



Integrated Arts Academy

September 9, 2013

NEWSLETTER

Important Dates

- Sept. 13** Friday Town Meeting
2:15 pm
- Sept. 16** Monday Morning Meeting
8:10 am
Parent Coffee Connections
8:30 am
- Sept. 17** **Open House K-1**
6:00pm
- Sept. 18** **Open House 2-3**
6:00 pm
- Sept. 19** **Open House 4-5**
6:00 pm
- Sept. 20** Friday Town Meeting
2:15 pm
- Sept. 23** Monday Morning Meeting
8:10 am
Parent Coffee Connections
8:30 am
- Sept. 27** Friday Town Meeting
2:15 pm
- Sept. 30** Monday Morning Meeting
8:10 am
Parent Coffee Connections
8:30 am
- Oct. 2** PTO Meeting
6:00 pm
- Oct. 3** Picture Day

PTO

Please join us for
Connections!

Coffee

Every Monday morning at 8:30 in the cafeteria there will be coffee, snack and conversation with other IAA parents! Join us!

Everyone is welcome!



This painting created by IAA staff and Bonnie Acker is on display at the annual Art Hop

A message from the principal

Opening Remarks to Kick off IAA 13-14

Welcome. At IAA we honor and celebrate each artist's unique process. So a very special thank you to Tree (didgeridoo guy) who is assisted in calling our community to this new school year through his unique talents and artistic form.

I was walking the halls of this building last night around 10 pm and I came to a realization. This school in its current state is just an empty shell. You the families, the staff and especially the students of IAA, breath life into this old building. You fill it with purpose, with joy, you are what gives it life.

Our theme again this year is One School Many Stories. We repeated the theme from last year because the story of IAA just keeps getting better and better. Also, we just scratched the surface last year of sharing our personal stories, connecting to those stories and deepening our community spirit.

That being said, inside these doors awaits a blank book, an empty canvas, a dance not yet danced and a play unperformed....

Please enter and fill it full of stories and bring it to life...

Bobby Riley
School Principal

Kindergarten

We have had a very exciting and busy start to the school year down in Kindergarten! We are learning how to use the fun materials in our classroom, how to be a good listener in school, and how to walk in a line in the hallways without making too much noise! We have talked about our school rules and what it means to do our best job in school. We love meeting and making new friends and work everyday to make other people feel happy. We are just starting to talk about shapes, colors, letters and numbers. There are lots of chances for us to move around through different songs and dances, and sometimes we practice what we are learning in this way! We had a lot of fun going to all of the specials for the FIRST time this week, and look forward to doing more learning through the arts!

Ms. Emily and Ms. Maggie

First Grade

The first grade team is excited to start the new school year with a great group of first graders. Ms. Alice has warmly welcomed Ms. Jen to the first grade team. Ms. Jen moved to VT recently from San Francisco where she has taught elementary school for many years. Ms. Alice and Ms. Jen are looking forward to collaborating on many inspiring projects and exciting curriculum. First grade is such an important year for many reasons, from improving our reading, writing, and math skills to building our social skills and exploring science and social studies. We are so lucky to be at IAA where we can integrate the arts into all of these endeavors to make learning more meaningful and help us understand things more deeply. We look forward to getting to work with your children and their families. Welcome back!

Mrs. Patalano and Ms. Jen

Third Grade

The newly expanded third grade team is looking forward to the start of a fantastic school year. Mrs. Greve and Mr. Wallace are pleased to welcome Mr. Mike onto the third grade team as the "bubble class" works its way up. Third grade is an exciting and important transitional year for students. They will be asked to build upon the foundations set in previous years and challenged to grow both socially and academically. Last year our district explored new reading and writing units that connected with the Common Core. This year we will continue to deepen our work in these areas and look to see how our math curriculum can be better aligned with the standards set by the Common Core. Please feel free to ask us any questions about our curriculum. The greater the

connection between school and home the more growth students can make.



A bunch of happy third graders

Third grade continued...

