Directors Message:

In re-reading, for perhaps the 3rd time, the book *The Passionate Teacher*, I was reminded of the importance of students doing research. As Robert Fried states, “the intellectual and social skills that students will develop and practice as they conduct research and prepare and their reports” . . . will serve them as a lifelong skill. This also brought to mind the research our 5-8 students conducted in preparing their “No Bullying” posters. The requirement for each poster was to contain 2 or 3 facts. When we ask children to find facts on a particular issue, we are helping them to discover for themselves what they think is interesting or worth knowing. You can do this at home too. Rather than just giving your child information, ask him/her to find the facts and then have a discussion about what has been discovered. If you stop by the Manzanares campus you can view the student posters.

TISA PTA:

TISA PTA would like to thank everyone who came to our last PTA meeting. We had some great suggestions and are looking forward to another yard sale and potentially some holiday baking sales. We would like to invite as many parents as possible to our next meeting, to be held at the Manzanares campus on Tuesday, October 21, at 4:30. Once again pizza and babysitting will be provided. This is an especially important meeting as we will be passing this year’s budget, and choices will be made about how our money is spent. We would love input and participation as we move forward with this year’s plans. We hope to see you there! Happy fall!

Important Dates:

10/8 - GC Monthly Board Meeting @ 6p.m.
10/8 - MAPS testing for 7-8 and 5-6 makeups
10/9 - MAPS testing for 3-4
10/13 - Office closed- Columbus Day
10/15 - K-8 picture retakes
10/17 - Kinder dance performance @ Enos Garcia
10/21 - PTA Monthly Meeting @ 4:30 Manzanares
10/24 - TISA Lantern Walk @ 7p.m. start at Manzanares, walk to Plaza then back to Manzanares for apple cider and bread.
10/24 - Deadline to order pictures- www.southernexposurephoto.com
10/31 - Halloween! Pizza Friday!

Please visit, like, and share TISA’s Facebook page- stay updated and check out the students showing off their learning experience! [https://www.facebook.com/pages/Taos-Integrated-School-of-the-Arts/977221702303884](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Taos-Integrated-School-of-the-Arts/977221702303884)
The 2nd grade is studying Geology and practicing procedures that geologists use to investigate the solid part of our earth. Our initial investigations have focused on the many properties of rocks and ways to describe and categorize them. We have also discussed the origin of different types of rocks and minerals. Students have been using their Science Journal to record their observations, build a bank of terms, and draw illustrations of rocks. Several students have started their own rock collections which they have shared with the class. We have plans to include several parents in our study of Geology.

Kindergarten News

"The sunlight fast is dwindling, My little light needs kindling."

As we welcome autumn into our lives, we have been enjoying the bounty of the season through our imagination. Playing Squirrel Nutkin, acting out the story of the giant carrot, mixing fall colors on our palette, dancing like leaves, and singing harvest songs have been a few creative ways kindergartners are exploring learning about nature's magical ways. As we experience the dwindling light in October, we have invited our first and second grade friends to light a candle and sing lantern songs with us to kindle the spirit of warmth. We look forward to cooking up a harvest soup and having our families join us for a weekly sing-along in anticipation of the Lantern Walk.

Second Grade News
Third Grade News
3rd Grade has a very busy month planned for October! We are well into our Human Habitation unit. The class is reading non-fiction, historical information about Native American tribes throughout the Americas. We are focusing mainly on the question, "What is community?" We are also paying special attention to the different kinds of housing, and drawing similarities and differences between tribes and between historical and modern communities. We have a field trip planned with Field Institute of Taos to Pot Creek. FIT will provide outdoor activities to help the students better understand our unit of study. We also created a group project that we entered in the Taos Fall Arts. Students had the opportunity to work with clay, and to design a pueblo village. Happy Fall to everyone! ~~~~

Fourth Grade News
The 4th graders have been finishing up their study of Roald Dahl’s book James and the Giant Peach. In conjunction with our reading, we have studied the science of rainbows, made rainbow models, researched insects and drawn diagrams and are working on our final projects for the book. We also wrote acrostic poems using vocabulary words from the story. Here are a few samples:

**Hero**
Help
Everyone by
Reaching
Out

**Dainty**
Delicate as a spider web
Attracts butterflies
Imagineative
Nice and kind
Young and gentle.

**Spellbound**
Spells frozen in fear
Put in a spell of amazement
Entranced like a spell
Listening to the sound of music
Listening to then cream of birds in the mountaintop
Below the water falls
Over the clouds
Under the ocean
Near the meadow
Down by the sea.

You may hear excited cries coming from the classroom! We have 17 crayfish as pets for the next few weeks. Thank you to Circe Tosta and her family for the loan of the crayfish. The students will be observing their habitats, eating habits and individual characteristics. Come visit them if you’d like! The students will gladly show you how to pick them up safely so you don’t get pinched!

Earlier in September, our class enjoyed our camping trip to the Sangre de Cristo Youth Ranch. Despite the dire weather warnings, we had two beautiful days on Lama Mountain where we hiked, played games, slept in cabins and of course, enjoyed fireside singing and s’mores! Thanks to all the parents who made this trip possible!

The 5th grade has been working on exploring the concept of self-identity. We just finished reading the novel “Becoming Naomi Leon” in our English Language Arts class which also explored this theme. To explore the cultural aspects of this novel, we spent a morning learning how to make tamales!
Sixth Grade News

6th Grade has been learning about the functions and services of government. We had a tour of Town Hall and interviewed Mayor Barrone and the Chief of Police. And we hope they had as much fun as we did during our visit! This week we will interview the Director at the Public Library and go to the Fire Department as well.

We are excited to be a part of the Taos Fall Arts Festival and hope to sell our beautiful dream catcher "Sweet Dreams" so we can go on a fun class field trip.

6th grade had a guest speaker come in from Taos pueblo to share local history.

Seventh Grade News

Greetings from Grade 7! We recently finished studying Louis Sachar's book "Holes," which was an incredible experience. We discussed certain important themes and also crafted original responses to various writing prompts. Now, we're in the middle of a research project where the students are gathering Internet sources and facts in order to better understand topics that are important to them. Finally, I'm receiving some amazing short stories written by Grade 7 students, some of those stories are 8, 9, and 10 pages long. I'm very pleased with their progress! Thank you for encouraging them to learn and grow better.

Eighth Grade News

TISA 8th grade welcomed the creators of RAIN into our classroom. RAIN was a stem arts (science & art) installation in PASEO. The techno artists shared what made RAIN tick.

8th grade got an informative tour of the amazing new Lowbrow show entitled "Orale" at the Harwood Museum of Art. We then made our own books.

8th grade visited the Taos News offices and got some great journalism tips from the Editor, Joan. Our column "Tisa Talks" will run the last Thursday of the month- check it out!

Eighth graders Cole and Ian planned and presented a lesson to the class on the difference between deduction and induction!