

## TIS Digital Backpack February 5, 2024



*Photo courtesy of M. Lachut*

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE:

#### **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.





### **HAWK Game Room**

Thanks to donations from a host of community members and through the support of TEPTO, a new HAWK reward is now operational. The game room is equipped with foosball tables, basketball Pop a Shot as well as two air hockey tables. Students and/or classes may earn time to use the game room as part of our HAWK Card reward system. The pictures above are students in Mr. Slayton's class using the game room as a reward for achieving a classroom goal.

We are still looking for donations for our game room. We are in need of foosball tables and a second basketball game. Any gently used donations would be put to great use.

# T.I.S. CALENDAR

## **FEBRUARY**

7 EARLY RELEASE

9 Sports Team Day; Grade 4 Dance sponsored by the PTO (see flyer)

19-21 FEBRUARY BREAK

27-28 Grade 3 to Wadsworth Museum (see info below)

# NEW ITEMS THIS WEEK:

## 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 Foundations 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.

# COME TRY LACROSSE

## FREE CLINIC



### TOLLAND LACROSSE



## SATURDAY 2/10

### TOLLAND INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL GYM

**GIRLS K-8: 8:30AM-9:30AM**

**BOYS K-8: 10:00AM-11:00AM**

- \*No equipment needed*
- \*\$15 Spring Registration Discount*
- \*Each session will get a chance to win a \$50 DSG GC (one winner per session)*
- \*Walk-ins welcome, but please try to register*



**Register by visiting**

**[www.tollandlacrosseclub.org](http://www.tollandlacrosseclub.org)**

# Wadsworth Atheneum

## Field Trip Schedule

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



## ITEMS FROM LAST WEEK'S DIGITAL BACKPACK

# News from Student Services



## REACH

Relationships

Emotions

Academic

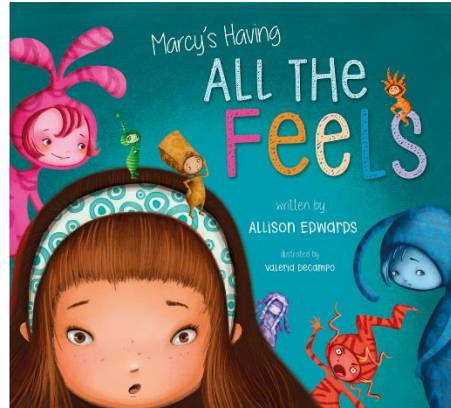
Career

Help

REACH classes with Mrs. Bishopric, School Counselor, promote knowledge, attitudes, and skills through instruction in three content areas: academic achievement, career development, and personal/social growth. This year, I meet with all students approximately once per month in the specials rotation to deliver the lessons.

### Third Grade

In December, third grade students started working on what to do if they encounter a conflict with a friend. We learned the sentence starters, "I feel... when... could you please...". When we have a problem with a classmate or a peer, it's important to tell that person how you feel and what you need from them next time! For example, let's say you are working hard on an art project, and decide to use the restroom. You come back to the classroom and find that all your art supplies are missing from your desk! You see a classmate using them. Using our sentence starters, we might say something like, "I feel annoyed when you take things off my desk without asking. Could you please ask me first if you want to borrow something?" We then played a fun game of musical chairs, where the last person standing had to finish the sentence starter using a given scenario. We had so much fun during this game dancing along to Taylor Swift's Shake it Off while learning something new!



In January, third grade students continued learning about feelings through the read-aloud story, Marcy's Having all the Feels, written by Allison Edwards. In the book, we meet a friend named Marcy who has different feelings showing up throughout her day, depending on what happens to her. All she really wants to feel is Happy, but Marcy learns that in order for “Happy” to stick around, she also has to sometimes feel those other tough feelings too. All our feelings are there to teach us something, and even those tough feelings don't last forever. Students then had a chance to share a time when they felt happy, sad, and angry through drawings. We then had a chance to rate the strength of those feelings on a scale of 1 through 10.

### **Fourth Grade**

In fourth grade, students began learning about anxiety. Anxiety is a feeling that many of us have from time to time, where it feels like we can't stop our worries from coming at us so quickly. We might feel anxiety as a stomachache or a headache, or we might get jittery or have a racing heartbeat. Students watched a video that explained how anxiety is actually there to help protect us from danger! For example, let's say you were walking in the woods and saw a bear. If you had no fear or worry about the bear, you might try to go pet the bear and get seriously hurt. Instead, our internal instincts send us some alarm bells to remind us to be afraid, so that we can stay safe. Sometimes those alarm bells go off too often, when there really is no true safety concern, and that's what we would call anxiety.



Through December and January, fourth grade students have been competing in a friendly game show about the topic of Anxiety! Students are working in teams to complete various challenges and earn a particular number of points. For example, students might have to work together to Act Out five ways to manage worries, or they might have to draw something that makes them feel worried sometimes. We even got to create our own fun team names; from “The Nutcrackers” all the way to “Team Pizza!!” We have been having a blast working as a team and learning strategies to manage our worries.



