



# INDIAN LAKE NEWS

March 2010 Issue

The publication of the PTO

## A Word From Our Principal



Parents,

This year's Family Festival Weekend was absolutely fantastic, fun and exciting. I want to give A GREAT BIG THANK YOU to our leaders, Cynthia Burke, Eva Foulke, Corinne Perry, and Beth Wettengel, our PTO President. Thanks to all of the festival committees and the many, many parent volunteers who spent numerous hours planning and working at the events. As I mentioned at the PTO meeting on Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, we are so appreciative for the strong parental support in our school community. The parents and teachers contribute so much to the success of our students by working together in a positive learning environment.

Speaking of the PTO meeting, the fourth grade students did a wonderful job performing Irish tunes, playing Xylophones and dancing. We appreciate all of the hard work and effort of Mr. de la Vega bringing out the creative talents of all of our students.

A reminder, our Spring Break dates are April 2-April 16<sup>th</sup>. The students will return to class on Monday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. We will also begin our annual TCAP testing on Tuesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>. Attendance is so important during the week of testing. More information regarding the test will be sent home at a later date.

Thank you, Parents, for your continued support and commitment for excellence in our school.

**Jewell McGhee**

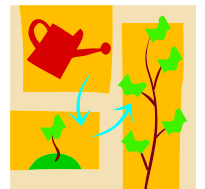
## The President's Post

It is hard to believe that this is the last newsletter before the end of school. Although the school year isn't over yet, we have accomplished so much over the course of this year...construction of a new awning, starting a recycling program, securing insurance through the county for all the technology purchased over the last 3 years, obtaining liability insurance for the PTO Board, and 2 successful fundraisers. In addition, the surplus money that we raised will make significant improvements to enhance our children's learning environment.

I am very proud of the strides that we have made as an organization. Every year, our parents at ILE are overwhelmingly supportive with their time, energy, and talents. Additionally, the community and local businesses offer their help as well. As an organization that depends solely on voluntary participation, we are truly blessed especially in these economic times.

I want to thank all the outstanding women (and 1 token male...ha) for working with me on the Board. Their dedication to the school is something that deserves recognition and praise. Many hours have been spent in thoughtful preparation for teacher appreciation events, fundraisers, as well as decisions that will affect the future of Indian Lake Elementary. I have also immensely enjoyed working with Mrs. McGhee who has been very supportive during my tenure.

Lastly, it has been an honor and joy to serve as President this year. It has been a rewarding experience, and I can't think of a better investment than helping my children's school. My friend, Nancy Parker (former educator at ILE) sent me a note after the Festival containing a quote from John Adams... "Above all cares of this life, let our direction be to mold the minds and manners of our children- to do so virtuously and to excel." This is the philosophy of Indian Lake Elementary and I am proud to have been a part of it.



Beth Wettengel

## School IS Cool!

Boy, I'll say. Indian Lake Elementary School is COOL: amazing families, faculty and staff that together partnered with one another along with the Hendersonville community and together raised **\$68,000** for ILE. THAT IS COOL. Please thank all of the festival sponsors when you visit their businesses and tell them how much we appreciate their support. Thank you for a great festival.

**WOW!**



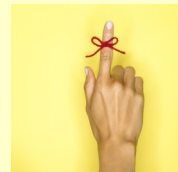
Corinne, Cynthia, & Eva

### **!!YEARBOOK REMINDER!!**

Yearbooks are still for sale. The deadline has passed to order on line, but extra have been ordered. They will be sold through the office while they last. If you are not sure you have purchased one, there is a list in the office to check. If you wish to purchase one, send a check payable to JOSTENS for \$25.00 to the school office. All yearbooks will be delivered at the same time when they arrive in May.

Don't wait until May,  
call Betty Salyer 824-6810 if you have  
questions.

### **Dates to Remember:**



- April 2-16 Spring Break
- 20th-23rd TCAP Testing
- 30th Kindergarten Registration
- May 3rd-7th Teacher Appreciation Week
- 7th Field Day
- 20th Science Fair
- 21st Field Day Rain Date
- 28th Last Full Day

### **!First Grade!**

First grade is now reading our fourth book out of five in our reading series. We are learning about different types of treasures, from gifts to things to people to traditions. We look forward to our first graders presenting a treasure or tradition that is important to them and their families on our project days. Also, we will begin units on telling time and counting money in Math. We look forward to our long spring break, but when we return watch the calendar for many exciting spring dates and events. We will have a Science fair for all grades, our annual author's party, a spring field trip, field day and many more exciting events.

