

ILP NEWS



Fall 2011

October issue

Fall is here! Welcome!

Fall also means that we have been in school for about two months and the enthusiasm and excitement of a new year starts to wear off. Students, be cognizant of this and don't let your studies fall by the wayside. Put forth extra attention to keeping on track with your weekly work and studying for tests. Parents may need to add extra enthusiasm to the support you are giving the students at home. The good news is that we completed the first quarter on October 7th, so only 8 more weeks to go before final exams. It may seem like a long time, but it will fly by. Take the time to make sure you are filing and keeping all of your returned work, so that it can be used as study materials for final exams. The end of the quarter also means that we will be heading toward final exams in December and your PASS Plans should be used to help you start to prepare for the final exams. Parents should also be done with about 7.5 of the 30 parent hours for the year. Please make sure that you are turning in forms when hours are completed. Remember that the parent group meets every third Tuesday night from 6-7 in room D-1. This is an excellent way to stay up to date with ILP and earn parent hours.

Fall is also a busy time for our seniors as they embark on their senior projects and make decisions about their post-high school plans. If a university is the plan, applications for UCs and CSUs are due November 30th. The counselor, Ms. Ruedas, is offering college application workshops in the Media Center. Drop in and get some help. Students can also check the Career/College board in the Math Lab for upcoming workshops, scholarship opportunities, and deadlines. I encourage all students to go to the Career Center in the Media Center to plan for their futures. Students keep up the dedication and hard work and take a little time to enjoy the falling leaves and cooler weather.



ILP dates to remember:

- ✓ Parent group meetings: 6-7pm
 - October 18th
 - November 15th
- ✓ Veteran's day: November 11th—**No school**
- ✓ Thanksgiving Recess—November 21-25

Senior Project Update



The seniors have brainstormed and done preliminary research and have all decided on topics and projects for their senior projects. Each topic is as original as each of our seniors. We have students looking at future careers, interest areas and how the impact of social media. What creative and exciting new topics for the year. Now that their topics have been approved, they are starting on the research portion of the project. Each student will need to find at least five sources for their research. These can be magazine, journal, web site articles, books, or interviews. Only two of the sources can be from the internet, so the seniors will have to venture out to the public library to look for some information or check out the resources on Big Chalk, our on-line library (for more information talk to your teacher). As they find this information they need to start making bibliography cards, so that they have all the information for their works cited page. In addition to finding sources and writing bibliography cards, the students need to read, take notes on, and digest the information they find. Students should have finished up their first chapter on the history of the topic and are starting to work on the current application of the topic, which is due in November. Seniors should also choose their mentor by the end of October and set up a meeting time for November. Mentors need to be approved by the parents and teacher, so make sure you talk with your student about the mentor selection process. Remember that the mentors should have knowledge or experience that will assist the students in the product creation and not necessarily the research portion of the paper. Ask a senior about his/her topic and you will be surprised at what you may learn. Keep up the hard work seniors, your dedication now will pay off when you start the product creation next semester.

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College information & other important dates

October 2011

18th - Princeton University information presentation at Archbishop Mitty High School in San Jose. For more information visit www.princeton.edu/pr/admissions/u/ep

20th - Academy of Art University presentation in the Media Center during high school lunch

22nd - CSU Chico Preview Day from 9am-3pm. For more info visit www.csuchico.edu/admissions

22nd - ACT test date. Regular registration deadline is September 16: www.actstudent.org

23rd - SF Performing and Visual Arts College Fair 12-2:30pm. Register at www.nacacnet.org

27th - FIDM (Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising) presentation in the Media Center during high school lunch

29th - Cal State East Bay Preview Day 8:30am- 12:30pm. RSVP at www.csueastbay.edu/previewday

November 2011

1st - Washington University in St. Louis information meeting 7-8pm at Hilton Sacramento Arden West. For information visit admissions.wustl.edu

4th - Regular registration deadline for the December 10 ACT test. Register online: www.actstudent.org

5th - SAT test date. Regular registration deadline is October 7th www.collegeboard.com