## **Fifth Grade**

In fifth grade in December, students have been learning all about stress. Stress is that feeling we get when we are overwhelmed, exhausted, and can't find the time to do everything we need to get done. It's also something we feel when we might have something on our mind, such as friendship troubles, school work, or a family situation. Students then had a chance to explore their level of stress in different areas of their lives. We completed a “scoot” activity, where students had to visit different cards posted throughout the classroom, and answer a question about whether that topic causes them stress. Then, they were able to count their totals to find out the areas where they feel the most stress. The areas we explored were, home, school, health, money, safety, and relationships (friendships, etc.). Students loved moving around the class and talking to one another that the different sources of stress in their lives.





In January, fifth grade students continued our work on learning about stress by exploring six different strategies to manage our stress! We learned about deep breathing, talking to a trusted person, exercise, visualization, positive self-talk, and progressive muscle relaxation. Students worked in pairs to practice each strategy and answered some discussion questions about them. For example, for positive self-talk, students had to create three of their own positive self-talk statements they can use when they are feeling stressed. In addition, when exploring talking to a trusted person, students had to write the names of five different people to whom they feel comfortable talking when they have stress! It was a fun, self-directed day and students learned some strategies that can be helpful to manage stress.

**FOR 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE STUDENTS: THE 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE DANCE**  
**WAS POSTPONED DUE TO WEATHER CONCERNS.**  
**LOOK FOR AN UPDATED FLYER HERE WHEN**  
**RESCHEDULED**

**FOR 4TH GRADE STUDENTS:**



**TEPTO PRESENTS...**



*The 4th Grade*

**HOLLYWOOD  
GLAM DANCE**

Friday, February 9, 2024  
6-8pm  
TIS Cafeteria

Tickets: \$10 at the door includes admission, water,  
snack, and a favor!

Students must be accompanied by a favorite adult for the duration of the event.

For specific questions please email [dcancellieri79@gmail.com](mailto:dcancellieri79@gmail.com)

# 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](mailto: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.***





TEPTO

# TOLLAND ELEMENTARY PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION

**JOIN US FOR OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS!**

Wednesday September 6: Birch Grove Primary Library

Wednesday October 4: Tolland Intermediate School Library

Wednesday November 1: BGP Library

Tuesday December 5 : TIS Library

Wednesday February 7: BGP Library

Wednesday March 6: TIS Library

Wednesday April 3: BGP Library

Wednesday May 1: TIS Library

Wednesday June 5: BGP Library \*



7 :00 pm

.....  
**All meetings begin at 7:00 PM**

Questions? TEPTO Contact Information:

Diana Gascon, President  
dcancellier79@gmail.com

Becky Moore, VP  
rlmoore313@gmail.com





# THE TEPTO YEAR AT A GLANCE



## SEPTEMBER

- JOIN US! BG LIBRARY: SEPT. 6 @ 7PM
- LYMAN PIE ORDERS
- KASTLE ORDERS
- CIDER MILL ROAD RACE
- VISIT THE SPIRIT WEAR STORE- ONGOING ALL YEAR

## OCTOBER

- JOIN US! TIS LIBRARY: OCT. 4 @ 7PM
- STAFF APPRECIATION
- VISIT THE SPIRIT WEAR STORE- ONGOING ALL YEAR

## NOVEMBER

- JOIN US! BG LIBRARY: NOV. 1 @ 7PM
- LYMAN PIE PICK UPS
- KASTLE ORDERS SHIP TO HOME
- TIS BOOK FAIR
- ART TO REMEMBER ORDERS
- VISIT THE SPIRIT WEAR STORE- ONGOING ALL YEAR

## DECEMBER

- JOIN US! TIS LIBRARY: DEC. 6 @ 7PM
- FROSTY FEST
- BIRCH GROVE BOOK FAIR
- ART TO REMEMBER DELIVERY
- VISIT THE SPIRIT WEAR STORE- ONGOING ALL YEAR

## JANUARY

- NO MEETING THIS MONTH!
- KINDNESS SIGN CAMPAIGN
- ORDERS AND PICK UP
- 5TH GRADE DANCE
- VISIT THE SPIRIT WEAR STORE- ONGOING ALL YEAR

## FEBRUARY

- JOIN US! BG LIBRARY: FEB. 7 @ 7PM
- STAFF APPRECIATION
- KINDNESS SIGN DISPLAYS
- BUTTER BRAID ORDERS
- 4TH GRADE DANCE
- VISIT THE SPIRIT WEAR STORE- ONGOING ALL YEAR

## MARCH

- JOIN US! TIS LIBRARY: MAR. 6 @ 7PM
- TIS BOOK FAIR
- BUTTER BRAID PICK UP
- VISIT THE SPIRIT WEAR STORE- ONGOING ALL YEAR

