## TIS Digital Backpack

February 12, 2024


Photo courtesy of M. Lachut

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE:

## Parent/Guardian Teacher Conferences

Parent/Guardian Teacher conferences will be held on the afternoons of March 7th and March 8th. This year our conferences will be held virtually or in-person. Teachers will reach out to families to schedule a conference for select students. If you would like to schedule a conference for your child, you may do so by simply emailing your child's teacher. Parents/guardians will also have the ability to sign up for a conference with any member of a teaching staff such as UA teachers, members of our intervention or special services team. If a virtual option is chosen links will be provided allowing parents/ guardians to join their scheduled conference.

## Thank You PTO

Thank you to the PTO for holding a staff appreciation luncheon at T.I.S. on Thursday. Thanks to Mrs. Cefarrati for organizing the event.



Thank You to Chica de Gallo


Thank you to Birch Grove parent Mrs. Amanda Bauman for providing the staff of Birch Grove and TIS with delicious salsa and Pico de Gallo. Mrs. Bauman is the owner of the

Chica de Gallo Salsa Company. Her products are sold in Big Y, Price Chopper, and Whole Foods markets. We truly appreciate Mrs. Bauman's kind gesture.

## Social Media

As of late we have received reports from some parents regarding some unkind behaviors being exhibited on social media accounts such as Roblox. While we recognize that children are exposed to so much via the internet, there are a host of ways to monitor children's use of online platforms. Below is a link to an article published on the American Psychological Association website. The article provides some useful ideas on monitoring children's internet usage.

## https://www.apa.org/topics/social-media-internet/social-media-parent-tips

## FROM LAST WEEK'SDB: Fire Poster Prevention Contest Winner

Tolland Intermediate School fifth grade student, Lucy Vanderpool was chosen as county winner from thousands of entries in the Connecticut Fire Prevention Poster Contest. The contest is a yearly competition sponsored by The Connecticut Fire Marshals' Association, Office of the State Fire Marshal, Connecticut Fire Chiefs' Association, State Board of Education and the Connecticut FAIR Plan (representing the insurance industry). The theme of the contest is FIRE PREVENTION - EVERYONE/EVERYDAY. The contest is open to fourth and fifth graders across the State of Connecticut. All county winning posters will be on display at the State Capitol during Fire Prevention Week in October. Winning posters will also be included in the 2025 Connecticut Fire Prevention Calendar. Lucy's poster will move on to the State of Connecticut portion of the competition.


## T.I.S. CALENDAR

## FEBRUARY

7 EARLY RELEASE
9 Sports Team Day; Grade 4 Dance sponsored by the PTO (see flyer)
NEW: Feb. 12-16 KINDNESS WEEK (see next page)
19-21 FEBRUARY BREAK
27-28 Grade 3 to Wadsworth Museum (see info below)

## Kindness week at T.I.S

During Kindness Week students will focus on how they can show
 kindness to themselves and others!
iMonday, February 12 Shout Out Day
;Notice a kind Hawk and give them a message or shout out!
Tuesday, February 13 Community Kindness
!Thank someone that has helped you in our school I community.

## IWedneSday, February 14 wear Pink or Red Day

;Wear hearts or the color red or pink to show kindness -is everywhere at TIS!
-ThurSday, February 15 Affirmation Day
It's important to be kind to yourself too! Listen closely Ito announcements; we will be practicing some ;positive self-talk!
; Friday, February 16 Random Act of Kindness Day
:Surprise someone with a random act of kindness.


## Wadsworth Atheneum

Field Trip Schedule

| Day | Date |  | Teachers |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Wednesday | $2 / 28$ |  | Babiec <br> Stern |
| Thursday | $2 / 29$ |  | Dudas <br> Fitzgerald (Jones) |
| Wednesday <br> Spirit Day Career Day | $3 / 6$ |  | Arner <br> Zevallos |
| Thursday | $3 / 28$ |  | Williams |

## NEW ITEMS THIS WEEK:



Mrs. Arner and Miss K.'s class and Mr. Zevallos' class made paper footballs during their science unit on Odd Motion. They did an experiment on how using the force of a flick and changing the methods of holding the football affects the distance traveled.


## $100^{\text {th }}$ Day of School:



## 101 ${ }^{\text {st }}$ Day of School:

Mrs. Arner and Miss Kolasinski's class celebrated the 101st day with many activities that revolved around the number 101. They decided as a class to dress up in black and white like the 101 Dalmatians.



