



T.I.S. Digital Backpack

October 5, 2020



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE:

First day take three

Please keep in mind that Monday, October 5 is the first time classes will be together in person for the first time. We will treat Monday like another first day of school. Teachers will spend some time with brief introductions of both in person and remote learners. Monday will also provide a great opportunity for teachers to hold class meetings with their students. During classroom meetings teachers will review safety protocols, as well as classroom procedures. In addition, teachers will discuss the high level of importance we as a community place on safety and helping one another in the T.I.S. HAWK Community.

After School Pick Up

As of Monday, October 5, Tolland students will either attend school 4 days per week in person and one day remotely or 5 days remotely. The four day in person scenario will result in an increase in the number of students being picked up each day. In preparation for the increase in the number of students being picked up, we have developed a staggered pick up schedule. The staggered schedule offers three available pick up times, 3:15, 3:30 or 3:45.

In order to maintain a safe and secure environment, we cannot accommodate student pick ups in the office between 3:00 and 3:20.

Four Day in Person/Remote Learner

If your child received a district issued chromebook last spring, we ask that they bring it to school with them each day. Chromebooks are used throughout the school day.

Student Lockers

Lockers will be utilized for the storage of coats and backpacks. All locks will be removed to allow students to quickly unload their coats and backpacks. Teachers will develop locker usage schedules in order to minimize the number of students using lockers at a given time.

Call for Agenda Money

Agenda money is now due. The cost per agenda is \$2.00. If you received a TIS agenda this year, whether in-person or remote, please send in \$2.00 for your agenda. Checks can be made to: TIS SAA. Thank you!

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT T.I.S.

GRADE 3

Third graders have made a wonderful transition into this very different year at Tolland Intermediate School. We would like to thank students and families for their patience while we navigate these unknown territories. Teachers and students are getting used to the new technology and the different forms of learning that are going on throughout the week and the day.

We have started off the year with our Journeys Reading Program. Our focus has been on story structure and text details. Third graders are making inferences about the stories and learning about the message of a story. Our grammar skills include parts and types of sentences. We will move on to compound sentences, antonyms, as well as common and proper nouns in the next few weeks. Third grade teachers are using the Journeys programs to teach narrative and descriptive writing. Your child started writing about a favorite place by adding specific details to give the reader a picture of that place. In Foundations we have completed the orientation and our working on Unit One. We'll be reviewing marking, syllable types and starting our cursive writing.

Third grade teachers are piloting two math programs. One program is the Bridges Program and the other is San Francisco Math. The teachers using these programs are excited to work with these new programs and see how they can change mathematics for our students. In Bridges, San Francisco Math, and Math in Focus students are reviewing place value, skip counting, and mental math strategies in all programs. Please continue to have your child practice their addition and subtraction math facts using flashcards, math games, or Reflex. This will help them in their everyday math.

In Science we are watching our caterpillars feed on milkweed in hopes that they will continue to grow and change into monarch butterflies. Students are reading about monarch butterfly migration and discussing how the changes in the environment affect their survival and population growth. We have been visiting the Monarch Butterfly Garden that is on the side of the building at T.I.S. and learning about the flowers that attract butterflies. Eventually we hope to release our fully developed butterflies into the garden and wish them well on their migration south for the winter.

In late October, we'll begin to study Tolland in the 1700s and learn about the settling of Tolland. Students will explore what life was like on a farm. Third graders will learn about the Benton Homestead in Tolland. In addition, we dive into the Legend of the Charter Oak, which is a fascinating part of Connecticut history.

Again, thank you for all of the help that you are giving your child during this school year. We are excited to have more students in the classroom and continue to enhance learning for our remote students. Thank you for teaching your child about how to safely be with other students and adults in school. Together we can make this a safe and successful school year.

GRADE 4

We are excited to be back together in fourth grade with our classmates. While some things look different at T.I.S., we realize that we can still work together as a community, whether we are virtual or in-person learners. We were welcomed to school

with decorations outside of our building, courtesy of the PTO. We also appreciate the colorful lanyards for our masks that they supplied. The students have done a nice job learning the new routines as we work to keep everyone safe at T.I.S.

Fourth grade is on a roll in many different subject areas. In Math, we are working on our first learning series, focusing on Place Value. Reflex Math and IXL have been great resources to strengthen our math skills.

In science, our first unit focuses on weathering and erosion. We are learning how landforms are affected by both of these.

We have been busy working with our reading series, Journeys. Story structure and author's purpose have been the focus of our first few selections. Classes continue to work on elaboration and adding details to our writing.

We appreciate all the support that our students have gotten from parents and guardians as we work together with our new learning model.

Have a fantastic fall and enjoy the beautiful weather!

GRADE 5

5th graders are off to a great start. Students have settled into their routines nicely. We are impressed with how well the kids are navigating classes both online and in person. Each class spent the first few days of school with active discussions on our school PBIS expectations.

