Please remember to clip and turn in all your box tops! TISA will receive a check in November and in March for all box tops turned in! Thank you to Isabel DePuy for setting this up for our school.

From the Director:

Charles Handy, in *The Age of Unreason*, states that learning is not just knowing the answers. Indeed, learning happens just as much, if not more, at home and in the community as in school. Don’t think for a minute that Kindergarten is not important. Buckminster (Bucky) Fuller invented his first geodesic dome in Kindergarten. If you didn’t know, Bucky Fuller was handicapped due to very poor eyesight. He went on to invent the first aerodynamic car which we see in evidence everywhere today. He was just too far ahead of his time. If your child doesn’t seem to march to the music you hear, do not worry, but rather encourage his/her creativity. The world needs creative thinkers and creative problem solving – the world just doesn’t always know that. Taos Integrated School of the Arts is a great place to nurture creativity! Thank you for sending your child!

Mondays and After Care are in need of a few more children. If you haven’t yet considered this safe, affordable alternative for your child, please think about trying the program. Audrey is a wonderful resource and provides many creative activities for the children. The Monday program will have a theme around which the day is organized. After Care is relaxing, yet structured enough that the children continue learning while you finish work or run errands. Come by and meet Audrey! TISA’s 2013-14 Parent/Student Handbook is now available online. In an effort to save trees, we are publishing this year’s handbook through our website. Please send your child’s teacher a note that you have read and discussed the handbook with your child(ren).
TISA PTA

The school year is underway and TISA PTA had a great 1st meeting of the school year! We are very grateful for the dedication, creativity and energy of 3 of our officers stepping down: Molly, Lesley, and Michelle. We are happy to announce our new officers for this school year: Carolyn, President, Jennifer, Vice President, and Estelle, Secretary. We are still in need of a treasurer, so we are looking for one more parent to volunteer. This does involve a nominal amount of general bookkeeping. Please feel free to contact Carolyn: jeantette1@hotmail.com or Jen: jrventresca@gmail.com if you are interested in this position or if you have any general questions about the PTA.

TISA PTA is working on a few fundraising ideas for this school year. This helps our teachers with art supplies, materials and other needs for our children's classrooms. Some of these ideas include pizza days, Fall Festival, Pancake Breakfast, Bingo Night, and a Spring Raffle. We are in need of help to make each of these ideas and events happen! Please consider donating some of your time and effort on behalf of your children. Last year the TISA PTA was able to donate over $800 per class for art supplies and materials. We need your help to do the same, if not more, for this year! Be sure to come to our next meeting on Tuesday September 17th at 5:30.

Kindergarten

Miss Jutka's kindergarten class has been following the tune, "Make New Friends," learning about each other and our school. We find that it's easy to make friends when we are happy, cheerful and safe. Our kindergarten charter says "we will show all our friends that we are caring, loving, nice, respectful, helpful, careful, and honest." We have had the opportunity to go on a campus tour as we chased the gingerbread man from building to building, learning about the folks who work there and the rules that apply. We got to visit with our new principal, Miss Susan too! It has been fun to go on field trips with the first graders. We went to Twirl and to Kit Carson Park. We have made chokecherry syrup and enjoyed it on our pancakes. All of us have set a goal for the school year. Some of us would like to learn how to read, others would like to be good at math. Way to go, kindergarten children!

Chess Club

Gabriel Morgan

Chess club will resume at 4pm Tuesdays. After hearing objections to every day of the week I settled on Tuesday as perhaps the day most favorable for large attendance. We will meet at the La Posta campus. First grade and up are all welcome.

I will go until 6pm, but First and Second graders should be picked up no later than 5:10, with exceptions being made on a case by case basis for kids who clearly can sustain interest in chess for two hours after a full school day. You will need to give a permission slip to Nicole at the office on Manzanares. It will be $3 for those picked up at 5:10pm and $5 for the two hour session.

