

Tiger Times



DECEMBER 2023 • HADDONFIELD NJ

J FITHIAN TATEM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Our Blue Ribbon!

as reported by Nora Bower
for Haddonfield Today

When students, teachers, and staff were called to an assembly on Tuesday, September 19, it was clearly for something very important. With Board of Education members and District officials in attendance, our principal made a big announcement: J.F. Tatem Elementary School has been named a National Blue Ribbon School for 2023. The crowd went wild!



Each year, the U.S. Department of Education issues a limited number of awards to schools with outstanding overall student performance. The award also recognizes the amazing work done by teachers and staff.

Principal Donnetta Beatty told us that the award "is a result of real teamwork, talent and hard work by all members of our school family." We all felt so proud.

Tatem is one of only nine New Jersey schools to receive the honor this year, the only one in South Jersey, and one of just 353 schools nationwide.

We are the third Haddonfield school to be awarded a coveted Blue Ribbon. Memorial High School was honored in 2004; Elizabeth Haddon Elementary received the award in 2015.

Page 5: Principal Beatty's report on the awards ceremony in Washington DC.



Celebrating Haddy's 20th

by Nora Bower

Do you know why there's a massive dinosaur sculpture in the middle of downtown Haddonfield? Do you know its importance?

Did you know that the creator of the sculpture is a resident of Haddonfield? Did you know the sculpture was made in a studio on West End Avenue in Haddonfield?

Well, the Tatem NewsCrew revealed these answers – and more – when they met with renowned sculptor John Giannotti on October 18, 2023, twenty years after the unveiling of the sculpture, now known as Haddy.

The *Hadrosaurus fouldii* was the first dinosaur with its fossils ever found. The bones were discovered in 1858 in a marl pit at the end of what is now Maple Avenue. They were taken to the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia, where they were studied. Scientists came to the conclusion that the bones were from a very large unknown creature. This was a major historic find for Haddonfield.

In the early 2000s, the Haddonfield Garden Club decided to publicly acknowledge the *Hadrosaurus* by creating a sculpture in honor of the dinosaur. The Club met with a number of sculptors from throughout the region and finally decided that John Giannotti, a Haddonfield resident, was the best fit for the job.

Mr. Giannotti gladly took the job offer and began his work in his studio – a former barn in his backyard. He arranged for students from the elementary schools to pick a spot on the sculpture and place their very own piece of clay. The students were fascinated by the process and were so thankful. Mr. Giannotti knew this was a moment they would never forget.

Finally, after more than a year, the last part of the clay form was finished. Mr. Giannotti shipped off the mold to a foundry for casting in bronze. A month later, the sculpture was ready to be revealed.

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Color bomb!

by Morgan Sheridan

On Saturday, October 28, Tatem hosted its first-ever “color run” – The Metat Mile.

The PTA-sponsored fundraiser drew a big crowd. Students of all ages came to run a mile around the Tatem area while being hit by colorful chalk thrown by parents, teachers, and members of the High School’s cross-country team.

The chalk was a non-toxic powder in small cups. As the runners passed by stations along the one-mile route, the chalk was tossed on and around the runners.



The race began in the little playground at around 9am. Students paid the entry fee of \$15, got a tee-shirt, lined up by grade, and stretched in preparation for the run.

Then, teachers, parents, and Principal Beatty counted down from ten to one and the runners were off, led by fifth graders.

The runners made their way along Grove Street and met their first color bomb on Hopkins Lane. Bright, colorful clouds shot up as the pack ran through.

The route took the runners to a color blast on Birdwood Avenue, one at the corner of Hawthorne, and another at Merion and Grove. The route snaked along Hopkins, Grove, and back to Tatem.

By the end of the run students (and some parents) were covered head to toe with chalk. Teachers greeted the runners at the finish line with snacks and treats. The non-toxic chalk washed off easily with a quick shower. Unfortunately, the beautiful colors also washed out of the tee-shirts.

Tatem’s very first color run was extremely fun and a huge success.

I hope we do it again next year.



Ridiculous Riddles #1

by Metat

For answers,
go to page 7.



How do you
organize
a space
party?

#2

What did
the pirate
say when he
turned 80?

#3

Which is
faster: Hot
or cold?

#4

What do you
get from a
pampered
cow?