Last year grades 3-5 began a co-teaching block. For this year's third grade students this will be an exciting new opportunity. For the next three weeks of school the third grade classes will be working with Mr. Myreggard, our music teacher, in a co-teaching integrated arts block. The goal of the unit is to look at the concept of harmony as we work to create effective classroom community. We will be exploring how our voices can be used in both positive and negative ways. We will study the idea of dynamics and the concepts of tone and volume of our voices, music and sound, to see how we can use our words and voices to respect one another and work together in harmony! Welcome Back to school!

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



Our fun loving second graders

Second Grade

The second grade team welcomes a new member this year - Ms. Decarraeu! The start of the year has been full of excitement and energy as we focus on creating strong and supportive learning communities. Our classes are establishing routines, agreeing on expectations, and forging strong relationships. We look forward to further aligning our math, reading, and writing units with the Common Core. We also look forward to exploring new and effective ways to immerse our students in rich diverse arts integration. Welcome back everyone!

Mr. Leal, Ms. Decarraeu

Fifth Grade



Fifth grade pals

We have had a really busy first week! We have explored the gardens outside, reconnected with friends, started our Writer's Notebooks, built our routines around reading, writing, making art, and doing math every day, started our homework procedures (more on that below), played on the playground, reviewed ROAR rules and expectations, started a new school-wide lunch routine, etc.

In terms of homework, we are expecting each student to do 35 minutes of reading after school each day (with one day off on the weekend!). They record what they read (title, author, number of pages, etc.) into their reading logs, which are kept in their orange (Ms. B) or red (Mr. Whitman) home/school folders. They are expected to get these logs signed by a parent or guardian once a week (Sundays for now). On Mondays and Wednesdays, students are also expected to complete a short writing assignment in their Writer's Notebooks. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, they will have brief math activities. If you have questions or concerns about our homework policies, please don't hesitate to get in touch (below@bsdvt.org, pwhitman@bsdvt.org).

We have some exciting activities and field trips planned for the year (trips to the Flynn, a trip to Ethan Allen Homestead, making rockets...). If you are interested in serving as a chaperone for any of these trips, please get in touch with us. We are looking forward to an exciting year with your wonderful kiddos!

Take care,
Bronwyn & Patrick (

Guidance

My name is Stephen Lane and in my role as the School Counselor, I teach guidance classes to all students in the school. The focus is in the areas of Self-Awareness, Community/Diversity, Communication and Decision Making.

Also, encouraging a child through the school year or through life's difficult moments is a predominant feature of the counselor role. Given that, I also schedule individually or in groups, based on referrals from teachers and parents both, as well as from the children themselves. Family disruptions such as illness, loss of job, military service, moving, incarceration, divorce and death may affect children at school. If I am aware of any special problem your child may be facing, I can better work with the teaching staff and administration to assist you and your child during this stressful time.

In addition, I work closely with our School Nurse, Behavior Interventionist, School Psychologist, Social Worker and Mental Health Clinicians and I can assist with any referrals to any of them. I have a confidential phone number for your use. Please don't hesitate to call me at 652-4214, if I can be of any help whatsoever.

Mr. Lane

IAA Welcomes this year's new staff:

Emily Stewart - K Teacher
Jenn Nesson - 1st grade Teacher
Stephanie Decarreau - 2nd grade Teacher
Mike Gerstenmaier - 3rd grade Teacher
Bronwyn Low - 5th grade teacher
Ada Leaphart - Visual Arts Teacher
Liz Fahy - Spanish Teacher
Adrien Palatino - Special Educator
Amanda Rowell - Para educator
Ari Adelstein - Para educator
C.J. Jones - Building Substitute

We are privileged to have such a professional and enthusiastic group of new educators!

Spanish

Hola Amigos de IAA - I would like to introduce myself: I am Elizabeth Fahy, known as Señora Fahy. I was raised in the Panama Canal Zone in the Republic of Panama. I have lived and worked in Panama, Japan, and Germany as an elementary classroom teacher with the Department of Defense Dependents' Schools on U.S. military bases.

