

Integrated Arts Academy

October 14, 2013

NEWSLETTER

Important Dates

- Oct. 17 IAA FUN RUN!**
9:15 a.m.
Early Release Day!
11:30 am
Parent Conferences
- Oct. 18 NO SCHOOL!**
Parent Conferences
- Oct. 21 Monday Morning Meeting**
Parent Coffee Connections
- Oct. 25 Friday Town Meeting**
2:15 pm
PTO Halloween Party
6:30 pm
- Oct. 30 Family Drum Circle**
6:30 pm
- Oct. 31 Whole School Field Trip**
Step Afrika! 10:00 am
- Nov. 1 Friday Town Meeting**
2:15 pm
Jeh Kulu Junior
- Nov. 4 Monday Morning Meeting**
Parent Coffee Connections
- Nov. 8 Friday Town Meeting**
2:15 pm
- Nov. 14 PTO Family Traditions**
6-8pm
- Nov. 15 Friday Town Meeting**
2:15 pm
Korean Dance Troupe
- Nov. 27 NO school!**
- Nov. 28 NO school!**
- Nov. 29 NO school!**



Professional Learning Community (PLC) work at the Holiday Inn on Friday.

A message from the principal

NECAPs are difficult and in this age of high stake testing, what is important can often be lost. A colleague sent me this email from Parker Palmer (a national figure around education reform and reflective teacher practice) this week and it resonated with me. I think the email depicts how we try to honor and connect with our students through the arts. I reprint it here for you.

Parker's intro: I just heard from a friend of mine that her daughter's new elementary school principal sent this to all the students as they received their state standardized testing scores this week:

"We are concerned that these tests do not always assess all of what it is that make each of you special and unique. The people who create these tests and score them do not know each of you the way your teachers do, the way I hope to, and certainly not the way your families do. They do not know that many of you speak two languages. They do not know that you can play a musical instrument or that you can dance or paint a picture. They do not know that your friends count on you to be there for them or that your laughter can brighten the dreariest day. They do not know that you write poetry or songs, play or participate in sports, wonder about the future, or that sometimes you take care of your little brother or sister after school. They do not know that you have traveled to a really neat place or that you know how to tell a great story or that you really love spending time with special family members and friends. They do not know that you can be trustworthy, kind or thoughtful, and that you try, every day, to be your very best. The scores you get will tell you something, but they will not tell you everything. There are many ways of being smart."

My friend reported that her daughter, who did well on the test, shrugged about her scores, but read the letter over and over and held it close to her heart announcing, "I really love this."

I love it as well.
Artfully,
Mr. Bobby

PTO is looking for room parents!

If you would like to be a room parent for your child's classroom - please contact Paula Henry in the office.
phenry@bsdvt.org or 864-8475

First Grade

We were so excited to learn and practice and perform our amazing butterfly dance that helped us learn about the life cycle of a monarch butterfly. We hope some of you got to enjoy our performance at last week's Town Meeting. We have lots of exciting things coming up! We have Parent Teacher Conferences this week. We really hope that all families will be able to make these. This is such a great opportunity for us to get to know each other and to discuss your amazing children. Next week we will be taking our first field trip to the Flynn to watch Bunnacula. We will leave school by 8:45 and return by 11:15. Joan, our drama coach, will be doing workshops with our classes prior to our field trip. We have been reading the book and discussing the story. Our next field trip is Step Afrika on October 31st. We will leave the school by 9:15 and return by 11:45 and eat lunch when we return. We are having a workshop by the Flynn Center in our classes the week before. We are still looking for a few parents to join us on both field trips. Just a reminder that the weather is getting cooler, please be sure to dress your child in warmer clothes. We would love to have some donations of extra coats, boots, mittens, snow pants to keep in our classes if children forget. Please no hats, as they could spread lice. Thanks for all your support and cooperation. We are excited to begin studying maps and continents. You will hear more about this soon!!!

IAA FUN RUN!

