



# INDIAN LAKE NEWS

Jan 2010 Issue

The publication of the PTO

## A Word From Our Principal

Parents,

I want to THANK all of the Indian Lake students for the gift card to Wal-Mart. I really appreciated your generosity and thinking of me. I hope everyone had a great holiday, and hopefully the weather will warm up so we can get back to school.

A special THANK YOU goes to Mr. de la Vega and the fifth grade students for a fantastic and entertaining holiday program on Tuesday evening December 15<sup>th</sup>. I have had many compliments from parents and grandparents telling me how much they enjoyed this special performance. We do have a lot of talented students here at Indian Lake School .

Indian Lake's school wide writing assessment will be Tuesday, January 26<sup>th</sup> 8:45-9:15. The fifth grade students will be taking the TCAP Writing Assessment on Monday, February 1<sup>st</sup> at 8:45 a.m. It is very important not to be tardy on these testing dates.

It is exciting to know that we have many, many volunteers planning our annual Family Festival. This is always such an enjoyable weekend for our school community. Mark your calendars for March 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> for this family fun time.

HAPPY NEW YEAR,  
Jewell McGhee



## The President's Post



### New Year - New Leaf

As we turn the calendar to a new year, ILE is turning a new leaf in the way of recycling. Over the last year, we have communicated primarily through emails. By doing this, we not only saved a few trees but also **saved around \$400 of your PTO dollars**. Wanting to take recycling a step further, I determined through a teacher questionnaire that the bulk of classroom trash is paper (76 %).

The 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes now have paper recycling bins that can be dumped behind the school. These students are old enough to be in charge of the bins as part of their "classroom chores". In taking **ownership**, I hope the students will learn a great lesson in being environmentally conscience. As a bonus, the recycling company pays the school for the paper it collects. Talk about a win/win situation.

Secondly, **we are collecting old cell phones, ink cartridges, laptops, digital cameras, GPS, radar detectors, and gaming devices**. (Please look online at the [recyclingfundraiser.com](http://recyclingfundraiser.com) website for a complete list.) Over the next 2 weeks, please collect these items and drop them off in the office. The drop-off dates are Jan 6-20. Information was sent home via backpack. It should be an easy way to earn a little money without having to buy or sell anything... (*Can we say...hallelujah on that!?!?*)

I hope you are as excited as I am about the opportunities to make a small but positive difference. Please feel free to call me if you have any questions or suggestions about the PTO. As I have said many times before, ILE has the best parent involvement in Sumner County- bar none. The school is most grateful.

I wish you the best of everything in 2010.

Sincerely,  
Beth Wettengel

## "Spring Live/Silent Auction News"

Spring Festival will be **Friday, March 5** at Bluegrass Country Club. This is for adults only and will consist of dinner and LIVE auction.

Carnival & Silent Auction will be **Saturday, March 6** at ILE starting at 10am. If you have anything you can donate to the live or silent auction, please contact Corinne Perry at [corinneperry@comcast.net](mailto:corinneperry@comcast.net).

### **"THANK YOU"**

We would like to thank the students and families at Indian Lake for all the yummy goodies and Christmas gifts given to us in the office. We so appreciate you thinking of us at the holidays. You are all very generous and supportive throughout the school year. Our students and families are the best!

Happy New Year!

Debbie Meyer, Debbie White, and Betty Salyer

### **Dates to Remember:**

Jan. 21st PET Parents mtg/Spring Festival  
28th Room Parents mtg/Spring Festival

Feb. 11th Mother/Daughter Bkfst.  
12th Father/Son Bkfst.  
15th No School

March 5th & 6th Spring Festival  
11th & 12th No School  
23rd-29th TCAP

April 2-23rd Spring Break

### **Adopt A Family**

Dear Parents,

I wanted to be sure we told the parents of ILE how successful the adopt-a-family program was this year. Ms. Seigenthaler's class was able to supply a hospital bed for a child who was disabled. Another class helped furnish a families home. Noah Taylor, a third grader collected donations at his birthday party in lieu of gifts for the program. Many Sumner Co. families had a huge burden lifted off of their shoulders because of the generosity of the ILE families. Many won't have to worry about utility bills for a couple of months. Also, kids will have presents under the tree where otherwise they would not. Yvette, who helps coordinate the families we support, said this years giving's have exceeded recent years and every family was taken care of. Thank you for your donations and a special thanks to the parents who helped coordinate and distribute the donations. What a blessing you all are to our community and our school!