## APRIL

- JOIN US! BG LIBRARY: APR. 3 @ 7PM
- VISIT THE SPIRIT WEAR STORE- ONGOING ALL YEAR

## MAY

- JOIN US! TIS LIBRARY: MAY 1 @ 7PM
- BIRCH GROVE BOOK FAIR
- SPRING SOCIAL AND ART SHOW
- STAFF APPRECIATION
- VISIT THE SPIRIT WEAR STORE- ONGOING ALL YEAR

## JUNE

- JOIN US! BG LIBRARY: JUNE 5 @ 7PM\*\* (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)
- SCHOOL SUPPLY ORDERS

## JULY



## AUGUST

- SCHOOL SUPPLY ORDERS ARRIVE- FREE SHIP TO HOME!
- GEARING UP FOR THE NEW YEAR!

# TIS SPIRITWEAR!!

Get ahead on your holiday shopping with the TIS Holiday Sale! Featuring new designs and gifts for parents, grandparents and more! Shop at <https://1stplace.sale/109626>

## Holiday Sale Info

- **Sale Dates:** November 6th - December 8th
- **Savings:** 20% discount sitewide
- **Shipping:** Free shipping over \$75, \$5 shipping under \$75
- **Delivery:** All orders are guaranteed delivery by December 23rd

## Links

- **Store Link:** <https://1stplace.sale/109626>

**TIS**

**Holiday SALE**  
**20% OFF**

TIS  
TIS  
TIS HAWKS  
ONE SCHOOL, ONE TEAM, TIS  
GRANDPA  
TIS HAWKS  
ONE SCHOOL, ONE TEAM, TIS  
HAWKS

**GREAT GIFTS FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!**  
Guaranteed Delivery By **DEC. 23<sup>rd</sup>**

1ST PLACE Spiritwear | **ORDER AT 1STPLACE.SALE/109626**  
SALE RUNS 11/6 - 12/8

SCAN HERE TO ORDER



JOIN THE

-CREW-

After School

SPOTS STILL AVAILABLE!



TOLLAND RECREATION PRESENTS "the CREW After School" Program

CELEBRATING RECREATION, EDUCATION AND WELL-BEING



- After School Care for TIS Students
- Monday-Friday open until 6:00 P.M.
- Includes Early Release Days!
- We focus on homework & reading each day as well as recreational games & activities

For more information call 860-871-3610 or visit [www.tollandct.myrec.com](http://www.tollandct.myrec.com)

\$250.00/per month

**- 50% ARPA Fund DISCOUNT**

**ONLY \$125/Month!**

C  
R  
E  
W



## K-12 Student Accident Insurance

# Enroll Online



[www.studentinsurance-kk.com](http://www.studentinsurance-kk.com)

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*
- *Extended Dental*
- *Football*

### How to Enroll Online

Enrolling online is easy and should take only a few minutes. Go to [www.studentinsurance-kk.com](http://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 email address.
5. Next, you'll enter information about the child or children to be covered.
6. Enter your credit card or eCheck payment information.
7. Finally, print out a copy of the confirmation for your records.

For further details of the coverage including costs, benefits, exclusions, any reductions or limitations and the terms under which the policy may be continued in force, please refer to [www.studentinsurance-kk.com](http://www.studentinsurance-kk.com). Student is able to purchase the coverage only if his/her school district is a policyholder with the insurance company.

¿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:

- *Sólo accidentes en la escuela*
- *Sólo accidentes, 24 horas*
- *Dental extendido*
- *Fútbol*

### Cómo inscribirse en línea

Inscribirse en línea es fácil y sólo le tomará unos pocos minutos. Visite [www.studentinsurance-kk.com](http://www.studentinsurance-kk.com) y haga clic en el botón "Enroll Now" ("Inscribirse ahora").

1. Comience por decirnos el nombre del distrito escolar y el estado en el que su hijo(a) va a la escuela.
2. Solicitaremos el nombre y el grado de cada uno de los estudiantes.
3. Verá los planes disponibles y sus tarifas. Seleccione su cobertura y continúe con el siguiente paso.
4. Le solicitaremos información sobre usted, como su nombre y dirección de correo electrónico.
5. Después, ingresará la información acerca del niño o niños que recibirá(n) cobertura.
6. Ingrese la información de pago de su tarjeta de crédito o eCheck.
7. Finalmente, imprima una copia de la confirmación para sus registros.

Para obtener más detalles sobre la cobertura, incluidos costos, beneficios, exclusiones y reducciones o limitaciones y los términos en virtud de los cuales esta póliza podría continuar en vigencia, consulte [www.studentinsurance-kk.com](http://www.studentinsurance-kk.com). Los estudiantes pueden comprar la cobertura únicamente si su distrito escolar es titular de una póliza con la compañía de seguros.



## School Meals 2023-2024:

All students are eligible for a free breakfast each day. Students who qualify for free or **reduced-price 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 reduced price 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](mailto: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](mailto:aharned@tolland.k12.ct.us)



*The End*

