

**The Montessori  
Elementary School**  
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**Mary Jane Besante**  
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### Collaborative Council

**Daniel Bailet**  
**Cornell Crayton**  
**Joanne Li**  
**Spencer Visconti**



The children have been learning about African animals and culture in Art—be sure and take a look at all their great masks in the hallways.

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## Fundraising Committee Needs You!

One of the fundraising priorities listed by TMES teachers and staff was to add a physical education teacher for the school. To help the school achieve this goal, and others, the Fundraising Committee needs help from all of you! Last year our fundraising events raised approximately \$16,000, which was used to help pay for the wonderful Educational Assistants that are now in every classroom. So our fundraising does make a big difference for the school—but to make it work we must have help from every family. There are lots of ways to get involved, please join us at the next meeting, **Thursday, October 26 at 6 pm** at the school, to find out how you can help.



**Matthew Salopek, Ransom Bleyer, and Rachael Rhoads perform at the Coffee Concert on October 3.**

## Sandia Natn'l Labs' CroSSLink Program

A reminder for parents who work at Sandia National Laboratories—you may use the SNL CroSSLinks program as one method to volunteer in your child's classroom or throughout TMES. CroSSLinks is a program in which SNL provides high-quality, hands-on, inquiry-based science and math instructional materials that you can use to teach in any TMES classroom. Sandia employees are eligible to receive A280 time (up to 40 hours per year) to participate in this program. These students are our future, the minds that will develop the technology of the future. Help make learning fun! To learn more about the program, please contact Amy Tapia at SNL at 284-5207 and the classroom teacher.

Next March, Sandia National Laboratories will provide an evening program of hands-on science activities at the school. Family Science Night will be a great opportunity for children and their parents to participate in simple, inquiry-based, age-appropriate science activities. More information about this event will be provided at a later date.

## News from 9-12 Classes

### Water Conservation

by *Haley Duren, age 9*

We are learning about how to conserve water. It is important to conserve water because we live in a desert and if we have a drought, we won't have any water. So we need to conserve and you should too.

### Hamster Surprise

by *Ryan Burns, age 9*

On October 4, 2006, our class hamsters had eight perfect little babies. They were pink, hairless, and one-inch long. We were surprised because we thought our class hamsters were both girls. The baby hamsters and their mom are living at Kiana's house because the dad might eat the babies. Sad, but it's a fact.

### Rio Grande Water Festival

by *Alexis Rubin, age 9*

Out of the 9,000 4th graders in Albuquerque, Rio Rancho, and Santa Fe, only 1,000 were chosen to attend the Rio Grande Water Festival. We were one of them! (The fifths and sixths get to go, too.) At the Water Festival we will do cool experiments, play educational games, and learn all about the water cycles in New Mexico.

### Literature Circles

by *Kolya Venturi, age 9*

The 9-12 students are reading stories in literature circles. We had six books to choose from and each student picked a book. Every Wednesday the groups get together and talk about the story. There are nine people in each group and each has a job. Some of these jobs are Discussion Director, Artful Artist, Summerizer, and Word Finder. My favorite is Artful Artist. I drew a picture of the house that Sam sees when he crests the top of the hill. My group is reading *My Side of the Mountain* by Jean Craighead George.

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## Violin Notes

Visit the TMES website at [www.tmesnm.com](http://www.tmesnm.com) and take a look at the new violin section. You'll find photos of all the correct holds, stances, and finger positions. Be sure and let Ms. Canice know if you see anything that needs to be changed or isn't clear.

The next Coffee Concert is scheduled for next **Monday, October 23, at 3:30 pm** at the school. Ms. Angela's students from Mr. John and Ms. Susan's classes will perform.

Suzuki parents: be sure and attend one of the Suzuki Parent Meetings, scheduled for **3:15 pm or 6:30 pm on Tuesday, October 24.**



AJ Piland-Wish and Tristan Martinez get ready to play at the Coffee Concert on October 3.

