Conscious Discipline Update: Chapter 2

Encouragement - This work focuses on building the school family. When children believe they are meaningful contributors to the school family they develop an internal feeling of self-worth. This internal feeling is outwardly exhibited as kindness, cooperation and sharing. These types of social successes prepare the brain for learning. One way to help children build this internal feeling is to notice their contributions to others. This can be as simple as saying to a child, "I noticed you moved over in circle so Sandy had room to sit. That was helpful." Other types of behavior to notice are: kindness, taking turns, caring, thoughtfulness, sharing, cooperation or concern. By doing this, we are reinforcing the importance of being helpful to others. This simple noticing is what helps build in children a sense of their role is supporting others and helps to build our school family.

If you are interested in learning more about Conscious Discipline, please visit their website www.consciousdiscipline.com and/or search for conscious discipline on youtube. There are a number of videos that provide information about Conscious Discipline.

Director's Message:

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Curriculum Director

September was a super month at school. I hope that you were able to attend your child’s fabulous curriculum night. If you did attend, then you know how the TISA vision is becoming reality in the classroom.

In October and November, classes will explore more in depth integrated courses of study that in which “art is the lens for learning.” TISA’s teaching mission strives to guide students to become confident in exhibiting their learning through the arts, too. Look for collaborative exhibitions of learning in development. Ask, at home, what big ideas and big questions students are challenged by in class.

Don't forget that in October, on the 19th, TISA will celebrate our Fall Festival. We hope to improve on previous Fall Festivals by making the Festival an act of Commitment to the TISA family. Expect the same great lanterns and the same goodies, but with a move toward making the event even more meaningful.

On another subject, look for the TISA Volunteer Section in this newsletter. We hope to share needs and thank those who have already helped.

Warren Kelly
From the Office

As many of you may or may not know I will be taking maternity leave very soon. I have a due date of Nov. 5th but that may very well change. Many parents and students have already met our office sub Tanya. Tanya has been in training since the summer and has been training while school has been in session. I plan to still check e-mails and work minimally from home. Please be patient with Tanya. I ask of you when calling in for students please make sure to include full name of student and grade. Tanya is only an office sub and can only answer so many questions. I have no doubt that she will be fine with whatever comes her way. Please note the office will not be open on Monday’s and Tanya will be here Tuesday-Friday until the last student goes home. Please remember that we do not have after care and no student should be picked up later than 4:00. I will be in and out of the office over the next 3 months. Please send e-mails as needed and we will get back to you accordingly.

Thank you,
Nicole Abeyta

Friends of TISA

The Friends of TISA Foundation had their monthly meeting on Wednesday, September 26th. Our next meeting is Wednesday, October 24th at 5pm. We are currently working on developing presentation materials stating our goals in support of TISA. These materials will be used to inform any potential donors about our school and ways to help us reach our goals. We are also researching any grants which will fund programs to help the school. Our main focus currently is supporting TISA’s search for a permanent campus. We will have our nonprofit status by the end of the current year and will let the community know when this happens. We are very excited about this work and welcome any input from the community. Our contact address is: info@friendsoftisa.org and our website is: friendsoftisa.org.

TISA PTA

The PTA would like to thank everyone that was involved in organizing the Back-to-School Potluck and making it such a success. Also many thanks to everyone that braved the threatening weather to attend what turned out to be a really lovely Friday evening event. Currently, a PTA committee is helping the teachers prepare for the Fall Festival October 19, for which we could use some volunteers to do a little baking. We’re also working on a few new (and fun) ideas for fundraising- examples include a Bingo Night, weekly Pizza Lunch Day, and Kids’ Craft Sale. If you might like to lend a hand to any of these efforts, please either attend our next meeting Tuesday, October 16th at 5:30, or email Molly McMullin at molly@twirlhouse.com.

Building Committee

The building committee will be meeting next Tuesday, October 2nd at 4pm in the 4th grade classroom. Please plan to attend if you are interested in the school facility and/or have any ideas about potential locations in the downtown area. We are currently operating as an advisory board to the Governing Council and will be pursuing any leads we have knowledge of. If you have any ideas, please email the building committee at build@friendsoftisa.org. We are also looking for new members with expertise in legal issues, real estate and business. Please contact Molly or Linda if you are interested.

Lost & Found

We have a lost and found box located in the copy room. Since the weather is slowly changing and students are wearing jackets more often, we are finding many jackets being left behind on the playground.

Please stop by the lost and found box see if any of the items in the box belong to your child. The box is filling up fast with nice jackets.

Thank you Parents and Volunteers

TISA would like to thank any and all parents who have volunteered with any projects in and out of the classroom. We encourage all parents to try and be involved whether it’s in a TISA community event or classroom field trip. If you would like your name mentioned as a good deed done, please submit an email.
Help Needed- Shade Arbor Project

Help is needed to complete our shade arbor project. You may have noticed the poles by the metal shed down by the basketball court. We envision a shade covered sand play area there. We need help completing the project. Materials needed are: 5 15 ft. 2 x4s; 3 12 ft. 2 x 4s; latillas to cover the roof or more 2 x 4s; railroad ties for the sandbox; sand to fill the sandbox. Kyle McMullin has volunteered his services but would like more volunteers to help. Woodworking tools are needed as well to finish the project. Thanks so much.

Upcoming Events

October 2, 2012- Building Committee@ 4pm in 4th grade classroom.

October 8, 2012- Columbus Day- No School

October 9, 2012- School Pix money and order form due

October 10, 2012- GC Board Meeting @ 6:00-upper building

October 16, 2012- PTA Meeting @ 5:30-upper building

October 17, 2012- No class for grades 5th-7th as Teachers and Director’s will be at anti-bully training.