Thursday, October 17th
9:15 am
Come join us!
Cheer us on!

You've got to...
Move it! Move it!

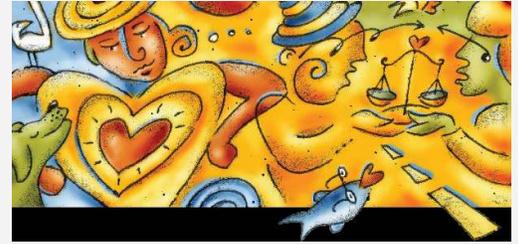


Fourth Grade

Fourth graders have finished up our unit on Leonardo da Vinci and the scientific/artistic method and have moved into a new co-teaching unit with Mr. Myregard. For this unit we have been working on writing fiction stories and adding instrumentation to the story to give the feeling of a character. We viewed Peter and the Wolf, which is a perfect example of the relationship between music and stories. We also listened to three different samples of music and used the music as an inspiration for writing. Students are gaining knowledge of instrument families, music composition and ways to generate ideas for stories.

Mr. T and Señora Bangora

Guidance



Second Step Social-Emotional Curriculum

Perhaps you have noticed some new posters around the school drawing attention to **Empathy, Calming Down and Problem Solving Steps**. These are reminders drawn from the nationally recognized Second Step Curriculum that is being featured across the grade levels here at IAA. At the kindergarten level, it is in the Guidance Curriculum and will begin next week. For all other grades, teachers refer to it at various times throughout the course of a week. The ultimate goal is to have some common understanding as well as common language that students and teachers can utilize in becoming more proficient at supporting each other in the world of social skills. All of this helps to promote a safe and respectful school climate. It all begins with an understanding of empathy and developing empathic skill.

Steve Lane



IAA Family Drumming Circle

All students and families welcome!

Wednesday, October 30th
6:30 -7:30 pm
IAA GYM



Free Tickets!

for IAA Students and Families

Jeh Kulu

Dance and Drum Theater Presents:

“Kaay” A Story of Heritage

Saturday, November 2

4:00 pm

Contois Auditorium
Burlington

For free ticket information see
Senora Bangoura at IAA

Square One Art

**The fundraiser is back for
its 5th year at IAA!**



With the support of our amazing new art teacher, Ms. Ada Leaphart, every student in kindergarten through 5th grade is in the process of creating a square of art. These squares will be sent off at the end of October to a company that turns these designs into a sheet of stickers for every artist who participates. With these stickers, families will also receive an order form offering items that range from coffee mugs to pillowcases to porcelain trinket boxes to notecards to hot mitts - all with your student's artwork on them.

The time slot we were able to get with the company will work well for families celebrating Christmas and Kwanzaa. The products you order between November 11-22 will arrive around the middle of December. Apologies to our families who celebrate Hanukkah, idal-Adha, Diwali, and Tihar, which are all happening too early this year for the items you order to be gifts for those occasions.

As we get closer to the November 11-22 ordering window, you can check the glass display case in the front hallway to see samples of the great products you can order. Last year we earned over \$1200 that is being used to create artist kits that combine artist biographies, how-to books, artifacts, games, puzzles, and activities that help kids think about and experience different artists in a variety of ways. Feel free to stop by the library to ask Ms. Amy any questions you may have about this

News from the Art Room



Greetings from the art studio! Students in Ms. Lynda's STEP class have been taking advantage of these last warm days by spending time outside. They are focusing on drawing what they see, and each student is keeping a sketchbook of these observational drawings. Popular subjects have included sunflowers, the mural on the outside wall by the pre-school, and playground equipment.

Remember to check out the new IAA Art Studio Blog:

<http://iaartstudio.tumblr.com/>

Ms. Leaphart





fundraiser.

Amy Cudney and Ms. Leaphart

Integrated Arts Academy • Snapshots



"Surely the apple is the noblest of fruits."

- Henry David Thoreau