# Unified Arts Update for February 2024 

## Art ~ Library ~ Music ~ Physical Education

## It's Kindness Month at TIS

*Want more UA information? Check out our individual pages in your child's Google Classroom!

## Ms. Ballard - Art

Grade 3 In the month of February, the third graders will finish their coil pots by glazing them. After the Coil pots have been fired in the kiln, students will select two glazes to put on the inside and outside of their clay Coil pots. While waiting for our coil pot to be fired we will move on to the Element of Art called Shapes and shape designs.

- Smocks should be sent in for your child to wear during this clay project.

Grade 4 The fourth graders will be finishing pasting and now start painting their 3D
Paper Mache Sculptures. The sculptures are coming out great! The paint does not come off clothes so everyone should wear a smock during this project.

Grade 5 This month the 5th graders will finish up their Marionettes before February break. WE will then start two new projects about animals. One is a pencil drawing of their selected animal and the other is a 3D Animal Wire sculpture on a wooden base. The picture should be of the whole animal's body.

- The 5th graders will need to bring in a picture of the animal they wish to make for their sculpture. If they can not bring a printed picture of their animal they can bring a book, or their chromebook to class.


## Mrs. Hill - Library Media

* Books on Display in February: Black History Month, Valentine's Day and Biographies are the Fifth Grade Genre of the Month!

Special Display: Perfect Pairs! Take home the perfect pairing of one fiction and one nonfiction book on the same topic. During the month of February, third graders will begin a folk and fairy tale exploration. Every visit, they will watch, discuss, write, and draw about one classic folk or fairy tale like Cinderella or Jack and the Beanstalk. They will also watch a second story that is usually a fractured version of the same tale and verbally compare similarities and differences. Their written work each week will be combined into a take-home book!


In the month of February, fourth and fifth graders will begin to learn about, and practice using, Reference Sources such as encyclopedias, dictionaries, atlases, and thesauri. They will use online and print versions of these reference sources as reading and note taking from online articles and printed text are both very relevant, life-long skills.

Your student is encouraged to put books on hold at school or at home and the library staff will deliver the books to their classroom! So easy!
Log in to Destiny. The username is the five digit school ID number that starts with 5 (in their email address) and the password is their school assigned password. Find the book wanted, click hold - it's that easy!

## Ms. Baker - General Music Always Celebrating Diversity!



Grade 3 general music: The third grade students are working hard on learning to read eighth notes,and will be starting sixteenth notes and syncopated rhythms. They are learning folk songs, folk dances and fables related to Colonial Tolland. Third graders are experiencing music through movement, playing non-pitched percussion and using boomwhackers. They will be starting to learn how to play the recorders soon.They are also learning the names of the lines and spaces on the treble clef staff.

Grade 4 general music: The fourth graders are learning about the music and geography of Africa. They will be playing games, instruments, dancing and singing songs from the continent and culture. They are also learning the names of the lines and spaces on the treble clef staff and playing their recorders.

Grade 5 general music: It's Ukulele Time!!!! The fifth graders are very excited to start learning the ukuleles. They will learn to read chord charts and tabs. The ukulele unit will be integrated with the music, instruments and culture of Hawaii. They are also learning the names of the lines and spaces on the treble clef staff. This year the fifth grade students are learning to play recorders during their WIN music time.


## Grade 4 \& 5th grade Choruses: The fourth and fifth grade chorus

 students' voices are growing and maturing nicely. They are making beautiful music and harmonizing together. They are learning both traditional choral music and pop music. They will be adding instrumentation to several of their songs for their April concert.
## Please mark your calendars:

**The grade 4 chorus concert will be Thursday, April 25, 2024 in the TIS cafeteria.
**The grade 5 chorus concert will be Thursday, April 25, 2024 in the TIS cafeteria.


## Mrs. Marchesani - 4th and 5th Grade Band and 3rd grade Chorus Mx3

Grade 4 Band: Students are working towards mastery in playing tied notes. "Farm Out" is a song with our first experience with tied notes. The 4th grade Band has mastered playing solo/tutti style in their small groups and at Full Band rehearsal! We've begun playing a fun song titled "Sweetly Sings the Donkey" and learning the skill of playing the song as a round. Save the Spring Concert date! Tuesday May 7th at 7:00 p.m. in the TIS "Cafetorium".

