Dear Parents,

As we start the third quarter, please take some time to reflect on your child’s academic progress. Talk with your child about what they love: language arts, math, science, social studies, physical education, music, art, strings, band, chorus and where they need to focus their efforts. Be proactive and talk with their teacher about how you can help them continue to learn. Stay involved!!! Also, we have many after school activities, PTA events, and concerts. Please take time to attend these events and show your continued support, your children will love it!!!

Thank you for being our partners in education!

Michael G. Macrina
Principal

Eat Well Do Well

Please look for your $10 gift certificate to Silver Diner in this week’s Thursday folder. This certificate is valid when you link your EWDW card to Island Creek. A $20 minimum purchase is required per certificate redeemed. Every time you use your Eat Well Do Well card 5% is donated to the school. So please sign up today and help us earn money for our school’s nutrition and fitness programs.

Lost and Found

If you or your child have not had the opportunity, please stop by and check the lost and found bins located just outside the cafeteria. All remaining items will be donated to charity at the end of each quarter.

Please be sure and put names on coats and lunch boxes!
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<td>12:30-1:30 PTA FLEX French</td>
<td>3-4 PTA FLEX French</td>
<td>7-7:30pm Chorus Concert</td>
<td>3-4 PTA FLEX Spanish</td>
<td>2:15-2:45 Distinguished Student Ceremony</td>
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<td>12:30-1:30 PTA FLEX French</td>
<td>3-4 PTA FLEX French</td>
<td>3-4 Beyond the Bell</td>
<td>7:15-8:05am Young Men in Motion</td>
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<td>3-4 PTA FLEX French</td>
<td>8:9am Rising 7th Grade Parent Coffee, Hayfield MS Media Center 2:50-4:15 GEMS</td>
<td>7:15-8:05am Young Men in Motion</td>
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<td>1st Grade Field Trip 3-4 PTA FLEX French</td>
<td>2:50-4:15 WISE Guys</td>
<td>7:15-8:05am Young Men in Motion</td>
<td>3-4 Beyond the Bell</td>
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**Candy Gram Sales 2/4-2/12 7:50-8:10 in the Lobby**

**Candy Gram Sales in the Lobby**
The next meeting of the 6th Grade Book Club is Thursday, March 7th at 7:15AM in the library. Check Mrs. Woodall’s Blackboard (FCPS 24-7) site to see which mythology or fairy tale books we have chosen to read. See you there!

Library Catalog
You can access the Island Creek library catalog from home: http://libcat.fcps.edu/uhhtbin/cgisirsi/x/0/0/57/49?user_id=429WEB

January Library Happenings
It has been a busy and fun time in the library this month. Here are just a few highlights:

- Preschool students have been learning about pizza and firefighters in the library. As part of each lesson they use the interactive SMART Board. They love it!
- Kindergarten, first grade and second grade classes are enjoying the Virginia Readers Choice books. They can’t wait to vote for their favorite one.
- 3rd grade classes have been learning how to find biographical information using the online database Pebble Go. They also have been learning how to take notes and how to determine important versus interesting information. They are doing a great job!
- 5th grade classes have been coming to library to work on research skills. Recently, they have practiced taking notes and reviewed Global Awareness Projects from past years. They are now choosing the topics they will be researching. They are enthusiastic learners!
- 6th grade classes are doing research on a topic of their choice. They are doing a great job being independent researchers!

Newbery Medal Winner
Katherine Applegate
The One and Only Ivan

Caldecott Medal Winner
Jon Klassen
This Is Not My Hat

Library Staff:
Jill Woodall, Librarian
Debi Poole, Library Assistant

February 2013

Newbery Medal
Caldecott Medal

Check it Out at the Library
Important Attendance Information

We hope every student will be at school every day participating in the learning experience at Island Creek. But we also appreciate that its sometimes just not possible.

We would like to remind parents that you need to advise the school when your child is absent. Parents may either send a note to the office or teacher; or, to make it most convenient, they can call the attendance line at 571-642-6363, or email the attendance mailbox at islandcreekes.attendance@fcps.edu. The attendance line and email are options available 24 hours a day.

If your child is absent due to illness, we ask that you share a general description of the symptoms, such as fever, headache, stomach ache, cough, vomiting, etc. Since 2005, our Public Health Nurse and Health Room Aid have monitored illnesses in the school to insure needed disease control measures can be instituted to prevent further outbreaks in the school environment. Thank you for helping us protect the health of all students and staff at Island Creek Elementary by complying with this requirement.

Are you moving?

The school needs to have current addresses for all our students! If you have moved, please call the school office so we can update our records. If you are planning to move away from Island Creek, also be sure you let the school office know. We really hate to see you go, but there are important documents that need to be filled out by parents in order for a smooth transition to take place and for school records to be sent to your child’s new school.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR PARENTS OF CURRENT FIFTH GRADERS

It’s not too early to check!

As a parent of a current 5th grader, you need to know that all students in Virginia schools must receive a booster dose of Tdap vaccine prior to entering sixth grade, if at least five years have passed since the last dose of tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine (DTP, DTap, DT or Td).

This is not an Island Creek Elementary rule, and is not a Fairfax County regulation; it is a State regulation that all schools must follow.

Please -- check your child’s immunization records carefully. If you need a copy of your student’s record call the school office and we will provide you a copy.

If your child is required to have a Tdap booster, we ask that your child receive it as soon as he or she is old enough, and most importantly that you provide documentation to the school office. This documentation can be a copy of your child’s immunization record, or a note from your physician listing the date of their most recent Tdap booster shot. If your child won’t be old enough for the shot until a specific date, we need a note from the doctor stating that.

