

Community News

Please share your community news events with our school community! Let us know about performances your child will be in, great family events, etc.....

AfterSchool Hiking

Join an Outspire hiking Guide on six 2 hour hikes. Varied trailheads and themes each week. Learn about geology, topography, life zones and more. Weds. September 21-Oct.26 from 4:00-6:00. Call 660-0394 for more info.

Santa Fe New Music

The SFNM Youth Ensemble is the nation's first youth ensemble dedicated solely to new music gets bigger than ever for its fourth year. SFNM also announces "**Hands and Ears On**" workshops for young musicians, including two for kids aged 4-8. And the **2006 New Mexico Young Composers' Project** is back for its sixth year as the only free of cost young composers' competition in the state for kids aged 18 and up. Call Rozie at 474-6601 or visit www.sfnm.org for more info about SF New Music Programs and shows.

Special Dance Classes

The Children's Dance Program in Santa Fe is offering free creative movement classes for special needs students. The class will be freely structured to enhance core strength, stretching, body awareness and creative movement. Children and teens with special needs, including kids in chairs and who are hearing impaired are welcome to join. Call 982-1662 for more information.

THANK YOU !!



Special thanks to David Birnbaum for making our new building a reality! David's incredible hard work in face of seemingly insurmountable obstacles (for example, no cement!) made it all possible. Thanks also to Brian who spent countless hours dealing with bureaucrats and inspectors and making miracles happen. Thank you to all of the families and teachers who helped out on our work day and the days surrounding the work day. Thanks to Clay & Dean, Jake, Cheryl & Jende, the entire Dedomenico family, the Clifford family, Tim & Ben, Keiko & Kyle, Bryce & John, Rozie Kennedy, Andy, Makai & Sarah, Cynthia, Betsy & Jamie, Beth & Marti, the Lenetskys, the Dannerbecks, Kai & Mark, Emma & Leslie, Grace, Nadine, Madeline & Wyatte, Lisa & Cole, Claire & Sofia and Katie Duffy. Thanks also to Jim Cummings, the Barnes family, Michele & Veronica, Rebekah & Amy, Norbu & Susan, Robin & Lauren Sarkissian, Laura Carthy, Erasmo Santos and Tamara Stewart. Thank you Shari and Louis for all of your hard work and especially for hauling so much trash to the dump for us! Thanks to the Burns family for the **MANY** extra hours of help with our computers! Thank you Ron and Karen Whitmore for the great paper cutter! Thank you Tony for the beautiful graduation video. Thank you John Delemater for the great work on our grounds last week! Thanks for offering to come every week to help us out! Thank you to all of our wonderful teachers who spent hundreds of hours setting up their classrooms, cleaning and getting ready for school! Thank you Tracie and Dave for your continuing help with our fish and lizards. Thank you to Clare Romero for offering to be our Unicorn class parent. Thank you Megan and Maddy for the great books and games! Thank you to everyone who donated books! Thank you to all of the parents of Todd's class who came to help us get his room ready on Sunday; Cynthia & Jamie, Jake, Cheryl & Jende, Jimmy Sanchez, Trace & Elle, Wendy VanderHam, Chriss & Tim, Anita Hernandez, Scott & Dima and Charles, Robin & Aba. Thank you Richard Atkinson (alumni parent), Darlene Ortiz and BLM for the donation of 10 computers! Thank you Laurie for the books! Thank you Stargazer parents who are helping chaperone field trips. Thank you to everyone who has been bringing recycled ink and toner cartridges. Thank you parents for coming on time in the morning and at pickup time! Thank you Tony for the bookshelf and thank you Chriss for the DVD/VCR for Todd's class. Please let me know if I ever forget to thank someone in this column and please know that your help is always appreciated! **THANK YOU ONE & ALL!!**

Wish List

For Todd's Class

Globe
Digital Camera

For the Middle School

Boom Mike for Moving Images program

For the Art Room

18 or 16 gauge copper wire for sculpture
Kneaded erasers (20)
Colored pencils
Architectural templates
Smudge sticks
Styluses for scratch art (20)
Old Wrapping paper
Safety Kut linoleum blocks or the "The BIG Sheet" (3 sheets) to cut into 4"x 6" pieces
Anatomical models (hands, feet, etc.)
Plaster gauze
Digital Camera

For Matt's Class

Large/poster size paper (all colors including white)

Wooden Chairs -to be painted on, if we collect enough for a class.