October 19, 2012- Fall Festival 5:30-7:00 Manzanares Campus

October 24, 2012- Friends of TISA @ 5:00- upper building

October 30, 2012- Lion’s Club Vision screening grades K-3rd starting at 9am in white room.

November 9, 2012- End of grading period 1.

November 12 & 13- Parent/Teacher conferences, No School

Mrs. Jutka’s Kindergarten

We had lots of fun putting our CHICKA CHICKA TISA kindergarten show together. Our favorite part was having our parents applaud when we did the show and Miss Jutka blowing her whistle. Cheers to the Chicka Chicka Kindergarten Team! (Photo attached)

We also celebrated International Peace Day with the first graders and wanted to share the song we made up for peace:

Peace to the orcas in the seas
Peace to the princess and the prince
Peace to the wind in the trees
Peace to the parrots and the bees

It’s getting chilly!
Here is a song we wrote this week to remind us how to dress warmly in the mornings. We sing it to the tune of “Head, shoulders, knees and toes.”

Hat, jacket, mittens and scarf, mittens and scarf, mittens and scarf.
Ski mask, snow suit, socks and tights, socks and tights, socks and tights. This is how we dress when Jack Frost bites, Jack Frost bites!

DRESS WARM!

Mrs. Megan’s 1st Grade

First-grade has had a very busy month filled with arts integrated learning. We began by constructing Singapore Math number bond leaf light catchers. We then wrote a class “Big Book” filled with drawings and pictures related to our service learning projects, ask your student to read it to you if you have a few extra minutes! On International Peace Day we made a string of peace flags in 18 different languages which we hung in the breeze. After we hung the flags we enjoyed a circle beneath the fluttering well-wishes while singing peace related songs with the Kindergartners. Our Arachnid studies include the construction of sheep’s wool Black Widow egg sacs along with daily drawings and scratch board webs. We will include our drawings and webs in our next class “Big Book”. We will be reading our “The Black Widow” big book to the other grades throughout the month of October. Ask your First-grader to explain what all Arachnids have in common! It is also time to put another “call-out” for snacks thank you to everyone who has already contributed, First grade has been enjoying Taos grown apples and pears all month. We will continue to partner with Fourth grade for up-coming field trips, establishing a “big brother/ big sister” relationship with our campus mates. The Hand of Man field trip was a SMASHING success.
**Mrs. Ale’s 3rd Grade**

The TISA 3rd Grade has had a busy month! We finished the TISA “Welcome UbD”, and are moving into our next unit of study. Just in time for the start of fall, we will begin to take a look at “Human Habitation”. We will look back in history and learn about the first people who were in this area. We will also learn about the kinds of homes people have lived in, and continue to live in today. We will answer the question, “What is a community?”

**Mrs. Linda 4th Grade**

The fourth grade recently took a camping trip to the Sangre de Cristo Youth Camp on Lama Mountain. Donna Longo, Jay Foley, Jen Hull and Oban Lambie accompanied us. The class got to do many activities including caring for Norwegian Fjord horses with Marta and Anna Walker, taking a hiking trip with Jay as our guide, exploring nature and preparing and cleaning up after our meals. The kids found a rope swing by the cabins and were very entertained by it. We also experienced responsibility and hard work. We enjoyed this trip so much that we are hoping we will be able to take a longer camping trip at the end of the year.

Brooke Walker

**Mrs. Jeanette’s 5th Grade**

We are starting our Multiplication Sundae Challenge. We will be memorizing our multiplication facts and earning ingredients for a fabulous ice cream celebration! We will then be working on honing our skills with the 4 basic operations- using whole, decimal, & fraction numbers. We have designed & constructed a cardboard tree for our classroom & are finishing our mapping unit by constructing globes. Yes, we are making our own globes! We will then move briefly into the development of civilizations and then spend November & December exploring the middle Ages & the Feudal System. We will be comparing that to our democratic one & looking at the election process the last week of October & first week of November. We will also be holding our own mock elections. We have just chosen & are reading Historic Fiction novels for the month of October. Then we will be creating a diorama of that time/place. In class we are finishing the last three Jr. Great Books Stories and reading The Westing Game. This is a murder mystery with tons of suspects. We have formed detective agencies and are avidly collecting clues to try to solve the mystery. Look for a code to come home on October 9th. It is the donor’s choose Friends and Family campaign- and they will double any donations made. We are extremely busy and excited to explore the Petroglyph Kit and start our Middle Ages Unit. Look for newsletters, links and updates on the blog: [http://mzhtisa.blogspot.com/](http://mzhtisa.blogspot.com/)

Mark Your Calendars!

Get ready for our Friends and Family campaign October 8 - October 15. On Monday, October 8, we’ll send you a match code to share with friends and family. For one week, any donation made to your project using this code will automatically be matched by our Board of Directors.

**Mrs. Nichols 6th Grade**

*Thank you to Allison Haney and Chris Pieper for sharing their talents with our class. Chris comes in and shares his wonderful ability to tell stories and Allison is teaching visual arts. Our next project will be lanterns for our Lantern Walk at the Fall Festival.*

*We are enjoying our Brain Smart Starts to the day, tracking our moods on our mood meters, and sharing our journal entries. These are a few of the activities we do every day to increase our emotional literacy. Today the class was remarking on the lack of bullying they feel in the sixth grade class. This was very heartening to hear and we will continue to foster tolerance and kindness in our school family.*

**Mrs. Maya’s 7th Grade**

We have been busy!!!! The whole class got their scripts for the short film we are making, called 2354. We will start filming soon and we are very excited. We will be plunging into how films were created and watching old films. In math we are starting the unit on volume. In science we are still hacking away at Newton’s Laws of Motions. We have completed out first short stories. These stories are based on the theme being lost. We have also been reading two novels and studying them. Until next month, have a great one!

From,

The 7th grade