



November 2024

P.O. Box 878, Vineyard Haven, MA 02568 508-696-6500 Visit our website: www.tisbury.mvyps.org Information is updated routinely.



Principal's Letter

Tisbury School Community:

The Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for our school on Saturday October 26 was a joyous occasion. It provided our community a memorable opportunity to recognize and celebrate the opening of our amazing renovated Tisbury School. As I shared at the event:

This ceremony is an opportunity to share and express gratitude. On behalf of the students and staff at the Tisbury School, please know how sincerely grateful we are. This school exceeds our visions and expectations, and we feel very fortunate. Our gratitude is for the support of our community, which made this school project possible. We never take that support for granted – it is fully and wholeheartedly appreciated.

My connection to the Tisbury School is a strong one. I attended this school from Kindergarten through 8th grade, graduating in 1984. I began working here in 2004, and have been here ever since – as a teacher, assistant principal, and principal. My 2 daughters attended the Tisbury School, Kindergarten through 8th grade. I love this school, and my pride in it cannot be overstated. I realize how lucky I am, and we all are, to have this amazing school facility in our town. So many individuals dedicated countless hours to this project, and it would not have happened without this commitment and support. Again, we are here today to show gratitude to them.

I share the belief that there is no building in a community that is more important than its school. It is therefore inspiring and encouraging to see what we have built in Tisbury. This school, as I like to remind others, was designed and built with children's interests in mind. It reflects history, tradition, and nostalgia, while also recognizing today's educational practices and needs. It is a <u>privilege</u> working with students. Working with them, at <u>this</u> school – with a facility and campus that also supports them – is something to be grateful for.

This school building project is a wonderful investment in children, education, and families. Tisbury has every right to be proud of this. On behalf of the Tisbury School students and staff, please know how grateful we are.

It was important and meaningful to include students in this event, cutting the ceremonial ribbon. Thank you to these students for representing the entire Tisbury School student body. Their participation made the ceremony more special.

The tours of the school that followed the ceremony allowed the public to see the wonderful results of this renovation and addition project. It was encouraging to observe people's positive reactions to the school, as it reinforced our community's commitment to supporting children and education.

Sincerely, John



Tisbury Garden News

The new garden beds are in! And they're beautiful. Both playground areas have their own gardens, so next spring we can have double the fun and learning and planting!

We may even get some cover crops planted this month. Cover crops are great for keeping the soil from eroding over the winter and for adding nutrients back into the soil. Sometimes we call them a 'winter blanket' for the garden beds.

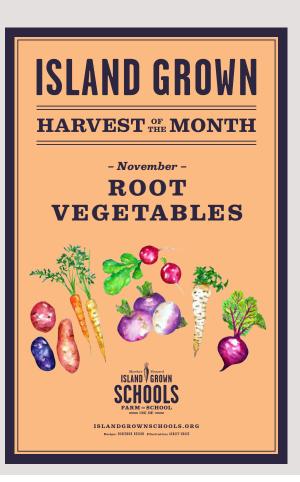
Congratulations to 4th grader Kaydia Gardner for winning the October trivia question!

The special habitat where cranberries grow is called a.....bog.

The Harvest of the Month for November is root vegetables. Did you know that root vegetables like carrots, beets and turnips get sweeter after the first frost? This is because they convert stored starches into sugar to keep from freezing over the winter.

Autumn is a great time to add root vegetables to soups and stews, or to roast some carrots and taste how sweet they can really be.

Keep your eyes open for a root vegetable activity and trivia question in the 2nd floor media center.



7th and 8th Grade Science

7th grade science:

The 7th graders are still working in Populations and Ecosystems. They are studying the chemical equations of photosynthesis and cellular respiration, and they have planted some ryegrass in a related experiment. Our recent dissections included crayfish and perch, with frogs still to come. We will be playing the predator/prey game this week as the kids look at the relationships within food webs.

8th grade science:

Having wrapped up the Heredity and Adaptation unit, the 8th graders are just starting Chemical Interactions. This is a long unit that will introduce them to the Periodic Table of Elements, indicators of chemical changes, balancing equations, solubility and more. We are fortunate to have our new lab to work in. Plenty of sinks for cleanup and heat proof tables for lab work!



3rd Grade News

Ponds, Arboretums, and Bogs...Oh My!

If you are interested in what lives in a pond, how to find seeds on trees, or how cranberries grow, then just ask a Tisbury School third grader. This fall, both third grades traveled to Felix Neck, Polly Hill, and the Vineyard Open Land Foundation's cranberry bog and learned first hand (and hands on) about science in nature. The incredible field trips were extensions of classroom lessons and the visits inspired narrative writing, Pond Life Haiku poetry, and cooking with cranberries. Third graders gave each trip a 10 out of 10 rating and enthusiastically hope to visit these beautiful properties in the future.

