

TIGER TALES



THE TISBURY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



October 2024

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Visit our website: www.tisbury.mvyps.org
Information is updated routinely.

UNITY DAY

October is Bullying Prevention Month so expect this to be the theme of social emotional learning. Consistent education and intervention can stop bullying. We will celebrate Unity Day on Thursday October 17th. We invite students to wear something orange as a call to action against bullying. We will learn what it means to be an Upstander against mean and bullying behavior.



Principal's Letter

Tisbury School community:

The celebratory opening of school this year was unlike any other that I've experienced in my 28 years working in schools on Martha's Vineyard. The gratitude, relief, and happiness surrounding the opening of our renovated school was hard to describe, but it was a wonderful and fulfilling feeling.

I have sincere appreciation for the time, work, and support that was necessary – over many years – to get us to this point. Observing students, staff, and families' reactions to seeing the renovated school has been gratifying. For years, our school community has felt pride in our school, and we have acknowledged that it is people who make our school strong. Many recall the “We Are the Tisbury School” refrain that was embraced several years ago, emphasizing that the strength of our school was its people.

It is reassuring to now also have real pride in a school facility that supports children. I've made a point to remind all that this school was designed and built for the interests and needs of students. We have been very fortunate to be in the capable hands of an exceptional project team – owner's project manager CHA Consulting, architect Tappe Associates, and construction manager W.T. Rich Company. Working with these companies has been a privilege.

Throughout the first weeks of this school year, I've repeated “How lucky we are” to many individuals. I mean this, as I do not take for granted what was involved in getting us to this positive outcome. Ultimately, our community showed support for children and education, which we recognize and appreciate. I continue to maintain a belief that there is no more important building in a community than its school. For the Town of Tisbury, our amazing renovated Tisbury School is something that we should all take great pride in.

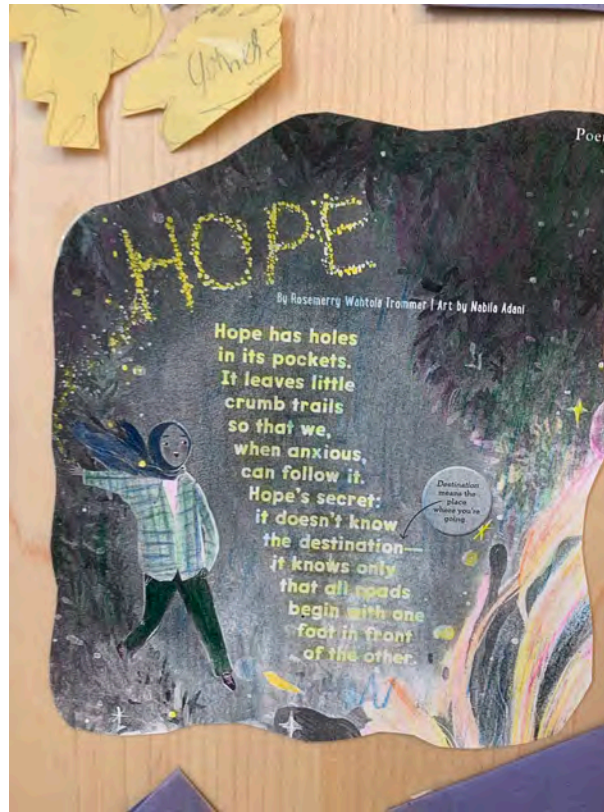
Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

John

4th Grade News

4 Goldthwait is settling into our beautiful spacious sun-filled classroom with delight. During the first two weeks of school students read a poem titled "Hope". It was written by Rosemary Wahtola Trommer. A question asked in the poem was "What is Hope's secret?". After reading and talking about what Hope means to them the students were drawn back to the words from the beginning of the poem- "Hope has holes in its pockets. It leaves little crumb trails so that we, when anxious, can follow it. Hope's secret doesn't know the destination-it knows only that all roads begin with one foot in front of the other.



ART



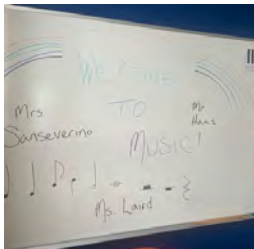
Vocal Music

Tisbury Vocal Music is off to a fantastic start! The temporary music classroom, which will become Industrial Arts next year, has beautiful light and windows. We are pleased to be here!

