



## **T.I.S. Digital Backpack**

**November 9, 2020**



### **FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE:**

#### **Adherence to In-Person or Remote Designation**

All students are assigned to one of two designations, either in-person M, T, Th and F or fully remote. Please understand that these designations must not be changed simply for the sake of convenience. Sudden changes to a child's designation often result in a student not having the necessary materials needed to participate in classroom lessons. Keeping a child at home because they are not feeling well and having them work remotely is an appropriate reason to switch a designation in the short term, abruptly switching a child to remote as a matter of convenience cannot be accommodated.

#### **Veterans Day**

In honor of Veterans Day, TIS will prepare a Veterans Day video program for all students to view on November 10. The video program will consist of an explanation of Veterans Day, as well as some pre-recorded solo performances of students singing patriotic songs.

#### **Bookfair**

A modified version of our annual Fall book fair will be held November 9-13. **Note:** **Book fair order forms are due by 11/17.** The modified version of the fair will consist of Scholastic bookcases being placed in an open area of the building. Students will be walked to the fair in small groups. Prior to and after visiting the fair, student groups will be required to wash or sanitize their hands. Students wishing to order a book from the fair will be provided with an order form. Order forms may be returned to a child's classroom teacher. Book orders will be processed in the evenings and left in classrooms for students to take home.

# T.I.S. CALENDAR



## November

- 5 Early Dismissal (Parent/Teacher Conferences)
- 6 NO SCHOOL (Parent/Teacher Conferences)
- 9-13 TIS Bookfair
- 17 Bookfair order forms due
- 18 Virtual Hawks Nest Meetings, 11:15
- 18 Virtual Coffee with the Principal
- 20 Hat Day
- 25-27 NO SCHOOL (Thanksgiving Break)



### ***TIS is having a Scholastic Book Fair!***

*It may look much different than past book fairs, but the students who are in school will have a chance to browse some books and add them to a wishlist/order form that they will take home. There will be instructions on that form on how to order the books. The book fair will take place for **in-school students only** the week of 11/9-11/13. It will not be open to the public or parents. Please ask your child about our book fair and keep an eye out for the order forms!*

*We will also have our online store up and running especially for the **full-time remote students**. Orders are delivered right to your doorstep and you can take advantage of **FREE** shipping on book-only purchases over \$25. Head over to our website at:*

*<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/tollandintermediateschooli>*

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT T.I.S.

## Grade 3

Third graders have made a fantastic transition from the hybrid model that we started the school year with to a four day a week model. Students who are still remote are doing a wonderful job with the third grade program as well. We would like to thank families for their continued support in this ever-changing school year.

One of our focuses during the school day is on the students' Social Emotional Learning. We are teaching the students about Mindfulness. Mindfulness is taking notice of how your body feels and what you see smell and taste. It is noticing what your mind is doing. Mindfulness helps us create space between a strong emotion and our actions. We learn to deal with positive and negative experiences more calmly and by making better decisions. We are teaching students breathing techniques to deal with the stress in their environment. We want students to know that they are safe here at school and there are always adults who are there to help them.

Each classroom starts their day with a Circle Time, where we check in with students with the "Fist of Five". Third graders can share how they are feeling when they start off the day and teachers can gain access to their emotional needs with these quick meetings. We encourage students and parents to reach out at any time with social emotional needs and concerns.

We are moving right along with our curriculum in third grade. In the Journeys reading program, we have read stories like Bat Loves the Night, where we focused on sequence of events and action verbs. Another story that many third grade classrooms read was What Do Illustrators Do? The focus comprehension skills were text and graphic details as well as more sequence of events. Our grammar focuses are verb tenses, synonyms, and using commas. The stories we will read together as we move on will focus on drawing conclusions, context clues and more using commas. We have been mixing in narrative writing as we go. Students have the opportunity to write detailed narratives about their personal experiences.

In Foundations we are moving forward with Units 2 and 3. Third graders got experience using suffixes and marking up words that add extra consonants. We are still practicing sound alike words and connecting their new knowledge to their everyday writing. Oh course students have been excited to continue to learn cursive. We are still working on the lowercase letters.

Since the third grade teachers are piloting math programs, different classrooms are focusing on different areas. The focuses are addition and subtraction, time, place value, and word problems in all programs. Practicing math facts is still one of the best ways to support their learning. Using Reflex, flashcards, or playing a math facts game as a family are all great ways to get involved.

