



The Alabarda

International School of Trieste Community Newsletter | February 5, 2010 | V.I I

UPCOMING CALENDAR:

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STUDY ALLOWANCES: The application forms for contributions available to FVG students, Regional Law 14/91 - for students in Gr. 1 to 12 and - for HS students only - Regional Law 3/98, have been handed out today. Families who wish to can fill in the application on-line (www.provincia.trieste.it) by the last week in February. Please note that on-line applications do NOT substitute the written application. Applications will be valid only if received in writing by March 1st 2010.

TEACHER IN-SERVICE: We remind you that the next staff development in-service day will be Friday, March 19th when school will end at 12:00 o'clock noon, just after lunch. There will be the possibility to have a babysitting service for the EC children until the end of the school day (4 p.m.) as well as afterschool playful group activities for the Elementary, Middle and High school students organised by the PTA. Anyone interested can fill in the enclosed form and hand it back to the Office by March 5th. Please note that there will be no bus service at 4.00 p.m. All the buses will leave at 12.00 noon.

RE-REGISTRATION FORMS: We wish to remind you that the deadline for handing in the re-registration forms for the School Year 2010-2011 was January 29th . Please note that even if your intention is not to re-enroll your child the re-enrollment form has to be returned back to the office. Please hand in the forms as soon as possible. Places left unreserved by failure to re-enrol will be opened to the application process.

GR.4&5 FIELD-TRIP MEETING: We wish to invite grade 4 e 5 families to a meeting on Monday , February 8th at 3 p.m. in the Cafeteria during which we will present this year's overnight Spring field trips.

SECOND QUARTER REPORT CARDS: The second quarter closed today. Report Cards will be distributed Friday, February 12th. For Kindergarten and ES the Cards will be handed out to students and must be signed and returned to the teacher by the following week. MS / HS Report Cards will be mailed home or can be collected by parents in the Office on February 12th, after 2.00 p.m.

ELEMENTARY CARNIVAL PARTY: The elementary school Carnival Party will be held on Thursday, February 11 from 2.00 pm – 3.50 pm. The children will be making masks for the costume competition here at school. If you would like, they can bring from home anything they need to complete their costume from the neck down. Refreshment will be provided by the PTA. Please no confetti or weapons!

EARLY CHILDHOOD CARNIVAL PARTY: The Early Childhood party will take place Friday, February 12th in the morning. Please bring children to school already dressed in a costume and remember it is forbidden to bring confetti, weapons or sharp objects in the classroom.

MENU: take note that next week Tuesday's menu will be switched by Friday's one. On Friday February 12th there will be a special menu due to the Chinese new year: fried rice, chicken with almonds and soy sauce, corn and fresh vegetables, fresh fruits and Chinese sweets.

SKI WEEK: The last day of school before ski week will be Friday, February 12th.. School will re-open Monday, February 22nd 2010.

SCIENCE FAIR: On the 24th of February at 7pm, Mr. Dutton and the 7th graders will be hosting a science fair in the IST cafeteria. There will even be 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prizes. All parents, family members, and staff are welcome so come out for some science fun!

PARENT-TEACHER EVENING: The second Parent-Teacher Evening will take place on Thursday, February 25th from 6 to 9 p.m. It is an opportunity for you to meet your children's teachers and find out more about the grades on the Report Cards. You may schedule your appointments through the Office starting Monday, February 22nd.

Board Meeting: The next Board meeting will take place Monday, March 1st at 8:30 p.m.

PE UNIFORMS: We wish to inform you that in the Office there are some orders that still need to be collected or paid for. There are goods for the following families: CHIOATTO, AUSBERG, SPONZA, CENCI e DE VISINTINI.

DONATION: Special thanks to Dr. Giorgio Bernard and to the Studio Biomedico who donated a stock of science lab glassware.

BAKE SALE: Thanks to Busara's students and families who supported the Bake Sale, we collected € 133.95. Congratulations and keep it up.

High School

Social Studies

In Grade Nine, we are finishing examining the Israeli-Arab Conflict. We will next turn our attention to the Northern Ireland Conflict. In Grade Ten, we are finishing examining Migration, the world of Human Resources, and Trans-National Corporations. We will next turn our attention to Globalization.

In Grade Eleven, students are currently exploring some of the themes and questions raised by the philosophy of religion. Topic areas include arguments for the existence of God, miracles and the problem of evil. This particular subject matter tends to challenge the students' critical reasoning skills to the utmost, and many a lively discussion has ensued. In Grade Twelve, Students have recently finished looking at the key events and figures of the Enlightenment and are now addressing the background causes of the French Revolution. The importance of source analysis continues to remain at the forefront of many lessons, as students practice the skills required to successfully undertake the accompanying Advanced Placement Examination.

Math

In Grade Nine, students have been working with radical equations, trigonometric ratios, and multiplying/dividing polynomials. They learned a couple mnemonic devices in order to remember these concepts. Ask them to explain SOH-CAH-TOA and perform the Pythagorean Theorem song. Soon, we will be embarking on the study of Geometry!

Science

9th and 11th Grade Biology 1 – Students are completing their lengthy unit on Ecosystems. The Biologists have shown their understanding of ecosystem factors including limiting factors, carrying capacity, and population density as well as interactions between organisms within ecosystems. Students have also studied man's affect on ecosystems, and how we can better co-exist in nature. The culminating project of the unit consisted of students choosing a specific ecosystem around the world, and then detailing all of the unique interactions within that system.

10th Grade Chemistry - 10th grade Chemists have worked extensively at broadening their knowledge of classifying matter in Chemistry. students have been determining the difference between chemical and physical properties and changes, as well as identifying substances as compounds or molecules, and solutions or mixtures. Current laboratories include a series of tests examining changes of state of matter.

12th Grade Biology 2 - Students are rounding out their comprehensive study of the human body and it's 11 major systems. We have been learning about the circulatory and respiratory systems, including how they work together to supply the body with Oxygen and remove Carbon Dioxide. Each student designed and carried out a complex lab using computer lab probe interfaces to test factors such as digestion, exercise and caffeine, and how they affect the human circulation system.

Literature

Grade Nine has been looking at plot and character development as they study Ray Bradbury's *Fahrenheit 451*. The students continue to discuss in class and are also working on writing structure for short essays and responses. This unit also focuses on the literary element of figurative language and the students are developing their ability to critique authors' styles.

The Literature Ten class has completed the *Antigone* unit and progressed to Huxley's *Brave New World*. Having worked in groups to create the image of Utopia, the students continue to discuss this idea with regularity as the dystopia of the book is examined. This unit includes additional opportunities for writing and speaking as well as for making connections with texts they've studied in the past.

Having begun reading Chinua Achebe's Nigerian story *Things Fall Apart*, the Grade Eleven students are also working on a research assignment. Each student has chosen a non-fiction or biography book to use as a basis of study and is in the process of completing a research paper. Here the students practice formatting but also paragraph construction and paper organization. With *Things Fall Apart*, the students are learning about the continent of Africa in order to create a context for understanding.

The Grade Twelve students have taken on the challenge of reading the Middle English version of selections from *Canterbury Tales*. In addition, each student has completed research and a presentation related to an element of life in the Middle Ages. Leading class discussions as well as answering their peers' questions has given them the opportunity to become classroom experts on their research subject. With this context, it is easier for the students to understand the complex social roles represented by the characters in the text.



For didactic enquiries please schedule an appointment with Director Jason Anklowitz (Tuesday-Thursday, 10 am. or 2:30-3:30)

For administrative enquiries please refer to Paola Zonta.