



Hopping Through the First Grade

The First Grade classroom has been studying the life cycle of frogs for the last few weeks and will continue to do so when they get back from Spring Break in April. Each First Grade classroom has been taking care of several African Water Frog Tadpoles that they will watch quickly grow their back legs, front legs, shrink their tails, then become frogs all within a few weeks.

The students are very excited to be experiencing this project and will develop a further understanding into how different species of frogs go through the stages of development and the time it takes for them to grow.

A Reminder for Parents: Report cards were given out on March 23rd, and the envelopes need to be returned to the teacher as soon as they are signed.

—Maddie Gruber

Proof! There It Is!

Mr. Carr's 8th Grade Algebra class has started learning the art of proofs, although they are not quite enjoying them yet. They are attempting to prove that two triangles are congruent with congruence tests.

The students' distaste for proofs is due to the fact that they are challenging and there may be multiple solutions. Mr. Carr emphasizes their importance because as students continue their education in mathematics they will need the skills to justify their ideas and support their work.

—Lucas Sondgeroth

R.A.F.T.

This past week in Ms. Gresham's English 10 class, the students will be participating in the R.A.F.T. assignment. This assignment will test the students' comprehension of the story Animal Farm that they have read in class.

In the R.A.F.T. assignment, students were given a Role, an Audience, a Format, and a Topic. They were expected to present their assignments in front

of the class and openly answer questions about their projects' relationships to the story.

Ms. Gresham finds this assignment important because it is essential that a student is able to present in front of an audience in the future. She also feels that, although many students won't be confident defending their views on the spot, they must work to be

comfortable in these situations.

This assignment will ultimately engage the students in using their persuasive writing abilities, textual knowledge, and oral communication skills to build a powerful argument with knowledge of any counter-arguments.

—Jacob Worms

Fun With Math

Things are busy over in Mrs. Bricker's headquarters. In her Algebra I class, students are focusing on linear systems of equations. Using the three methods they have learned, the students are working in groups to plan a fundraising dinner for a cause of their choosing. The project includes research for the cost of a venue, a four course dinner, decorations, and favors for each guest, along with a set price for tickets.

Students are analyzing potential costs, revenues, and profits by creating graphs and are using them to determine if their ticket prices are reasonable. Finally students are creating a flyer to help promote and explain their fundraiser. The project will continue until April 10th.

In Calculus, students have been working with derivatives, which is the slope of a curve.

Mrs. Bricker states, "Students have been working hard to master the Chain Rule and using implicit differentiation to find derivatives of functions that are not defined or written explicitly as a function of a single variable."

Good luck, Calc. students!

—Emma Overton

ACT Strikes Again

Ms. Caldwell, the IB CUSD #327 counselor, states that the ACT that was taken on March 17th "went very well," even with the new alterations of testing in the gym.

Unlike previous years, the ACT was not obligatory by the state as part of the PSAE, which was once required for all juniors in high school. Therefore, the ACT was optional for districts to offer to their students with the cost continuing to be paid by the state.

Illini Bluffs High School chose to go forth with the test as a service to the students. If the school did not offer the ACT, students would have had to take the ACT on a Saturday at an ACT approved testing site and pay for the test.

Ms. Caldwell plays a huge role in setting up the ACT for students to take. She works to

provide students with the ACT preparation class offered through ICC. She also helps students and families through the registration process if students want to take the ACT throughout the school year.

On top of helping students through preparing students for ACT, Ms. Caldwell helps juniors fill out the non-test section of the ACT that includes an interest inventory.

Alongside the counselor, Mrs. Coulter and many other teachers at IBHS, regularly advise students and parents about practices in preparations for taking the ACT, as well as proctor the exam.

Overall, students reacted well to the changes made to the ACT as of the 2014-2015 school year.

—Laenie Swardenski

Human Relations

In Ms. Jackson's Human Relations class, her students are learning about an important life topic—people with disabilities.

They are watching a film called *I am Tyler*, about a young man who is constantly encouraging himself to go through challenges and achievements.

Ms. Jackson feels this is such an important lesson because "Anytime you ask people to evaluate honestly how they feel about people who are different than themselves, people become resistant."

She wants her students to be honest with themselves when it comes to underlying biases and to make her students think deeper and rethink their positions.

