



# PARENT NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 9, 2008

Happy Thursday! We are hard at work studying the U.S. branches of government and the upcoming elections. Students will be creating their own election campaigns, complete with a slogan, icon or image and platform. This is something they should work on over this coming break, which will be part of a homework packet I will send home for the week. Also included in this packet will be English and Spanish spelling to practice, cursive in their new cursive workbooks, math problems, and reading each night (I will send home Spanish books as I have been, for students to practice reading, though of course it is beneficial for them to practice reading in English as well).

We have now begun our English spelling program, in which words will be introduced on Mondays and students will be tested on Fridays (although students will have new Words to Learn over break). Watch for the spelling lists and Take-Home-Tasks each week. Spanish "Ortografía" will not run on this same schedule, but instead will be introduced in the middle of the week and will be tested the following Monday or Tuesday. So watch for these lists as well.

I am again sending **conference confirmation slips** home today with students, to ensure that each parent receives the confirmation. **Please sign this form and return it to school tomorrow**, as conferences begin next week. If you have a conflict with the time listed, please mark that on the form, so we can reschedule a time to meet. These conferences will be aimed at goal-setting for your child this year, rather than talking about their progress to this point. While I may have a few work samples and discuss their progress a bit, it will be mainly focused on looking over a list of goals I have for third graders, and all of us picking our top goals for your child.

Also, if you still have a Whisper Phone at home or are planning on buying one, please send that to school with your child, to help them with their reading and decoding of words and sounds. Feel free to explore this web link for more information on the product:

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

**REMINDER: NO SCHOOL October 13-17.** There is also another upcoming McDonald's Night on October 21 from 4-7pm, so grab a bite to eat and support ISLA at the same time!

¡Qué tengan un día magnífico!

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