



PARENT'S LETTER FEBRUARY 5TH 2008 ISSUE 18 DEAR FOURTH AND FIFTH GRADE PARENTS:

IB Profiles are Open Minded & Principled Attitudes are Tolerance, Appreciation & Respect

1. La Reina de la Semana

The new royalty of the week has been awarded to Maria Davidson. Maria goes out of her way to help others and shows a lot of respect to everyone around her. She also initiates fun learning projects for us to do in class. We are always learning and doing something new in here. Way to go Maria! ¡Felicidades!

2. Fiesta de Día de San Valentín – Amigos Secretos

If anyone is interested in helping out with the Valentine's Day Fiesta on Friday, February 13th please let me know. The fiesta will begin at 2:00 p.m. Sr. Ruiz is sharing a part of his culture with us this for this day. In Columbia they have "amigos secretos." This means that each student has picked another student's name and will give him/her a little gift on Friday. The gift should cost \$2.00 and be brought to school on Friday. During the week the student can give a little gift to his/her secret admirer. It should be something small like a piece of candy or a note with a compliment written on it. If you have any questions regarding this please let me know.

3. Art – Old Wool Sweaters

We are going to do an art project that will involve a wool sweater. If you have one that you never wear anymore please send it to school with your child. It will be turned into something else, but I am going to keep that a surprise.

4. Landforms - How the World Works

This week we created a model schoolyard and then used a grid to map out the design. The students are learning about cartographers, engineers, architects, and construction workers and how these occupations work with landforms. How do you think they connect? Inquire with your child!

5. IB Friday

Friday February 6th will be a school wide IB Day. Students will be wearing their profile as a name tag to remind themselves of their personal goal.

6. Winter Blues

I know January has been a difficult month with freezing temperatures and people being sick. We are also at our midway point in our school year. At this time it can be challenging to stay focus on school and homework. Therefore, I would like to take this time to appreciate all of you and your efforts to help your children with homework, driving them to school and continuing to support our school activities. Some days may feel a little overwhelming with the daily bustle of life so that is when the "thank you" and extra smile really makes a difference. You have amazing children and they all are making so much progress in school. You are appreciated!

7. Junior Achievement

I am happy to introduce our brave volunteer Kathy Douglass who has committed her time and energy to teach the class a program sponsored by Junior Achievement. The first unit is called *Our Region*. This unit will cover economic and business resources in our state and other regional economies. This program integrates MN state standards of economics, US history and MN history together into our curriculum. This opportunity would not be possible without the help of Sra. Douglass. ¡Muchas Gracias!

8. Up Coming Events

Feb. 9 is PTO meeting. Feb. 10th, 12th & 17th are conferences. Feb. 10th is the Board Meeting and Book Fair. Feb. 13th is the end of the second trimester. Feb. 16th is no school.

Con cariño,

Sra. Boeser

"Friendship is the only cement that will ever hold the world together" - Woodrow Wilson

TA Information

It is time for the winter sessions of classes to begin for both Juan Carlos and Mariana. Thank you for the rides you all provided for Juan Carlos in the fall session. He did well in the course and will advance to the next level of English class for this next term. He and Mariana will attend the same school at the same time even if they are in different classes, so transportation will be easier as they can ride together.

English Classes will be held on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 6:30-8:30 pm at the International Institute of Minnesota in St. Paul. There are 24 classes starting Tuesday, January 13 through Thursday, April 2. They also have TA classes at Robbinsdale Spanish Immersion one Friday a month from 9:15 to 11:15 am. The schedule can be viewed on the ISLA-PTO website. This way Juan Carlos and Mariana know who their driver is every week in the event that their transportation co-ordinator does not get them this information right away... it may have been known to happen. (In my defense, my computer crashed, but no excuses!) You can sign up for rides easily on the website using the following directions:

Go to www.isla-pto.org

Click on TA info - Aunt/Uncle family signups in the left column

Fill in your family name, e-mail address and a date from the calendar where "6:30 pm English class" or "9:15 RSI Meeting" is listed.

You can also e-mail me at aheadovertime@yahoo.com or call me at 952-546-9321 with dates if you prefer.

They will need a ride to the International Institute for the following dates:

February 10
February 12
February 17 (McDonald's night)
February 19
February 24
February 26
March 3
March 5
March 10
March 12
March 17 (McDonald's night)
March 19
March 24
March 26 (no school at ISLA)
March 31
April 2

They will need a ride to RSI (Robbinsdale Spanish Immersion) the following dates:

February 6
March 6
April 3
May 1

Directions to International Institute of Minnesota

1694 Como Ave, St. Paul, MN 55108:

1-394 E/US-12 E to I-94 E

Take exit **8B** to merge onto **I-94 E/US-12 E**

Take the exit on the **left** onto **MN-280 N**

Take the **Energy Park Dr/Kasota Ave** exit

Turn **right** at **Energy Park Dr**

Turn **left** at **Raymond Ave**

Turn **right** at **Como Ave**

Directions to RSI

100 N to 36th Ave N Exit

Take **right** at **36th Ave N**

Take **left** at **Regent Ave N**

Pass **37th Ave N** on the right side

Take immediate **left after 3707 Regent Ave N** (a blue house) into the driveway leading to the back of the school.

Go to Door #16. All doors lock at 9:00, so if you arrive after this, go around to the front entrance.

Thank you again for helping Juan Carlos and Mariana with transportation. It is a great way to get to know them a little better, and for them to get to know the student's families.