

Global Gazette

Important Dates

- Dec. 7 @ 6:30—Chorus Concert @ First Christian
- Dec. 8—IBSAC Share Your Christmas Food Drive last day
- Dec. 12 @ 6:30—PTA Meeting @ BIA
- Dec. 14 -Holiday Dinner in the Café for grades 3-5
- Dec. 20—Half Day for Students
- Dec. 21-January 6—Winter Break
- January 9-Students return to school
- January 13—Report cards



Principal's Post

Dear Parents,

What a fabulous and fast school year it has been so far! We certainly have had lots of great things going on at BIA and we have many more to come in the new year!

Just a few "shout outs" and reminders:

A shout out to the PTA Board from me for the efforts in arranging the fall fair. We had a great turnout and look forward to our spring festival. Great job!

Parents, please remember that students may not be dropped off before 7:30 a.m. Also, please follow the safety guidelines for the side parking lot and the car rider line.

I hope that everyone is able to spend some quality time with your family over the winter break. Please try to include as much family reading time as possible. Parents often ask me what they can do to help their child become a better reader. The answer is very simple. Curling up comfortably with your child and just enjoying a good book is the very best way to foster a love of reading. So try your best to fit some of this in over the holidays.

Happy Holidays!

Dr. Spates

News from the PTA @ BIA!

Please join our PTA, parents, teachers and students on Monday, December 12 @ 6:30 PM. We will have holiday music, hot cocoa with marshmallows, hot apple cider, holiday cookies and a special program. We will also be giving away door prizes to some lucky families!

Don't forget to join the PTA at Brown International Academy. We really appreciate the support of all of our families at BIA!



From Your Family Partnership Specialist

IB @ BIA

In this especially giving time of year, remember that as an IB school, we try to live this all throughout the year—not just at the holidays. Our International Baccalaureate Student Advisory Council (IBSAC) is made up of student representatives from grades 3-5. These students are leaders in the school and organize many activities that demonstrate the learner profile. The characteristics of the learner profile are:

- Inquirers
- Knowledgeable
- Thinkers
- Communicators
- Principled
- Open minded
- Caring
- Risk takers
- Balanced
- Reflective

The IBSAC has sponsored activities such as International Day of Peace, the March of Dimes Global Prematurity Awareness Day and, most

recently, the Share Your Christmas Food Drive. Our theme for the food drive was “Think globally. Act locally.” Hunger is a global problem and there are many actions we can take locally that helps our community.

As part of the food drive. Classes were asked to decorate their doors in the theme. The winning class receives a basket of books for their classroom library. The class with the most cans receives a pizza & guest reader party.

We look forward to many more chances to “be IB” in the upcoming year!

Mrs. Wilkey



Related Arts Spotlight!

German—During German, students have been working hard to learn their numbers, colors and parts of the body. Older students have also learned about the weather and things you find in a house. Students are also learning about important parts of German culture, as well as a few German holidays.

Art—We are exploring seasons and how the world around us changes with the seasons. Several art classes have “Fallen into Collage” creating an autumn landscape of leaves and trees using torn construction paper and glue to create our fall scene. Our PreK and K students are “Falling in Autumn” by creating a large picture of scattered fallen leaves using coffee filter paper, washable markers, and water. These large collaborative works of art are currently on display in the café. Also, please do not send recyclable materials (water bottles, paper towel cores, shoe boxes, newspapers, and egg cartons.) to school for art. We have enough for now.

Music—Wednesday evening, December 7, 2011 at 6:30 PM, the 4th and 5th grade chorus will present a fall concert at First Christian Church located on 650 McCallie Avenue. All our invited!

PE—We are beginning our discussion on the team sport volleyball. Students are learning the different types of hits (bump, set, spike) and demonstrating each. Older students are practicing with real volleyballs, while the younger ones are using balloons. In my enrichment health classes we are discussing the bones, muscles, and joints located in the human body. We did body tracings and labeled the important bones in the body and displayed them in the hallway.

Library—Family check-out is scheduled each month. One hour before the PTA Meeting the library will be open for families to check out together and to enjoy the library. Volunteers are needed each week in the library. If you are interested in signing up to work at a regularly scheduled time each week, then please contact Mrs. McCarter about the LIBRARY VOLUNTEER PROGRAM. More information is located on the school web site.

Do you need help with research on a project? Then visit the school web site, click on LIBRARY, and click on “Research” and it will take you to our official “ONLINE REFERENCE COLLECTION.”

Mark your calendar for READ ACROSS AMERICA WEEK starting on February 27-March 2nd.

The school library conference room also needs donations:

- Clorox Wipes
- Keurig K-cups (18 packs)
- Bottles of water

Spanish—Students are studying “La Navidad” and words about “el invierno”. Also, the math & science Olympiad is still working hard towards the competition in May!

Happenings @ BIA

First Grade—First Grade had an exciting time last month learning all about maps. We learned all the names of the continents and even learned the names of the oceans. We finished our inquiry unit on “Place and Time” by traveling on the CARTA bus, walking a city block and using a map to navigate our way through the Chattanooga Zoo using a map key for our group. This month we are working on a new inquiry unit: “How We Express Ourselves.” We are learning how people around the world express themselves through stories. We are reading Cinderella stories from different countries and listening for how each countries Cinderella story is different or the same as ours.

Second grade is wrapping up their Sharing the Planet Unit. Students have been gaining knowledge in how living things have to adapt in order to survive. Summative Assessments are due on December 14. Students will be creating a character to live in a particular habitat making sure that it has all adaptations necessary to survive! Be sure to stop by and check out the creations in the second grade hallway!

Third Grade—Third grade students are studying how the culture of a group is expressed through literature, art, music and daily life. Students are researching a particular culture, in depth, to share with their classmates.

Fifth Grade—Fifth grade has been working hard to get ready for February’s Writing Assessment. They have learned how to write a narrative essay complete with a hook, topic sentence, million dollar words, transitions, similes, onomatopoeia, and conclusion sentence. If you got tired reading that sentence just imagine how our fifth graders are feeling! They are doing a great job and we are so proud of them.

The Fifth grade Jekyll Island trip is schedule for Feb. 22-24. All money is due by **Friday, January 27**.

Robotics—The Robotics team, the BIA IBOTS, is ready for state competition on Saturday, Dec. 10. They are going to Tennessee Tech in Cookeville to compete against other teams from all over Tennessee. This year’s theme is “Food Factor”. The IBOTS have programmed their robot to complete an obstacle course and also completed a project where they learned about the types of mold that can contaminate strawberries and even designed a machine that farmers could use to help prevent their strawberry crops from spoiling. Who knows, their invention may make them millionaires one day! Way to go IBOTS!