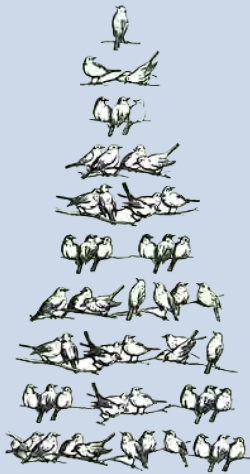


# TIGER TALES



## THE TISBURY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



**December 2024**

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Vineyard Haven, MA 02568  
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Visit our website:  
[www.tisbury.mvyps.org](http://www.tisbury.mvyps.org)  
Information is updated routinely.

### A Year with Frog and Toad

First graders took their first off island trip with their classmates to see a performance at Wheelock Family Theatre in Boston. We had a wonderful time! The show was called *A Year with Frog and Toad*, based on books written by Arnold Lobel about two friends, Frog and Toad. Upon waking up from hibernation in the Spring, Frog and Toad plant gardens, swim, rake leaves, go sledding, and learn life lessons along the way. The two best friends celebrate and rejoice in the differences that make them unique and special. *A Year with Frog and Toad* tells the story of a friendship that endures throughout the seasons.



### Principal's Letter

Tisbury School Community:

Among the many celebratory moments that we have experienced this school year was the first basketball game played in the new gymnasium. On December 3, the MV Charter School boys team faced the Tisbury School boys junior varsity team. It was a spirited game, and the fans in the bleachers were supportive and enthusiastic. Many people commented how great it felt to watch a game in such an environment, remembering the small, uncomfortable gymnasium in the old school. The Tigers won the game, which was icing on the cake. Please come watch a game or two this season, cheering on our boys and girls teams. Our new gymnasium is a wonderful venue, and we look forward to games, concerts, plays, and other events in that space.

Each December, going back to 2006, Tisbury School 5th graders have been special guests, invited to the local Wreaths Across America ceremony sponsored by American Legion Post #257. I was teaching 5th grade at that time, when Legion Post Commander JoAnn Murphy contacted me about the event. It has become one of those special annual experiences that I am grateful for, and we are proud to have our 5th grade class attend each year, representing the Tisbury School. The ceremony has solemn significance, and it is one of hundreds of similar local ceremonies held in communities around the country. The national Wreaths Across America Ceremony is held at Arlington National Cemetery in Washington D.C. each December. For more information about the event, please visit [www.wreathscrossamerica.org](http://www.wreathscrossamerica.org)

For over a decade the Tisbury Police Department has supported our school through the School Resource Officer program. Our school has been fortunate to have a consistent commitment for this program with School Resource Officer Scott Ogden. SRO Ogden has been a familiar, supportive presence in our school for students, staff, and visitors. He has helped us improve safety and security practices, attended local and off-island field trips, joined students during lunch and recess, and built a positive rapport with many children. We have appreciated his dedication to our school, and we know he has enjoyed serving as our SRO. In December, Officer Ogden retired from the Tisbury Police Department, and students in our school celebrated him by writing cards and notes. SRO Ogden is not comfortable receiving attention, but it is important for our school community to recognize and thank him. He will be missed. Officer Cory Medeiros will succeed him as the Tisbury School Resource Officer, and SRO Ogden has been training him throughout the fall, so that the transition will be smooth.

Our school community has much to be grateful for. We are strongly supported, and this allows us the opportunity to provide meaningful opportunities for students. We all benefit from this. Thank you for doing your part.

Sincerely,  
John

## 5th Grade News

The 5th graders took their annual field trip to Plymouth to visit the Mayflower II and the Plimoth Patuxet villages. First they toured around the Mayflower II and laid on the little beds to imagine what the 66 day journey was like for the Pilgrims.

Next the students entered the warm Wamponoag wetu longhouse and sat on cozy deerskins around the open fire. Then the whole class squeezed into a massive mishoon (canoe) for some photos. Many of them enjoyed crushing corn into cornmeal. Some chatted with Shirley, a Native American woman in traditional dress who said her people would travel to the Vineyard on the backs of giant lobsters!

