



HEIGHTS HAPPENINGS

The Monthly Newsletter of



Volume 3, Issue 8

Heights Elementary IB World School

March 1, 2017

Vision: To be a world-class school.



Mission: Heights Elementary IB World School is dedicated to developing balanced, lifelong learners through educational excellence, a global perspective, reflection and action.



A Message from Administration

We are pleased to announce that 5th grade has met their financial goal for the 5th grade field trip! Without our staff, PTA, community and our wonderful families, this would not have been possible. On behalf of the 5th grade teachers and students here at Heights, we thank you!

Please visit our Heights Elementary booth at the Lee County & SW Florida Fair. Student work is on display from February 25 to March 5, with the theme, "Treasure the Past, Imagine the Future," with pirate themed student writing, drawings, maps, and telescopes. Students in Ms. Pyszka's Art Club, along with some 1st and 2nd graders, painted a ship and signs for the booth. We are very proud of the student work on display at the fair!

Author Visits Heights

Author, Helen Ketteman, will visit with kindergarten and first grade students in order to discuss the publication process and career of an author. Ms. Ketteman has published over 25 children's books. Her visit completes an IB Unit that included studying twists on familiar fairy tales and writing and publishing a book with Mrs. Riemenschnedier. We look forward to her visit on March 6, 2017.

Read Across America

Students will celebrate reading and Dr. Seuss's birthday during the week of February 28—March 3. Athletes from Florida Southwestern College will be reading to students on March 2. In addition, students will be celebrating Dr. Seuss in the Media Center and in their classrooms throughout the week.

IB Exhibition - 5th Grade 2017

Exhibition has begun! The 5th grade students have started research on their action plan. As a parent, you can assist in your child's need for information and research through internet access, interviews, books, newspapers, and/or conducting community research that relates to the action plan your child has chosen. For suggestions, or if you are interested in mentoring in the classroom, please speak to your child's teacher. **Exhibition will be held at Heights Elementary on May 18, 2017.** More information about Exhibition can be found on the back of this newsletter under IB News.

All-County Honor Choir

The following 5th grade students were chosen to represent Heights Elementary: Aubrey Barnhouse, Ella Chevalier, Aliza Litvak and Morgan McCarty. The All-County Honor Choir concert will be on March 9, 2017 at 7 P.M. at Ida Baker High School. Everyone is invited to attend and support our students.

Fifth Grade Field Trip Donations

Thank you to UBS Financial Services, Inc., in Bonita Springs and to Michael and Jessica Aranda for your donations for the 5th grade field trip. Your generosity will make this trip a special memory for our 5th grade students.

Attention! Attention! Pre-K and 5th Grade Students

Just a reminder to complete your kindergarten and 6th grade applications for the 2017-2018 school year by March 24, 2017. We have nearly 75 students that still need to complete their applications for the next school year. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Curry here at Heights Elementary at 481-1761.

Traducion disponible: Si desean información sobre este boletín por favor de llamar a Lizzette Roman (481-1761) de 7:45am-2:00pm.

Breakfast: 7:25 AM - 7:45 AM

Student Hours: 7:55 AM - 2:10 PM

Office Hours: 7:30 AM - 3:30PM

<http://het.leeschools.net>

Follow us on Twitter @HeightsIB

Upcoming Events for March

2	Read Across America Day / Día de Leyendo en toda América
3	Daddy/Daughter Dance, 6:00 P.M.
6	Helen Ketteman, Author (Kindergarten & 1st Grade) Helen Ketteman, Autor (Kg & 1er. Gr)
9-10	Spirit Stick Sales, 7:30-7:55 A.M. (Lobby) Venta de Spirit Sticks en la oficina 7:30- 7:55 A. M. Elementary Honor Choir, 7 P.M., Ida Baker High School Coro de Honor, 7 P.M. Ida Baker High School
14	School Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting, 6:00 P.M. Media Center /Reunión de SAC en la biblioteca a las 6pm.
16	End of 3rd Quarter / Final del 3er Trimestre
	Teacher Duty Day—No School Día de Entrenamiento de Maestras—No hay escuela
29	Report Card Day / Día de Tarjeta de Calificaciones
	School Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting Dates/Fechas para Reuniones de SAC March 14, 2017; May 9, 2017

Student Assignment for the 2017-2018 School Year is open from January 23-March 24.

IB Profile Word for March

Risk-Taker

We approach uncertainty with forethought and determination; we work independently and cooperatively to explore new ideas and innovative strategies.

