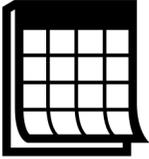




Thunderbird News

Indiantown Middle School Newsletter

October 1, 2018



Upcoming Events

Monday, Oct 22
Report Cards

Wednesday Oct. 24
5:30—6:30
Connect with IMS
Family Engagement
Night

Thursday, Nov. 8
Parent/Teacher
Conferences

Nov. 17 -Nov. 25
Thanksgiving Break

Dec. 22—Jan. 6

Out of Field List: Parent Notification

As required by the Florida Department of Education, we are notifying you that the below teachers are currently teaching your children English, Language Arts, or Reading as a Second Language (ESOL) strategies outside of his/her field of certification. I want to assure you that the teacher is fully certified by the State of Florida and is currently working to become certified in the area of this out of field assignment.

Be assured that the Martin County School District is dedicated to serving every student with excellence as the standard.

ESOL – Out of Field

- Laura Leister
- Janay Tate

Out of Field for Content Area

- Annita McKnight (5th Grade)

Principal – Jeff Raimann
Phone 772-597-2146

Assistant Principal – William Bickley
www.ims.martinschools.org

Raimann's Reflections

As the 1st 9-weeks comes to a close, please be mindful of some upcoming dates and methods for monitoring your child's progress thus far. On October 22nd, we will be sending home report cards for the first 9-weeks, which will provide performance results in each of your child's classes. Keep in mind, you can always stay up-to-date on grades and assignments by using the FOCUS Parent Portal, which is our on-line link to our grade book system. Another monitoring method is to look at your child's planner each evening to see if they have noted any homework assignments or perhaps a teacher has provided you with a note. The planner can certainly be an effective communication tool for parents and teachers to keep one another informed. For those that may not be as familiar with our on-line platform (FOCUS) or perhaps using our School App or Website, please note that that we will be hosting an evening event next week, in which families can come to IMS and receive an overview on how to access various web-based tools that can keep you connected with IMS. This event will be taking place on Oct. 17th from 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM and will start in our café. On November 8th, we will be hosting Conference Night for families that would like to schedule ten minute appointments to meet with their child's teachers. Being that many of the teachers see up to 120 students, appointment times are limited to our 5PM – 7:45 PM window, thus we encourage all families to call and schedule an appointment. On a different note, I wanted to share that IMS is excited to welcome a new member of our team this year, Ms. Kenney, our new Guidance Counselor. Ms. Kenney is equally as excited to join the team and work with all children and families. Finally, if you haven't completed the latest on-line survey, seeking parental input, please consider visiting this link (<https://eprovesurveys.advanc-ed.org/surveys/#/action/79500/p2738>) and sharing your thoughts on how the year has gone thus far. Thank you for all of your support and please don't hesitate to contact the school with any questions or concerns.

Bickley's Blurb

I am so pleased to be the new Assistant Principal at Indiantown Middle School. Looking forward, I am most eager to get to know the students, families, and community that make IMS special. My work experience includes both elementary and secondary education, most recently as literacy coach at Stuart Middle School. My educational background includes a Master's Degree in Elementary Education and a Specialist Degree in Educational Leadership. As a school leader, I am fully committed to the mission of Indiantown Middle School to empower, inspire, and educate all learners. Please do not hesitate to contact me via email at bicklew@martin.k12.fl.us or phone at 772-597-2146 x102. I look forward to partnering with you this year!

PBIS Update

This is the first year where IMS is a Gold Level School for PBIS! We worked very hard last year to reach this status. A school can reach gold level status by ensuring that there is no sub-group of students who are unfairly represented in referral data and by submitting information about all of the programs that the school initiated to help support positive behavior around the school. We are so proud of our Thunderbirds for making good choices!



Counselor's Corner

Hello! I, Hannah Kenny, am the new School Counselor at IMS. My involvement with the students takes place in many ways. Some of the functions of a school is Counselor is to implement school-wide programs, facilitate groups, and give every student at IMS the opportunity to meet with me. I meet with students regarding: stress, coping with family changes, social skills, character education, and so much more! Please feel free to email me at kenneyh@martin.k12.fl.us I look forward to the year ahead!

Mission: We are committed to empowering, inspiring, and educating all learners.
#IMS_BeTheOne #EmpowerAllLearners #ThunderbirdsSOAR #Breakthrough

Media Madness

Welcome to our new year!

Once again the library is supporting the Sunshine State Young Readers Award program. Students in fifth grade earn colorful "brag tags" when they complete a book and 6-8 graders have the opportunity to win a gift card to Dunkin Donuts, McDonalds or Burger King. All students are also eligible for the end of the year ice cream party if they read at least 8 of the 15 books. IMS also participates in book competitions with other schools based on the knowledge of Sunshine State books. I sure hope your child is participating! Every library and book store in Florida are familiar with these titles. Speaking of libraries, September is library card sign up month. Did you know that libraries receive funding based on how many library cards they issue? So, help out the Elisabeth Lahti Library here in Indiantown and sign up for a library card if you don't have one yet! Lastly, the IMS school library does not charge late fines, but we do expect the student to pay for a lost or damaged book, so please be sure your child is taking proper care of what they check out. I hope that you talk to your child about what they are reading as this helps create open communication, shows caring and develops stronger bonds between parent and child. If you have any questions regarding our library here at IMS, please feel free to contact June Parrilli. Thank you! I hope you have a wonderful school year.



Thunderbird
Annotations
for
*Active
Reading*

Key Ideas

Unknown Words or
Phrases

? Clarifying Questions

! Surprising or
Interesting Info

→ Connections

**Don't forget to write your
notes in the margin!*

Thunderbirds Write!

Our school wide writing initiative has taken flight! Students are reading multiple sources of text, assimilating information and writing essays. All students received a card to help them read with a purpose. Support your learner by allowing them to practice active reading strategies. **Ask them how they annotate!**

Want to know more about the textbooks and digital resources? Learn more with your student via Classlink



School Safety with Mr. Smith

IMS is excited to announce two new initiatives coming this fall, Volunteer Mentors and Safe Schools Ambassadors.

First, we want to welcome our Americorps volunteers who, in conjunction with the Boys and Girls Clubs, will be working with our students in grades 6 through 8 as mentors using the Check and Connect Program. These dedicated volunteer mentors have committed to working with IMS students for a minimum of 1700 this school year. They will be mentoring individual students as well as small groups of students. This is part of a district wide initiative that will be happening at all Martin County Middle Schools. Information on the Check and Connect Program can be found by accessing the website, <http://checkandconnect.umn.edu/model/default.html>. Our second program is called the Safe Schools Ambassadors Program. Beginning at the end of October, staff and students will be trained in this program. Trainers will come to IMS and work for two full days with students and staff to get this program up and running. According to the website, <https://community-matters.org/>, the program is "The nation's most effective bystander education program harnesses the power of students to prevent and stop bullying and violence. It is evidence-based, field tested, and proven - by more than 70,000 students in over 1,500 schools in the United States, Canada, Puerto Rico and Guam - to reduce incidents of bullying and cyber-bullying, promote academic excellence, and improve the overall school climate."

Please contact Mr. Smith, Behavior Intervention Coach, for more details.

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