

Indus School

SPiRiT

Some Pertinent Information Regarding Indus Today

Parent Newsletter

November 2010

Volume 10, Issue 3

Student Count 205

Inside this issue:

Grade 1	2
Grade 6	2
Grade 7	2
Kindergarten	3
Grade 4	3
Grade 8	4
Grade 5	4
Grade 3	5
Grade 2	6

21ST CENTURY LEARNING – HIGH PRODUCTIVITY

Although we often talk about the different, even unknown, skills that the children of today will need to enter the work world of the 21st Century, there is one that will be very familiar. Workers of tomorrow will need to be highly productive in order to compete in local and global markets. The difference in the future will be that hard work alone will not result in the high enough levels of productivity.

As a modern school, we at Indus strive to teach

students to prioritize their commitments, plan their work, and manage their required tasks in order to achieve the best results of which they are capable. Where possible, and appropriate for the students' age, we use 'real world' tools to increase efficiency. This includes everything from online digital file backups, to word processing and spreadsheets, to hand drawn tables for organizing information.

Learning the lessons of

productivity will give our students some of the crucial tools they need in order to be successful. Of course, high productivity will still always be dependent on how hard a person works, but what children are learning today will help them to maximize their efficiency and get the most out of their effort.

REGISTRATION FORMS AND SCHOOL FEES

If you haven't already, please return your student's registration forms

and school fees to the school as soon as possible, so that we have

complete and up-to-date information on file. Thank you.

Our Mission

The purpose of Indus School is to build in students a multi-faceted personal foundation to carry them successfully through life.

7 Indus Court, Indus, AB T1X 0H7

www.rockyview.ab.ca 403-936-5855 <http://plone.rockyview.ab.ca/indus>

LEARNING WITH “JACK”

The Grade 1 students have been hard at work learning about Pumpkins for the last month. Each child had one pumpkin of their own to use to enhance their learning about these fun fall items! We have written sentences using descriptive adjectives about our pumpkins, we have

grouped and sorted them by size, colour and shape and we

estimated and counted pumpkin seeds (and ate them, too!).



All of the Grade 1 students participated in the creation of Jack.

One week before Hallowe'en, we carved one large pumpkin, whom we named **Jack**, and then we did some Guided Writing as a class about an adventure that he had when he was alone in the school. The students did a fantastic job coming up with creative ideas about what happened to Jack during his weekend all by himself at Indus School!

The Grade 1s would like to send a big **THANK YOU** to all the volunteers who came in to help us carve our own jack-o-lanterns this month!

MUNCHKIN MANOR NEWS (GRADE 6)

A lot has happened in the Manor this month. The Munchkins have been polishing their “citizenship” skills this month and are anxiously awaiting our Recognition Ceremony. Conversations and activities have sometimes been intense, fun and eye-

opening, but we are learning lots about others and ourselves. Tied in with self-awareness, is skill building around self-advocacy. Students have been working on study and review plans. Developing independent skills in this area is essential for

improved success for all grades.

Mrs. Deeter will be taking over on November 4th while Ms. Hart's away. If you have any questions, please contact her at the school.

GRADE 7 ANIMALS

In October the Grade 7s presented posters on an animal of their choice. The assignment was

for them to demonstrate their knowledge of ecosystems and its factors (in science). The stu-

dents presented on a wide array of animals and did a great job!

BAKE SALES

On the last Wednesday of every month the Grade 8 students will be holding a bake sale to raise money for their Leadership Pro-

gram. In addition, 25% of the sale proceeds will be donated to the Grade 6 Outdoor School program.

We will send home monthly reminders in student agendas prior to the bake sales.

