Congratulations to the following students who participated in the Peace Poetry Contest. This is a cultural exchange project with schools of Taos County and Kamishi Jr. High School in Iwate Prefecture in Japan. The town was hit by the Tsunami last March which devastated the village. They are still being affected by the Tsunami due to the disabling of the nuclear power plant which continues to leak radiation all over Japan. The theme—“What Global Peace Means to You”.

Congratulations to Tigerlilly in 4th grade for placing 1st in the Peace Poetry Contest. She won a 2 hour private painting session with Ed Sandoval who was judging all posters, a ½ day white water raft trip for two people, and a slice of pizza from Taos Outback. Eden in 4th grade placed 2nd, winning a $75 gift certificate to Taos Cycles, a 7use punch card to The North side Heath Center, a slice of pizza, and a waffle cone from Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory.

Congratulations to our 5th grade class for taking 3rd place, winning $80 of Taos Cow Ice Cream, and the Impossible Machine game. Our 1st grade class took 4th place, winning a $25 gift certificate to Twirl for the whole class.

Thank you to everyone who participated! Next year keep in mind that April is Peace month and we would like to see more teachers and children get involved! Children from different schools throughout Taos participated in the event.

Monday Enrichment & Aftercare

The last day for aftercare is Thursday, May 17th. The last day for Monday Enrichment is Monday, May 21, 2012. Just a reminder for next year, we will not be offering aftercare or Monday Enrichment. The programs were not as successful as we had hoped for to fund them.

2012-2013 Lottery Draw

Our lottery draw was held on Friday, April 27th. We have a new class of 15 students in Kindergarten and drew for two new students in 7th grade. As far as we know, our current students are all returning. If you decide your child will be attending a new school or you might be moving please let me know at your earliest convenience. We do have waiting lists in all grades and would like to know by the end of the school year if you will be leaving TISA. Please note, I will need a withdrawal form filled out in the office. If you withdraw from TISA that does mean that you lose your spot and will have to re-apply if you would like to come back.

Parent Teacher Conferences

Please mark your calendars; May 24th and 25th will be parent/teacher conferences. If you know you are going out of town please make arrangements to meet with your child’s teacher before then. If you have a returning student you will need to fill out the income form that is done every year. Please take time to fill it out during your parent teacher conference and return it to the office or the teacher. If you have a child in grades K-3rd, please fill out the Lion’s Club form for the eye screening. I will need both forms turned in for next year. The screening is free and is done every year for these grades. If you have any questions or concerns please call Nicole in the office.

TISA Drama/Arts Summer Camp

TISA will be holding a Drama Summer Camp starting June 11th-22nd. This will be a two week program from 9am-Noon. The fee for the two week period is $60. We have drama with John Biscello and visual arts with Alison Haney. We do need at least 13 children in each program to make them run. Both programs will work on a collaboration performance for the end of the camp. Please contact Nicole if you are interested. Please make sure you pre-pay/register.
May has been a busy month so far for 1st grade. We’ve been busy raising bugs! We have milkweed bugs, silkworms, mealworms, and Painted Lady butterflies! We also are growing a small lettuce garden. We have also been busy finishing up our mini unit on Native Americans. We made a triorama for each culture we have studied; we glued them together and have a pyramid of trioramas. They then made another one all about themselves. We will be learning how to do beadwork on homemade bead looms made from shoe boxes to finish our unit on Native Americans.

In collaboration, the 5th grade decided to use the board created for the Spring Festival. This board won them 3rd place in the Peace Poetry contest. Congratulations children!!

PTA
Thank you Nikki Cain for organizing the PTA bake sale that took place this past Saturday at Cid’s. The PTA was able to raise $500.00 thanks to those parents who donated goodies. If you were not able to donate, be ready for the next bake sale. Sounds like the bake sales might happen more often since we had such a great turnout.

Office Summer hours
The office will be closed throughout the summer. I will be in every other Monday and will be checking voicemails. I am not able to receive e-mails sent to the tisataos account but you are more than welcome to e-mail me on my personal account, nikkiabeya@gmail.com. Please only e-mail if you have an urgent question etc.

Guitar Program
The guitar program has come to an end. Thank you to all who participated in the program and a BIG special THANK YOU to Mr. Pacheco! Without you the program could not have happened! Thank you for bringing this to our children who have many positive things to say about the program.

Upcoming Events

May 23, 2012
Last day of school!! Field day at Kit Carson Park!

May 24th & 25th
Parent Teacher Conference- Please make sure you fill out the needed forms for the office with your teacher.

June 11-22
Drama/Art Summer Camp, 9am-Noon
TISA’s upper Blding.

August 15, 2012
1st day back for 2012-2013 school year

4th grade, Mesa Pierta field trip
4th Grade

The fourth grade has been busy studying the area of Mesa Prieta near Espanola. We have studied the petroglyphs at the Wells Preserve and took a field trip in the middle of April. The students got to see firsthand the actual petroglyphs on the rocks and recorded some of the images. We have learned to categorize them as well as studied their possible meanings. There are more than 30,000 examples already documented at this site. Thank you to Sara Gray and the other docents who guided us through the trails. We will be continuing our studies of them until the end of the school year. The students expressed a desire to return and look at more of them. Thank you also to our great parent volunteers, Amber Metcalf, Jean Zitting and Ruthie Guzman. Also thanks to the PTA for helping to fund the transportation.

We will perform The Incredible Westward Movement; this is a musical review of early American history covering the westward expansion including the Louisiana Purchase, the Trail of Tears, the California gold rush, the pioneers, the expeditions of Lewis and Clark and the expansion of the railroad across the west on Wednesday, May 9th at 5:30pm in the 3rd grade classroom. Please feel free to attend and support these talented young people.

Kindergarten!


Kindergartners have been exploring concepts in physical science using the hands-on theme, "Balls and Ramps."
We made balls from many substances (butter and flour worked as well as beeswax, lint and socks) and experimented with the concepts of bounciness, weight, speed, force, motion and gravity. The children worked in teams to create their own marble runs, explain how they were made, name them, and come up with a reason why their classmates' creations were unique. All participants were thrilled to take home an award at the end.
Rock-and-rolling great job with ramps and balls all!

Peace is happiness
Like a dog in the meadow
Joyful and loving

-Eden Ratigan

Peace is a valley
Surrounded by a mountain
In my heart and soul

-Isaiah Williams

Peace is a Lilly
A beautiful waterfall
And a bleeding rose

-Tigerlily Guzman

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