This month, we started our Keystar Journey! Classes are building their Community, Respect, Compassion and Responsibility as they keep track of their successful experiences in class. By following the Music Room Rules and keeping everyone “safe in their Music Bubbles” (an idea that they have been working on for the past 5 years), they go up the keys towards their own Keystar Class, when they get to design their own best experience of music time. Some classes want to have karaoke or a disco party, others want to go outside for music. One asked to have a dance party in the Ga Ga ball pit! Lots of creative ideas!

On October 16, we are looking forward to the All Island Choral Festival! Our 5-8th graders are invited to come during the school day to the High School to rehearse a music program with students from all of the other island schools. We will also have a pizza party with High School singers and learn about the music programs offered at MVRHS. That evening, there will be a concert in the PAC that will include our Tisbury Tiger students performing! Only students who WANT to participate in the concert will be involved. It will be an awesome experience!

Jessica Sanseverino
Vocal Music



7th and 8th Grade Science

7th Grade Science:

Our 7th graders are off to a great start with the Populations and Ecosystems unit. We are looking at organisms, moving from simple to complex. We have dissected worms, bivalves, squid and grasshoppers. Many more to come! There are live milkweed bugs in the classroom for the kids to observe and document a full life cycle.

8th Grade Science:

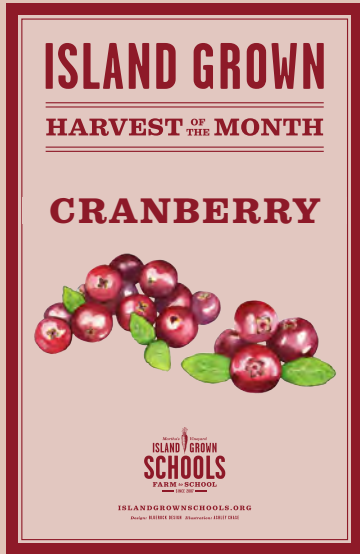
The year began with Heredity and Adaptation for 8th graders. They have looked at organism evolution and relatedness. They are learning how traits are passed down, working with Punnett squares to determine the likelihood of certain traits appearing. Models of edible DNA and Strawberry DNA Extraction are a couple of the activities so far. We will finish the unit talking about natural selection (survival of the fittest) and cloning.

Sue Adamo
7/8 Science





Harvest of the Month: Cranberries



Tisbury Garden News

Happy Fall!

It's so exciting to be in the new school! Although we don't have our new garden yet, it's in the works and the new beds will be built soon. You can see the space as you drive through the pick up/drop off lane, just next to the shed. There will be a sitting area, too, to be used as an outdoor classroom. I can't wait to dream and plan with students through the winter and fill the garden with veggies and flowers and herbs next spring!

The Harvest of the Month is cranberries. Ms Burke and I will once again be able to set up a display in the new media center with our raffle question and a cranberry activity. Keep your eyes open for it!

Cranberries are one of only 3 commercially harvested native fruits in North America. The other 2 are Concord grapes and blueberries, and all 3 grow wild on Martha's Vineyard. Cranberries have been harvested by the Wampanoag people for 12,000 years!

The raffle question this month is:
Cranberries grow in a special habitat called a....
A. Field
B. Bog
C. Garden

Your garden teacher,
Sam Greene
Tisbury School Farm to School
Program Coordinator

NURSE'S NOTES

Healthy Vision and School!

Children with vision problems may not complain that it is hard to see because they do not know what normal vision is. They think the way they see is the way everyone sees - even if it's blurry!



Did you know?

- 1 in 4 children needs eyeglasses to see the blackboard or to read a book
- Some vision conditions, if not treated, will lead to permanent vision loss
- Complaints and behaviors such as itchy eyes, headaches, blinking, or squinting can be signs of a vision problem
- Untreated vision problems may contribute to challenges with reading, falling behind in the classroom, having difficulty in sports, and connecting with friends
- Children born prematurely, or who have developmental delay or other special needs are more likely to have vision problems

*All children in grades K-5 and 7 will have a vision screening each school year. But if you have concerns about your child's vision, let the school nurse know or your child's healthcare provider.

Helmets

Helmets are a must when riding a bike, scooter, moped, skate board!! Please protect your child's head and promote helmets!! We see too many children on these modes of transportation without protection!!

The Island Dental Center is scheduled to open this Fall. This will be open to adults and children who need dental services on the island. They will be accepting MassHealth. They have set up a waitlist that is available in English and in Portuguese: <https://ihimv.org/dental-center/>