More Flagstone- for our outdoor areas

Donations for our school scholarship fund (every little bit helps!)

Please note-

All donations (both in kind and monetary) to our school are deeply appreciated and are tax- deductible!

Let us know if you would like a fundraising packet or a video to send to someone who might be interested in helping our school.

Ways you can help!

1. **Website**– We need a new web saavy person to help us update and add information and photos to our website!
2. **Class Parents**– Each class needs 2 parents to help the teacher occasionally. Duties typically involve setting up a parent phone tree or calling parents with field trip reminders.
3. **Burritos**– We need one more parent to call in the order and help pick up the burritos every other week from Felipe's Tacos on Weds. around lunchtime. We already have one other parent to help with this.
4. **Scholastic Book Orders**-Would anyone like to volunteer to do the Scholastic Book Orders for their child's class? We send them out every other month or so. We don't need a volunteer for the middle school however. It's a fun and relatively easy way to help your child's class.
5. **Rock Work**- would anyone like to help improve our french drains and retention ponds and line them with plastic and rock?
6. **Fall Festival**- See page 11 for details We need volunteers to help with our fall festival.
7. **Carpentry**– Does anyone know a good carpenter who could put up shelves in the new building and build a ramp on our gazebo?

Foundation Support

City of Santa Fe Grant

Thank you to the City of Santa Fe Children and Youth Commission for their generous grant of \$5000 for reading and math materials for our school and for our Middle School Tutoring Program with Cesar Chavez Elementary School. This is our fourth year receiving support from the Children and Youth Commission!

Children, Youth and Families

Congratulations to our school for receiving a grant from the State Department of Children, Youth and Families. We were awarded a generous multi-year grant which will help fund our accreditation process and an administrative assistant for the school, in addition to other much needed items! We are currently in the third year of this grant. Thanks to Cathy Weber, Kathy Etre and Marta Weiss for writing a fantastic, complicated and challenging grant! There were 70 applicants statewide applying for this grant and only 19 schools were chosen!

Scholarship Fund

Unfortunately, these wonderful grants can not be used for scholarships and we do need to raise more money for our scholarship fund. Please let us know if you have any friends or relatives who might be interested in making a tax-deductible donation to our scholarship fund. We have a fundraising letter and video that we can mail to anyone you think might be interested. We also hope that some parents will contribute to this fund. EVERY donation really helps-lots of smaller donations can add up to a full scholarship! Thank you! We will have our annual fundraising campaign this year in October. Please let us know if you would like to help in any way with fundraising!

In New Mexico, there are too few programs that allow and encourage young people to be actual contributors to the world around them, and honor those contributions. Young people need ways to explore, discover and develop their interests, skills, and talents and they need to be recognized for their accomplishments.

Our Badgers and Middle School students are all doing community service this year.

The Fox class (5-6th) will be volunteering with our Unicorn class on a regular basis and the 7 and 8th grade Middle School students will each complete a seven week session of community service this Fall. (This is in addition to their ongoing mentoring program with the Stargazers and Todd's class.)

Five 8th grade students, Greg, Justin, Sophia, Becca and Conor, will be volunteering in a 1st grade classroom at Cesar Chavez Elementary School working on art and literacy enrichment. Two of our students volunteered at Cesar Chavez last year and the students are very excited to see them again.

Five 8th grade students will be volunteering at Challenge New Mexico's Therapeutic Horseback Program; Jenna, Kristina, Michele, Glency and AJ. These students will learn how to groom and take care of horses and assist with therapeutic horseback riding sessions for children with disabilities.

Three students, Kyle, Nikki and Brandon, will be working at Food Depot each week helping to provide food for hungry New Mexicans and people effected by Hurricane Katrina.

Four students, Jackson, Dyami, Veronica and Rebekah. will be working in the Unicorn class at our school. They will doing literacy and math projects with our students.

They are all off to a great start this year and we wish them a very successful season of service.

The Middle School Promotes SFSA Character Traits

During the first week of classes, the students in 7th and 8th grades learned a "chant" to remember our school's five character traits: Respect, Trust, Courage, Honesty, Compassion. You should hear them - one third of the class drums the beat, another third of the class verbalizes the words, and the last third signs them in American Sign Language. I'm hoping that some of the students will compose a song too. The 8th graders are designing posters about the five character traits as well.

