

# The ICS Link

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

September 2008 Issue

Dear Students and Families:

Welcome to the 2008-2009 school year in our new home on Lombard Street in Center City Philadelphia. These first weeks have been exciting and invigorating ones for the staff, students and families as we all settle in our new surroundings. As each day passes, I am constantly reminded that the success of this school is a result of the dedication of an entire community.

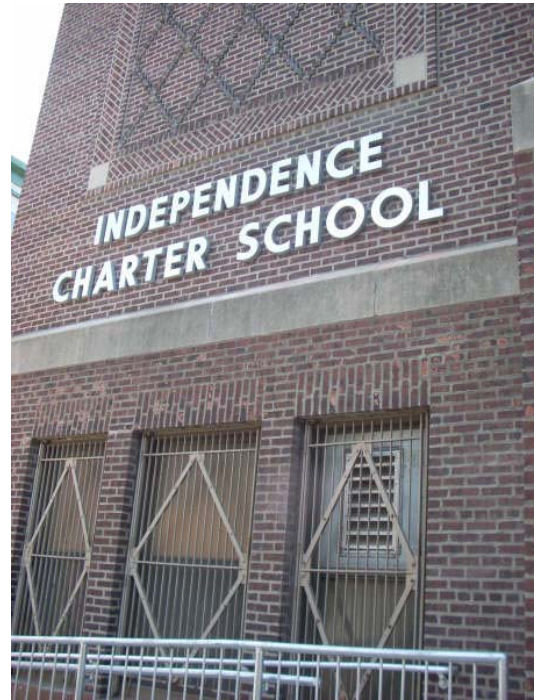
I am excited and honored to have the privilege of joining this very special school. Although I join the school with 16 years experience in education, I am still sometimes surprised by how lucky I am to have chosen a career from which I learn each and every day. In the few short months I have been part of ICS, I have learned firsthand about the power of family and community involvement when building a successful school. ICS is truly a labor of love for the dedicated parents, students and staff, and I feel quite lucky to be one of the workers helping to build a tower of opportunity for the students of Philadelphia. Whether it's developing a healthy lunch program to meet the nutritional needs of our students, preparing our schoolyard for a beautiful playground, or volunteering time to ensure a smooth school opening, the ICS family continues to band together to MAKE IT HAPPEN! I'd like to thank you all for inviting me to join you in realizing the mission and vision of ICS.

Before I close, I'd like to pose a challenge to all ICS students. As you know, Principal Jurate is now Direktore Jurate. Although she will still be available to work with students on special projects, you will often work with me on projects you may have in the past worked on with Principal Jurate. To help me plan my first year as your principal, please write me a letter (or an email) explaining to me what you enjoyed most about working with Principal Jurate and sharing with me how you think I can best work with you as your principal.

I look forward to the upcoming school year with great anticipation and optimism. Most importantly, I want to assure you that I will serve as an advocate for your children's academic and social needs, and will remain focused on helping them achieve success as students and global citizens. Please do not hesitate to call, email or stop by should you require information, if problems arise or you just wish to communicate.

Thank You,

Stephanie Bungard  
[principal@independencecharter.org](mailto:principal@independencecharter.org)



## Inside this Issue:

2008-2009 School Calendar.....	page 3
Classroom Connections.....	page 4-6
High School Information.....	page 7
PTA Information.....	page 8 & 9
KaBoom Playground Update.....	page 10-11
Board of Trustees.....	page 12
Development Committee Update.....	page 14
October Breakfast & Lunch Menu.....	page 16

# I.C.S. BULLETIN BOARD

## Odyssey of the Mind Raffle Basket!

**Tickets: \$2 each, \$5 for three, \$10 for ten**  
Where to purchase tickets: Back to School  
Nights, This years first PTA Meeting, Oct. 1st  
And the ICS's front desk, please see Tr. Neyzi

**Winner to be drawn: At PTA Meeting, Oct. 1st at  
7:15**

### Fabulous contents:

**Fun & Challenging Books-** The Big Brain Work-  
out , Colorful Puzzles for Wise Eyes , Brain-  
Busting, Lateral Thinking Puzzles, Memory  
Games, Easy Ways to Keep Your Mind Sharp, Mar-  
tial Arts Sudoku, Level 1, White Belt

**Passes:** Four for the Academy of Natural Sci-  
ences [http://www.ansp.org/visit/  
admission.php](http://www.ansp.org/visit/admission.php)

**Approximately a \$100 value!**

## 2009-2010 Student Lottery & Sibling Preference Application

**Available starting Monday, September 29, 2008**

The 2009-2010 ICS student lottery applications  
will be available starting Monday, September  
29th. In order for your child to receive sibling  
preference (if applicable) and/or to be included in  
the lottery process, the complete application  
packet must be submitted by the lottery deadline  
(which will be in November; the specific date will  
printed on the application). You can print out the  
application from the ICS website  
([www.independencecharter.org](http://www.independencecharter.org)) or pick up a copy  
at the front office.

## Where do I buy Dress Code Clothing?

-Landsend.com School Code: 90011654-2

-Cafepress.com/icsstore

-Or take your shirts to Triple Play Sports

827 S. 9th Street

215.923.5466

[Www.tripleplaysports.com](http://www.tripleplaysports.com)

## Annual Special Education Information Session

Please join us for a discussion about special educa-  
tion and the related services that ICS provides. You  
will have a chance to ask questions and meet our four  
special education teachers. All are welcome.

