



T.I.S. Digital Backpack November 2, 2015



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE:

Parent - Teacher Conferences at T.I.S.

Parent - Teacher conferences are a vitally important component to the home-school partnership. We encourage all families to sign-up for a conference. Conferences will be held Wednesday, November 4, and Thursday, November 5. During the conference, the teacher will provide an overview of the school program so far this year and discuss current student progress. The teacher will also be interested to hear parent feedback so that we can all work together to help students be successful. The goal of this conference is for the teacher to present a clear picture of how your child will achieve on their first trimester report card should achievement trends remain consistent. If there are concerns that need to be addressed, the teacher will present these concerns and work with you and your child to remediate any issues.

HAWK Assembly



On Friday October 23, we held our third annual students versus staff obstacle course challenge. This student run HAWK Community assembly is one of our most popular assemblies of the year. In this fun community event, teams of teachers complete against teams of students in an obstacle course designed by our P.E. teacher Mr. Downing and health teacher Mrs. Logsdon. Prior to the start of the obstacle course challenge, a group of students from the T.I.S. band entertained the crowd with some peppy toons. Thanks to the following staff members for participating: Mrs. Ramans, Mr. Slayton, Mr. Campbell, Mr. McCarthy, Mrs. Williams, Mr. Dineen, Mrs. Koss, Mr. Cop, Ms Clayton, Mrs. Silberberg, Mrs. Babiec, Mrs. Coleman and Mrs. Bezzina.

Congratulations Clean Sweep Award Winning Classes!

Mrs. Fischer's class

Mrs. Bockus' class

Mrs. Grabowski's class

The Clean Sweep Award is monthly award handed out by our custodial staff. The award is presented to those classes who do their part to help keep our school looking great. Winning classes are chosen based upon the cleanliness of their classrooms over a two week period. Winning classes are given a class Hawk Card, enabling them to choose from a variety of privileges.

T.I.S. Book Fair

The annual fall book fair begins on Friday, October 30. This PTO run event generates a great deal of excitement at T.I.S. In addition to being a fun event for the kids, the book fair also raises money for the purchase of books at T.I.S. Our whole school goal for the Scholastic All for Books Challenge is \$500. If we reach our goal of collecting \$500, Mr. Dineen and Mr. Cop will have to kiss a pig!

Sick Child Parking



We now have a parking space in our front lot reserved for family members coming in to pick up sick children from the Nurse's Office.

Dear Parents,

As Veterans Day approaches, we would like to honor those brave Americans who have served in the United States military by inviting your family to share precious memories of loved ones. The origins of Veterans Day can be traced to 1954 when President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed a bill proclaiming November 11th as Veterans Day. The President called upon Americans everywhere to rededicate themselves to the cause of peace. He issued a Presidential Order directing the head of the Veterans Administration, now the Department of Veterans Affairs, to form a Veterans Day National Committee to organize and oversee the national observance of Veterans Day. Veterans Day is intended to thank and honor all those who have served honorably in the military - in wartime or peacetime. In fact, Veterans Day is largely intended to thank living veterans for their service, to acknowledge that their contributions to our national security are appreciated, and to underscore the fact that all of those who served have sacrificed and done their duty.

With your help and support, we would like to create a display to honor the veterans in our community. Attached you will find a very short form that will provide a snapshot biography depicting the service that your loved one provided to our nation. Additionally, if you have a picture of your loved one in their service uniform, please attach a copy of it in the space provided. For those families who wish to participate, but do not have a loved one who served in the military, you can help by creating a thank you card for veterans who have served or for a member of the military who is currently serving our nation. All of the cards that are received will either be sent to the American Red Cross program entitled Holiday Mail for Heroes or to the Veterans Medical Center in Newington, Connecticut. We have provided you with an example of a card to use as a model. Please return your biographies and cards to your teacher by Friday, November 6, 2012. Thank you for your support of this worthy project.

Sincerely,

Jim Dineen

Tolland Intermediate School

<http://www.redcross.org/support/get-involved/holiday-mail-for-heroes>

VETERANS DAY OBSERVATION ACTIVITY - DIRECTIONS FOR COMPLETION

- 1.) Complete the name of your hero.
- 2.) Describe the military branch that they served in or are currently serving in.
- 3.) What do you want other people to know about your loved one?
- 4.) If you have a picture, please attach a copy of it. The picture should be placed inside of the star and will not be returned to you.
- 5.) If you do not have a picture, you may choose to draw a picture or write the name of your hero in the space provided inside of the star.
- 6.) Please complete and return to your teacher by Friday, November 6th.
- 7.) If you do not wish to complete the biography, perhaps you would consider a thank you card. Please find the directions for completion of a thank you card.

