

5th Grade and Their Whatchamacallits



The Weekly- February 2, 2007

The American International School- Lagos, Nigeria

Greetings AISL Families,

As we begin the month of February it is important to acknowledge the unity and peace we enjoy everyday at AISL. So many people from so many places working together as one to maintain peace and love toward ALL mankind! The drum major for peace, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King would be proud to be a part of our community where little boys and little girls all along the color spectrum sit together at the table of brotherhood, working together on creative solutions to make a difference in our world everyday. Imagine that!

Special thanks are extended to each of you for helping to prepare our scholars for ITBS testing this week and early next week. Youngsters have been focused, teachers have been encouraging, room moms have provided healthy snacks, and our entire campus has been in sync to create the optimal test-taking environment for each student.

Next week get ready for a really big show! The Variety Show will commence for our student body on Wednesday, February 7th at 10:00 and 12:35. The evening performance will commence on Thursday evening at 6:00. If you are new to AISL this is a performance you don't want to miss!

Finally, just a reminder parents to have your drivers place your name placards on the dashboard of each vehicle. When we see your name as you enter the queue, we can have children ready to enter vehicles. If you do not have a placard, don't hesitate to request one at the receptionist's desk in the office. Please note; the gates are open for vehicles to drive out on to Adetokunbo Ademola Street after school. Thank you for following our guard's directions.

In the Spirit of Excellence!

Ethel Wellington-Trawick
Assistant Superintendent

February 2, 2007

Issue 11

Counselor's Corner

Counselor- Julia L. Simens
American International School of Lagos

**FEB. 9th Registration
deadline for March 3rd
testing date.
School Code DO34**

SSAT Information and deadlines

The SSAT* is used by many private schools as a way of comparing applicants from different lower- and middle schools. The Secondary School Admission Test Board gives the test. The SSATB can be reached on the web at www.ssat.org. There are two levels of the SSAT. The Lower Level is used for students in grades 5 through 7, and the Upper Level is used for students in grades 8 through 11.

What is tested on the SSAT?

The SSAT has a 25-minute writing sample section and four multiple-choice sections. The writing section asks the student to respond to a topic statement using specific examples from personal experience, current events, history or literature. The essay is not graded, but is sent to schools along with students' score.

We need to talk more !

Kids deserve to be shown how to use questions in order to assist learning and develop thinking strategies, social problem solving and planning. Explicit discussion about how questions make us think and reshape our knowledge is useful to encourage children to ask broader range of questions of themselves and others, for example, "is that a thinking question?" This metacognitive approach also facilitates reading comprehension and math problem solving.

Parents let your child take the role of questioner so they can start to see the relevance of different questions and have a greater sense of involvement and responsibility for their learning. Think of the role that verbalization plays in early child development, emphasizing specifically the importance of the verbalization of feelings by the very young child.

In order to speak in sentences, our somewhat fuzzy ideas must be sharpened to meet the precise demands of spoken English. Speaking then becomes a way of learning. In the process of verbalizing, kids often become aware of the specific point on which they are confused. Also they may realize what they need to do to overcome the problem. It is very important that kids ask questions when they don't understand. Forming a good question in a classroom environment can be surprisingly difficult for many students. Fortunately, the verbalized thoughts of a student sometimes will turn into questions. Without the opportunity for verbalizing, these questions might never be asked, and the important misunderstandings represented by the questions (which may be shared by many other students) might never be discussed. Parents and kids need to talk more, let the kids question, let the parents answer.