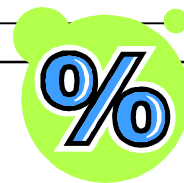
**Wednesday, October 1st at 5PM**

Questions- Contact Barb Zisk

[barbaraz@independencecharter.org](mailto:barbaraz@independencecharter.org)



## Math Carnival (6th, 7th, & 8th Grade)



**Grades 6,7 and 8 will be hosting a Math Carnival on  
Wednesday, October 15 from 6PM to 7:30 PM.**

**We hope that middle school parents will be able join us to participate and ex-  
plore some of the same games and activities that your children experience dur-  
ing their Math Problem Solving classes. It should be fun. We hope to see many**

# Independence Charter School 2008-2009 Calendar

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

DATE	Early Dismissal (2:30p.m. EVERY Wednesday, starting on 9/24/08)
Mon 9/15	First Day of School for 1 <sup>st</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> Graders
Wed 9/17	First Day of School for Kindergartners
Thur 10/9	School Closed: Yom Kippur
Thur 10/23	Professional Development Day (No school for students)
Tue 11/11	School Closed: Veterans' Day
Thur 11/27-Fri 11/28	School Closed: Thanksgiving Holiday
Mon 12/22	Report Card Day (No school for students)
Tue 12/23	Professional Development Day (No school for students)
Wed 12/24-Fri 1/2	Winter Break
Mon 1/19	School Closed: Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
Mon 2/16	School Closed: Presidents' Day Holiday
Thur 4/2	Report Card Day (No school for students)
Fri 4/3	Professional Development Day (No school for students)
Mon 4/6-Fri 4/10	Spring Break
*Sat 5/2	School day for 6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> Grade (if needed)
Mon 5/25	School Closed: Memorial Day Holiday
*Sat 6/6	School day for 6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> Grade (if needed)
Fri 6/19	Last Day for Students

**\*NOTE:** Two Saturdays have been added for 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Graders in case of snow days or other emergency days; these extra days (hours) would be necessary to meet the required number of hours for 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders in charter schools.

## Don't miss out on ICS information----make sure that you've signed up for the ICSinfo and ICScommunity e-mail lists!

In order to have quick communication with as many ICS families as possible, please make sure to sign up for the ICSinfo and ICScommunity e-mail lists today! The ICSinfo list will send you official ICS information (i.e., reminders about school events, notices about early dismissals, etc); the ICScommunity list is used to share all kinds of information with the ICS community (i.e., families starting carpools, sharing information about summer camps and after school programs, etc.).

### **It's very easy to sign up:**

simply send a message to [Icsinfo-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:Icsinfo-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) for the ICSinfo list and a separate e-mail to [Icscommunity-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:Icscommunity-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) for the ICScommunity list. After you send the message(s) you'll receive a reply, asking you to confirm that you want to join the list. All you need to do is reply to that message and you'll be signed up!

Kindergarteners are busy learning all about their new teachers and classmates. They have worked very hard to remember all of the new routines and rules of being a ICS student! Please remember to get a good night's rest and eat a healthy breakfast to start off the day well.



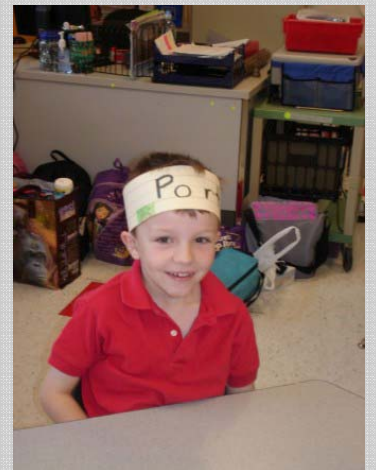
# Kindergarten



We have had an exciting start in the first grade! Each class was thrilled to take a tour of the new building and loving their new classrooms! This month the first grade has begun with "All About Me" units and math readiness including patterns, number sense, and graphing. We are excited about our upcoming trip to Linvilla Orchard in October and really looking forward to a fantastic year of learning!

# Grade 1

Second Grade is off to a tremendous start in September. We are working hard on learning classroom and school routines and procedures in our beautiful new space. We are also taking the time to get to know one another in our daily Morning Meetings. As the weather begins to change we will start diving into our math and literacy curriculums as well as a new Social Studies unit which celebrates cultural diversity in Philadelphia. We hope to explore our new neighborhood with walking trips and start planning fall festivals to celebrate our accomplishments. It's going to be a terrific year!



# Grade 2

The third grade is off to a great start! We are getting to know our new building and looking forward to the new playground. We will be starting our first social studies unit on Pennsylvania in October. In math, we will begin to look at graphs and practice telling time. Teacher Kelly, Maestra Elisse, Teacher Dana, and Maestra Marcela are all impressed with the summer reading projects that came in. Keep up the good work!



# Grade 3



Our year is off to a wonderful beginning. Our students seem to be adjusting wonderfully to this new beautiful space. We have been focusing a lot on modeling and practicing expectations for using materials, walking through the hallway, and ways of treating each other and adults in the building. We have been surveying each other a lot as a way to learn about each other and begin to understand the importance of data and ways of representing data. We have all written and published our hopes and dreams for the school year and will begin to make rules that will help to ensure that these hopes will become a reality.