After their 3 day trip to 100 Elk Outdoor Learning Center in Buena Vista, Colorado last week., the 7th grade students wrote about one of the traits they thought they had demonstrated there.

Here are some of their responses:

Jaco: "I had courage and I think I used that trait the whole time I was at 100 Elk. For example, the first time I had courage was at the rock climbing gym. I was climbing and I felt really shaky, but I kept on going."

Sara: "I thought I used a lot of compassion because I started to feel other people's fear, anxiety, happiness and sadness and I could be respectful of their feelings."

Tobin: "I think I showed courage during the high ropes course. It was very high and scary. I did it anyway, though, and I'm glad I did."

Lili: "I think I really used trust a lot, especially on the low ropes course because I was going across in a sort of scary way, but I knew that my group wouldn't let me fall. It felt really good to trust them, because they're going to be in my class for a year."

Beth: "Compassion. When I was at the lake, a friend had a headache and I wanted to help her."

Forest: "I trusted the people who were belaying me on the Leap of Faith."

Clay: "I trusted the counselors, because when I was up on the ropes course, they helped me."

Rosa: "I used trust a lot. I not only trusted others, but I trusted myself. I trusted my friends when I was bouldering and they were spotting me."

Kyle: "I showed courage because I am really afraid of heights and a lot of the ropes course elements were really high. ...the balance log, don't even get me started!"

Garrett: "I showed courage on the balance log. It made me feel good and strong."

DJ: "I showed courage, because I tried the ropes course even though I didn't feel like it."

Mason: "I showed courage when I made the Leap of Faith and jumped to the trapeze. It felt good, hanging there."

Emma: "I used honesty when we were playing GaGa, because when I got out really early in the game, I wanted to stay in and nobody called me out, but it wouldn't have been fair to everyone who was playing."

Whether it was negotiating an Indiana Jones bridge, breathing in the night air on a hike with no flashlights, diving into a lake that is as cool as ice, setting the table for the next meal, or dancing up a storm to Russian folk music, there was always something at 100 Elk last week to keep us intrigued, productive, and challenged. This kind of shared adventure sets the tone for the rest of the school year, and if the success and enjoyment of our three days is any indication, this school year will be a wonderful one.

Family Photo Wall

Some of you may noticed we have begun making a Family Photo Wall in the main building.

Many parents have expressed a desire to learn who is who, which parent belongs to which child etc....

Feel free to bring in a family photo and we will add it to our family photo wall!

FOOD DRIVE

Our middle School students have begun a food drive for Food Depot. Please bring in at least one can of food this week! All cans can be dropped off in the middle school or main building lobby.

WELCOME!

A warm welcome to a new family at our school. Tobin Geideman is a new 7th grade student in our middle school, Please add this information to your SFSA Family directory.

Tobin Geideman

Parents: Erinn and Christian Geideman

Address: 2729 Ventoso Santa Fe, NM 87505

Home: 992-8358

Parents Night Out Friday, October 7th

This year, our middle school students are raising money for our school scholarship fund.

One way they are raising money will be by offering "Parents Night Out" evenings.

For \$20 you can leave your child at our school (Unicorn Class) from 6:30-9:30 pm and the middle school students and a teacher from our school will babysit your child. There will be a discount for multiple children (e.g.- \$30 for two children). Many children come in their pajamas and bring a blanket and a pillow. We ask that all children have dinner before they come, but we do offer snacks and drinks. We usually play outside and then come in and play games and watch movies like a great, big sleepover.

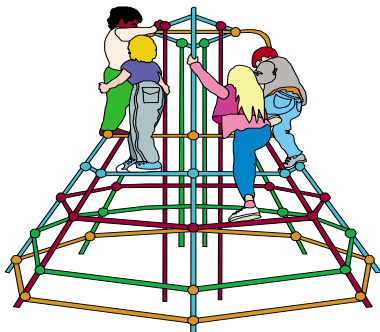
It's a lot of fun and you can enjoy a great night out!

Spaces will be given to the first 20 children who are signed up.

We hope to offer this at least once each month.

The first Parent's Night Out will be Friday, October 7th.

You can sign up for this first Parent's Night Out by placing a note and check with your children's names and ages in the tuition drawer/envelope in each building. Please note that the check is for PNO! Unfortunately we cannot provide care for children under the age of 3. Siblings who do not attend our school are welcome to attend.



