Dear Parents,

It has been a great opening month at Island Creek Elementary.

There are a few highlights that I want to share:

- Island Creek is Fully Accredited by the Virginia Department of Education. We have also met Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) which is the state’s highest ranking.
- We are not stopping there. Island Creek will continue to look at the data and refine our strengths and continue to focus on the individual child. We use the Island Creek school improvement plan (SIP) to support this initiative.
- We will also continue focusing on the curricular areas. Please look for interims coming out this month.
- 58% of our parents are enrolled in Blackboard (24/7). I would love to see this at 90%. To sign up for a Blackboard account, go to: www.blackboard.com.

We sincerely value the relationship between the school and the family. Please continue to get involved with the school, school functions and the Island Creek PTA.

It is an honor and a privilege to serve as Principal of Island Creek. I look forward to our continued partnership in education.

Mike Macrina
Principal
## October 2011

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**Custodian Appreciation Week / Fire Prevention Week**

- Columbus Day Holiday
- NO SCHOOL

- 7:30am 6th Grade Book Group

**Cogat Testing (2nd Grade)**

- 4th Grade Field Trip
- 3:45 Field Day Volunteer Mtg.

- 6:00pm PTA Croctoberfest at the Moose Lodge

**Book Fair (Monday 8-2 & 5-8, Tues-Thurs 8-4, Friday 8-Noon)**

- 5:00-8:00pm Book Fair Family Night
- 9-11:30 Field Day for grades 4-6
- 9-11:30 Field Day for grades 1-3
- Field day rain date
- 1-3pm Kinder Fall Celebration

**Field day rain date**
Library Staff

Library Staff

Monday

- Brado
- Brando
- Pritchard
- Sigmon
- Vaughan
- Wasson
- Stillions
- Putnam
- Adkins
- Cromwell

Tuesday

- Pikul
- Corsaro/Weisman
- Coburn
- Connell
- Farace/Kwaik
- Markon
- Colvin

Wednesday

- Reininger
- Finch/Scott
- Valente
- Allen
- Alf/Tragakis
- Nayak

Thursday

- Parker
- Diersing
- Fay
- von Kolnitz
- Jackson

Friday

- Leech
- Fay
- Ducko
- Vance
- Keller
- Barton
- Carmack

6th Grade Book Club

The first meeting of the 6th Grade Book Club will be Thursday, October 13th at 7:30AM in the library. All 6th grade students are invited. See you there!!

Scholastic Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair comes to Island Creek Oct. 24th-28th. Family night is Monday, October 24th. The book fair features traditional children’s favorites and new works by popular authors and illustrators. Parents and teachers will find plenty of items to interest them, too. When you visit the fair, look for the Classroom Wish List display to see how you can help build your child’s classroom library. For more information contact Jill Woodall at 571-642-6319 or jill.woodall@fcps.edu.

Library books should be returned to school the morning of the day each class has library.

 Volunteers Welcome!

If you are interested in helping in the library, please contact Jill Woodall at 571-642-6319 or Jill.Woodall@fcps.edu.

Library Catalog: You can access the Island Creek library catalog from home: http://libcat.fcps.edu/uhthbin/cgisirsi/x00/0/57/49?user_id=429WEB
Counselor’s Corner

Cooperation is the featured Croc’s Creed Word for October

We talk about cooperation in many ways for the students at Island Creek.

Cooperation at home:

We encourage students to cooperate at home by helping their families when asked or voluntarily.

They are reminded to love, feed and water, and exercise their pets.

To have appropriate behavior with families and to work together on projects

Cooperation at School:

Listen to their bus drivers, and patrols to and from school.

Walk quietly in the halls when going to and from different activities.

Do as their teachers ask them during the day.

Cooperation in the Cafeteria:

We ask the students to remember to (1) pick up their condiments, napkins, straws, etc., (2) speak quietly and (3); stay in seats.

We have an incentive program to help with their cooperation in the cafeteria. It is the Gold Croc Stock program wherein the classes (not individual students) are rewarded with a special croc stock when they (as a class) have met the three desired behaviors for a lunch period. Their class is entered into a drawing to win “fine dining” to get a specially decorated set of tables for one lunch period. Also, as an added bonus, if they earn a certain number of gold croc stocks they will be given other awards without having to win a drawing.