—Julie Hemp

Sprinting to Success

It may be early in the middle school track season, but the athletes have been working hard all year to prepare for this year. The athletes have been conditioning and improving on strengthening and skills since the beginning of the year. As well as helping the athletes train, the coaches have been working to improve technique and skill with the field event athletes.

Coaches stress that practicing their specific event correctly and continue doing it the same way every time to help maintain their techniques. The main goal coaches hope to achieve this season is to see improvement in each of the athletes. "Coaches get great satisfaction from the improvement seen in each athlete. It is not about being the best but doing the best you can," says Coach Steve Schafer.

—Alexa Hoadley

Welcome to the Jungle

This year I.B welcomed Mr. Hallstrom to the staff as a new student teacher. Though he has been with us since the beginning of second semester, he is just now starting to settle into a groove.

He has become better acquainted with the students, thus allowing him to be a bit more like himself. He is currently attending Bradley, and is working closely with Mr. Bell, for he is majoring in Art Education with a minor in Drawing.

Mr. Hallstrom has recently been assigned the jobs of teaching the 6th grade Art class, and assisting Mr. Bell with his other four classes.

The current assignment he is working on with the 6th graders is the Elements poster. They each have to make a poster focusing on the main elements of drawings, /i.e lines colors, etc. They have yet to begin working on it, but he hopes that the kids will find the project fun and creative.

—Veronica Lee

Illini Bluffs Prom: April 25th

Prom 2015: The Enchanted Forest will take place on April 25th, 2015. DJ4U will provide entertainment and Fire Guys Photo Booth will be set-up throughout the dance.

Grand March will precede dinner. From 4:00pm to 5:00pm, attendees can get their pictures taken with Watkins Photography at the high school. Attendees will be lined up at 5:10pm. The theater doors will open at 5:15pm for seating—Tickets are required for entrance. Ticketed guests will be seated before any additional seating or entrance will be allowed. Grand March will begin at 5:30pm and will conclude

with the Royalty Coronation.

Prom will follow at Coyote Creek from 6:30pm to 10:30pm with doors closing at 6:45pm. No entry will be allowed after the doors close. Prizes will be awarded after the senior dance.

This year following prom, the IBFT will host an After Prom at the high school. The event is free to the students who attend Prom. There will be various events and activities for students to participate. More information will follow in the [Eye of the Tiger](#).

For more information regarding Prom, click on The Enchanted Forest icon on the www.illinibluffs.com website.

Royalty voting for Prom took place on the 26th and was announced on the 27th.

The Seniors were asked to vote for eight of their peers who have good grades, participate in extra-curricular activities, are charismatic, outgoing, have the ability to talk to anyone, and are well-rounded individuals.

The class voted for the following students:

- ◇ Aleka Hawkins, Veronica Lee, Victoria Noe, and Alan Young.
- ◇ Wes Cowen, Tyler Hodges, Chet Merritt, and Hayden Tillhof.

Prom fees and registration forms need to be turned in to Mrs. Nau from April 7th-April 10th. Tickets are \$40 each. With each ticket purchase, students are issued two Grand March tickets. Tickets must be picked up April 13th and 14th in the library from Mrs. Nau.

Grand March tickets will go on sale to the public April 15th-17th for \$3.00 each on a first come first serve basis. Each person entering the theater must have a ticket in hand.

Again, visit www.illinibluffs.com and click on the Enchanted Forest icon for full information and forms.

Final Yearbook Sale

The final sale of yearbooks will take place in April. Yearbooks can be purchased for \$55. Students can pick up forms in the high school office or online purchases can be made through Jostens.

Kayla Kaufmann serves as editor this year, heading a team of eleven students: Maddie Gruber, Julie Hemp, Alexa Hoadley, Veronica Lee, Emma Overton, Jett Rademaker, Jaimie Randle, Abbi Schafer, Lucas Sondgeroth, Laenie Swardenski, and Jake Worms.

The team has archived the year through photographs and written stories to document IB's year. They've chosen the theme *UnTamed* to capture the Tiger spirit.

Our 2015

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Spring Blood Drive

Sponsored by Illini Bluffs High School
Friday, April 10 | 8am to 1pm

Walk-ins welcome!

The Spring Blood drive will take place on April 10th from 8am to 1pm in the high school.

Students wishing to schedule an appointment should contact the Student Leadership Team or sign up in the main office.

Community members wishing to donate at the drive should call the main office at 389-5686.

By donating to the drive, you can help the graduating seniors earn a scholarship.



Scan the QR code to schedule an appointment.