

# TIGER TALES



## THE TISBURY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



April 2024

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Visit our website:  
[www.tisbury.mvyps.org](http://www.tisbury.mvyps.org)  
Information is updated routinely.



### Principal's Letter

Tisbury School Community:

As I write this, our school is well into Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) testing. Students in grades 3-8 take two MCAS tests each in both English/Language Arts and Mathematics. Students in grades 5 and 8 also take two MCAS tests in Science/Technology Engineering. New this year, 8th grade students will also take a pilot MCAS test in Civics. MCAS testing has been around for many years, so it's not a new experience for our school. The testing results help provide information that can be helpful in guiding our school to strengthen supports as well as identify skills to bolster. During MCAS testing, our entire school helps to support conditions for all students to be successful. Our staff works hard to reduce any stress, and encourage students to show effort. I remind our students that really there are only two things that I ask of them during MCAS testing: that they take it seriously, and that they try their best. I'm proud of our students and of our school's approach to standardized testing.

Tisbury's Annual Town Meeting this spring is later than usual. It is scheduled for Tuesday May 28 at the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School Performing Arts Center at 7:00 pm. The school budget will be voted on there, and the proposed Tisbury School fiscal year 2025 budget includes a higher increase than what we normally see. I am hopeful that Tisbury voters will approve the school budget. Our town has a proud history of supporting education and our school, and we are grateful for this. Jim Norton, longtime Tisbury resident who served on the School Committee and School Advisory Council, often would remind fellow voters that a wonderful way for them to show support for children and education was by simply voting in

favor of the school budget. I look forward to seeing many of you at Town Meeting, and I'll certainly think of Mr. Norton.

Each day, as I walk along West William Street, heading to the American Legion building that serves as our cafeteria where Mrs. Ogden and I supervise students during lunches, I look at the school, noticing elements of the renovation project. There is a flurry of construction activity every day, and as we approach summer, excitement will grow. It is sometimes hard to imagine that soon we will be in the renovated, beautiful school. We have looked forward to this project for many years. Our current 8th grade students will not experience being in the "new" school. They talk about this often, and I acknowledge that I understand their disappointment. However, most do not dwell on what it is that they will miss out on. Instead, what I hear repeatedly is how great it will be for the younger students. They mention the gymnasium, cafeteria, nicer classrooms, and better playgrounds. They remember the "old" school, and they talk about how lucky students will be to attend the renovated Tisbury School. They know that they will not only be welcome to come back and visit, but that we will encourage it. Even though they will be high school students next fall, I expect to see many of them return to walk the halls and see what has changed. Our 8th grade class is an exceptional group of kids, and I look forward to showing them around their alma mater next year.

Thank you for your continued support of our school. I never take for granted how fortunate we are, and I remain sincerely proud to work here, surrounded by wonderful children and a dedicated staff.

With gratitude,  
John

# Kindergarten News

Our kindergartners have been learning about nursery rhymes and fairy tales. As a final project they have created the most magical castles and are so incredibly proud of them.

The Kindergarten Team





### 1st Grade

First grade students have been working hard to memorize their addition math facts. Congratulations to Gael, Ryan, Paige, and Fyfe for memorizing their addition facts to 10. A BIG SHOUT out to Parker, Alice, and Beau for memorizing their subtraction facts to 10! First graders are working hard.

Mrs. Webster and Mrs. Krauthamer



## Health Education

**Kindergarten** students are in their personal safety unit and met with some of Tisbury’s emergency personnel. Students engaged in various activities involving math and literacy with these folks. We are thankful to Deputy Fire Chief Patrick Rolston, School Resource Officer Scott Ogden, Major Sterling Bishop, Paramedic Jason Davey and Officer Julia Levesque.



**5th graders** are finishing up their nutrition unit. We reviewed food groups and what different color foods do for your body and focused on the human digestive system. Students learned the path that food takes through the human body and discussed the functions of the organs involved in this system of the body. Students learned that a small intestine can be up to 25 feet long! We compared the length of a small intestine to a large intestine in the picture below.

Jane Taylor  
Health Education



## 7th and 8th Grade Science

### 7th Grade Science:

Populations and Ecosystems is our new unit. So far the kids have worked with microscopes to learn to use and understand the equipment. We will look at nonliving and living samples throughout our study. This unit involves all of our animal dissections. We begin with worms and move to more and more complex body systems. In addition, we will study the life cycle of milkweed bugs, creating and caring for the habitats in the classroom.