KINDERGARTEN AT BUTTERFIELD ACRES

What a perfect autumn day for a pumpkin hunt at Butterfield Acres! The trees had shed their leaves but we enjoyed the welcomed warmth of the sun all day. Upon arrival, we took out our snacks but were quickly joined by two persistent goats determined to sample our food and it quickly became a game of *Keep Away*. After a lively romp in the play-



Addy and Liv at some horseplay.

ground we headed out to the pumpkin patch in a wagon pulled by Big Blue, the tractor, in search of a pumpkin for every child. Natural materials such as sheep wool, moss and seeds along with colourful pasta were used in the decorating of our

pumpkins. The afternoon was spent petting the farm animals in their own environment, from woolly sheep to turkeys that escaped Thanksgiving dinner. Thank you to the parents who joined us for this adventure and to School Council for sponsoring this outing. A huge thank you to Pam Tanner for volunteering her truck for transporting the decorated pumpkins and for getting up very early to ensure that the Kindergarten students who had ordered special lunch had their sub sandwich for our picnic at Butterfield Acres!

LIFETOUCH SCHOOL PHOTOS

School portrait proofs will have been sent home by the time you receive this newsletter. **Please note that the proof orders must**

be returned to the school by November 9th.

Retakes are scheduled for Tues-

day, November 23rd. The class pictures for Grades 5, 6, 7, and 8 will also be taken at that time.

GIFTS OF THE ARTISTS

True artists reside in grade 4. October proved to be a month, where opportunity met with talent, resulting in many masterpieces. Many showed that like Picasso, they too, could demonstrate an artistic gift beyond their young years. Then there were those who confirmed that all the world was their stage. Reader's Theatre not only demonstrated a fluidity in reading, but also a talent for expression that only gifted actors could dis-

play. What other artists lay within this group? Pass by our room when our national anthem is playing and you will be amazed to hear the voices of a choir. The first time I heard them sing I immediately smiled. Of course these young artists would possess this talent as well. We must not forget about instruments. Some play instruments outside of school, and are happy to share their knowledge of music with all of us. Many are looking forward

to tackling the recorder as a class. With all of this creativity, I know that each of them will bring an ocean of ideas to their writing and poetry. I wouldn't be surprised if some of the poetry was written in French. Even though we were sad to say "au revoir" to Ms Galbraith, the enthusiasm for this new language has stayed with all of our class.

GRADE 8 NEWS

The first monthly Grade 8 Bake Sale on Wednesday, October 27, 2010 to raise money for our end of year leadership camp was a great success. Students set-up and ran the Bake Sale with little to no direction from their teacher, and I was incredibly proud of the work they did. Students raised over \$100.00 for themselves and were able to donate approximately \$50.00 to the Grade 6 Outdoor School. Great work was done by all.

In class, there are two things going on worth mentioning. The first is the students' excitement over a book entitled, *The Outsiders*. We have had many good discussions in reference to this book, including one regarding poetry and why people write it. Students were at the edge of their seats trying to figure out the difference and meaning of careers that "sustained life" versus the careers that "breathe life into life." Ask your child for more

clarification regarding this.

Second, we are hoping to create a PowerPoint presentation for Remembrance Day that features people in our own families who have been to war. Students are being asked to bring in photos of anyone (Great Grandparents or relatives who currently serve) to put in a presentation. All photos sent will be treated with the utmost care.

REMEMBRANCE DAY—NOVEMBER 9

Our Remembrance Day Service will be held on November 9 at 10:40 a.m. Parents/Guardians are welcome to attend. Please send copies (or originals) of pictures of



family members who were or are war veterans, as we would like to post them on the bulletin board by the office.

Please identify each picture so we can make an appropriate label and ensure the pictures are returned to their rightful owners.

NEWS FROM THE RESOURCE ROOM

October started off with a flurry of activity!

The Resource Room put on a Thanksgiving lunch for students including turkey and all the fix-

ings! To celebrate Halloween, we carved pumpkins that were scary, funny, spooky and goofy! It was a blast!

Two students, obviously budding

artists, created a haunted house, complete with a watchful rat!

Happy Halloween!

GRADE 5 ARTISTS

Our class has been working on a very complex piece of art over the last 6 weeks: Glittering Tiles by an unknown artist. We discussed Iranian Style Tiles. Iran and other countries of the Middle East used richly painted tiles to cover many important buildings both inside and out. The decoration was intended to be a celebration of everyday life. We are using them to celebrate na-

ture.

