



BACK TO SCHOOL

PARENT'S LETTER SEPTEMBER 4, 2008 ISSUE 1

¡BIENVENIDOS A CUARTO Y QUINTO GRADOS!

Dear Third and Fourth Grade Families,

Thank you very much for coming to the Open House last Thursday. It was nice to meet the new parents and see the returning ones. I am very excited to continue where we left off on our journey last year and begin again with renewed energy and ideas. I can already tell that this year is going to be a success and that the students are motivated and ready to learn. I would like to take this time to inform you about some important things that will be happening in our classroom.

1. Building classroom community, a safe school and a positive learning environment.

This month we will be focusing on building community and establishing classroom procedures. It is very important to create a safe and positive learning environment from the beginning so we can have the optimal learning experience. I will be using techniques that come from the Responsive Class philosophy.

One strategy that will be used again is the “peace table”. This is a place where we can take a break or reflect on our actions. As a class we already talked about what peace means and how we can continue to respect one another and release our feelings. The students had some very helpful ideas.

My discipline technique is to say the word “Tiempo” meaning “time” in English to indicate when a student needs to take a little break. I will make a “T” with my hands to communicate when he/she needs to leave the group and think about his/her actions. At the same time if a child shows me the “T” I will know that he/she is telling me that he/she needs a time out. Taking a time out focuses on handling the situation in a respectful, controlling manner and creates self awareness.

2. Hopes and Dreams

This month we are going to talk about and write what our hopes and dreams are for this school year at home and for our future. We are going to create a vision board and visualize our dreams. Ask your child about his/her dreams and discuss what your hopes and dreams are for him/her as well. Together we can create a classroom where everyone is involved in making all the dreams come true.

3. Gym Days

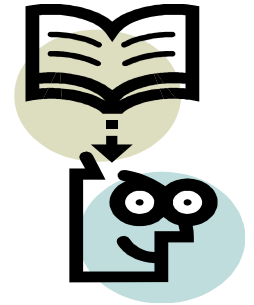
The students will have gym on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please make sure they have tennis shoes on these days so they can participate in class.

4. Thursday Folder

Every **Thursday** your child will be bringing a **white** envelope home with important information from the office. If you prefer to receive your Teacher Newsletter via email please let me know. I will send it to you every Thursday. Fill out the attached form and send it to school with your child.

5. Verde “Casa” Folder

Everyday your child will bring home a **green** folder. This folder will have homework and any notes from me in it. It is very important that this folder goes back and forth from home and school daily. Feel free to use this as a way to communicate to me as I will check the folders everyday.



6. Hot Lunch

At the Open House you filled out a hot lunch form. Every **month** you will fill out a new form stating if your child is taking hot lunch, milk or nothing.

7. Homework

The students will have homework. If your child is in extra curricular activities I understand that some nights it might be challenging get it all done. Please let me know with a quick note. The homework can be done the following night. If you have any questions about homework or why they are doing something please ask me.

8. Snack

We will have snack time everyday at around 10:45 am. Please send a healthy snack with your child to school everyday. Some great ideas for a snack would be: apples, carrots, celery, bananas, dried fruits, granola bars, etc. Water, milk or juice would be acceptable to drink in the classroom. Water bottles labeled with your child’s name can be used throughout the day. Please avoid giving your child pop, chips, sweets or junk food as a snack. This is greatly appreciated.

9. Communication

You can reach me via email at BBoeser@islacad.org or call the school at 952-746-6020. You can also write a note and put it in the green Casa folder that goes home everyday. Please don’t hesitate to speak to me regarding any issues that may come up through out the school year.

10. Volunteer Opportunities

I hope all of you had a chance to look at the volunteer opportunities that are available in our classroom. I am excited to have everyone participate in the Parent Teach Your Skills Day. I will post the scheduled months once I receive them. If by chance you did not pick up the volunteer forms at the Open House, please let me know and I can send them home with your child.

11. Curriculum Night September 22nd

Don’t forget to mark your calendar for curriculum night on September 22nd!

Thank you for your time. I look forward to working with you this school year.

Con cariño,

Sra. Boeser



“Teaching is the highest form of understanding.” -Aristotle