

Standing Tall

April 2009



Thoughts

During March Break I spent some time in Zion National Park. As I stood looking at the majestic, tall cliffs, I couldn't help but notice the trees growing from outcroppings where no water appeared evident. From a single tree to a small group of 3 or 4, they stood out against the red rock and seemingly defied the odds as they thrived under adverse conditions. It was unlikely we could have "made" the trees grow there if we planted them.

How we hope, as educators, that our Ivy Hall students are like these trees—that they will have the ability to survive (and thrive) in challenging circumstances. We trust they will stand out in the world by standing up for what they know to be right. May we continue to be a force for good in the lives of our students.

Susan Kirby

Calendar:

April 8	Third Grade Assembly
13-17	Spring Break
22	Fourth Grade Assembly
23	Senior Math Bowl
24	Junior Math Bowl
29	Wizard of Oz Performance
30	Wizard of Oz Performance
May 5-8	S.A.T. Testing

World Study: Middle East
Values: Virtue, Work



Summer School

We will hold Summer School if we have sufficient enrollment.

Summer School is held Monday-Thursday mornings from 9-12 noon. It is meant to both maintain academics and provide fun activities. The June block will be from June 1-25th. In July, classes will be from July 6th-30th.

Contact the office if you are interested. Note that Summer School is open to anyone – neighbors, friends, family.

Enroll Now

If you have not yet re-enrolled for fall, hurry in, classes are filling, a couple of them are full! Once enrolled, influencing a new family to do the same will provide you with a \$200 credit for September tuition.

3-Year Old & 4-Year Old Preschool

Our 3-year old program is M-W-F mornings.

Our 4-year old program is a daily program and students are reading by Christmas.

Both groups use Saxon Math and Phonics, with the 4-year olds using Kindergarten level materials. The schedule is tailored for little bodies that need movement, as well as structure.

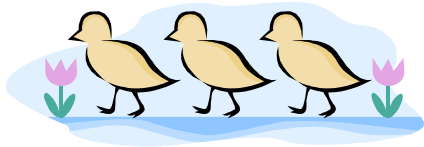
PM Kindergarten?

Due to demand, we have 2 all-day Kindergarten classes; however, we are willing to open a half-day class, held in the afternoons in the Preschool classroom. To make this viable, we would require 10 students to enroll. Please contact us as soon as possible if you have an interest in this option.



Safest, Most Productive, Junior High in the Valley.

Ivy Hall began as a junior high because Jim Lindahl and his friend, Alan Osmond, felt their children needed a nurturing, safe school experience. Twenty years later, we continue to have a safe, productive atmosphere for junior high students.



Talents Developing

Recently, the Junior High students wrote a reflective, descriptive piece while sitting out on the school playground.

How impressive! Read some of their pieces included with this newsletter.

Homework

One of our values this month is WORK. All children need to learn responsibility, the values of work, and the joy of completing a task to the best of their abilities. When we, as parents, excuse away their responsibilities or exhibit a nonchalant attitude toward them, we cripple our children for success. As we finish this final term, let's ensure that we are all looking out for the best interests of your student/s. Check on their homework, give completion a priority, and "be a finisher".

Geography

The Geography Fair was impressive and well attended. Our purpose is to have each student learn something new and present it in an eye-catching, attractive format. We appreciate the guidance parents gave in order to help students succeed.

Uniform Reminders

- Socks are required and are to be a solid color: white, navy, hunter green, brown..
- Vests are worn October through April
- Boys' hair is to be worn off the collar and out of their eyes.
- Girls' hair is to be out of their eyes.
- Walking shorts are to be as close to the knees as possible.

Polos and Khakis

Stores stock these in the spring and summer, so do your fall shopping now when there is an abundance of sizes. Gap, JC Penney, Target, and Sears are stores that carry school uniforms.

Dennis Uniform Co. always carries uniforms.



Stanford Achievement Tests

We have the most current edition of this test, which has been updated, with current science and social studies information. Color has been added and each question has a defining box around it, making it easier for a student to follow. These tests will be administered May 5th – 8th to 1st – 8th graders.

Please have your student sleep 8 hours, eat breakfast, and arrive at school on time for optimal results. If your student is NOT going to be at school those days, please call the office so we can make arrangements for testing. There won't be time after testing to do make-up.

