

The ICS Link

A monthly newsletter for families at Independence Charter School
"Opening Worlds of Opportunity"

June 2009

Dear ICS Families:

As we come to the close of the 2008-2009 school year, it is natural to reflect on the past months. This year has been exciting and challenging, for students, staff and families alike. We "survived" our move to a new space and have learned to thrive here in our new home on Lombard Street. Our little ones have learned how to navigate a much larger space, our older students have learned how to manage SEPTA, our parents have learned how to adjust to an altered after-school program, our staff has learned how to welcome a new principal, and all of us have learned how to partner with a new community here in Center City Philadelphia.

The 2009 International Festival was the largest and reportedly most successful to date. Students visited each other's classrooms, parents and other community members joined us to celebrate student work, the student displays, and on Day 3 the Community Relations Committee organized a variety of opportunities for ICS students to participate in special activities.

Just when we thought we were ready to wind down --- Field Day! Despite some rain, all students were able to participate in the games and fun organized by a dedicated group of ICS staff members.

It is also important to note that this year marks the first ICS international trip. This year's graduating class visited Montreal, Canada. The students had a wonderful time, and we are proud to say that every eighth grader who attended the trip now holds his or her own United States Passport. We send them off to high school ready to travel the world.

And speaking of high school, please take time to look at the back cover of this newsletter to see our list of high school acceptances. We are so very proud of this eighth grade class, who met the challenge of a demanding curriculum with perseverance and resolve, and are leaving behind a legacy of social and academic performance success which all students should strive to achieve.

Enjoy your summer, ICS Community. We look forward to seeing you for the first day of school, September 8th, 2009.

**Thank You,
Principal Stephanie**

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I.C.S. Bulletin Board

Calling all ICS Green Families!
The ICS Greening Committee is looking for donations of watering cans for our beautiful planters! Please drop the cans off in the front for Tr. Suzanne!



Information about student classroom assignments for the 2009-2010 school year will be available during the last week in August.

If your child will be transferring to another school for the 2009-2010 school year, please be sure to contact Tr. Megan at megans@independencecharter.org or 215-238-8000 x2292 to let her know.

If your address and/or phone number(s) change over the summer, be sure to contact ICS so that you don't miss any important mailings.



If you owe money on your child's meal account, the entire balance needs to be paid off by the end of June. Contact Tr. Neyza at neyzac@independencecharter.org or 215-238-8000 x2228 to get detailed information about your child's account.

If you have concerns, questions or there has been an error for student attendance, email Tr. Nancy at nancyh@independencecharter.org. Email before the end of June because the Philadelphia School District Computers are closed at the end of the year and then attendance can't be changed.

ICS Community Mural Paint Day

Come join muralist Ann Northup for the first ICS Community Paint Day for our new playground mural on

Saturday, June 20th from 1:00-4:00PM.

Regardless of your painting ability, all are welcome to join the start of this exciting project. If you plan on coming please email

Tr. Michael @ michaelf@independencecharter.org or 215.238.8000 Ext.2305

Summer Reading Book Fair

Get your copies of the required summer reading titles!

When: Saturday June 20th

Where: Barnes and Noble
Rittenhouse Square
1805 Walnut Street

School Code: 556704

A Message from the Board of Trustees

As the year draws to a close, it's time to reflect on a great year in our new building. You'll see some changes to the playground when you get back to school in the fall. Many thanks to Robin Kohles who continues to serve as our building rep through the ongoing work to complete the renovation to our award-winning building. We have so much to be proud of in our administration and staff who have made the transition this year amidst so much change. And of course, the ongoing work of parents who volunteer their time, makes ICS a very special place.

We'd like to offer our congratulations to the graduating Class of 2009. We wish you the best as you move on to new challenges and opportunities in high schools.

At the June meeting, the Board thanked the three out-going Board members: Anyabwile Banko'le, Eric Cramer and Nicole Perkins Kilcullen. Anyabwile Banko'le held a Parent Seat for over two years during the school's deliberations regarding whether or not to purchase a building. Eric Cramer is one of the original founders of ICS, one of a small group who met in a park and in homes to dream---and then see to reality, ICS. Eric was thanked (amid tears) for over ten years of work on behalf of ICS. Nicole Perkins Kilcullen served on the Board for nearly four years and was given honorary "founder" status in appreciation for the countless hours she put as chair of the Property Committee during the course of ICS searching for and finding its new home.

New officers have been elected for the 2009-2010 school year; they are:

Rona Buchalter, President
Pam Prell, Vice President
Kristin Nocco, Secretary
Rosina Miller, Treasurer

In addition three new Board members took their oath of office: (pictured from left to right)

Eli Lesser (Founder Seat)
Elsie Stern (Parent Seat)
John Eagen (Founder Seat)



As always, ICS parents and community members are welcome to attend Board meetings and to become involved with Board committees.

Direktore Jurate and the Board's Finance Committee reported on funding for the upcoming school year. Within the last week Pennsylvania charter schools were informed to expect either no increase in the per student subsidy (the set amount of money a school received for each student enrolled) or only a percent or so increase. This was unexpected news, since increases have never been less than 3% and are often more than that. Charter school administrators are meeting to determine what type of action might be taken. In the meantime, ICS readjusted its 2009-2010 budget to allow for the possibility of only a slight increase. ICS is fortunate to have very competent financial advisors, who consistently budget conservatively to be able to handle events such as this one. Copies of the ICS budget are available for review; contact the front office for more information.