In science we have been learning about the Biomes of the world. We have looked at vegetation and animals that live in the forest biome, desert, tundra and many others. Students have been excited to see these different places in our world. We will continue to focus on global address, and other social studies areas throughout the fall.

Thank you again for the support you are giving from home.

## Grade 4

As time moves us through Fall, our students are showing their brilliant colors! They continue to do a great job following the new routines set in place to keep everyone safe. We appreciate all the support that our students have gotten from parents and guardians as we work together with our new learning model.

In Math, we are transitioning to multiplication. Reflex Math and IXL have been great resources to strengthen our math skills. Remember, students can always log in at home for extra practice.

The weathering and erosion unit in science will be wrapping up this month, and we will turn our attention to map skills, our first social studies unit. We stay connected to landforms as we study physical maps.

We have been busy working with our reading series, Journeys. We will complete Unit 1, which includes stories about reaching out to people in a community, and begin Unit 2, which features several stories about the performing arts. Classes continue to work on elaboration and adding details to our narrative writing.

Have a fantastic fall and enjoy the beautiful weather!

## Grade 5

Fifth graders continue to work hard in class and virtually. In ELA students are reading, Thunder Rolling in the Mountains, by Scott O'Dell and Elizabeth Hall. This fictional book is about settlers moving in on the Nez Perce reservations. Students are actively engaged as we read about Chief Joseph and the battles between the natives and the settlers. Students are writing a variety of paragraphs

about what they are reading. They are learning how to write topic sentences, provide text evidence, add elaboration and write a conclusion sentence.

In 5th grade Social Studies, we continue to integrate literacy skills, such as reading for information, using graphic organizers to take notes, and write a developed paragraph. Students have moved on in unit one and are studying Explorers". In addition, we also highlighted current events. Students had a very brief introduction to the US government, that we will study at the end of the year, due to Election Day. They voted for a student in their homeroom who consistently demonstrated the TIS HAWK behavior focus for October. Eleven students (1 or 2 from each homeroom) were recognized during Social Studies class for their positive role in our TIS community. Finally, students will complete a community service project for Veterans Day that will be either given to a veteran or put out into the world as a reminder to honor them for their service.

In math, students are using patterns to multiply and divide multi-digit whole numbers. They are also applying those skills to solve real-world problems. In science, students are learning about topics involving space. Students are continuing to learn about patterns in space, focusing on the driving question "Are shooting stars really stars?" We have recently discovered how stars are born, and continue to explore characteristics of stars, and how they differ from planets, the moon, comets, meteors, and more. In the next few weeks, we will be researching different patterns involving Earth, the moon, and the sun, including topics such as day/night, seasons, and moon phases. We'll use that research to build on connections involving patterns in space as they relate to meteor showers. Stay tuned... a fun project is in the works!

## Unified Arts Update for November 2020

Art ~ Library ~ Music ~ Physical Education



### Ms. Ballard - Art

In the month of November Cohort 4 will have Art.

Cohort 4 are the fifth grade classes of Grabowski, Racco, and Yaglowski. This cohort will be from November 9, 2020 to December 2, 2020.

Each student will receive materials for art class the first day that we meet. Students are asked to please bring their pencil boxes or pouches that carry their classroom supplies to art class. **Remote learners are asked to pick up their materials from the office a week before their Art class starts.**

Our projects for this term will be Zentangle, Scratch Art, and a Flip book. Projects may change depending on whether or not we are in or out of school. Other projects such as a wire sculpture, animal drawings and clay sculptures will occur when Cohort 4 meets again in the spring. Some materials will need to be brought from home, such as a smock and an animal picture.

Each student will be responsible for keeping track of their materials and bringing them to class every day. Materials will be given out to students during the first week of class or when my orders come in. On Virtual Wednesdays students will need to take part in Art class at 11:45am. to 12:15 pm. online. I look forward to seeing you all and creating our projects!



### Mrs. Hill - Library Media

During the month of November, both fifth grade cohort groups will have Library as their Unified Arts special. Students will be practicing skills they learned in fourth grade such as library arrangement, Destiny searching, and basic technology applications. In addition, they will show competency in opening, editing, and turning assignments for Google docs, slides, and forms. Students will review six

forms of fiction genre, complete a STEM project, and of course check out lots of great books. There is always so much going on in Library class!