Grade 5 Band: The $5^{\text {n }}$ Grade Band small group classes are working to master the "Concert Eb Scale Preps for Beginning Band" by Mike Hannickel. "Bingo" is a fun piece in Concert Eb students enjoy playing! "Regal March", also in concert Eb , introduced the concept of 1st and 2nd endings. We have begun learning "Montego Bay", another piece containing 1st and 2nd endings. Our February challenge is preparing for the March 18th, 7:00 pm Step Up Concert with the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade Band at TMS. (Snow date is March 19th)

Music Times Three (Mx3) - 3rd grade Chorus: We are in the process of learning two fun Irish songs "Molly Malone" and "O-ro the Rattlin' Bog"! The Rattlin' Bog song has many cumulative verses so students need good memory skills to remember all the verses. Our favorite singing and movement activity is definitely the Scottish "Here Comes a Bluebird". We definitely have a fun evening concert planned for families on March 21st at 6:30 p.m. in the TIS "Cafetorium". Inclement Weather policy: On early dismissal or late start days, small group Band classes WILL meet during the school day. Please contact me anytime with questions or concerns! nmarchesani@tolland.k12.ct.us 860-870-6885 x 40226

## Mr. Downing - Physical Education

Third grade: Students will be starting the cooperation unit. Students will participate in a number of activities while in small groups. The emphasis will be on sharing ideas, planning, and teamwork.


Fourth grade: Students will be starting the cooperation unit. Students will participate in a number of activities while in small groups. The emphasis will be on sharing ideas, planning, and teamwork.

Fifth grade: Students will be starting the cooperation unit. Students will participate in a number of activities while in small groups. The emphasis will be on sharing ideas, planning, and teamwork.

## TIS SPIRITWEAR!

Please see the new sales on TIS Swag! Save $25 \%$ on all $1 / 4 \mathrm{Zips}$ We are running a great promotion this week. All $1 / 4$ zips are discounted $25 \%$ ! This includes Nike, Adidas and Badger 1/4 zips! We are also featuring a women's-cut Adidas $1 / 4$ zip! Your new sale ad is below. A direct link to all $1 / 4 \mathrm{zips}$ is: https://1stplacespiritwear.com/collection/109626?style=1/4+Zips

## 1/4 Zips Social Copy

This week only, save $25 \%$ on all TIS 1/4 zips! This includes styles from Nike, Adidas and Badger! Shop Now: https://1stplace.sale/109626
Upcoming Weekly Promotions
Each week we will feature a different product line at a discounted price! Upcoming promotions include:

- 1/29: Crewneck Sweatshirts $\$ 10$ off
- 2/5: Pajama Pants $\$ 10$ off
- 2/12: Water Bottles: $25 \%$ off

TIS Links:

- Store Link: https://1stplace.sale/109626


## ITEMS FROM LAST WEEK'S DIGITAL BACKPACK

## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR CLASSROOMS

## GRADE 3

Third graders have been working hard since we returned from our Winter break. We have also had a lot of fun watching them play in our quickly melting snow. Let's hope for a little more before the winter is over. Please send your child to school with a winter jacket, snow pants, gloves, a hat and boots to play in the snow. Boots are good even when there isn't snow, so they can play on the field even when it is a bit muddy.

In Bridges Math we are working on Unit 4, which focuses on telling time and measurement. We are using clocks to tell time to the nearest minute. Your child will use a number line to answer questions about elapsed time. You can help at home by encouraging them to read clocks and figuring out how long different activities take to complete. Unit 4 also focuses on measuring mass with the metric system. Please have your child practice math facts. In Number Corner we are exploring the concepts of area and perimeter.

In Language Arts we are in Unit 3 of the Journeys program. We have read texts about how technology has helped to advance the sports that we do. This week we read a trickster tale called Tops and Bottoms. Third graders focused on sequence of events, text and graphic features and plural nouns. In the upcoming weeks we'll read a Cherokee Legend, and focus on comparing and contrasting, as well as story messages. We'll be moving on to Units 7 and 8 in Fundations where we learn about changing $y$ to $i$ in open syllables and pluralizing words.

We have begun the Science unit the Case of the Odd Motions. Your child will be learning about forces and motion. We have fun experiments for pushes and pulls, gravity, static electricity, and magnetism.

