

The Kino Connection

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HOORAY FOR CHARLIE!

Charlie Duncan is familiarly seen around school doing something that looks incredibly hard, like shoveling concrete or moving boulders. He does a lot of work after the rest of us have gone home, so we are sometimes surprised in the morning by a new tree or a stone retaining wall where there had been 30-year-old railroad ties.



Since Charlie is a person who communicates more through his warm smile than through words, many of us around Kino may not know much about him, or know that he volunteers all of his time.

Charlie was a Kino student for nine years, from the time he was three (in 1985) until he was twelve, in 1994, when he transferred to Marana. He eventually went on to the University of Colorado at Boulder. Charlie's whole family has been an important part of Kino: his mother Becky was the Early Childhood teacher for many years and now takes students to work at Casa Maria every Wednesday. His sister Ashley graduated from Kino in 1992 and taught here for several years in the late 90s. Even his father Jim was a teacher here back in the 80s.

Charlie was a big part of the playground renovation over the past summer. He continues to work on improvements: landscaping, replacing retaining walls, installing neat things like the tunnel, making wheel chair accessible paths in the desert playground. He does a lot of playground monitoring and playing with the kids, "Probably my favorite part," he says. He also helps out by going on field trips, like last year's two-week-long trip to the Pacific Northwest. He's shared his love of boats and his knowledge of boat building last year. An avid fisherman, last week Charlie was showing students how to cast a fly. He says there seems to be some interest in his teaching students how to make flies.

Charlie is a wonderful exemplar of what we mean when we talk about community here at Kino. A Kino kid forever, he is instrumental in assuring that Kino will continue to be a great place for kids for years to come.

ONCE A KINO KID . . *

I asked some of the teachers eating lunch in the Teachers' Room if they had a story about Charlie just long enough to fill this space in the Kino Connection

Judy: Did you write about the breakdancing? He was an outstanding breakdancer when he was 3.

Mary Lou: He was younger than that; he was in diapers.

Mary Jane: He had to break dance with one hand holding up his pants because he was so skinny.

* They'll never let you forget it.

Andrew G enlivened this week's trip to the Renaissance Fair by going dressed as Gandalf the Greenfeld. He wore a long beard, a pointed cap, and an inside out green snuggie. Vanessa says, "Apparently, a good way to meet girls is to dress up like a wizard."

THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE, YOUNG!



This was Chae Young Kim's last week at Kino, so her homeroom had a good-bye bagel party for her Thursday. Young and her family live in South Korea, but they've been on an extended visit to Arizona. Young has been a Kino student since winter break, fitting in immediately.

This morning her fellow homeroom members showed how much they've enjoyed getting to know her this year and expressed their wish that she can return to Kino someday.

PAJAMA DAY

One thing about trying to capture Pajama Day in photographs is that many of us look like we're in our pajamas on ordinary days.

And then there's Erik:



TIME TO DO SOMETHING SPECIAL?

Homerooms have been talking about what we should do as a special, school-wide event this spring. Last year we all made kites, hot air balloons, and paper airplanes and spent the day flying them. Other years we've had parades, Yawps, and, if nothing else, Clean Up Day.

Part of the fun is just brainstorming, when one is not limited to what is possible. Here are some of the ideas students have come up with so far:

levitating Kino

a gigantic, school wide Twister game

a gigantic human pyramid, using everyone

a regatta of water proof paper boats

a regatta of mechanized couches

cook a giant pancake

paint a mural on the basketball court

make a giant Rube Goldberg machine

make a giant rubber band ball

a ping-pong tournament

a harvest festival for vegetables in the greenhouse

a multi-talents show, which could even incorporate some of the above ideas.

Silent Auction Update

It'll Be A Bit of Italy

The annual Silent Auction will be held on the evening of March 13. This year, following an Italian theme, we'll be having dinner catered by Caruso's.

Please plan to come and to buy a lot. There are always lots of bargains and treasures.

Lisa Watmore is in charge of the whole thing. Please contact her if you have something you'd like to donate, would like to help on the day of the auction, or have any questions.

Rodeo Days

Don't forget there's no school on February 25 and 26 so we can all celebrate Rodeo Days.

Bookman's Concert

Music students and Lisa will be giving another concert at the Bookman's at Thorneydale and Ina. The concert is set for March 6 at 6 pm.

OPEN HOUSE MARCH 7

We'll have an Open House here at Kino on Sunday, March 7, from 2 until 4 o'clock. People who would like to learn more about Kino can drop in for a tour and a chance to talk to some of the teachers. If you know anyone who might be interested, please let them know!