



# Tiger Tales

March 5, 2008  
Volume 12, Issue 8

Liberty Intermediate School  
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**Calendar of Events**  
**10-14 March**  
Terra Nova Testing

**18 March**  
Family Night Bingo

**25 March**  
USAFE Band Quartet 1pm

**30 March**  
Daylight Savings

## Liberty's Mission Statement

The mission of Liberty Intermediate School is to create an environment, which respects the dignity of individuals, promotes highest student achievement, and provides educational opportunities and challenges for all students to increase their global knowledge.

If your child is going to be absent from school you must notify the school by 0800 hrs.

**Attendance:**  
[LibertyIS.Attendance@eu.dodea.edu](mailto:LibertyIS.Attendance@eu.dodea.edu)  
**01638 522258/2867**

## FRONT OFFICE BLURB

1. Parents, please call in absences and tardiness before 9am.
2. KIDS SHOULD NOT BE AT THE SCHOOL BEFORE 7:50A.M.
3. Please try not to call with last minute changes to after school plans for children. This is causing too many disruptions in the classrooms, unless it is an emergency.



## Math Fair at LIS

Math Fair Coordinator

An earthquake the night before the Math Fair started the halls rumbling at Liberty Intermediate School, and the excitement continued all the next day. A day entirely devoted to math may not be everyone's cup of tea. For the students at Liberty Intermediate School, however, February 27<sup>th</sup> turned out to be a day of fun.



All Liberty Intermediate School students were invited to construct booths for the Math Fair, an exhibition of projects, games, and activities designed to have fun with math. Students worked alone or with partners to create an exciting and interesting activity to teach or practice one of the math skills they had been working on during the first half of the school year. The students were given a week to prepare for the big day, much of the work on their own time. When the day arrived, every student in every class was prepared with an activity. The students set up their classrooms so that each Math Fair project was on display and easily accessible.



Some of the time during the day students hosted other students as they tried their activities. At other times the host students did the activities that another class had prepared for them. Fourth-grade classes visited other fourth grades. Fifth-grade classes visited other fifth grades. Students were engaged all day long playing games such as: In the Mode, Prime Time, Martian

Checkers, Electric Numbers, and Round Me, If You Can.

When asked what they thought was the best thing about the Math Fair, here's what some of the students said:

A fourth-grader: Some people don't like math. But when they go to the Math Fair, they change their minds.

A fourth-grader: You get to practice your math and just play.



A fifth-grader: I like making the projects and being able to teach other kids new things.

A fifth-grader: Everyone seemed to have fun. You get to go into everybody's classes and see what they did. We don't normally get to do that.

What was really the best thing about the Math Fair? The students at Liberty Intermediate School have a totally positive attitude about math, and they were experts at making math fun for each other.

## Some of the Reasons Why the 6+1 Writing Traits Model is Good for our Students

, Host Nation Teacher

- It challenges students to think of writing in new ways.
- It gives teachers and students a common language to talk about writing.
- It breaks down the complex process of writing into manageable "chunks."
- It aligns with standards-based instruction: students define quality and know what the expectations are.
- It gives teachers a model for responding to student writing.
- It establishes consistency from year to year and teacher to teacher.



- It provides a solid foundation for revision and editing.
- It encourages writers to become more independent; it empowers them to evaluate and assess their own writing.

## **Terra Nova Testing**

Terra Nova is a weeklong, timed Standardized Test in which all Liberty Students are required to participate. This Standardized Test is a DoDEA Assessment that evaluates your child on their Reading and Writing Skills for Language Arts, Reading, Math, Social Studies, and Science. Test Results will be available at the end of May or early June.



### **Liberty's Terra Nova Test Schedule**

Monday – Practice Test  
 Tuesday – Language Arts/Reading  
 Wednesday – Math  
 Thursday – Science  
 Friday – Social Studies

**Below are Suggestions/Tips to help your child feel Confident, Secure, and to do their Best Work on the Terra Nova.**

### **The “DO’s” of Terra Nova Testing**

- Do talk to your child about testing. It's helpful for your child to know the different kinds of tests they take and why. Explain the purpose of the test. Remind your child that this *is not* a test that a student can fail and it *will not* affect their Grades and/or Report Card. It is an opportunity for your child to show what they have learned in school. In addition, it gives teachers/schools information that helps them know what to teach.



