

Jan./Feb. 2012



The IUS Newsletter



Email: IncirlikEHS.Principal@eu.dodea.edu
Web Page: www.inci-ehs.eu.dodea.edu

Incirlik Unit School



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
DEPENDENTS SCHOOLS
INCIRLIK UNIT SCHOOL



UNIT 7180 BOX 270
APO AE 09824-0005

Dear Parents,

During the week of March 12-16, Incirlik Students in grades 3-11 will take the TerraNova 3rd Edition Multiple Assessment Test*. The TerraNova is a national standardized exam and an important part of the DoDEA System wide Assessment Program. Standardized Achievement tests are used to provide consistent, accurate, and objective information about the students' achievement in various areas of the curriculum. Standardized means that these tests are always administered with the same directions, the same time limits, and the same scoring criteria, with the goal of ensuring fairness for all students. The TerraNova will allow us to compare how DoDEA students achieve compared to their peers nationally. Before the end of the school year, we will receive a copy of your child's individual results and we will then forward those results to you for your review.

Please try to avoid scheduling appointments in the mornings during the testing week. Be sure your child gets enough rest and has a healthy breakfast before coming to school on those days. This will ensure that your child is at his or her best during the test. If your child is ill, please do not send him or her to school. We will give make-up tests the following week for those students who were ill.

If you have questions or concerns regarding the Terra Nova testing, you may contact your child's guidance counselor via e-mail or phone, 676-3109 (Elementary Assessment Coordinator) or phone 676-5001 (Middle and High School Assessment Coordinator).

Thank you,

D. C.

L. D.

Incirlik Unit School Assessment Coordinators

*Home School Students who are eligible to be enrolled in our school are eligible to take the test. Contact the school for additional information.

Jan. 26: End Quarter 2/End First Semester.

Jan. 27: Teacher Work day. No instruction.

Jan. 27-28: Basketball and Wrestling, Incirlik @ Ankara.

Jan. 30: Begin Third Quarter.

Feb. 01-03: Future Educators of America. TBA.

Feb. 01-03: All Europe Academic Bowl. TBA.

Feb. 06: ES No school, Parent conferences, 08:00-14:15. MS/HS Early Dismissal, 11:15. Parent conferences, 12:15-2:15.

Feb. 08: 4th-5th Honor Roll Assembly, 11:30-12:30, MPR. MS/HS Honor Roll Assembly, 1:30-2:15, HS Gym.

Feb. 10-12: Wrestling Sectionals, TBA.

Feb. 12-17: Junior Leadership Institute. TBA

Feb. 13-17: Berlin Seminar for Seniors. TBA.

Feb. 16-19: Wrestling Championships, TBA.

Feb. 20: No School. Presidents' Day.

Feb. 22-26: Boys/Girls Basketball Championships, Wiesbaden.

Feb. 26-29: International Student Leadership. TBA.

A Parent Invitation

Hi Parents,

I would like to invite you to a Parent Forum scheduled to get your feedback on 3 critically important questions for our school:

What do you like about our school?

What don't you like about our school?

What suggestions for improvement do you have to move us forward?

I am scheduling multiple sessions and times in hopes that you will find one time that is convenient for you to attend. Each session usually lasts about 30 to 45 minutes depending on how many parents are in attendance. There is no need to attend more than one session--all will be the same. We will meet in the back of the HS library, Room 110.

Here are the scheduled times for our Parent Forums:

Monday, Jan 30 0900

Tuesday, Feb 7 1300

Thursday, Feb 9 1600

Friday, Feb 17 0800

Wednesday, Feb 22 1100

Monday, March 5 1600

Thursday, Mar 8 0900

Wednesday, March 14 1300

Friday, March 23 0800

Tuesday, March 27 1600

Hope to see you at one of our Forums!!

Terry

TERRY A. GREENE Ph.D.

Principal

Incirlik Unit School

First 2012 IUS Students to Graduate from DARE

—S. S. E., MSSW, LCSW, CADAC,
ASACS Counselor



On January 24 & 25, IUS will hold formal DARE graduations for all IUS fifth graders and three middle school classes. Mrs. R. and Mrs.W. welcomed our DARE Officers, A1C S. D. and A1C C. S., into their classrooms on a weekly basis this quarter. The fifth grade students learned about the dangers of drugs, alcohol and violence. Most importantly, they were also taught about the importance of making good choices and practiced different assertiveness skills in order to prepare for challenging situations. Mr. S.'s sixth, seventh and eighth grade PE classes also completed the DARE curriculum. The older students learned additional communication skills that will allow them to contribute to the drug free/bully free environment that we all seek to create at IUS.