Sincerely,
Pam Prell
Outgoing Co-President
Board of Trustees

We are so proud of our kindergarteners for working so hard this year. Your children have certainly come a long way since the first day of school. Please remember to practice reading and writing over the summer to be ready for next school year. Have a restful and relaxing summer... We'll see you next year!



Kindergarten



The first grade village really enjoyed our indoor field day and would really like to thank the entire field day committee for all their hard work! The International Festival was absolutely amazing as well. We enjoyed learning many facts about the countries presented. Please encourage students to read over the summer! All report cards are being mailed home this year along with the summer reading list. The entire first grade teaching staff would like to thank all the wonderful parents for all your support this year. Have a great summer!

Grade 1

Yey! We did it! It was a great year. We topped off our Country Studies of India last month with a guest speaker, Amruta, from the Center for International Studies of U Penn. She presented about life and school in India. We were very proud ambassadors of India during the International Festival and we enjoyed dancing to the beats of the West African drumming! Thank you to all the families for your support to the success of the Mercado de Frutas.



Grade 2

What a great year its been! We are wrapping things up. Over the summer remember to practice your multiplication and read as much as you can. Thanks to everyone who participated in our 3rd grade spring potluck, we had a great time. Our students showcased our country study of Kenya at the International Festival. We hope you are looking forward to 4th grade. We sure had an awesome 3rd grade year. Have a wonderful vacation!



Grade 3



The month of June was exciting for the fourth grade. We celebrated Ghana and all cultures during our three-day International Festival with country tours and performances of West African drumming. We enjoyed Field Day with activities including ghost, relay races, sharks and minnows, and dunking the teacher in the dunk tank. During our last week, we had the opportunity to go hiking at Wissahickon park. The day was beautiful, fun, and reflected our feeling of community. On behalf of the entire fourth grade, we'd like to thank everyone who have made this year successful, enjoyable, and safe. Have a wonderful summer!

Grade 4

The Fifth Grade proudly walked to TD Bank last Friday with more than 70 buckets of pennies they had collected for their Pennies For Peace Campaign. (The money collected will go towards the building of schools in Afghanistan.) The grand total collected (.....drum roll!!) was 95,141 pennies (\$951.41) which is almost double the goal set by the 5th grade. What a rewarding way to close the year. We thank you for the loan of your children this year. We wish everyone a healthy and safe summer.



Grade 5

6th grade Science went on their 4th trip this year to the Camden Adventure Aquarium. They saw aquatic animals from various ecosystems and viewed a 4-D movie called Planet Earth. In English Language Arts, students continued their study of nonfiction as they read and wrote biographies and memoirs. In Spanish Language Arts, students have worked on improving their grammar skills & are writing microcuentos! In Math, students have been experimenting with probability and solving/graphing inequalities. Have a great summer!



Grade 6



The 7th graders have been working with 3- dimensional measurement and probability. They also had a blast at the Wetlands Institute scavenging and experimenting! They also read the Pulitzer Prize winning play “The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds” and wrote their short stories in language arts. 7th grade Spanish language arts has been perfecting their use of adjectives and writing microcuentos (mini stories)!

Grade 7

The 8th graders have had a jammed packed end of the year. They played bankers who exchanged foreign currency for the International Festival, had the opportunity to see some of their scenes from their plays acted out on stage, became the first class to beat the teachers in the annual students/staff basketball game, took great joy in getting their teachers soaked in the dunk tank, spent a few days practicing their French in the street of Montreal, and of course have readied themselves to walk down that aisle and receive their certificates at graduation. We wish our 8th graders luck in all their future adventures!



Grade 8

The International Festival helps kids become ambassadors for life

Do you remember as a child pretending to do grown-up things? I know that my parents as new immigrants to this country worked in factories. I was never quite sure what they did but created a pretend world wherein my friends and I would pretend to go to work and then return exhausted home. We would line up chairs to create pretend busses and one of us would take the role of the bus driver. In the pretend factory, I turned a pretend machine that made objects to be sold. We also dressed up as superman, played “cops and robbers” and chose a character to recreate from the “Wizard of Oz”. I think all of these “practices” at being other characters were surely healthy exercises in trying out various roles.

When we celebrate the International Festival at Independence Charter, our kids get a chance to be teachers, and natives of the countries we are studying. As we walk through the wonderful displays, our students engage us spilling forth the plethora of information they have learned about the countries studied. The saris, scarves, berets, dances and songs intensely transport us to the focused work of our elementary students. I would suggest that our Independence Charter students get a chance to practice being ambassadors. After all, an ambassador must be someone who can represent their own country well, while appreciating and learning from other countries and cultures. I think that Independence Charter helps kids become ambassadors for life.