8th - Regular registration deadline for the December 3 SAT test. Register online: www.collegeboard.com

19th - FIDM (Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising) San Francisco campus Open House. 9:00am. RSVP at fidm.edu/openhouse

30th - Deadline for UC and CSU college applications for 12th graders. Visit www.ucop.edu and www.csumentor.org

December 2011

3rd - SAT test date. Regular registration deadline is November 8th: www.collegeboard.com

10th - ACT test date. Regular registration deadline is November 4th www.actstudent.org

LAST OPPORTUNITY for 12th graders to take SAT and ACT exams to be eligible for the UC or CSU. Register on www.collegeboard.com and www.actstudent.org

FINANCIAL AID: Prepare to file for the FAFSA between January 1-March 2. www.edfund.org

California State Summer School for the Arts (CSSSA) application for 8th-12th graders is released in the month of December: www.csssa.org



NCS Golf Club is back in action!

The club is open to **all** members of the NCS community (both students and parents). **We offer introductory lessons to beginners.** Here is the information for our first club activity:

DATE: October 22

TIME: 10:00 AM

PLACE: Natomas Golf Center (on El Centro Road)

The cost for a bucket of balls is \$4. We have some clubs to share, but if you have your own, bring them.

Drop me a line if you have questions:

wsilveira@natomascharter.org

Hope to see you all there,

William L. Silveira

Natomas Charter School, PFAA
(916) 928-5353 (ext. 219)

Looking for ways to earn PE hours?

Come check out the new PE class being offered by the new High School PE teacher:

Mr. Hampton

When: Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays

Time: 4-5 pm

- Note: ILP students MUST get the teacher's signature on their PE log sheet

It's not your typical PE class.

This program is designed to promote a workout regimen that will not only improve students' health through a focused workout but it will also increase speed, strength and agility in addition to a healthy lifestyle.

The goal of this course is to develop a workout for each student that will accomplish any improvements in their physical ability by increasing their speed, power and mobility.

For more information/questions, please contact Mr. Hampton

phampton@natomascharter.org

ILP celebrates student success!

ALL STARS for last Spring 4th quarter

Malachi Alexander, Tiffany Chan, Ryan Chan, Marek Cole, Alex Erickson, Nadia Rehman, Daniel Goranov, Jalen Thomas, Cody Upton, Jonathan Valladon



These students are ALL STARS because they:

- * Attended all workshops
- * Have all C's or above on their report card
- * Have zero strikes
- * Have zero demerits
- * Consistently use the agenda book

These outstanding students achieved 100% attendance during last Spring 4th quarter.

Way to go, keep up the great work!

Malachi Alexander, Ryan Chan, Tiffany Chan, Cody Upton



The following students earned a semester 3.0 GPA or higher last Spring semester :

Rebecca Amaya, Marek Cole, Angel DaRosa, Carissa Dasher, Alex Erickson, Daniel Goranov, Wayan Hong, Malissa Majeski, Madelina Miller, Mitch Monson, Vlad Sandulyak, Marcos Seide, Love deep Singh, Jalen Thomas, Vanessa Valdivia, Francesca Valencia, Jonathan Valladon, Brittany Wiltz

The following students earned a semester 4.0 GPA last Spring semester :

Malachi Alexander, Ryan Chan, Tiffany Chan, Nadia Rehman, Cody Upton

Be on the look out in next issue for Fall 1st quarter names!

Will your name be on here?

News from Student Services

Student Services incorporate Counseling, Special Education and the Library Media Center. Our mission is to support your students so that they can reach their academic goals. You can help us help your students and get parent hours in the process! There are two ways to earn parent hours: volunteering and donating items.

Volunteering at the Library Media Center (shelving, cleaning, processing) is one straightforward way to help your students work in a clean, organized space. Please see Mrs. Prettol to arrange a day and time (either punctual or recurrent volunteering).

