

## **JUNE 2012**

SIGNALS EDITOR DEE LABARCA

## Principal's Message - Mrs. Tali Axelrod



It is difficult to believe that the school year is almost over and I have been here as your new principal for almost a year. It has been a great year getting to know teachers, parents, and of course, the wonderful students here at Indian Hill! Because you, as parents, work in such close partnership with the school, we are always able to provide our children with the best learning environment and experiences.

This year, students have been challenged and engaged in thoughtful and meaningful learning both in the classroom and outside of it. They have experienced many enriching activities that have supplemented the learning and guided them to become deeper thinkers. Some of these enriching activities include Science Fairs, Writing Celebrations, Patriotic Day Programs, Star Lab, and experiences with NASA Moon Rocks. Field trips to the Philadelphia Zoo, the Planetarium at Ocean County College, and the Newark Museum also enhanced the curriculum. Our PLG sponsored cultural arts assemblies that introduced students to the works of William Shakespeare as well as to the author Jordan Sonnenblick. Sergeant Jeff Ackerson of the Holmdel Police Department provided our students with an informative assembly on the topic of bullying and appropriate Internet and computer use. This very important assembly helped to reinforce Indian Hill's safety and antibullying values.

We are so proud of our students for all of their accomplishments. Indian Hill had an

outstanding showing in the Continental Mathematics League. In our region, the Fourth Grade team came in 5th place, the Fifth Grade team came in 7th place and the Sixth Grade team came in 1st place in Monmouth County! We had students who were winners of Barnes & Noble's local "My Favorite Teacher Essay Contest". Our Knowledge Masters Open teams also did beautifully with 5th grade placing 3rd in NJ while the 6th grade team placed 5th in the state. A huge congratulations also to the  $5^{th}$  &  $6^{th}$ grade Academic Bowl teams at Indian Hill. Our 6th grade team came in 3rd in the competition while our 5th grade team placed 2<sup>nd</sup> after a very close final round. Some of our students also received honors in the area of music with two of our students achieving All Shore and Region band status. Congratulations to all of our partici-

We have so much talent right here at Indian Hill. Our students showed off their musical and dramatic talent in our chorus and band concerts, as well as the Indian Hill Talent Show, Fall Play, and Spring Musical. We also had impressive and creative student artwork displayed at the District Art Show. After school, our PLG sponsored Hang-Out Nights, a Winter Boardwalk, a Walk-a-thon, and a very special Career Day. Our Student Council has been extremely busy with great activities that raised money for the Food Bank of Monmouth and Ocean Counties, the Foundation for Children with Cancer, the Ronald McDonald House, the Special Olympics, the World Wildlife Fund, as well as participating in a recycling initiative through Terracycle. We are so proud of their efforts as they develop into strong student leaders committed to including others and supporting the community in their efforts. We have held our third grade orientations for our incoming fourth graders

## Calendar of Events

6/1	4 Hour Session
6/5	PLG Meeting 9:30 a.m.
	At the Red Oak
6/6	IH Beginner Band/Chorus
	Concert 9:30 am
6/7	IH Beginner Band/Chorus
	Concert 7:00 pm
6/8	Field Day Grade 4
6/11	Field Day Grade 5
6/12	Field Day Grade 6
6/13	End of 4th Marking Period
6/13	Field Day Rain Date
6/14	Field Day Rain Date
6/17	Field Day Rain Date
6/20	4 hour session
	Last Day of School for Students

and their parents to help welcome and provide them with a smooth transition to Indian Hill. Likewise, our 6th graders have been to Satz School for their incoming 7th grade orientations. We wish our 6th graders well as they move to the middle school. As we approach the end of the school year, we are all looking forward to grade level Field Days at the Holmdel Swim Club. Our PE teachers have been planning exciting and fun activities to make these days very special.

As the end of the school year quickly approaches I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our students, Indian School Student Council, staff, parents, and this school community for all your on-going efforts and hard work. I would like to close with a special thank you for the warm welcome I received this year as your new principal. I look forward to working with you and watching your children grow and learn. I hope your summer is filled with wonderful activities and time with your children. I look forward to welcoming them back to Indian Hill in September!