-Direktore Jurate

State Representative Babette Josephs Presents Citations to ICS



On Friday, June 12, the ICS 5th graders received a special visit from State Representative Babette Josephs. Rep. Josephs recently issued Independence Charter a citation recognizing us on our winning of the prestigious Goldman Sachs Prize for Excellence in International Education. During her visit on Friday she presented us with the citation and had the opportunity to see our top-notch international curriculum in action. Rep. Josephs congratulated the 5th graders on their wildly successful Pennies for Peace campaign before they went to the bank to officially count the 95,000+ pennies they collected during the drive. The money raised will be sent to the Central Asia Institute (CAI), a nonprofit organization that promotes and provides community-based education and literacy programs for girls in remote mountain regions of Central Asia like Afghanistan and Pakistan.

The ICS PTA

News & Announcements

On behalf of the 2008/09 PTA Officers, we want to take this opportunity to thank the ICS families that contributed time, money, paper goods, clothes, books, winter hats, gloves & scarves, home baked goods & home-made dishes, box-tops, foreign coins, International games, plastic bottle tops, creative energy, organizational skills, computer know-how, overall spirit and physical presence towards an amazing 2008/09 school year.

Best of luck to outgoing students and our 8th grade graduates and we welcome incoming 2009/2010 students.

We wish you and your extended families a memorable summer and look forward to seeing you in September. Next years officers are already working on additional community building events such as Pancakes with Parents, Ladies Night Clothing Swap and some parent/students educational workshops.

2008/09 Student Activities funded by PTA sponsored fundraisers

Thanks to your generosity, ICS students were able to partake in the following class trips & programs during the 2008/09 School Year:

K-8th grade theatre trips for 2008/09 School Year- A Christmas Carol, James & the Giant Peach, The Snow Queen, West Side Story, Tai Chi demonstration (kindergartners), Story time with Tom Warburton, author of "1,000 times no!" (kindergartners), Bearenstein Bears on Stage (1st grade), Annenberg Children's Festival (1st & 3rd grade), Eastern University Children's Theatre (3rd & 5th grade), Franklin Institute (3rd grade), Japanese Drumming (4th grade), Constitution Center (4th grade), Art Sanctuary (4th grade), Sidi Goma at the Painted Bride (Middle School), Civil War Museum visit (5th grade), Camping Trip (5th grade), Academy of Natural Sciences (6th grade), Adventure Aquarium (6th grade), Field Days (June '09), Claymobile project for International Airport Display (8th graders), (2)-days of massages for ICS teachers & staff (teacher appreciation week) (May '09), Lunch for 1st grade students attending Law Day at City Hall (May '09), Teacher pretzel money for class parties, books for students, supplies for special projects, Volunteer Lunch in May '09

RIVERSHARK TICKETS ARE STILL AVAILABLE!!

We still have tickets available for the ICS day at the Camden Riversharks June 21st at 1:05pm. Please send in your money and order ASAP.

RIVERSHARK TICKETS ARE READY FOR PICK-UP!!

If you paid for your tickets and put your students name on the form, your tickets should have come home in your child's folder on Monday, June 15th. If you did not pay for your tickets or you did not include a student name on your form your tickets are at the PTA desk for pick-up.

WE NEED HELP AT THE CONCESSION STAND!

The Camden Riversharks are giving ICS the opportunity to earn 10% of the profits from one concession stand. We need 18 works. We currently have only 9. If you work the stand the PTA will give you the \$7.50 for your ticket to the game. If you want to volunteer, send an e-mail to Conswelia McCourt. You need to be at the stadium by 10:30 on game day for training. If you have not purchased tickets yet, send in your order for tickets to the school. When you come to training the morning of the game, your money for the ticket will be returned to you.

Contact: Conswelia McCourt (swayla@verizon.net)



Stars Come Out & Shine



On Friday Night June 12th, the ICS Talent/Variety Show & Pot Luck Dinner took place in the play yard. About 100 parents & children showed up to romp around the playground, eat loads of food and listen to some amazingly talented ICS students. Several neighbors stood outside the fence and also enjoyed the show! We'd like to thank the following students for entertaining us with song, dance, music and hula hoop!

Ruya Erkut, piano playing kindergartener

The AP & SP Group, **Apollonia Quiros & Stella Penault** dancing/singing to Mariah Carey's "Shake It Off"

Piano playing 7th grader, **Gabriel Hohmann**

Spanish singing kindergartners (complete with costumes) **Juliana Long, Bix Pancoe & Emma Martin-Zimmerman**

Nayla "Lady Nayla" Webb with her rendition of Beyonce's "If I Were A Boy"

Third graders **Jevon Mitchell and Lola Bradberry**, "The Ho-Down Hillbillies" dancing to the Miley Cyrus's "Hoedown Throw Down" tune

Morgan Blagman, 3rd grader, performs "Shake It Off" by Mariah Carey

Hula Hoop extraordinaire **William "Buck" Reed**, 2nd grader, closes the show with a hand clapping, feet stomping hula hoop performance to "Get Down and Get With It" from Slade's Wall of Hits.

Thank you to 3rd grader **Ella Burrows** ("MC Ella") and her friend from the Greenfield School, Cleo Knight, for acting as Mistresses of Ceremonies during the evening.



ICS Summer Reading Program

Please join us in supporting the ICS Summer Reading Program by stopping by the Rittenhouse Barnes and Noble on Saturday, June 20th, 2009 from 10am till 5pm. The store will have our required summer reading titles in stock for us, as well as many of our recommended books. ICS PTA will earn money for every purchase made on Saturday, not just our summer reading picks!