Donations encompass a wide range of items: office supplies (toner especially – please contact Mrs. Prettol for which ones we need), library supplies (please contact Mrs. Prettol for details) and books, magazines, DVDs, CDs, and games for our library collection. You can purchase items from our Amazon Wish List (www.amazon.com, type "Natomas Charter" in the Wish List search box). You can also donate used items, as long as they are in good condition; non-fiction books cannot be older than 10 years; and items need to be appropriate for students ages 5 to 18.

Don't forget! We will accept books on almost any topic, in any format (books on DVD accepted!). DVDs can be documentaries and movies. CDs from all music genres will be accepted as well!

For more information, contact:

Mrs. Prettol, Library Media Center, eouvrard-prettol@natomascharter.org,

Mrs. Ruedas or Mrs. Curtis, Counseling Dept., lruedas@natomascharter.org or mcurtis@natomascharter.org,
or Mrs. Walker, Special Education, lwalker@natomascharter.org

From the desk of Ms. DeWolfe

It is exciting to be starting a new year here at ILP! Students and staff alike feel privileged to be in such a special place. Natomas Charter School provides a safe and secure environment where students may flourish. Our new students and returning students seem very determined to succeed. The ILP program is not for everyone; it requires a great deal of motivation and discipline. For the students who dedicate themselves to their studies, the rewards are huge, resulting not only in good grades, but also in those good habits that will bring many rewards later on in life. Shooting for turning in one hundred percent of your work each week is an excellent habit to adopt—one that is great training for the adult world, where no less than one hundred percent is expected daily.

One very tangible reward comes in the form of quarterly pizza parties for ILP All-stars. To become an All-star, students must have no strikes or demerits and at least a C average in every subject. In addition, students must attend all workshops.

Workshop grades are based on attendance, preparation, and participation. Students are required to be prepared by bringing their current English book, packet and NCS Writer's Guide to the workshop. Don't forget to bring your positive energy and participate!

"Natomas Charter School provides a safe and secure environment where students may flourish."

~Ms. DeWolfe

What's "The Voice"?

The Voice is ILP's very own original student work publication. It showcases the writing and artistic talent of ILP students. Writing contributions include poetry, short stories, short dramatic pieces, and non-fiction pieces, such as essays. Visual art, including hand drawn illustrations, cartoons, or photos, is also featured. If you wish to contribute to the Voice, just ask Mrs. Igel for a submission form and turn in your submission to her along with your completed form.

At Voice meetings, students review submissions and make decisions that determine the content and look of the publication. Students sign up for roles in the publication process that match their interests, skills and talents. The meetings are always lively.

Make sure your voice is heard. Contribute your talent; help publish The Voice. The first Voice meeting will be held on Thursday, October 20th in D-1 from 3:05 to 4:00. In November, meetings will be held at the same time and location on November 3rd and November 17th. All ILP students are welcome. ~Ms. DeWolfe

From the desk of Mrs. Angelone



Read Ms. Angelone's article to find out how you may be able to fall in love with NY, too.

U.S. History students recently began their Fictional Character Journals. They created their characters during week 7 and will experience immigrating to the U.S. and working as a child laborer in industrial America. Their characters will continue to age and experience life during different times in U.S. history until the end of the school year. Students should remember to include historical details, pictures and other artifacts to make their journals authentic. Please encourage your student to do their best on these; they are a BIG part of their final grade!

World History students will be starting a unit on Nationalism and Imperialism soon. In this unit, students will imagine that a time machine has been created which allows them to go back in time to the 1800's. They will be creating a brochure in which they will travel to different places where nationalism is on the rise, democracy is growing and imperialism has taken hold. Students will choose the events that they deem the most important to include in their time travel brochure. I look forward to seeing where they go!

