



Integrated Arts Academy

November 18, 2013

NEWSLETTER

Important Dates

- Nov. 21** Picture retake Day!
- Nov. 22** **Friday** Town Meeting
2:15 pm
- SQUARE 1 ART orders due!**
- Nov. 25** **Monday** Morning Meeting
Parent Coffee Connections
Turkey Pick-up
2:00-5:00 pm
- Nov. 27** **NO school!**
- Nov. 28** **NO school!**
- Nov. 29** **NO school!**
- Dec. 2** **Monday** Morning Meeting
Parent Coffee Connections
- Dec. 4** **PTO Meeting**
6:00 pm
The Arts & Common Core
- Dec. 6** **Friday** Town Meeting
2:15 pm
Magical Mailbox
- Dec. 9** **Monday** Morning Meeting
Parent Coffee Connections
- Dec. 12** **Fill the Bowl!**
6:00-7:30 pm
- Dec. 13** **Friday** Town Meeting
2:15 pm
3rd Grade Presentation
- Dec. 16** **Monday** Morning Meeting
Parent Coffee Connections
- Dec. 20** **Friday** Town Meeting
2:15 pm TBA

PTO

Next PTO Meeting

Wednesday, December 4

Focus on Arts & Curriculum

6:00 pm

Pizza (at 5:45) and childcare available



Bowls are Being Fired at Burlington City Arts for the upcoming Fill The Bowl event!

A message from the principal

What a great way to start this past week. A special thanks to Amy for organizing the Veterans Day recognition. Also, how cool was it to see a Fifth Grader share how she connects to at IAA and what it has meant to her. Reflection is a powerful tool, for us as adults and for our students. Many times we are so consumed with what has to be done next that we move on to the next "thing" before we've completed the vital step of reflecting. We can often find what's most important and learn more than the whole process, through a reflective exercise or discussion. John Dewey said, "We do not learn from experience, we learn from reflecting on experience." Let's think about how we do this at IAA; in the classroom, at meetings, with each other and with our children.

Ms. Judy and I had the pleasure of visiting a great and well established school in Boston, The Mission Hill School, this past Friday. Mission Hill is a really cool place with a strong sense of community, teacher collaboration and student empowerment. I encourage you to check out the series of 10 (around 5 minutes each) short films about the school.

<http://www.missionhillschool.org/a-year-at-mission-hill/> .

While we saw many great things we could potentially use in our community, it is amazing how much we already do well and how far we have come in our first 5 years as a Magnet School. We hope to have some teachers from Mission Hill come for a visit to IAA. School visits are a great way to learn from others. We will report out to community and staff in the coming weeks and reflect on this visit.

I will be out on Tuesday and Wednesday for Bullying and Harassment training. Have a great week.

**Artfully,
Mr. Bobby**

PE News STACK IT UP!



All IAA Physical Education classes have just begun our exciting speed stacking unit. What are speed stacks? First, ask your kids. You can also get information about this sport at www.speedstacks.com. In this unit we are really working hard on training our brain and our bodies at the same time. We have some fun events planned as well. For the third year in a row, the Integrated Arts Academy has participated in establishing a Guinness World Record of Most People Stacking at One Time. This year we are trying to join a half a million other people in this effort. Your children may be asking to get these cups for themselves. You can purchase speed stacks through a group order with IAA for a reduced price plus we get equipment to use in our PE classes. More information will follow for those students who are interested. I am also hoping to host a tournament here at IAA for students in the weeks to follow. Stack on!

Danielle Vierling

Grade 2 News

The second graders have been busy with lots of exciting learning activities! The students in Ms. Decarreau's class are getting ready to mount their papier-mâché planets and the students in Mr. Leal's class are working on a clay sculpture of the solar system with BCA artist **George Gonzalez**. Look for the Solar System displays in the corridors and hallway soon! The literacy breakfast was a big success—students got to share their growing repertoire of reading and writing skills with loved ones. Several students have worked with Joan Robinson on adapting a fable into a play. In math the students are working in small groups on important skills such as skip counting, understanding place value, regrouping, composition and decomposition of number, and problem-solving strategies. We have been emphasizing the **Common Core** practice standards in math and the students are becoming more confident and adept mathematicians every day!