The Inside Scoop

by Nora Bower

Mrs Chase came to Tatem in 2023 as a leave-of-absence art teacher. Your intrepid reporter asked her some probing questions.



Q: Where did you teach before you came to Tatem?

A: I was at Frances S. DeMasi Schools in Marlton.

Q: When did you start to love art?

A: Since I was about five.

Q: How long have you been teaching?

A: 34 years.

Q: Any fun facts about you?

A: I love the beach. I also like to hike and travel (especially to see art).

Q: What's your favorite form of art?

A: I like painting and sculpture. Also wood block.

Q: How long have you been making art?

A: About 40 years.

Q: How do you like teaching at Tatem?

A: I love it! The kids here are so creative.

Q: Your favorite food? Pizza.

Q: Drink? Dr. Pepper.

Q: Book? *The Wizard of Oz*.

Q: Subject apart from art? Science.

Q: TV Show? *The Big Bang Theory*.

Q: Movie? *Forrest Gump*.

Q: Color? Periwinkle.

Q: Musician? Taylor Swift.

Q: Album? Eagles.

Thank you, Mrs Chase!

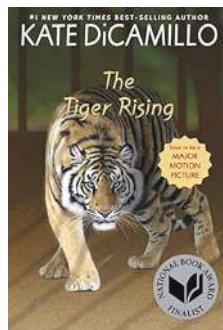
What we're reading

The NewsCrew visited each grade, K to 5, to find out about the books Tatem Tigers are reading.



5th Grade

Ms Gibson
Home of the Brave
by Katherine Applegate
Reviews: Poetic.
Entertaining.
Inspiring.
Interesting.



4th Grade

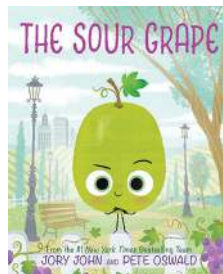
Mrs. Augugliaro
The Tiger Rising
by Kate DiCamillo
Reviews:
Lots of action.
Sad ending.
Unpredictable.
Good cliffhanger.



3rd Grade

Mrs. Lloyd
Jake and Lily
by Jerry Spinelli
Quote: *Your goombla will always be there.*
Jake and Lily are twins. "Goombla" means twin power. For example: If Jake gets hurt, Lily would

know, and if Lily is nervous, Jake would feel it, too.



2nd Grade

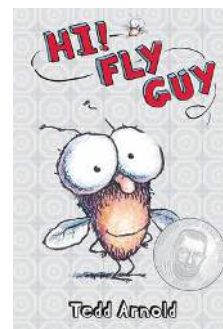
Ms Henry
The Sour Grape
by Jory John
Reviews:
Most students described the book as *Great, funny, and amazing*. But one student gave it a sour review: *It's horrible; I don't like it at all.*



1st Grade

Mrs. Haney
Gooseberry Park
by Cynthia Rylant
Reviews:
The last thing the class read was when a big storm came into town, Stumpy the Squirrel had three babies. After that, a big tree fell down, and Stumpy

went missing. Cona brought the babies inside the house, and we don't know what happened to Stumpy yet. Stay tuned, Mrs. Haney's class!



Kindergarten

Mrs. Murphy
Dino Football
Gustavo the Shy Ghost
Also **Hi! Fly Guy**
by Tedd Arnold
Reviews:
Funny. A lot of crazy stuff.

On the Calendar

Tue Dec 5-Sun 10 – Reflections Art Show

Wed Dec 20 – Dine Out for Tatem

Thu Dec 21 – Blue Ribbon Award Assembly

Thu Jan 11 – Kindergarten Information Night (at Lizzy Haddon)