Art Class News

All art classes are starting with a 5 minute drawing warm up, just as dancers start with stretches and music teachers start with vocal exercises. We are doing quiet, concentrated, blind contour drawings, observing a real person, set up or scene. As their pencil moves they are looking intensely at the object being drawn. No erasing! It is very tempting to look at the drawing, but I am amazed at how well especially the younger classes are doing at not peeking! The goal is to practice observational skills, develop the right brain and to build self-confidence in their drawing ability. These wonderful drawings will be up from time to time in the art room. Please come take a look at what the students are really learning to see in their drawings~!

RECYCLE and HELP OUR SCHOOL !!

Recycling Fundraising :

Every empty toner, inkjet printer cartridge and used cell phone that we collect will earn us points towards a wide range of educational materials, including technology, playground equipment and sports equipment! Please collect them from your work and tell your friends!! .

Please save all:

Ink jet cartridges, old cell phones in working condition, laser jet cartridges in their original box and toner cartridges from copiers. Any business or home can donate to this program.

We have a small plastic green recycling bin in the shoerom where small items can be placed.

Todd's Class will also be organizing a school wide recycling program for paper, aluminum cans, etc....

Why “Arts?”

(reproduced from a previous SFSA newsletter)

I am often asked why is our school called “Santa Fe School for the Arts” since we are not really a school “for the arts!”

We are however, a school that believes that integrating the arts is a vital aspect of a strong academic education. We chose our name knowing that many of the best schools in the nation are called “school for the arts” for the same reasons as us.

Here are a few of our reasons why.

Extensive research has been conducted by the U.S. Department of Education, UCLA, the Carnegie Foundation and the John and Catherine MacArthur Foundation in collaboration with The President’s Committee on the Arts and Humanities on the beneficial impact of involvement with the arts on academic achievement. The data are compelling and consistently demonstrate a high correlation between participation in the arts and academic achievement. (Arts meaning visual arts, music, drama, dance etc.)

One longitudinal study of over 25,000 children conducted by UCLA found that students with high levels of arts participation outperform non arts participating students in every measure. Many studies show that the highest educational achievement is shown for students who also have music performance experience.

The ultimate challenge for American education is to place all children on pathways toward success in school and in life. These studies have found that through engagement with the arts, young people can better begin lifelong journeys of developing their capabilities and contributing to the world around them. The arts teach young people how to learn by giving them the first step; the desire to learn.

For example, the Chicago Arts Partnership studied programs for youth for a decade- sports, academic, community involvement and the arts. The studies showed that youth who participated in any of these programs did better in school and in their personal lives than did other young people from the same socioeconomic backgrounds. However, to their surprise, the youth who participated in arts programs and learned in arts integrated environments were doing the best of all.

The arts often connect learning experiences to the world of real work and can provide new challenges for students who

are already successful. The arts nurture creativity and help children learn to express themselves. The arts can also help reach students in ways that they are not otherwise being reached as the arts regularly engage multiple skills and abilities. The development of cognitive, social and personal competencies are all addressed when the arts are integrated and valued in education. Music, for example, can train the mind in skills such as organizing complex material and analyzing patterns. We consider science to be part of the arts as well, much as a Bachelor of Arts includes science, mathematics and humanities.

On a personal note, I am aware that much of what I learned in school has been forgotten (until I have to teach it again!) and that the things that I remember best are those aspects of my education that were taught to me in an interesting way- often integrated with the arts.

For example, I can still remember the Greek alphabet which I learned to the tune of Jingle Bells! All of my best teachers, who inspired me to be curious about the world and do my best, were teachers who used the arts to enrich the curriculum. And that’s some of why we’re called, Santa Fe School for the Arts.



Badger Class Update

Our first two weeks have been spent getting to know each other and our class. We started off the year with a very successful trip to the Ropes Course at the Community College. The students challenged themselves and everybody reached their goals for the day. Academically, we have been dusting off the old brain and reviewing some of the essentials. Reading, writing, and math assessments have been done for all students.

We will begin our expedition into some of the land formations and rocks of the Santa Fe area. All of our students have been very concerned about the happenings in the southern United States. We have been discussing the situation there and students have been trying to help those in need. The students have jumped into Spanish and ASL with gusto and all of their teachers have remarked on the cooperative, respectful nature of the class. We are excited to back in school and looking forward to a great year.

Parent Mailboxes and Email Addresses

Every parent has a mailbox. Please check your mailbox everyday if you can.

