

# The Kino Connection

Dec. 5, 2008  
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## What If You Could Tell the State that You Want Your Tax Dollars To Go to Kino?

Actually, you can, if you make a donation to the Arizona Scholarship Fund and specify that it is for Kino. The entire amount of your donation -- up to \$1000 for joint filers, \$500 for single filers -- will be deducted from your state income tax.

These donations are very important to Kino. The more students who can attend Kino, the stronger and more interesting the school is for everyone. This year, about 28% of our students receive financial assistance, all of which is awarded on the basis of need.

Because this is free money, we urge all of you to help-- by spreading the word about Kino and tax credit donations, encouraging and reminding people to donate, and making a donation yourself.

Once people understand that it really is free money they are usually happy to make a donation for a scholarship instead of simply paying the same amount in taxes.

You can get more brochures from Nancy.

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## Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

### The 2nd Annual Kino Holiday Feast Friday, December 12 at 11:30

It's a potluck! Each student should, if possible, bring in a dish to share with four to six people, and we will all share and eat together. Each homeroom is responsible for a different category of dishes:

**Jack and Heather's homeroom members bring main dishes**

**Chris and Vanessa's homeroom members bring side dishes and salads**

**Johnny's homeroom members bring desserts**

**Judy's homeroom members bring appetizers**

**Jennifer's homeroom members bring beverages**

Food should already be prepared before it arrives at school (because eighty-some kids don't fit in the kitchen.) Please bring food in containers that are either disposable or labeled clearly with your name. Leftovers will be donated to Casa Maria.

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Our **Winter Music Concert** is December 17, starting at 7 pm. It will be a musical feast, featuring students of all ages!

## An important message from Patti about playground monitoring:

If time is money, and money is tight, is time also tight? Probably.

I realize that mid-November through December are very busy days and weeks for most of the Kino community. Making requests of folks during busy and possibly stressful times is tricky, but I will venture forward nonetheless.

In the three weeks of school this December, there are three days without any monitor at all for the playground. Please consider this a personal invitation to invest an hour or so of your valuable time on the Kino playground so that students who wish to can go outside. (if we're stressed, our kids may be also . . . what better way for them to 'unplug' than to leave the building and walk, run, shoot hoops, or just be in the wonderful winter weather of Tucson?)

### Days without any monitors:

**Thursday Dec. 4 and Dec. 18**

**Friday Dec. 12**

Thanks for your time and consideration.

Patti - Kino parent and monitor scheduler - 498-4982

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While you are doing your online holiday shopping, please remember **Good Shop**. Over 700 online stores will give a percentage of your purchase price to Kino if you link to their site through Good Shop. It doesn't cost you anything. Just go to [www.Goodshop.com](http://www.Goodshop.com), specify Kino School when it asks Who do you GoodShop for? and click on one of their list of stores.

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## Stocking Stuffers for Casa Maria

Middle level students are requesting donations for their annual sock drive. They need new socks (adult size) as well as things to put in them. The theme is personal hygiene: things like toothpaste and toothbrushes, combs, shavers, soaps, little bottles of shampoos, sunscreen, and chapstick. Candy would also be nice.

Students will stuff the stockings with your donations and they will be taken to Casa Maria, where they will be much appreciated presents.

Thank you!

## What Have We Been Up To (Part 1)?

Here's a tiny fraction of what some teachers told me when I asked what they were doing these days.

With respect to Algebra II, David says: "vertex form  $y - k = a(x-h)^2$  is equivalent to standard form  $y = ax^2$ . Too cool."

In U.S History: the Civil War era, David says they've been learning about John Brown and trying to decide if he was completely crazy.

In Spanish, Marielena is helping people make ornaments with model magic clay. This week she is taking students to Guadalajara Grill for lunch. Next week she and Heather are taking younger students to the dinosaur museum.

We hear a variety of noises coming from the music room in the mornings. We'll know what Lisa and the music students have been up to at the Holiday Concert on December 17.

When I asked Heather what the middle level science students have been doing, she said, "It was dead when I got it, honest." (This is apropos of the chicken they've been dissecting.) As to the polymers the primary students have been studying, she says, "I think they will wash out." On a recent field trip to Sabino Canyon, Becky (she's a docent there) taught the middle level science students about the Hohokams. That got kids interested in whether we could make clay from Kino soil. They've collected buckets of clay-ey soil from the wash and have made goopy clay that looks like something you'd buy from the pottery supply store. What will they do with it now?

Jennifer has two reading circles. In one, they are reading Twilight. In the other, the Chick Lit group, they are reading Esperanza Rising.

Photography students have been exploring alternative processes--currently making paper negatives. You can see some on display in the hall.

There's a new computer in the middle level language arts center so middle level students don't have to vie with older students for use of the computers in the library. Students have been writing on it and, with Jennifers' supervision, learning about internet research. They are planning a trip to the Main library downtown.

Anna says Calculus class has been doing things like  $dx/x$ ,  $x^5 - x^3 + x^2 / 2x^{15} - x^4$ . In geometry, they are getting into regular polygons.

The Biology class is learning about the history of different theories of evolution.

Physics class is learning about pressure with an exclamation point! That's because Pressure! lends itself to great demonstrations! Like mentos and diet Coke!

After reading and writing about Thanksgiving for the last couple of weeks, Primary language arts students are

## Get Your Holiday Cheer On

Ariel will be singing in the Holiday Card to Tucson concert this Sunday, December 7. The concert features five Tucson choirs: In addition to the Tucson Girls Chorus, which Ariel sings in, The Tucson Arizona Boys Chorus, Arizona Choir, the UA Symphonic Choir, and the University Community Chorus will be singing.

The concert is at St Augustine's Cathedral, 192 S. Stone Ave. There are two shows, at 3:00 and 7:30. There is no admission.

The Holiday Card to Tucson concert is always wildly popular, so everyone says you need to get there early (like an hour or more).

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## Take a Do-It-Yourself Field Trip to Children's Memorial Park!

If you and your family are ever in the mood to stop by the park on your way home from school, or go to the park over the weekend, why not take a do-it-yourself clean up field trip to Children's Memorial Park?

The park is pretty clean all by itself, so all you really need to do is check it out, pick up any trash you see, and then (after washing your hands) just have some time to enjoy yourself.

Then let Anna know so she can log your visit -- she's keeping a record of our clean up trips to the park.

If you plan ahead, you can ask Anna for clean up supplies.

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learning traditional stories. After reading the Three Billy Goats Gruff together, they all made troll masks and acted out the story, with Libby as the goat. (Wait a minute, wasn't there one troll and three goats? How traditional are these stories?)

For the Primary students' cooking class this week, Julianna's mom Leah came with her and Mishka's mother Martha and taught students how to make apple crisp. Cleverly, just like tv chefs, they brought a prepared crisp ready to bake, which filled the school with wonderful smells while students made a second crisp. By the time they were done and had learned to make whipped cream, the first apple crisp was ready to eat.

High school students who are studying child development spend time in the primary center observing and helping and they also read and review articles about Adlerian psychology.

Tune in next week for news about Star S'Mores, the overnight on Mount Lemmon, Pirates, Boatbuilding, Algebra, Trials and Tribulations; History of the Cinema, Russian history, Iliad, metal shop, the greenhouse, creative writing, classics. . .