



Integrated Arts Academy

February 17, 2014

NEWSLETTER

Important Dates

- Feb. 21 Friday Town Meeting 2:15 pm
Magical Mailbox -
Who's Your SuperHero?
- Feb. 24-March 4 NO SCHOOL!
- March 5 First Day Back to School
PTO Meeting 6pm
- March 7 Friday Town Meeting 2:15 pm
- March 12 Magnet Open House 5:30 pm
- March 14 IAA Variety Show
Friday Town Meeting 2:15 pm
- March 19 Magnet Open House 8:15 am
- March 21 Deadline for K registration
Friday Town Meeting 2:15 pm
- March 26 IAA Math Night
- March 27 ½ Day Parent Conferences
- March 28 NO SCHOOL!

Next PTO Meeting
Wednesday, March 5
6:00 pm - Pizza (at 5:45)
Childcare available



Student Tableau created with Flynn Teaching Artist, Lois Trombley at the Community Arts Day and Silent Auction



Students drum with our very own Senora Bangoura at the Community Arts Day



A message from the principal

Ms. Emily, Ms. Leaphart, Ms. B, Mr. Mike, Ms. Judy, Stacy Raphael from the Flynn Center and I, just got back from the **Kennedy Center Partners in Education** conference on Saturday.

The Partners in Education program is designed to assist arts organizations throughout the nation to develop or expand educational partnerships with their local school systems. The purpose of these school/community partnerships in the arts is to promote the professional learning of teachers and enhance artistic experiences and learning for students.

I shared with arts organizations and schools, from all over the country, the things we are doing at IAA. Many folks were taking notes and just blown away by the the program we are developing at IAA. The conference was invigorating and reaffirming of the work we are doing.

One of our presenters, and the author of *Teaching with the Brain in Mind*, Eric Jensen discussed the power of arts as an element in learning: "Give a school daily dance, music, drama, and visual art instruction where there is considerable movement, and you might get a miracle." I really believe we have one brewing here at IAA.

The things we do at IAA and that were explored at the conference highlighted the countless opportunities that the arts provide our students and our communities through the process of experience in our mind, body, hands, and soul. Amazing!

A huge thank you to Tracey Dengler and Tracey Mcvetty. They, along with the support of many others, put on a wonderful community arts day and silent auction. Not only did we raise significant funds for the school, we demonstrated what makes this school special and a vibrant part of the Burlington arts community. A final thank you to our Arts Partners for their vibrant, feet in, hands on arts workshops for our kids.

Artfully, Mr. Bobby

5th Grade News

Students have been very excited during our **adventures at Starbase** as we experience the importance of teamwork while we learn **lessons in science, math and technology**. We have recently finished up our most recent **Integrated Arts** unit of study. During this unit we **combined History and Drama**. Ask our students to show you what the multiple perspectives of people living Colonial America during the time period leading up to the American Revolution. Students were challenged to **experience different perspectives** while they used their **drama skills to communicate** effectively.

During the next several weeks we will be preparing for our **school play** that will take place just **prior to April vacation**. Some of our preparation work will take place in school during focused instruction time. It is important to understand that some students will also be expected to practice for the play during recess time during the final days leading up to the performance. As always, please **feel free to contact** us with questions and concerns!

Ms. B & Mr. Whitman



Bonnie Acker and her food team worked with 5th graders to create the most delicious sushi on the planet.

3rd Grade News

The third grade just finished an amazing arts integration unit focusing on musical composition and fractions. Teaching fractions as in depth as we did this year is new for third grade with the Common Core math curriculum that the state of Vermont has adopted. To be sure we addressed this shift, and prepared our third graders for their fourth grade experience, we knew arts integration was the way to go, and the link between music and fractions is obvious and deeply integrated. Students spent time using math manipulatives, as well as musical instruments and blank measures of music, to create and explore fractions. Our focus was on equivalent fractions and equivalent measures of music. We focused on vocabulary such as numerator, denominator, time signature, measure, bar line and then the names of music notes. We ended with mini performances for our classmates of the equal measures, either 2 or 4, that each student composed and then played!



Mr. Myregaard co-teaching in Mr. Wallace's third grade classroom.

Mrs. Greve, Mr. Wallace, & Mr. Mike

2nd Grade News



The second grade is having a wonderful winter! Students are working hard to become even more accomplished writers and mathematicians. We are learning to recognize how characters evolve and grow in fiction stories. Ms. Decarreau's class is learning about the U.S. states and magnetism. Mr. Leal's students created their first classroom newspaper and have started personal kid blogs. In both classes we are growing as dancers, singers, painters, and performers—our creative efforts lend energy and color to the otherwise bleak and bitterly cold weeks of mid-winter!

Mr. Leal & Ms. Decarreau

Music News

Activities in the music room have been a lot of fun lately! Some highlights include: the 3rd grades just finished an awesome Integrated Unit on Music & Fractions and have also started playing the recorders; the 5th grades have started a unit entitled, "Your Voice As An Instrument", where they have learned about a Capella singing through the Pentatonix and Incredibox and will make their own compositions using GarageBand. And ask Mr Leal about the nice song Mr Myregaard helped one of his students write for him for Valentine's Day. His class sang it for him and he loved it! Remember to check in regularly to the iaamusic.weebly.com Music Room Blog for weekly updates on music activities at the IAA.

Mr. Myregaard

Integrated Arts Academy • Snapshots

The Vermont Symphony Orchestra's Musical Petting Zoo visited IAA.



This program is a hands-on introduction to instruments for our younger students.