Ms. Decarreau and Mr. Leal



Second graders create the planets



Artist, George Gonzalez designs with students

Grade 5 News



Thomas Cole, *The Oxbo*

In the last couple of weeks we have been busy writing, reading, talking about social issues, and doing math, while integrating arts and other hands-on experiences. We've started a new Integrated Arts unit, also aligned with our Social Studies unit, "And Justice for All." For this portion of the Social Studies unit, we are discussing human rights and who has access to them. In music, we are exploring not only how to communicate through music using volume, rhythm, posture, and conductor cues, but also how music, such as *Yankee Doodle Dandy*, *The Times They Are A'Changin'*, and *We Shall Overcome*, is used in the fight for rights. Ask your students to sing you *Yankee Doodle Dandy* in a *piano* volume, then *forte* volume, and see what they do!

We are also enhancing our realistic fiction unit with the arts. We start with a piece of visual art, for example Thomas Cole's "The Oxbo," then use the Visual Thinking Strategies method to discuss "What is going on in this picture?" and "What do you see that makes you say that?" Students are then invited to create a realistic fiction story, based on these discussions and the image.

Finally, another recent highlight includes a field trip to the Intervale Farm. We helped harvest more than 1,000 pounds of carrots and 500 pounds of beets (and then discussed how much went to support the Food Shelf if $\frac{1}{4}$ of the vegetables were donated). It has been a busy fall!

Ms. B & Mr. Whitman

Spanish News

Why Spanish?

Hola Amigos,

Have you ever wondered why your child is learning Spanish in elementary school in Burlington, Vermont? Here are what I consider the most important reasons:

- Future citizens of our state, our country, and our world will need to be able to speak more than one language. Foreign language study is necessary to prepare our students to be successful citizens in our global society. It has been proven that the earlier students start, the higher the level they are likely to achieve.
- Through the study of other languages, students gain knowledge and understanding of the cultures that use that language. Learning about other cultures is important as we teach children to respect and celebrate the rich diversity of our country.
- Spanish is one of the most commonly spoken languages in the world, along with Chinese and English. It is the language of the fastest growing minority group in the United States. It is predicted that the Hispanic population in the United States will become the majority within the next 30 years.
- Foreign language standards align with and reinforce the common core standards in English Language Arts and Social Studies. Students who take a foreign language in the elementary grades may demonstrate academic gains in other areas of the curriculum, according to some research.

Students at IAA in grades 1 through 5 have Spanish class once a week for 45 minutes as part of a well rounded education. We are so fortunate to be able to provide foreign language instruction to our children in the Burlington School District!

Hasta luego!

Señora Fahy

4th Graders launch first Augmented Reality Art Show at IAA!

Augmented = “adding to” (3 augmented by 2 = 5) Reality

Augmented Reality uses technology to blur the line between what's real and what's computer-generated by enhancing what we see, hear, feel or smell. 4th graders at IAA first created two dimensional art, inspired by Peter Reynolds's picture book, *The Dot*. Students' artwork can be viewed on display traditionally, in 2D; and viewed with the colAR iPad app, where it appears transformed to 3D. Visit the library to check out our first Augmented Reality art display! Plan on staying a while to create your own at our “Creation Station”!



Square one Art is Here!
Check your child's backpack this week for their Square One Art for this year's fundraiser. Order forms are coming home this week.

Orders are due back by
November 22 !!

Check out the glass display case in the front hallway to see sample products.

Interview with Ms. Henry

Mrs. Paula Henry is an administrative assistant at IAA. She has worked at IAA for four years. She likes her job but sometimes it's a little crazy. She talked to the reporters about her job and her favorite things to do and about her family. She was a recess monitor at IAA and she was a lunch lady at another school. She said when visitors come in she talks to them and when the phone rings she answers it.

She likes the kids and teachers at IAA. She said the hardest part of her job is that when everything happens at the same time and she doesn't know what to do first. She was born in Burlington Vermont. Now she lives with her husband and two kids. When she was little she lived with her mom and dad and her brothers and sisters and two kittens. Her favorite subject in school is math. These are some of Mrs. Henry's favorite things to do. She likes to bike and she likes to be outside and she likes to hike. She likes to read historical fiction and she likes to read about strong women. She also likes to swim. She likes to dance. When she hears music she can't sit still and she starts to jiggle and wiggle. Her favorite art form is music.

By: Kiki H. and Julia T.

Integrated Arts Academy • Snapshots

IAA k-2 Family Literacy Breakfast



**"Children are made readers on the laps of their parents."
— Emilie Buchwald**

