



January 2012
Volume 1, Issue 17

Director's Message:

Welcome back everyone. I hope you all enjoyed the Winter break. We are all glad to be back and have hit the ground running. Read below for information about the Spelling Bee and the Ski Program. I would like to talk a little about the School Grade that was published by the Public Education Department on Tuesday. As I stated in my email to families on Tuesday, the grade is not accurate as it requires three years of data for 3 of the 5 indicators. In addition, these grades are not considered the "final grades" for this year. Those will be released late this summer after the state testing data from this March is available. I have chosen to appeal the grade to the state and it is my understanding that many other charter school leaders as well as district personnel are doing the same thing. I don't expect to hear back from the appeal process until after February 10th.

Thank you all for your kind words of support and encouragement to continue our good work.

Best wishes and stay warm.

--

Sandy

TISA Spelling Bee

This week, TISA held their first annual all-school spelling bee. Each class held a class bee to qualify students for the school-wide bee. They competed in our bee today. Thank you to all the students who were so willing to participate and we look forward to next year's spelling bee. Congratulations go out to Eden Ratigan, 4th grade, Layla Brooks, 6th grade, and Kimberly Sadler, 6th grade. They will compete in the Taos County spelling bee in Questa on January 25th. Winners of the county bee will go on to compete in Albuquerque. Our students are eligible to compete every year through 8th grade. This is another great way to have TISA students represent our school at events in our community! Thank you Ms. Linda for getting this going for our students and continually promoting education.

School Ski Program

The Ski Program is in full affect and TSV is ready for our children. Just some things to take note of: Our first ski day is this coming Monday, January 16, 2012. Children riding the bus from the Manzanares campus should arrive no later than 7:15 am. Please make sure you have a packed lunch and warm clothes. The bus will depart from the campus at 7:30 and meet parents at the Arroyo Seco Community Center by 8:00am to pick up remaining children.

For parents who are driving your children up please make sure they are at TSV by 8:30. They will at that point meet up with the rest of the group and sponsors to start breaking into groups. Sponsors are to help with the equipment process and with supervision. Lessons will start at 9am prompt. Children will have free ski after lunch and meet at 3:15 to board the bus. The bus will leave at 3:30 and return back to the Seco Community Center to drop off children no later than 4:00. The bus will make its last drop off at Manzanares around 4:30 so please make sure you are waiting for your children. Payments shall be made starting Tuesday the 17th to Nicole in the office. The bus fee will be known on Tuesday the 17th.

Please go over rules and what is proper behavior to ensure a safe and fun experience for all attending. Thank you to all of our sponsors helping out!!



Special thanks to our spelling Bee competitors

Liam Davisinger - 2nd
Marlen Stoessel - 2nd
Noel Ferreira-De Puy- 2nd
Jackson Shiver -3rd
Brooke Walker -3rd
Jack Lambie -3rd
Eden Ratigan - 4th
Kahli Garner- 4th
Victor Jacquot-5th
Seamus McCann-5th
Merin Gregory- 5th
Madison Davisinger-5th
Layla Brooks- 6th
Kimberly Sadler- 6th
Antonio Cardenas -6th

The county bee is on Wednesday, January 25th at the Alta Vista Elementary school in Questa at 9am. Lunch is provided for the students but there is a fee for adults.

Acoustic Guitar Program

Mr. Pacheco, our 3rd grade teacher has volunteered to share his talent with our students. This program is free and for children grades 3rd-6th. The first class starts on Tuesday, 1/17/2012. Please note, if you are not able to make it to the first class you will need to wait for the second session to start. The program will be held in the 3rd grade class room every Tuesday and Thursday from 4:00-5:00. Children must bring their own acoustic guitar to the program. We will keep parents updated as to when our second session will start. So far we have about 15 children signed up.

Reminders to Parents

Please stop by the office and check the lost and found box. Nice, warm jackets are being put into the box every day. If jackets are still in the box near the end of the school year, we will donate them or take them to a free box. Please claim your jackets and stay warm.

Important Dates:

Monday, January 16, 2012

-No Monday Enrichment (MLK Day)
-1st day of skiing

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

-Fundraising meeting @ 4:00

Wednesday, January 25, 2012

-County Spelling Bee, Alta Vista Elementary School- 9:00a.m.

Friday, February 10, 2012

-End of Grading Period 2

Monday & Tuesday, February 13th &14th, 2012

-Parent/ Teacher Conferences
-No school on Tuesday, February 14th

**Please make sure all students are back from vacation by Tuesday, March 20, 2012. SBA testing will be taking place for grades 3rd-6th.

PTA Pancake Breakfast

We are planning a Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser for Saturday February 11th, and are in need of a committee of volunteers to make this happen. If you would like to help with this event, and will not be able to attend the fundraising meeting on Tuesday, January 17th @ 4pm, please feel free to email PTA President, Lesley Kushner at: lkush@taosnet.com.

Thank You Parents!

Special thanks are due the following parents:

Ben Maddox for volunteering to help spread wood chips on the playground with his bob cat.

Jean and Allen Zitting for bringing woodchips.

Rachel Singer for helping with spreading the woodchips.

Hilary Cushing-Murray for help with spreading wood chips.