Math Night

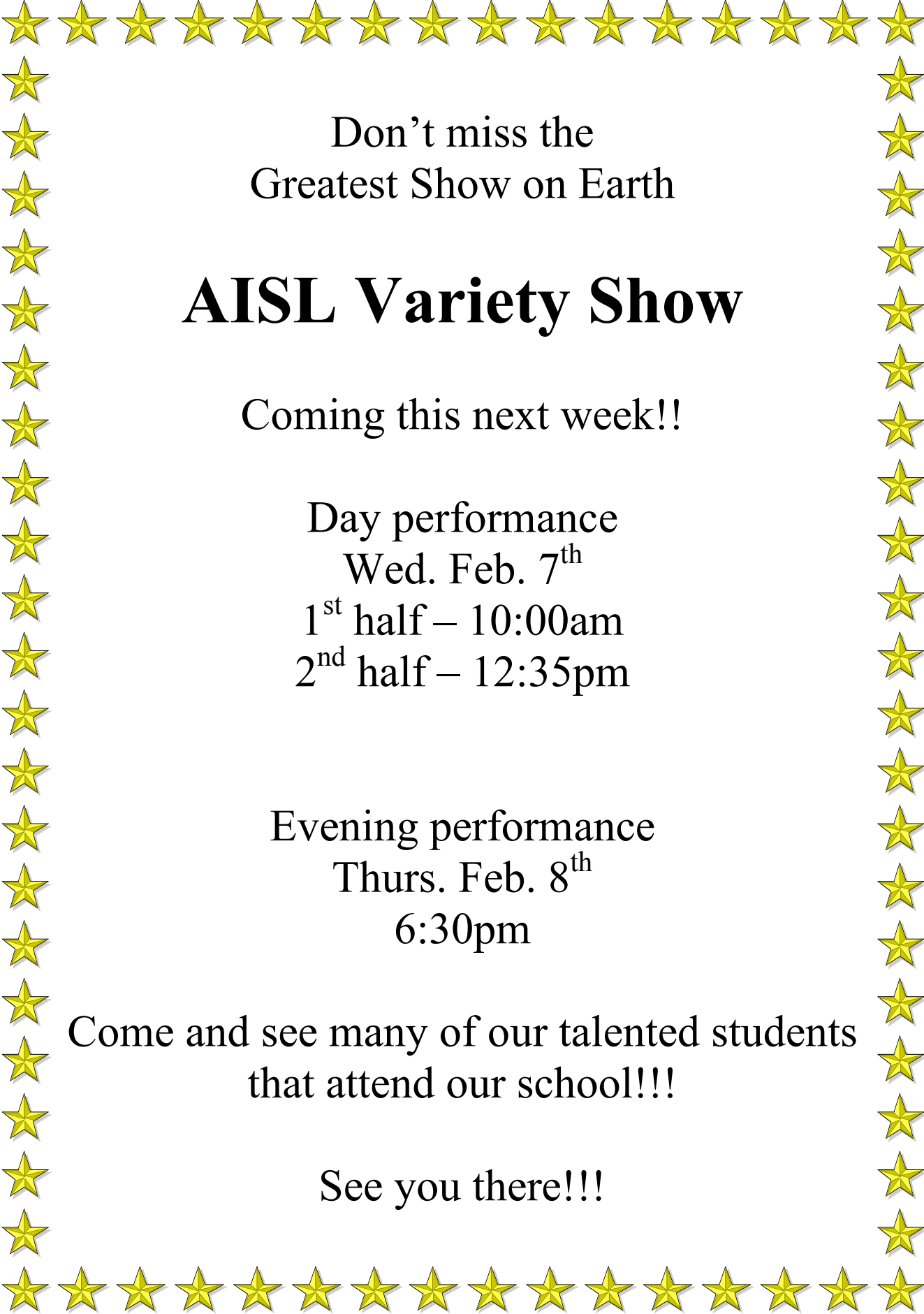
**When: February 6, 2007
@ 6:00-7:30 PM**

Where: AISL Gym

Who: Parents/Students

Goals for the Parent Mathematics Night

- Communicate with parents why the program was chosen by reviewing the selection process and alignment with research and the NCTM standards
- Demonstrate the conceptual development of strands across grade levels
- Demonstrate strong mathematics processes and skills developed through the learning activities in which students engage.



Don't miss the
Greatest Show on Earth

AISL Variety Show

Coming this next week!!

Day performance

Wed. Feb. 7th

1st half – 10:00am

2nd half – 12:35pm

Evening performance

Thurs. Feb. 8th

6:30pm

Come and see many of our talented students
that attend our school!!!

See you there!!!



American International School of
Lagos
Behind 1004 Federal Estates
Victoria Island, Lagos
Nigeria

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+234.1.261.7793

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Mr. Westerbur:
+234.0802.844.2476

Important Dates!

- ◆ TBA Feb.
Chaperone Meeting
- ◆ 1 Mar. @ 6:30PM
Meeting to discuss
travel logistics,
luggage, shopping,
etc.
- ◆ 14 Mar. @ 6:00PM
Luggage pre-check

Chaperones:

Jason Westerbur
Terry Burns
Ebele Mbanugo
Jimmy Mecca
Marne Burns
Anne Mathers
Kathryn Fannin
Nancy Massey
Ntekpe Inoyo

Thank you!



WashDC Info at:

www.washingtondckid.com/

www.washington.org

Email: tburns@aislagos.com (Mr. Burns)
jwesterbur@aislagos.com (Mr. Westerbur)
jmecca@aislagos.com (Mr. Mecca)
enwankwo@aislagos.com (Mrs. Nwankwo)



US Visa Information Due Today!!!

Parents please provide the following documents to Mrs. Mbanugo (Rm. 305) by today, **Fri., 2 Feb. 07:**

- Electronic, bar-coded DS-156 non-immigrant visa application, help available at AISL and/or online at <https://evisaforms.state.gov/ds156.asp?lang=1>
- International passport valid for at least six months beyond the intended period of stay in the United States
- 2 passport (5cm x 5cm) photographs, full face forward against a *white* background
- **Invitation letter** from Mr. Westerbur (pick up from the office or Mr. Westerbur (Rm. 315)
- Proof of residence (Nigerian Residence Permit or the like)
- Verification of employment (letter from your company)
- Fee must be paid to UBA Bank, visit: <http://abuja.usembassy.gov/visapaymentinfo.html> for bank locations) Receipt of payment will be issued (please copy receipt and include in this package) Information regarding US Visa fees is available at: <http://travel.state.gov/visa/reciprocity/index.htm>

Important! VWP Passport Holders

Most Canadian citizens and many citizens from Visa Waiver Program countries can come to the U.S. without a visa if they meet certain requirements. Starting October 26, 2004, visa waiver travelers from ALL 27 Visa Waiver Program countries must present either a machine-readable passport at the U.S. port of entry to enter the U.S. without a visa, otherwise a U.S. visa is required. See information about the upcoming 10/26/05 digital photograph and 10/26/06 e-passport requirements for VWP travelers. Other foreign citizens will need a nonimmigrant visa.