Sincerely,

Annie Koch



### **\*KINDERGARTEN NEWS\***

Welcome back to a very cold but exciting new year in Kindergarten! We first want to thank all the parents for their support in the Adopt A Family Program. We also want to thank the room mothers and helpers for our fun Christmas parties. It is such a joyful way to end the semester.

We are continuing our study of the letters, sounds, decoding and reading but we will be adding counting money, telling time and writing sentences more and more. The Kindergarten classes will be going to computer lab on Monday, Wednesday and Friday this semester so be expecting great things!!!

## SECOND GRADE

Happy New Year! We hope you all had a wonderful holiday break! We had a great first half of the year. In December, we went to see Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day. We had a great time comparing and contrasting the play and the book. Also in December was our Christmas Around the World unit. It was a success. The student's projects were incredible! We also want to thank you for all the gifts donated to Adopt-a-Families, as well as the supplies and time you put into our parties!

We are looking forward to a wonderful new adventure full of active learning. Students have been working hard on discovering and using adjectives. We will be continuing that unit through January. In Math, they are continuing to work with money, and in Science they will be discussing Matter. This month, we will also be talking about Famous People, and students will be working on a Famous Person Biography Project. We would like to welcome our new students Mack Hanisco, Isaac Pouya, and Noah Jarnigan to ILE! Please continue to practice addition and subtraction facts at home. Thank you for your continued support!



## First Grade !

First grade would like to welcome 2 new students, John Rucks to Mrs. Walker's classroom and Jackson Hodson to Mrs. Tucker's classroom. We are excited to be back in our routine, working toward new reading goals and learning new skills in every area of our learning. We look forward to our 100th Day of School celebration, Martin Luther King study, and most of all writing our own stories for the Celebrate Literacy Book Writing Contest!

Also, the first grade teachers were very proud of all our students for reaching their very first A.R. goals last nine weeks.

*Congratulations!!*

## ! THIRD GRADE !

We are at the beginning of a very busy time of year. You will be seeing more and more assignments written in cursive. The students still need to be memorizing their multiplication facts. Our goal is to pass through the 12's by March 10th. Congratulations to the many students who have already passed through the 6's. In the weeks, third graders will be learning many new things. Our focus in Science and S.S. is on different types of environments and landforms. In Language our emphasis is on pronouns. We will continue to work on lessons in Multiplication, Division and time. There are a few dates you might want to put on your calendar.

Our next school wide writing assessment is on Jan. 26th. The third grade PTO program is on Jan. 21st. The spring festival will be here before we know it! Watch for notes coming home about the theme of the individual class baskets.

## FIFTH GRADE

Happy New Year! We would like to thank everyone for the great Christmas parties!! They were a great ending to a busy semester. Thank you, also, to the 5th grade P.E.T. parents for the delicious meal you provided for the teachers in January.

We have another busy semester ahead of us. We are working hard to prepare for the TCAP Writing Assessment that will be given on February 2nd. The students are doing an outstanding job on writing creative stories for Celebrate Literacy. The 5th grade will continue to participate in the 4-H program. Speeches will be presented to the 4-H representatives on January 29th. Brian Cook will also continue to visit the classrooms to discuss financial topics.

Welcome to our new students, Perry Minichan (Mrs. Nangia's class) and Sophia Pouya (Mrs. Pursley's class). We are so happy to have you with us.

## 4th Grade

The fourth grade teachers and students would like to welcome Ellen Rucks to Indian Lake Elementary. She is in Mrs. Campbell/Mrs. Tyrrell's room. All fourth grade teachers would like to remind parents and students that the 4H Speeches will be presented on Friday, January 29th. Some teachers are requiring the speeches to be completed early for practice and to make any last minute changes before presenting. Study Island will be assigned, if not already, very soon. The fourth grade team is beginning to plan for our spring field trip. Information to follow. Celebrate Literacy books will be due on February 16th. Be looking for the Celebrate Literacy paperwork in your child's Wednesday Folder.