Detach and return by November 6, 2015.

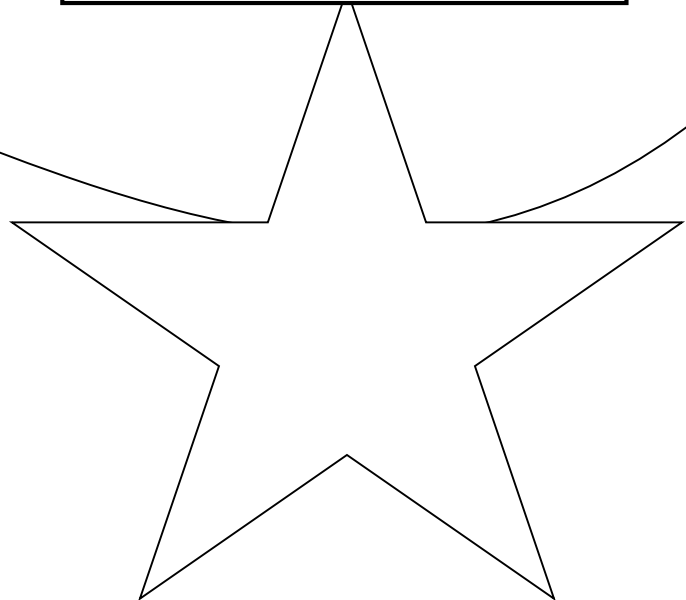
Veterans Day Biography

Name of your hero. _____

What branch of the U.S. military did they serve in?

What would you like people to know about your loved one?

MY HERO



T h a n k Y o u



Thank you for the sacrifices your family has made in the service of our country.
We as a nation stand beside you to strengthen you and your loved ones.





CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October

- 30 Book Fair, 8:30-4:00
- 30 Wacky-Tacky Day

November

- 2 Fischer and Arner to the CT Historical Society,
9:00-12:15
- 2 Book Fair, 8:30-4:00
- 2 PTO at Birch Grove, 7:00 pm
- 3 Book Fair, 8:30-4:00
- 3 Fischer and Silberberg to Benton Homestead
- 4 Book Fair, 8:30-6:00
- 4 Sikoski and Kogut to Benton Homestead
- 5 Book Fair, 8:30-6:00
- 5 HALF DAY (dismissal at 1:20)
- 5 Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 6 Book Fair, 8:30-1:00
- 6 NO SCHOOL
- 10 Picture Retake Day
- 10 BOE Meeting (at THS tonight)
- 18 Coffee with the Principals
- 20 Hat Day
- 25, 26, 27 No School

WHAT'S NEW IN CLASS!

GRADE 3

Third graders made an excellent transition in September and October. We started off our Math In Focus program and are moving right along into Chapters Three and Four. Word Study is being implemented in all classrooms and third graders are starting to learn the routines of doing their words sorts. All students seem to really enjoy this engaging way of learning about spelling patterns. Writer's Workshop was launched in each classroom and students published their first narrative pieces for the year. Classroom teachers are starting the informational unit. Students will start to write information books on topics of their choice.

In Social Studies students are learning about Tolland and Connecticut in the 1700's. In the Month of October and November classrooms will be visiting the Connecticut Historical Society and participating in a play about the Legend of the Charter Oak. The second fieldtrip of the year will be going to the Benton Homestead here in Tolland. They will learn about the Benton family and what life was like on a self-sufficient farm in the 1700's.

Each third grade classroom has a Technology time where they go into the computer lab with Mrs. Kirk and learn how to use email, make folders for saving their work, and use Google Documents, among many other important skills. Third grade classrooms also have time in the Mrs. White's computer lab where they have time to log onto Typing Training as well as time to do other classroom projects using the computer.

GRADE 4

Students in 4th grade are up to their elbows in dirt...digging, sifting and learning about soil. They are learning about types of soil, components of soil and layers of soil. What could be more fun? In Social Studies, students have been focusing on map skills and are beginning to use those skills to interpret maps and to learn about the Northeast Region of the United States. They will be learning about the Hudson River and the Erie Canal and the reasons why so many large cities are located near bodies of water.

In Math, 4th graders are finishing up a chapter on Estimation and Number Theory. We have learned about factors and multiples, prime and composite numbers and are ready to move onto multiplication and division of multi-digit numbers.

We are also finishing up our first reading unit which is all about determining theme. We have read several examples of realistic fiction during this study, which has given us lots of ideas for writing our first piece of realistic fiction in Writer's Workshop. With this being our second year of implementation of Writer's

Workshop, we are seeing serious growth in 4th graders' understanding and skill as writers.

