

Cheetah Chatter

1-26-18

Calendar

Feb 1 - Beginning Band & Strings
Concert 6:00 PM (SNOW DATE)

Feb 2 – NFL Day

Feb 9 – 2nd Grade Field Trip to the
Rouse Theatre

Feb 9 – 3rd Grade Field Trip to
Walters Art Gallery

Feb 13 – GT Math Olympiad
5th – 9:30 AM
4th – 11:30 AM

Feb 13 – Chat & Chew 6:30 PM
Media Center

Feb 13 – PTA Meeting 7PM

Feb 16 - County Professional Day
No school for students

Feb 19 – President’s Day
Schools and offices are closed.

Feb 22 – IES Reading Night

Feb 23 – Superhero Day!



From the Principal

My how time flies when you’re having fun! It’s hard to believe the end of the second grading period is here. Second quarter report cards will go home on Monday, February 5th. Please take the time to reflect with your child on their progress and celebrate their success!

Home & School Connection Tips:

Is My Child Over-Scheduled?

Take a moment to review your child’s after-school schedule together. While there’s no magic number of activities that’s right for every child, consider whether he or she has enough time to do homework and enjoy downtime. If one or more days each week are jam-packed, think about dropping an activity.

School Supply Inventory

The year is halfway over! Your child’s school supplies may be running low, so check if he or she needs more pencils, paper, notebooks, etc. You might also ask his or her teacher about shared items.

Good Handwriting Matters

Although your child will type more of their work as they get older, it’s still important for their written assignments to be legible. Also, they will be less apt to make math mistakes if they write numbers clearly. Encourage your child to take pride in completing their work neatly.

Joy B. Smith
Principal



IES Spelling Bee

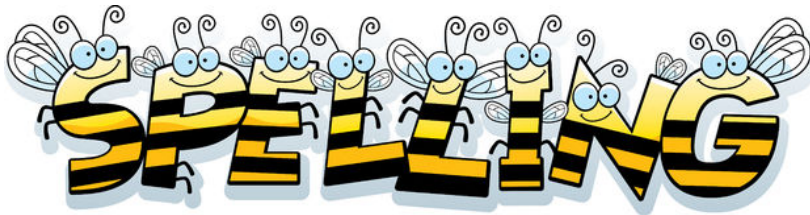
The IES Spelling Bee was held on Friday, January 19th. Congratulations to our Spelling Champion, Mueed Ayaz who ended our Bee by correctly spelling vociferous!

Congratulations also goes to Teresa Cherian, who ended the Bee in 2nd place! Mueed will represent the IES Spelling Bee at the Howard County Spelling Bee celebration in March.

Along with our top two finishers, we had a fabulous group of spellers who each dazzled us with their spelling skills!

IES Third Grade Bumble Bee

The IES Third Grade Bumble Bee was held on Monday, January 22nd. Congratulations to our Spelling Champion, Max Thomas who ended our Bee by correctly spelling "tomes." Congratulations also goes to Gyan Cerwinski, who ended the Bee in 2nd place.



A Message from the PBIS Team of IES:

Parents,

Our PBIS Team is excited about our new school-wide positive behavioral support, through the implementation of 123 Magic and Cheetah Bucks! The students are excited to earn Cheetah Bucks and cash them in for great prizes in their classrooms and for the monthly drawing!

Unfortunately, our small budget will not sustain us to the end of the year so we are asking for your support. We need help securing donations from local businesses. We are looking for small items, gift cards, coupons, etc. anything that can be used as prizes for students. (ie. a free cone at McDonald's, a personal pizza at Pizza Hut, etc.) We want to celebrate our students and acknowledge their hard work!

If you would like to show your support, please contact one of us from the PBIS team: Tina Morrison (tina_morrison@hcpss.org) or Jennifer Cleckner (jennifer_cleckner@hcpss.org) or call 410-313-2524.

Thank you!



Ilchester's Reading Night is on February 22nd.

We have an exciting night planned for you.

- Meet award-winning and local author, **Jerdine Nolen**. Some of her books include *Raising Dragons*, *Big Jabe*, *Pitching in for Eubie*, and *Harvey Potter's Balloon Farm*.
- Participate in a fun and interactive book tasting activity with your children. Leave with a list of books that your children cannot wait to read!
- We will celebrate various cultures by sharing books related to Black History Month and the Chinese Lunar New Year.

A flyer came home in last week's Friday folder. Please R.S.V.P. by sending in the tear-off by February 12th. We hope you can join us!

Green School News!

We will be starting "Waste Free Wednesday" on February 7th! Here are some hints on Packing a "Waste Free" Lunch:

School Day Tips: Packing a "Green" Lunch

By

[Chris Keenan](#)

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Published: May 21, 2013



If you've been packing a school lunch for your children for any period of time, you know that there is a lot of waste involved in the process. Plastic bags, juice boxes and napkins get used, thrown away and then carted off to the landfill. Even if your child's school has a great [recycling program](#), it is impossible to guarantee that your little one will take the time to sort through their trash and put it in the right place. Therefore, it is important to be as eco-friendly as possible when packing their food. The following simple tips do not cost a lot of money to implement but can make a big difference for the Earth.

Purchase Reusable Bags

One of the best ways to cut down on lunch waste is by eliminating the use of plastic bags. As an alternative, investigate your options when it comes to [reusable sandwich bags](#). A simple online search should yield a number of possibilities, most of which are BPA and phthalate free. In addition, these bags can generally be thrown into the dishwasher, making clean-up a breeze. Report this ad

Stay Away from Prepackaged Snacks

Let's face it, pre-packaged snacks are an easy and convenient option for your child's lunch box. However, they are also expensive, and they generate a lot of waste. Avoid them whenever possible and instead pack your child's fruit, vegetables and chips in containers that can be used over and over again. Look for products that don't have PVC, lead, or BPA, however.

Invest in a Stainless Steel Bottle

Like prepackaged snacks, juice boxes are convenient and costly. Instead of buying them, purchase a large jug of water or juice for your refrigerator, and fill up a [stainless steel bottle](#) for your child to take to school each day. Find a product that you can wash in the dishwasher, however, or commit yourself to cleaning the bottle as soon as possible each day. Particularly if you store juice in it, the bottle will be very attractive to ants and other pests if it isn't cleaned out properly.

Talk with your Child

Before implementing the changes mentioned above, sit down with your little one and show them what their lunch will look like from now on. Point out which items need to be repacked when they are finished eating so they don't inadvertently throw something out.

When it comes to packing a "green" lunch, little changes can make a big difference. While you don't have to do everything listed above all at once, choose one tip that you are comfortable with and try it out. From there, continue making small tweaks to the process until you are as eco-friendly as possible!

<https://greenerideal.com/food/0521-school-day-tips-packing-a-green-lunch/>