You don't have to be an ICS student, parent, or teacher to contribute to the fundraiser. Anyone can help out with a purchase at any Barnes and Noble, anywhere in America. So please tell all of your friends and family, even those that don't live in Philadelphia. Pass along our ICS Bookfair ID # which is **556704**. If you can't make it to the Rittenhouse location, try to stop by your local Barnes and Noble on Saturday, June 20th, tell them you're with ICS, and they can arrange to have the summer reading books available at your store.

We are planning many great ICS celebrations that day as well!

- Our 5th graders will be delighting us with a poetry reading.
- Our 2nd graders will be demonstrating their yoga skills with Teacher Shavon.
- Principal Stephanie will be leading a Storytime at 11.
- A few 8th graders will perform scenes from their original plays.

The purchase of gift cards, Barnes and Noble memberships, text books, and magazine subscriptions will not be included in the bookfair total. Purchases made at ANY Barnes and Noble location on Saturday, June 20th will contribute to ICS earnings (except University book stores and online purchases).

And perhaps the best part - Earn a dress down day pass for the fall!

If you have any questions, please contact Teacher Amy at amyl@independencecharter.org
Thanks and we hope to see you there!



Summer Math



Dear ICS Parents,

Many of you have asked what you can do to support your child in mathematics over the summer. Below are a few suggestions.

Borders, Amazon and Barnes and Nobles sell a series called Summer Bridge Activities. Summer Bridge has a work book dedicated to math ([Summer Bridge Math](#)) which does a good job of pinpointing major grade level concepts covered during the year. The books are designed to review major math concepts for the year your child has just completed and ready him/her for the fall. So if your child is in 5th grade and going to 6th grade next year you would look for the book (5-6). The books range from grades K-8. The book costs \$8.95 at *Borders*.

For children who are still learning basic facts 15 minutes of flash card review daily is recommended. You can make flash cards with your child or pick them up (cheaply) at most dollar stores.

Real life opportunities to use math are an excellent way to hone your child's math skills. The summer is an opportune time to include your child on shopping trips (estimating totals, finding unit rates, figuring out how much is saved at a 20% discount sale. Use the circulars that come in the newspaper to find items on sale. Have your child help you shop within a budget.) Help your child set up a lemonade stand and figure out cost and net profit. If you're traveling, include your child in map reading, estimating miles driven, figuring out estimated travel time. Cooking is a great way to review measurement. If you're having a summer barbecue and having a crowd have your child figure out how to double a recipe (or halve it if it's a small group for a picnic). Look for patterns, estimate wait time while standing in line at the supermarket, have your child find geometric shapes as you stroll through town. If you have any great ideas of your own, please send them to me so we can compile a share list of real life experiences that emphasize and use math on a daily basis that we can use in the future.

(barbarak@independencecharter.org)

Games that incorporate math are a fun way to review and use basic math concepts. Here are a few ideas: Guess Who, Dominoes, Pattern Blocks, Play Money, Tangrams, Addition/Subtraction Bingo, and card or dice activities are great for younger children. 24, Krypto, Multiplication/Division Bingo and card or dice activities are games our older children can enjoy and learn from.

Some websites that might be helpful if you have computer access are:

Math Forum: <http://mathforum.org/>

Mathwire: <http://mathwire.com>

Thinking Blocks: <http://www.thinkingblocks.com>

Math Playground: <http://www.mathplayground.com/>

Math Stories: <http://www.mathstories.com/>

Real World Math: <http://score.kings.k12.ca.us/real.world.html>

Coolmath4kids: <http://www.coolmath4kids.com/>

Funschool games: <http://www.funschool.com>

Interactive Puzzles: <http://www.sakharov.net/>

The Time Game: <http://arcytech.org/java/clock/>

Can You Fill It? <http://pbskids.org/cyberchase/games/liquidvolume/liquidvolume.html>

Multiplication games: http://www.multiplication.com/interactive_games.htm

If you want more ideas, go to Math Forum and it can help you find other sites of interest.

**Best wishes for a healthy and safe summer,
Barbara Kay, ICS Math coach**

Summer Reading Program 2009

This summer, don't take a vacation *from* reading, in fact - take a vacation *by* reading! Reading can be a fun, relaxing way to spend your time, whether it's a sunny day at the beach, a long trip in the car, or wishing the sun would come back out on a rainy day. We hope you will all read a truckload of books this summer - as many as you can get your hands on. Challenge yourself. Set a goal and see if you can meet it and then set yourself an even more challenging goal. Set up a competition with your friends and family (even parents), to see who can read the most books. Take advantage of every opportunity you can to read, whether it's the back of cereal box, or a quick look at the comics in the newspaper. Read the newspaper, a magazine, a whole series of novels. Read by yourself, read to your siblings, or ask your parents to listen to you read. Try a new genre that you've never read before. No matter what you read - just keep reading!

-Summer reading letters specific to each grade have been mailed home along with students' final report cards. The letters include the required reading books, a list of assignments to choose from, a reading log, as well as a list of recommended books.

