

The Kino Connection

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THE AS YET UNNAMED FOOD PRODUCTION PROJECT

Four Kino students—Erik, Ethan, Klair, and Tyler – have launched a year-long challenge to themselves: to see if they can grow and produce their own food.

They all got interested in the challenge last year, when Neill Prohaska was teaching Environmental Science. Neill is now going to U of A, working towards masters degrees in both journalism and Latin American studies, but he is still supervising the project.

The four began working on their gardens before school ended last spring. Over the summer, they came up to Kino early in the morning before it got hot (like 5 am) to keep working on them. Limited to food crops that do well in the Tucson climate, they are growing beans, corn, peppers and squash, as well as the more exotic sorghum, amaranth, and panic grass. They are relying as much as possible on rain water from the water harvesting tanks that Harrison built for his senior project last year.

Since their garden is not yet ready for harvest, for the time being they are eating locally produced foods. Neill has a supply of dry corn from his garden; they are making it into hominy. They have teppary beans from Native Seed/ Search, eggs from Hickman's Ranch, and peppers and okra that they bought at a farmer's market.

"We started on the first day of school," said Tyler and Klair. "Erik and Ethan started on the second day."

"What have they been eating? "Not much," says Tyler.

They are taking vitamin pills and supplements just to make sure. They've also given themselves some major wiggle room: anything that can fit through a straw.

"Ethan called me this weekend and complained that his friends were eating sloppy joes. I was going to joke that he could put some in a blender and drink it, but then I realized that he probably would," said Neill.

Harley, Emmi and Lela's father, is providing some loaner hens for eggs as well as giving them some baby chicks. The tilapia tanks, which Ethan is working on, will also be a regular source of protein.

Once they are producing more food, Neill says, they will take another look at the straw exception.

Klair says, "I been feeling more energy since we started. I think it's the Jamba Juice."



Tyler Among the Panic Grass

Don't Forget . . . The Book Breakfast!

Join us September 20 -- tomorrow -- for a pancake breakfast. Bring a book per person for the school library. We'll be chowing down starting at 9:30.

Rio and the Quaking River Band in the Arizona Blues Showdown

Rio and the Quaking River Band, which includes Lisa Otey, Chris, and others, will be competing in the Arizona Blues Showdown in Phoenix next weekend. They'll be performing a 20 minute set at 2:00 at the Rhythm Room on September 28. Ten other bands will be competing that day.

If they are among the finalists, they will perform again on October 5, and then the winning band gets to go to Memphis for the national competition. Lisa says she's gotten to go a couple of times and it's really fun.

The Rhythm Room is at 1019 E. Indian School Road and admission is around \$7.



We Be Jammin': Primary Music with Lisa

What ? Lockers at Kino ?

If you are an old Kino student, this is probably the most shocking change since we gradually transitioned from sitting on cubes to sitting in chairs. For years, a perennial issue at school meetings has been "Why can't we have lockers that lock instead of open cubbies?"

Well, they aren't really lockers. They're cubbies with doors and they don't lock. This means we can continue to say, "This is a community and in a community we need to be able to trust each other."

Plus they are beautiful. Master carpenter Chris Schulz built them for us over the summer. They have adjustable shelves and are sized to fit today's big backpacks as well as the regular clutter, so the whole school looks cleaner. They will continue to look beautiful for years!

Who would like a free, sweet, female French mastiff? She's about 6 - 7 months old. Talk to AJ if you are interested. It's possible she may have to go to the pound if no one can give her a good home.



Vanna-- I mean, Jonna Displays the New Cubbies

Coming Up

- Sept. 20 Book Breakfast 9:30 am
- Sept. 27 Library work day 9 am
- Oct. 6 Board meeting 6 pm
- Oct. 16 -17 No school -- Parent / Teacher / Student conferences
- Oct. 18 PSAT Test
- Sometime in November -- Yard Sale

Internet shopping? Please go to GoodShop.com and type in Kino School before going to your store's website.

Searching the web? Go to GoodSearch.com for that, too!