## Second Grade:

The second grade teachers and students would like to say THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU! to all of the moms and dads for the successful "Family Festival". Thank you for all of your generous donations and volunteer work that went into the Festival. Indian Lake could not be the school that it is without your support!

Continue to mark the March B.E.A.R. calendar each time that your child reads for 10-15 minutes each day. The B.E.A.R. calendars are due on March 31st. This will be the last month to keep a BEAR calendar. Towards the end of the year, each class will have a pizza party to celebrate our reading successes.

The second grade classes have been busy studying: "Balancing and Weighing" in Science, and "Maps and Globes" in Social Studies. We are having fun experimenting with the beam balance, and the equal arm balance. We will finish up our Science unit with a classroom circus.

We are also looking forward to the school-wide Science Fair in May. Please look for notes coming home soon about this project.

## Third Grade Rocks!

We would like to thank all the volunteers who helped with the Spring Festival. It was a great success! The third grade students have an exciting field trip to Nashville Children's Theater production of Charlotte's Web on May 14th. Look for more information to come home in Wednesday folders.

In Math, we are finishing up fractions. The students are learning about local and national government in social studies. Our focus in science is on physical science. We are looking forward to participating in our school wide science fair in May. The students are currently working on using colorful adjectives in their writings and learning adverbs in language.



We are looking forward to an exciting Spring Semester!

## \*\*\*Fourth Grade News\*\*\*

Fourth grade would like to welcome two new students to Indian Lake Elementary. Blake Yansick and Haley Hansen are both in Mrs. Genung's room. The fourth grade teachers are getting ready for T-Cap Testing. The annual Fourth Grade Book Float will be April 29th. Information has been sent home. The field trip will be May 12th. Information to follow. We enjoyed sharing the program with parents, faculty and staff. The students did a wonderful job

## Fifth Grade.....

Fifth grade continues to be busy!!! With TCAP right around the corner, all classes are working diligently to complete skills. We will review more and more as time goes on.

Many thanks to all who made ILE Family Festival a grand success. Thanks to our Room Parents and PET Parents for organizing games, food, drinks, and our baskets. Thanks to everyone who volunteered to work the games and in other areas as well. We couldn't do it without everyone working together. That is what makes ILE the place to be!!

April and May will prove to be busy as well. This year will launch the ILE Science Fair on May 20. Each classroom will be sending information about the Science Fair and the projects the children will be completing at home. JA BizTown education will also begin right after TCAP. We will need many parent volunteers who will be trained during a 3 hour period in addition to attending the field trip itself. Please be looking for information about this in April.

Fifth grade teachers wish everyone a safe and restful Spring Vacation.



## Computer Bytes

It's hard to believe we are already in the middle of March. Where has the time gone? The kindergartners are moving forward in their Writing to Read Journals and are now on Journal 2. They are doing a great job on their stories and getting better at making words with our letter tiles. When their journals come home, please practice the words with your child. They will build on these words as they move into first grade.

Your first graders are doing an awesome job in their journals as well. Their stories are getting longer and are more developed and they are learning new things with our Orchard program. They are really working hard. The second graders have been working on lots of different things these days. They are being challenged with our Orchard program, practicing on their language skills with our Chuckwagon Bill program and having some fun playing the games on their teacher's websites.

Everyone in third through fifth grade has been practicing for the upcoming TCAP tests. They have been in deep concentration working out language and math problems. These practice tests will give their teacher a good idea of what they know now and what they still need to work on before the big tests. The fourth and fifth graders are also working on their keys tests. The goal is for them to learn the keys and their placement so they aren't constantly looking at their fingers. I hope everyone has a safe and fun Spring Break next month.



Mrs. Weddle

## Library News

Wow!!! I want to start off by saying a HUGE THANK YOU to all the students and parents who supported our Spring Book Fair. We sold 2,027 books which was 27 over our goal of 2,000 (looks like I will be a human ice cream sundae after all). Our school also raised \$175.02 in One For Books Money. We were also able to earn Scholastic Dollars as well as \$2,300.00 in cash for the purchase of books and AR tests for the library. I have purchased several tests on books that were sold at the Book Fair, however, if you purchased a book and do not see the title on the AR list please send me an email and I will see about ordering the test.

We are excited to be entering the last nine weeks of school. The students in grades K - 2 are listening to books about Easter. The students in grades 3-5 are working on research skills using dictionaries and thesaurus.