### **Ms. Baker-General Music/Grade 5 Chorus**

#### **Musical theme for December:**

This month, TIS students are learning about **Holidays Around the World**. I will be singing songs and playing instruments from Kwanzaa, Hanukkah, Christmas, Three Kings day and many other holidays. I will also be singing songs about community and kindness. Please check in to your Music classroom with Ms. Baker for fun **Holiday around the world** video clips.

#### **Let's celebrate diversity!**

**Grade 3 general music:** Third graders are singing folk songs from around the world and playing musical instruments to accompany their singing. The students are really enjoying playing the xylophones!!!

The TEPTO has purchased recorders for school use for our students this year. Your child will also need a recorder for practicing their assignments at home.



#### **COMING SOON!**

**Grade 3 concert :** At this time we are not planning a live concert for third grade. Please watch this Unified Arts page for future updates.

**Grade 4 general music:** The fourth graders will be learning about the music of North American, South America and Australia. The students will be learning how to play songs on their recorders at home using the recorder karate program.

**Grade 5 general music:** The fifth graders are learning about how to compose using graphics. The students will be performing and composing using; body percussion, vocal sounds, non-pitched instruments, boomwhackers, and chrome music lab. Fifth graders will also be starting to learn how to play the ukulele. Students are not required to purchase their own ukulele but, if you or your student are interested in investing in your own ukulele contact me in order to find a quality instrument at a reasonable price.

**Grade 5 Chorus:** Grade 5 chorus has begun. Please sign into our [Wednesday google meets at 12:15](#). If you still would like to join send Ms. Baker an email and she will send you an invitation to her Chorus classroom.

**\*\***At this time we are not planning a live concert for third grade. Please watch this Unified Arts page for future updates.





### **Mrs. Marchesani - Band/Chorus/UA Exploratory Music**

**Grade 3 Music:** In November, 3rd grade cohorts are participating in a “3rd grade Music Fun with Mrs. Marchesani” class. We are learning about musical instrument families, listening to concert band instrument videos and recordings, making our own instruments at home and composing for rhythm instruments and body percussion.

**Grade 4 Chorus:** 4th grade chorus will begin on Wednesday November 4th. The google meets begins at 12:15 and ends at 12:45. Click on the meet link in the 4th grade Chorus Google Classroom to join the meet. Please email [nmarchesani@tolland.k12.ct.us](mailto:nmarchesani@tolland.k12.ct.us) if you want to join and Mrs. Marchesani will send you an invite!

**Grade 4 Band:** The start for Wind instruments in Band is still postponed to potentially January. However, 4th graders interested in Percussion will start in November!!!

**Grade 5 Band:** The 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Band small group classes have been meeting in person in Mrs. Marchesani’s room and remote from home students are included in the schedule. We are using a rotating pull out schedule so Band students do not miss the same class every week. We are using special music masks and bell covers on our instruments when we play in school just like Band members in TMS and THS. We have been reviewing playing melodies with eighth notes and beginning to work on “Regal March”. Students have also begun learning fun and melodic “Scale Preps for Beginning Band” composed by Mike Hannickel.

It's not too late to sign up for 5th grade Band! Students who played in 4th grade Band last year are encouraged to re-join this year. 5th grade Band is also open to any 5th grader who wants to learn how to play a band instrument even if they did not participate in 4th grade. Here’s the link to sign up!

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScQOmMo8sO2aY124VIbTSMMSUpAr0vepE7j9IhtNbqFXoWBsg/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScQOmMo8sO2aY124VIbTSMMSUpAr0vepE7j9IhtNbqFXoWBsg/viewform?usp=sf_link)

**Inclement Weather policy:** On early dismissal days or late start days small group Band classes WILL meet. Please contact me anytime with questions or concerns! [nmarchesani@tolland.k12.ct.us](mailto:nmarchesani@tolland.k12.ct.us) 860-870-6885 x 40226

## **Mr. Downing – Physical Education**

**Fourth grade:** Students will be engaged in an exercise routine consisting of a warmup, exercises designed to elevate the heart rate, and a cool down. The five components of health related fitness will be stressed. Students will also be introduced to the basics of badminton and given opportunities to practice their racket skills.