Our DARE officers have been working with other elementary classes as well and will continue teaching next quarter. For the rest of the school year, DARE will be taught in Mr. S.'s Health classes in conjunction with Mrs. E.'s LifeSkills program for ASACS.

Rock Stars and Haiku in Gr. 4—C. M.

To date, 10 students in Room 213 have enjoyed being Rock Stars of the Week. Each day consists of an exciting event or activity to honor themselves. They bring a Sharing Bag, read from a favorite book, have a parent write a letter to the class telling how special their child is to them, invite a parent or sibling to join them for lunch and receive a Rock Star of the Week certificate.

The students enjoyed creating Haiku poems and illustrations to accompany these. Once they got started they didn't want to stop.



**I like frogs so much
I will catch a frog right now
This frog is so cute
G. S.**



**The Stream
Walking down the stream
Hey, look a huge giant lake
Let's go fish in it
D. A.**

Flying Fish

**I love flying fish
They make me want to jump in
They make my eyes shine**

J. N.



ES Counselors' Corner—L. D.

When is it a good idea to tell?

Knowing when and how to get help when needed is an important developmental skill for elementary students. Classroom Guidance lessons in 2nd-5th grade focused on learning about how to decide what situations need adult help and when to try to solve problems on your own. Ms. D. shared Julia Cook's A Bad Case of the Tattle Tongue, a humorous story about the time-consuming tattle related issues that sap classroom energy and thwart learning opportunities. In the story students are introduced to the tattle rules:

Rule #1: Be a Danger Ranger- If a person or animal is in danger tell immediately. This isn't tattling. This is called a warning.

Rule #2: Be a Problem solver- If the problem involves you, take charge and try hard to solve it yourself first.

Rule #3: Now or Later -Is this a "now" or a "not now" problem? Can the problem be solved at a later time?

Rule #4: MYOB- Mind Your Own Beeswax. If the problem isn't dangerous and does not involve you, do not tattle.

Following lesson 1, students demonstrated understanding of the tattle rules through various activities. The designed a tattle rules T-shirt and answered realistic letters that fictitious students wrote to the Tattle Prince. A post-test revealed that 96% of the students could correctly site and apply the correct rules given various situations.

Future guidance lessons will focus on problem solving skills and bully prevention.



February- Correction, make that Tech-uary—A.J. G.

For the whole month of February, students will embark on a technological journey. We will still recognize Lincoln and Washington's birthdays, President's Day, share some love on Valentine's Day and have flashlight check-out in honor of Groundhog day, but this February is all about technology; some educational and some for fun.



Each week students will learn an age appropriate web tool. Lessons will include sites like "BatLyrics" to increase your lyrical repertoire and keep you from embarrassing yourself when you sing out loud. "Vocaroo" or "Audacity" sites record your voice so you can create podcasts or just play around and hear yourself speak— some people love to hear themselves talk :) We will look at other social and creative tools like Glogster, Twitter and Flickr and some educational ones like Discovery Education. It is sure to be a fun and educational month!

Don't forget: Library Club and Chess Clubs meet on Wednesdays! See Mrs. G. for more information.

Pokémon and Yugioh Card Club Excitement —L. R.

The Pokémon/Yugioh Card Club is filled with happy club members for the fourth year running. Young players from 3rd to 5th grade gather every Friday, directly after school to battle each other, honing their strategy skills and enjoying their wins. Advanced players and novice players exchange learning skills eagerly awaiting a new challenge to defy.

Winners excitedly reach into the "card grab bag" hoping to pick just the perfect card to add to their deck. The sessions have an open enrolment. All students have to do is come to Room 128 at the high school, with deck in hand and an eagerness to jump right in and duel.



See you then!



Budgeting Field Trip—M. R. & A. P.



C. shopping for toys for his friends.



Volunteer Mr. O. helping J. and M. decide on a gift.