### 8th Grade Science:

Our last unit of the year is astronomy. It is perfect timing with our observation of the solar eclipse on April 8th! We have revisited phases of the moon and mapped out a "toilet paper solar system". Our study will include researching stars and black holes as well as a look into our space travel historically. After vacation, we will also do a review to prepare for the science MCAS on May 15th.

Sue Adamo, 7/8 Science



## Garden News

We have been busy in the classroom preparing to get back into the garden this spring!

The 3rd grade classes are taking part in an island wide First Peas to the Table contest based on a competition that Thomas Jefferson used to have with his neighbors. We got our peas started this week!

The second grade classes have been seeding veggies and herbs in preparation for their plant sale later in the season, and the first grade is excited to welcome chicks that will be hatching on the 8th.

### The Harvest of the Month is seafood.

We may think of fish and shellfish when we hear the word 'seafood', but if you look closely at the picture you will notice seaweed, too!

Many kinds of seaweed are edible and very nutritious. There are even seaweed farmers growing kelp in island waters. Fun Fact: Oysters are one of the only animal proteins we can eat that actually improve the environment where they grow or are farmed. One adult oyster can filter up to 50 gallons of water a day, removing pollutants like nitrogen and phosphorous that are harmful to our ponds.



## NURSE'S NOTES



### Preparation for the Fall 2024

#### Parents of Students Entering Martha's Vineyard Regional High School:

Students entering the high school will need to have a physical that was performed after August of 2023. **This is for all students, not just those interested in playing a fall sport.** When a student enters a new school, they need to have a physical exam that is dated within the last year.

#### 6th Grade parents:

If your child has not had their Tdap vaccination or meningococcal vaccination before the start of the new school year, they will not be permitted to begin 7th grade. Please drop off the documentation of their vaccination to the school nurse.

#### Middle School Parents:

If your child is interested in doing an interscholastic sport, they will need to have a physical exam completed within 13 months of the start of the sport.

#### All Parents:

Massachusetts Department of Public Health requires that parents submit a physical exam to the school at a minimum of every 3-4 years. If you have not submitted your child's most recent physical exam, please do so to the nurse!

#### The doctors' offices are very busy and have to schedule physical exams in advance. Please call now!

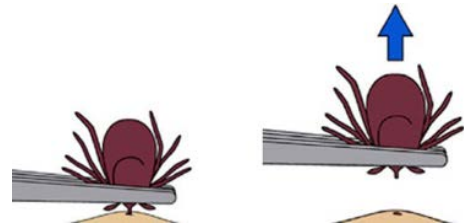
Please contact Catherine Coogan if you have any questions  
[ccoogan@mvyps.org](mailto:ccoogan@mvyps.org)  
 508-696-6504

### **Tick Removal-CDC Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

If you find a tick attached to your skin, there's no need to panic—the key is to remove the tick as soon as possible. There are several tick removal devices on the market, but a plain set of fine-tipped tweezers work very well.

#### **How to remove a tick**

1. Use fine-tipped tweezers to grasp the tick as close to the skin's surface as possible.
2. Pull upward with steady, even pressure. Don't twist or jerk the tick; this can cause the mouth-parts to break off and remain in the skin. If this happens, remove the mouth-parts with tweezers. If you are unable to remove the mouth easily with clean tweezers, leave it alone and let the skin heal.
3. After removing the tick, thoroughly clean the bite area and your hands with rubbing alcohol or soap and water.
4. Never crush a tick with your fingers. Dispose of a live tick by putting it in alcohol, placing it in a sealed bag/container, wrapping it tightly in tape, or flushing it down the toilet.



#### **Follow-up**

If you develop a rash or fever within several weeks of removing a tick, see your doctor. Be sure to tell the doctor about your recent tick bite, when the bite occurred, and where you most likely acquired the tick.

Avoid folklore remedies such as "painting" the tick with nail polish or petroleum jelly, or using heat to make the tick detach from the skin. Your goal is to remove the tick as quickly as possible—not waiting for it to detach.



# ART



## April in the Art Room:

**Kindergarten** students have been embracing spring by painting tulips with simple printmaking techniques and tempera paint, as well as rain inspired watercolor resist umbrella collages.



**First Grade** celebrated having baby chicks ready to hatch in their classroom by crafting a life cycle interactive baby chick collage in Art class. They also created watercolor fish kites, reviewing rainbow order, warm and cool colors. We are waiting for good weather to fly outdoors!

**Second Graders** have been viewing and discussing colors and organic shapes in Henry Matisse's "Fish Bowl" 1912. They observed a cylinder from the side (fish bowl) and used ellipses to create a sense of perspective, then painted colorful organic shapes. The results are cheerful and vibrant!



