

Upcoming Events:

- Nov 10th
ISLA Board
Meeting
6:30pm
- Nov 15th
Barnes and
Noble Book
Fair (I won't
be reading as
previously
communi-
cated.)
- Nov 17th Late
Start/
McDonald's
Night 4-7pm
- Nov 19th
Homework
packets due!
- Nov 24th End
of tree unit :(

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Las noticias de la semana

Volume 3, Issue 1

6 de noviembre 2009

La comunidad

It is incredible that two months have already flown by this year. I cannot believe how beautifully the children are speaking Spanish so early in the year! I am so proud of each one of them. You trust me with the most precious person in your life; I feel humbled that you chose ISLA and my classroom. Each day I see them growing, sharing, and advocating for themselves by solving their own problems. In the classroom we make sure to praise such positive actions each time they occur and we know that the students feel empowered by their smiling

faces. As Thanksgiving approaches, I am reflecting upon the wonderful community we have been building



Your children are the reason I come into work everyday!

from the very first day. I intend to continue to nurturing our community by maintaining open communication

and keeping a positive mindset. I am so lucky to be working at ISLA, I chose to teach and share my gifts with this community because its based on trust, family, respect and most importantly inter-dependence. Community building is easier said than done, but I see signs of it all around us everyday. Thank you again for all of the wonderful help and support you've given me. I am confident that this group of students will make a big impact at ISLA and in our global society. I can't wait to experience more "ah ha moments" through the year.

¡Ten respeto para todos!

There is a reason that we recite the kid-generated rules on a daily basis. Señora Shrestha was able to tell this to me privately and we shared in the humor of the moment. At the park this week when both kinder-

garten classes were there one student was not using the sand for its intended use right next to another student. Señora Shrestha was there to say, "No más./ No more." Another student nearby from my class

turned around and added their two cents to the interaction and said, "¡Ten respeto para todos!/Be respectful to everyone." We had to laugh at the well intentioned and bossy tone given in Spanish.

Las matemáticas



The use of dominos and dice are great practice for students.

As a part of our final project with the second section of our math, the students were asked to use different parts of their body as a standard of measure in a variety of objects. We measured with digits/dígitos (thumb width), palmos/palm width, una cuarta/span from pinky to thumb, and yarda/a yard from the nose to the fingers of an

outstretched arm.

We began a new section this week, writing numbers and representing them with objects. It is taking us a while to complete the numbers 0-10. When all of the pages are completed we will be able to make them into a booklet. The students worked on patterns by making necklaces with different types

and colors of noodles. This task also develops more of those fine motor skills as they thread the noodle and think about the pattern that they are creating.

Yesterday, the students rolled dice and made a graph of frequency. The continued to practice number writing and recognizing representations of numbers on the dice.

“It can be hard to see the ‘actions’ of the students only during the regular school day, so any stories you have to share will really help us better our teaching practices.”

La ciencia

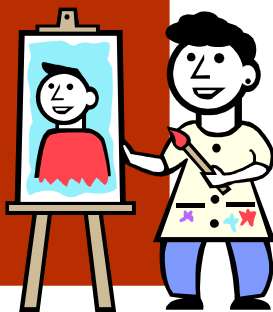
Its true that in only a few short weeks are study into trees will end. I have to admit that this is one of my favorite Int’l Baccalaureate units to teach and I feel like we have barely scratched the surface. Through IB standard procedure teachers are asked to reflect on the

student’s learning and give examples to better the teaching for the next year. Getting stories from families about situations where students demonstrate their knowledge or take action based on their knowledge. Please share! This really helps me to know what the stu-

dent got out of the lessons and how they have been impacted. Examples might be an argument with a sibling to not waste paper or a child picking up trash at the park and putting it in the proper place. Thanks in advance for sharing!

Las batas

All families will be notified in case of an outbreak of lice.