The Tdap booster can be obtained from your child’s physician. Immunizations required for school are also available at the Fairfax County Health Department at no charge. Clinic locations and walk-in hours are online at http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hd/hdclinicsite.htm. Students receiving immunizations at the Health Department must be accompanied by an adult, and students should bring their immunization records to the Health Department with them.

Please, plan ahead to attend to this matter at your earliest convenience. When the 2013 school year begins, sixth graders for whom the office has no documentation of the Tdap shot will not be assigned to a teacher.

If you have any questions about this immunization requirement, you may contact Deborah Jackson, the school public health nurse, at 703-704-6100, or email her at deborah.jackson@fairfaxcounty.gov. You also can call the school office at 571-642-6300.
Community Meetings - Student Discipline

The Ad Hoc Community Committee on Student Rights and Responsibilities will host five meetings in February to discuss student discipline. The purpose of the meetings will be to obtain input and feedback on current FCPS disciplinary practices and discuss the committee’s preliminary recommendations to the School Board for changes to the Student Rights and Responsibilities handbook.

The Community Dialogue meetings will be held on the following dates:

Monday, February 4 Hayfield Secondary School Lecture Hall 7 to 9 p.m.
Tuesday, February 5 Stuart High School Student Commons 7 to 9 p.m.
Tuesday, February 5 Westfield High School Lecture Hall 7 to 9 p.m.
Thursday, February 7 McLean High School Cafeteria 7 to 9 p.m.
Saturday, February 23 Falls Church High School Little Theater 1 to 3 p.m.

Spanish and Korean interpreters will be available at each meeting. Click here to register and indicate preferred language: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CommunityDialogue.

The meetings are open to parents, employees, and community members. Registration is not required but will help in planning the meetings.

Anyone who is not able to attend a meeting is welcome to send their comments to Community_Dialogues@fcps.edu or mail their comments to:

FCPS Office of Intervention and Prevention Services
Attn: SR&R
3877 Fairfax Ridge Road
Fairfax, VA 22030

Counselors’ Corner

Honesty is the featured Croc’s Creed word for February

The first name many students immediately associate with honesty is Abraham Lincoln. With the nickname “Honest Abe” it’s not surprising. This month we celebrate Presidents’ Day with a holiday on the 18th – Honest Abe was born on the 12th. While history is a basic field of study, we prefer to look to the present and future to ensure we discuss honesty with our students in a way that helps shape them into the people who will be honest and respected.

• Remember to point out people being honest during everyday activities, e.g., waiting in line while shopping, taking your turn in the parking lot, and waiting for a cart. These activities seem trivial, but are great learning opportunities.

• While driving, it is important for your children to see you obey traffic signals, the speed limits, street signs, and any other “rules of the road.” This promotes honesty, and also their safety, the safety of other people, domestic animals and wildlife.

• Your children are watching all of us for the right examples. Let’s show them how honesty looks each and every day.

Virginia Hulke
Stefanie Shelesky
School Counselors
CHILDREN’S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH

The two major oral health diseases are tooth decay (dental caries) and gum (periodontal) disease. Both diseases are influenced by nutrition and diet. Nutrition plays an important role in the development of teeth and oral tissue. Dental caries result from the interaction between the tooth, oral bacteria, and dietary carbohydrates (sugar and starch).

Plaque is a sticky film of bacteria that forms on our teeth and turns the sugars and starches in our food into acids. These acids act on the tooth enamel and cause tooth decay. If high-acid producing or sugar foods (raisins, cookies, cakes, potato chips) are consumed, they should be eaten with meals, not as snacks. Cheeses, popcorn, raw fruits and vegetables are low-acid producing food and make healthy snacks.

To prevent dental disease, remember to:
1. Brush teeth after every meal with fluoridated toothpaste.
2. Floss teeth daily.
3. Visit the dentist and dental hygienist regularly.

Eat a nutritionally balanced diet.
Avoid foods that stay in the mouth a long time and stick to teeth (raisins, hard candies, and caramels).

MES DE SALUD DENTAL DE NIÑOS

Las dos enfermedades principales de salud oral son el decaimiento de diente (caries dental) y la enfermedad (periodontal) de encia. Ambas enfermedades son influenciadas por nutrición y dieta. La nutrición desempeña un papel importante en el desarrollo de dientes y tejido oral. Las caries dentales son el resultado de la interacción entre el diente, las bacterias orales, y los hidratos de carbono alimenticios (azúcar y almidón).

La placa es un residuo pegajoso de bacterias que se forma en nuestros dientes y convierte los azúcares y almidones en nuestro alimento en ácidos. Estos ácidos actúan en el esmalte del diente y causan decaimiento de diente. Si la producción de ácido es alta o las comida de azúcar (pasas, galletas, pasteles, papitas fritas) son consumidas, estos deberían ser comidos con comidas, no como meriendas. Los quesos, las palomitas de maíz, las frutas crudas y los vegetales son alimentos que producen bajo ácido y hacen meriendas sanas.

Para prevenir la enfermedad dental, recuerde:
Cepille sus dientes después de cada comida con pasta de dientes con fluoruro.
Use hilo de seda diariamente.
Visite al dentista y el higienista con regularidad.
Coma una dieta nutricionalmente balanceada.
Evite las comidas que se quedan en la boca por mucho tiempo y se adhieren a los dientes (pasas, dulces difíciles, y caramels).