



PARENT NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 22, 2009

¡Hola a todos! In our transition to Spanish ONLY, we now have a school-wide incentive, in which each class has a supply of “boletos” or tickets to hand out, as teachers hear students practicing Spanish. These will all be collected in a jar in the office, until it is filled. At that point, we may have a school-wide celebration of this achievement, such as a non-uniform day. Students sometimes get into a habit of speaking a lot of English, but overall are doing a great job speaking more and more Spanish!

I wanted to again encourage families to try out the new VoiceThread program at home. We will periodically add more stories to this, and eventually students will record their own work on this program. To access the site, visit <http://voicethread.com/#home>, then use your child’s login information (provided with last week’s newsletter) to enter the homepage. Then click on the stories to listen and read along! If you cannot find your child’s login information, please email me and I can send it to you again.

We are now starting our first IB Unit of Inquiry, about water. This unit will involve many science experiments, exploring the form and characteristics of water and how it changes. We will also examine water around the world – how it affects the natural world and how it may be used differently around of the world.

Remember that Scholastic Orders will be due **Thursday, February 5th**. Please make orders online if possible – these are safe and secure orders and will go directly to Scholastic, and will help our class earn FREE books and materials. If you are uncomfortable placing orders online, please send the order form and a check made out to *Scholastic Books*, to school. I have made some suggestions of various Scholastic books, below.

Scholastic book suggestions:

From Club Leo: #51, 2, 12, 15, 7, 36, 18, 28

From Lucky: #74, 80, 93, 38, 22, 4, 82, 79, 41, 86

From Inauguration Edition: 46, 82, 69, 64, 54, 49, 39, 7, 32, 76, 31

****Online ordering: www.scholastic.com/parentordering; Username: SrtaAdams; Password: thirdgrade**

Reminders:

If you would like to enroll the sibling of an ISLA student for Kindergarten next year, please send in an enrollment form. Forms sent in by February 13th, will lead to automatic enrollment. After the 13th, enrollment is NOT automatic. Call Emily in the office with questions.

Upcoming Events:

Thursday, February 5: Scholastic Orders due

Monday, February 9: PTO Meeting at 7pm

Tuesday, February 10: ISLA Board Meeting at 7pm; Elementary Conferences Begin