# Grade 4

Welcome back to ICS. We've had a great beginning to the school year. Your children (as well as their teachers) are so excited by the new building and big classrooms. We're all getting acclimated to the new space. We look forward to meeting you and speaking about the 5th grade curriculum. Teacher Barbara is looking for a few parents to help with fundraising efforts for the 5th grade camping trip (which is in May). If you are interested please let her know. (X2307)



Thanks, Teachers Barbara, Luis, Martha and Scott

# Grade 5

Welcome to 6th grade! We're off to a great start! English language arts has started reading Tangerine, by Edward Bloor and will be discussing the theme of conflict. We are excited to announce that ICS will be partnering with Need in Deed to provide our 6th grade with a year long student-led service learning program. In Spanish language arts, we have begun to read Matilda and we're practicing our communication skills through silly interactions. In FLES spanish we are reviewing and building on the idea of becoming native "Spanish" speakers. Our goal is not only to appreciate, but make connections with others in our own lives. In math, we have begun our Connected Mathematics 2 problem solving curriculum. This exciting discovery- based way of learning will be fun and challenging, and will expand their ability to attack challenging problems in math, other academic subjects, and in their daily lives. In Maestro Chris' Ancient History Class, we will be learning about our remote ancestors such as Lucy and Neanderthal Man, and will start to become familiar with National History Day.



# Grade 6



The 7th graders are excited for the year and are showing focus as they know how much this year impacts high school applications. They have already been eagerly asking questions about history day, science fair, young playwrights and other special projects. In math they have begun work with integers and geometry, in science they are starting the year with plants and bacteria, Rome's legacy is the focus for social studies and they will soon crack open the text of Nothing But the Truth by Avi in language arts.

# Grade 7

The 8th Grade has been making a smooth transition as the first 8th Graders to graduate from our new ICS building! With this space, the 8th Graders have been taking on new responsibilities such as assisting with arrival and dismissal. This year we will be exploring the theme of justice. In Math, we are already actively investigating bridge strength with pennies and paper. In Science, we are exploring weather and climate. In Social Studies, we have begun discussing this year's topic for National History Day, and we will soon begin our first unit about revolutions in Haiti, the United States, and Cuba. In English Language Arts, we will soon begin our first novel, The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton. We are on our way to a busy and productive final year at ICS!



# Grade 8

# ATTENTION PARENTS OF ICS 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> GRADERS

The Philadelphia High School Expo is this weekend, September 26-28, at Temple University's Liacouras Center. We encourage all 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders and their families to attend so that you can learn about all of the high school options available to you after ICS. Information gathered at the Expo will help you decide on your top five choices for high school applications. On Friday afternoon, Counselor Anne and Dean Yerodin will be accompanying all interested 8<sup>th</sup> graders to the Expo.

Middle School Counselor Anne Hall is busy working on high school applications with all 8<sup>th</sup> graders. She's meeting with 8th grade families during the first 3 weeks of October. If you haven't confirmed an appointment with Anne, please email her at [anneh@independencecharter.org](mailto:anneh@independencecharter.org). This year, the Philadelphia School District application deadline is October 31<sup>st</sup>.

## Charter High School Fair

Saturday, October 11, 2008 9:30AM-12:30PM

Global Leadership Academy Charter School

5151 Warren Street, Philadelphia, PA 19131

Meet charter high school representatives from  
across the city.

## School District High School EXPO

Friday, September 26 3:00PM-8:00PM

Saturday, September 27 9:00AM-5:00PM

Sunday, September 28 10:00AM-2:00PM

**Temple University Liacouras Center**

**1776 North Broad Street**

**Philadelphia, PA 19121**

## "Philly Plays SCRABBLE"

[Philadelphia City Institute](#) 1905 Locust Street, 19103-5730

It's that time again, "Philly Plays SCRABBLE" at the Free Library. City Council has declared October "Scrabble Month." In 2006, Marciene S. Mattleman, president of ASAP/After School Activities Partnership, the National SCRABBLE Association, and the Free Library of Philadelphia collaborated to promote literacy among teens and adults. The "Philly Plays SCRABBLE" Tournament is an excellent opportunity to develop vocabulary, math and critical thinking skills. In previous years, thousands of patrons have participated in this amazing tournament. If you are up for the C-H-A-L-L-E-N-G-E, and would like to participate, contact Parkway Central Library or one of the other 17 branches that will host this tournament.

Wednesdays, October 8, 15, 22, 29, and November 5, 5 - 7:30 p.m.

Saturdays, October 4, 11, 18, 25, and November 1, 1:30 - 4:30 p.m.