More detailed information about this new procedure and the Visa Waiver Program can be found at: http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/temp_1305.html or email Hannah Cheves at: ChevesE@state.gov for clarification.



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Kathryn Fannin
Nancy Massey
Ntekpe Inoyo

Thank you!



WashDC Info at:

www.washingtondckids.com/

www.washington.org

Email: tburns@aislagos.com (Mr. Burns)
jwesterbur@aislagos.com (Mr. Westerbur)
jmecca@aislagos.com (Mr. Mecca)
enwankwo@aislagos.com (Mrs. Nwankwo)



Documents Required for Safety

As the regulations for air travel become tighter around the world, it is important for our students to travel with correct documentation. **Therefore, parents please provide photocopies of Cerpac (Resident) Cards, shot records, and health insurance cards to Mr. Westerbur before March 1, 2007.**

You may ask why this is necessary? The regulations for entering and exiting the USA via air travel have changed in recent months. Travelers may be asked to show proof of residency along with re-entry visas for travel to countries of which they are not citizens when exiting the USA.

For this reason, *copies of parents' Cerpac (Resident) Cards* are necessary.

Health concerns are more prevalent these days. *Copies of shot records* prove your children have immunizations and vaccinations for various illnesses. *Copies of health insurance cards* are beneficial in the event of an illness that requires care to be provided at a hospital/clinic. Your insurance company is notified and paperwork is started before arriving at the hospital/clinic.

Thank you for your help!

Paperwork Due 1 March

WashDC Paperwork

Due Date: Wed., 1 March 2007

Time: 3:00 PM

Place: Rm 315, Mr. Westerbur

Complete: **Copies** of Items below

- ◇ Passport
- ◇ US Visa
- ◇ Transit Visa
- ◇ Nigerian Re-entry
- ◇ Parent Cerpac (Resident) Card
- ◇ Shot Record
- ◇ Health Insurance

Parent Info Meeting

WashDC Parent Information Meeting scheduled:

Date: Thur., 1 March 2007

Time: 6:30 PM sharp

Place: Drama Room

Why: Discuss luggage, packing information, medications, special needs, travel details, AISL luggage pre-check date and procedures, and other details



PTO / AISL
TELEPHONE TREE and TELEPHONE
DIRECTORY

The efficiency of the Telephone Tree was tested on Tuesday with varying success:

- The most efficient tree was Ekaba's 2nd grade moms, who completed the cycle in less than 45 minutes. Well done!
- Other trees had sections that were quick, but others that were not.
- The biggest hurdle that parents faced were phones that were either off or unavailable (network?).
- Some parents did not have the number of the next person on the tree (need to save to mobile phones), but some parents were so well organised, the dads even had the next numbers too. Well done!
- Lastly, more incorrect numbers were identified and will be corrected.

We are doing what we can to resolve the problems, as I'm sure none of us would like to be left out should an emergency arise. Please could you help us by:

- Phoning your friends (if they have children at AISL) with emergency information , after you have contacted the next person on your Telephone Tree list. This will help your friends who are in "slow" trees.

- Send in changes if your numbers are incorrect (complete form below).
- Please put your phones on silent instead of turning them off, especially just before, and during the national election period.
- Save the telephone numbers of the next two people after you on your list.

Thanks to all those who participated!

Please complete the form below and hand it in at reception for attention Marion Taylor if there are any changes.

Those who do not want to be included in the Telephone Tree or Telephone Directory, please indicate this too.

Changes to be made to Telephone Tree and Directory:

Parents Name and Surname: _____

Telephone numbers:

Father: _____ **Office:** _____

Mother: _____ **Home:** _____

Office: _____

Address: _____

E-mail address: _____

Childrens Names: _____ **Class:** _____

_____ **Class:** _____

_____ **Class:** _____

_____ **Class:** _____

Comments: _____

I want to be included in the telephone tree Yes / No

I want to be included in the Telephone Directory Yes / No



CALLING ALL GIRL SCOUTS TROOP LEADERS!!!

WELCOME BACK INTO THE SWING OF THINGS!

COUNCIL MEETING @ THE POOL CONFERENCE ROOM

12:30 P.M.

ON

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2007

ISSUES TO DISCUSS:

- **BADGES & TRYOUTS**
- **REPORT ON TROOP ACTIVITIES**
- **PLAN FOR THE REST OF THE TERM**
 - **ACTIVITIES WITH PARENTS**
 - **CAMP OUT (WHERE & WHEN)**

PLEASE COME WITH IDEAS!!!!