

EISENHOWER ECHO

OCTOBER 2011

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The Principal's Perspective

With October comes Fall and with Fall comes cold, wet weather. Please make sure that your children are dressing appropriately. The staff at Eisenhower tries to get the students outside on most days when the weather is accommodating.

The students have started taking the NWEA local assessment. Approximately half of the classes have finished the math and the reading test will begin next week. Our Primary Teachers have completed their DIBELS and DRA Testing and Kindergarten will conduct their Phonemic Awareness Tests in the middle of the month. The results of these assessments are available at anytime. Please contact your child's teacher or myself and we will be happy to go over the results with you. This information will also be available to you at your child's Parent Teacher Conference on Thursday, November 10th.

The Eisenhower Halloween Parade will take place Friday, October 28th at 9:15. Students are permitted to wear a costume to school, however, we ask that the costume not be something that may frighten other students, promote violence or interfere with the student's instructional day. In addition, we ask that any item that would represent a weapon not be used as a part of the costume. Your child's PTA classroom representative will contact you with more information about each of the classroom's festivities.

OLWEUS Tip of the Month: No item is too small to report. Many times as parents, your child may tell you something that happened in class, whether it happened directly to them or to someone else in the classroom. If your child shares something with you that you feel is important for the school or his or her teacher to know, please contact us. It may be the first step in putting an end to a situation that we were unaware that occurred.

It is hard to believe that we are already 6 weeks into the school year. By the end of the month, the school year will be a fourth of the way completed. Have a great October and we look forward to seeing you at the school. As always, thanks for your support of Eisenhower Elementary School.

Educationally,

Mr. Scott Poloff, M.Ed.

Early Dismissal and Columbus Day

On Friday, October 7th students will be dismissed at 11:45 a.m. Lunch will NOT be served. Students will be dismissed according to the information you provided. Please talk to your child that morning so they know how they are going on Friday. **School will be closed on Monday, October 10th** in observance of Columbus Day.

Change in Transportation

If you need to change your child's dismissal plan, please come into the building to sign them out at the office. We want to be sure that every child be dismissed safely. Thank you.

After School Math

The After School Math Tutoring Program is held on Wednesdays after school from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Students in grades 3-5 will work together with Mrs. Bennett and Miss Rinkevich who are committed to the program that we are able to provide for OUR students. The support from both teachers and parents is greatly appreciated. Parents are reminded to pick up their children promptly at 5:00 p.m.

Lunch Funds

Students who purchase meals in the cafeteria are expected to have an adequate balance in their account. The cashier will inform students if their balance is low. The food service department will also prepare letters once per week for elementary students whose balance falls below \$10.00. These letters will be sent home with the student. Parents should submit funds for their child's account promptly if they receive a letter. It is the parent or guardian's responsibility to maintain an adequate balance in their child's account and to pay for all purchases made by their child on an overdrawn account. **If you have not submitted a new Free and Reduced Price School Meals Family Application since July 1, 2011, your status from the previous year will expire October 10, 2011.** At that time you will be charged the full price for meals until a new application is filed. Please obtain an application form from your school or the district administration office.

Lunch Schedule

You are invited to have lunch with your child. Below is a schedule of when each grade level goes to lunch. If you choose to eat a lunch prepared in the cafeteria, please phone ahead of time to ensure that it will be ready for you. Thank you.

11:25 – 11:55:	2 nd Grade
11:35 – 12:05:	5 th Grade
11:45 – 12:15:	3 rd Grade
11:55 – 12:25:	1 st Grade
12:05 – 12:25:	4 th Grade
12:15 – 12:45:	Kindergarten

Specials News

Art

Students are off to a great START! It is a month into the school year and it seems as if most students have adjusted well to their classes. This is very apparent when students come to art! Students have been very helpful and cooperative and this should allow many interesting learning opportunities to occur in art this year. Currently, Kindergarten is working on families (dot, circle, straight line, curved line, and angle) in art. Students in first grade are completing prints using lines, while second grade is finishing up inventions. For the first time at Eisenhower, third grade will be learning about art based on an art and history timeline, as they begin aboriginal art. Prior to this year, students started the art timeline in 4th grade. 4th grade has picked up the art timeline in Egypt this year, as they are learning about grids in art. Finally, 5th grade is going back in history thousands and thousands of years ago to talk about the land that is now known as the United States.

