



February 2023 Newsletter

Hello Peaceful Families,

February is always a busy time for us. We will embrace friendships, explore rocks and minerals, honor our state's birthday, and learn about horses and Tucson's long-time tradition of Rodeo. Wow!

Do you own a horse? We would like to explore horse tack such as a saddle, lasso, bridle, turnout blanket, horseshoe, etc. We are looking to borrow items for several days or have you schedule a visit to share. Please contact me if you can help.

February is National Dental Health Month. At ISP, children participate in activities that teach good dental hygiene. We learn the importance of healthy eating habits, frequent brushing and flossing, and regular trips to the dentist to support good dental hygiene. Pima County Health Department will visit us for second time this school year on Wednesday, March 1 for a dental screening. This screening is optional but highly recommended for your child but should not replace a visit to the dentist. Permission forms will be sent home soon via the sign in book.

As if we aren't busy enough, 2023/2024 school year registration begins this month. Forms are now available on our website and outside the preschool office. Registration is on a first come basis with priority registration given to current students and their siblings. Your completed registration form and payment can be sent via email with payment made to PayPal or dropped off at the office door starting **Monday, February 6**. Registrations for our waitlist families will accepted starting

Monday, February 13, and open to all others beginning February 20. It is not too early to begin making plans for the 2023-2024 school year! More information can be found in this newsletter.

Registration for Summer Care 2023 begins early April. More information will be posted to our website in March.

I would like to remind you that ISP has a family referral program. If you refer a full day student to us, we are happy to reward you \$50. For more information about this program, please refer to your current Family Handbook or our website.

Thank you for keeping your sick children at home and contacting the office to report absences of any kind.

With gratitude,
Cathy

**"A friend is a gift you give yourself."
- Robert Louis Stevenson**

Mission Statement

International School for Peace promotes peace within the individual, the community, and the world by immersing children in languages and multicultural experiences through play-based, anti-bias curriculum that celebrates diversity.

Mark Your Calendars!

February 6: Registration for 2023-2024 School Year opens for returning students and siblings.

February 13: Registration for 2023-2024 School Year opens for waitlist families.

February 20: Registration for 2023-2024 School Year opens to the public.

February 21: ISP's Annual Rodeo Luncheon.

February 23-24: No School—Rodeo Break.

2023—2024 Registration

**Registration is on a first come,
first served basis.**

Registration for current preschoolers and their siblings
begins
February 6, 2023 at 8 am.

- * Registration forms are available online & outside the preschool office.
- * Only completed registration forms with accompanying fee (check, exact cash, or money order at the office door; credit or debit online within 24 hours) will be accepted during registration.
- * ISP will accept registration forms via email.
- * Registration will be open to families on our waitlist starting the week of February 13.
- * Registration will be open to the general public starting the week of February 20.
- * Teachers will not accept forms or fees.
- * Students are registered into programs and must be the age of the class they are entering by the first day of school.
- * Teacher assignments are made in mid-summer and are based on enrollment.



Spring Spruce - Up Day

Join us Saturday, February 18th 8am - noon!



Contact ISP Parent
Jade Terry at 208 - 422 - 4676
to find out how you can help!



A volunteer sign - up sheet will be located outside the
front office!

A list of needed donations will also be located outside the
front office!



International School needs your help!



Attention Parents! Please support our fund raising efforts! With your help, we will be able to **purchase indoor and outdoor classroom materials that benefit our students!** For your shopping convenience, we have the Personalized Water Bottle and Tumbler flyer. This includes 20 oz, 30 oz and 40 oz International School for Peace custom water bottles and tumblers along with other designs to choose from. Order them in your favorite colors through Zag's online store. Follow the instructions below. We appreciate your support!

Monday, February 6th- Sale Starts!

Monday, March 6th- Online Store Closes!

Delivery of bottles with Ship to School Option will be Announced

ZAG ONLINE STORE

Online Shopping—Now Family and Friends can order products online.

1. Go to www.ZagFundraising.com
2. Select Online Store
3. Click where it says REGISTER
4. Enter your Group ID: **ISP23**
5. Once registered, you will be given a Student ID number.
6. Email family and friends the shopping link and Student ID. Don't forget to share on Social Media!
7. Online store closes on **3-6-23**.

