



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY, EVERYONE! by Brian

Homeroom parties have been happening at Kino for longer than any of the students now at Kino have been alive. Every homeroom has a special way of celebrating a student's birthday party.

One of the most memorable birthdays I remember was Blair Carswell's (around 1996), in Becky Duncan's homeroom. The homeroom was celebrating his birthday by eating Eegees outside on the little kids playground. The homeroom was just about to sing to him when Ed's homeroom came outside and stole our homeroom's Eegees. That started the homeroom war between Becky's homeroom vs. Ed's homeroom.

Here is what the teachers say their homerooms do to celebrate birthdays.

**Julie's homeroom:** We have some type of yummy treat in afternoon homeroom. We sing happy Birthday and the B-day person can invite a friend.

**Ed's homeroom:** We all get nekkid for birthdays, but we do it at our own homes in the privacy of our rooms. Then we come to school [in our

clothes] and eat stuff that the birthday person wants and try to do something unusual like have a campfire in the wash or stuff. We always put candles in something and sing happy birthday.

**Martha's homeroom:** We do many different things, usually what the birthday person wants to do except when we want to do a surprise party. We 1) Go out to breakfast, 2) Go out to lunch, 3) have a surprise party, or 4) have a planned party. With 3 and 4, we have favorite treats and food.

**Chris's homeroom:** It's really something different each time. The last birthday we had banana creme pie with candles and lots of whoopings and hollering. Once we went ice-skating and I was very cold.

**Judy's homeroom:** Tuesday we went out to breakfast for the people who have summer and holiday birthdays. Sometimes for birthdays we bring something to school to eat. On Matt's 18th birthday, we had a party with all kinds of cheese.

## KINO SILENT AUCTION Tomorrow!

Saturday February 21  
Dinner 5:00  
Auction begins 6:30  
Amazing Treasures Lots of Fun!

**Ceal's homeroom:** We have an in-house party during afternoon homeroom with special guests of the birthday kid's choosing

**Nancy's homeroom:** We go out for breakfast or sometimes we have bagels or donuts



Homerooms don't need a birthday to have an excuse to party. Chris' homeroom celebrated being pirates a few months ago by dressing up and going out to breakfast.

## Where's Samuel Greenberg and What's He Been Doing?

Samuel is spending this year in New York dancing and being home schooled. His mother called us this week to let us know that he has won a full merit scholarship to the New York School of American Ballet's summer program. After a dance intensive summer, he plans to be back at Kino in the fall.

## Mixed Media by Maya Ella Rose

This semester, Chris Schultz and the students who were in last semester's nature writing class decided to change the class altogether. "Originally, in the nature writing class, students weren't enjoying the work or doing their assignments. So I decided to have a class that was more fun," said Chris.

Chris came up with the idea that suits the students' needs and the writing requirement for the class. "Now I let the kids smash televisions, but they have to do some serious work as well," he said. What do students learn by smashing televisions? The actual smashing of the television may not help them with their writing skills, but adding a fun thing to a regular assignment makes learning more enjoyable. It also enables the students to understand the way a television works.

This kind of flexibility is common here at Kino: if students feel that something would enrich a class, they make a suggestion to the teacher. Often, the teacher then uses the suggestion to better understand what the students want to learn. This is a fundamental thing about Kino that is very different from most schools; students are motivated by themselves and by their interests.

What do you call a class that combines the science of how televisions work, writing, and fun?

Media class. It works like this: the students watch a movie (usually a documentary), then "the students are required to write an editorial response," says Chris. The class plans to take a lot of field trips to movie theatres. Most recently, they took a trip to see "The Lost Boys of Sudan," a documentary about the experience of young Sudanese refugees in the United States.

It seems to be working well. "I wrote a huge paper on the way that television is depicting the war in Iraq," said Kristina M. "If I had a nickel for everything I have learned in Media, I would be a millionaire!" said Daniel. I spoke to all of the Media students and they were all positive both about the class activities and about the homework that goes along with it.

## Calendar

Feb. 21      Silent Auction!  
Feb. 24      Board Meeting  
March 11-12    Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences

## Othello! by Ariel

This past Friday Judy was finally able to take 7 or so Kino students to see the tragic story of Othello by, you've probably guessed it, William Shakespeare. Due to its popularity, they couldn't see it on Thursday as they had planned, but on Friday Judy was able to get excellent seats.

The story is about a pretty crazy guy who wants to make life bad for everyone else, so he drives Othello, the star of the play, pretty much crazy, driving him to kill many people, including his one true love. It was a Guthrie Theater production that has been travelling all over the country. It was an amazing performance. It was 3 hours long, with a 10 minute intermission half way through.

The whole audience seemed to like it a lot and the actors got a standing ovation at the end. All of the kids from Kino who went to see it said they liked it a lot. After the performance, as usual, they went and had lunch at the Tucson Mall.



We capped off Love of Reading Week last week with Pajama Day. Here, members of Nancy's homeroom stretch out to enjoy a story.

## Early Childhood Snacks February 23 - 25

(all snacks served with Milk or Juice)  
**Monday:** Granola and yogurt  
**Tuesday:** Quesadillas with corn tortillas  
**Wednesday:** Cooked squash with cinnamon and butter

This month's Primavera lunches were sponsored by Sandy, Molly, and Shep. Thank you very much! We need two more sponsors to finish the school year. If you are interested, see Mary Jane.

NO SCHOOL NEXT THURSDAY AND FRIDAY

CELEBRATE RODEO DAYS!