

# The Hawk

February  
2012

Innovation Academy Charter School

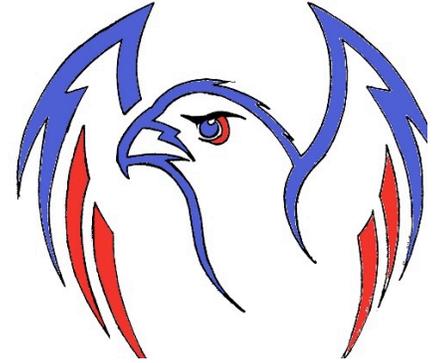
**GREAT NEWS!** As you hopefully heard from Walter Landberg's community email on Tuesday, the State Board of Education granted us permission to expand our enrollment to 800 students. This will allow our High School to gradually grow to become the same size as our current middle school. The Board's decision reflects the wonderful work of our school and your community support. Thank you!

### **Re-enrollment Forms**

A reminder to families who have not returned re-enrollment forms for next year to do so as soon as possible. The forms can be found on the website under admissions / forms.

### **BMI Health screenings for 7<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade**

On February 14<sup>th</sup>, the Health office will be completing mandated health screenings for all current 7<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students. These health screenings include Body Mass Index (BMI) measurement. BMI is a way to check to see if your child has a healthy weight. The results of the screening compare your child's height and weight to other children of the same age and sex. The screenings will be done privately and results will be communicated to parents in a confidential manner. If you would like to opt your student out of these screenings please communicate this in writing (email is fine) to Gayle Nutile-Pimm, RN, in the health office by Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup>. If you have any other questions or concerns regarding the health screenings please contact one of the school nurses at 978-649-0432, ext. 2104 or email Gayle Nutile-Pimm at [gnutilepimm@innovationcharter.org](mailto:gnutilepimm@innovationcharter.org).



### **All School Reminders**

- 2/1 Early Release 12:25pm
- 2/6 Student Services PAC Meeting 6-7pm
- 2/6 IACA Meeting 7-8:30pm
- 2/8 IACA Sponsored Roller Skating 1-3pm
- 2/8 Early Release 12:25pm
- 2/10 Beach Blast IACA Sponsored Ice Cream Social 7-9pm
- 2/15 Full Day Wednesday
- 2/20-2/24 February Vacation
- 2/27 Board Meeting 6:30-7:30pm
- 2/29 Early Release 12:25pm
- 3/2 Music at IACS 7-8pm

### **Who's calling now?**

Please note that while IACS has one main number (978-649-0432), we actually have six distinct "lines" to make sure that when you call the school you do not receive a busy signal. If you've received a call from us, you may have noticed that it was not necessarily from our "main" number and this is the reason why.

So that you may program them into your phone if you wish, in order that you know when IACS is calling, all six of the numbers are as follows:

978-649-0329 978-649-0387 978-649-0405

978-649-0407 978-649-0428

978-649-0432 (this, of course, is the number we publish).

It is winter! Who's thinking about summer?

**WE ARE! The IACS performing arts program offers two summer camps** on campus for students entering grade 5 through grade 12. DRAMA CAMP is July 9-13 and GLEE CAMP is July 16-20, 8:30-3:30 daily. Both end with a Friday evening public performance starring the campers! See the enrollment form on our schools website under FORMS. Note the \$30 registration reduction if submitted early! Questions? Email [rhawthorne@innovationcharter.org](mailto:rhawthorne@innovationcharter.org).

Innovation Academy Middle and High School Performing Arts Program Proudly Presents The Hilarious Gilbert and Sullivan Musical: **Pirates of Penzance**

When: Friday, March 16 7:00pm & Saturday, March 17 2:00pm and 7:00pm

Where: In the Innovation Academy Auditorium

Tickets: \$12 through February 29

\$15 starting March 1

Ticket order forms are available at the Main Office!

Calendar change: Due to the early snow days, IACS and the Tyngsborough district have added a ½ day to our school calendar on Good Friday- April 6<sup>th</sup>.

# Middle School Updates

## Learning Spotlight:

What an exciting quarter it has been in 7/8 Social Studies! Throughout the Origins Project, students studied the origins of modern human beings by analyzing the findings of archeologists from around the world. After exploring the similarities and differences between different early hominids, they examined the characteristics of hunter-gatherer societies of the Paleolithic age, and created a prehistoric tool to solve a problem of early hunter-gatherers.

Through their exploration of Mesopotamia, they learned about the essential characteristics of civilization. Students participated in a game about the growth of empires in the Fertile Crescent, making collaborative decisions to problem-solve around decisions impacting their tribe, such as limited resources or an invasion from a neighboring tribe. Finally, students studied Egypt, a more advanced civilization, exploring political, social, religious, and artistic aspects of life in Egypt. Students created a character and wrote journal entries about Egyptian life.