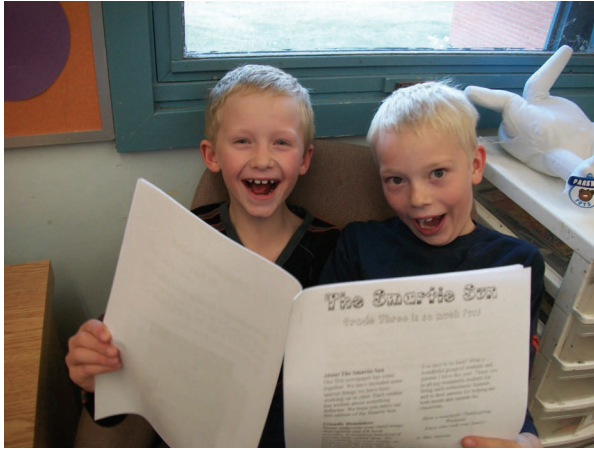
Students have learned that patience and persistence are necessary when creating tiles that will fit together like a puzzle. Each student made several attempts, cutting out their 4 tiles. Each tile was carefully cut out, animals and plants were drawn on them, and the students then had a choice of either colouring their tiles with pencil crayon or

learning how to use acrylic paints. It has been a long process, however, we are eager to finish them in the next week or two and to have them displayed in our hallway.

We hope you will have an opportunity to stop by our classroom in late November to see them glistening in our hallway.

EXTRA! EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT US!

Earlier this month the first edition of the Smartie Sun 2010 was written, published and delivered by the Grade 3 Smarties. The Smartie Sun informs parents about the exciting learning happenings in Grade 3. Each student was responsible for writing their own article and typing it out on the computer. Topics included, who was fa-



Zach and Adam enjoying their paper.

mous this month, jokes, science

of sound, our favourite things, the animal project and our blowing paint fall pictures. We discussed the important aspects of a news article and answered the who, what, where, when, and why questions. Every month students will be responsible for writing a new article for the Smartie Sun. Stay tuned for the next exciting edition.

Happy Reading!

LIBRARY NEWS

Thank you for supporting our Book Fair Safari. Thanks to your amazing support, we received a huge pile of free books for our library! I'm still calculating, but it looks like this may have been our best-ever Book Fair!!

As you settle in to the routine of your family's busy schedule, be

sure to make time to read with your children. Children in the earlier grades should be read to and with EVERY DAY! There is no other single activity that is more important! Older students should also be given a time and place to read daily, and you should ask them to read out loud to you regularly. They can read

to you while you prepare a meal, or on the way to the arena. They can read to you at the arena while they wait for their sibling to get on or off the ice! Carve some time out of your day for this important activity – it will pay dividends!

INDUS IS A NUT-FREE SCHOOL

PLEASE REMEMBER – WE TRY, WITH YOUR HELP, TO ENSURE THAT INDUS IS A NUT-FREE SCHOOL!!

Please check your children's

goodies that you are sending in their lunches after Halloween to ensure they are nut free. If you're not sure, please keep it at home for an after-school treat.

Thank you for helping to keep all our children safe.

TERRY FOX RUN

Congratulations to all of the Indus School students who partici-

pated in the Terry Fox Run fundraising event this year. We raised

a total of \$3,034.57!

PHYS ED NEWS

On Thursday, Oct 7th we had a special afternoon of hip hop dancing. Richard, from Dancenergy Ltd., talked to us about the history of hip hop and demonstrated various styles of the dance. Lots of fun was had by all!

The volleyball nets will be up for the month of November for PE. Thanks to Mrs. Burris and Mrs. Saretsky for coaching the Jr. B volleyball teams. Their first tour-

namment is Friday, Nov 26th.



Congratulations to the following

students for winning ribbons at the Track and Field Meet in Air-drie:

Jeff Rodehutsors, Mark Rodehutsors, Regan Kinley, Jordan Wiebe, and Andrew Bretin

Great news...we now have a proper long jump pit on the west side of the school yard! A big thanks to Steve Repic of Rocky View Schools for making this happen.