Interested in traveling to New York in the Spring? Go to Edmodo and respond to thread about traveling. If I have at least 10 students who are interested, we can go! We will be traveling sometime late Spring 2011 through the company Explorica. www.explorica.com. The price for 5 days in NY City is about \$1,400. This includes airfare, hotel, meals and a tour guide to take us around the Big Apple! Parents: I know this sounds like a lot of money but it's actually a GREAT DEAL and we CAN fundraise and you can have this be a gift for the holidays, birthdays or graduation! If you are interested in chaperoning, you will receive a discounted rate. Please e mail me with any questions that you have at: kangelone@natomascharter.org

From the desk of Ms. Leino

Welcome to Science! I am the newest addition at ILP. I teach Earth Science, Biology, Chemistry, and Health. I grew up in the Sacramento area and then studied Cell and Molecular Biology at UC Santa Cruz. I also swam competitively at UCSC. Go Banana Slugs! I later earned my teaching credential at Sacramento State University. I taught traditional High School in Elk Grove and also at a 7-12th grade High School in Zephyr Cove near Lake Tahoe. Brrr! I am happy to be out of the snow!

I have two boys ages 10 and 13 and three new kittens at home who keep me busy when I am not at school. The boys and I love to travel locally and our favorite places usually involve the beach or rollercoasters. Last summer we also took a big trip to Ireland to see family, and we had a great time.

I have definitely found my home here at ILP. I really enjoy meeting with the students one to one; and I still get my classroom time teaching in workshops. ILP feels like a perfect fit for me. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about our Science Program here at ILP. I am really looking forward to a great year here.

From the desk of Ms. Larios

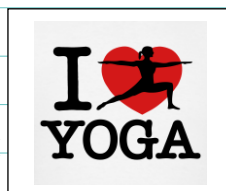
Hello wonderful ILP families and students! Hola lindas familias y estudiantes! I am another new addition to ILP. I am the new Learning Center Monitor. I am so happy to be a part of such an amazing staff and program. I can honestly say I love my job. I am here to provide any assistance to the students to help them stay on track. I help students as much as I can in all areas, but because I am fluent in Spanish and I love math, these are the 2 school subjects I can help with the most. :-). I hold an emergency credential, which is why I was able to step in and teach Algebra workshop while Ms. Williams is out on temporary leave.

Remember the Learning Center is a quiet and supportive environment where students can study. Plus, the LC provides free computer access and printing privileges and has a plethora of resources.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the Learning Center, please contact me:

vlarios@natomascharter.org

~Ms. Larios



Besides loving to practice bikram yoga, I also love running and zumba.

A Great Start...Now What's Next?

Congratulations to all ILP students for successfully completing your first quarter of the school year. Way to go! For some of you, this was one more quarter to add to your impressive history at ILP, while for our new students, this was just the first step of an exciting educational journey. So how was the first quarter? Would you like to make the second quarter even better? Here are some helpful tips:

- **Be proud of what you have accomplished!** It is easy to focus on mistakes you made and things you could have done better. But what did you do well during the first quarter? What good study habits have you developed? How have you demonstrated responsibility and hard work? What has your advisor told you that you do well? What assignments or tests did you complete that you are especially happy about? What course grades are you the most proud of? These successes are a base you can build on for the rest of the year. Reflect on these successes so you can create more of them!
- **Need help?...Ask!** One of the best things about ILP is all of the 1-on-1 attention that you receive from your advisor and other caring staff members. Even with all this attention, you need to ask for help when you don't understand something or need assistance. Your advisor, your workshop instructors, and other ILP staff will be able to provide you with amazing help if you just ask good questions. Come to your meetings and workshops with prepared questions to ask if you don't understand something. Having homework trouble? Spend some time studying in the Learning Center, where Ms. Larios will be happy to answer your questions.
- **Stay organized.** Students can often perform better at school and reduce their level of stress just by staying organized. Many times, a little bit of time spent on improving organization will save hours of time later and lead to better grades. Do you have a study schedule, and do you stick to it? Do you attend all of your meetings and workshops? Is your regular study area organized and free of distractions? Is your backpack and binders organized and free of clutter? If you answered "no" to any of these questions, doing something about it now is probably your very first step to a successful second quarter.
- **Set meaningful goals.** Maybe there is an academic goal you have always wanted to reach. Why not accomplish it during this quarter? Set goals that will mean something to you, but that you know are reachable. Here are some ideas: 100% attendance for one week, 100% attendance for the entire quarter, attending every workshop this quarter, reaching a target grade for a specific class, raising your lowest grade, becoming an ILP "All-Star". Choose 2-3 meaningful goals and commit yourself to reaching them by the end of the quarter. You can do it!

