The Violin Program at VMS, lead by Rebecca Laird, came together when a few of the elementary students chose to perform in their first orchestra concert, the All Island String Intermediate Orchestra. The concert was last night at 6:30 p.m. at the performing arts center at the high school.

“The children performed with enthusiasm, enjoying the opportunity to showcase their string skills. “ said Rebecca Laird

Congratulations Rebecca and students!
Primary with Miss Chris and Miss Holly

Our class enthusiastically welcomed back, Jess, our dance teacher from the Yard. She will be returning to our class for the next four weeks to do creative movement with the children. This week she introduced them to the shape dance, dancing with scarves and the bunny obstacle course. The class had a wonderful time moving their bodies to different rhythms.

We had a special visit one morning from Payton’s baby bunny. Payton was excited to share one of the 5 babies that her rabbit gave birth to. The children were able to pet the baby and many students had interesting questions regarding the rabbit and its care. Thank you to Payton and her mom, Holly, for bringing in a delightful show and tell.

Miss Emily brought in some worms for the children to explore. The children were asked a series of three questions, "can a worm feel?, does a worm like light? and does a worm like dryness or moisture?". The children were able to discover the answers by touching the worms with a paintbrush, shining a light on the worms and by squirting some water on the paper and watching to see if the worms move towards or away from the water. Next week, Miss Emily will be setting up a small worm farm for the children to enjoy. She will also be bringing Miss Ava who will be taking over for Miss Emily, who is expecting a baby this summer.

Primary with Miss Ty and Miss

Pillows are everywhere! The next exercise on the sewing shelf is embroidering a shape onto a piece of cloth. After this is completed, the child has the option of either taking it home, or making it into a small pillow. To do that the child has to stitch two cloths together with a regular running stitch, turn it inside out, and then stuff it with a filler. Very challenging, very interesting, very wonderful work!!! All this sewing, of course, educates the HAND, one of the human’s major means of communication. Think of the precise movements necessary for this exercise. Stay tuned for our next lessons in this exciting area!

I brought a small “worm factory” into class as the children are learning the importance of these little creatures in making one of our most valuable resources: soil! The children will be adding small amounts of food scraps and some torn paper into the worm bin and hopefully watch these little workers produce their magic. Miss Emily from Island Grown Schools has also started a worm study. This week the class learned that worms can feel, worms don’t like light, and worms need moisture…. Lots of exciting stuff!
Elementary with Miss Irene and Miss Cristina

Irene has been out of school this week and is recovering from surgery. Everyone is looking forward to her return. Irene had prepared the students and Cristina with much work anticipating her absence.

They have all been working really hard finishing lessons and beginning new ones. All the children are working on the development and formation of poems. They are studying many types of poems, Five W’s, List, Synesthesia, Cinquain, Diamante, Haiku and Tanka. Some children are working on a timeline project after reading “The Sign of the Beaver”. Tomas, Matthew and Silas have been working on the large world maps locating, labeling and researching all big mountain ranges, deserts, straits, gulfs, capes, peninsulas, etc.

On Tuesday of this week the Elementary class celebrated Danny’s 9th birthday.

On Wednesday the class worked with Miss Emily doing gardening. This week they saw how fast their peas are growing. They measured them with rulers and added it on the graphic chart that they started two weeks ago. Emily presented to the children postcards from students from other island elementary schools that are participating in the same project. Our students wrote postcards back following the same instructions, writing about the growth and variety of the peas in our garden beds. The students are looking forward to receiving return mail from their garden pen pals.

Late Day Program with Miss Weezie and Miss Cristina

I was happy to return to school this week with my Late Day students. Tuesday was cold and rainy, so we brightened things up with some songs, stories and a puppet show. Every Child Ready to Read is an early literacy program. A variety of kits are available through our local libraries stressing ways to help children get ready to read, including; talking, singing, reading, writing and playing. The kits, complete with stories, puppets and discs are funded by the Early Childhood Resource Center. The children were eager and attentive listeners. Their enthusiasm will encourage more participation in this quality program.