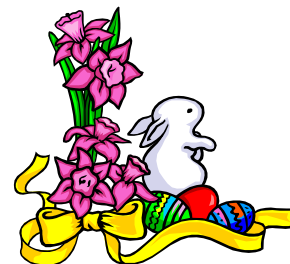
Lunch Reminder

Please remember that when your child is going to be late and needs a school lunch, call the school before 9:00 a.m. to order one.

Friday Treat—Thank You

All of us thoroughly enjoy the Friday treats provided by parents. It makes us feel appreciated when we come to the end of a busy week and look forward to seeing a yummy thank you in the staff room. *Merci beaucoup!*

(We have 2 dates available for Teacher Treat. See the clipboard at the West door to sign up.)



Private/Group Tennis Lessons

Private \$25
Group \$15 per child
Hourly Lessons

All ages are welcome; Great with small children!
10 years of experience; References Available

Contact Whitney Smith for details—843-532-7988

Junior High Descriptive Writing March 18, 2009

The mountains, glowing a quiet, holy light in late morning, sit quietly as a testimony to their age. Farther back sit more of the giants of earth. They, too, are sitting quietly, but they still are in a deep slumber beneath their white blanket.

The evergreens make slight rises in their form. They sit quietly waiting for something.

For now they will sleep however, waiting for whatever they wish. Dreaming, sleeping, waiting.

They will awaken some day – not for a long time; however, one day when our hearts cease to beat ...

Greene Rollins
8th Grade

Junior High Descriptive Writing March 18, 2009

As I am sitting here I can feel a nice cool breeze carrying the sweet fresh scents of nature.

The sun on my face shows that spring is on its way. The sun makes me warm but at the same time the wind takes it away. The warmth disappears like the cookies on our kitchen counter this past week.

I can hear some birds singing over on the hill. I love waking up to their happy noises.

The shade is cold and cool; it's hard to get warm.

The cars are passing by in small streaming lines of twos and threes.

The wind is picking up slightly now, and I feel like I'm locked in a freezer.

A single, white car passes by in a lonesome flash. A motorcyclist goes down the hill, his humming motor making the birds pause.

The little preschoolers are running around the court, their tiny feet sounding like the pitter-patter of rain. Their gentle laughs sound like the wind chimes this morning.

They're lining up to go in, and in a small streaming line, they trickle inside.

Ani Henriksen – sitting on the playground basketball court
8th Grade

Junior High Descriptive Writing March 18, 2009

The grass beneath my shoes, a scent blowing off the tips in this spring morning.

The tree in the distance is a grand sight.

The snow-capped mountains show off their beauty with the sun reflecting its light on the glittering snow.

The breeze in the air relaxes me and calms me.

All the works and beauty of God, himself.

Cierra Stice
7th Grade

Junior High Descriptive Writing March 18, 2009

It was the normality of the different outdoor activities that made them so unique. Children were crawling all over the bark-covered playground like ants looking for particularly tasty crumbs. Hushed giggles, soft laughter, and excited voices were all harmoniously heard.

The whistle blew and children hastily made their way to the door with their arms folded, faces serene, and ready to face the rest of the grueling school day.

Outside, two classes remained. Crawling, climbing, jumping, talking, and running was how the energetic children enjoyed the youthfulness of their lives.

As carefree as sloths, but as lively as newborn kittens, little ones were sprinkled all over their outdoor home.

Bailey Benson – sitting near the east playground door
8th Grade

Junior High Descriptive Writing March 18, 2009

The wind blows like a rushing river in summertime.

The trees stand like great barriers with the wind as the sea, crashing against them.

The wind can be as gentle as moonlight on the shining sea. The wind can be our ally and our enemy.

It can blow a ship forward, along its journey or it can push it back, making the journey even longer.

The wind is as powerful and peaceful as Heaven itself.

Christian Rather – sitting on the playground ark
7th Grade

Junior High Descriptive Writing March 18, 2009

We look to the sky and see a storm coming to the south and the sun shining in the east.

Either we can see the negative and only look to the storm, or we can be positive and look to the east at the sun shining brightly, holding its ground, steadfast – we must choose.

When the time comes to choose, we are quick to our feet and will answer politely; the answer we have chosen will decide our fate, and for those who have no answer – they are the “outcasts”, the “low-lives” or as the modern world would say, “bums”.

It is almost as if a dictatorship; we must choose or die within. All we can do is choose.

Liam McKelvey – sitting at the playground picnic table
7th Grade