



# PARENT NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 11, 2008

¡Hola a todos! We are continuing on with our animal research, our measurement unit, and study of the human body, among other areas. We have a few new things we will be trying out in our class. The first, is **Book Bags (Bolsos de libros)**, which students will bring home each week, with a book from their reading groups, as well as 1-2 books they choose from the library. The Book Bags will also include a **Record Sheet (Registro de libros)** on which students need to record the following for each book they read: *the date they read the book, the title, how many pages they read, whether they liked the book or not, and finally, parent initials* in the last column. These books bags should come back to school **EVERY TUESDAY** - Library Day, so students can exchange their library books.

Another change will include some new strategies we will be using in working toward a more peaceful classroom, trying to eliminate much of the arguing that has been occurring in our classroom, which has created a sometimes negative learning environment. Tomorrow, I will be introducing a couple of new strategies in order to move toward this peaceful classroom: 1) A Peace Book, in which students can record their feelings and frustrations and think about the IB Profiles and Attitudes that they would like to work toward. 2) A Conflict Resolution Form, in which students can work together to address and resolve their conflicts in the classroom. Please ask your child about these as we move through the next week and beyond, testing them out. Encourage your child to use these outlets, as a way to contribute to peace-making in our community.

Earlier this week, I sent home the Math Facts Packet with each child. As I mentioned in the last newsletter, this is something students can use to fill in their math and reading calendar. When students are not assigned a worksheet from class, they can use one from the MFP to count toward the calendar. Students need to do a math activity at least **5 TIMES/WEEK**, and this can include a math lesson worksheet, math facts worksheet or math game. Students **DO NOT** need to return the Math Facts Sheets to class, but rather can correct them at home and keep them.

## Reminders:

If you would like to enroll the sibling of an ISLA student for Kindergarten next year, please send in an enrollment form by February 13<sup>th</sup>. Enrollment is **NOT** automatic. Call Emily in the office with questions.

Don't forget to send those old or mismatched socks to school, to serve as whiteboard erasers!

Tonight is the last chance for Scholastic Book Orders - the final order goes out tomorrow.

The website is: [www.scholastic.com/parentordering](http://www.scholastic.com/parentordering); Username: SrtaAdams; Password: thirdgrade

## Upcoming Events:

**Tuesday, December 16:** McDonald's Night, 4-7pm

**December 20-Jan. 4:** Winter Break - No School; School resumes Monday, January 5.

Cori Adams

cadams@islacad.org

952-746-6020