We’re glad you’re here!
Please sign in at a computer and complete a name tag.
Students will join a classroom session shortly!
Introductions

• Interim Principal: Denise Hearne
• Assistant Principal: Toyia Matthews
• Dean of Students: Frank Zaremba

• Facilitators: Dionna Bailey (K-2) & Lisa Pagano (3-5)
• Magnet Coordinator: Emily Foley
Let’s Get Started …

Students:
Please join Ms. Pagano as she escorts you to a 3rd grade classroom lesson on symbolism

Families:
Let’s stay in the media center to learn more about Irwin Academic Center & the third grade experience
An Irwin Overview

What to Expect
Irwin 101

• Hours: 9:15 am - 4:15 pm

• Mascot: Hunter the Horned Owl

• Colors: Maroon & Gold

• Magnet Theme: Learning Immersion & Talent Development

• Grades: K - 5

• Transportation / Zone: Grey & Violet / Central
School Mission Statement

Irwin strives to foster high academic achievement and the growth of creative and critical thinkers, lifelong learners, involved citizens, and 21st century problem solvers by providing a nurturing, challenging, and innovative program that engages gifted and talented students, their families, and the community.
What Should I Expect?

• A warm and inviting family environment
• A well rounded academic program emphasizing challenge, enrichment and depth of thought that integrates higher-level critical thinking skills
• Highly involved and committed parents
• Opportunities for students to achieve their fullest potential through an enriched curriculum and differentiated activities.
Our Magnet Programs

• Learning Immersion

All K-2 students are in our learning immersion program, which nurtures advanced language, analytical thinking, motivation, perseverance, leadership, perspective, sensitivity, humor, creativity and artistic talent.

Only Irwin's K-2 students who do not certify for the Talent Development program qualify to continue in the Learning Immersion Program in 3rd, 4th & 5th.
Our Magnet Programs

• Talent Development (3rd, 4th & 5th)

Students are exposed to a full day of rigorous, academically challenging instruction designed with characteristics of gifted student in mind.

All students in this program are certified as gifted & homogeneously grouped by certification.

All Talent Development classroom teachers have earned their Gifted Education licensure or are required to work toward it.

Upon completion of the 5th grade, TD students are guaranteed admittance into a middle school IB program within their transportation zone.
Irwin’s Magnet Paths & Entry Points*

K-2: Irwin Learning Immersion*  
*(pending available seats)*

All CMS 2nd graders are screened for TD

3-5: Learning Immersion

Irwin students who do not TD certify continue at Irwin in the LI program, which uses the same resources and strategies as the 3-5 TD program.

3-5: Talent Development*

Irwin students who are TD certified move to the TD track for grades 3-5. Additional spaces are added for other CMS TD-certified students who wish to enter Irwin.

Other CMS 3-5

MUST BE TD CERTIFIED  
*(pending available seats)*
What is Giftedness?

- Outstanding levels of aptitude or competence
- An exceptional ability to reason and learn
- Top 10% or rarer

~ National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC)
HIGH ACHIEVERS...

Know the Answers

Enjoy School

Grasp Meaning

Copy Accurately

Have Good Ideas

Absorb Information

Achieve Mastery in 3–8 Repetitions

GIFTED STUDENTS...

Ask the questions

Enjoy Learning

Infer

Create New Designs

Have Unexpected Ideas

Manipulate Information

Achieve Mastery in 1–2 Repetitions
Teacher Pleaser...

- Knowledgeable
- Completes all work
- Writes well
- One of the first to respond
- Asks “safe” questions
- Time is important

Potentially GIFTED STUDENT...

- Has much factual information
- May not show neatness or order in work
- Anticipates outcomes
- May disagree with teacher or textbook answers
- May frequently respond in an elaborate manner
- May not want to stop working on a task
What's our approach?
Third Grade @ Irwin

What to Expect
3rd Grade

**Current School Year**
- 6 teams
- 3 TD & 3 LI
- Deming, Haines, Hiroshige, Hindes, Harris & Watson
- 2 TAs

**2014-2015 School Year**
- 6 teams
- 4 TD & 2 LI
- Teachers & TAs assigned over the summer
Expectations for a Third Grader

- Interactive notebooks
- Projects
- Homework
- Grades
- Organization & Responsibility
- Helping at home
- EOG prep
- Challenge
Curriculum & Instruction

We begin with the Common Core and supplement to dig deeper into concepts.