# Top 10 Reasons to Get Involved in The ICS PTA

- 1. Your child benefits.** When parents get connected to the school, children do better. Research shows children whose parents are involved get better grades, do better on tests, and have fewer discipline problems at school.
- 2. We make a difference.** Our mission is to create the kind of school community where teachers and administrators can do their best work – and so can our children. We provide support for teachers in and out of the classroom. We provide resources they need. We help create learning opportunities for children. And we try to build the kind of supportive, caring atmosphere that makes school fun.
- 3. We pledge to honor your time constraints.** People are often reluctant to participate because they're afraid they'll get pulled into a black hole of never-ending time commitment. That won't happen here. An hour or two a month really makes a difference. And we won't push you to commit more than you want to or are able to.
- 4. We have fun.** Volunteer work shouldn't be drudgery. We accomplish a lot and not everything we do is easy. But we know we're not balancing the national debt, either. We don't take ourselves too seriously, and we try to enjoy ourselves along the way whenever possible.
- 5. Meet nice people who share your concerns.** We all have a common bond. We care about creating the best possible education experience for our children. We are neighbors and peers who share many of the same experiences. And many friendships have developed as a result of those connections.
- 6. There's a lot to be done.** These days, schools are asked to do more with less. Our help is needed more than ever to fill the gaps.
- 7. We can match jobs to your interests and abilities.** The work we do covers a broad spectrum: photocopying and putting flyers in teachers mail boxes, planning and executing events, working directly with children, decorating the bulletin board, managing a fund raising program, and lot more. We encourage creative ideas, and we're thrilled to have people take on tasks that meet their skills and interests.
- 8. We're welcoming.** To us, there are no "outsiders." We are people who have come together to work toward common goals. We couldn't be happier to have you join us in working toward those goals.
- 9. We're about parent involvement, not fundraising.** In these times of tight budgets, parent groups everywhere are having to fill in the gaps, and so are we. But our number one goal is to get more parents connected to the school. That's because more than 300 independent research studies show that building parent involvement in education is the number one thing we can do to create a great school and improve student performance.
- 10. This work is very rewarding.** It's seeing the smile that shows we're making school a little more fun – and a child and parent feel more comfortable in a learning environment. It's learning that test scores have risen and knowing we played a role. There are lots of rewards, both big and small, for those who get involved. Won't you join us?

**Be sure and stop by the PTA membership table on back to school night and join for just \$5.00. You can also join at any PTA meeting or even at the front desk. Just fill out the registration form, pay your \$5 member dues and you are all set.**

**Have a great year and see you at school!**

## **2008/09 ICS PTA Officers:**

**Co-presidents:** **Susan Burrows**, [sjeburrows@earthlink.net](mailto:sjeburrows@earthlink.net) parent of 3<sup>rd</sup> grader Immersion, 215-805-2621  
**Nikki Butler**, [niks\\_space@yahoo.com](mailto:niks_space@yahoo.com) parent of 3<sup>rd</sup> grader, Immersion, 267-456-3603

**Secretary:** **Nanette Johnson**, [philnannette@comcast.net](mailto:philnannette@comcast.net) parent of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Immersion twins

**Treasurer:** **Liz Reed**, [earead@yahoo.com](mailto:earead@yahoo.com) parent of 2<sup>nd</sup> grader, Immersion and 7<sup>th</sup> grader

**Membership:** **Conswelia McCourt**, [mccourt@conswelia.com](mailto:mccourt@conswelia.com) parent of 2<sup>nd</sup> grader, Enhanced, 215-681-9657

**Board Liaison:** **Cristina Vea**, [cristinamvea@gmail.com](mailto:cristinamvea@gmail.com), parent of 3<sup>rd</sup> grader, Immersion, 267-992-3450

## *COUNSELORS' CORNER*



Welcome back! We hope everyone had an enjoyable summer. Our role at ICS is to support your child's academic and mental health needs in a school-based counseling setting. Your concerns might include changes in your family, stress in your home, a sudden shift in your child's behavior, your child's peer relationships, or support in parenting.

### **We work with students in a variety of ways:**

- **Meet with students individually as needed**
- **Provide small group counseling for students with similar concerns**
- **Conduct interesting and relevant classroom guidance lessons**
  - **Consult with teachers, parents, guardians and staff**
- **Utilize and refer parents to outside services and agencies in the Philadelphia area**

We are happy to announce that we are continuing our partnership with Big Brothers Big Sisters of South-eastern Pennsylvania! We are teaming up to run the site-based school program for our 2<sup>nd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. Students from ICS who are matched with volunteers will meet with their Big Brother or Big Sister two to four times per month during lunch. The volunteer Bigs have been thoroughly screened by Big Brothers Big Sisters and meetings between the Bigs and students will be closely supervised. Please contact Counselor Kristen Denahan if you feel your child would benefit from another positive adult role model in their life.

**Feel free to contact us should you have any questions or concerns.  
Have a wonderful school year!**

**Counselor Kristen Denahan**  
**Lower School Counselor**  
**Ext. 2315**

[kristend@independencecharter.org](mailto:kristend@independencecharter.org)

**Counselor Anne Hall**  
**Upper School Counselor**  
**Ext. 2266**

[anneh@independencecharter.org](mailto:anneh@independencecharter.org)

# KaBoom!

## A Great Place to Play Coming Soon!

### Monkey Bars, Slides, The Vortex...Oh My!

In less than one month, something really amazing is going to happen at ICS. Thursday October 23<sup>rd</sup>, also known as "Build Day" promises to be quite an exciting event, along with "Prep Days" on Tuesday October 21<sup>st</sup> and Wednesday October 22<sup>nd</sup>. The KaBoom! Teams are reaching out to ICS families for all kinds of help with this exciting event.