This is the season for food drives and collections to benefit our less fortunate neighbors during the holidays, so keep your eyes out for information about these very worthy causes.

GRADE 5

Fifth graders have completed the first writing unit on personal narratives. Students will highlight their small moment story in a class celebration. We will soon begin our next writing unit on informational writing. Our writing unit is connected to our next reading unit where we will read Exploring the Titanic, by Robert Ballard. Students will also choose a novel from a variety of fiction and non-fiction books about the Titanic. In social studies, students are learning about Native Americans and the importance of natural resources from each region. Fifth grade math students are learning how to divide multi-digit dividends by double digit divisors. Some of you might know this as "long division". The students are doing quite well with this skill and students are finding that it is a bit easier to solve these problems if they are fluent with their basic facts. Keep working on your basic facts fifth graders. Knowing them will help you all year! In science the students are wrapping up their exploration of the Earth, Moon, and Sun. Classes are getting ready to experiment with craters in the lab. It is a great way to investigate why some Moon craters are deeper and wider than others. Fifth graders always enjoy this investigation.



The Kindness Tree

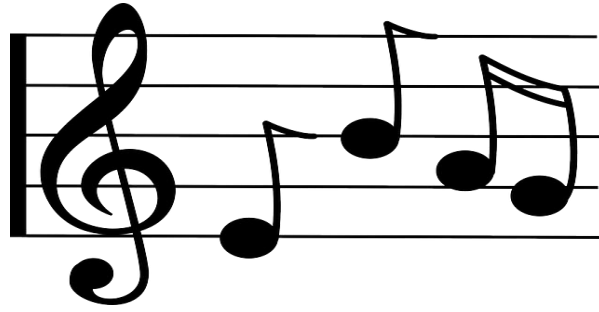
There has been a flurry of colors starting to appear in the TIS cafeteria! Student Council has been busy spreading Random Acts of Kindness to students and staff. All students are invited to help spread a little thoughtfulness to our community members by "passing on" kindness!

If a student or staff member receives a Kindness Tree Leaf, their job is to put their name on the back of the leaf. Then, they should complete a Random Act of Kindness for someone else, and pass the leaf on to them. That person now writes their name on the leaf, and passes on another act of kindness to someone else. All completed leaves are being hung up in the cafeteria on

Need ideas for a Random Act of Kindness?

- *Hold the door for someone!*
- *Write someone a kind note!*
- *Say "thank you" to your teacher!*
- *Help someone understand new material in class!*
- *Let someone borrow your materials!*

"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted." -Aesop



Attention All Grade 4 and 5 Band and Chorus Members

Please take note:

On weather-related late opening days, there will be **NO Morning Chorus or Band for fourth and fifth graders OR before school band lessons.**

There **WILL** be band lessons during weather delay days, but there will be an adjusted lesson schedule with shortened times.

We want all our TIS musicians to be safe.

Thank you, Ms. Baker and Ms. Marchesani



Healthy Snacks offered at TIS starting November 2, 2015!

*After lunch is served to all students a limited number of
Healthy Snacks will be available for purchase during their lunch break.*

***Tolland Public Schools participates in Healthy Food Certification and all of our
Snacks meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards!***

Items may include:

small bags of baked chips, whole grain rich pretzels or popcorn

100% frozen juice treats

whole grain rich cookies and dessert items

whole grain rich cereal bars

small ice cream treats

If you have questions, please contact Abby Kassman-Harned, Director of Food Service

aharned@tolland.k12.ct.us or 860-870-6853 ext. 109



SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIRS'
**MONSTER
BOOK FAIR**

**READING IS SO MUCH FUN,
YOU'LL GET GOOSEBUMPS!**

**Stop by and say RAWRRR!
Our Monster-themed book fair is open all week!**

Friday: 8:30am – 4:00pm

Monday: 8:30am – 4:00pm

Tuesday: 8:30am – 4:00pm

Wednesday: 8:30am – 6:00pm

Thursday: 8:30am – 6:00pm

Friday: 8:30am – 1:00pm

We are open during Parent/Teacher conferences

Volunteers still needed!

We need your help to make this fair a success. We still have shifts available!

Click here: <http://vols.pt/3ndFQv>

Can't make it to the fair?

Shop our online fair at

<http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/tollandintermediate>

All for Books Principal Challenge

If we meet our whole school goal of \$500, Mr. Dineen and Mr. Cop will kiss Sadie, the piglet! Send in those donations!

Book Fair Coordinators:

Karen Moran, 4morans@gmail.com

Jennifer Overkamp, Jennifer.overkamp@me.com



The End