At the end of the quarter, students enjoyed a trip to the Museum of Fine Arts in order to view artifacts from the early civilizations they learned about throughout the quarter. Students appreciated the enormity of the Egyptian sarcophaguses and stunning friezes and mosaics from Mesopotamia. Many thanks to families that acted as chaperones to help make this trip a success!

## Extracurricular Updates:

**Middle School Robotics Club** will be starting up again on Feb 6 and run for six weeks. Students do not need to know anything about robotics to join, and will get to use the school's Lego Mindstorms Robotics equipment. We will be preparing for exhibition at Botfest - which is a robotics science fair within BotBall - the robotics competition the High School Students participate in, which takes place on March 24th at UMass Lowell. You do not have to participate in Botfest to join the club, but it is a lot of fun. Come and learn how to build a robot, use sensors and motors, and program your robot brain! Meetings will be on the following dates: February 6, 13, 27, and March 5, 12, 19. We will be meeting in Room B53 in the basement of the High school from 3-4:15. e-mail [dharrington@innovationcharter.org](mailto:dharrington@innovationcharter.org) to sign up!

## Attention 8<sup>th</sup> graders

For the yearbook of 2011-2012, the **8<sup>th</sup> GRADERS** will be able to submit a personal page; a place to submit drawings, images, words and anything else that represents you. The deadline is February 10th, 2012 and should be put in folders in Ms. Scarsdale or Mr. Edward's rooms.

You are allowed to collaborate on a personal page as follows: quarter page for 1 person, half page for 2 to 3 people, or full page is 4 to 8 people

*However, you may only be represented in ONE submission.*

## Billerica Spelling Bee

Come support our students that are participating in the Billerica Spelling Bee on February 4<sup>th</sup> at Billerica Memorial High School. Our students will compete between 12:30 – 3. For more information, visit [www.billericaspellingbee.org](http://www.billericaspellingbee.org). Good luck to spellers Katelynn Brown, Jackson Ciolfi, Nadia El-Fakih, Ben MacKinnon, Alyssa Moore, Araceli Schmalz, Ariana Schmidt, and Joshua Schmidt.

## Things to Remember:

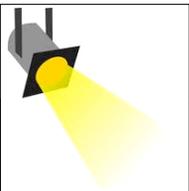
### Quarter 2 Assessments

Quarter 2 Assessments will go home with students on Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup>. Please return the empty, signed envelope for reuse during Quarter 3.

### Jury Dates for 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders....

Students will receive their assigned dates/times for juries next week. **Please note that some juries will be scheduled directly before or after school.** Please mark your calendars and make arrangements for transportation for your child. A copy of the jury packet will also be included in with Quarter 2 assessment documents.

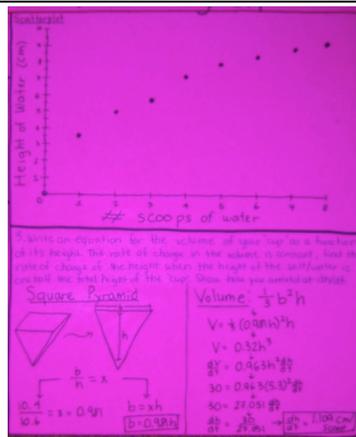
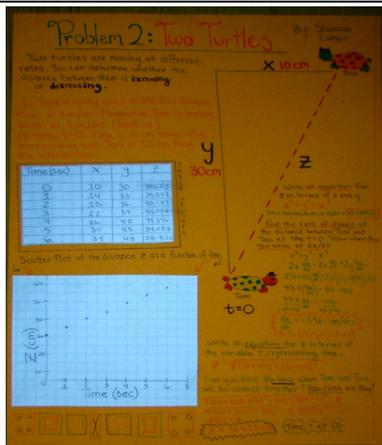
# High School Updates



## Learning Spotlight:

Calculus with Mrs. Kelly recently studied Related Rates. Typically, related rates problems evaluate how quantities like distance, velocity, height, volume or area change with respect to time and the calculus project was no exception. In addition to demonstrating basic calculus skills of finding a derivative function to explore slope, evaluating limits and using polynomial functions to model behavior, students performed experiments exploring how the height of water or salt in a geometric solid changed over time and used systems thinking tools to summarize this information in Behavior Over Time scatter plots.