This is my fifth year teaching Spanish in the elementary schools in the Burlington School District, and I will be teaching children at IAA and Champlain Elementary. I have also taught Spanish at C.P. Smith and Edmunds Elementary. We are beginning the year getting to know each other and the rules and routines for Spanish class! I welcome parents and friends to come and share experiences in Spanish countries, so please let me know if you would like to be part of the IAA Spanish program. I can be reached at efahy@bsdvt.org. I am looking forward to a fun and productive year at IAA!

Senora Fahy

Drama

Happy September! I'm thrilled to be back at IAA, thanks to a grant from the Amy Tarrant Fund and anonymous donors. My 3.5 days per week focus on connecting theater to selected topics kids are studying. The classroom teachers select the topics. Then we work together to plan and carry out integrated units of study on as varied topics as folktales, oceans and the American Revolution). This year I'm excited to be co-teaching with every classroom teacher. Exploring topics in history, literacy, science or math, children will pantomime activities, learn to speak loudly and with expression, practice being story characters and creating dialogue, and many other things. Look for future newsletters when we report on the fun projects we come up with. Joan Robinson

Reading Recovery



Welcome back to a new school year! You have joined a wonderfully diverse community.! Reading Recovery is a short term, intensive intervention for children in first grade. It was developed by Marie Clay, in New Zealand, and has been a part of the American education system for 25+ years. As a first grade team, we evaluate our learners, and determine who needs extra support to strengthen their literacy skills. I have the capacity to work with four children. The intervention is daily, one-on-one, for each of these four children, and lasts from 12 to 20 weeks. The work that I do with these children, in not only building their literacy skills, but in helping them perceive themselves as literate individuals, is incredibly rewarding. Please stop by if you are interested in knowing more about this powerful early intervention.

Nancy Radley

Busses for Families Living in the New North End or South End

Bus #20, a district school bus is up and running. It goes from Champlain, through the South End, to Edmunds, IAA, SA, CP Smith and JJ Flynn and reverses direction after school. Paula Henry has sign-up forms. From the NNE we have CCTA Neighborhood Special #35 with IAA Para-Educator, Sarah Irish, riding to support our students. It runs the length of North Ave to IAA and then SA. After school CCTA does not yet have a bus that works so we are using vans by Benways. We used them last year with great success. We plan to switch to CCTA for after school later this fall; at that time a para-educator will ride that bus as well. Please let Paula know if you plan to ride this after school.

Questions?

Contact **Victor Prussack** at [802-316-6653](tel:802-316-6653) or at vprussac@bsdvt.org.



PE/Movement

Welcome back! My name is Danielle Vierling. All PE classes have been going over ROAR rules and routines for our first few classes. Third through fifth grade classes are working on Team Building activities that stress cooperation, communication, and goal setting. We have or will play such games as Hot Cocoa, Blob Tag, All Tied Up, and Traffic Jam. What lies ahead? Fitness testing, soccer, and bike riding units!

Kindergarten through second graders have been learning our routines, moving safely through space, and playing games like Bridge Tag, Go Away, Go Home, and Machines and Builders, . We are learning about moving safely in our own personal space. Kindergarten will have Action Based Learning class on Tuesdays as well. **Please remind your child to bring sneakers to school on the days they have Physical Education.** If your child does not wear sneakers to PE they will be coming home with a No Shoes News letter for you as a reminder to bring sneakers on PE days. If you need to contact me, please stop in, call, or email me at dvierlin@bsdvt.org. The fifth graders will tweet again this year about what's going on in PE. You can follow us on Twitter @DLVierling or IAA PE Class.

Ms. V

Michael "Tree" Sampson performs at IAA's opening Day. The Church Street performer makes a living playing the didgeridoo behind a distinctive antlered mask. The wind instrument dates back 1500 years to Australian aboriginals, and sounds almost like the grumbling of a hungry stomach. Sampson manipulates delicate string puppets while blasting his unique, hip-swinging compositions. IAA - always thinking outside of the box!