We are also pleased to have inducted 50 members into the Indian Lake Elementary Million Word Reader Club (each student inducted has read over 1,000,000 words this school year) we hope to have many more members before the end of school. The students in each grade level have done an excellent job this year reading (we have checked out over 26,680 books) and taking AR tests (our school has earned over 36,827 points)!!!! Keep on enjoying and reading those books:)

Mrs. Whitaker

## SEARCH & RESOURCE

**SEARCH** students have been writing poetry all winter. Lots of wonderful poems have been written. I hope you got to see the quatrains we wrote for the February bulletin board in the front hall. We are now learning about songwriting and each student will be writing the lyrics to a song. We will be taking a field trip in May to the Country Music Hall of Fame. At the end of our tour, we will meet with a songwriter and hear some of our lyrics put to music! Our 5<sup>th</sup> graders will be putting on an end of year demonstration for the school in May. More details will be coming soon. We will also have our annual math and science contests in late April and early May. A belated congratulations to Maddy Martin for winning our school Geography Bee this year. She is our first 4<sup>th</sup> grade girl ever to win!

### **Resource**

As usual, lots of hard work is going on in the resource room. We are seeing improvement in reading, math and writing skills. We are getting ready for TCAP testing and reviewing all students' modifications for testing. If you have any questions about this, contact Mrs. Getter. Students, remember to use all your new skills and knowledge during the testing and RELAX. We know you will do your very best.

### **5<sup>th</sup> graders**

*We want to say goodbye to all our 5<sup>th</sup> grade SEARCH and resource students. We have known some of you since kindergarten! We have seen you grow and learn so much over the years. We are very proud of all of you. Do great things at Ellis! We know you will.*

Jean Getter & Sheryl Godsey

## **ART NEWS**

The Volunteer State Community College Elementary School Art Exhibit was February 18<sup>th</sup> through March 9<sup>th</sup>. The following Indian Lake students participated: Benjamin Kieser-kindergarten, Jett Mills-first grade, McKenzie Matheson,

Julia Schenk, and Katie Rathert-second grade, Brooke Bryant and Jared Galbreath-third grade, Suzanne Fowler and Parker Moss-fourth grade, Timber Beltran, Benjamin Samuels, Layne Jontz, Lexie Judd, Alexis Warren, Noah Byars and Riley Mills-fifth grade.

A reception for the students and their families was held on March 4<sup>th</sup> in the lobby of the Thigpen Library. This is an annual event that gives our school an opportunity to showcase our students' art work with other elementary schools.

Everyone received a blue ribbon for participating. We are very proud of all these students.



## **MUSIC NOTES**

I can't believe the year is almost over. The 4th grade PTO performance on Wednesday evening (3/18/10) went absolutely great! All the students did a tremendous job performing. Each student sang, played the xylophone and danced during the show. I heard a lot of great comments from parents, teachers, family members, friends and Mrs. McGhee. I'm very proud of all the 4th grade students who came and performed. The students that didn't get to be there to perform will have an opportunity to show how well they can do the same performance during class time.

The next and last performance will be the Kindergarten year end finale. The students are already learning their songs in preparation. The 3rd and 5th grade classes are working on writing a melody in the treble (G) clef. Then they are assigning a rhythm to the melodic motion they've created in order to write a complete yet simple song. They will be learning how to play it on the xylophones for their class and classroom teachers. The 4th grade classes will catch up to where the 3rd and 5th grade classes now that we have completed our performance. 1st and 2nd grade classes are also learning to write simple melodic motion ideas and may be able to add rhythm to those ideas. If they progress to that point, they too will learn to and perform their simple melodies for their class and classroom teachers.

It's a great time to be in music at Indian Lake Elementary!

Mr. de la Vega

### **\*\*\* Physical Education News \*\*\***

Have you considered ways to promote healthy eating when eating out? In our hectic day to day schedules, we often have to 'eat on the run.' Portion sizes have increased over the past 20 years, and when eating out, they seem to all be 'supersized!' A *portion* is the amount of food we choose to eat for a meal or snack. These portion sizes do not necessarily reflect the recommended serving size. A *serving* represents the measured amount of food recommended from each food group, like a slice of bread or 1-cup (8 ounces) of milk. To *Keep an Eye on Portion Size* and check out portion distortion, visit the National Institutes of Health website at <http://hp2010.nhlbihin.net/portion/keep.htm>

Over the past few weeks K-5 students have been working on cooperative and team building games. These games combined fitness activities while working on social skills and interdisciplinary learning experiences. During the next few weeks we will be focusing on soccer and kicking related games.

Thank you for partnering with us to develop your child's lifetime health and fitness. For upcoming P.E. units please click on the Units tab at my website.

Sincerely,  
Mr. Knupp