Please talk to your families about other ways they can be cooperative. Happy October.
**IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR PARENTS OF CURRENT 5TH GRADERS**

It’s not too early to check!

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).

Please check your child’s immunization records carefully. If your child is required to have a Tdap booster, we ask 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.

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](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.

It is most important that you plan ahead to attend to this matter. **Next September, sixth graders will not be allowed to begin school without documentation being received by the school.**

If you have any questions, you may contact Deborah Jackson, the school public health nurse, at 703-704-6100, or email her at djack2@fairfaxcounty.gov.

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**FIELD DAYS – Grades 1st -6th**

(Kindergarten Field Day will be held in the spring)

- Grades 4, 5, 6: **Tues., October 25th**, (Rain Date: Thurs., Oct. 27th)
- Grades 1, 2, 3: **Wed., October 26th**, (Rain Date: Fri., Oct. 28th)

Please help make our Field Day great! We will need parents to help organize and run the different games and activities. If you are available to help on one or both of the Field Days, please fill out the form below.

We will be having a Field Day Parent Volunteer Meeting on Thursday, October 20th at 3:45pm in the gym.

If you can’t attend the meeting, you can still help us on Field Day.

- I will volunteer for the 4th-6th Grade Field Day on Tuesday, October 25th.
- I will volunteer for the 1st-3rd Grades Field Day on Wednesday, October 26th.

Parent’s Name __________ -- ___________________ Phone # ___________________
9-5-2-1-0 Zip Code to Your Health

To encourage student wellness, FCPS Elementary Schools are promoting 9-5-2-1-0 Zip Code to Your Health the week of October 17 – 21, 2011. Students will learn about healthy eating and exercise through this daily message. This program is a partnership with the Northern Virginia Healthy Kids Coalition. Teachers are invited to highlight the daily message in the classroom.

To:
Healthy Kids
Fairfax County
Energy Zone, USA 9-5-2-1-0

Dear Healthy Kids,
For you to feel great and do your best remember to follow the Zip Code to Your Health every day!

9 Get 9 hours of sleep each night.
5 Eat 5 fruits & vegetables every day.
2 No more than 2 hours screen time a day.
1 Exercise at least 1 hour each day.
0 No Sugary Drinks!

Fairfax County Public Schools FOOD & NUTRITION SERVICES www.fcps.edu/fs/food

BREAKFAST – A GREAT START TO BEING SMART

October is Breakfast Month in Fairfax County Public Schools. Breakfast is the most important meal of the day. It “breaks” the “fast” by replacing the energy reserves used overnight.

School aged children especially teens are the biggest breakfast skippers. Research shows students who eat breakfast:

- Learn better
- Are more alert and attentive
- Are more likely to participate in activities
- Eating breakfast may also reduce the risk of childhood obesity

If you have a breakfast skipper in your home, plan and offer quick nutritious choices such as juice, whole grain cereal and toast, breakfast bar, or bagels and milk or yogurt. Parents don’t forget your own breakfast. You are a role model for your children.
This year Island Creek Elementary will be having a Yearbook Cover contest.

If you are interested in entering this year's cover contest, please submit your original artwork (no computer graphics will be accepted) on 8 1/2 X 11 unlined paper. Your drawing should be aligned vertically on the page. No pencil please—we need color!! Turn your entry into the office no later than November 4th. GOOD LUCK!

Note: Entries submitted on lined paper, drawn in pencil, computer generated artwork or entries submitted on incorrectly sized paper will be disqualified.

Grand Prize—Your design will be on the front cover of the Yearbook.

1st-2nd Place Winners—Your design will be on the back cover.

TIPS:
- Use your imagination
- Be Creative
- Use lots of color
- Have Fun!!!
Preschool students making red playdough on red day, drinking yellow water on yellow day and visiting the playground on green day.

First graders sorting books for the class library.

Squadron 208 after creating an airport runway (with chalk) successfully launched our notebooks.

“The Kinder Crocs are off to a great school year! They are learning all about our school. The students are embracing their routines and love earning Croc Stock. Towards the end of the month, we celebrated Johnny Appleseed’s Birthday with a celebration. The students created stained glass apples, tasted apples and created homemade applesauce. Thank you to all of our wonderful parent volunteers who helped make our first event a success!”