

CALFTOWN PTA NEWSLETTER

Irving School
811 Payson Avenue
November 2004

A Message from the Principal

The Irving School Staff is happy to report the successful results of our students on the Illinois Achievement Test (ISAT). At the beginning of this school year we reviewed the student achievement for the 2003-2004 school year. We found that our program at Irving School is helping our students meet and exceed the Illinois Learning Standards. We know that our students must be reading, writing, and doing math at an "above average" level to meet or exceed the state standards. We are very proud of our talented Irving students. If you are interested in the Irving School scores, you can find the results on our school report card this Fall or you can attend an Irving Round Table Lunch meeting to see the results in our school improvement plan.

In order to continue our success at school, we need parent/family support. Your student needs to come to school every day in order to participate in the reading, writing and math activities with his/her teacher. Your student also needs a quiet place to do homework at home. We know you will be proud of your child's school work. We need your continued help with attendance, homework and praise. Thank you!

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Thank you to all of our parents for your support in attending our parent-teacher conferences. Our teachers enjoy the opportunity to meet with parents to share our accomplishments. Please contact your child's teacher anytime you have a question or concern.

PTA Membership

It's not too late to join Irving School's PTA. Membership dues is only \$4.00. This money goes toward student activities. Please send your money in an envelope marked PTA. Also, if you are interested in helping with school activities, please let us know! Everyone is welcome to attend our PTA meetings. We meet from 1:00-2:00 the 2nd Tuesday of every month at school in the resource center. Our next meeting is Tuesday, November, 9th, at 1:00. Please plan to attend!

Picture Retake Day

Students who were absent on picture day or are unhappy with their first picture, will have the opportunity to have their picture retaken on Tuesday, November 16th. If you want a re-take, please return your first set of pictures. Forms are available in the office.



Fund Raiser

Thank you for supporting Irving School during our recent fund raiser. The items each student sold can be picked up on **Wednesday, November 10th, between 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. at Irving School** in the lower level of the kindergarten building (on Payson Street). Items not picked up on this day will need to be picked up at Tri-State School Sales.

Free Breakfast at School

All students are welcome to eat breakfast at school. We have received notice from the State of Illinois that all students at Irving School can eat breakfast for free! Breakfast begins at 7:30 a.m. Please do not send your children to school before 7:30 as supervision is not available until this time.

Attendance

Student attendance is very important. Please make every effort to get your child to school every day. If you're not sure if your child should stay home or not, please feel free to call our nurse for some advice! She'll be happy to assist you.

Important Dates

Nov. 9—1:00 PTA Mtg.

Nov. 10—2:00-4:00
Fundraiser items should be picked up from school.

Nov. 11—No School—
Veterans Day

Nov. 16—8:00 Picture
Re-takes

Nov. 25 & 26—
*Thanksgiving Break—
No School*

Nov. 30—8:15 Positive
Action/School Spirit Day

Dec. 20—Jan. 2—
Winter Break

Jan. 3—School Re-

*The best thing
to spend on
children is
time!*



Irving School Pride

Irving School is selling window clings to show our school pride. The cling says "Irving Elementary, You can't hide that bear pride!" The clings are for sale in the office for \$1.00 each. Show your school spirit by displaying this in your car window!

Cooler Weather

As the temperatures are getting cooler, please make sure your children dress appropriately. Students will be outside for recess so they will need to wear a jacket to school.

Kiddie Bazaar

All children are welcome to attend the Kiddie Bazaar on Saturday, December 4th at Salem Church (9th & State). This activity will be held from 8:30-11:30 a.m. This bazaar gives children the opportunity to shop in a safe environment to choose gifts for family and friends for the holiday season. Items are priced from 50¢ to \$4.00.

Box Tops & Labels

Irving School is collecting Box Tops for Education, Hy-Vee UPC labels, Campbell Soup labels and Project A+ labels from Tyson. We will be able to get some nice items for our school with the collection of these items. Please turn these items in at the office.

From the School Nurse

I have been very busy these first few weeks of school reviewing health records and going into the classrooms and checking each student for head lice. This year being no different from any other year, I did find some cases of head lice. The following is some information on head lice that you might find helpful.

Head Lice

Detection, Treatment & Prevention

What are head Lice? Head lice are tiny, wingless, grayish-tan insects that live and breed in human hair. The eggs, called nits, are usually found attached to hair shafts close to the scalp behind the ears and on the back of the head. Nits must be removed with a special comb designed for that purpose. Head lice cannot live on family pets.

How do they spread? They are spread through the sharing of personal items such as combs, brushes, scarves, hats, headphones, sleeping bags, and stuffed animals. To minimize the risk of repeated outbreaks, remind your children not to share these items.

How are they detected? The first clue that a child has head lice is frequent scratching of the scalp. To check for infestation, carefully examine the hair around the back of the neck and behind the ears. Since head lice shy away from light, you may only see their eggs (nits), small whitish ovals of uniform size attached to the hair shaft.

How are they treated? Head lice infestation can be treated with a head lice medication. The most important way to prevent reinfestation is to do daily combing to remove the nits. If you do not comb the nits out, your child will get reinfested with

Positive Action Assemblies

The last Tuesday of every month is our School Spirit Day. We start out the day at 8:15 with a Positive Action Assembly. This is a 15 minute assembly to handout awards to students who are doing an outstanding job at school! Parents are welcome to attend!

Parson's Community Center

Have you visited the Parson's Community Center across the street from Irving School? The center has several computers available for children and adults to use. Internet access is also available. There are also games such as air hockey, pool, foos ball and lots of board games. If you'd like to call the Center to check out their hours, their phone number is 224-2315.

Parent Institute

Baldwin School will be the site for a Parent Institute on Nov. 18th. Representatives from local service agencies will have information booths for students and their families from 5:00-8:00 p.m. Several speakers will be available for parents to attend. A free soup supper will be held from 5:00-7:00. Open gym night for students in pre-K through 6th grade. Baldwin PTA will supervise students while parents attend information sessions. Please call Baldwin to make your reservation by November 12th if you plan to have supper (223-0003). This event is being sponsored by Baldwin School, Baldwin, PTA, and the Regional Office of Education.