



IES PTA October 2019 Newsletter

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October is Here!



It's hard to believe it's already October! The time has come for cozy sweaters, apple picking, and Halloween parties. May this autumn month bring your family joy and happiness!

Your PTA has been hard at work organizing fun and educational events for this month, so check out the calendar below!

Finally, don't forget to join and donate to the PTA if you haven't already done so, and help us start the year strong!

We look forward to connecting with you!

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THIS MONTH'S
TOP STORIES



News and Updates

- ❖ [October Family Reading Suggestions](#)
 - ❖ [Back-to-School BINGO \(October 4, 7PM\)](#)
 - ❖ [PTA Membership and Donation Drive \(October 5\)](#)
 - ❖ [PTA Meeting - Raize Craze Informational Session \(October 15, 7PM\)](#)
 - ❖ [Speaker Event - Maryland 529: Introduction to College Savings \(October 15, 7:30PM\)](#)
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Reminders

- ❖ [Box Top Fall Collection Contest Ends \(October 25\)](#)
 - ❖ [Sign up to volunteer with the PTA](#)
 - ❖ [Ways to Donate to the IES PTA](#)
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October 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!

❖ [Read Across America Books of the Month](#)

- [Riding a Donkey Backwards: Wise and Foolish Tales of Mulla Nasruddin](#) retold by Sean Taylor and the Khayal Theatre, illustrated by Shirin Adl (age level: 6-9, Beginning to Independent Reader). Would you like to know how a thief can turn into a donkey? Whether a cow can climb a pole? Or why you should spoon yogurt into a lake? Mulla Nasruddin knows all the answers, and he might also tell you why he rides his donkey backwards. Enjoy 21 classic tales about a much-loved character from Muslim cultures in a book packed with jokes, riddles, and wisdom and paired with vibrant, theatrical illustrations.
- [Mangoes, Mischief, and Tales of Friendship](#) written by Chitra Soundar, illustrated by Uma Krishnaswamy (age level: 9-12, Independent Reader). Being a wise and just ruler is no easy task. That's what Prince Veera discovers when he and his best friend, Suku, are given the opportunity to preside over the court of his father, King Bheema. Some of the subjects' complaints are easily addressed, but others are much more challenging. Can Prince Veera and his best friend outsmart the king's trickiest subjects? Inspired by traditional Indian folktales, these stories are sure to delight.

❖ [National Bullying Prevention Month](#)

- [One](#) written by Kathryn Otoshi (age level: 4-8, Beginning to Independent Reader). Blue is a quiet color. Red's a hothead who likes to pick on Blue. Yellow, Orange, Green, and Purple don't like what they see, but what can they do? When no one speaks up, things get out of hand – until One comes along and shows all the colors how to stand up, stand together, and count.
- [The Invisible Boy](#) written by Trudy Ludwig, illustrated by Patrice Barton (age level: 6-9, Beginning to Independent Reader). Meet Brian, the invisible boy. Nobody ever seems to notice him or think to include him in their group, game, or birthday party . . . until, that is, a new kid comes to class.
- [Inside Out and Back Again](#) written by Thanhha Lai (age level: 9-12, Independent Reader). Inspired by the author's childhood experience as a refugee—fleeing Vietnam after the Fall of Saigon and immigrating to Alabama—this coming-of-age debut novel told in verse has been celebrated for its touching child's-eye view of family and immigration. *Inside Out and Back Again* is a #1 *New York Times* bestseller, a Newbery Honor Book, and a winner of the National Book Award!



Back-to-School BINGO (Oct. 4, 7PM, Cafeteria)

Come out on Friday night, October 4 for some fun, friends, BINGO, and prizes! We'll play ten kid-friendly (kid winners only, please!) BINGO games. Prizes from local businesses, and our fantastic IES staff. Don't miss the fun! Doors open at 6:45. See you there!

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PTA Membership and Donation Drive (Oct 5)

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."

DUE DATE: October 5, 2019 You can become a member at any point in the year, but please join by the due date to help us continue to provide the planned Fall programs. Drop off this [form](#) along with payment to the front office, or pay online by: October 5, 2019. This year the Membership and Donation campaign will serve as our Fall fundraiser. 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

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PTA Meeting - Raise Craze Informational Session (Oct 15, 7PM, Media Room)

This month, in lieu of our monthly meeting, we will host a Raise Craze informational session. Come learn more about a unique fundraising opportunity that gives back through acts of kindness and by serving others in need! We will discuss the success of last year's Raise Craze and opportunities for helping us plan for upcoming years. No commitment is necessary! As always, childcare is provided. We look forward to connecting with you!

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Speaker Event - Maryland 529: An Introduction to College Savings (Oct 15, 7:30PM, Media Room)

Maryland 529* college savings plans make it easier than ever to save for college. The Maryland Prepaid College Trust allows you to lock in tomorrow's tuition at today's prices and offers the security of a Maryland Legislative Guarantee. The Maryland College Investment Plan offers a variety of different investment portfolios managed by T. Rowe Price. Both plans are affordable, flexible, and offer great State and federal tax benefits! To find out more, plan to attend the Informational Seminar, presented by Maryland 529 and hosted by IES PTA. All parents/guardians are welcome, and child care is provided!

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** fundraiser this Spring!

Box Tops for Education- Fall Deadline October 25

Did you know that the IES receives 10¢ for every Box Top submitted? The fall Box Tops collection period is here! The submission deadline is Thursday, October 25.

There are two ways to donate this year! Please send in all non expired box tops in a baggie with your child's homeroom teacher's name written on it. They can be dropped in one of the blue collection bins at school. There is also a Box Top app that is super simple to use. Download the app and select Ilchester as your school. Just scan your receipt and Ilchester is automatically credited the amount of Box Tops on your receipt!

The class with the most Box Tops will win a special surprise! Each Box Top is worth 10 cents to the school, which adds up really quickly! Contact: Jen Rutz at jsrutz@gmail.com.



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.



Spirit Wear - Fall order deadline is Tuesday, October 16

Click below to find some new Cheetah gear! Click here for: [Spirit Wear Order Form link](#).

Shutterfly / Tinyprints

Help support your PTA all year by going to: <http://ilchestereshutterflystorefront.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.



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