Miss R. and Ms. P's third graders from Incirlik Unit School in Turkey recently went on a class field trip to the local exchange to get a first-hand experience of what it's like to go Christmas shopping with a budget. Each child was given an imaginary \$500 dollars to spend on their trip. The students had to apply their subtraction, addition, and estimating skills in order to buy gifts for their families and friends. Some of the tasks included finding three items for dad that cost about \$100, buying four Christmas decorations that equal about \$50, and finding one item for mom that cost about \$100. Then they had to brainstorm and find items to buy for other people in their lives with their left over money. The students enjoyed the experience of making choices and applying their math skills. This experience helped them to connect the idea that math does not just take place in the classroom and that it's a skill that reaches into all areas of their lives.



Mr. P. (volunteer) helping R., B., and C. with their math.



B. and M trying to figure out what to get dad.

Mealworms—M. R.



The third graders in Miss R.'s class have recently adopted some new class pets. Many people may think of mealworms as pests, but the students in this class think of them as science.



The children are observing the mealworms in order to gain a first-hand experience in learning the four stage life cycles of insects. Students get to watch and play with their mealworms and observe them going through their egg, larva, pupa, and finally, beetle stage.



What would you do with a mealworm if you had the chance?





RoboDesigners at Incirlik Meet the Autonomous Challenge!—L. R.



What a thrilling first day we had in RoboDesigners January 7th. The three hours went by so fast, as we gathered our talents, divided up into teams, took on the first elements of building the robot base, and began learning the initial phases of programming the brain.



The next session held January 14, introduced the second elements of the design, which included assembling and then attaching the capture claws onto the robot's base. Following this, the RoboDesigners learned to program the brain so that the robot autonomously rolled forward, captured a ball with its claws, turned 180 degrees

and returned back to its start point. Great excitement and anticipation was mounting, as each RoboDesigners Team test drove their robot many times over to correct even the slightest error in movement. Then, as each team's robot completed the challenge competition, supportive cheers could be heard from the on-looking teams.



After the "Phase One: Autonomous Challenge" was met, the RoboDesigners began to develop yet another program to meet the "Phase Two: Conic Challenge." This is where the robot, having captured the ball in its claws must weave between six cones and return, weaving back to its point of origin. This challenge must be done without movement hesitation or human intervention.

Phase two will definitely "test" each team's programming ingenuity!





The goal by session three is for our RoboDesigners to have learned to follow the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics) Design Process: 1) Define the problem; 2) Gather information; 3) Generate multiple solutions; 4) Analyze and select a solution; 5) Test and Implement a solution; then, 6) Define a new problem.



A. B. is this year's RoboDesigners' technical assistant. He comes to RoboDesigners with four years of background in robotics training and programming at Incirlik Unit School, as well as summer training from the University of California San Diego's *iD Tech RoboContenders and Programming Institute*.



RoboDesigners Teams gathered proudly as they were awarded their first certificate by their technical assistant and their RoboDesigners' adviser, L. R. for having met the "Phase One: Autonomous Challenge" with success.

If you'd like to share information on phase designs and challenges, contact the school at -6330.

Model United Nations Takes a Polar Plunge—N. B.

The Incirlik Unit School MUN Israeli and Sri Lanka student delegations were among the many intrepid souls that braved the cold and rain of a Saturday morning to participate in the base Polar Plunge.



Dressed in tropical Hawaiian garb, these 10 brave student diplomats proved their courage while fund raising for their annual MUN trip to the St. Andrews International MUN event scheduled for early April in Dublin, Ireland.



Lady Hodjas at the Hoop—Coach S. C.



The Lady Hodjas had a busy weekend defeating the Ankara Trojan's twice, to wrap up Turkey's number one seed for European Championships and moving to 4-0 against the Trojan's. Friday night in front of a packed house for Incirlik High School's "Blue Out Night" the Lady Hodjas fed off the energy of the crowd and crushed the Trojan's 46-27. The Lady Hodjas erased any doubt for whom the victories would be when

they came out with a 17

point 3rd quarter. The Lady Hodjas were led by M. R. with 17 points, D. T. with 12 points, and L. L.'s 11 rebounds. Saturday, the Lady Hodjas beat a very motivated Ankara side 37-30. In a very physical game, the Lady Hodjas had to dig down deep and show a lot of heart to overcome the effort put forth by the Lady Trojans. The Hodjas were led by M. R. with 14 points, L. L. with 8 points, and a solid defensive effort by D. G. and the rest of the Hodjas. We are looking forward to a solid showing at the ASA Tournament and Europeans.



Hodja Wrestlers Hit the Mat—Coach C. H.