Payments and papers for the school can be placed in any of the following places:

Unicorn and Stargazer Classes– in Rayna’s mailbox in the main building (in the hallway on the Unicorn sign in table)

Todd’s Class– in the Tuition and Aftercare payment envelope in Todd’s class mailbox.

Matt’s Class– in the Tuition and Aftercare payment envelope in the Fox class mailbox

Middle School– in the drawer in the Middle School rolltop desk which says “All Papers and Payments Here”

PLEASE do not put any notices or flyers in other parent’s mailboxes without first asking Rayna.

Please **do not** put birthday invitations in school mailboxes unless **all the children in the class are invited!**

PLEASE do not email any parents or forward information to parents on our school email list. This is only to be used for school sanctioned communication.

Please note there is a Parent to Parent Community Bulletin Board outside the Stargazer Classroom and in the Middle School Lobby for parents to post notices about upcoming workshops, their own work,

Birthdays for Unicorns & Stargazers



One of our parents suggested a wonderful way to celebrate your young child’s birthday at school which is quite popular at several other local schools.

In honor of your child’s birthday, he or she can choose a favorite book that the school does not have, to donate to their class library. The book is then shared in the morning as part of the child’s birthday celebration ritual and the child also gets a gentle reminder that giving is just as important as receiving.

Please remember that you do not need to bring toys, presents or food.

*Since we have many students with food allergies in the Unicorn and Stargazer classes, we would request that parents of Unicorns and Stargazers **not** bring in food treats for birthdays- we can share ideas of other things if you really want to bring in something additional for all of the kids.

Please be sure to check in with your child’s teacher regarding your child’s birthday as it approaches.

Unicorn parents are invited to attend their child’s birthday circle in the morning. Feel free to bring in a photo or 2 of your child when they were a baby or toddler & be prepared to answer tough questions posed by Unicorn students about your child!

Painless Fundraising

Have you ever wondered whether it is worth the trouble to show your **Albertsons Community Partners card** to the cashier? Well, it is! Every three months we receive a check for over \$300 from Albertsons! So, a big thank you to everyone who is using their Albertsons school community card! It really adds up! Please let Rayna know if you lost your card or need more for friends and family. We do have more!!

Smith's also has an Earn & Learn program. Just sign up for a Smith's Fresh Values card and designate SF School for the Arts as your school of choice and go shopping at any of their stores. Present your card at checkout and Smiths will automatically donate up to 5% of your purchases to our school. To enroll, call 1-800-764-8897 or visit one of their stores for an application, or log onto www.smithsfoodanddrug.com

Another easy way to Help-Remember Schoolpop? Our online shopping school connection has already raised hundreds of dollars! Thank you online shopping parents! Just go to www.schoolpop.com and click on our school first (if you register we get \$5- you can even register your kids!) and then go shopping online at the more than 150 sites connected with schoolpop. There is no cost to the shopper, and we receive a percentage of each purchase! You can also get a Schoolpop Visa Card which works the same way.

We have also signed up with **Target** - so if you would like to get a Target Guest or Visa Card (it is a credit card), each time you use the card (at Target, but also at other stores) our school gets a small percentage - just be sure to specify our school when you get the card. You can apply online at their website www.target.com or call 1-800-316-6142.

Friends and relatives can also use **Schoolpop, Target, Smiths and Albertsons** cards! Just let us know if you need more cards.

Our school also has an account at **Double Take**, a wonderful consignment shop on Aztec Street, with great used and new clothes for children, men and women plus lots of toys, household items and jewelry. Anytime Tuesday through Friday, you can bring in clothes on hangers, or toys and books etc. and the staff there will decide which of your items they will accept for consignment. Call them first (989-8886) for more details. Our school account number is **1283A**.

Koto Tales Come to SFSA

Elizabeth Falconer is a koto master and professional storyteller based in Seattle. She specializes in telling Japanese folktales and performing koto. Her recordings have received highest recognition from Parents' Choice, NAPPA, iParenting Media, and Storytelling World.

Elizabeth has been playing koto since 1979 and lived in Japan for 12 years. She has a BA in Japanese Studies, an MA in Japanese Pedagogy and a PhD in international education. She considers her koto studies with Kazui Sawai at the Sawai Koto school in Tokyo, where she earned her masters license in Koto, to be her greatest accomplishment. Her unique experiences and creative approach to combining music and stories have proven captivating for listeners of all ages.