Also, registration should be up by tomorrow night for our Taos Tourney at the Mesa Brewery, September 22. Please don't be daunting by the suddenness. Think of it as a warm up on a home court, and some fun outside as well at the Mesa. They are child friendly.

Any child registered for any upcoming tournament is eligible for a more intensive Friday after school chess study and round robin, followed by pizza and frisbee at my home in Des Montes.
First Grade
Kim Hamill
First grade is busy exploring literacy through fairy tales and nursery rhymes! Successful reading begins with successful thinking. We are asking simple questions: What is a rhyming word? What is a vowel? And critical questions: Why was the troll so mean? What if Snow White had been a boy? As we prepare to become great readers and writers we are practicing gross and fine motor skills with finger knitting, circle games, drawing, painting and more!

Second Grade
Megan Avina
Second grade has been spending lots of time in the dirt this month digging, raking, weeding, planting and watering. Come on by and check out, "Lettuce Lane" right outside our door. We should be eating salads in about a week or so. Singapore Math skills came in handy while calculating the number or rows per start we would need to fit the space we have. Come watch us grow! We were in The Taos News last week for our class project, "Operation Find Charlie a Home) in case you missed it we were on the front page reading the class book we wrote to Charlie! The first day of school we spent time crafting our class charter which states “We are artists, we are kind, we are compassionate, we are attentive, we respect each other’s learning” and WE ARE all of this and more! The beginning of September will be spent rehearsing for our Welcome U.B.D. musical, "Munchkin Mediation in Oz" which will complete our 6 week compassionate community lesson with a bang! Come into our classroom and check out our "dream clouds" which we made on the 50th anniversary of MLK’s famous, "I have a dream speech".

Third Grade
Michelle Simmons
Wednesday, August 28th the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grade classes walked to the TCA to attend a concert performed by Music from Angel Fire. The group was a woodwind ensemble which included a flute, a clarinet, an oboe, a French horn, and a bassoon. The third grades were the first children to arrive at the TCA and sat in the front row! We were all so impressed with the talent of the musicians. We were encouraged to hear them share that they were all between 9 years old and 12 years old when they began playing their instruments. The third graders asked many questions of the musicians. The music was so beautiful and inspiring. We were honored to have been invited to attend.

Fourth Grade
Alexandra Collignon
TISA 4th Grade has had a fun and exciting start to the school year. We welcomed a few new students to our class. We have had so much fun introducing them to what TISA is all about. We started the year with a study on Multiple Intelligences. Students learned more about who they are by examining their interests and natural talents. We are putting the finishing touches on our “Who Am I?” books which will include autobiographies, multiple intelligence wheels, and an individual artifact that highlights each student’s “Smart”. We also wrote our class charter and created a charter puzzle. Each student designed a puzzle piece that demonstrated what our charter looks like in images. Once all the pieces were put back together our charter puzzle was complete.
Fifth Grade
Linda Seto

The 5th grade has been enjoying our new classroom with all its nooks and crannies. We have been spending time getting to know one another again and welcoming our new friends, Matt Graves, Alexandra Salazar and Tanya Gurno. We have finished our welcome UBD and have moved on to botany. We are looking forward to our camping trip on Lama Mountain where we will continue our botany studies. The students have also been doing some poetry writing and would like to share some of their efforts. The following are examples of our word bowl poems. These poems are written by picking out words from a bowl and putting them together to form images. Come visit our classroom and see the whole array of work!

Sea wind tripping on smooth stone.
Balloon man with orange and blue cobbled street.
Santiago Griego

When a shark arrives, the canary mops the big museum, scraping her claws.
Makaiah Breeze Glauser

I live in a crackling, juicy garbage.
For breakfast I have strawberry geese smoking slithering eels with scattered flying fish.
Milan Foley

Beside my tent there is a puddle of wishes in a shady spot.
I sat and flew my kite.
I stop to take a break and my eyes see a jazz band play.
I am eating french fries. They are good.
Lexi Gordon

Not too long ago earth's rim was silver snakes and snowflakes murmuring swallows in the shade of leafy thorns at twilight in the universe.
Azure Rice

*Lost & Found*

Please make sure your children are taking all belongings home. We do have a lost & found box in the office that is already being filled up with jackets.