Listed below are brief descriptions of the help that is needed in order for this playground to happen. At the end of each description, please find a contact name and email address. There is also a tear off section at the end in which you can tick off your interests and send back to school with your child, or drop off at the reception desk. Someone from that team will follow up with you. Should you choose the tear off card, be sure and include your name, the best way to reach you, and the name and grade of your child or children. If you have already responded to the previous "call for volunteers" that were sent over the ICS list serves, there is no need to respond again. *Please note that there is no school for ICS students on Build Day, Thursday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>. However, should you choose to volunteer on Thursday October 23<sup>rd</sup>, your child can come to school that day and be part of the specially designed youth activities program.*

### Recruitment and Registration Team

Do you like hauling wood chips with the greatest of ease? Do your friends marvel at your handy work? Have you ever used a hose? Do you know what a wheelbarrow looks like? Are you friendly at 7:15am? Then this is the group for you! This team is looking for builders for the Prep Days (10/21 and 22) and the Build Day (10/23), and for manning the registration table on Build Day. The total amount of people needed for these three days is over 100. Build volunteers do not have to be Bob the Builder, Tim the Tool Man Taylor, Handy Manny, or that guy from This Old House. No special skills necessary - just some good old-fashioned gumption and some comfortable work clothes that you don't mind getting dirty. Please contact Maureen Long at [mstrong107@comcast.net](mailto:mstrong107@comcast.net), or Caren Seltzer-Devin at [carensday@yahoo.com](mailto:carensday@yahoo.com) for more detailed information.

### Food Team

Do you secretly miss those days of waitressing? Are you handy with a cook's knife and apple peeler? Do you long to be known as "Chef"? Is "Hell's Kitchen" your favorite reality show? Do you fancy wearing aprons and hairnets? Then come join the Food Team and help keep 400 + hungry playground volunteers happy and healthy. We need early morning helpers for the breakfast run (7:15 - 9:00) and for the lunchtime crowd (11:30 - 1:00). If you want to make something, we could use help with grab and go dishes (like chicken wings) or desserts (cookies, cupcakes). Paper goods are also welcome. Contact Susan Burrows: [sjeburrows@earthlink.net](mailto:sjeburrows@earthlink.net)

### Youth Involvement

While the hard work gets done, the kids will play, plan and learn about the importance of this project for the school, for the community and for them. If you are planning on volunteering that day and your kids are going to come with you, please forward your child's/children's name/s, age/s, and room number/s. We have lots of activities planned for the kids that will be there that day including acting fun, planting, recycled art, indoor sports and games, making banners, ribbons and cards and learning about what it takes for a community to come together on their behalf and how they can become active citizens to give back. Additionally, some kids will participate in the opening and closing ceremonies through singing and acting. We will need to know who will join us so that we can plan adequately for the day. We also need 8-10 parent volunteers to help steer the kids through the day and lead activities. If you are interested, please forward your name and contact information to us. Our deadline for all information is Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup>! Kathryn Snyder, [kathrynsnyder@comcast.net](mailto:kathrynsnyder@comcast.net) Joana Davis-Diaz, [boricvad@msn.com](mailto:boricvad@msn.com)

## Safety & Maintenance

Our own Nurse Leslie is spearheading this team and she could use some extra certified first-aid providers to help at the safety station. She's also looking for donations of the following items: band aides, Antiseptic cream and lotion, and gauze pads. Feel free to drop off any of these items at the front desk. Be sure and include your name so we can properly thank you. Contact Nurse Leslie at [lburton@independencecharter.org](mailto:lburton@independencecharter.org)

This will be a once in a lifetime experience here at ICS. Taking time off from work is often not easy, and for some, it's downright impossible. Yet there are so many ways in which you can be part of this effort. Whether you donate your time or much needed items - there's something for everyone to do. Stop in before work and help man the registration table, or hand out water and food during your lunch hour, or work with the children on their special projects. Every little bit helps and the end result will be a wonderful thing.



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## KaBoom Volunteer Registration Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/Email \_\_\_\_\_

Child(ren) name(s) and grade(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Recruitment and Registration  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Youth Involvement Committee

\_\_\_\_\_ Food Committee  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Safety & Maintenance

\_\_\_\_\_ I can't make the big build day, but I would like to donate (for example: 3 dozen cookies, 100 paper plates, gauze pads, etc). \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I've got some free time to (help with registration, give out food and water, work with the children, help in the safety tent, for example). Be sure and list which date and what time works best for you:  
 \_\_\_\_\_

# Meet Our New Cafeteria Staff!



Chef Gabe, Tr. Judith, Tr. John, Tr. Augustine, & Tr. Greg

Thank you for helping our first week be a great success. The feedback from parents, students and staff have been very positive. Please help us by reviewing the options for lunch with your child each day. We have to take a count each morning so help your children decide which meal they will have for lunch each day.

We are working on entering the applications people sent in. If you have not completed your meal application please do so as soon as possible. Letter with your status and dress down passes will be sent home by Oct. 15th. Please use the chart that was given in your package to determine if you qualify for free/reduced. If you do not qualify for free/price reduced then breakfast is

**\$1.25 and lunch is \$2.25 a day.**

**Thank you,  
Food services Committee**

## *A Message from the Board of Trustees*

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On behalf of the ICS Board of Trustees, “Welcome to our new building and to the 2008-2009 school year!” Thank you for your patience as the finishing touches are put on our new building as everyone settles into the new school year. This first couple of weeks of arrival and dismissal will be hectic as we adjust to our new location. We understand that this sometimes causes inconvenience. We apologize and thank you for your patience as we work hard to make the process a smooth one.

