

The Bear Essentials

Primary School Bulletin

February-March 2007

Our second trimester is well under way and Carnival Week plus the Clean Monday holiday serve to remind us of an early Easter this year: Orthodox and Western Easter Sunday is April 8th 2007.

- **Firstly, and on behalf of the school community I welcome the families of the following new students:** in Grade 1 we have Jesse Padberg, George Tsalikidis and Sanjana Verma; in Grade 3 we have Holly Tsalikidis and in grade 4 we have Katy Tsalikidis; and Zad Zeineddine in grade 5.
- Plans for the remainder of the trimester include some very special field trips which have been arranged, as always, to support the inquiry being done by our students – destinations include the Vorres Museum, The Secret School in Pendelis Monastery, the TASTY Foods factory, Spata Zoo and the PlayMobile factory – something for everyone! We always appreciate suggestions or details of any location that could be visited to enrich our programs, so please pass your suggestions on to us.
- **Grade 5 students are very proud to inform you that they raised 600 euro from the Nearly New Sale** in aid of the Helping Hands organization. Thanks to all our donors and our shoppers! Mrs Tagas and her class are now considering their topics for the end of the year school exhibition, details of which will follow shortly. All parents who are interested in working as mentors with our students will be invited to an exhibition information meeting on Feb .28th.
- **Mrs Psallidas reports that we raised almost 400 euro from the Book Sale** we held in the library just before Christmas. The money has been very well spent on five large, laminated world wall maps which now adorn our corridors and classrooms, plus a beautiful large world globe in the library. The remaining money will be used to purchase specially selected books from our Baker Book Club. She thanks our parents for their support – we will all benefit from the proceeds of this sale.
- Unfortunately, due to lack of snow in Greece, the ski trip we had hoped for cannot be arranged. However, Ms Liza from Freedom Events may be able to offer a family trip after the Easter vacation.

Finally, all parents are invited to attend the upcoming lecture on Monday 26th February at 5.30 p.m. in the ISA Theatre, when Mr Christos Ziouvas, Family Therapist and Substance Abuse Counselor from the PLEFSI Centre, will deliver a presentation on Adolescent Substance Abuse: Guidelines for Parents and How to Help and Support Their Children.

- **Please check the diary dates below: if you are new to Greece you'll find there are many events and celebrations in Greece before and during Easter, which is a very special and beautifully celebrated national holiday.**
- **FEBRUARY and MARCH**
- **Clean Monday Holiday is on 19th February: school is closed.**
- **Friday 23rd February:** Mother Tongue Day performance at 2.15 p.m. in the ISA theater. Please join us to hear poems, songs and readings in a multitude of languages spoken by students in our Primary School.
- **Wednesday 28th February:** Meeting in the Multi Purpose Area to inform all parents about the School Exhibition to be celebrated on 11th and 12th May. Invitations to be sent home next week.
- **Wednesday 7th March:** Regular Kindergarten Parent Group meeting at 12 noon at ISA Primary.
- **Tuesday 13th March:** Regular ISA Parent Group meeting at 2.00p.m. at ISA Primary.
- **Tuesday 20th March:** Greek performance by Native Greek speakers for Greek Independence Day in ISA Theater at 2.30 p.m.
- **Wednesday 21st March:** 2nd Trimester Parent-Teacher conferences by appointment at ISA Primary School for students in Grades Kgn – 5 at ISA.
- **Thursday 22nd March:** 2nd Trimester Parent-Teacher conferences by appointment for all students attending Melina's Kindergarten.
- **Friday 23rd March: School closed for students.** Professional In-Service Day for faculty, supported by the ISA Centre for Counseling and Career Services. Dr Kostis Francis, M.D., Ph.D., Child Psychiatrist, will present a seminar on interventions and techniques to enhance a teacher's skills repertoire when working with learning disabled children in an inclusion setting.
- **Friday 30th March:** Last day before the Easter vacation.
- **Monday 16th April:** Classes resume at ISA and at Melina's Kindergarten