Music

The music room has seen some changes this school year. Mrs. Sasala is teaching K thru 3rd grade general music and the vocal groups. Dr. Rummel is teaching the 4th and 5th grade general music and the band. The students are preparing for playing on their soprano recorders in 3rd grade and are anxious to play the violin with Miss Laird. The performance groups are getting started working on their selections for the Holiday Showcase Concert. **The Showcase will be held, combining Eisenhower and East Pike, at the Indiana Jr. High School Auditorium on December 14, 2011 at 7:00 PM.**

Physical Education

Classes are going very well. The students have demonstrated a healthy respect for one another, and their teamwork and cooperation have been exemplary. Kindergarten, first and second graders have been participating in activities working with balance and coordination while using a parachute, beanbags and scooter boards. The next unit we will be using long jump ropes. The students will continue to develop coordination and balancing skill as well as teamwork and collaboration skills. Challenging oneself to attempt new skills and using creativity will be stressed in this unit. Third through fifth grade have completed a unit on football. Second graders have also been working some with catching and throwing a football. It is very rewarding to watch the amount of improvement these students make

in just a short time. We will begin a unit on basketball. Many of the concepts emphasized in football should carry over to basketball. Sportsmanship, teamwork, self-improvement, a respect for others' abilities, communication and spacing and faking will continue to be a major part of class discussions. Thank you for your support and sincere interest in your children, the leaders of tomorrow. Let us all work together to help them reach their potential.

Title I News

Our annual Title I parent meeting, entitled *Breakfast and Books*, will be held on Wednesday, October 26, from 8:30 to 10:00 AM. It will take place at East Pike in room A-1. Families of children receiving Title I services will have an opportunity to meet Mr. Springer, the Title I Coordinator, and the reading specialists from each school. Each attending family will learn about their child's reading level and will have the opportunity to choose *free books* from a current book order! Please look for the invitations to come home with your child and reply by *October 14th*. We hope to see you there!

English As A Second Language

We are off to a great start! Students in Kindergarten are working on identifying letters and sounds as well as writing stories. Students in first grade are studying short vowels and building word families. Second grade is applying their study of vowel spelling patterns when reading books. Third grade students are analyzing story elements such as character and setting. Fourth grade is reading short passages and answering questions in order to develop comprehension skills. I will be working with many students this year – going into classrooms to work with small groups and assist with projects. Please look for homework/take home folders. If you have any questions, please send me an email – bmurphy@iasd.cc

Library

Happy Fall Eisenhower Elementary School families! My name is Mrs. Koren Greene and I was hired this school year as the new Librarian for Eisenhower. During the past five years I taught in the DuBois Area School District, where I was also an elementary librarian serving students K-5. I am really looking forward to the 2011 –2012 school year. Naturally, some library procedures may differ from year's past, so please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. You may contact me at school or via e-mail at kgreene@iasd.cc. In library I strive to encourage, engage and enlighten students to the many facets of reading, research and learning. Did you know October is **National Book Month**? So set a reading goal and see just how many books your child can read or you and your child can read together!

Classroom News

Kindergarten

September was a busy month for Kindergarten. There have been many routines and patterns to learn and we have adjusted well to school and all that goes with it. In conjunction with our study of autumn and Johnny Appleseed, we used apples for various math lessons such as sorting and graphing. Applesauce was made as a culminating activity.

First Grade

During the month of September, first graders completed units called All About Me and Families. We hope to continue to learn more about each other as the year goes on. We also talked about and did fun activities related to Johnny Appleseed and the season of autumn. In October, our units include Columbus Day, safety (focusing on fire, bus and personal safety). We want to thank all of the parents who attended Back-to-School Night.

Second Grade

Lift Off! Second graders will release many Painted Lady Butterflies as we complete the Life Cycle of the Butterfly Unit. Monarch Butterflies are also being tagged for a migration study through the Monarch Watch Program.

October is Fire Safety month. We will read stories and become a "Smoke Detective." Make an exit plan for your home to be prepared. During math we will solve "The Great Pumpkin Caper." We will make predictions and estimates related to pumpkins and check them by testing and measuring. We will also graph our results. We wish to thank our homeroom parents for their support in the upcoming Halloween parties. It was nice to meet many of you at Back-to-School Night.

Third Grade

Third Grade is busy learning about many exciting things. In Social Studies we will be starting our Native American studies soon. We are continuing to learn our cursive writing. The teachers will soon start to write in all cursive on the chalkboard. Some students will get the chance to switch over to cursive in the fall months. IN math, we are learning place value and telling time. Next we'll be adding and subtraction 3 and 4 digit numbers. Finally, we are starting Science class this month. The third grade science curriculum is filled with many interesting experiments and activities. The teachers are pleased with the start of the school year and are looking forward to a great year.

Fourth Grade

After "Healthy Snack Day" and food commercials conclude the nutrition unit in Health. They are reading Mystery books for their October book report. In Social Studies they are learning about the important features of the United States government, as well as important history and geography elements.

Fifth Grade

Our students in the 5th grade have had a busy first month of school, and as we head into October, anticipate more opportunities for learning. On Thursday, **October 6th**, the students will visit Fort Ligonier and experience the history of the French and Indian War. As part of the OLWEUS Program, our students have had excellent discussions and opportunities to share ideas through our weekly class meetings. As we begin the fall season, our goal is to prepare our 5th graders for change as they take on new responsibilities throughout the year.