Upon reaching the English village, students bravely marched into the various houses, engaging with every actor they encountered. They played the traditional Pilgrim game "I call", helped freshen up the bed sheets, tried on the heavy woolen skirts and coats, swept the floors, helped make the bread, and were mesmerized by the woman getting dinner ready by plucking the dead bird on her lap!

It was a wonderful trip for everyone!

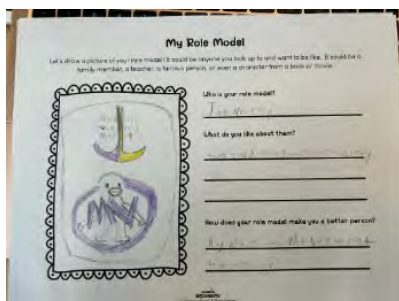




## Health Education

Health education continues to be busy this year! **Kindergarteners** have concluded their feelings unit, where they identified feelings in themselves

**3rd graders** are concluding their role model unit. During this unit, 3rd graders have identified role model behaviors in themselves and others, ways they can be role models in our K-8 school, as well as read multiple texts about trailblazers and other folks who have carved their own paths, took a stand or thought outside of the box. Students also identified their own role models, including athletes, musicians, inventors, scientists, teachers and various community members. They get to interview community role models in a few weeks. They are all extremely excited!



**6th graders** are in their L.E.A.D. program with Major Sterling Bishop from the Dukes County Sheriff's Department. L.E.A.D. focuses on goal setting, being a good friend and making safe, smart choices for yourself and those around you.

Jane Taylor  
K8 Health Education

## Spanish News

During Spanish Class fourth graders are learning about food from South America. We are working with Sam Greene from Island Grown Initiative. Our partnership has been amazing. This month we are learning about Chia seeds. Here are some pictures of the kids' experiences. They tried Chia pudim.

The third graders are going to the library every week. We read stories in Spanish and English.



This month Eighth graders are learning about food, vocabulary, and conversation in a restaurant. Thanks to Melinda and her amazing staff they enjoy Tacos. They build their own Tacos. Some students had Tacos for the first time. They were very engaged. Now they are working on a project about having their own restaurant. We will be talking about celebrations and Hispanic traditions before the holidays. I am proud of their work.

Here are pictures from Tacos Thursday!

## Tisbury Garden News

We have been busy in the classrooms as the weather becomes wintry. 5th grade Social Studies will travel to the Farm Institute on the 11th to compete in a 1600s cooking competition!

Kindergartners are exploring the parts of plants that we eat, complete with a 'become a plant' dress up.

Ms Smith's 2nd grade is learning the science behind the workings of plant parts, and germinating some bean seeds in their classroom window. Third grade students, as they learn about the Indigenous people of our area, and the first Europeans that settled here, will explore how herbs were used as food, fragrance and medicine.

A big congratulations to Antonio (4th grade) for winning last month's raffle question in the media center.

The most common way to prepare potatoes at home is...mashed! Antonio received a bag of local potatoes to share with his family.

The Harvest of the month for December is winter squash. Squashes and pumpkins originated as wild vines in Mexico and Central America and through the ingenuity of Indigenous People, have become one of the most diverse plant foods in the world. With two other 'sister' crops, corn and beans, they traveled across the country and were being grown on our island hundreds of years before the first Europeans settled here.

This month's raffle question is: What squash variety has the name of the seed of a common island tree?

Visit the media center's squash display and try your luck!



## 7th and 8th Grade Science

### 7th grade science:

The seventh graders have begun their second unit, Electromagnetic Force. They have learned how to use spring scales to measure force in Newtons and how to calculate net force. Shortly, they will be experimenting with magnetism and looking at variables that affect it. In addition, our 7th graders have started their work with Tisbury Waterways, adopting (and cleaning) storm drains in town. This connects to the study of watersheds and placement of medallions on the storm drains in the spring.



### 8th grade science:

Our 8th graders are deep into the chemistry unit. They have studied the Periodic Table of Elements, creating and enjoying edible atoms. Creating Rust and Generation of Oxygen are two labs that they have completed to look at indicators of chemical reactions. This study will continue after our winter break extending to concepts of particle movement, solubility and factors affecting chemical reactions.



## NURSE'S NOTES

### Let's Stay Healthy this Winter!!

### Promote Proper Hand Washing in Your Household!

The T ZONE is the only portal of entry into the human body for all respiratory infections!