As you may already know, this year there are Co-Presidents of the Board of Trustees - Pam Prell and Nicole Perkins Kilcullen. Both of us are also ICS parents. The Board is the governing body of the ICS and makes critical decisions about the school. We encourage you to stay updated on Board activities by either attending the monthly Board meetings or reading the meeting minutes, which are posted on the ICS website ([www.independencecharter.org](http://www.independencecharter.org)).

At our September meeting, we welcomed a new Board member, parent Rona Buchalter. Rona is familiar to the ICS community; she was an integral part of our move to the “village” concept, as well as several other initiatives. In addition to Rona Buchalter, our other Board members are: Becky Baehr, Anyabwile Banko’le, Eric Cramer, Rosina Miller, Kristin Nocco and Pedro Rodriguez. We look forward, as always, to feedback from the ICS community.

Lastly, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, we’d like to extend a very warm welcome to our new Principal, Stephanie Bungard. Stephanie comes to us with a wealth of experience and enthusiasm. We are very excited to have her join us!

We look forward to seeing old and new faces in the upcoming weeks!

Nicole Perkins Kilcullen  
Co-President

Pamela Prell  
Co-President

## **Welcome back to the 2008-2009 school year at ICS!**

Thank you to parents and students who have waited patiently for school to start on September 15<sup>th</sup>. As you can see we have worked very hard to prepare for you. Moving in to the new building has been a large undertaking but I think you will agree worthwhile. We are in our new home with lots of natural light, with a mixture of beautiful “old” and beautiful “new” all designed to facilitate your child’s learning. It is truly joyful to look outside my office window to see the students enjoying recess time before they go in to partake in a healthful lunch. I thank parents and guardians who have been patient as they have adjusted to the new arrival and dismissal procedures.

We have many new initiatives that will enrich our already solid learning program. Many people have spent countless hours preparing for our Responsive Classroom and Developmental Design programs which will support our students’ success not only in academics but also in personal and social skills. During our Back to School Nights and in the Parent and Student Handbooks which you will receive, you will learn about the details of the academic and extracurricular programs planned for your children. We have welcomed **our new Principal Stephanie Bungard** who has been working with the teaching staff to fully prepare for an enriching school year. I have moved to navigating the school in the role of CEO.

As always, please know that communicating your concerns and your ideas is essential and I look forward to working with you. Of course, we cannot do it without you: timely arrival to school, attendance and helping your students be prepared for school with homework and well-rested is very important. There will be many wonderful events during and after school in the coming year. These will help you feel a part of the great ICS community. So much of our success has been through the efforts of all of us in this community.

This is a celebratory year- our eighth year as a school in our new home. I look forward to working with you this year and celebrating the great idea that we bring to life that is Independence Charter!

Best wishes,  
Direktore Jurate

# Development Committee Update

## ICS Parents Get Creative About Fundraising

ICS families practice a culture of giving. They express their dedication to the school through volunteer service, financial and in kind-service gifts, and active engagement in the school community.

ICS parents are finding increasingly innovative ways to show their support for the school. They are devising “outside the box” approaches to fundraising which do not involve writing a check. For example, Robin Kohles held a garage sale in front of their row home for the playground. The garage sale, which generated \$63, was her children’s idea.

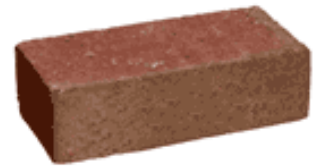
Architect Ellen Pannell, has offered her professional services for a reduced hourly rate to clients who were willing to donate the money directly to ICS. Over the past year, she has completed three projects with this payment model and anticipates being able to continue to execute two projects each year. Ellen was inspired by her past experience donating architectural services to ICS’s PTA Silent Auction. When she learned that her auction donation was very popular, she decided to find another way to maintain this “give back”

Maureen Long decided to celebrate her birthday by throwing a party. Instead of birthday presents she asked her friends to bring a donation for the ICS playground. The eighty guests who were mostly ICS families donated close to \$800. Now that’s truly something to celebrate.

Do you have an idea for creative fundraising? Or do you know of a parent, teacher, community member who is quietly spreading the ICS mission? The Development Office wants to know about it.

Please contact Leonora Cravotta at ext. 2430  
or [Leonorac@independencecharter.org](mailto:Leonorac@independencecharter.org).