## DECADES DAY AT T.I.S.



## TIS SPIRIT DAYS!

November 20<sup>TH</sup>  
HAT DAY



April 30<sup>th</sup> College Spirit Day



December 22<sup>nd</sup> Crazy/Silly  
Sweater Day



May 21<sup>st</sup> Patriotic Day



January 29<sup>th</sup> Sports Team  
Day



June 11<sup>th</sup> Wacky Tacky Day



March 12<sup>th</sup> PI Day



## News from the Cafeteria



### DID YOU KNOW...

BGP & TIS serves breakfast every day that lunch is served at school?

Both Breakfast & Lunch are Free to All students at this time?

You can order both meals on all remote learning days?



### MAKE MORNINGS EASY!

**Please see the Free School Meal Flyer for more information.**

If you ever have a question regarding meals in Tolland Schools, please contact, Abby Kassman-Harned, Food Service Director at 860-870-6854 or [aharned@tolland.k12.ct.us](mailto:aharned@tolland.k12.ct.us)



# FREE SCHOOL MEALS FOR ALL CHILDREN UP TO AGE 18



USDA has granted a waiver extension allowing Free School Meals to all children up to age 18 until December 31, 2020 *or until funding is depleted*. This includes in school students, remote students, and children in the community.

## REMOTE MEAL ORDERING INFORMATION

### THERE ARE TWO DIFFERENT ORDER FORMS:

Remote meal menu available on each form

*\*Note that this menu is different than the in-school menus\**

**For Tolland Public School Students  
and their siblings [click here](#)**

You must have an account set up in "myschoolaccount"

**For all other children in the  
community [click here](#)**

This is a google form

**ALL PREORDERED MEALS MUST BE PICKED  
UP DAILY AT TOLLAND HIGH SCHOOL  
BETWEEN 11:30 – 12:30**

## How will my children get their free meals?

### In School:

Students will come through the service line. All food will be placed on trays by the kitchen staff; students will touch only their own tray. Extra meals, entrees, snacks and milk (other than or in addition to the milk served with a meal) may be purchased if there are funds in the student account.

### Remote Meals:

Available daily with a preorder. Breakfast & lunch orders may be placed by a parent or guardian the day before or up until 7am the day of pick-up.

*Free meals must be a complete meal including all required meal components*

## Please see Ordering Information



Questions?

Food Service Office

860-870-6854

[aharned@tolland.k12.ct.us](mailto:aharned@tolland.k12.ct.us)

[kmecteau@tolland.k12.ct.us](mailto:kmecteau@tolland.k12.ct.us)

We are here to help!

*You Are Cordially Invited To:*



## COFFEE WITH THE PRINCIPAL

2020-2021

*T.I.S. Coffee with the Principal will be VIRTUAL this year.*

September 23, 2020

February 18, 2021 (Thurs. mtg.)

October 21, 2020

March 17, 2021

November 18, 2020

April 14, 2021

No December meeting

May 19, 2021 (which is a

January 20, 2021

special Math meeting)

(all meetings begin at 10:15 a.m.)

*Please RSVP*

*to Pam Babey ([pbabey@tolland.k12.ct.us](mailto:pbabey@tolland.k12.ct.us)) by the day before the meeting date you would like to attend. You will then receive a link to the meeting.*



Join  
Mrs. Webster, K-12 Math Supervisor  
and  
the TIS Principal, Mr. Dineen

to learn about math placement for incoming 6th graders.

### Current 5th Graders

**Date:** Wednesday, May 19, 2021  
(Coffee with the Principal Meeting)

**Time:** 10:15am - 11:15am

**Google Meet information:**

<https://meet.google.com/vnz-qfee-wbr>

**Join by phone**

(US) +1 252-843-1044 PIN: 914 453 207#

You can find more detailed information on our Tolland Public Schools Middle School Math Placement website. It can be accessed directly with this link:

<http://tps.sharpschool.net/cms/One.aspx?portalId=891651&pageId=47149004> or by following the pathway on the Tolland Public Schools website: Departments, Curriculum, and Mathematics.



Tolland Intermediate School

Photo Release Form

2020-2021

**Please do not release any photos of my child in the  
following media**

**(check all that apply):**

\_\_\_\_\_ Yearbook

\_\_\_\_\_ Outside Media Sources

\_\_\_\_\_ Tolland Public Schools Superintendent's Bulletin/**T.I.S. Digital Backpack**

\_\_\_\_\_ Tolland Intermediate School Website

**\*\*\*This form does not need to be returned if photos  
can be used in all of the above media areas.**

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature\_\_\_\_\_

Teacher\_\_\_\_\_



*The End*