Don't miss the permission slips for the Wadsworth Atheneum in Hartford, where students will be viewing artwork that follows along with our social studies curriculum. Some classes are going in late February and some are going in March. (see info below)

## GRADE 4

It is hard to believe that the month of February is upon us already!
We have concluded January's Number Corner which focused on classifying different geometric shapes by identifying properties such as the number of sides and angles as well as identifying the area of each shape. January's Calendar Collector activities focused on connecting fractions and decimals to money amounts. As we move into February, Number Corner activities will extend our focus on geometry to include measurement and classification of different types of angles. Students continue to estimate and solve multi-step story problems using addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.

In Language Arts our focus is on informational reading as well as informational writing. Students study the overall structure of informational text as well as understand how various text and graphic features aid in comprehension. Our focus on informational writing connects with our reading as students learn how to write an essay that includes an introduction, body paragraphs, and a conclusion.

Mark Ruede, the Science Supervisor, led fourth grade classes on a trail walk to further our study of erosion. Students got an up close look at the powerful force of water as an agent of erosion. Students will now focus on ways to slow erosion. The unit's culminating activity will be a performance task where students will apply all of their learning to create a plan that will help control erosion in order to preserve and protect a hiking trail.

The Fourth Grade Holiday Glam Dance will be held on Friday, February 9th. This is a great opportunity for students to bring a favorite adult to a fun social
event at T.I.S. $\$ 10$ tickets will be sold at the door and include admission, water, snack, and a favor. It will be a night of dancing and refreshments.

## GRADE 5

In Language Arts, fifth-grade students are reading "The Phantom Tollbooth," by Norton Juster. In this module of study, students investigate the way we use words to define and organize our world. We will read playful stories to investigate wordplay and answer the question: How and why do writers play with words? "The Phantom Tollbooth" is a fun and entertaining book that focuses on humor and word play. Students are learning the difference between literal and figurative language. Students will begin writing short pieces of narrative writing and will be assigned a writing task after they have completed the novel to show their knowledge of the skills they learned. Students enjoyed learning about wordplay while listening to the "Who's on First" skit by Abbott and Costello. This is a very fun topic!

Students have completed book reports on the following genres: realistic fiction, mystery, historical fiction, fantasy, and a Nutmeg awarded book. Next up students will read a biography or autobiography in February, a science fiction text in March, and poetry in April.

In Social Studies, students will soon begin the second unit, "Early Settlements and Colonization." Students will investigate the essential question, "How did colonization affect and change the freedom of various groups?" They will also investigate what life was like for various groups of people after colonization. Students will compare and contrast the three regions of the English colonies (New England, Middle, Southern) during the 1600s. They continue to practice their skills using IXL.

In Math, students have wrapped up Unit Three: Place Value and Decimals. The unit included students solving real-world style problems. They learned patterns on the place value chart, fraction and decimal equivalencies, and metric conversions. Students are moving into the next unit which is Multiplication and Division of Whole Numbers and Decimals.

In Science, students are working on their Habitat unit, answering the essential question "What does an organism need to survive?". The focus of this unit is on Golden Jellyfish, but also extends to the ecosystem of many different organisms. They are learning about the different parts of an ecosystem and what makes an ecosystem healthy.

# Tolland Public Schools K-8 Curriculum Night 

## Save The Date!

## Tuesday March 26, 2024 5-8PM

Back by popular demand! Join TPS staff for an evening of fun activities for the whole family, highlighting the amazing things happening in our classrooms every day! This year we are hoping to expand our night to include grades K-8.

We hope you can join us!
Pizza will be provided for everyone that attends.


## FROM OUR SCHOOL NURSE:

Appropriate Outerwear and Appropriate Footwear

Two reminders for your student. Please remind them to know their scheduled day for gym class. They should be wearing appropriate athletic footwear to participate in required gym activities. Should you have any questions please reach out to kdowning@tolland.k12.ct.us OR you may contact the nurse. If your student does not know their gym day, have them check their class schedule. If they do not usually wear athletic shoes, a good option would be for them to have a labeled pair they keep in their locker.

Winter weather and outdoor recess. Your student should plan to have appropriate outerwear for cooler temperatures. If the weather is 20 degrees $F$ and calm, recess is most likely outdoors. Days where there is snow on the ground and the temperature is warm enough; outdoor play will likely occur. Please help your student plan to bring, or wear, the appropriate outdoor gear for their comfort level. Boots are needed to play in the snow.




