



# TISA

TAOS INTEGRATED SCHOOL OF THE ARTS



*April 2013*

Hello TISA families. Spring has Sprung and it is beautiful! This is my favorite time of year.

Just a few notes. First, our 7th grade interview committee is working hard to choose a new 7th grade teacher. We will let you all know who that is as we finalize that decision. Second, the Governing Board is working hard to choose a new Director. They will be providing information about that process and decision as they move forward. Please mark all the activities listed in this newsletter and come join us when you can.

All the best, Sandy

Hello TISA Families,

Spring is here! We have a wonderful conclusion of the school year ahead. There are lots and lots of activities and many events to remember. Please keep a close eye on emails and notes home for opportunities to participate in fundraisers, field trips, and performances.

Saturday May 6<sup>th</sup> has been planned as a Spring Clean-up Day. Give two hours from 10 to 12 to beautify our campus sites and classrooms. Teachers on campus can direct you to dusting, sweeping, window washing, plant pruning, raking, trash collecting. Leaf bags will be provided. Windows and dusting are a big job and washing walls around light switches and high traffic areas is another – PLEASE ring a bucket and rags. If you prefer outside, take a look at the campus and PLEASE bring a rake, pruning shears, or the right tools for that job you have and eye on. Contact your teacher to see if she will be on campus or has a particular task for she classroom. Otherwise, it's a yard clean up, pretty simple – let's put in a couple hours and see what we can get done!

The Shade Structure at Manzanares needs to be framed out, and the kids have a great idea to box in the base for play sand. Contact Warren Kelly or Linda Seto if you are interested in this job and we can show it to you.

Tuesday, April 11 showcases the TISA Exhibition of Learning at both Manzanares and La Posta Campuses from 4-6 pm. This is an OPEN Exhibition for the community in a "museum style." Come, explore, and learn about all the classes during this time.

Monday and Tuesday, April 15 and 16, all TISA staff will travel to Albuquerque for a Singapore Math Conference. No classes will be held on that Tuesday.

Thanks to all students, parents and staff who worked hard through the New Mexico Standards Based Assessment - this potentially stressful experience was made better through good attendance, lots of support, a T.I.S.A confident attitude, and of course, snacks. Thanks again.

Lastly, the Taos Stick Bridge Engineering Challenge was exiting this year. The most efficient bridge prize went to TISA for the third year running – and this bridge held up more than 500 times its own weight before collapsing. My favorite part of the year – check it out:

<http://taosnews.nm.newsmemory.com/pda.php?date=20130314&eid=0&sid=2&aid=148>

Warren Kelly – Curriculum Director



# Chess Club

It has been gratifying to see the participation of TISA students in the chess club and witness their improvement.

A surprising number of students have ventured into tournament play leading to a number of first place team trophies in the recent k-12 and k-9 tournaments. I am grateful to them and to their parents for making the program a success.

I was really impressed by some of the now seasoned players who held their focus through up to four hours of chess play. Props to the Lambie brothers, Milan Foley, Orion Joseph and Adriel Hanf.

But I was equally impressed by the courage and stamina of Victor Gossner, Brooke Walker and Perry Kushner, who all competed out of section against more experienced players and did it with enormous grace. Also, I have to say that in the heat of competition I witnessed some horrible lapses of sportsmanship, but never by our kids, and I received compliments on their sportsmanship, charm and good cheer win or lose.

It was encouraging to see our TISA players holding their own against the kids in Albuquerque's AIM program, which gives chess in the classroom half an hour a day. Maybe handwork is the secret?

Gabriel Morgan



## TISA PTA

Happy Spring from the TISA PTA! There are only two meetings left this year- and lots to do... we're seeking new faces, new leaders and new ideas! We need all parents to help 'redesign' the PTA and make it the most helpful, supportive group it can be for teachers, parents and especially, our kids. Please share any ideas you have on what YOU would like the PTA to be at TISA. The fundraisers coming up will be some of the most fun ones we've had ever- BINGO, April 5th at Taos Mesa Brewing; Scholastic Book Sale; and more Pizza Days! Our next meeting is next Tuesday, April 9th at 5:30. Please try to attend one of the last meetings, and come be a part of the TISA PTA!