**We would like to offer a special thanks to the more than 200 ICS family and friends who participated in our brick sales campaign and raised more than \$20,000 for the school! Many have asked for the opportunity to purchase additional bricks. Unfortunately we will not be able to order any additional bricks without causing further delay to the orders we placed in the spring. For those who contributed to the brick campaign, we look forward to celebrating the arrival of your "special brick", a permanent piece for our new home later this fall. The ICS Development team is working hard to find similar opportunities for everyone to have a permanent and visible stake in 1600 Lombard and the future of Independence Charter.**



**Thanks again!**

**The following families, friends and businesses participated in the brick campaign:**

Sandra Aidar-McDermott  
 Mitch McLeod  
 Rebecca Wiesner  
 Kristin Nocco  
 Linda Ecker  
 Mark Rohrbach  
 Aaron Barnett  
 Courtney Chobert  
 Dee Lewis  
 Nan and Warren Doty  
 Eric Cramer  
 Tamburri Associates  
 E.J. Raith  
 Rick Jackson  
 Morri Safran  
 Monika Kreidie  
 Debra & Omar Koita  
 Ingrid Schafroth  
 Michele Henderson  
 Maureen Wellner  
 Ebru Erkut  
 Kathileen Herold  
 Donna Devore  
 Robin Kohles  
 Leslie Burton  
 Jessica Frederica  
 Brenda Wilkinson  
 Mykel Womack  
 Nancy Boyd  
 Julie Friel  
 Rosie Jones  
 Steve Gendler  
 Rosina Miller  
 Anne Foresman  
 Avi Eden  
 Shoreline Electric  
 Philippa Gaughan  
 Emmet Linn and  
 Dawn Ang  
 Joanne & Don Davidow  
 David Schrader  
 Caroline Master  
 Francesca Engel  
 Herawati Liang  
 Nancy Hionides  
 Kevin Howley  
 Andrea Ringklib

Megan Steelman  
 JaQual Morales  
 Marti McCall  
 Tina Bailey  
 Lynn Hunt  
 Caryn Hunt  
 Lisa Nelson-Haynes  
 Alison Sprague  
 Gabrielle White  
 Kristin & Scott Walker  
 Paul and Carolyn  
 Schrading  
 Dan & Amy Weidner  
 Robert & Wanda Prell  
 McRae  
 Ramon & Magna Diaz  
 John McDaniel  
 Antoinina Jenkins  
 Danute Gecas  
 Gilroy Family  
 David Webber  
 Joseph Winchester  
 Tom & Jane Sullivan  
 Susan Burrows  
 Carolyn Baugh  
 Maureen Distefano  
 Jeanne Adamson  
 Dane Shiplee  
 Laura Hutton  
 Ali Shabazz  
 Larry Taylor  
 Marcie Lichtman-Lentz  
 Brett Mandell  
 Rich Roberts  
 Yvonne Ruiz  
 Emma Jean Martin Z.  
 Ana Maria Martin Z.  
 Dr. & Mrs. Michael  
 Hennessy  
 Jennifer Friedman  
 Santilli & Thompson  
 Louis Marking, Jr.  
 George Brodie  
 Cameron Voss  
 Patti Gilroy  
 Shannon Costello  
 Betsy Dawson-Fink  
 Tyler Travia

Nina McCall  
 Tasha Lazakar  
 Sandra Donover  
 Kathy Biegalski  
 Michelle Coats  
 Ellen Safran  
 Jessica Jacquay  
 Luis Alvarez  
 Avi Da Silva  
 Dana Dudley  
 Andrew Dunakin  
 Tyler Travia  
 Nina McCall  
 Tasha Lazakar  
 Sandra Donover  
 Kathy Biegalski  
 Michelle Coats  
 Ellen Safran  
 Jessica Jacquay  
 Luis Alvarez  
 Avi Da Silva  
 Dana Dudley  
 Andrew Dunakin  
 Annie Baehr  
 Sulayman Barrow  
 Juste Krokys  
 Tiffany Pearsall  
 Patrick Foley  
 Norma Corrales  
 Wendy Chavarria  
 Josephine Hing  
 Dianne LaMastra -  
 Bowers  
 Renee Vessels  
 Lynn Gaines  
 Liz Reed  
 David Cleghorn  
 Rebecca Baehr  
 Cara Carroccia  
 Herb Bascome  
 Anita Lee  
 Bridget Powell  
 Kristen Long  
 Eric Schrading  
 Roger Schrading  
 Richard Leighton  
 Adelaida & Frankie  
 Medlock



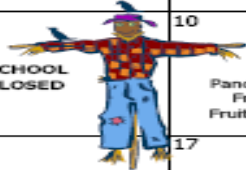


Judith Leigh  
 J Eagen  
 Pam Prell  
 Jody Graff  
 Katherine Maroldo  
 Kai Cole  
 Joana Davis-Diaz  
 Katherine Pannell  
 Odamis Fernandez -  
 Sheinbau  
 Tara Ryans  
 Amy Leigh  
 Celeste Lamb  
 Consweilia McCourt  
 Mary Fitzpatrick  
 Maureen Long  
 Katherine Kurtak  
 Rona Buchalter  
 Ayan King-Porter  
 Dawn Pakech  
 Pamalyn Kearney  
 Melanie Olshefski  
 Angela Tyler  
 Adriene Myers  
 Andrea Mazzucchi  
 Ramzy Andrawos  
 Marcia Wilkof  
 Caren Seltzer-Devine  
 Stephanie Kindt  
 Joan Alvini  
 Maribel Beas  
 Bernard Anderson  
 Fran Melmed  
 Andrea Yanez  
 Vincent Romano  
 Romy Djerassi  
 Barbara Kilmartin  
 Stephanie Bungard  
 Chakkah Fattah  
 Erika Carillo  
 Jennifer Sanchez

### *The ICS Link* Next Publication:

**Thursday, October 30th**

Suggestions and/or comments about ICS Monthly's publication please contact  
 Tr. Michael- [michaelf@independencecharter.org](mailto:michaelf@independencecharter.org) Ext. 2305

