



Integrated Arts Academy

October 7, 2013

NEWSLETTER

Important Dates

- Oct. 8** **Picture Day!**
Tuesday
- Oct. 11** **Friday** Town Meeting
2:15 pm
UVM Hula Hoop Troop
STEP and Grade 1-
Butterfly Dance
- Oct. 14** **Monday** Morning Meeting
8:10 am
Parent Coffee Connections
8:30 am
- 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
8:10 am
Parent Coffee Connections
8:30 am
- Oct. 25** **Friday** Town Meeting
2:15 pm
PTO Halloween Party
6:30 pm
- Oct. 31** Whole School Field Trip
Step Afrika! **10:00 am**



Fifth graders listen to the tour guide at Ethan Allen Homestead

A message from the principal

Another great week at the IAA.

Ms. Angela our old friend and visual arts teacher has started a class with local artists. The purpose of this St. Mike's graduate course is to teach local artists about arts integration and how to collaborate with teachers in the school setting. Through our partnership with the Flynn, BCA, VT Arts Council and VSA Vermont, we are teaching 10 artists the Arts Integration way. Look for them in the building conducting observations. Also, many of them may return in the spring to conduct Arts Residencies in our classrooms. It is a really great way to support community artists and the arts based learning in our school community. Speaking of teaching artists; we will have our regular and ongoing connection to Flynn movement and drama artists and BCA visual arts artists in the building. Both BCA and Words Come Alive residencies will be starting in October.

So stay tuned for many community artists teaching side by side with our teaching staff. This is a great opportunity for us as a school and for student learning and growth in the content areas as well as their artistic skills.

Artfully,

Mr. Bobby

Bobby Riley
School Principal

PTO

Friday, October 11 is the last day for the PTO's Fall bulb fundraiser. There are extra catalogs in the office. Bulbs can be ordered online at:

http://www.flowerpowerfundraising.com/campaign?campaign_id=16601

Fifth Grade

Close on the heels of our drama and writing Integrated Arts unit (see the description by Ms. Joan nearby), we have officially begun our fall social studies unit on history, human rights, and the years leading up to the American Revolution. After reading a little bit about colonial life, we got to experience it first hand at our first field trip of the year to the Ethan Allen Homestead. We toured Ethan Allen's home, acted out the parts of farmers, took a nature walk, made and tasted corn cakes, as well as different fresh apples, baked beans, and maple syrup.

In describing some things students thought might be hard about colonial life, they mentioned having to make and wear uncomfortable clothes, having to work "24-7", living in a cold house in the winter, and having to grow your own food or hunt for it. They were also asked to describe things that would have been fun about colonial life, including things like climbing trees to pick apples, trading things at the market, cooking, writing with a quill and ink, and having sheep! Now we are ready to put ourselves in the place of people who lived in colonial times, and hopefully develop a richer understanding of their experiences and our own history. Our next Integrated Arts unit will explore history through dance.

P.S. Our field trip would not have happened without our wonderful parent, staff, and community volunteers. Many thanks!!



Students learning about food in colonial times

Ms. B and Mr. Whitman

Drama

Gardening is important. Bike riding is great for people. Taking care of pets is a big responsibility.

Everyone should get to have sleepovers. Animals should not be raised in slaughterhouses.

These are some of the thesis statements written by fifth graders as they wrote their personal essays in September. Because this was a co-teaching unit coupled with drama, students developed their writing skills as well as their acting skills. They spoke their thesis statements aloud, practicing speaking loud enough for all to hear, with tones and facial expressions that matched their statements, and using eye contact to speak directly to their audience. Here is a photo of a student doing just that:



It's important to have a home.

As students learned how to support their thesis statements with written evidence, they learned how to communicate their ideas through pantomime as well. Just as in their written paragraphs, their pantomimes had to have clear beginnings, middles and ends and include details. Below is a student acting out one of his points of supporting evidence for his claim.

Drama cont...



Basketball is awesome because you can play all year.

The writing inspired the acting and the acting fed the written pieces. Bravo to the fifth graders for their bravery and openness in finding new creative ways to share their important ideas!