In reading, students enjoyed listening to a read aloud *Thank You Mr. Falker*, by Patricia Polacco. Students used the book to learn a variety of reading strategies that will be used throughout the school year. We began Module 1, *Cultures in Conflict in Wit and Wisdom*. We will read the novel, *Thunder Rolling in the Mountains*, by Scott O'Dell and Elizabeth Hall to learn how culture's beliefs and values guide people's actions.

Social studies integrates reading strategies that are also introduced in ELA. Our first social studies unit studies Indigenous Life and Exploration. Students will explore how freedom and equality changed prior to colonization to the American Revolution. We launched social studies this year reviewing 4th grade skills on oceans and continents and fact and opinion.

Fifth grade math students are beginning a new math unit that introduces exponential notation and an exploration of patterns in the number of zeros of a product when multiplying by powers of 10. Students continue the work with expressions that began in Unit 0 and which will continue throughout the year. Family letters explaining the unit can be found in your child's math workbook.

The first science will focus on the question "are shooting stars really stars?" Students will explore different topics about space including, the reason for seasons and the reason for night and day. Fifth grade scientists are full of excellent questions and facts about our Solar System. Keep up the good work.

5th grade curriculum night was Wednesday, September 30th. If you missed it, you can find the link on the TIS website. The fifth grade teachers and staff are looking forward to a wonderful school year!

ART TO REMEMBER

Hi Parents! If your child is attending BG or TIS in-person, he/she should have received an Art To Remember flier and paper this week. Please work with your child to create artwork on the attached paper and return to their school by Friday 10/9/20 or scan and upload via the attached links below. Please ensure to follow the instructions on the flier and most importantly, add student name and Teacher in pencil on the BACK of the artwork. If you are fully remote and you would like to participate in this fundraiser, please see the attached flier and instructions to complete artwork, any rectangular blank paper can be used. See the attached flier for more instructions and guidelines. You can then drop your child's artwork to the school they attend, or scan and submit via the attached links below. To upload artwork please use the following links: Birch Grove's is <https://arttoremember.com/school/audjf4>. Tolland Intermediate's is <https://arttoremember.com/school/p2vr55>

Please have this art returned to the school no later than: Friday 10/9/20
ART IDEAS AND INSPIRATION AVAILABLE AT:

<https://arttoremember.com/about/resources/lesson-plans/> Our school is offering a program that reproduces your child's artwork onto a variety of quality keepsake products. The artwork needs to be made at home using the supplied art paper attached and these guidelines. We will be sharing a website link to be able to upload your art from home and place an order. Guidelines:

- Use rectangular paper or the paper provided by the school
- No photography, magazine cutouts, or copyrighted images
- Work with your child to create vibrant, themed artwork that fills the entire page
- Use mediums like markers, water colors, crayons, tempera paint, acrylic paint, and paint sticks
- Artwork can be vertical or horizontal
- No sketching pencils, fluorescent colors, highlighters, glitter, sand, salt, buttons, feathers, or googly eyes
- Incorporate your child's name and the year on the front of the art at least 1" away from the edge of the paper
- Cover the page edge to edge with color
- Use pencil to write your child's name and teacher on the back of the art

A successful fundraiser
starts with GREAT artwork

What to Do



Create bright and colorful artwork that fills the page

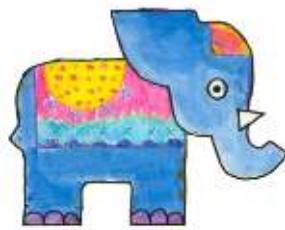


Make themed artwork with incorporated name placement



Use markers, paint, bold water colors, or crayons

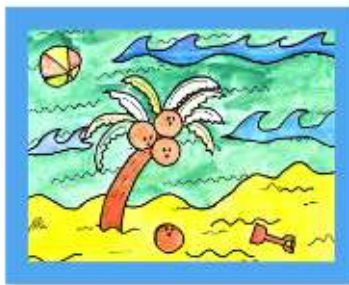
What to Avoid



White backgrounds



Small art that does not fill the page or is not centered



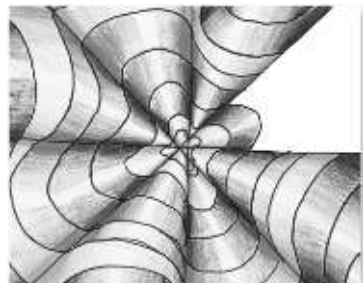
Drawing borders around the edge of the page



Names, dates, or other details that are too close to the edge



Light artwork, especially light water colors or colored pencil



Light pencil drawings and incomplete artwork

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

January 20, 2021

(special Math meeting)

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

Please RSVP

*to Pam Babey (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.*



T.I.S. 3rd through 5th grade VISION AND HEARING SCREENINGS WILL BEGIN BY THE END OF SEPTEMBER 😊 Please make sure your child is wearing their glasses for the exam and contact Nurse Paula or Nurse Sue with any questions or concerns.

860-870-6891, Ext. 2



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
<p>Date: Monday May 19, 2020 Time: 10:15am - 11:15am</p> <p>Google Meet information: https://meet.google.com/vnz-qfee-wbr</p> <p>Join by phone</p>

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.



The End