**Third Graders** just finished the "Friends of Sengekontacket" poster contest, to raise awareness about keeping our beaches clean. All students will receive a certificate to go paddleboarding at Senge! We discussed how to create neat work to get a message across and how to attract people's attention with large and bright images.

**Fourth Graders** are creating self portraits with a flap that opens to show what's going on inside- what their interests and talents are. It is an inspiration to learn more about them as individuals.



Interested in following the Art room on Instagram? Click link below: [https://www.instagram.com/tisburychoolart?igsh=MTHiN3l3cTVtdHM5eA%3D%3D&utm\\_source=qr](https://www.instagram.com/tisburychoolart?igsh=MTHiN3l3cTVtdHM5eA%3D%3D&utm_source=qr)

**Fifth Graders** also participated in the Sengekontaket poster contest and then designed and painted self portraits. We are now looking at famous American artist, Wayne Thiebaud, known for painting everyday objects in a colorful way. Students drew cakes, donuts and desserts using perspective techniques and colorful shadows.



**Sixth Graders** are working diligently on their Victorian house sculptures- adding landscaping and decorative trim. We look to the "carpenter gothic" style of the Oak Bluffs gingerbread houses for color schemes and architectural details. If you can think of a phrase to describe the Victorian era, it would be "beauty over practicality" everything designed in this time period was elegant and decorative 1837-1901 (and beyond)

**Seventh Grade** has been practicing watercolor skills, using watercolor wash, splatter and lifting off techniques to create Claude Monet inspired "Poppy Field". Previously they designed a room using one point perspective techniques to create a sense of depth in a picture plane.



**Eighth Grade** was faced with a design challenge- to design and build a toothpick bridge to align with the Science curriculum with limited materials. We looked at various bridge structures around the world, noticing the effects of compression, tension, and suspension. Truss bridges were noted for their strength. Bridges were tested with weights to see which could support the most weight before buckling. We may have instilled a passion for some future civil engineers!

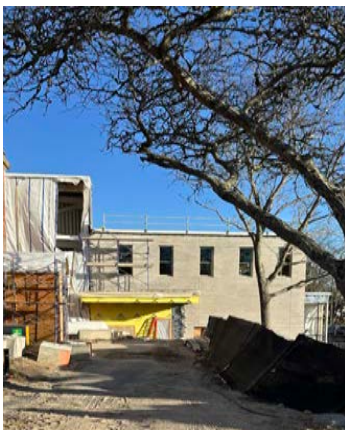


# Tisbury School Renovation/Addition

## Project Update Newsletter

March 2024

The Tisbury School Project remains on schedule for its anticipated Fall 2024 opening. Significant milestones have been achieved in the restoration of the 1929/1995 building, with all masonry work and window installations now completed. In April, the focus will shift to the exterior millwork panels surrounding the palladium windows. Inside, the casework installation on the 2nd and 3rd floors is nearly finished, with classrooms receiving their first coat of paint. Meanwhile, progress on the 1st floor continues with taping and sanding of drywall along with the completion of Mechanical, Electrical, and Plumbing (MEP) rough-ins. On the ground floor, MEP rough-ins are complete and boiler and electrical switch gear installations continue. In the construction of the New Gymnasium, significant strides are being made with the impending completion of exterior brick masonry veneer, wood siding, and glazing systems. Interior work on the 2nd and 3rd floors is already finished, with the installation of drywall systems and MEP components. Notably, the cafeteria sees progress with the installation of the Kitchen Walk-In Cooler and Hood, while MEP rough-ins are nearing completion – standing at 90% for the Cafeteria and 50% for the Music/Band area. The installation of the new building elevator continues alongside the finalization of Stair Number 3. Outside, substantial headway has been made in exterior site work, including the installation of site drainage during the February school break. Looking ahead, the electrical utility is scheduled to set the new transformer in April, a crucial step towards providing permanent power to the new school facility.



### Contact Us!

School Building Committee:  
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[tisburyproject@gmail.com](mailto:tisburyproject@gmail.com)





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**3/11/2024 – 4/5/2024**

Gym/Cafeteria Building B,  
Kitchen – MEP Rough-in



**3/18/2024 – 4/26/2024**

1929/1995 Building, Exterior–  
West side, site rough grading



**3/11/2024 – 4/30/2024**

Gym/Cafeteria Building B –  
Exterior siding installation



**2/19/2024 – 4/12/2024**

1929/1995 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor –  
Casework installation



**2/23/2024 – 4/26/2024**

Gym/Cafeteria Building B,  
Ground Floor – Elevator  
installation



**4/1/2024 – 5/10/2024**

1929/1995 Building, Exterior –  
Palladium window millwork  
installation

