



NEWSLETTER

Important Dates

- Feb. 4** Magnet School Open House
5:30 -7:00 pm
- Feb. 7** Movie Night
5:30-7:00 pm
After School Families
Friday Town Meeting 2:15 pm
UVM Dance Recital
- Feb. 10** Monday Morning Meeting
Parent Coffee Connection
- Feb. 12** Deadline for Variety Show
Sign-ups! No extensions!
- Feb. 14** **Friday Town Meeting 2:15 pm**
♥ **Video Presentation**
- Feb. 16** **Community Arts Day**
and Silent Auction
2:00-4:00 pm
- Feb. 17** **NO** Monday Morning Meeting
VSO Petting Zoo - K-2
- Feb. 21** **Friday Town Meeting 2:15 pm**
Magical Mailbox -
Who's Your SuperHero?
- Feb. 24-March 4** **NO SCHOOL!**



Khadija Abu, Sophia's mom presents to 4th classes about her experience as a Somalian weaver.

A message from the principal

The photo above reminded me of this anonymously authored poem. I love having parents engaging in student learning and our school community.

Parents and Teachers

I dreamed I stood in a studio
And watched two sculptors there,
The clay they used was a young child's mind
And they fashioned it with care.

One was a teacher; the tools she used
were books and music and art;
One was a parent with a guiding hand
and a gentle loving heart.

And when at last their work was done
They were proud of what they had wrought
For the things they had worked into the child
Could never be sold or bought.

And each agreed she would have failed
if she had worked alone
For behind the parent stood the school,
and behind the teacher stood the home.

This thursday night I leave for a weekend Courage and Renewal retreat. This will allow me to focus on my practice as a principal and bring back renewed energy and focus for the work. The retreat will deepen skills that will hopefully allow me to lead with courage, effectiveness and heart. I look forward to sharing what I learn.

Artfully, Mr. Bobby

Next PTO Meeting Wednesday, February 5

6:00 pm
Pizza (at 5:45) and childcare available
Topic: Homework

BSD Automated Telephone Alert System - Test Phone Call

Please note that we will be sending a TEST phone call to parents/guardians on **Thursday, February 6th at approximately 6 p.m.** If you receive the call at the number(s) you wish called for such things as school announcements, attendance calls and weather delays/closings, no action is needed. If you do NOT receive the call or receive the call at a number(s) that you do not wish called in these instances, contact your school administrative assistant with this information. Thank you for your participation.

An Interview of Laura Greve

by
Julia T.

Mrs. Greve came to our school in 2013 and she has worked at the Integrated Arts Academy for two years. Before that, she was a fourth grade teacher and preschool teacher and she also worked at a shop that sells men's professional dress. She also helped a little at a daycare center.

Mrs. Greve wanted to be a teacher because she still likes to act like an eight year old. She likes her job because third graders are intelligent and they also know how to have fun. The hardest thing about her job is getting to know what the students need help with. Mrs. Greve teaches her students how to integrate the arts, math, writing and a lot more. Mrs. Greve said she does not have a perfect student. The reason she likes IAA is because everybody is different. If everyone were all the same, then it wouldn't be any fun. Mrs. Greve was born in Keene, New Hampshire. Then, after eight weeks, she moved to Vermont and she has lived here ever since. Mrs. Greve's family decided to move to Vermont because her mom had one more kid so her dad had to find another job.

When she was little her family was her dad, mom and two sisters. Now she lives with her husband and a pet puppy and she has no kids yet.

The first thing Mrs. Greve likes to do outside of school is to go kayaking with her husband and play with her pup Brutus. She does yoga because it makes her relaxed. She also likes to go hiking in her woods because she lives on a lot of land. Mrs. Greve's favorite sport is skiing and her favorite sport to watch is football. Her favorite thing to do as a learner and a teacher is reading and she really likes to teach reading to kids.

1st Grade News

We have been working so hard in First Grade. It's been difficult being inside so much with the super cold weather. Hopefully we can start getting outside again soon. We have started two exciting units in our classes. We have started our continent unit by studying Australia. We are integrating the arts by working with Ms. Judy to learn more about Australian animals and the Aborigine people. We are making bark paintings in the style of the Aborigines. We've learned that they used earth tints to paint on the bark of the stringy bark tree. The children are emulating their style by painting almost an x-ray vision style to show where the animals' food goes and then they are using dots and line patterns like the Aborigine people did.

We have also started a unit on States of Matter. We are learning about solids, liquids and gas. Both classes have been lucky enough to work with Ms. Joan and are using drama to deepen our learning about the properties of these states of matter. We are even thinking about molecules and how they are close together in a solid so the solid does not move unless an outside force causes it to. In liquids they are a little less close together thus they flow more easily. And finally in gas the molecules are really far apart and that is why the float and fill the space. The children are really learning a lot of awesome things in first grade!!!

Ms. Jen & Mrs. Patalano

4th Grade News Reports

by Reporters Sloane, Cooper
and Nova

This past week we have been working on our autobiography report. We wrote about our heros some of our hero's names are: Amelia Earhart, Rosa Parks, and Malcolm X.