Ms. Joan

Second Grade

Second Grade Soars into Space!

As we move into October, the second graders begin their sojourn into the Solar System! With a visit from Ms. Frizzle, our own Joan Robinson, students become actors in Joanna Cole's, *The Magic School Bus: Lost in the Solar System* as they shoot into outer space and planet hop. Using sculpture and painting, students will use wire frames and plaster to create replica of the planets for our hallway as they research and write reports about a planet of their choice. As we move along with our journey, they will become astronauts, build a space station and engage in hands-on science experiments to learn about atmosphere, heat and the Earth's rotation.

Ms. Decarreau

Health News

If your child rides in a car, van or truck this is the Vermont Child Passenger Law:

Children who are not 1 year old and weighing less than 20 pounds must be in a back facing child safety seat. NEVER put a child in the front seat.

Children less than 8 years old, must ride in an approved child safety seat or booster. Children over 8 years old must fit properly into the adult seat belt in order to use it.

Children must stay in a booster seat until the adult seat belt fits correctly and safely. To judge if your child is ready, take the 5 step test.

1. **Does the child sit all the way back against the auto seat?**
2. **Do the child's knees bend comfortably at the edge of the auto seat?**
3. **Does the belt cross the shoulder between the neck and arm?**
4. **Is the lap belt as low as possible, touching the thighs?**
5. **Can the child stay seated like this for the whole trip?**

If you answered "no" to any of these questions, **your child still needs a booster seat.** Your child will be more comfortable, too! Children should remain in a booster until this test can be passed. Once the belt fits, the child should use it for every ride. In addition, all children should remain in the back seat until at least 13 years old. Before this age, kids have soft bones that cannot withstand the impact of the airbag, which explodes at 250-300 MPH in the front passenger seat. Every passenger should buckle up – Every ride, every time!

ELL

The Integrated Arts Academy is fortunate to have almost 70 English Language Learners. We are also home to the district's Studying Toward English Proficiency (STEP) program, led by teacher Lynda Siegel. Our students come from all over the world, representing more than 20 different countries. They are multilingual and speak many languages including: Dinka, Karen, Burmese, Vietnamese, Maay Maay, Somali, Korean, Nepali, Nuba, Arabic, Spanish, German, French, Kirundi, Chinese and Baole. They bring a wealth of knowledge about different cultures to our learning community. If you have questions about the ELL program please contact one of our ELL teachers: Kristen Bingel, Aranka Gyuk, Mary Neudecker or Lynda Siegel.



health news cont.....

Never buy a used car seat because that seat might have already been in an accident or may have "expired". The straps, belts, plastic and other safety parts can wear out and become unsafe, in the event of an accident. That is why each car seat has an expiration date. This is not a marketing ploy. Car seats live in extreme environments, the very hot and very cold of a car. These temperature swings cause the plastic, over time, to become brittle and fail which can cause the harness to pull through the shell of the car seat and eject the child. Please check and replace your child's seat, if that date has passed. Our law here in Vermont is a minimum standard. Best practice will ensure that your child is as safe as possible. For more information:

<http://www.beseatsmart.org/index.php>

Nurse Mongeon



IAA FUN RUN!!

The Integrated Arts Academy will hold it's first ever **Fun Run** on October 17th at 9:15 am. The festive school-wide event seeks to spark the joy of fitness in the IAA community. The entire school will participate by going outside to run or cheer (or both)! Live bands and enthusiastic crowds of students, families and staff will line the run course. Musical performances will include James Kochalka Superstar and Sambatucada.

The run course will trace the outside edge of the school property. It is a quarter mile loop that will be marked with cones and flagging. Students will run in waves starting at 9:15 a.m. Kindergarten and 1st grade will go first, running one loop of the course. Fourth and fifth grades will go next, running three loops of the course or 3/4 of a mile. Second and third grades will go last and run two loops or a 1/2 mile. Families are encouraged to attend and run with their students. Come on out and **Move it! Move it!**

Ms. Cara, Ms. V. & Nurse Mongeon

Integrated Arts Academy • Snapshots

IAA MOVES IT!

FUN RUN Coming on October 17th!