- Do reinforce the importance of Reading and Writing Skills.

Reading Comprehension is an essential skill in both learning and testing.

- Do encourage your child to develop a positive attitude toward school, testing, and to always do their best. Provide plenty of reassurance that test taking is a natural part of any school year.
- Do encourage your child to employ good Study Habits that are useful in test taking as well as in other work. These habits include reading and following directions carefully, avoiding careless errors, and especially, CHECKING/REVIEWING their work and answers on the test. Even though the Terra Nova is a Timed-Test, there is Time built into this Standardized Test for checking and reviewing of answers.

- Do let your child know that the test is a “Snapshot” of the many things they have learned so far. Studying at the last minute for the test won't help very much, because the tests will cover more than can be learned in a few hours. Cramming the night before typically increases anxiety, which in turn can interfere with clear thinking.
- Do let your child know that you consider the test important, but try not to be too anxious. Students who are calm and confident about themselves do better on tests. There are many factors that can affect test scores and tests are only one tool to measure academic success.
- Do make sure your child has a well-rounded diet, especially Breakfast. Those children who eat a nutritional breakfast on a regular daily basis are more alert, pay better attention in class, and perform better on Standardized Achievement Tests. Test taking is hard work and takes a lot of energy.
- Do make sure that your child gets plenty of Exercise and Sleep so they are well rested on each day of the test.
- Do make sure your child is at school on time. Rushing and worrying about being late could affect academic performance on the day of testing.
- Do remember to ask your child about the testing at the end of each day. Examples of Some Open-Ended Questions: What part of today's test did you find the easiest? The hardest? What strategy did you use to check and/or review your answers?

## **Earth Week is Coming!**

, Earth Week Coordinator

Earth Day is actually celebrated globally each year on 22 April. Our Lakenheath/Mildenhall Military Commands will celebrate Earth Week during 19-26 April with many exciting Community Events to include an Earth Week Fair (26 April at the BX), Invitational Golf Tournament, Conservation Projects at West Stowe Anglo Saxon Village and Nature Reserve, Tree Rescue, Crayfish Day, Bike Discounts, Fun Run/Orienteering, etc.



Please check your local listings for all Up and Coming Earth Week Community Events. This year's Earth Week Theme – Small Changes, Big Differences. Liberty School will be enjoying many exciting Learning Activities, too, which includes

Walking Field Trips/Tours to Lakenheath's Recycling Center and Water Treatment Plant, Guest Speaker from the RSPB Lakenheath Fen Nature Reserve, and 3 School Contests/Competitions – Poetry, Poster, and Design a Grocery Bag Contest. Listed below are the Earth Week Poetry Contest Winners:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place – XXXXX
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – XXXXXX
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – XXXXX
- Honorable Mention – XXXXX

All Contests and Prizes are sponsored by our Lakenheath/Mildenhall Military Commands. Independent Panel of Judges for Poetry Contest: SSgt XXX, SrA XXX, A1C XXX, 2dLt XXX, A1C XXX, A1C XXX, AMN XXXXXX, XXX, AMN XXX, and SrA XXX. The Judges were highly impressed with our students' original work and interpretation of this year's Earth Week Theme – Congratulations!

## **REGISTRATION**

Please mark your calendar. It is re-registration time again. We will be having it the week of April 21-23. Please watch the parent newsletter for times and locations each day. To help speed the process this year we will be mailing home the packets. Please fill these out prior to arriving and make sure to bring a current shot record, orders or extension. Fifth Grade Parents should have received an email concerning an intent form. Please complete and return the form to school with the student. If you did not receive an intent form, please call the office at 01638-52-2258.



## **Hands on Equations Rolls out Throughout the School**

Our students are having great fun with 'Hands on Equations'. The students, love it, it is very visual. By moving the plastic pieces on and off the balance scale they can see what an equation is. Algebraic thinking is something that is so very abstract for most students but by using the manipulatives our students understand algebraic concepts. Algebra is something that helps encourage higher-level thinking and can open many doors for our children once they master it.