*We are **resourceful** and resilient in the face of **challenges** and change.*

*"Growth **means** change **and** change involves **risk**, stepping from the known to the unknown."*
George Shim



The School Board of Lee County, Florida

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School Notes



Students in grades 3, 4 & 5 will take the Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) as indicated below:

Date	Assessment	Grade	Date	Assessment	Grade
February 28	FSA Writing	4 & 5	April 27 & 28	FSA ELA (English Language Arts)	4
March 28 & 29	FSA ELA (English Language Arts)	3	May 2 & 3	FSA Science	5
April 19 & 20	FSA Math	5	May 2 & 3	FSA Math	4
April 25 & 26	FSA ELA (English Language Arts)	5	May 4 & 5	FSA Math	3

IB News

The IB focus for March: Students who are **RISK-TAKERS** try new things and consider new ideas. They try to solve problems in a lot of ways. They have the bravery to tell people what they think is right.

How can parents help develop students who are *Risk-Takers* at home?

- If your child is feeling uneasy about trying something, encourage them to attempt it and then reflect on both whether they like the activity and how it felt to try something new.
- Your child might want to set some short-term goals. Consider activities that make him/her nervous. What are realistic goals for the week? Your child might set a goal to: Offer an opinion in class; Spend one recess with someone they might not usually play with; Order something different from the lunch menu; Try an activity they haven't tried before.
- Sometimes being a risk taker involves standing up for what one believes. Discuss famous people like Martin Luther King, Jr., Nelson Mandela, Rosa Parks, etc.
- Be careful to explain to your child the difference between being a risk-taker by trying new things and doing dangerous things.

Taken directly from Being an IP PYP Parent, Brown International Academy, Denver Public Schools

What is Exhibition? The fifth grade is the last year of primary school for IB students at Heights. Throughout their primary years, IB students have been taught how to learn using the inquiry process. The Exhibition Unit is an opportunity for 5th grade students to exhibit what they have learned throughout their student life at Heights. This year students use art forms to focus on real-life issues and problems. Importantly, this unit will require students to explore their own capacity, talents and gifts for learning. Eager to exhibit independence, students are given the occasion to create their own plan for learning, to conduct learning activities, to demonstrate what they have learned and to assemble an exhibit where they can interact with an audience in a meaningful way about something that is important to students themselves. The entire learning process is done in small study groups according to IB inquiry principles and practices. The year will end with an impressive and colorful event, where all the students gather to exhibit their work to an audience of students, faculty and staff from Heights. Several visiting schools, the district, and parents will also be invited to attend.



BIG NEWS: We are beyond thrilled to announce the addition of Steve Shimp to our slough project. Mr. Shimp is the proud grandparent of children at Heights and a retired general contractor. He has agreed to be the GC for our slough project and has already made tremendous strides. We have a projected start date of June 1st!! We are currently looking for anyone willing to help with outside fundraising for this project. If interested, please contact heightselempta@gmail.com.

A HUGE thank you to all those who participated, volunteered, encouraged, cheered and supported our 2nd Annual Panther Fit event. With your help we were able to raise a total of (drum roll please).....\$29,500!!! An \$8,000 increase over last year! We are hoping to make some great improvements to our back recess field with this money.

What a wonderful time everyone had at our first Daddy Figure/Daughter dance! Moms, your turn is coming up. Mark your calendars for Friday, April 28th for our first Mother Figure/Son Dance. Flyers will come home closer to the date.

A big shout out to all the teachers who came to our last PTA meeting! You guys rock!! Our last meeting for the year will be 4/27 and we would love to see some more parents in attendance. Elections for the 17/18 school year will take place then with openings for all positions. Training provided for all positions so take a chance and invest in the future of our children.

Mark your calendar:

March 9th and 10th: Spirit Stick sales are back! Visit us in the front lobby from 7:30 to 7:55 a.m.

April 21st: Heights Annual Picnic at Lakes Park. Free pizza, snow cones, games, music and fun. 2:30-4:30 p.m. Hope to see you there.

“The greatest gifts you can give to your children are the roots of responsibility and the wings of independence.” *Denis Waitley*

Mark your calendar for 16/17 PTA meetings: 4/27/17. All meetings will be at 8:05 a.m. in the cafeteria AND at 2:45 p.m. in the Media Center. Pick the time that works best for you. Free child care available in afternoon for all potty-trained children and seated siblings are welcome for morning meetings.