SCHEDULE OF MONTHLY ASSEMBLIES

All assemblies will be held in the gym on a Friday, at 12:45 p.m. with each class presenting one of our virtues. The schedule is as follows:

Nov. 19 - Grade 5 - Understanding

Dec. 10 - Grade 3 - Generosity

Jan. 14 - Grade 2 - Kindness

Feb. 11 - Grade 8 - Compassion

Mar. 11 - Grade 4 - Responsibility

Apr. 15 - Grade 7 - Respect

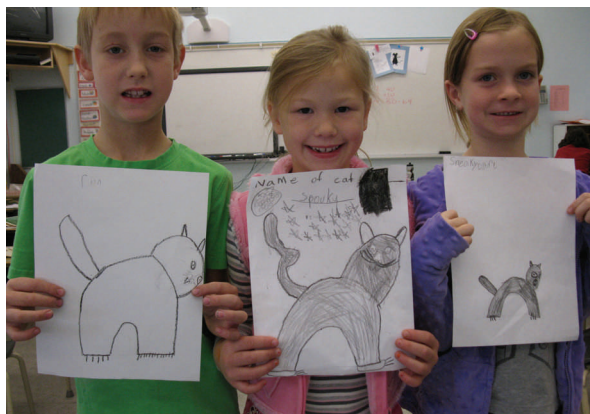
May 13 - Kindergarten - Caring

Jun. 3 or 10 - Grade 6 - Helpfulness
Parents are invited to attend these assemblies.

BEWARE THE BLACK CAT!

Grade 2s have begun story writing. We started with sentences with strong action words and after several weeks of practice moved onto three sentences that flow together. Sentence one introduces a character and tells where they live. Sentence two describes an action and when it happens. Sentence three tells what their character did next.

Using Halloween as a theme we learned how to draw a cat and



then wrote a short story about it.

Sneaky, by Claire

Sneaky the black cat lived up in the haystack in the old barn. Every year on Halloween night

the cat would scamper to a spooky house. The kids would say there is Sneaky and Sneaky would spike up her back. And the kids would laugh.

Spooky, by Rachel

Spooky the cat lives in the spookiest house in town. One night he went to a Halloween party and scared everyone in the school. He ran into the school so he would not be late and then ate all of the candy.

Ryan, by Jason

Ryan the cat lived by an old barn. Cricked-crack! The barn fell down on his tail. Somebody lifted the wood off of him. Ryan licked him and then he went back to sleep.

COUNCIL CORNER

The next General Meeting of Parent Council will be on Thursday, November 24th, from 6:00—8:00 p.m. at the school.

Please watch for information coming home following Remembrance Day regarding the Poinsettia Fundraiser Event.

FOOD BANK DRIVE

Just a reminder that the Food Bank Drive will be held the week of November 1st to 5th. Please refer to the notice that

was sent home on October 28th for a list of suggested items as provided by the Food Bank. Thank you for your support.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Nov 1-5 Food Bank Drive
- Nov 1 Annual Pumpkin Fling
- Nov 9 Remembrance Day Service
- Nov 11 Holiday—No school
- Nov 12 Professional Learning Day—
No School
- Nov 19 November Assembly
- Nov 23 Picture Retakes
- Nov 24 School Council General
Meeting—6:00 pm
- Nov 26 Jr. B Volleyball
- Nov 29 Professional Learning Day—
No School



ARE YOU BORED AFTER SCHOOL'S OUT? WANT TO PLAY FUN GAMES AND HANG OUT INSTEAD?

Every Wednesday at the Indus Recreation Center you are welcome to come over after school, have your snack (unsupervised) and join me, Tyler Homonko, from 4:00 to 6:15 pm.

We meet in the lobby of the arena and start off with a "get to know you" game, then from there we dive right into fun. Sometimes with sports, other times challenging mind games. No matter what we do you'll be having an awesome time and have the chance to meet new friends! If you have any further questions phone me at: 403-993-4784 (after 5pm please).