Sixth Grade
Jeanette Henshaw

The 6th grade has been very busy! Our new additions have settled right in. We have completed several stories in our Jr Great Books and learned how to use Inquiry and Socratic Methods to discuss literature. We explored scientific method and liquid and solid characteristics in our Crazy Colloid Oobleck lab. We completed bio poems and silhouette colleges, time capsules and made clay totems and decorated commitment token people.

We have almost finished our introduction math unit: Prime Time. We are completing special number projects to demonstrate that we have mastered all the vocabulary and concepts. Our next units are going to be geometry (Shapes and Designs and Covering & Surrounding) to go along with our Ancient Greece Unit. Along with our Social Studies Ancient Greece Unit, we will be studying levers, pulleys and simple machines for science. We will be reading Greek Mythology for Literacy. Also, we are studying the Biography Genre and independently reading biographies and creating a presentation to the class and parents as that person! We have had a fabulous start to the school year and look forward to how productive we will be this year!

Donations for Monday Enrichment & Aftercare

An email was sent out to parents asking for art supply donations for these two programs. If you have extra items laying around the house you may drop them off in the office. Items needed are as follows:

Arts/Crafts
Blender (for recycling newspaper to make paper)
Window screen (to make paper)
Sewing machine(s)
Fabric or clean linens/clothes
Thread
Embroidery floss
Yarn
Knitting needles/crochet hooks
Blunt hand sewing needles/darning needles
Old candles (to melt down for candle making)
Empty paint cans or metal coffee cans
Candle wick

Physical
Yoga mats
Plastic irrigation tubing 1” diameter or smaller (to make hula hoops)
Coupless for tubing
Electrical tape
Jump ropes
Hacky sacks (we could make our own using sewing machine)
Eighth Grade  
Lynne Nichols
In our first 3 weeks of school we have spent time reviewing our TISA Behaviors, getting to know our new students, and renewing our friendships and connections. It has been so much fun to hear about everyone's summer break. In literacy the seventh and eighth grades have begun reading and discussing stories from our Great Books Literature anthology using the shared inquiry method and learning different questioning techniques. In Social Studies we are learning map skills. We are very excited about creating our own countries using these map skills.

Mr. Padilla

7th and 8th grade, we began exploring the concept of atoms, molecules, and the periodic table. Students were challenged to make the tallest structure possible with only ten strands of uncooked spaghetti and four marshmallows. For ten minutes students had the opportunity to plan, design, and build the tallest "molecule" possible and had to make sure it didn't collapse. Everyone had fun and learned that some shapes and designs are stronger than others.

Nine through eighth pictures  
Southern Exposure starting @ 9a.m.-Manzanos

9/17/13- PTA Meeting  
123 Manzanos @ 5:30

9/22/13- 1st day of Fall

Calendar Events

9/6/13- Pizza Friday  
*Every Friday!!

9/10/13- K-4th Pictures  
Southern Exposure starting @ 9a.m.-Manzanos

9/11/13- 5th-8th Pictures  
Southern Exposure starting @ 9a.m.- La Posta

9/11/13- GC Board Meeting  
123 Manzanos @ 6p.m.

Seventh Grade  
Jason Padilla
In 7th and 8th grade, we began exploring the concept of atoms, molecules, and the periodic table. Students were challenged to make the tallest structure possible with only ten strands of uncooked spaghetti and four marshmallows. For ten minutes students had the opportunity to plan, design, and build the tallest "molecule" possible and had to make sure it didn't collapse. Everyone had fun and learned that some shapes and designs are stronger than others.

Mr. Padilla