Mon Jan 15 – MLK Jr. Day / School closed

Tue Jan 16 – Dine Out for Tatem

Sun Jan 21 – Family Bowling

Wed Jan 24 – Winter Concert

Thu Jan 25 – PTA Meeting

Fri Jan 26 – Key Arts Assembly

Fri Feb 9 – Spaghetti Bingo

Wed Feb 14 – Valentine Parties

Mon Feb 19-Tue 20 – Presidents Day
School closed

Wed Feb 21 – Dine Out for Tatem

Fri Feb 23 – Buy-a-Brick orders due

Mon Feb 26 – Book Fair Family Night

Tue Feb 27 – 5th Grade Skate Party

Thu Feb 29 – Class and Group Photos

Halloween 2023

by Charlotte Knapp

▼ Fifth Grader
Reagan Waring



▲ Mrs Capizzi, Fifth
Grade teacher



◀ Fifth Grade
trio: Olivia Lacy,
Marygrace Daly,
Audrey Garrett

▼ Second Grader
Addie Garvey



▲ Logan Jacobs,
Third Grade



◀ Wesley Bryan,
Fourth Grade

An exciting trip to DC

by Principal Donnetta Beatty

After school ended on Wednesday, November 15, Amtrak's flagship passenger train, the Acela, whisked Superintendent Chuck Klaus, Administrative Assistant Kathleen Stoltzfus, and me to Washington DC, where we spent two fabulous days in the nation's capital for the US Department of Education's National Blue Ribbon Awards celebration.

The Tatem team stayed at the Omni Shoreham, an iconic structure that has hosted presidents, world leaders, and inaugural balls since it opened in the 1930s.

We met with other educators from all over the United States. We listened intently to guest speakers (including Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona and the National Teacher of the Year, Rebecka Peterson, from Tulsa OK).

We participated in round-table discussions on mental health, empowerment, and recruiting and retention of educators. We shared and learned at a "networking cafe" with representatives from other great American schools.

And we enjoyed two delightful dinners – at Ethiopian and Irish restaurants!

The exciting excursion culminated in an elegant three-course luncheon and awards presentation ceremony during which we received J. Fithian Tatem Elementary School's commemorative plaque, flag, and a congratulatory letter from President Biden.

We were so proud to represent our entire school community and to celebrate this awesome achievement.



Quotes from Principal Beatty

by Morgan Sheridan

- "The process was very fun and exciting! We had been nominated for the Blue Ribbon School award after writing tons of essays about our school. On the morning of September 19 we got an email saying we would be going to Washington DC to receive the award!"
- "I got to see Dr. Cardona who is in charge of the Department of Education and that was amazing. I loved meeting principals and teachers from ... everywhere! More than 350 schools, including from Hawaii and Alaska."
- "We'll have a special school community meeting in December, so everyone can see our Blue Ribbon award."

Dino Word Search

by Jake Cohen

HORIZONTAL, VERTICAL,
DIAGONAL, BACKWARDS

O Z V Q Y H Y M Y F N O A I G P Q L I Q E U Y
W J O V M U O D H W F L F L N E M Y V J V C D
V X D B R O N Z E A F D A X X T W K U U L Q L
E R U A S O N I D M H D Q K L X E Y L D X K E
M U P C E L E B R A T I O N K J V R P A B N I
H S E N O B G O W U S R F F W H N R V N M L F
P I N E W S C R E W V J T C N I T X E I T Z N
A H X P I T T O N N A I G N I B P Q T E E R O
R B H I G J K G U N V E I L I N G L X Y U W D
G C N E W S P A P E R W U E Y V Y P U K V C D
O R I T E T U T P L U C S Y D D A H J P H U A
T Y E H Q A R I V D U A N N I V E R S A R Y H
O G M D U B N G C R E T A C E O U S Q D E X A
H V G Z J O J B N K K F O S S I L G E P V H X
P J X N I H A D R O S A U R U S X B T S X R X
W E R M K M H T W E N T Y B M M U E S U M P W

ANNIVERSARY BONES BRONZE CELEBRATION CRETACEOUS
DINOSAUR EXTINCT FOSSIL GIANNOTTI HADDONFIELD HADDY
HADROSAURUS INTERVIEW MUSEUM NEWSCREW NEWSPAPER
PHOTOGRAPH SCULPTURE TWENTY UNVEILING



Tricky answers

from Jeopardy!, November 17, 2023

A: Just before Mount Everest was discovered, this was the highest mountain in the world.

A: If you enter a room with a matchbook and there's a candle, oil lamp, and heater, this is what you'd light first.

A: It's the 11-letter word all Canadians pronounce incorrectly.

A: If a British farmer has 22 sheep and all but 9 die in a tragic shearing incident, this is how many he has left.

A: It's the main reason a man in Wyoming can't marry his widow's sister.

For the questions, go to page 7.

Just one gift ...

The NewsCrew visited one class in each grade and asked students: "If you received just one gift for the holidays, what would it be?"