## THE TEPTO YEAR AT A GLANCE

## october

JANUARY


JULY



NOVEMBER


FEBRUARY


MAY


AUGuST

- school supply onpers ARRINE- FREE SHP TO HOMEI
- ceanase up for tie new veasi



## K-12 Student Accident Insurance Enroll Online

## wwwstudemitisuracerkovil

Worried about paying for your child's medical care if an accident should happen? K\&K's student accident insurance can help.

## K-12 Accident Plans available through your school:

- At-School Accident Only
- 24-Hour Accident Only
- Exfended Dental
- Football


## How to Enroll Online

Enrolling online is easy and should take only a few minutes, Go to www.studentinsurance-kk.com and click the "Enroll Now" button.

1. Start by telling us the name of the school district and state where your child attends school.
2. We'll request each student's name and grade level.
3. You'll see the available plans and their rates. Select your coverage and continue to the next step.
4. We'll request information about you, like your name and emal address.
5. Next, you'll enter information about the child or children to be covered.
6. Enter your credit card or eCheck proment information.
7. Finsilly, print out a copy of the confirmation for your records.
[^0]Le preocupa tener que pagar la atención médica de su hijo si ocurre un accidente? El seguro contra accidentes para estudiantes de K\&K puede ayudarlo.

Planes de cobertura en caso de accidente para K-12 disponibles a través de su escuela:

- Solo accidentes en la escuela
- Soilo accidentes, 24 horas
- Dental extencidido
- Fuitbol


## Cómo inscribirse en linea

Inscribirse en linea es fácil y solo le tomará unos pocos minutos. Visite www.studentinsurance-kk.com y haga clic en el botón "Enroll Now" ("Inscribise ahora").

1. Comience por decimcs el nombre del distrito escolar y el estado en el que su hijo(a) va a la escuela.
2 Solictaremas el nombre y ef graso de cada uno de los estudiantes.
2. Vera los planes disponiles y sus larias. Seleccione su oobertura y contnúe con el siguiente paso.
3. Le soicitaremos información sobre usted, como su nombre y drección de correo electrónico.
4. Desputs, ingresard ta infomeción acerca del niño o rinios que rectiráány cockertura.
5. ingrese la infomación de pago de su tarjeta de crefitlo 0 eCheck
6. Finalmente, imprima una copia de la confirmación para sus registos.

[^1]

## School Meals 2023-2024:

All students are eligible for a free breakfast each day. Students who qualify for free or reducedprice meals will also be eligible to receive one free lunch daily. ALL OTHER LUNCHES WILL BE CHARGED AT THE CURRENT LUNCH PRICE PER SCHOOL.

Payment for these lunches is the responsibility of the parent or guardian. The district participates in the National School Lunch Program and Breakfast Program which offers students nutritionally balanced meals daily. The lunch period is 30 minutes. Proper manners are always expected in the cafeteria. Free and reducedprice meals are available based on financial need. Information on this program may be obtained from the main office or Abby Kassman-Harned, the Food Service Director, at aharned@tolland.k12.ct.us or 870-6854.

We use a Point-of-Sale System that allows you to put money into an account for your child to purchase meals.

Scanning - All students will be scanned unless the parent or guardian opts out of this biometric identification procedure. When your child comes through the service line, he/she will scan his/her finger as a means of identification.

Payments - The cost of lunch at Birch Grove and Tolland Intermediate school is $\$ 3.15$. One school breakfast is free for all students. One milk is provided for each lunch and breakfast. Ala carte milk is $\$ 0.75$. You may sign up for "My School Account" and make your payments online. Your child may give payment along with a form to his/her classroom teacher to send to the office, or he/she may bring payment directly to the cashier in the cafeteria at mealtime. Your payment may take us a few days to process. It is important to keep a positive balance in your students' accounts. If you have any questions or concerns, you may contact us at 860-870-6854 or aharned@tolland.k12.ct.us


The End


[^0]:    For further details of the coverage including costs, benefts, exclusions, affy reductions or limitations and the terms under which the polity mily be conffued in force, pleage refer to www.studenfinsurance-kk.com. Student is able to purchase the coversge only il his! her school bistrict is a policybolder with the insurance compary.

[^1]:    Para oblener mis detiles sabre la cotertara incluitos cosths beneficins, trolusiones y sed.cciones a Imitaciones y hes tíntinos en vitud de los cuales esta pollay poaria confinur en vigarcis, carsifle wWW. shudentinsurarct-kk.com. Les estuciartes pueden cumprar la cobertura úricamertesi sa detrin esookar es tidiar de ura potia con la compaifa de segutce.