## BREAKFAST

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
		1 Yogurt Fresh Fruit Fruit Juice Milk	2 Choice of Cereal Fresh Fruit Fruit Juice, Milk	3 Yogurt Fresh Fruit Fruit Juice	<b>Served Daily</b> <b>Milk Choices</b> 1% Low Fat or Low Fat Chocolate  <b>Breakfast</b> Paid---\$1.25 Reduced---\$.30 Adult---\$2.00 Milk---\$.40
6 Choice of Cereal Fresh Fruit Fruit Juice, Milk	7 Egg McCharter Fresh Fruit Fruit Juice, Milk	8 Yogurt Fresh Fruit Fruit Juice, Milk	9 <b>SCHOOL CLOSED</b> 	10 Pancakes/Syrup Fresh Fruit Fruit Juice, Milk	
13 Yogurt Fresh Fruit Fruit Juice	14 Choice of Cereal Fresh Fruit Fruit Juice, Milk	15 Egg Patty w/ Cheese Fresh Fruit Fruit Juice, Milk	16 Choice of Cereal Fresh Fruit Fruit Juice, Milk	17 French Toast w/Syrup Fresh Fruit Fruit Juice, Milk	
20 Waffles w/ syrup Fresh Fruit Fruit Juice, Milk	21 Choice of Cereal Fresh Fruit Fruit Juice, Milk	22 Yogurt Fresh Fruit Fruit Juice, Milk	23 <b>No School for Students</b> 	24 Cheese Omelet Fresh Fruit Fruit Juice, Milk	
27 Yogurt Fresh Fruit Fruit Juice, Milk	28 Choice of Cereal Fresh Fruit Fruit Juice, Milk	29 French Toast w/Syrup Fresh Fruit Fruit Juice, Milk	30 Choice of Cereal Fresh Fruit Fruit Juice, Milk	31 <b>Happy Halloween</b>  Egg McCharter Fresh Fruit Fruit Juice, Milk	







### Special News

Cereals—both the ready-to-eat and cooked varieties—provide vitamins, minerals and often lots of fiber. Adding milk, yogurt or fruit to the cereal further increases nutritional value.



Menus are subject to change without notice

## LUNCH

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
<b>Lunch Prices</b> Student Paid: \$2.25 Student Reduced: \$.40 Adult: \$3.00 Milk: \$.40		1 Grilled Chicken/ Whole Grain Bun Vegetable Medley Fresh Orange Smiles Milk	2 Soft Shell Taco Shredded Lettuce, Tomato & Cheese Spanish Rice Fresh Banana Milk	3 Salisbury Steak w/ Gravy Buttered Noodles Seasoned Peas Pears Milk	<b>Served Daily</b> <b>Entree Choices</b> M-Ham & Cheese Sandwich T-Turkey & Cheese Wrap W-Ham & Cheese Sandwich Th- Turkey & Cheese Sandwich F- Tuna Sandwich  <b>Salad Choices</b> M-Oriental Chicken Salad T-Chef Salad W-Tuna Salad Platter Th- Chicken Caesa Salad F- Taco Salad Or Tossed Salad w/Cheese (All Salads Are served with crackers)  <b>Milk Choices</b> 1% Low Fat or Low Fat Chocolate
6 Open Face Hot Roast Beef Sandwich Potato Wedges Fresh Apple Milk	7 Chicken Tenders Tator Tots Wheat Bread Fruit Cocktail Milk	8 Meatloaf w/Gravy Smashed Potatoes Mixed Vegetables Dinner Roll Milk	9 <b>SCHOOL CLOSED</b>	10 Vegetable Soup Turkey Sandwich/ Wheat Bread Peaches Milk	
13 Hot Dog/ Wheat Bun Baked Beans Pineapple Milk	14 Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce Italian Green Beans Melon Slice Milk	15 <b>International Lunch</b> 	16 Turkey BBQ/ Wheat Bun Corn Cobbette Applesauce Milk	17 Pizza Celery Sticks w/Dip Fresh Banana Cookie Milk	
20 Hamburger/ Wheat Bun Cheese Oven Fries Mixed Fruit Milk	21 <b>Breakfast for Lunch</b> Pancakes/Syrup Sausage Applesauce Fruit Juice Milk	22 Oven Fried Chicken Sweet Potatoes Collard Greens Corn Bread Fruit Cobbler Milk	23 <b>No School for Students</b> 	24 Beef-A-Roni Tossed Salad Fresh Orange Smiles Milk	
27 Fishwich/ Wheat Bun Scalloped Potatoes Seasoned Carrots Milk	28 Chicken Fajita/ Soft Shell Tortilla Shredded Lettuce, Tomato, Cheese Peaches Milk	29 Open Face Hot Turkey Sandwich Mashed Potatoes Fresh Apple Milk	30 Baked Ziti Tossed Salad Pears Milk	31 <b>HAPPY HALLOWEEN</b> <b>MONTHLY THEME MENU</b> 	



### Special News

Lunch is a great part of the school day. Find out why what you eat can rev you up - or slow you down - for the afternoon ahead.

Go to [http://kidshealth.org/kid/nutrition/food/school\\_lunches.html](http://kidshealth.org/kid/nutrition/food/school_lunches.html)



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