NOTE: Customers will have a choice to have order shipped to home or delivered to your school on delivery day. *Shipping fees apply to orders that are shipped to home. Orders shipped to home will deliver in 3-4 weeks from date placed.

Orders over \$150 will receive FREE shipping.

****CustomerService.ZagFundraising@Gmail.com *480-766-3757****





Tax Time



International School for Peace's
Tax I.D. is
86-0388672

Printed tax information is available
upon written request to the
preschool office.

Allow 2 weeks. A \$5.00 fee applies.

Get Your Girl Scout Cookies Here!

ISP parent Melanie
Radovic and her
daughter will host a Girl
Scout cookie booth on
February 8th from
2:15-6:00!



February Happenings:

Black History Month Groundhog Day

February 2

Tu B'shvat

February 5

Lailat al Miraj

February 18

World Day of Social Justice

February 20

Presidents Day

February 20

Mardi Gras

February 21



St. Francis is excited to announce...

We have reopened the
nursery!

The nursery is open on
Sunday mornings from
9am-11am for children
ages 0-5.

(The nursery is in the
classroom nearest the
Celebration Center,
room 40.)

For more information contact
Shar Aslaksen at
saslaksen@stfrancismc.org

We are looking for two cooks for the Rodeo Lunch! If you are interested, please contact the office.

Reminder:

Please make sure your child has at least two full sets of clothes at ISP in case of accidents.

If you have borrowed clothes from ISP, thank you for returning them!

Tuesday, February 21



Rodeo Lunch

Wear your western-wear!



ISP will serve up our annual rodeo lunch!
Half-day students are welcome to stay!
More information coming soon!

Farewell!



Noemi Birkinbine
Stephanie Griffin



See you later, alligators!

Howdy Partners!

There will be
NO SCHOOL
February 23 or February 24



Happy
Rodeo Break!

Horse Hands Needed



**Do you have a horse?
Want to teach kids about
horses and horse tack?**



International School for Peace is looking for you to share your knowledge to enhance our curriculum.

**If you are interested or know someone, please contact
Cathy at cathy@internationalschoolforpeace.com.**

This will be an outdoor event with individual classes.



ISP is so grateful for our families and friends! We want to give a big thanks to:

- The Canto family for doing our recycling!
- Laura Aldag for her monetary contribution!
- Jennyffer Fenn for volunteering in our library!
- Serenity Wu for bringing in a pumpkin pie for the staff!
- Ms. Lydia for bringing in cookies and candy for the staff!
- Meredith Keller for donating a math game!
- Jorge Pascal for fixing one of our bikes!
- Meredith and Teagan Keller for organizing our art closet!
- Meredith Keller for bringing in treats for the staff!
- Monika Patel for donating toys!
- Albert Dennes for donating a train table!
- Marietta Brady for donating a calendar!
- Moawya for cleaning up our garden!
- Manal for Costco shopping!
- Moawya for taking out our broken table!
- Ms. Paola for bringing in breakfast for the staff!
- Ms. Lydia for bringing in cake for the staff!
- Kelsey Moran for picking up our enrollment banner!
- Fleury for repainting a pole!
- Leah Candelaria for volunteering in the library!
- Nick Thomas for landscaping our school grounds!

WISHLIST

- Boys and girls long and short pants, sizes 3-6x
- A 12-cup coffee maker with a thermal carafe
 - Volunteers for Spring Spruce Up Day



Do you love your preschool?

Please consider ...



**Writing a
Google Review
for us,**



**Rating us on
Great Schools,**



**and liking us
on Facebook!**

ISP Recommends:



Serenity Herbs & Supplements
Vitality & Wellness, Naturally!

<p>Serenity Wu 520-465-5501 Phone 520-333-2888 Fax</p>	<p>Custom Herbal Formulations Pain Management Tinctures Skincare Products and More</p>
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serenityherbsandsupplements@gmail.com



White Pine Clinic
Acupuncture & Chinese Medicine

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**Children's Orthopedic
Specialists**

Kent Vincent, M.D.