The basic experiment involved adding 1/8 of a cup of salt to various geometric solids (spheres, cones and square pyramids) and measuring the height of the salt in the solid after each addition of salt. Using geometry formulas for area of these solids, student wrote equations that linked volume with height and allowed students to determine how the rate of change of the volume was related to how the rate of change of the height. The work done on this project synthesized a semester's worth of skills in calculus but also integrated topics from previous math courses at the high school.



## Athletics:

Congratulations to the IACS Hawks Boys Basketball teams for their decisive victories in their first ever home games on January 20<sup>th</sup>. The JV team beat NCCES 40-22, while Varsity overcame the Tigers 46-26. Catch the JV and Varsity Girls in their home game Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> at NDA.

### February Hoops Schedule:

2/1	5:00	GV	NDA Lawrence
2/3	4:00	BJV	Tyngsboro
2/3	6:00	BV	Bethany Christian
2/3	5:30	GJV	Home vs. Mt. Alvernia
2/3	7:00	GV	Home vs. Mt. Alvernia
2/4	3:45	GV	Cristo Rey
2/6	3:30	BJV	Minuteman
2/6	5:00	BV	Minuteman
2/9	4:00	BV	AMSA
2/11	5:30	GV	Watertown
2/11	7:00	BV	Watertown
2/14	5:00	BJV	Lowell Catholic
2/14	6:30	BV	Lowell Catholic
2/14	4:30	GV	Fellowship Christian
2/16	5:00	GV	Tyngsboro
2/16	7:00	BV	Tyngsboro
2/17	4:30	BV	Fellowship Christian
2/17	5:00	GJV	Marian High
2/17	6:30	GV	Marian High

## Important Events:

- ❖ 1/30 Semester 1 Term Reports mailed home
  - ❖ 2/3 High School Dance 7-10pm
  - ❖ 2/16 High School Untalent Show 6-8pm
- Revolution Prep SAT Course for ALL Juniors**  
We still have a few spots available for the course which starts on February 27<sup>th</sup> please email Ms. Warren for more information
- ❖

## Yearbook 2012

Order forms for the 2012 edition of the Yearbook are available on the school website. Early order price of a Yearbook is \$25 and early orders are due by February 1, 2012. Complete forms with payment can be left in the drop box outside Mr. Orpen's office. If you have any questions please contact Stephanie Kelly at [skelly@innovationcharter.org](mailto:skelly@innovationcharter.org)

## Graduation 2012

### Help Support our Class of 2012!

Our 2nd ever graduation will be upon us before we know it! Graduation this year will be Saturday, June 16th, 2012 with a post ceremony reception held immediately after. Your graduation coordinators need your support to help celebrate! We are looking for parent volunteers willing to coordinate and facilitate the reception. Anyone interested in helping with the reception please contact [graduation@innovationcharter.org](mailto:graduation@innovationcharter.org)

The celebration continues with Post Grad Night. Our Seniors would love to be able to safely celebrate their recent accomplishments, the night of graduation. This would be a parent sponsored event. Anyone interested in organizing or helping out with this event please contact [graduation@innovationcharter.org](mailto:graduation@innovationcharter.org)

High School **Computer Science Club** meets after school on Thursdays in room B53 until 4:30.

Currently, we are gearing up for our participation in Botball, a robotics competition that takes place on March 24th at UMass Lowell. The Robotics Elective class will be preparing for the competition during class, but if you want to be part of the team, feel free to come check it out after school on Thursdays. e-mail [dharrington@innovationcharter.org](mailto:dharrington@innovationcharter.org) if you have questions.

## Thank you! Job Well Done!

Thanks to everyone who braved the elements of a snowy Saturday morning and helped to represent IACS at the Open house on the 24th. A special thanks to: Waverly Braunstein, Lori DiMattia, Mary Ellen Dota, Susanne Beeber, Helen Staveley, Diane Belanger, Mariclaire Pollicelli, Lee DiMattia, Brian Dota, Dylan Beeber, Emily Bergman, Tori Rodriguez, Sophie Harrington, Emily Printz, Marc Printz, Brian McFeeley, Sam Royston, Ashley Pollicelli, Ella McGaunn, Ashley Hilliker, Austin Ginnett, Tyler Ginnett, Andrew Ratchelous and also a thanks to those who helped with the bake goods.