We also got fish!

We have been learning about fractions and Greek Myths. Today in math we learned how to collect data for graphs.

In math we also did fractions with egg cartons and a fraction game with partners. It was soooooooooooooo fun!

We did writing. Today in writing, we wrote about what we liked or didn't like. We also wrote and studied about our heros.

Today we did lots of fun stuff! We learned about Paleo Indians. We made prints in integrated arts. Then we put the prints on strips of paper and we are going to weave them into are big weaving project. We're weaving the stories of "Anansi" from West Africa and "The Big Wind Eagle" from the Abenaki.

Today in school we weaved some more. This time though we weaved string into cloth. In math groups we learned (I should say relearned) about line plots.

Visual Art

Students in the 3rd grade are immersed in a messy and exciting sculpture unit. Their latest exploration is about gesture and the human figure. Students are sculpting human figures inspired by Swiss sculptor Alberto Giacometti, whose expressive sculptures of long willowy figures evoke emotion through gesture. Students acted out and sketched their ideas before diving into 3D materials. They then used aluminum foil to create armatures and covered them with plaster. This week they are painting their sculptures and deciding whether each of their gesture sculptures will hang or be mounted on a stand.

Ms. Leaphart

Celebrate the Arts

with IAA's Free
**Community Arts Day
and Silent Auction**
Sunday, February 16
from 2 to 4 p.m.

This year, in conjunction with the silent auction, we will be having a FREE Community Arts Day. Kids in grades K-5 can take a free workshop at the school with our arts partners—the Flynn Center, Burlington City Arts, Very Merry Theatre, wingspan Painting Studio, Jeh Kulu Dance and Drum Theater, and Davis Studio. IAA students can preregister – forms will be going home in folder the week of 2/3.

While the kids are enjoying the workshops, the parents can enjoy baked goods and musical entertainment while bidding on great auction items – already donated are ski resort tickets (Mad River Glen ski lifts and Jay Peak Pump House), museum passes, tickets to shows at the Flynn Center, Burton youth jackets and backpacks, dining gift certificates, jewelry, Kids City gift certificate, and architectural and interior design services. We are seeking donations from parents and staff, and also volunteers to help the day of the auction

– please check out the attached form to see how you can help!

This is one of the PTO's major fundraising events of the year, and the proceeds go towards supporting the mission of arts integration in many ways, such as the funding the artists-in-residence program and tickets to the Flynn Center. If you have questions about the:

~Silent Auction, please contact **Tracey McVetty** at fibonacci13@gmail.com

~Community Arts Day workshops, contact **Tracey Dengler** at traceydgilbert@gmail.com.

Thanks in advance for your support!

Guidance News

“Focus, focus, listen, listen, use self-talk, be assertive.” These are the first words to the catchy tune titled “The Learning Song” that is part of the Second Step curriculum in kindergarten. It is that first word, focus, that I want to highlight today. The direction to our students “to focus” or the redirection “to focus” is used quite often and quite honestly maybe they don’t realize how essential it is to focus. At the kindergarten level it is intended that if the student looks at the speaker, it makes it easier to listen also, as one is less distracted. In recent weeks at the 5th grade level, I have provided simple activities that have challenged the students to focus and concentrate on the task at hand. Activities have ranged from coloring in designs but only the triangles that were amongst other geometric shapes, to remembering a list of words both individually and then in teams, to finally doing the “following directions test” (a test that typically seems to have only 1 or 2 in a class of twenty do correctly). My lesson here is that it can’t be stressed enough whether it is by me, the classroom teachers or the parents in the home, how so very important it is to follow directions throughout one’s life in the many different activities we pursue or we are confronted with, be it for work or play.

Mr. Lane

Drama News



“How can we change the world to make it a better place?” This was the question in Ms. Jen’s first grade class this month that drama helped the kids answer, through acting out parts of the life of Martin Luther King Jr. We started by acting out a few moments from MLK’s childhood. Then, imagining many years had passed, the children experienced having to stand on the bus even though there were many seats empty in the front. After feeling the unfairness of this, they readily attended a meeting where they met Martin Luther King Jr. (played by me), learned about Rosa Parks and formed the idea of boycotting the bus company. Instead of riding the bus, they acted out walking in sleet, rain, wind, and heat, and every time the bus driver (played by Ms. Jen) asked if they wanted a ride, they answered a resounding “No!” When “Martin” told them repeatedly that negotiations were going slower than expected, they said they wanted to keep walking. Finally, after imagining 381 days had passed, they learned that the laws had finally changed, and they cheered loudly. Acting now as newscasters, Ms. Jen and I then interviewed the children about the bus boycott they had joined. When we asked “What kept you going?” they answered: “I wanted to make the laws fair.” “My child.” “My friends helped me when I fell.” When I left their room after that drama lesson, I felt heartened. The world is better with IAA kids in it.

Ms. Joan



Integrated Arts Academy • Snapshots



Art work created by IAA second graders

inspired by Ghanaian artist *El Anatsui*.