



## Holiday Hoot!

December 17

7 pm

### Mega Middle Levelers

#### The Sandwich Club: By Tana Jay

Julie and the middle level language arts students have put together something called a Sandwich Club. It works like this: first all the kids find any kind of book they would like to read, whether it be a short story or a book on birds, or anything else. After they find and read their book they write a book report, but not just any old book report, a sandwich report! They write in a booklet that is the shape of a sandwich. Its pages are the bread, the lettuce, the tomato, etc. Every week, everyone who completes a sandwich report gets to go on a picnic. They map out a park they want to go to and plan what parts they'll see. Sounds like a lot of fun!

#### Archeology:

The archeology students were pottery detectives at the Arizona State Museum, where they looked at ancient pots, learned how much you can discover about the past from them, and tried their hands at making their own. Then at Old Pueblo Archeology our middle level archeologists excavated a faux Hohokam pit house this week. Aerthura and Erica are now making a replica.

### Deadline for Tax Credit Donations: December 31

Don't forget to look into making a tax credit donation for Kino Scholarships. If you paid more than \$625 in Arizona income tax (and are filing jointly), then you can **reduce your tax by \$625** just by making a donation to The Arizona Scholarship Fund for the benefit of Kino. This money is very important to all of us at Kino, so please tell your family and friends.

**Reminder:** If you have gifts to give through New Beginnings, please bring them in on Monday.

### Something Fishy

When the Sonoran Sea Aquarium's traveling museum came to Kino last week, we needed to clear out the whole Performing Arts room to make enough space for all the exhibits. The Aquarium, which is affiliated with the outreach education department of the Sonoran Desert Museum, has the ultimate dream of building an actual Sea of Cortez-based aquarium.

All day long, the aquarium docent made presentations tailored to the different ages of kids who took turns visiting the exhibit. There were hundreds of specimens and artifacts to look at and handle. The docent says she was extremely impressed both by how well informed our students are and by how inquisitive they are—curious and eager to learn. She has made presentations to over 100,000 school children, and Jasper was the very first one who identified the state fish: the Apache trout.



### Joyous News

Congratulations to Christina, Adela, and Alfonso! Alexander was born on December 10. And they have asked Kristina to be one of his godmothers!

### Calendar

- December 17, 7 pm**- Holiday Hoot!
- December 19-** Last day of school before winter break!
- January 5 -** Back to School
- January 13, 7 pm** - Board meeting - Everyone welcome

## Trips

In the past at Kino, extended field trips have been very important to the learning experience. Kino students have been on some great trips, to CEDO, San Diego, San Francisco, Yosemite, Yellowstone, and many more.

For the last couple of years, schools all over the country have been having trouble getting insurance for field trips. In spite of our outstanding safety record, we couldn't get insurance for trips more than 25 miles away from Tucson.

Now, finally, we are able to buy insurance for individual long field trips. Every time Kino goes on a trip out of Tucson, the insurance for the trip will cost \$125, no matter how far we are going or how many students are on the trip. However, the insurance won't cover camping, rock climbing, water skiing, snow skiing, and some other things like these.

The question now is where do you want to go? Some ideas have been a trip to northern California and a trip to the Southwest Research Station in the Chiricahuas. So start thinking where you want to go, and if you have any good ideas just tell a teacher.

## Pen Pals by Brian

Lots of Kino students have pen pals from other countries to send letters to and receive letters from. And this is all thanks to Julie because she is the teacher who set this all up. Helen, Sophia's mom, told Julie about an internet site about pen pals and of course Julie looked it up. Many students have sent letters to their pen pals in many other countries like England, China, France, Mongolia, Australia, and New Zealand.

Jamie said "It's cool because you get to write to other people from other countries."

If you don't have a pen pal and you want one you just have to talk to Julie. Even high school kids are enjoying the pen pals they got with Julie's help. Ariel said, "I think pen pals are great because you get to communicate with people from all around the world and you usually would not get the chance too."



## EC-Primary by Maya Ella Rose

The Early Childhood and Primary students have been busy making delicate snowflakes to decorate their area. The activities involved in making paper snowflakes are fun and they develop skills such as "working on folding, cutting, and discovery with color," says Maloo. "It's color discovery because they paint them while the snowflakes are folded. They open the snowflake and see how painting the folded paper makes a pattern. We call them desert snowflakes, because they're so colorful."

The students were enthusiastic about the snowflake making experience:

"I loved making them... Because I just did. It was very fun for me," said Ellie, age 6.

"I made too many. They are fun cool!" said Paddy, age 4.

Some students liked the colors:

"Cool. Red, blue, all kinds of colors," said Spike, age 5.

"I made three pretty rainbow snowflakes," said Emma, age 5.

"One is colorful but it's also white. And it's purple!" said Lela, age 6.

Some students described the technicalities:

"I like the snowflakes because they have holes!" said Isaac, age 4.

"You just fold paper plates and then you cut holes and then you paint them and then you open them," said Diego, age 5.

Some students related snowflakes to other activities:

"I think those are nice because you can play in the snow," said Paige, age 4.

"I made a Christmas one with a star on top of the tree," said Lela, age 6.

"I made two of them. Dos copitos de nieve," said Andrew A, age 5.