(Influenza, adeno virus, RSV, common cold, conjunctivitis, pharyngitis, tonsillitis, bronchitis, pneumonia, Cocksackie virus, Streptococcus, Pneumococcus, TB, and more)

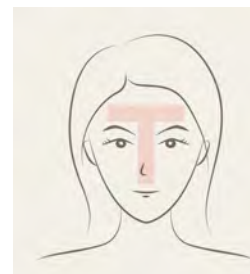
#### 1. WASH YOUR HANDS WHEN THEY ARE DIRTY AND BEFORE EATING

#### 2. DO NOT COUGH INTO YOUR HANDS

#### 3. DO NOT SNEEZE INTO YOUR HANDS

#### 4. DO NOT PUT YOUR FINGERS INTO YOUR EYES, NOSE, OR MOUTH

1. **Wet** your hands with clean, running water (warm or cold), turn off the tap, and apply soap.
2. **Lather** your hands by rubbing them together with the soap. Lather the backs of your hands, between your fingers, and under your nails.
3. **Scrub** your hands **for at least 20 seconds**. Need a timer? Hum the "Happy Birthday" song from beginning to end twice.
4. **Rinse** your hands well under clean, running water.
5. **Dry** your hands using a clean towel or an air dryer.



## Tisbury School Wellness Committee

**Tip: Choose Wisely When Choosing Cereal. Did you know that some breakfast cereals have as much sugar as a doughnut!**



Plain cake doughnut  
Kellogg's Frosted Mini Wheats  
Honey Nut Cheerios  
Raisin Bran Crunch  
Honey Oh's  
Fruity Pebbles with marshmallows  
Kellogg's Smart Start  
Capt'n Crunch  
Fruit Loops with marshmallows

12 grams of sugar  
12 grams of sugar  
12 grams of sugar  
19 grams of sugar  
16 grams of sugar  
18 grams of sugar  
18 grams of sugar  
16 grams of sugar  
16 grams of sugar



Multi Grain Cheerios  
Original Cheerios  
Kix  
Rice Chex

8 grams of sugar  
2 grams of sugar  
4 grams of sugar  
3 grams of sugar

#### The next time you choose cereal:

- Check the serving size!
- Take a look at the sugar content!
- Choose cereal with a higher fiber content!
- Add Protein to your meal!
- Choose cereal without dyes!



# ART

**Kindergarteners** are anticipating the coming of winter by painting snowy landscapes and snowmen.

**First Grade** students are depicting the sun and the moon by sponge painting, to coincide with their studies on the earth's rotation around the sun.

**Second Graders** recently learned about nocturnal animals and sculpted an owl. Students formed a hollow clay body, attached wings and simulated the look of feathers by imprinting with a popsicle stick. Many great horned and snowy owls were represented through a second grade lens.

**Third graders** viewed the work of contemporary artist, Jen Arany, and created pen, ink and watercolor work in her unique style. In a circular format, students drew mountains with shadows on one side, and trees, rivers or wildflowers in the foreground. Watercolor skies with a salt resist completed the work in sunset warm, or cool night sky colors.

**Fourth Graders** sculpted snow people from earthenware clay. Three spherical pinch pots of varying sizes, small, medium, and large, were formed and stacked. Students choose a top hat, cowboy hat, or ski hat to attach to the head. Real twigs will serve as arms after glazing.

**Fifth Graders** created the illusion of glowing holiday lights with markers, chalk and heightened observational skills. They are also creating posters for holiday sing along, to announce each song, a long time Tisbury tradition.

**Sixth Graders** formed dinosaurs from a block of clay with brontosaurus, stegosaurus, tyrannosaurus as popular choices. They pressed burlap into the clay to simulate a reptilian texture.

**Seventh and Eighth Grade** have been working diligently on seeing and depicting value (light and shadow) through a series of exercises in still life observational drawing. Some exercises included blind contour drawing, where you only view the object and can not look at the paper while drawing. This pushes artists to really look at the object and not just draw what they think it looks like. Emphasis was placed on turning a shape into a form by adding at least three value tones- light/medium/dark, to create a sense of volume with vine charcoal.