-The entire book list is posted on the school's website www.independencecharter.org

-If you can't get the required book, try one of the recommended books. It's okay that it's not the required book, the important part is to read and engage with the book.

-If you lose the reading log or run out of space, just make your own. Be sure to write down the title and author of each book, the dates you read it, and make sure a parent signs each entry.

- Read the assigned required reading book(s)
- Do just one of the assignments (your choice)
- Read LOTS of other books over the summer
- Keep track of all of the books you read on your reading log
- The reading log should be signed by a parent each time it is filled out
- Bring the assignment and the reading log to school on Monday September 14th.
 - Have FUN reading together

Here are some websites to explore this summer

Ideas for activities to help children explore reading and writing all summer long:

<http://www.readwritethink.org/beyondtheclassroom/summer/>

The Free Library of Philadelphia's summer reading program for kids:

<http://libwww.freelibrary.org/summerreading/>

Scholastic's Summer Reading Challenge:

<http://scholastic.com/summerreading/summerchallenge/>

Reading is Fundamental games and activities:

<http://www.rif.org/readingplanet/>

Games and activities in five different languages!

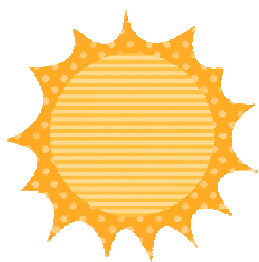
<http://childtopia.com/index.php>

Read, sing, share stories in English and/or Spanish

http://www.rif.org/leer/index_flash.msp

Listen to and read classic children's fairytales in Spanish

<http://www.codyscuentos.com/>



TIPS FOR PARENTS:

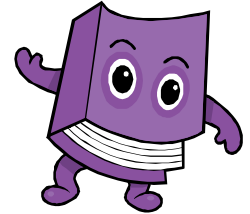
Visit the library.

If your child doesn't have a library card, summer is a great time to sign up. In addition to a wide selection of books to borrow, Philadelphia's Free Libraries has a fun, child-friendly summer reading program.



Lead by example.

Read the newspaper at breakfast, pick up a magazine at the doctor's office, and stuff a paperback in your beach bag. If kids see the adults around them reading often, they will understand that literature can be a fun and important part of their summer days.



Use books to break the boredom.

Without the regular school regimen, adults and kids need more activities to fill the hours. Don't forget to take your kids' favorite reading series along on long road trips.

Read aloud with kids.

Take your children to see a local storyteller or be one yourself. The summer months leave extra time for enthusiastic read-alouds with children no matter what their age.

The following book is required summer reading for incoming ICS 1st graders:

Spanish Enhanced Program Students:

Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? by Bill Martin Jr.

Spanish Immersion Program Students:

Oso pardo, Oso pardo, que ves ahí? por Bill Martin Jr.

The following book is required summer reading for incoming ICS 2nd graders:

Spanish Enhanced Program Students:

Frog and Toad are Friends by Arnold Lobel

Spanish Immersion Program Students:

Sapo y Sepo Son Amigos por Arnold Lobel

The following books are required summer reading for incoming ICS 3rd graders.

Spanish Enhanced Program Students:

Magic Tree House - Dinosaurs Before Dark by Mary Pope Osborne

Horrible Harry Moves Up to Third Grade by Suzy Kline

Spanish Immersion Program Students:

Horrible Harry Moves Up to Third Grade por Suzy Kline

El secreto del sauce por Elena Dreser (en español)

The following books are required summer reading for incoming ICS 4th Graders:

Spanish Enhanced Program Students:

The Littles by John Peterson

Amber Brown Goes Fourth by Paula Danziger

Spanish Immersion Program Students:

El dedo magico por Roald Dahl (en espanol)

Amber Brown Goes Fourth by Paula Danziger (in English)

The following books are required summer reading for incoming ICS 5th Graders:

Spanish Enhanced Program Students:

Iggie's House by Judy Blume

Punished! by David Lubar

Spanish Immersion Program Students:

Lisa de los paraguas por Elsa Bornemann (en espanol)

Punished! by David Lubar (in English)

The following books are required summer reading for incoming ICS 6th Graders:

Spanish Enhanced Program Students:

Eggs by Jerry Spinelli

Hoot by Carl Hiaasen

Spanish Immersion Program Students:

Hoot by Carl Hiaasen

Nada de Tucanes por Elisa Bornemann (en espanol)

The following books are required summer reading for incoming ICS 7th Graders:

Spanish Enhanced Program Students:

Bird by Angela Johnson

Monkey Island by Paula Fox

Spanish Immersion Program Students:

Monkey Island by Paula Fox

Verde fue mi selva por Edna Iturralde (en espanol)

The following books are required summer reading for incoming ICS 8th Graders:

Spanish Enhanced Program Students:

Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli

The Hero Project by Robert and William Hatch

Spanish Immersion Program Students:

The Hero Project by Robert and William Hatch

La ciudad de las bestias por Isabel Allende (en espanol)

2009-2010 School Year Supply Lists

Kindergarten

Please note that all supplies will be collected and shared by the class, with the exception of the plastic folders and change of clothes. **Please do not label other items**, as this may cause conflict during the year.

PLEASE DO NOT send space savers or pencil boxes.