**Celebrating  
Read Across America  
March 3, 2008**

Liberty Intermediate School had guest readers on Monday, March 3rd, 2008. Read Across America is a celebration of reading held on the birthday of Dr. Seuss each year.



Classes had community and parent volunteers sharing books throughout the day. Readers brought favorite



books of their own to share, or chose from a pre-selected collection of books in our library.

The students loved this special day!



Thank you to all our readers and greeters. A special thank you to Mrs. Peterson for putting this event together. This event was a huge success!!.

**SECOND SEMESTER  
ACCELERATION**

DODEA POLICY PERMITS ACCELERATION FOR STUDENTS WHOSE FAMILIES WILL BE PCSING BEFORE THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR. THIS WILL PERMIT

STUDENTS TO RECEIVE CREDIT FOR THE SECOND SEMESTER. THE EARLIEST DATE STUDENTS CAN COMPLETE THIS ACCELERATION IS 14 MAY 2008; STUDENTS MUST ATTEND SCHOOL ALL DAY ON THIS DATE. A REQUEST FOR ACCELERATION MUST BE MADE TO THE PRINCIPAL 30 DAYS PRIOR TO THE STUDENT'S LAST DAY IN SCHOOL. FINAL



STUDENT RECORDS WILL BE AVAILABLE TWO SCHOOL DAYS AFTER THE STUDENT'S LAST DAY.

**AAFES Auto/Lunch Program**

*Cafeteria Supervisor*

We have quite a number of students with overdue lunch payments. In order to avoid this in the future parents are requested to use the tips below:



Please check your child's lunch account balance regularly to avoid overdue notices.

Payments can be made at the school cafeteria as well as at the Customer Service Counter at either the Lakenheath BX or Mildenhall BXtra.

Check on your family's eligibility for free or reduced lunch with the School Liaison Office at 226-5077. They will be delighted to answer your questions about the program.

Thank you for your support and we look forward to meeting you. Why not join your child for lunch? Simply let your child's teacher know ahead of time so we can include you in our daily lunch count.

If you have questions please contact LIS Cafeteria Supervisor at 226-5589 between the hours of 0800-1330 on school days, or via e-mail at [ketteringhamj@aafes.com](mailto:ketteringhamj@aafes.com)

**PTO NEWS**

President, LIS PTO

- Book Fair – next one will be in March or April
- School store will be reopening soon on Thursdays at lunch time
- Yearbook – the yearbook is getting off the ground.



We're using the same company as last year- price will be \$15 per book, we are taking pre orders, right now. Also if you have any photos of school events or students at their best, please forward them to the PTO so they can be included.

**Volunteers Needed:**

- Chairperson for the Spring Carnival, There is a file of plans for this event. We even have some prizes left over.
- Family Night Bingo - March 18, Bingo and food with prizes for the winners
- Next Years PTO Officers

The current holders of these positions are willing to train new people.

If you would like to volunteer for any of these positions and take an active role in school activities, please email me at the following: [paula.bovitch@eu.dodea.edu](mailto:paula.bovitch@eu.dodea.edu)

**MILDENHALL LIBRARY**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

➤ Story Time- Wednesdays 1030-1115am- Our popular program includes stories, crafts and Fun!

➤ Chocopalooza!: The Ultimate Chocolate Experience! 14 March 5-7pm (Drop In): Drop by the library between 5-7pm on 14 March to tantalize your senses with an array of tasty chocolate and yummy books and other activities. Learn the wonderful things that chocolate is good for and go home with a good book to read. This is nice getaway from the stresses of children and life. Please bring along a chocolate dish to share! **This is an adult only event.**

➤ Library Newsletter: Ever wondered what events are happening at the RAF Mildenhall Library? Want to know what's new in the collection? Who knows what other fun information might be in the Library's monthly newsletter? If you are interested in receiving the newsletter, please sign up your email address at the Library or go to [www.100svs.com](http://www.100svs.com) and click on the library link.