



Innovations Academy

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Welcome to the I.A. Newsletter created by the Middle School Friday Newsletter Club.

In this issue you will find:

- **Happenings in the Office:** information about the front office
- **Jokes and Riddles**
- **Short Story** by an I.A. student
- **A Piece of Peace:** problem solving with the Peace Patrol
- **The Latest and Greatest:** what's new at I.A.
- **Action News:** breaking news for you
- **Innovations from the Academy**



Jokes and Riddles by Amber and Julius, 6th grade

1. Why did the chicken cross the road and roll in the mud and then cross the road again??
2. What did one wall say to the other wall??
3. Why do bicycles fall over??

Answers can be found on the last page of the newsletter

Happenings in the Office by Justin H., 7th grade

Last week, I was very lucky to interview Tina McGinnis, one of our hardworking staff in the office. In the Innovations Academy office, our staff have been hard at getting all of our paperwork in order. They also collect the money raised from our latest fundraiser which will go toward art and science equipment. "Parents, please do your online registration forms if you haven't already." reminds Tina. "Check your E-Mail for your link and access code. Even if you're a returning student from last year, please do your online registration forms." Also, Tina talked to me about our hot lunch program for this year, which still needs volunteers. The money from this program goes towards middle school field trips, like the sixth grade Catalina Island trip, and the eighth grade ten-day field trip to Sacramento at the end of the year. So, please, if you would like to help our school out, volunteer for the hot lunch program. Finally, Tina gave me some information about our new clubs at I.A., like the Newsletter and Yearbook club, (which I am participating in as I write this) the programming club, the Xeriscape club, (which you will also learn about this issue) the Student Store, the STOMP Club, the Peace Patrol, the Student Advisory, and the I.A. Video Blog. Thanks for your time, Tina!



Short Stories Needed

Would you like to publish a story? This space is reserved for short story or poetry submission from any I.A. student. The way to submit your story is to email it to newsletter@innovationsacademy.org Or submit to Donna in the front office. Send it in and it may be selected for the next newsletter.

Action News

Spooky Family Math Night

This event was a big success. We played math games, had a raffle, and enjoyed the costumes. Thanks to all who participated!

What is new at I.A.?

Christine will begin to announce morning messages over the intercom system. Stay tuned for messages that unite us.

ST Math

Students in 2nd – 8th grade are participating in a spatial temporal math program. See mindresearch.com for more details

This year

We are waiting for the delivery of robots and piano keyboards to begin our new explorations in learning.

Innovations from the Academy

Academy Sixth, Seventh & Eighth Grade
Awesomeness!

By Justin H., 7th grade

For this issue, I interviewed some of our awesome sixth, seventh, and eighth grade teachers.

In the sixth grade, students have been learning about themselves with “Who are We?” and “Our Passion” poems, and descriptions of their future selves. They are also learning about Mesopotamia, the first society on earth! In Albert’s class, students have been doing a Pinhole Camera activity, in which they take pictures that represent themselves to add to their other project using pinhole cameras that they constructed in class, which they are also learning about. “It’s been an exciting start of the year.” says sixth-grade teacher Michael Grimes. “We’ve been learning about ourselves, Innovations Academy, and building a foundation for an amazing school year. I’m extremely excited for this year.” Thanks Michael!

I also gathered a little bit of insider information of the seventh and eighth grade activities. “The seventh and eighth graders are exploring scientific concepts by filming their own science experiments.” says seventh-grade teacher Wes Davis.

“The eighth graders have been learning about problem solving and solving equations, and the seventh graders have been learning about rational numbers.” says Lisa Moncrief, seventh and eighth-grade math teacher. “They love our new Judo Math program.” Lisa says. “Judo Math is a leveled math program. As students complete a concept, they earn colored “belts” (actually colored wristbands). The students who learn the concepts first teach the other students what they know.” explains Lisa. Lisa is also orchestrating one of the projects, the Xeriscape project. “I am excited about my Xeriscape Gardening project for the garden in the back of the school.” Lisa says. “It is not only going to teach us about water conservation, but also help us beautify our campus.” Lisa finally finished our interview with this statement: “This year, we have a great group of kids who are all working together, collaborating, and learning about one another.”



Piece of Peace

If you have a problem that you would like the Peace Patrol to address, submit it to the box in the front office

Dear Peace Patrol,

I have a classmate that used to be a good friend of mine. Lately I feel like she has been being really strange and cold to me. One of my friends told me that she told her that she didn't like me anymore and didn't want to be friends. The other day my backpack was moved and I think she did it. I'm really stressed out and sad about this. -Signed Worried

RESPONSE:

Dear Worried,

I'm sorry that you are feeling sad about your friend. Be careful however, about making assumptions about people's behavior or listening to a third party tell you how someone else is feeling. Sometimes people are behaving differently towards you because of something personal they have going on that has nothing to do with you. Your other friend may be making things up or trying to create drama. The best thing to do is to go directly to the source and talk to your friend. She is the only one who can tell you how she is feeling. When we make assumptions about how people feel we are just causing ourselves unnecessary misery., Best to try to think positively until you have actual proof of something negative. It is best to only believe things that come directly from the person and not from someone second or third hand. If you check in with your friend and she is upset, hopefully you can talk about what is bothering her, listen opening to each other's perspectives and tell each other what you would prefer going forward. If you are truly friends then hopefully you can resolve any issue. If your friend isn't interested in resolving things then it sounds like she has some issues right now that are about her and not you and it might be time for some distance for a while. This could be an opportunity to find some new friends who treat you the way you want to be treated. I.A. has a Solution Center you can visit if you need someone to help you talk with your friend. I'm guessing it is all a misunderstanding and talking to her will clear things up for you. Good luck!

News You Can Use

By Cardiff, Logan and Ethen; 6th grade

On October 4th Jenn Karlman from Fox 5 News came to the school to talk to some Kindergarteners. She came to talk about what she does for the news. Jenn gave the students interviewing tips. She said to always ask an open ended question and to always ask "why."

Q: What kind of people do interview?

A: "I interview famous and political people like the president and Mandy Moore."

Q: What is your favorite person you've interviewed?

A: Probably Senator John McCain

We appreciate having professionals come to our school to share about what they do so that we can learn from them.

Answers for riddles:

1. Because he is a dirty double crosser.
2. I'll meet you at the other corner
3. Because they are too (two) tired.