All supplies will be collected the first week of school. If you are sending them in a grocery bag, please label that bag. As the year progresses, some supplies might need to be replenished (especially tissues!), so we will send a note home when we need to ask you for more generous donations.

A BIG THANK YOU FROM ALL KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS!

Two Packs of 3 (or more) Glue Sticks or 2 Bottles of Glue

1 Change of Clothes including underwear (2 pairs), socks, top and bottom all labeled in a gallon-sized zip lock bag (labeled)

3 boxes of tissues

1 pack of sandwich sized baggies

1 pack of gallon sized baggies

1 pack of Clorox/Lysol antibacterial wipes (for tables)

1 Pack of Baby Wipes (for hands)

2 pack of large basic color crayons, 1 pack of thin crayons

6-8 pencils (without erasers if at all possible) My First Ticonderoga or Beginner's Pencils-the fat big pencils

3 large pink rubber erasers

3 Double pocket PLASTIC folders (do not label)

Modeling clay and play dough

Scissors

Big colored markers

WISH LIST:

extra glue sticks

extra boxes of tissues

extra containers of Clorox antibacterial wipes (or the similar)

extra pencils

extra clay and play dough

Notebooks

popsicle sticks

stickers and washable ink pads

left-handed scissors

Dry erase markers

1st Grade

Please note that all supplies will be collected and shared by the class, with the exception of the plastic folders and change of clothes. **Please do not label other items**, as this may cause conflict during the year.

PLEASE DO NOT send space savers or pencil boxes.

All supplies will be collected the first week of school. If you are sending them in a grocery bag, please label that bag. As the year progresses, some supplies might need to be replenished (especially tissues!), so we will send a note home when we need to ask you for more generous donations.

A BIG THANK YOU FROM ALL 1ST GRADE TEACHERS!

3 plastic folders

\$6.00 (1st Grade teachers will purchase special 1st grade notebooks with this money. These special notebooks will help students with handwriting)

2 boxes of Crayola crayons (16 count)

8 glue sticks

1 dozen #2 pencils (sharpened)

2 large pencil erasers (pink)

2 boxes of tissues

2 boxes of Ziploc bags (1 quart size and 1 gallon) size

2 box of Clorox wipes (desks)

1 box of baby wipes (hands)

1 pack of 12-count colored pencils

1 pack of washable markers

1 package white paper plates and plastic ware

1 pack of 4 dry eraser markers for individual white boards

1 Change of Clothes including underwear, socks, top and bottom all labeled

WISH LIST:

extra glue sticks

extra boxes of tissues

extra containers of Clorox antibacterial wipes (or the similar)

extra baby wipes

extra pencils

2009-2010 School Year Supply Lists

2nd Grade

PLEASE note that **ALL** supplies will be collected and shared by the class as a community. **Please do not label any items !!! Thank You!**

PLEASE DO NOT send space savers or pencil boxes.

All supplies will be collected the first week of school. If you are sending them in a grocery bag, please only label that bag. As the year progresses, some supplies might need to be replenished (especially pencils, wipes, and tissues!), so we will send a note home when we need to ask you for more generous donations.

-A BIG THANK YOU FROM ALL 2ND GRADE VILLAGE TEACHERS!

5 marble composition notebooks (sewn, not spiral or glued)

5 plastic folders- unlabelled (for home-school communication: homework, etc.)

3 dozen #2 pencils, SHARPENED

2 white or pink pencil erasers

2 boxes one-quart Ziploc bags

1 box one-gallon Ziploc bags

1 box of 24 crayons

1 pack of washable markers

2 containers of disinfectant wipes (for desks)

1 box of baby wipes (for hands)

2 boxes of tissues

8 glue sticks

1 pack of 4 dry erase markers (for individual white boards)

WISH LIST:

extra glue sticks

extra boxes of tissues

extra containers of disinfectant antibacterial wipes (or the similar)

extra pencils

Post-it notes

Pencil sharpener that holds shavings (for teacher to lend out)

Masking tape

Scotch tape

Clear packing tape

3rd Grade

Please note that all supplies will be collected and shared by the class. **Please do not label any items**, as this may cause conflict during the year.

PLEASE DO NOT send space savers or pencil boxes.

All supplies will be collected the first week of school. If you are sending them in a grocery bag, please label that bag. As the year progresses, some supplies might need to be replenished (especially tissues!), so we will send a note home when we need to ask you for more generous donations.

-A BIG THANK YOU FROM ALL 3RD GRADE TEACHERS!

3 large glue sticks

3 dozen #2 pencils (sharpened if possible!)

Pencil sharpener that holds shavings

3 pencil erasers (bars)

1 box of crayons (24 count)

1 box of washable markers

8 composition books (wide ruled, black & white speckled, not spiral bound)

If new student to ICS, 1 composition notebook for music class in addition to the 6 above.