Here are their answers:

Fifth Grade (Mrs. Capizzi)

- Ryan Miller – Eagles to win the SuperBowl
- Rayan Khan – Stuffing on the side

Fourth Grade (Mrs. Schneider)

- Kevin Maynes – A third dog
- Zophia Lyn – A kitten

Third Grade (Mrs. Harding)

- Caroline Sozio – A pony
- CiCi Bozarth-Saporito – A horse

Second Grade (Mrs. Friedman)

- Reese Lundgren – A hoverboard
- Jake Cofsky – AJ Brown Eagles tee
- Reese Fazio – Hatchimals

First Grade (Ms. Parady)

- Ryan Fasula, Mason Jaraiedi, and Jake Forcillo – Lego Star Wars
- Antonella Barbieri – A treehouse

Kindergarten (Mrs. Woods)

- Luke Esposito – Snake stuffed animal
- Teddy McTigue – Nintendo Switch
- Kayla Foy – Koala stuffed animal

► Ellen Estilow responds to a move by Chess Club (and NewsCrew) member Brydon Chandler.

Among those pondering their next moves at boards in the background (from left): Seth Quinonez-Pitt, Kekoa Hallowell, Weston Bialo, and Pierce Madden.



Chess Club has all the right moves

by Brydon Chandler

On November 1, the NewsCrew made an appearance in Tatem's Chess Club – a club covering the basics of chess. Those attending play on leather roll-up boards in Tatem's art room and learn how to utilize every piece and strategy to earn a checkmate.

The purpose of this organization is to teach kids to socialize while playing the age-old game of chess. Using each of their corresponding sixteen pieces, they move the molded plastic shapes around the board, using a blend of the taught strategies and their own background knowledge to create a masterpiece on the board.

All are welcome at this club, and the age and experience range from player to player.

The coaches that teach these valuable lessons are Coach Steve and Coach Shahid. We asked him a specific question: What do you like best about teaching kids chess? Shahid replied, "Chess changes lives. It doesn't do anything personal for me, but knowing that I'm teaching something valuable is important." When the interviewer asked Coach Steve the same question, he said: "I like the excitement that the kids show when they learn something new. That's the best part of this club."

The club not only showcases what the kids know, but it also shines light on what they don't know. The coaches believe that Chess Club is not just about chess. It's about growing your knowledge in not just chess, but any subject, and focusing on the thing you love best.

The best cookie

by JoJo R.

If you like butterscotch cookies, you're in for a treat!

Did you know that Kindergarten teacher Mrs. Underwood won the 2022 Teachers' Christmas Cookie Contest with her famous Butterscotch Cheesecake Bars?

Will she win again in 2023?



Ingredients:

- 1 12oz bag of butterscotch chips
- 1/3 cup margarine
- 2 cups graham cracker crumbs
- 1 cup chopped nuts (optional)
- 1 egg
- 1 8oz bar of cream cheese
- 14oz can of sweetened evaporated milk
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract

Method:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees (325 degrees for glass dish).

In a large saucepan, melt morsels and margarine, stir in crumbs and (optional) nuts.

Press half of the mixture firmly onto the bottom of a greased 13 x 9 pan.

In a large mixing bowl, beat the cream cheese until fluffy; beat in condensed milk, vanilla, and egg. Mix well.

Pour into prepared pan; top with remaining ingredients.

Bake 25 to 30 minutes or until an inserted toothpick comes out clean. Chill before cutting.



Covered in protective plastic, Haddy is hoisted into position.*



In John Giannotti's Haddonfield studio, Tom Twitchell – a Third Grade student at Lizzy Haddon – places clay on Haddy's tail.*

The moment the crowd of 2,000 had been waiting for! Photo: copyright © Dan Holben

Sculptor John Giannotti tells some NewsCrew members about how he created Haddy.

Scan the QR code for short video of their interview.



* Photos courtesy of Jim Twitchell



Celebrating Haddy

continued from page 1

The day of the unveiling came: Saturday, October 18, 2003!

The intersection of Kings Highway and Chestnut Street was jam-packed with a crowd of over 2,000.

When they arrived, everyone noticed that a colorful parachute was covering the sculpture. A rope attached to the parachute was ready to be pulled.

While the crowd waited patiently, two members of the Garden Club gave speeches, as did Mr. Giannotti and Mayor Colombi.