APRIL 2013

<http://aprilcalendar2013.org>

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

*April 1<sup>st</sup>- April Fool's Day*

*April 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>- Spring Budget Conference- Albq. Sandy & Warren*

*April 5<sup>th</sup> - Frito pie sales for 4<sup>th</sup> gd. Fundraiser, \$3.50*

*April 5<sup>th</sup>- PTA BINGO night @ Mesa Brewing, 6:00-8pm*

*April 9<sup>th</sup>- Krispy Kreme orders in*

*April 9<sup>th</sup>- PTA Meeting @ 5:30*

*April 11<sup>th</sup>- Exhibition of Learning, 4:00-6:00 @ both campuses.*

*April 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>- NO SCHOOL, Singapore Math training all staff.*

*April 16<sup>th</sup>- GC Board Meeting, 6-8pm*

*April 19<sup>th</sup>- Frito Pie sales for 4<sup>th</sup> gd. Fundraiser, \$3.50*

*April 23<sup>rd</sup>- Lottery closed*

*April 26<sup>th</sup>- Lottery Draw for 2013/2014*

## ***FIRST GRADE***

First grade paused for a moment to create an "on the spot tableau" replicating a portrait of famous Taosenos at the Harwood Museum of Art. We think someday our portraits may hang alongside such Taos greats as D.H. Lawrence and Agnes Martin.



First grade created self-portraits using marker, Sharpie and water during our monthly visit to the Harwood Museum of Art. We have become wonderfully confident artists this past year and are excited to learn exciting ways to express ourselves in the coming year.

Tisa first grade joined Ms. Linda's fourth grade class and created naturally dyed, hand painted eggs for our hunt in Kit Carson Park.



## ***THIRD GRADE***

Between Spring Break and SBA Testing the month of March has passed incredibly fast. However, the 3rd grade did have a few very fun things happen. We had an incredibly successful performance of our play, The History of a Messy Room. We also had a great time riding the bus to Taos Charter School with the 4th Grade class to see the Popsicle bridge competition. We were very impressed by some of the bridges! We look forward to working on our quilt squares for the Spring Program when we get back from the Vernal Holiday.

Below is a picture of the giant snowball the 3rd graders made before Spring had arrived.



## ***FOURTH GRADE NEWS***

The fourth grade has been working very hard to complete their study of the Norse people and their myths. We have completed our lesson books which we will share on April 11th at the celebration of learning night. Our performance of the Theft of Thor's hammer and the North Skelton Sword Dance was performed before a sellout crowd. We are now ready to start our study of Mesa Prieta and will be going to see the petroglyphs in situ on April 28th along with the 5th grade. We're all really excited about this trip. We are privileged to be part of this study and look forward to seeing all the petroglyphs. There are over 9,000 of them! Our testing has been completed and everyone did a great job! Please stop in at the Stables Art gallery for the children's art show. Our students K- 5th all participated and have great art work up!



## ***SEVENTH GRADE***

Yippee it's April!!! We are moving into our plant unit and New Mexico history unit. We will be making maps of New Mexico and discovering Native plants of New Mexico. We are very excited for Spring! There is only two months of school left and we have a lot to cover!

## ***SIXTH GRADE***

Sixth Grade is learning about poetry! We are reading and interpreting poems from a variety of poets and are becoming poets ourselves. We hope to host a poetry cafe in April to showcase our efforts. We will begin our Tall Tale Unit in April as well. Our science unit will be Landforms and we will be learning about westward expansion and the Industrial Revolution in conjunction with Tall Tale characters such as Paul Bunyan, who created the Grand Canyon and John Henry, who worked as a steel driver on the railroad as it stretched across the country. We will be creating our own tall tales and performing tall tale plays at our Tall Tale Festival in May.

Don't forget to order those Krispy Kreme's!!