### !!GUIDANCE!!

Mark your calendars! Career Day will be held on Wednesday, April 28, 2010. If you would like to speak about your job, please contact me! All speakers will be set and assigned a classroom before April 28; you cannot just show up on that day and talk about your career. Watch your e-mail for a downloadable sign up sheet. Sign-up sheets will also be available in the front office. If you have already volunteered to speak, thank you! You will be hearing from me soon to confirm your availability.

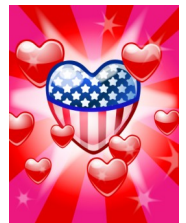
Last semester, I taught friendship skills to all the third grade classes. Before I started the series of lessons, I gave all the classes a test to see how many of the friendship skills they already knew. I taught the lessons, then gave them the same test at the end to see how well they had learned the information that was presented in the class. On the pre-test, the average score for the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade was 64.63%. On the post-test, this average score improved to 80.05%! I am very pleased with these results, and even had a few students make a 100% on the post-test. Hopefully the students will put these friendship skills to use in the classroom and in other situations. You can find the class by class averages and improvement on my webpage.

This semester I am excited to have 5 students from HHS who are helping tutor students in the school. If you think your child would benefit from some one-on-one tutoring during the school day, please let me know!

All grade levels will be starting the [Safe@Last](#) personal safety curriculum in January. More information about this great program is available on my school web page. <http://gunselman.wordpress.com>

### Physical Education News

During the week of February 8th - 12th this school year, we will be supporting the American Heart Associations: Hoops for Heart !!! We will be participating in Hoops for Heart this year instead of Jump Rope for Heart. This event



has changed so many lives by encouraging everyone to focus on heart health and to be physically fit. It has helped the American Heart Association give money to millions of people with heart problems and to further research and education of heart disease. It is such a good cause and the students just love it!

During Hoops for Heart we will be teaching basketball skills to all grade levels ( K-5) as a P.E. Unit for a three week period. The students watch an American Heart Association information video, learn new skills and have various basketball centers incorporating all of the skills they have learned. It also gives the students approximately four weeks to collect their donations, turn their money in and order prizes. Last year, Indian Lake Elementary raised over \$5,000.00!!!!

The American Heart Association has a wonderful website ([www.americanheart.org](http://www.americanheart.org)), with great basketball activities and information about Hoops for Heart. This educational program teaches physical fitness and promotes the value of community service to students. I hope you will feel compelled to help such a great cause.

Sincerely,  
Mr. Knupp

## Computer Bytes

The New Year is here and things are changing in the computer lab. Now that winter break has come and gone the kindergarteners and first graders will be coming to computer lab three days a week.

The kindergarteners are more comfortable with the computers now so we are adding our Orchard Program to their rotation. They are getting to work on some fun Language and Math programs while they learn the basics. They are still going through their cycles of Cat, Dog and Fish in our Writing to Read series and making words at our make words table. Starfall is always a favorite and they can play that at home too, just log on to [www.starfall.com](http://www.starfall.com).

Those first graders are really working hard. They are learning new words and sounds with our Writing to Read Program and are putting them to good use in the stories they are writing. Orchard is always a big hit as well.

It's amazing what the 2nd graders are doing these days. Many are working well beyond their grade level in our Orchard Program. They are being challenged in Language and Math to try new and harder things. I'm so proud of them all.

The third graders are multiplying like crazy! Not only are they working on our Orchard Program, they are also practicing at [ww.multiplication.com](http://ww.multiplication.com). The program and website are giving them some fun ways to make their goals in class.

The fourth and fifth graders are doing all kinds of things these days. They are working some in Orchard, getting ready for speed tests in Mavis Beacon and before winter break got to make some fun cards and computer wallpapers.

And finally, I would like to thank everyone for the wonderful Christmas gifts. You are all so thoughtful. I feel very blessed to be able to work with your children here at Indian Lake Elementary.

