



IES PTA November 2019 Newsletter

.....

Thankful it's November!



November is finally here! And although Thanksgiving isn't until the end of the month, it's never too early to be thankful! There are many ways to be grateful throughout the month, including devoting time to family and friends, being kind and courteous to others, and supporting your community through volunteering. It's a month to remind us all to be thankful for the many positive things happening in our lives!

Your PTA has been hard at work organizing fun and educational events for this month, so check out the news, important reminders, and the calendar below. And P.S. - Don't forget to join the PTA if you haven't already done so.

.....

THIS MONTH'S
TOP STORIES



News and Updates

- ❖ [November Family Reading Suggestions](#)
 - ❖ [PTA Membership and Donation Drive](#)
-

Calendar

- ❖ [Spring Planning Festival - November 6, 7:00PM](#)
 - ❖ [PTA Meeting and Speaker Event - Howard County Library Programs and Resources Informational Session - November 19, 7:00PM](#)
 - ❖ [Square 1 Art - November 26 Due Date](#)
-

Reminders

- ❖ [Sign up to volunteer with the PTA](#)
 - ❖ [Ways to Donate to the IES PTA](#)
-

November Family Reading Suggestions

Each month, we suggest books, activities, and resources to engage your children! These suggestions correlate with special celebrations for the month. We will also donate some of these selections to the IES Media Center. Here are some highlights for this month!

❖ [American Indian/Alaska Native Heritage Month](#)

- [We Are Grateful: Otsaliheliga](#) written by Traci Sorell, illustrated by Frané Lessac (age level: 5-7, Beginning Reader). Celebrate community and gratitude with the Cherokee people who reflect daily on the blessings and challenges each season brings with the phrase “Otsaliheliga,” or “we are grateful.”
- [Home to Medicine Mountain](#) written by Chiori Santiago, illustrated by Judith Lowry (age level: 6-9, Independent Reader). In the 1930s, two young brothers are sent to a government-run Indian residential school where they are forbidden to speak their native tongue and are taught to abandon their Indian ways. In this award-winning book, Judith Lowry's illustrations are inspired by the stories she heard from her father and uncle about their journey home one summer, escaping the school as stowaways atop a train.
- [Fatty Legs: A True Story](#) written by Christy Jordan-Fenton and Margaret Pokiak-Fenton, illustrated by Liz Amini-Holmes (age level: 9-12, Independent Reader). At the age of eight, Margaret Pokiak set her sights on learning to read – even though it meant leaving her Arctic village. Upon her arrival at school, Margaret encountered the Raven, a black-cloaked nun who immediately disliked the plucky girl and frequently humiliated her. In spite of the Raven's cruelty, however Margaret refused to be intimidated and gave the nun a lesson in the power of human dignity.

❖ [National Picture Book Month](#)

- Check out [30 Books for Picture Book Month](#) from Black Children’s Books and Authors.

❖ **November 11: [Veteran’s Day](#)**

- A fantastic [Reading list](#) from Read Across America celebrating veterans and their contributions.

❖ **November 4-10: [Fall Children's Book Week](#)**

- The 100th anniversary of this [beloved annual celebration](#) continues!

❖ **November 10-16: [Geography Awareness Week](#)**

- [Start with a Book](#) and take your readers places!



PTA Membership and Donation Drive

Why join PTA? Why donate? The number one reason to join the IES PTA is to benefit your child, be a role model, and stay connected with our community! Your \$10 membership shows your support for our school, and allows us to continue our focus on student and staff support and community outreach. Your membership helps us to bring parents, students and teachers together! Our goal is 100% family membership and participation this year! Volunteering is not a requirement for membership, but we'd love your help as your schedule permits.

New this year - pay online! Visit <http://iespta.weebly.com/> and click on the link to pay via Paypal. Important: Please include all requested information in the notes section, so we can properly track memberships and donations. You can also return this [form](#) (see back) with payment to the front office, or send in with your child in an envelope labeled "Ilchester Elementary PTA Membership/Donation."

Help us continue to provide the planned Fall programs. Drop off this [form](#) along with payment to the front office, or pay online. We are depending on you to help your PTA start the year strong! Questions? Contact Katie Keefe, PTA Membership Lead at: Kkeefe@vt.edu or Carmella Hart, PTA President at: IlchesterPTA@gmail.com

Spring Festival Planning Meeting (Nov 6, 7-8PM, Media Room)

We are very excited for this year's Ilchester Spring Festival - a fun family event complete with games, food, music, raffles, prizes, and more! Want to help make this event a success? Come to the Spring Festival planning meeting on Wednesday, November 6 from 7-8PM! Contact- Ginny Zimmerman at IESSpringFestival@gmail.com.

PTA Meeting and Speaker Event - Howard County Library Programs and Resources Informational Session (Nov 19, 7PM, Media Room)

Please join us for our monthly PTA meeting. We will also have an opportunity to hear about Howard County Library System's (HCLS) resources that support HCPSS' curriculum and benefit students. This includes the A+, Battle of the Books, and other enriching community programs. Our guest speaker, a HCLS instructor, will help familiarize parents with HCLS' online research and homework help tools. All are welcome, and child care is provided!

Square 1 Art (Orders Due Nov 26)

This is a unique opportunity to celebrate our students' artistic accomplishments while raising much needed funds for the school. Coming home soon (after Nov 12) will be your child's custom catalog featuring their artwork. Help make your child feel like an accomplished artist by purchasing keepsakes for the whole family containing their masterpiece!

The PTA receives a portion of every order. And as a thank you for participating, each child will receive a sheet of stickers showcasing their artwork –absolutely FREE! All online and paper order forms must be turned in by Nov 26. No late orders can be accepted. Together, we can help support the school and build your child's self-esteem by celebrating their artistic achievement.

THREE EASY WAYS TO ORDER KEEPSAKES

1. The paper order form attached to their custom catalog.
2. Online at www.square1art.com/shop .
3. Phone Customer Care 888-332-3294.

Volunteers Needed

We have several positions open that could use your talent and enthusiasm! Please fill our Volunteer Interest Form [HERE](#) and take a look at [open positions](#) to get started. In particular, we'd love to have volunteers to keep the kindness flowing this year by helping with our **Raise Craze** team with the fundraiser this Spring!

Donate to IES PTA

Amazon

Donate 0.5% of all eligible purchases to the IES PTA, every time you shop on Amazon. Click this [link](#) to make IES PTA your charitable organization. You must use this page, as the regular Amazon homepage will not automatically link to Amazon Smile.



Shutterfly / Tinyprints

Help support your PTA all year by going to: <http://ilchesteres.shutterflystorefront.com> to order your holiday cards, photos, calendars, memory books, invitations, and all the other great products that Shutterfly and Tinyprints offer! You can still use all the promotional codes you know and love AND earn money for IES PTA.

Ilchester earns 13% on all orders year-round! Click the flyer: [Shutterfly](#).



Office Depot / Office Max

Help support our school all year long by using the following ID number when you shop at Office Depot or Office Max: 70046550. We earn 5% on all purchases made when this rewards number is used at checkout.



[Website](#)

[Facebook](#)

ilchesterpta@gmail.com