Counselor's Corner

Communicating is one of the most important skills we will ever learn. It is a skill that needs to be continually developed. Talking is to express or deliver in speech. Communicating is to transmit information, thoughts, or feelings so that it is satisfactorily received or understood. As parents, the ability to communicate with our children is extremely important. Children are more likely to grow up healthy when they and their parents communicate positively, and children are willing to seek parents' advice and counsel. **What can a parent do to ensure positive communication?** Here are some helpful hints:

1. A child who hangs around usually wants to talk. Don't contradict what you say by doing the opposite.
2. Be available, open and willing to drop what you're doing in order to communicate. Remember, schedule time each week, communicate opens doors.

Notes from the Nurse

Your child has had their height and weight done at school, as well as vision screening. Vision test include near and far testing, and in first grade this also includes color vision, depth perception, and plus lens to detect far-sightedness. You will only be notified per letter with a referral to a vision specialist if your child has **not passed** this examination. Hearing tests will soon be done for those students in Kindergarten through 3rd grade.

Parents: Please keep your child's emergency card updated. This includes phone numbers, as well as any change in work numbers. This emergency card is our link to you in case of an emergency, or any other concerns.

Please remember that if your child has a fever, vomiting, or diarrhea, they need to remain home for an additional 24 hours fever free, as well as free from vomiting and diarrhea.

Please send extra clothing, particularly in the primary grades (K, 1, and 2). Spills and accidents occur and children like to wear their own clothing- one change only as there is limited space in their lockers.

Have a happy and safe Halloween – Remember – I am only a phone call away for questions or any other concerns.
Sharon Rearick, RN
School Nurse

GARAGE SALE

The Eisenhower Continuing to Care committee is excited to announce a garage sale fundraiser on Saturday, **October 15th from 8AM to 12 PM**. Proceeds benefit our continued efforts to support the Eisenhower Community.

We will be accepting donations of **gently used items** on the stage before and after school on October 11 – 15. Suggested items are books, toys, games, house wares, and other miscellaneous items. **We will not be accepting clothing, furniture, baby equipment, or large electronic items.**

Coffee and donuts will be available. Thank you in advance for supporting this special project!

NFL Punt, Pass, & Kick Competition

The 14th Annual Eisenhower Punt, Pass & Kick Competition was held on Wednesday, September 21, 2010, with 34 students participating. Congratulations to all of the participants for a very fine competition. The winners are as follows:

Boys

6-7 year old
8-9
10 – 11

Longest Punt

Matt Lloyd – 18'5"
Walker Raykes – 56' 9"
Nathan Pebley – 67'

Longest Pass

Conner Belleau – 29'
Owen Cochran – 59'5"
Axel Kovalchick – 72'4"

Longest Kick

Alex Bauer- 32' 10"
Tyler Gonos – 54'5"
Nathan Pebley – 75'8"

Overall Winner

Alex Bauer – 49' 1"
Tyler Gonos – 152'7"
Nathan Pebley – 201'9"

Girls:

6-7 year old
8-9
10-11

Sara Welch – 6'8"
Adrianna Guth-Borowski –42'6"
Hannah Taylor – 30'5"

Sara Welch – 33'6"
Allie Coker – 47'11"
Hannah Taylor – 33'6"

Sara Welch 33'
Allie Coker – 37'10"
Laura Welch – 44'7"

Sara Welch – 73'2"
Allie Coker – 121'
Laura Welch – 88'4"

The overall winners will now advance to the next level of competition, the Sectional Competition, which will be held on Saturday October 15 starting at 12:30 PM at the Indiana Sr. High School football field. Winners of the Sectional level have an opportunity to go to Heinz Field. Do your best. We know you will represent our school well!

Thank you to all the participants and the many parents who were there to help facilitate the competition. Your help was invaluable!

PTA UPDATES

Thanks to all those who attend the last PTA meeting. It was good to see so many faces and the support for Eisenhower PTA. We are looking forward to a great school year.

The homeroom tea to plan for the upcoming Halloween party is scheduled for October 12th @ 6:30 at Dingbats. We will be meeting in the front banquet room. The classroom chairs and donation parents will be given out at the tea, as we are still receiving PTA memberships and committee requests. Thus far it is determined that Mrs. Bond's classroom does not have a classroom chair – if you'd like to be the chair, please contact Jennifer Steel or Danika Jackson. We hope to see everyone there.

The 9th Street Deli coupons sales have been going well. If you haven't sent in your request or your still selling coupons, you still have time... money is due October 11th. Coupons will be sent home the week of October 18th.

PTA is planning our next best "fun" raiser yet... a small hint- fun times with friends, food and some relaxing moments... more information will be coming soon!

Looking toward November, the Veterans Day program is scheduled for November 9th at 9:30. If you signed up for the hospitality committee or would like to donate, we need you to help provide snacks for our guests. Please plan on having the food to the school by 9 am. An email will also be sent out as a reminder.

Also in November will be the school wide Scholastic Book Fair. The fair will take place from November 14th - 17th. Please keep an eye out in your child's Friday focus for the times when your child's class will attend, as well as when the book fir will be open after school.

If you have any questions/concerns/ or just want to help out, please feel free to contact Jennifer @ 724-388-5378 or jennifersteele1@msn.com