- **Math** begins with the Investigations Series supplemented with higher level resources *(teacher created resources, M3, H.O.E)*
Curriculum & Instruction

- **Literacy** uses the balanced literacy framework with a focus on various genres (*Jacob’s Ladder, William & Mary, avg. RSTU level*)
Curriculum & Instruction

- **Science and Social Studies** are taught weekly
  
  *(teacher created units organized using interactive notebooks)*
Curriculum & Instruction

- Emphasis on Listening and Speaking skills:
  - Seminars
  - Presentations
  - Debates
  - Evidence based discussion

- Weekly Connect classes:
  - music
  - physical education
  - art
  - technology
  - Spanish

- Full time media specialist and guidance counselor
Technology Integration

- SMART boards
- iPads
- Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT)
  (research, socrative.com, Dreambox, RAZ kids, Google Drive, tech-based products)
Support @ Irwin

What to Expect
Instructional Support

• Intervention and extension programs through small group classroom differentiation (workshop)

• Lessons geared toward nurturing the Talent Development focus

• Tutors, Interventionist, TAs, Lead TD teacher, 2 AIG certified Academic Facilitators

• Professional Development & Resources
How can I become more involved?

• Join the PTA or be a part of SLT (school leadership team)
• Attend Meet the Teacher Night and Curriculum Night
• Volunteer as a room parent, a tutor, an office or Media Center helper
• Select your area of interest to volunteer
• Participate in school events, activities and fundraisers
• Make yourself aware of current legislation
• Stay in touch through multiple communication outlets
Family’s Role

• Being a respectful, constructive member of the Irwin community.
• Learning about your school and your child
• Being directly and actively involved in your child’s education
• Staying up to date with the school
• Following school protocols
• Providing financial support as you are able
How Do We Communicate?

- Agendas/notes
- Staff web pages
- Progress reports & report cards
- Conferences
- Class newsletters
- Weekly Irwin Inquirer

- [School website](http://www.facebook.com/irwinacademic)
- [Facebook](http://www.facebook.com/irwinacademic)
- [Twitter](https://twitter.com/IrwinPTA)
- Phone calls / ConnectEds
Extracurricular & Enrichment

What to Expect
Clubs & Teams

- Math Olympiad
- Chess Club
- Girls on the Run
- Robotics Club
- Science Olympiad
- Odyssey of the Mind
Enrichment Clusters

- interest-based, cross-grade level clubs
  - dance, music, art, science, technology
- integrate the 4Cs -- creativity, collaboration, communication & critical thinking
Before and After School Programs

• Hours:
  6:45-8:45 AM and 4:15-6:00 PM

• Director:
  Montangi Blount
Play Spanish & Play Languages

• **Day / Hours:** Thursdays, 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.

• **Learn more or Sign up @**

  www.playspanish.com
Transportation @ Irwin

What to Expect
Transportation Options

- **Car riders** *(drop off in circle, enter on Sycamore St, for Pick-up)*
- **Walkers** *(come to Media Center outside door)*
- **ASEP** *(locator board)*
- **Bus riders** *(bus lot behind school near cafeteria and main office)*

**Changes**

- Written note must be sent to the child’s teacher explaining the change in transportation. **Please try to do this in advance!**
Daycare Service & Transportation
• If you registered your child at a daycare service that CMS provides transportation, request that stop in Alternate Stop. (Does not apply to daycare vans.)

Bus stops
• Your child is assigned a stop based on your home address. These stops are consolidated stops and will not be at your home address.
Transportation: Bus Riders

Changing stops / Requesting a new one

• CMS website [www.cms.k12.nc.us](http://www.cms.k12.nc.us) has a transportation link which contains a request form.

• This could take days – two weeks to be approved

• Contact the school to verify approval
Looking Ahead

What to do this summer ...
Tips for Kids

- Read! Encourage silent/sustained reading, Read and interact with various genres of texts together, Write and Draw about what you read

- Educational Websites: Dreambox, RAZ kids, math games

- Legos, K’NEX

- Board Games (taking turns, cooperation, discussion)

- Multiplication Facts

- Word Problems
Tips for Parents

● Guide your child toward independence
   (ex. chore chart, organizational checklist, hand over small jobs at home)

● Create everyday, real world learning experiences

● Preview the Common Core for third grade

● Get involved early
   ○ Connect with a current Irwin family
   ○ Join the PTA or SLT
   ○ Register as a CMS volunteer
Join Us …

Multicultural Night

● Thursday, June 5
  6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

● World Tour
● Performances
● Food Trucks
Thank You!

What questions do you have?

We look forward to starting this journey with you and your family.