Mrs. Anne Willamson

On October 30th, third graders had the opportunity to visit the cranberry bog at Cranberry Acres. This was the first time Tisbury third graders have been able to visit the bog in ten years, so it was a really special trip! Students learned about the properties of a dry bog vs a wet bog before they gleaned cranberries. Between the two classes, students picked over 7 pounds of berries! Students also learned about the machinery used to clean and sort the cranberries. This trip was in collaboration with Island Grown Initiative and Vineyard Open Land Foundation. It was a beautiful day to explore our island!

Ms. Nicole Shirley



Health Education

Health Education is off to a busy start this school year!

Kindergarten is concluding their feelings unit. They've learned different feeling words, drawn different feeling faces and showed what different feelings look like in their bodies. Ask them to show you happy, sad, angry and surprised!

1st grade concluded their unit on water safety. They learned about how to be safe in the water, on the beach, by the pool, on a pier and on a boat. We had visits from Tisbury Harbormaster Gary Kovack, School Resource Officer Scott Ogden and Acting Fire Chief Patrick Rolston. Harbormaster Kovack helped us put together the best field trip ever: we walked to Owen Park where students explored a US Coast Guard boat, Tisbury's Fire/Harbor Master boat and tools & gear used to keep people safe in and on the water. We are thankful to School Resource Officer Scott Ogden, Acting Fire Chief Patrick Rolston, Harbormaster Gary Kovack, Assistant Harbormaster Morgan Reitzas and members of the US Coast Guard from both Menemsha & Woods Hole for a unique, fun and educational experience.



4th graders are concluding their unit on identity and learned about fingerprints. Each fingerprint is unique, even for identical twins. Students enjoyed our experiment with baby powder to determine what type of fingerprints they had: whorl, loop or arch.

5th graders concluded their unit on non-visible conditions with an experiment to simulate a concussion. We were joined by Tisbury Paramedic Jason Davey and Acting Fire Chief Patrick Rolston. Students learned about the temporal lobe of the brain and how multiple concussions can impact the feeling of touch. Paramedic Davey and Acting Chief Rolston shared how they treat a patient with a concussion, allowing students to explore the tools they use to do so.

5th graders also had a visit from nursing students at our hospital to help them better understand concussions. Thank you to Rali Ivanova, Rachel Vargas, Jennifer Dudley and Laura Hilliard for visiting our class!

Jane Taylor K8 Health Education



NURSES NOTES



November is National Diabetes Awareness Month

Talk to your healthcare provider about the risk factors in your family, take precautions, and support the people you know with diabetes!

Martha's Vineyard Hospital has the Covid-19 and flu vaccine available. Call your healthcare provider today to schedule!



Healthy Tip from the Tisbury Wellness Committee:

Eat more real food and less packaged food Limit time spent in sedentary activities, such as watching tv, using electronics, being online, and playing video games. Get Outside!

DIABETES SYMPTOMS







A few healthy food ideas for celebrations:

Fruit Kabobs Veggie Sticks and Hummus Popcorn cups Vogurt Parfaits Smoothies

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ART

Kindergarten students looked at French artist Georges Seurat's Pointillism techniques in "The River Seine at La Grande- Jatte". They filled in the outline of a sailboat on the river with dots of tempera paint and went on to paint their own picture with dots. They have also been creating symmetrical art with many butterfly projects.

First Graders are studying apples in class. In Art we made painted paper fruit collages with textural burlap as the tablecloth. Students learned how to mix secondary colors from primary colors and how to create the illusion of depth by overlapping shapes, a big step developmentally.

Second Graders learned the colors of the spectrum by painting a gradient sunset wash on watercolor paper. We talked about a lighthouse's purpose long ago before GPS systems and what a lighthouse keeper's life might have been like. Next, they drew and cut out lighthouse and boat silhouettes, the results were dramatic!

Third Graders are learning how to weave using warp and weft strings on a paper plate loom. They also sculpted clay pumpkins out of two clay pinch pots.

Fourth Graders designed performing trapeze artists, creating kinetic art which hangs on paper straw trapeze. They added colorful costumes and yarn for hair.

Fifth Grade is all about fiber arts! We discussed colonial times and how life was different without modern day comforts. They learned how to weave potholders and crochet the piece off of the loom with a series of loops. They also made dream catchers, learning about the Native American legend that the web collects and protects you from bad dreams, and the feathers lead the good dreams down to you. They worked with natural reeds, yarn, feathers and beads. Some took the design challenges of weaving a web, others designed a star.

6th Graders are creating a 3D room design on paper, using pop up cards technique to make paper look 3D. They were encouraged to problem solve the design challenges their ideas presented- like a slide from the bed, or how to make a hot tub look 3D. They also sculpted a clay pumpkin by combining two pinch pots into a hollow sphere.

Seventh and Eighth Graders used hammers, nails, and string to create a geometric shape with intricately formed patterns and parabolic curves. We talked about parabolic curves and where parabola are found in everyday life-the headlight on a car, or the trajectory of a ball when thrown.

