

The Bear Essentials

Principal's Monthly Bulletin

May - June 2010

The primary School campus is a hive of activity these days – students and teachers are particularly busy with regular classroom work, rehearsals for shows and celebrations, plus numerous annual events, such as Sports Day, the grade 6 Science Fair, the Exhibition and the Talent Show.

Much of my time is spent meeting prospective families and planning our calendar for 2010 – 2011. We do have a student waiting list for a number of grades and a large group of Kgn students joining us from Melina's, so I urge you to re-register as soon as possible to secure a place for your child. Priority will be given to returning students until May 14th, after which date we will accept registrations from new families and be unable to hold a place for returning students as class lists will quickly reach maximum capacity.

Each year we must say goodbye to mobile families whose Greek assignments have come to an end. Do be kind enough to let us know if your family is moving on, so we can prepare your child's exit papers in a timely manner. Third trimester report cards will be mailed to home addresses at the end of June, so be sure to let Ms Pauline know if reports should be mailed to a summer address.

- After a very busy weekend, I want to thank everyone in the Parents in Action group, plus their volunteers, who helped with the ISA Spring Fair. It was wonderful to see so many of our students taking part, helping out their parents as volunteers in the many activities taking place and as participants in the fair and at the concert performances– also as winners of some of the huge raffle baskets! I was impressed by the displayed work of our primary school artists - (Anais Livadas, Jonas Nokri, Alex Rentze, Monica Pittas, Maro Kapetanis and Angelos Rocas) . A special appearance by some of our Hip Hop Dancers - (Valentini and Maria Nicolou, Anya Day, Anais Livadas and Lily Alexandrakis) spiced up the show, while everyone thoroughly enjoyed grade 3's repeat performance of The Haka. Extra house points are on their way to all our students who gave community service on the day of the ISA Fair!
- Congratulations also go to four students for their wonderful contribution to the school concert. Their commitment to rehearsals alone is to be commended and their skill and confidence at the actual performances was most evident. Well done to Sophie Besnard on violin, Bieke Grunweld on flute and to Petra Weiste and Afea Andreadis who sang beautifully! To the parents who sang, I say a special thank you for a nostalgic stroll through music from the past decades.
- On Sunday, May 9th, 2010, Niki Mabley-Vagenas competed in the Hellenic National Figure Skating Championships to determine the team members for the Hellenic Figure Skating Team. Niki competed in the Novice Category, for skaters up to the age of 14, and was placed first in her category! Niki is thrilled to represent Greece, and is grateful for all the tremendous support she received from all her friends, teachers and staff at ISA. The family wish

to thank everyone: "From the bottom of our hearts, we are thankful and grateful for all our wonderful friends and supporters." Congratulations, Niki!

- VFTA also joined in the games at the ISA Spring Fair where a team of 5 volunteers from the Academy had some tennis fun with primary students. Congratulations must go to VFTA head coach & ISA father, Mr. Fotis Vazeos. Mr. Vazeos took 1st place, in Thessaloniki, in Men's Single's & Double's and, in Cyprus, he took 2nd place after playing against #2 in the world in both Singles and Doubles. By the end of this month, the ITF website will state Fotis' current 45+ category ranking in the vicinity of 76th world ranked top player! We are proud to have this success in our ISA Family, serving as an example of dedication, and the power of possibility thinking.
- We have two major fund raising events to come: The Walkathon for Helping Hands (which our Student Council may organize this year) and the annual Readathon, which Mrs Demopoulos will be running to raise money for the Roald Dahl Foundation. The Readathon will finish on Friday 9th with a SUPER READ-IN for grades 4, 5 and 6 – in our library from 7.00p.m. – till midnight. Special thanks go to Mrs Demopoulos for arranging this event which always generates so much enthusiasm from our "older" readers!
- We are delighted with the response to our appeal for exhibition mentors for grade 5 students. Much deliberation went into the choice of each personal inquiry: subjects range from environmental challenges, health issues, questions about sports and exercise, animal rights, addiction to technology and the mystery of the Bermuda Triangle. It promises to be a great opportunity for students to share their concerns and curiosity with the community. Be sure not to miss our exhibition! To all the mentors who will be devoting considerable time to this project, we say a very big THANK YOU!
- Grade 6 are to be congratulated for their fantastic efforts to raise money for their trip to the bird sanctuary on Aegina! The trip was a great success, enjoyed fully by all. They were so successful at fund raising that they were able to donate 176 euro to EKPAZ. Thank you to Mrs Hatzilambrou and Miss Leshner for all their help with this project! Our good wishes go with Ms Leshner who is returning to America on May 15th.
- I am enclosing the special news from Ms Afrodite and her 1st graders who chose to help the Heifer International Organization by purchasing bees, ducks, chicks and geese to help a community obtain a sustainable source of food and income. This is a generous action component in the unit "From Food to Table." Check the web site for more information: heifer.org.
- Once again, ISA will be running two summer programs this year, one at Melina's Kindergarten and one at the main campus. Dates are June 28th till July 23rd. Further details can be obtained from Mrs Dereziotis at the main campus or Mrs Barry at Melina's. Tel: 210 8012719.

Diary Dates till end of school year

May

12 th	All School Drama Show at 11:00 a.m. for parents of students in grades 1 -3 and at 2:00pm for grades 4 – 6.
13 th	Grade 1 to Benaki Museum Parent meeting for prospective grade 7 students at 10.00 a.m.
14 th	Sports Day. Activities after lunch for grades 3 – 6 while grades 1 and 2 have a picnic in the park
16 th	Melina's Spring Fair
19	Grade1 to Train Museum
20 th	Musical Recital at 11.00a.m for performance by students in grades 1 – 3 and at 2.15 p.m. for performance by students in grades 4 – 6
21 st	Science Fair – Grade 6 at 2:15pm
24 th and 25 th May	Pentacost Holiday – no classes
26, 27 and 28 th	Student Led Portfolio Conferences for grades 4 and 5
27 th	Rainforest Presentation by Grade 2 at 2:15pm
28 th	"Heroes" Presentation by Grade 3 at 2:15pm
Week of May 31 st	Greek placement tests for grade 5 during Greek class times

June

3 rd - 4 th	Drama Club show in ISA Theater at 7:00pm
Week of 7 th June	EAL testing Greek placement test for grades 1 – 4 during Greek class times
8 th	Last Parent Group Meeting at 2.15 p.m.
9 th – 10 th	Mrs Tagas' Grade 5 Exhibition at 9.00 a.m.
11 th	Greek BBQ Day Read-In for grades 4 -6 from 7.00 p.m. till midnight
15 th -16 th	Miss Vagras' Grade 5 Exhibition at 2.15 p.m.
17 th	Grade 6 Breakfast at 9.30.a.m. plus student portfolios
18 th	Talent Show at 2.00p.m.