Elizabeth will visit our school in early October!

Further information can be found at <http://www.kotoworld.com>.



Dear Santa Fe School for the Arts Parents,

Communication

As parents, the safety of our children is naturally our first concern. We ask that everyone please help us to keep our driveway and parking lots safe for everyone.

PLEASE make sure that you drive **VERY slowly** anywhere on or near the school grounds. I know that we are all sometimes in a rush to get to the next place, but please just take a few breaths and drive onto school property as if you had all the time in the world.

We often have very small children walking in the parking lots and on the sidewalks. They may not be visible at all times, so please look ahead and move very slowly.

PLEASE also, **come to a complete STOP**, prior to driving onto the sidewalk by our driveway. Neighborhood children are often walking there and we must be the ones to look out for them.

Please also be sure to keep holding your young child's hand whenever you leave the school building until they are safely in the car.

Thank you all for your cooperation and understanding about this important issue.

Open and honest communication is essential to a positive school experience for your child. Please let us know as soon as possible if there are any major changes in your child's life, so we can be supportive at school. (all information is confidential). We, in turn, will keep you informed of any events which may have been upsetting to your child at school, or any significant changes in the school environment which might affect your child's sense of well-being at school. We value your feedback and concerns, and will do our best to facilitate daily communication so that we can all flourish in an atmosphere of honesty, integrity and kindness.

If you have a concern or suggestion, Please don't wait to speak to someone. If you hear a rumor, please check it out before spreading it around. You can always speak to any member of the staff at the end of the day, or call Brian Dineen, Executive Director at 988-3399, meet with a teacher afterschool or call them at home. In addition to our biannual parent teacher conferences, please remember that all teachers are available to schedule a sit-down talk whenever needed. Each teacher has scheduled one day a week to remain after-school for parent meetings.

Please remember: you know your child best, and we will all be able to do a better job if we all work together.





Fall Festival

We will have our annual **Fall Festival on Friday, October 28th from 12:00-3:00**. Our past two old-fashioned Fall festivals were both a huge success thanks to the many parents and students who pitched in!

We are hoping to again have some booths with old fashioned carnival games, like the fishing booth and the floating ducks, along with our famous Treasure Dig, Polaroid Booth and Face Painting.

The festival and all of the booths are always free to SFA families. We will also have a special movie festival to showcase our middle schools students first quarter moving images films.

Can anyone help sponsor a bounce house again? Pony rides?

Would any parents like to help organize a cake walk and a food booth? Is anyone interested in organizing the whole festival?

Would any parents like to help get prizes for the booths (stickers, pencils, erasers etc.-anything but candy!) We have catalogs you can order from....

Would any parents like to play music?

Marimba? Irish Music?

Any new ideas?

We invite everyone to come in costume on Halloween, but please remember that since we have preschoolers at our school, we do not want any gory, bloody or very scary costumes at school.

All Unicorns are invited to the Festival, even those who do not usually attend school on Fridays.

Please let Rayna know if you would like to help in any way!

STARGAZER NEWS

The Stargazer class has begun their expedition on prehistoric mammals and people. We have been reading "The Kin " at read aloud, a novel about four orphaned children living in prehistoric times. The children are beginning to get inspired by this book and are building animal traps and making shelters at recess.

Next week we begin our work drawing early drafts for our Prehistoric Mammal trading cards. We have also been discussing how scientists know what they know about the past and how science evolves as more is known.

We are scheduled to work with our 7th grade buddies this month and next to put our heads together looking at fossils and artifacts from the earliest times. Alicia's Mom, Tamara, has offered to come to one of our buddy times to answer questions the kids have about anthropology. We will also be going on a field trip this month and next to explore the relationship between the land and its resources and the survival of early man. Thanks to all the parent support to make these field trips happen!

Unicorn Updates

The Unicorn class is off to a great start this year! All of the kids have drawn a self- portrait and the kindergarteners are already excited about doing drafts and critiques! The kids have been learning about the letter A this past week, drawing angles and learning about Alphabet Surprise. Show and Tell has started and the kids are learning about their daily jobs, egg finder, bell ringer, clean up inspector and more. The Unicorn class is beginning an expedition on families- exploring and celebrating what's unique about each family. The students will complete their expedition with the creation of a book.

First Week of School Quotes

Sofia: "I really like how wheelchairs move fast like a horse."

Landon: "Mom, I love school so much, I even dream about it!"