4 hard plastic folders NO DESIGN

2 pocket folders NO DESIGN (red, blue, yellow, green)

1 box of gallon sized Ziploc bags

1 box of small – sandwich Ziploc bags

3 boxes of tissues

1 box of baby wipes (for hands)

1 box of disinfectant wipes (for desks)

1 pack of post it notes

1 can of play dough

4 dry erase markers (for use with individual white boards)

Ruler (with inches & centimeters) to be kept at home

One pack of index cards

2 highlighters

\$5 for magazine subscription

Mini Composition book 4 ½ in. by 3 ½ in. (for Spanish Class)

WISH LIST:

1 white – out marker, Glitter, 2 bottles of paint (any color), 1 bottle of Elmer's Glue, 1 3 ring hard 1" binder (plain color) - 1 white – out marker, extra glue sticks, extra boxes of tissues, extra containers of Clorox antibacterial wipes (or the similar), extra baby wipes, extra pencils, pencil sharpener that holds shavings (for teacher to lend out)

2009-2010 School Year Supply Lists

4th Grade

Please note that all supplies will be collected and shared by the class, with the exception of the plastic folders and composition notebooks. **Please do not label other items**, as this may cause conflict during the year.

PLEASE DO NOT send space savers or pencil boxes.

All supplies will be collected the first week of school. If you are sending them in a grocery bag, please label that bag. As the year progresses, some supplies might need to be replenished (especially tissues!), so we will send a note home when we need to ask you for more generous donations.

-A BIG THANK YOU FROM ALL 4th GRADE TEACHERS!

- 1 package of glue sticks (6 total)
- 3 dozen #2 pencils Ticonderoga or Papermate
- 1 set of washable markers
- 1 package of pencil erasers
- 5 marble composition notebooks (not spiraled – sewn)
- If new student to ICS, 1 composition notebook for music class in addition to the 4 above.
- 1 package of wide-lined paper
- 1 package of large grid graph paper
- 2 hard plastic folders
- 5 plain solid colored folders (yellow, red, green, purple and blue).
- 2 boxes of tissue
- 2 box of disinfectant wipes (for desks)
- 1 pack of lined post it notes (any color)
- 1 box of Gallon-sized Ziploc Bags
- 1 box of 24 crayons
- 1 pencil sharpener that holds shavings (Staples)
- 1 pack of 4 dry erase markers (for use with individual white boards)
- Hand sanitizer
- A box of red pens
- A package of highlighters
- A package of index cards

WISH LIST:

- extra boxes of tissues, extra baby wipes, extra containers of Clorox antibacterial wipes (or the similar), pencil sharpener that holds shavings (for teacher to lend out), Colored tissue paper, Sculpt Play dough (does not dry), Disposable cameras, Paint, Japanese/ Ghanaian artifacts and materials such as: origami paper, washi paper, music, posters, pictures, postcards.

5th Grade

Please note that all supplies will be collected and shared by the class, with the exception of the plastic folders and notebooks. **Please do not label other items**, as this may cause conflict during the year.

A BIG THANK YOU FROM ALL 5th GRADE TEACHERS!

- 8 composition books (marble, sewn) (for Language Arts, Social Studies, Math, Spanish, and Science)
- \$5.00 for *Time for Kids* one-year weekly magazine subscription
- 1 composition notebook for Music (if child is new to ICS)
- 4 Sturdy Folders (labeled with child's name, preferably plastic)
- Backpack/bookbag
- 2 boxes of tissues
- 2 canister of Clorox wipes (for desks)
- 1 pad of post it notes
- 1 pack of wide-lined paper
- 2 packs of 3x5 index cards, lined
- Glue stick
- Washable Markers

The following items should be in a pencil case:

- #2 pencils - ONGOING, student needs to have SHARPENED pencils on a daily basis
- pencil sharpener erasers
- 1 red pen, 1 blue pen
- Covered pencil sharpener that holds shavings

For Home Use: Dictionary, ruler, protractor

OPTIONAL:

Colored Pencils, Crayons, Scissors, Ruler, Pencil sharpener that holds shavings for teacher to lend out, 1 container hand sanitizer

2009-2010 School Year Supply Lists

Grades 6-8



Please note that all supplies will be collected and shared by the class, with the exception of the notebooks, binders, and pencil sharpeners. **Please do not label other items**, as this may cause conflict during the year.

PLEASE DO NOT send space savers or pencil boxes.

All supplies will be collected the first week of school. If you are sending them in a grocery bag, please label that bag. As the year progresses, some supplies might need to be replenished (especially tissues and lined paper!), so we will send a note home when we need to ask you for more generous donations.

Individual covered pencil sharpener

4 dozen pencils

1 box of black/blue ink pens

Highlighters

2 different colored Non Blue or Black Pens for editing purposes (e.g., red, green, purple, etc)

1 box of Gallon size Ziploc bags

1 box of Quart size Ziploc bags

2 or More Boxes of tissues

2 Marble Black & White Composition Note Books

3 One Subject Spiral Notebooks

7 packs of white lined paper

One 1 inch binder (to be used for homework)

2 packs 4x6 white index cards

2 pads of Post-its

1 pack of colored pencils or markers

1 container of Clorox wipes

Scientific Calculator (recommended TI-30X IIS (from Texas Instruments))

\$5 for folders to be used in all classes

\$7 for Spanish/Spanish Dictionary for home (Immersion Students Only)

OPTIONAL, but HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

English dictionary for home

WISH LIST OF DONATIONS:

Extra pencils, Extra lined paper, Extra tissues, Extra covered pencil sharpeners for teachers to lend out to students, Extra containers of Clorox, antibacterial wipes (or the similar), Sharpie Markers, Cap Erasers

Help send an ICS teacher to Responsive Classroom training!