**Next IACA Meeting**  
**Monday, February 6<sup>th</sup>**  
**7-8:30pm in the Café**



**Innovation Academy Community Association**  
[iaca.weebly.com](http://iaca.weebly.com)



**Save the Date to Participate!!!! Ice Cream Social February**

**10th: Bring the whole family** to the Beach Party Ice Cream Social on Friday Feb 10<sup>th</sup> from 7-9pm at IACS. Join us as we defy winter and Participate in this fun event to benefit the **100% initiative**. For a small donation of \$3 each or \$10 per family, you and your family can have a delicious ice cream sundae and enjoy entertainment to include, Family Volleyball, a Basketball shoot out against the Athletic Dept, see the Cheerleaders Half time show, 50/50 raffle, a brief Chorus performance, Robotics Display, and a 10 min preview of the upcoming Drama production all while supporting IACS's 100% initiative. Pizza, water and bake sale goods will be available for purchase. Questions?: Contact Heather Landis at [domeafavorheather@hotmail.com](mailto:domeafavorheather@hotmail.com) or Annie Accettullo at [candystp@yahoo.com](mailto:candystp@yahoo.com) Hope to see you there!

**Chunky's Cinema IACA Fundraiser!**  
**Jan 23rd - Feb 8<sup>th</sup>**



If you are thinking of heading to the movies over the next YEAR - please support the IACA and purchase your tickets through us! Chunky's offers newly released movies, great food & cozy car chairs to relax in. Sales will begin Jan 23rd Feb 8th. Tickets are only \$6.00 – 40% will go to support the IACA! Delivery will be Friday, Feb 17<sup>th</sup> · Tickets are good for any Chunky's location (Haverhill, Nashua, Pelham)

- Tickets are good for any movie, anytime (Monday-Thursday)
- Tickets have no "Black Out"
- Tickets have a 1-year expiration date

Payment can be made in the form of cash or checks payable to IACA Visit [iaca.weebly.com](http://iaca.weebly.com) to print an order form. Thank you for your support!

**IACA Volunteers Need ed...Can you help us in 2012?**

Please visit <http://iaca.weebly.com/volunteer.html> , click on **volunteer form** and let us know how you maybe interested in volunteering. If you filled out the form last year, we ask you to complete it again this school year so we can get the most recent information. Filling out the form doesn't automatically obligate you, and it takes only a few minutes to complete the form. A volunteer from IACA will contact you via email or phone to confirm your interest and availability. We currently have several coordinator positions available. Many of these programs already have volunteers involved, we just someone to coordinate the activity:

- Hospitality: Recruit & Coordinate Bakers for events using the Volunteer database
- Quality Night: Coordinate volunteers for the IACA Table at the event.
- Spring Yankee Candle Co -Chair: Assist coordinating this fundraiser for Mother's Day
- Cartridge Recycling Program: Advertising & on-site Management
- Roller Kingdom : Coordinate Chaperones
- Basket Raffle: Oversee themes, coordinate homebases & events
- Talent Show: Coordinate volunteers for IACA table.

If you can help in any way, please contact Susan Howard, [gphsgh@msn.com](mailto:gphsgh@msn.com) or 978-319-3555 to discuss your interests & availability. Many more opportunities are available & any amount of volunteer time is welcome. Thank you for considering becoming involved this year!

Remember your **Box Tops** submissions, Also go to [BTFE.com](http://BTFE.com) and register your support for IACS. Nothing to clip, or submit!



**Roller Skating Party:** Feb 8th, (Early Release Day) 1:00-3:00 @ Roller Kingdom - Tyngsboro Join your friends for a fun skating event! Admission is \$6.00. Skates are available for rental (\$3) or you can bring your own. For grades 5-12. This event is staffed by the Roller Kingdom and is not chaperoned by IACA. Please visit [www.iaca.weebly.com](http://www.iaca.weebly.com) for flyer.



Got Books?? **IACS Library is accepting used book donations!** Drop off your used books CDs, DVDs & Records in the Got Books container located next to the High School, Please note that the librarian is not able to access the bin, so if your intention is **to donate books directly to the school library, please be sure to bring those donations in to the library.** All proceeds benefit our library. Questions? Heather Landis at (978) 649-0432 ext:1208 [hlandis@innovationcharter.org](mailto:hlandis@innovationcharter.org)

**Grant Writers Needed:** Are you a Grant Writer? IACA is looking for grant writers within the community to join a team to help secure larger grants to help fund IACS expansion plans. If you have this talent and are willing to share your time and effort, please email Valerie at [iacapresident@gmail.com](mailto:iacapresident@gmail.com).

**Gift Cards:** Even though the holidays are over, please remember that Gift Cards are available through the IACA monthly **all year long**. Purchasing gift cards is an easy way to support the IACA. Now you can purchase gift cards on the 15th of each month. A percentage of each gift card benefits the IACA. Forms are on [www.iaca.weebly.com](http://www.iaca.weebly.com). Questions? Paula Girouard 978-667-3657 or [girouardpaula@comcast.net](mailto:girouardpaula@comcast.net)