Makai: "After not seeing Rayna's daughter at school said, "Rayna, can you get Mo out of the closet now?"

Sylvie: "When the kid's mother is dead, then the earth will be their mother."

Benji: "I see Dracula teeth in my mouth!" (he was looking into the back of a CD)

Noah: "Jerry told me that because the human body, the heart it bleeds and it blinks and breathes and in the skeleton body it poops on the inside." (Jerry had read a book on the human body in class that week.)

Landon: "Airplanes are my favorite vehicle."

Benji:(while putting on someone else's shorts) "Will I change into another person if I put these on?"

Landon: "Spanish is all I need and that's all!"

Gabriel: "I'm a genius!" (during a sand dig when he figured out how to tunnel to the wall.)

Makai: "I've been to her house (Amy Birkan's) it's in Gymnastic!"

Camille: "How sad. Some public schools don't have clean up songs, huh?"

Brass: This is my first day of 1st-2nd grade!

Todd: Well, this is my first day of 3rd-4th grade!

Noa Noa: (to Chintan) Is it true that you are going to explode Eli's picture?
(Chintan had told Eli that she would blow up his picture on the copy machine)

Summer's done,
It was fun. I'm sorry that it's over.

Our teacher is Todd
yet it's odd
that Connie will not be with us.

Our room is new
and friends are old
ready for a learning expedition.
The fun we'll have this year
builds within my mind.

When we are aged people
we will teach
younger ears of what
we have learned
inside Todd's class
and this is the end
of my rhyme.

By Dima Voorhees
Todd's 3rd/4th class (written on his way to his first day of school- on the back cover of a ream of copy paper.)

United World College and Santa Fe School for the Arts

“Becoming a Get Away Family”

As part of our curricular focus on Global Education, we have developed a wonderful relationship with the United World College. The United World College, in Montezuma, NM is home to 200 students from over 80 countries. All of the students are in their senior year of high school and their first year of college. (Micaela's brother attends the UWC in Hong Kong.) This year, we will again have the opportunity to further cement our relationship with the United World College as their students will be doing community service at our school throughout the year and our Peace Jam club will be involved with their CEC (Constructive Engagement of Conflict) program. Last year, our Peace Jam 8th grade students were able to attend the Peace Jam event with their UWC friends and high school students from all over New Mexico.

Our families have again been offered the opportunity to become “Getaway Families” for UWC international students. UWC tries to match students with families who have similar interests. You can request a girl or a boy student and you may even be able to request a student from a particular part of the world. Get Away Families offer UWC students a chance to visit their homes on occasional weekends, share a meal or participate in family trips and events. You may offer a student to stay with you during vacations, but this is an exception and is not expected. In turn, the students share their cultural heritage and often invite Get Away Families to special UWC events. All Get Away families are expected to attend the Sundae Sunday on September 25th at the United World College Castle to meet their student.

If you would like to be a “Get Away Family” for a United World College student, you will need to fill out and fax the form back this week! Rayna has copies of the form in the office. Rayna also has copies of the Get Away Family handbook which answers many questions about this wonderful program.

This is a great opportunity for our children to develop relationships with young people from different parts of the world and to begin to develop a sense of international understanding.

Through international education, experience and community service, United World Colleges enables young people to become responsible citizens, politically and environmentally aware, and committed to the ideals of peace and justice, understanding and cooperation, and the implementation of these ideals through action and personal example. -UWC Mission Statement United World Colleges

UWC is the only global educational movement which brings together students from all over the world at pre-university level, regardless of their ability to pay. Students are selected on merit and live together in an environment designed to foster international understanding, tolerance and peace.

The academic curriculum forms just one part of UWC students' busy and diverse lives: an extensive programme of community service plays a central role in all the Colleges, while the shared experiences of living and working together in an intensive multicultural environment also do much to build international understanding.

"Each UWC Graduate is potentially a future architect of peace... The fundamental values of a UWC education are increasingly relevant to global stability and peace and I truly believe that the world will be a better place because of the contribution of our Graduates."

-HM Queen Noor of Jordan, President of the United World Colleges

"The striking feature of the United World Colleges is that they embrace the entire world across all divides of race, history, culture, wealth, religion, economic status and political belief: they are unique and they are conscious of their responsibilities."

-Nelson Mandela, United World Colleges Honorary President.

Special thanks to Selena Sermeno, director of the CEC program at UWC, for making this special relationship possible!