Amidst the countless new and exciting events that have happened this year at Independence Charter School, it might have been easy to miss one of the most significant changes inside our classrooms. This year our teachers began using elements of the **Responsive Classroom** program at ICS. By structuring the classroom in ways that build community and give students choice and responsibility, the program encourages students and teachers to be respectful and empowered partners in learning.

We are asking families or groups of families to contribute half the funds necessary to send a teacher from the grade level of their choice to a workshop. For every \$350 raised, ICS will match that contribution and send one teacher to the training this summer. Our goal in 2009-2010 is for every ICS teacher to be proficient so that every ICS student can benefit in the coming school year. Any amount you can contribute will make a difference!

The Responsive Classroom and Developmental Designs for Middle School programs are based on seven guiding principles:

The social curriculum is as important as the academic curriculum.

How children learn is as important as what they learn: Process and content go hand in hand.

The greatest cognitive growth occurs through social interaction.

To be successful academically and socially, children need a set of social skills: cooperation, assertion, responsibility, empathy, and self-control.

Knowing the children we teach-individually, culturally, and developmentally-is as important as knowing the content we teach.

Knowing the families of the children we teach and working with them as partners is essential to children's education. How the adults at school work together is as important as their individual competence: Lasting change begins with the adult community.

Visit the programs' websites to learn more about these exciting approaches to student learning and development!

www.responsiveclassroom.org

www.originsonline.org

I wish to send an Independence Charter School teacher to the Responsive Classroom/Developmental Designs summer institute!

I would like to send a teacher from the _____ grade to a workshop.

Please group my gift with the gifts of the following families: _____

Enclosed is my gift in the amount of (check one):

\$175 \$350 \$525 \$700 \$1400

\$10 \$25 \$50 \$100 Other: _____

This gift qualifies for a corporate matching gift (forms enclosed).

Please make check payable to Independence Charter School and fill out the form below. Then mail both back to Independence Charter School using the enclosed envelope.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

To make a gift by credit card, visit www.independencecharter.org and click on 'DONATE NOW' on our homepage.

Independence Charter School is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Your contribution is tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

Independence Charter School

2009-2010 Student Calendar

(subject to change)

The school day will begin at 8:30a.m. and will end at 3:30p.m.

(except on Early Dismissal Days)

DATE	Early Dismissal at 2:30p.m. EVERY Wednesday, starting on 9/16/09
Tues, 9/8	First Day of School for 1 st -8 th Graders
Thurs, 9/10	First Day of School for KINDERGARTNERS
Mon, 9/28	SCHOOL CLOSED (Yom Kippur holiday)
Mon, 10/12	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY- NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
Wed, 11/11	SCHOOL CLOSED (Veterans' Day holiday)
Thur & Fri 11/26-27	SCHOOL CLOSED (Thanksgiving holiday)
Wed, 12/23	REPORT CARD DAY- NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
Thur 12/24- Fri 1/1	WINTER BREAK- NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
Mon, 1/4	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY- NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
Tue, 1/5	Students Return to School
Mon, 1/18	SCHOOL CLOSED (Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday)
Mon, 2/15	SCHOOL CLOSED (Presidents' Day holiday)
Thur, 3/25	REPORT CARD DAY- NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
Fri, 3/26	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY- NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
Mon-Fri, 3/29-4/2	SPRING BREAK- NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
Mon, 5/31	SCHOOL CLOSED (Memorial Day holiday)
Fri, 6/18	Last Day for Students

Congratulations Class of 2009!



Laura Acatecatl, Aysia Ali, Kamani Bacon, Rashonna Black , Marcus Bonaparte, Melanie Burbage, Azani Carpenter, Andrea Chang, Eugene Cochran, Daniel Colon, Carl Dacres, Zoe Davis, A'laisha Evans, Abriana Gaffney, Shawniece Gaskins, Ryan Harris, Alexis Howard, Ashley Hummel, Justin Hunt, William Johnson, Miles Lewis, Josseline, Magana, Josiah Martin-Corrales, Amirah McCall, James McQueen, Catherine Mendel, Brentni Mickens, Ericka Mitchell , Ladell Murray, Sergio Ortiz, Seth Parker-Neal, Brittany Pembelton, Brianna Perrin, Alia Richardson, Imani Richardson, Sanequa Roberts, Juan Rojas, Courtney Simmons, Sectorial Speller, Jason Stuckey, Jesse Thomas, Angel Torres, Maurice White, Samori Whitely, DeVonte Whiteside

Class of 2009 High School Placements

PE&T (Philadelphia Electrical and Technology), Paul Robeson, Boys Latin, CAPA (Creative and Performing Arts High School), Saul, World, Communications High School, Central, Carver for Engineering and Science, Science Leadership Academy, Delaware Valley Charter School, Academy at Palumbo, Freire Charter School, Mastery Charter, Carver for Engineering and Science, CHAD, Central, Constitution, Bodine, Science Leadership Academy, Constitution, Girls High, Franklin Learning Center