—Mr. Del Monte

Make the Most of Your Time at ILP

Working independently is challenging and students often discover roadblocks that can slow their progress on weekly work. ILP has developed ways to assist you in finding success even when the roadblocks appear. Utilize the assistance ILP has to offer you and you will find success around every turn in the road.

- Follow a Study Schedule
- Ask Questions (call or email the teachers)
- Utilize Teacher Tutoring
- Utilize Peer Tutoring/Mentors
- Work in the Learning Center
- Use the Learning Center Computer Access
- Form Study Groups (you can study in the lab or off campus)

ILP School Email Accounts Give Access to Google Documents

We are working very hard this year to improve our ability to communicate and collaborate effectively with your students. In response to this need, NCS has adopted the use of Google Apps for Education. This is an entire suite of communication and collaboration services, including Gmail, Google Docs, Calendar, Sites and more. This will allow them to save their files and be able to access them at home and school.

The ILP students will be given their Google Apps for Education accounts next week. These accounts will provide them with a safe space online to work with their teachers and peers. We have also been able to set controls on student accounts which limit the email and sharing privileges to within our school community for increased safety and security. ILP students will receive training on how to use these educational tools next week in the English workshops. If you would like to view your child's communications or shared documents, please ask him or her to share the account information with you.

Our faculty has been using Google Apps for Education for several months now and is very excited about the collaborative opportunities that it affords, and we look forward to sharing those with our students. This is a tool that will help them develop necessary 21st century skills, including team work, critical thinking, and digital citizenship.



How Can I Support My Student?

As parents and family members it is easy to overlook the motivation and independent nature needed for students to succeed in independent study. As a staff member over the years, I have come to appreciate the initiative and dedication that students display as they progress through their senior year in the ILP program. But as students enter and work in the program, they do need support from parents and family. This support can seem amorphous for parents, as they look for a way to help. The following is a list of ideas to help you become a bigger part in the support for your student:

- O Talk to your student about the information they are learning- learn along with them.
- O Review assignments each day and schedule a time to check student progress.
- O Take your student to school or library for workshops, meeting, reference materials, or to use the computer.
- O Proofread all reports and writing assignments with them, this gives you a chance to see how they are progressing.
- O Check their work for organization, understanding, and completeness.
- O Quiz your student on topics (from flashcards or notes) for upcoming tests and quizzes.
- O Check your student's progress on Powerschool.
- O Call the teacher if you or your student has questions or attend the weekly meeting.
- O Sign the assignment sheet and any other paperwork each week.
- O Help your student eat healthy foods and get enough sleep.

\$\$Fundraising for ILP\$\$



Box Tops

Don't forget to cut off those box top's and send them into the ILP office. Every box top is worth 10 cents, and believe it or not, they really add up.

Products that carry box tops include:

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Cereals | Hefty Paper products |
| Green Giant | Old El Paso |
| Progresso Soups | Kleenex |
| Scott | Pillsbury |
| Yoplait Kids | Avery Office Supplies |
| Cascadian Farms Snacks | Nature Valley Snacks |
| Ziploc Storage Bags | Huggies/Pull-Ups |

For a complete product line, coupons, online shopping and more information log into

boxtops4education.com



Everyone is aware of the limited funding schools receive from the state. ILP has researched many ways to fundraise without asking our families to dig deeper into their pockets. Many activities that families already do can contribute to the ILP fundraising. Escrip can be tied to many local merchants and restaurants. Through Escrip you can register your credit/debit cards and grocery shopping cards to donate to ILP. This is a fantastic program that enables you to fundraise for ILP almost anywhere you shop. Login into www.escrip.com to register your cards and designate your fundraising affiliation.

Bring in your cans & bottles

ILP is recycling aluminum cans and plastic bottles to generate revenue for our program.

Bring your cans and bottles, so we can collect the loot and save the earth.

