

## WHAT'S MARTHA DOING IN THE BOYS' BATHROOM?



Martha Martin, Emmi and Lela's mother, is making a gorgeous desert mosaic in the Boys' bathroom. This is a companion piece to the flowers and butterflies mosaic she made for the Girls' bathroom last spring.

In both cases, Martha involved as many students as she could in the creative process, encouraging everyone to make their own unique contributions to the mosaics.

Here is a close up that may give you an idea of the detail of bugs, critters, and fauna she has included. In case you can't tell, those are all little cut out, individually glazed, ceramic tiles.



## Color Pictures On Line

Frustrated by trying to decipher the xeroxed black and white photos in the Kino Connection? You can see them in color on our website, where all the Kino Connections are archived. Select Kino news also appears ahead of time, and in color, on the Kino blog at <http://kinoconnection.blogspot.com>

## When we say "Experiential Learning" . . . (some examples)

***They've been studying weights and measures in Chris's math class.*** Last week the question came up of who could build the most unsinkable boat. They agreed on the ground rules -- maximum dimensions, a list of allowed materials -- and decided the test would be which boat could hold the most bottle caps. Using a balance scale, they found that a bottle cap weighs 2 grams. Chris says all the boats they designed were extremely buoyant -- Josef's boat especially held an incredible number of bottle caps. This led to discussions about the need for a different unit of measure, about milligrams, grams and kilograms, and



about conversions from one unit of measure to another.

***They've been studying temperature, data collection, graphing, and data analysis in Physics class.*** Each student has a little paper house, which might have insulation in its walls, in its floor, or in its ceiling. Some of the houses have white roofs and some have black roofs. After putting his or her house in the sun and then placing a vial of boiling or freezing water inside, each student measures the interior temperature every minute for thirty minutes. They will be graphing their results and then analyzing the effect of each of the varying factors.

***They've been studying botany in Biology class.*** A wide age range of students toured Desert Survivors Nursery with Anna and Al this week. Students identified native plants and got help identifying seeds. They learned about plants' uses - both now and by Native Americans in the past. They ate wolfberries - which are normally only in season during the monsoons. They felt and smelled sages and creosotes and saw roadrunners.

**We especially need imagination in science. It is not all mathematics, nor all logic, but it is somewhat beauty and poetry.** -- Maria Mitchell



## Alumni News: M.E. Armstrong

This week a admissions counselor from the University of Arizona visited and spoke to a room full of high school students and one junior high student (Phoebe) about the University and its application process.

Not only was this useful and informative for the students, it was also a nostalgic homecoming for the visitor.

M.E. Armstrong was a Kino kid from 1976 until 1979, for her three years of junior high. Her brother Gene and sister Annie all graduated from Kino's junior high. In fact, the Armstrongs were among the original Kino families. Back then we didn't have a high school, so M.E. went to Salpoint after graduating. Gene is now a freelance writer who writes regularly for the Tucson Weekly. Annie has three kids.

M.E. and Mary Jane reminisced about a whale watching trip to Baja they had both been on. The whales were so close they could hear them breathing in the night. M.E. remembered riding Grandma Pony -- a beloved Kino horse -- in the wash. [Grandma Pony later died and was buried north of the basketball court.]

### **Straight from the Horses' Mouths, so to speak**

A while back, Vanessa's Rigorous Writing class brainstormed what they would include in an essay describing Kino. Their list of ideas makes a pretty good brochure in itself:

- self motivation \ intrinsic
- community support
- focus on personal interests
- creativity and growth
- flexibility greater than public school
- learn at own pace
- high teacher : student ratio
- close knit community
- younger and older peer relations
- varied education - not just 3 Rs
- social \ personal growth
- explore different career options
- student democracy
- community service
- no grades / tests
- relaxed learning environment
- student / teacher equality (informal)
- options
- child centered education

## READ THIS

### **Feb. 24 Parent Roundtable - 7 pm**

Do you have questions about Kino? Come join a roundtable discussion with other parents, students, teachers and administrators about what Kino does and why it does it.

### **Feb. 26 - 27 No school - Rodeo Days**

Don't forget next week is a short one -- No school on Thursday and Friday

### **March 7 Work day at the Animal Center**

There will be a work day March 7 from 9 until 2 at the Animal Center. We'll need a lot of help! There's plenty of painting and cleaning to be done. Talk to Lisa if you have any question or just show up. Please bring work gloves if you have them.

### **March 15 Open House 2 to 4**

People who are interested in learning about Kino are invited to visit and get a tour with a teacher.

### **March 16 Kino night at Sweet Tomatoes**

Enjoy a dinner at Sweet Tomatoes and Kino will receive a donation of 20% of all we spend.

### **March 25 Project Night 7 pm**

What have kids been up to? Come and see.

### **March 28 Nutrition talk for Parents: Healthy Happy Kids**

Ginger Cartter, a nutritionist, will speak here at Kino about simple solutions for improving the nutrition and health of your family. 10 am.

### **March 28 Hoe down / Spring Concert** at the Animal Center -- food and music ! 1 pm to 4-ish

### **April 13 - 17 No school - Spring break**

### **May 2 Silent Auction**

Libby asked some younger students to finish the phrase "Don't bite the hand that -- "

Their answers:

- swings
- is annoying
- on the knuckles
- you'll make it sore
- I **will** bite the hand.

**We do not remember days; we remember moments.**

--- Cesare Pavese