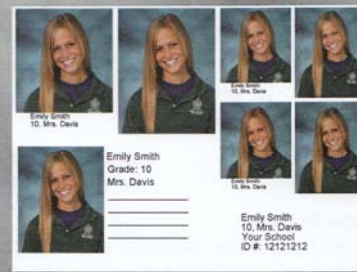
3 1/2 x 5 - Magnet



Signature Wallets



Laminated Bookmarks



Variety ID Stickers

# WEEKLY SPORTS UPDATE

November 3-7, 2008

Daily Sports Hotline: (813) 961-3087, ext. 399



Date	Time	Team/Sport	School Playing	Location of Game	Pick-Up	Comments
Mon.	3:00	Boys Basketball	Tryouts	Corbett hall	5:00	
11/3	3:00	Girls Basketball	Tryouts	MS Gym	5:00	
	3:00	Cheerleading	Practice	8th Grade Deck	4:30	
	3:00	Wrestling	Club	Dean Dining Hall	5:15	3-4 pm - study hall
Tues.	3:00	Volleyball - All Teams	Party	Chili's	5:00	Bring \$ and uniforms/C.H.
11/4	5:00	Volleyball	Club	Corbett Hall	7:00	
Weds.	3:00	Boys Basketball - All	Practice	Corbett Hall	5:00	
	3:00	Girls Basketball - All	Practice	MS Gym	5:00	
11/5	3:00	Cheerleading	Practice	8th Grade Deck	4:30	
Thur. 11/6	3:00	All Students	Hoops for Hope*	USF	7:00**	**Approx. pick-up time
Fri.	3:00	Boys Basketball - 7/8	Practice	Corbett Hall	5:00	
11/7	3:00	Boys Basketball - 6th	Practice	Corbett Hall	4:00	
	3:00	Girls Basketball - All	Practice	MS Gym	5:00	

**Faculty-Student Challenge has been postponed until after the winter holiday break.**

**\*Make sure your bus permission slip and your pledge form are filled out and turned in.**