The Incirlik Unit School wrestling program had a strong performance against the Ankara wrestling team last weekend. Incirlik got their first win versus Ankara. Both teams have been locked into tie matches the last few times that they have met. Incirlik defeated Ankara 30-24

on Friday January 20. Incirlik tied the next match with Trojans on Saturday. Incirlik and Ankara only have a few official matches but they wrestled exhibition matches against each other. Incirlik wrestlers had a very strong showing against the Trojans in the exhibition matches as well. Some top performers through the week end were

A. C. who went 5-0 with 5 pins; B. S. also went 1-0

with a pin, and R. C. went 1-0 with a decision over a tough opponent.



Hodjas Boys Basketball—Coaches S. & T. S.

On Friday January 20th, Ankara traveled to Incirlik to participate in the winter sports meeting. The Hodjas came out inspired and on fire. The Hodjas were led by J'L. D. and N. O. The of-



fense was generated by A. W. The Incirlik basketball team leading rebounder was J. M. The team was faced with foul trouble with two fouling out and receiving excellent bench help from K. N. and A. R. The stands were full and it was a true inspiration to the Hodjas. The game was a strong start to the 4-0 weekend the Hodja boys' basketball team finished with.



On Saturday, the boys started off slowly and were easily down 12-0 before finally getting on the board with hot shooting by D. and O. The lane to the bucket was improved by W. which got the Trojans in early foul trouble. The Hodjas went on to win both games and played very strong defensively in the 2nd game. The bench really came into play with N., R. and J. G. The Hodjas look forward to traveling up to Ankara on Friday, January 27 for the ASA tournament, which host strong basketball competition in OASIS and TOFAS.

Scores:

75-56 game one

63-45 game two



A BLUE OUT Tribute—L. R.

What did it mean to be a spectator during our magnificent BLUE OUT athletic weekend? Absolutely the BEST! From the competitive edge that all teams demonstrated, to the excellence in cheering, we at Incirlik Unit School feel proud of our athletes and their sportsmanship through out the entire weekend.



Our athletes showed us that they are number one, not only in perfection of athletic motion, but in citizenship in the truest spirit of competition. I'd like to extend my thanks for making this weekend such a memorable event. It is fun to reminisce on the fabulous lay ups, the rebounds, the three pointers, the pins that must have hurt to hold down, and the flying ease and strength of our cheer squad members.



Thank you parents for bringing your spirit to the stands, encouraging your children to participate in such grueling and determined competitions while holding their grades up as well! Kudos to the Incirlik Unit School athletic teams, their coaches and the community for creating an atmosphere worthy of HODJA PRIDE!



IUS Continuous School Improvement in Action

Winter Sports Schedule

Cheerleading, Wrestling, and Boys/Girls Basketball



January:

January 27th -28th Incirlik @ Ankara for ASA
Tournament (Wrestling and Boys/Girls Basketball)



February:

February 10th -12th Wrestling Sectionals (TBD)

February 16th -19th Wrestling Championships (TBD)

February 22nd- 26th Boys/Girls Basketball Championships
(Wiesbaden)





Continuous School Improvement

DoDEA Mission: To provide an exemplary education that inspires and prepares all DoDEA students for success in a dynamic, global environment.

IUS Vision: To prepare students to become problem solvers and life long learners for an ever-changing world.

To Prepare Students - we are teaching, equipping, and providing multiple opportunities to be problem solvers and life long learners.

Problems Solvers - are independent decision makers who think critically and creatively.

Life Long Learners - have a passion for learning in and out of the classroom.

In an Ever Changing World - a society requiring its members to be more flexible and adaptable.

The following IUS Goals were met as of June 2011:

Goal 1: By June 2011, all students will increase performance targeted **Written Communication Skills** using instructional interventions implemented in all curricular areas as measured by the TN3 Language Arts subtest, PSAT Writing subtest and school-based assessments. The targeted skills are the organization of information for effective writing.

Goal 2: By June 2011, all students will increase performance on targeted **Critical Thinking Skills** using instructional interventions implemented in all curricular areas as measured by the TN3 Math subtests, PSAT Math subtest and school-based assessments. The targeted skills are the ability to extract and apply essential information in a variety of situations.

NCA Accreditation: Our accreditation took place May 4 - 6, 2010. We passed with five commendations, as well as being referred to as the "Model School for Continuous School Improvement" and a "Model School Turn Around."

IUS 4 - EVER