Students can store their own paint shirt in their backpack (not enough room in the cubbies and the space by the coat rack will soon be overrun with boots,

snow pants, mittens, scarves, and stocking caps... we don’t want to add paint shirts to make it a mess) instead of in the large bag in the cabinet. We typically use the shirts twice a month, so they are pretty safe stored to-

gether, in the case of a lice outbreak I would cleanse and store the shirts in another location for a week.. However, families have the option of notifying me to store their own paint shirt in their backpack.

La literatura



The other day the class was working on making tissue paper flowers, we had some extras and in the spirit of making decorations, read *Papel Picado* by Dani Sneed and

The students also practiced shape recognition.

Josie Fonesca. Although mainly used in Mexico and seen mostly during Cinco de Mayo, the paper with different shapes cut into it is really a basis decoration. The students amazed me with the different designs and complex shapes they were able to accomplish. Once they got the hang of the folding, they

worked like machines. I hope you have a chance to check out our decorations at the Día de los muertos Fiesta put on by the PTO.

The class began reading the giant bilingual flip book, *Our Very Own Tree/Nuestro árbol* by Lawrence F. Lowery. We learned new words like las bellotas/acorns, ardilla/squirrel, la corteza/bark, and roble/oak.

“Heroes and heroines provide a great launch pad for talking about historical figures and their impact on our society.”

La próxima unidad de BI

You might have seen on our upcoming events (page 1) that we will be finishing our IB Unit on How the World Works with the topic of trees. Our upcoming IB Transdisciplinary Theme will be: Where we are in place and time— An inquiry into orientation in place and time; personal histories;

homes and journeys; the discoveries, explorations and migrations of humankind; the relationships between and the interconnectedness of individual civilizations, from local and global perspectives. For the kindergartners the entry point to this unit of study will be: Heroes and Heroines.

Covering the standards we will discover key persons in the history of the United States and then expand our view to practice basis mapping skills by locating heroes and heroines around the world.

La salud

I can understand the worry about sending the students to school where they may pick up any number of germs or illness. Unfortunately, this is an inevitable part of public education, no matter how many precautions are taken. In the cleanliness battle I will need your help. I can't do it

alone! If you are interesting in joining the “Cleaning Team” to go above and beyond what the janitors and students clean on a daily basis, please contact danielle-carr@edinarealty.com or melinda.boone@ge.com to set up monthly, weekly or even daily cleaning before or

afterschool. I enlist the students to clean as a part of their weekly jobs, but I cannot expect them to be 100% thorough. “Cleaning teams” can meet before or after-school.



Even putting manipulatives in the dishwasher would help us out!



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Nuturing leaders for tomorrow's world.

The learner profile attribute of the month: THINKERS! Int'l Baccalaureate defines thinkers as those who exercise initiative in applying thinking skills critically and creatively to recognize and approach complex problems, and make reasoned, ethical decisions.

The attitude of the month that we are looking for in the classroom (one of the five essential elements of IB: Knowledge, Concepts, Skills, Attitudes, and Action) is creativity. Creativity is being innovative and imaginative in thinking and in approaches to problems and dilemmas.



Las cosas extras

Thank you to Dina and her family for providing soap pump bottles for the students to use when they cannot reach the soap dispensers on the wall. Thank you as well to the mystery contributor who brought in soap bottles already labeled ISLA!

Don't forget to do your homework! I mean the survey about waste reduction practices for purposes of our grant. Register your student afterwards to demonstrate your completion of the survey for homework.

IMMERSION PARENT TIP:

Considered "the bible" amongst immersion educators and fami-

lies, *Parents and Teachers Guide to Bilingualism 3rd Edition* by Baker. Informs parents and teachers alike about the differences in immersion education and implications for the student. Highly praised by the Center for Advanced Research

and Language Acquisition (CARLA)/Center for Applied Linguistics (CAL) at their Immersion Conference last year. Look for it through this website, www.multilingual-matters.com. You can check out my copy at school if you'd like to look at the book first.



The survey is homework for families!