Integrated Arts

The co-teaching units have begun in grades three through five. Specialists continue to team with classroom teachers to create an integrated curriculum that helps our students access the curriculum through the arts.

Additionally, Joan Robinson, our drama instructor has begun to work in the primary wing helping to integrate drama into the curriculum. Kindergarten classes have begun working with the arts coach to bring more visual art learning into the kindergarten curriculum.

Additionally, eight IAA teachers will be working with teaching artists from The Flynn Center for Performing Arts, learning the WCA! tools for integrating drama and movement into the classroom. They will have ten classroom workshops with the Flynn artists in addition to coaching and planning sessions. Finally, we are eager to have our Burlington City Arts artist residencies start again this year as well. Artist George Gonzalez will be back to work his clay magic with IAA students.

Judy Klima

Music

Welcome back to the music room, IAA students! This year promises to be an exciting year in the music

Fourth Grade

Welcome back! It is hard to believe that the school year is already upon us. We are looking forward to meeting all of you! We have

Visual Art

room! There will be new songs and singing games, and plenty of opportunities for playing rhythm instruments and xylophones in the music room. Third graders can look forward to learning the recorder and hopefully fourth graders will get a chance to play them again, too. Third, fourth, and fifth graders will have a focus on composition this year. Fourth and fifth graders will be using a new composing curriculum that uses “Inside Music” and “Noteflight”. Inside Music teaches the composition skills while Noteflight is an online notation program where students can develop and share their compositions with others.

This year, Mr. Myregaard’s music classroom website will be a good resource to learn about the music program and for students to extend their learning outside of the classroom. It will be used in the classroom to deliver some composition lessons, and has the new addition of a blog to help interact with those outside of the classroom. Check it out at: iaamusicvt.weebly.com

Mr. Myregaard



begun to build our 4th grade community and will continue building on this throughout the year. We believe that a positive, understanding, and loving community creates the best learning environment for students. We are always available to talk and communicate about your child’s education at any time. You can contact us at the school 802-864-8475 or by email athibaul@bsdvt.org or abangour@bsdvt.org if you ever have any questions. Keep an eye out for our weekly newsletters that will update you on the happenings throughout our school and in 4th grade. Again, welcome and we look forward to seeing you soon.

Mr. T and Señora Bangora

Señora Bangoura’s Class News:

Written by Class Journalists
Tommy Vo and Collin Huyn

The class is writing about what once happened in their lives. Some people are writing about the first day of school. We also are learning about Leonardo da Vinci. He’s an inventor an artist, scientist and writer. He was born before Columbus found America. In co-teaching we saw a timeline about when World War 2 happened. We also learned a drum roll to listen please “Dun, dun dun!” We talked about shapes in math. And the best news is we have more than 117 cards. By the way ROAR means respect yourself- respect others- respect all learning- and respect property. And we do Move it Move it! out ide of the school. People are writing about personal narratives right now and about what happend in their lives.

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R O A R



Hello IAA artists and families! My name is Ada Leaphart, and I am thrilled to be joining the IAA community this year as the art teacher! I’ve got an exciting year planned, and I look forward to seeing how the students and staff at IAA breathe life into it.

This year, students in grades K-5 will be cultivating creative habits of mind in the art studio. In these first weeks of school, we are practicing using the studio space as a peaceful, safe place in which we can take creative risks and investigate new ideas. As the year progresses, we will focus on problem solving through art and design. My goal is to equip students with tools that they can use to learn from looking; they will learn to ask questions about what they see and to communicate their ideas visually.

Students will explore a variety of media, finding inspiration in their immediate environment as well as in various cultures and time periods. Exploration, play, risk taking, process, and art integration will be embraced in the art curriculum. Stop by room six if you want to see the new studio, meet me, or donate art or still-life materials! I also welcome community members who would like to visit our class as guest artists or guest speakers—just stop in after school to chat or e-mail me. leaphar@bsdvt.org

Ms. Leaphart

Integrated Arts Academy • Snapshots Welcome Back to School!



**"There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul than the way in which it treats its children."
Nelson Mandela**