Then, with everyone's eyes on the parachute, and as music blared from a sound system, the mayor led everyone in a countdown. When they reached zero, a firefighter on the roof of a nearby building yanked the rope with all his strength and the parachute flew up, revealing the massive sculpture.

The crowd burst into cheers as they looked up in awe at the beautiful creature. Everyone loved it!

To this day, passers-by stop and gaze admiringly at Haddy. Children throw coins into the rocky waters below the dinosaur's feet.

After 80 million years and two decades, *Hadrosaurus foulkii* continues to bring recognition to the important role Haddonfield played in the history of paleontology.

How we named this newspaper

by Jake Cohen

From Wednesday, October 25 to Wednesday, November 1, the Tatem NewsCrew held a contest among third, fourth, and fifth grade students to name the new student newspaper.

We got some suggestions we really liked, some silly ones we laughed at, and some we almost selected!

The silliest names included *Fortnite*, *Chicken Nugget News*, and *Words and Stuff Like That*. Congrats if your suggestion made it onto this list. We really did laugh out loud.

The three serious suggestions that the NewsCrew liked the most were *Tiger Times*, *Paw Print*, and *Tatem Talk*. Congratulations if you suggested one of those names. The NewsCrew was impressed!

Those were our favorite names that got cast into the ballot. We are sorry if your name did not make it onto this newspaper's front page, but the winner of the Name the Newspaper Contest was ...

***Tiger Times*.**

Congratulations to those who submitted that name. And thank you to all the third, fourth, and fifth graders who participated. The NewsCrew thanks you!



5: If his wife's a widow, he's dead.

4: Nine.

3: Incorrectly.

2: A match.

1: Mount Everest.

Jeopardy! questions

4. Spoiled milk.

3. Hot. You can catch a cold.

2. Aye, matey!

1. You planet.

Riddle answers

Volunteering for veterans

by Charlotte Knapp

On November 17, the fifth graders met in Mr. Defilippis's room to listen to veterans who served in the military. Two Haddonfield veterans talked about the importance of remembering soldiers who died in service to our country and of supporting those who are currently serving in the Armed Forces.

Then, the fifth graders went back to their homerooms and created more than 400 packages for soldiers overseas. The packages contained sunflower seeds, drink powders, protein bars, playing cards, and handmade letters. The supplies were donated by Tatem students and families, and the fifth grade class donated \$200 of car wash proceeds to help buy the supplies needed to pull the service project together. The supplies will be shipped overseas by Operation Yellow Ribbon.

Ryan Miller fills a bag



Veterans Craig McGettigan and Joseph McElroy



STOP THE PRESS!

The ordering deadline for Tatem-branded merchandise has been extended: **Tuesday, December 5.**



With a variety of colors and sizes, you'll find something for the whole family: super soft shirts, cozy pjs, hoodies, socks, hats, and more!

This is your only chance for these specialty items! A portion of the proceeds come back to Tatem to help fund field trips and other activities.

tinyurl.com/jftgear23

Meet the NewsCrew

Mrs Friedman Faculty Advisor – Reviews our work each week.
Tr Kathleen Facilitator – Ensures we (and our parents) are on the same page.



Charlotte Knapp
Since I'm a very artistic person – and have a very good camera – I volunteered to be the photographer for the NewsCrew.



Nora Bower
I'm in Mrs. Gibson's fifth grade class. I like writing and reporting. I helped form the NewsCrew and wrote the Hadrosaurus article.



Brydon Chandler
I love reading and writing, but I think I'm also a pretty good editor. I like chess a lot, and wrote the article about the Chess Club.



Jake Cohen
Writing is my favorite activity. (Also baseball and Fortnite.) I'm proud to be a member of the NewsCrew and to have contributed to *Tiger Times*.



JoJo R.
Next to being at the beach, I like writing, drawing, and helping others. I've had an amazing time, collaborating with the NewsCrew.



Morgan Sheridan
I love to read, write, interview ... and swim. Since I'm very organized, my friends call me "The Organizer."



Caroline Miller
HMHS Junior
I edited the video of Haddy sculptor John Giannotti. (Be sure to scan the QR code and watch it!)



David Hunter
Outside Advisor
The publisher of *Haddonfield Today*, I help the NewsCrew learn about news reporting and newspaper production.

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Haddonfield

Mon to Fri: 8 to 6
Sat: 8³⁰ to 4³⁰
Sun: 10 to 3

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