

The Kino Connection

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The Park Adoption is Official



The Adopt-a-Park ceremony at Childrens' Memorial Park was pretty inspiring Wednesday. There was a representative from Pima County's Parks and Recreation Department, as well the head of the Adopt-a-Park program and Ann Day, our County Supervisor. They all gave speeches, as did Anna, and then they all signed something official and we admired the sign with Kino's name on it.

It reminded us all that we are doing something of genuine use and importance when we clean the park!

Treasure Hunts!

At least through the month of October, Middle Level students are going to be having Treasure Hunt Thursdays. The clues will be dreamed up and written by a different team of students each week. Jennifer helped with the first week to get the ball going. Where would you go to look for the second clue if the first clue says, "Go to the place where the king lives" ?

Students are honing their treasure hunting skills letterboxing in Catalina State Park today. Following GPS coordinates, they'll be looking for a hidden box somewhere in the park. They'll use the unique rubber stamps they've been making this week to stamp the log book in the box, showing they were there.

Sun Power

What can you do with an old satellite dish that's been sitting on the roof of the school for about 15 years? Cook hot dogs ! (or marshmallows).

It started out as Jack's homeroom's project, but then Heather's middle level and junior high science students got interested and involved. All it took was lining the dish with strips of mylar and positioning it correctly. The focussed light made heat intense enough to make a plume of pampas grass burst into flames or a hot or marshmallow get cooked to perfection.

One thing led to another, as it tends to do in Heather's science classes. Heather then got out a box of magnifying glasses, which also led to some pyrotechnics. Students spent the afternoon on the basketball court figuring out, "How do the satellite dish and the magnifying glasses do that?"



What's Coming Up In The Garden?

Lettuces! Bachelor buttons! Cherry tomatoes, nasturtiums, peas, potatoes, and spinach!

The Great Kino Yard Sale is going to be November 7, which is nearer than you think. We have a rented storage shed now so we are **ready to receive all your donations**, no matter what their size. It is just south of the greenhouse. Bring your donations in, and plan ahead to be here on November 7 to help out and to buy.

We're helping decorate "The People's Tree"



Patti McNulty, Hannah's mother, is helping students with a really neat art project: creating ornaments for the Christmas tree that will stand in front of the Capitol in Washington.

[This is a great opportunity for a spelling lesson. The "capitol" with an o is the building where a legislature meets. The "capital" with an a is everything else.]

Every year a different state has the honor of providing

the trees and decorations. The largest tree, called "The People's Tree" stands about sixty-five feet tall. It is so big, 5,000 large ornaments are needed to decorate it.

Patti brought in a variety of Arizona-themed shapes-- like rattlesnakes and road runners-- for students to decorate. After they are painted, she will be attaching dangling copper rods, so they will each be a wind chime!

The completely decorated tree will be toured around Tucson this fall before it heads back to Washington.

Alumni news: Eleanor dedicates newest book to Kino School

Eleanor Davis has just come out with her second children's graphic novel – this time a long, 160-page, adventure. It's been getting great reviews: for example:

"One of the most eye-popping, ambitious, intelligent graphic novels for kids I've seen in a long time."

"Both my boys read it and loved, loved, loved it!"

"A wildly entertaining book full of humor and action, sure to go down as one of the best graphic novels of '09."

Eleanor graduated from Kino in 2001 after going to school here since she was 7. The book's dedication says:

"The Secret Science Alliance is dedicated to Kino School and everyone who has ever learned and taught there."

Eleanor says she had to do some back and forth with her copy editor, who thought the phrase should be "learned *or* taught there." Though maybe logically correct, that misses her message that all of us at Kino are simultaneously learning and teaching.

She has a neat website where you can read more about it and see preview pages at <http://secretsciencealliance.doing-fine.com/index.html>

Coming Up at a Glance

Tuesdays	Help Your Child Get the Most Out of Kino 7 - 8 pm
Oct. 15 -16	Parent / Teacher / Student conferences -- No School
Oct. 24	Family Fall Festival
Nov. 7	Great Kino Yard Sale

Two Swings. Tons of Kids. No Problem.

The new swing set was being installed on Friday, so lots of kids said "play on the swings" when they listed their goals Monday morning. Mary Jane said, "I went out to monitor with the primary students after we finished language arts and saw there were all kinds of kids, all ages of kids, wanting to try out the new swings. I was wondering if I needed to help them take turns when I realized they were working it all out for themselves. I watched from a distance and saw that everyone had a turn, no one had to wait too long, and no one's feelings were hurt. They did it without needing my help at all."



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