## School Calendar

*Friday*

**October 20**

**Teacher In-Service** - No School

*Monday*

**October 23**

**Coffee Concert**, 3:30 pm at the school  
Ms. Angela's students from Mr. John & Ms. Susan's classes

*Tuesday*

**October 24**

**Suzuki Parent Meeting**, 3:15 pm or 6:30 pm, at the school

*Wednesday*

**October 25**

**International Children's Day**, begins at 11 am

*Wednesday*

**October 25**

**Delisheries Cookie Orders Due**

*Thursday*

**October 26**

**Fundraising Committee Meeting**, 6 pm, at the school.

*Thursday/Friday*

**October 26-27**

**Parent Conferences** - No School

*Monday*

**October 30**

**Coffee Concert**, 3:30 pm at the school  
Ms. Canice's students from Mr. John & Ms. Susan's 1st  
and 2nd years, Ms. Angie's 1st years

*Wednesday*

**November 1**

**Suzuki Parent Meeting**, 6:30 pm at the school

*Thursday*

**November 2**

**Suzuki Parent Meeting**, 3:15 pm at the school

*Friday*

**November 10**

**Teacher In-Service** - No School

*Monday*

**November 13**

**Newsletter Deadline**

**November 20-24**

**Thanksgiving Break** - No School

*Monday*

**December 4**

**Coffee Concert**, 3:30 pm at the school  
Ms. Angela's students from Mr. John & Ms. Susan's classes

*Tuesday*

**December 5**

**Coffee Concert**, 3:30 pm at the school  
Ms. Monica's class

*Thursday*

**December 7**

**Coffee Concert**, 3:30 pm at the school  
Ms. Kari's Orchestra

*Monday*

**December 11**

**Coffee Concert**, 3:30 pm at the school  
Ms. Canice's students from Mr. John & Ms. Susan's 1st  
and 2nd years, Ms. Angie's 1st years

*Tuesday*

**December 12**

**Coffee Concert**, 3:30 pm at the school  
Ms. Canice's students from Mr. John and Ms. Susan's 3rd  
years, Ms. Melissa's 1st years

*Thursday*

**December 14**

**Coffee Concert**, 3:30 pm at the school  
Ms. Kim's Orchestra

**Dec. 18-Jan. 5**

**Winter Break** - No School

# Kudos

... to the following parents for their donations to the music program: **Joan Salisbury** (book), **Kathy Young** (maracas), **Georgina Rhodes** (extra funding).

... to the following parents for providing refreshments for the Coffee Concerts: **Anne Salopek, Jill Riester, Reyes and Angela Garcia, Walter Clover, Joanne Li,** and **Debbie Kennedy.**

... to **Debbie Kennedy** for providing three to four varieties of refreshments and two beverages for Ms. Kari's Coffee Concert.

... to **David Young** and **Jill Riester** for helping Ms. Canice with the violin website.

... to **Audrey Dexel** and **Alicia Anastasio** for making cloth pouches for the Suzuki violin students.

... to **Theresa Fleming** for helping the 9-12 classes with their new materials.

... to **Allen Luetgen** for setting up computers in all the classrooms and putting in the passwords.

... to **Ken Boldt** and **Steve Jarrett** for repairing the playground fence.

... to **Gail Levine, Polly Ann Martinez,** and **Kassandra Zahn** for helping at the front desk.

... to **Kathy Young** for maintaining the atrium plants and for the wonderful corner bookshelf.

... to **Charlie Stone** for helping in Ms. Monica's class and at the front desk.

... and a special thank you to **Edie Baldinger** for the generous donation of ceramic tools and molds for the Art Program. There's more to come!

... to **Larry Alei** for computer set-up and teacher in-service.

## International Children's Day is October 25

*It's a treat you don't want to miss!*

If this is your first year at the The Montessori Elementary School (or even if you're working on your fifth!), you won't want to miss International Children's Day on Wednesday, October 25. The children all wear costumes that represent a country of their heritage or one of their choosing. The students also carry their country's flag (copy paper and a small wooden dowel work great for this).

The parade and songs will begin at 11 am on the west playground, followed by the International Luncheon. This is a potluck like none you've ever seen—each child brings a dish that represents their country. Dishes can include sides, main courses, desserts, breads, etc. Please label your dish with your name and bring a serving utensil, if necessary.

This is one of the events that make TMES such a special place. Bring your cameras and your appetites for a great learning experience!

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- **Next Newsletter Deadline** •
- The next newsletter will go out on Thursday, •
- November 17. If you have information to be •
- included, please send it to Jill at •
- [riesterr@msn.com](mailto:riesterr@msn.com) by November 13. •
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