Mrs. Weddle

## ♪ ♪ **NOTE WORTHY NEWS** ♪ ♪

***Welcome to the new calendar year of 2010! I can't believe the school year is already half over. This school year has had some challenges that have been met with great effort and success. The most recent was the 5th grade PTO Christmas Program. Mrs. McGhee and I were very proud of their performance as well as several very positive comments from parents and teachers. So pat an ILE 5th grader on the back and tell them "Great job", because they deserve it. Even though we have had some wonderful successes, there's still a lot to do. The 3rd grade students are preparing for their PTO performance, which seems to always sneak up on us. It has been re-scheduled for Thursday evening January 21st at 7:00 due to the snow days. With a little more than a week to prepare and several missed days, I'm very impressed and proud of how they are meeting this challenge.***

***I want to remind everyone that you can keep up with, or get important information for each grade level, including the Warriaires using my web-page on the Indian Lake web-site. Just go to [www.ileonline.org](http://www.ileonline.org) click on Teachers for a drop down menu, and then click on my WEBSITE. I will continue to try and update and post needed information about performances, meeting times, rehearsals, changes, etc... (There have been sometimes this year that I haven't been able to access the web-page to update it. Please be patient while I try to fix the problems.) Just click on any of the choices (Hyperlinks) near the top of the page that you need information about. This is done knowing that sometimes the information can get misplaced, or in our very busy lives even forgotten. I want to make sure that everyone has the ability to access the information they need about their Indian Lake Elementary Music Student.***

***Thank you!***  
***Mr. de la Vega***

## Library Newsletter:

Mrs. Jones and I would like to say THANK YOU to all the boys and girls at Indian Lake for our special Christmas gifts. We really appreciate your thoughtfulness and generosity. We will put our Walmart Gift Cards to good use. We also appreciate all the wonderful Christmas goodies and sweets that we were giving as well. We are so fortunate to work at a school where there are such caring students. We hope each of you had a great holiday and are looking forward to being with you in 2010.

I also want to say thanks to all the people who came out and made purchases at our Fall Book Fair. We sold \$10,500.00 in books - of which the library gets to keep twenty five percent.

It was a wonderful event for the school and I really appreciate all of your support. If you were unable to purchase books during the fall fair we will have a Spring Fair during the week of the Family Fun Festival - our theme is Book Fair Diner: All you can READ!!!

We also want to thank those students who purchased books for the first Indian Lake Elementary Birthday Book Club. The library added 18 in honor of the student's birthdays.

These books have been ordered and should be ready for circulation in the next month.

I am excited at what 2010 holds for our library!!!! We are already busy checking out many books to students and are still ordering new ones for the students to enjoy!!!

Thanks again for all your generosity and support!!

Mrs. Whitaker and  
Ms. Jones



## Art News

Art classes are beginning the year with lots of new activities.

Kindergarten classes are decorating their evergreen tree drawings with potato prints. They are using the primary colors red, blue, and yellow to add a variety of color shapes.

First and second grades are making collages based on the Caldecott medal book *The Snowy Day* by Ezra Jack Keats. This delightful book provides the starting point for developing cutting, tearing, and pasting skills.

Third grades are using *template* shapes to draw fruits, vases and bowls. Templates allow the students to spend less time on the drawing and more time on the watercolor painting process. Students are encouraged to mix primary and secondary colors to make intermediate colors.

Fourth grades are learning how to create dimension on a flat surface. Students are learning how to draw a symmetrical vase and emphasize its curves with designs that are symmetrical, free-form or a combination of both.

Fifth grades are waiting for their clay masks to be fired in the kiln. In the mean time they are beginning one point perspective drawings of buildings focusing on perspective, the horizon line, and vanishing point. Skill in measurement is an important aspect of the lesson.

Thank you Indian Lake parents and PET Parents for the thoughtful Christmas gifts. May you have a happy new year!

Mrs. Melissa Charles

**SEARCH students** continue to work on poetry and we have found some great writers so far! All students will be creating a poetry book of their best poems as a final project. I know these will be great. The 4th and 5th graders are preparing to participate in the Geography Bee this week. This is a competition somewhat like a spelling bee using geography facts.

Tuesday will be preliminary competition and Thursday is the final competition among the top ten scorers. Our winner will take a written test that will be sent to the National Geographic Society to see if they qualify for state competition.

**RESOURCE students** continue to improve in basic skills and it is always exciting to see. Recently, our reading comprehension class has had some lessons from the special education reading coach. We learned some new fun reading comprehension strategies. For the month of January, we will take a break from reading and prepare for the TCAP Writing Assessment. This semester, our afternoon classes will be lucky to have a student helper from the high school who is doing her senior project. She will be helping our math and reading classes in lots of ways. Here's to a great New Year!