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1605 East River Rd., Suite 101 • Tucson, AZ 85718

THOMAS & SONS
Property Care & Maintenance



"Children learn to handle their emotions, including anger and fear, during play."
— Esther Entin



An article by the American Journal of Play states that lack of play affects emotional development, causing spikes in anxiety, depression, inattention, and poor self-control.



"Play relieves feelings of stress and boredom, connects us to people in a positive way, stimulates creative thinking and exploration, regulates our emotions, and boosts our ego."
— Association for Play Therapy



Play is considered so vital for optimal development that it is recognized as a human right for every child by the United Nations High Commission for Human Rights.



Research shows that a decline in play and recess correlates with a decline in empathy. Pretend play and playing among peers is key for cultivating compassion, acceptance, and a richer world view.



A 2015 study showed that a long walk in green environments reduced neural activity in parts of the brain associated with mental illness risk.



"Play allows children to use their creativity while developing their imagination, dexterity, and physical, cognitive, and emotional strength."
— Kenneth R. Ginsburg



Physical movement releases "feel-good" chemicals such as endorphins, which improve mood, energy, and sleep.



"Abstract thinking is play. When a child fantasizes, he is playing. By taking images, ideas, and concepts from inside their own minds and re-organizing, sorting, and re-connecting in new ways, children create. They create play worlds, hopes, desires, and wishes."
~ Dr. Bruce D. Perry



A study by the University of Cambridge found that children who engaged in physical play with their fathers from an early age were better at regulating emotions and behaviors later in life.

Explore all 28 reasons [here!](#)

Precare

I am excited to welcome the month of February! Students will wash their hands as they arrive and pick a center to work on.

Our precare lesson plan and class schedule is located on the window of our precare classroom.

At 8:50am, students will clean up and gather their belongings and wait for their teacher, and at 8:55am students leave precare to go to their classroom.

Reminders:

Precare classroom opens at 7:30 am.

School will be closed on February 23-24 due to Rodeo Break.

Muchas gracias!

Ms. Siria and Ms. Lulu



Aftercare

Hello aftercare families!

First off, I want to give a massive thanks to you for making my first month a warm and welcome one! The students and I have all enjoyed getting to know each other as well as working and playing together, in addition to falling back into routine after winter break.

This month, we will be focusing on our themes of friendship, rocks and minerals, respect, and horses, which we will observe through our reading time and weekly art projects.

Thank you for continuing to be the supportive parents and guardians you are. We appreciate you so much!

Ms. Vivian
Ms. Ana
Ms. Tiffany



Younger 2's Partial Spanish Immersion

Welcome, February!!!

This month we will be learning about friendship. Who is a friend, and what things can we do with friends or best friends? We will be learning about the heart shape and the color red this month. We will also be doing friendship activities in the classroom as well as reading books about friendship.

Another theme will be rocks and minerals, like where rocks come from, size, weight, color, and texture. We will be using a balance scale to measure the weight of rocks in our science area as well as using a magnifying glass to observe similarities and differences between each rock. We can also integrate fun math skills, counting and sorting rocks to keep practicing numbers in English and Spanish.

The last theme is Rodeo. We will focus on western wear and what care and maintenance horses need. We will create very fun activities, like a gold panning station, where we will paint little rocks with yellow paint and then add sand and rocks to the sensory table. Students can find gold using sifters.

Vocabulary

Friend-Amigo
 Best Friend-Mejor Amigo
 West- Oeste
 February-Febrero
 Horse-Caballo
 Rock-Rocas

The Little Rancher Song

(Tune: I'm a Little Teapot)

I'm a little rancher.
 Here is my hat.
 Here are my spurs.
 And here are my chaps.
 As soon as I get up,
 I work all-day
 I get on my horse
 And ride away.

The More We Get Together

The more we get together,
 Together, together,
 The more we get together,
 The happier we'll be!
 Cause your friends are my friends!
 And my friends are your friends!
 The more we get together, the happier we'll be!



Older 2's Partial Spanish Immersion

Dear Parents:

Our first weeks back to school have been great. Children were excited and have been enjoying being back at school.

We are very excited about the lessons that we have planned for the upcoming month!

In the first and second weeks of February we will learn about Friendship. Friendships help children to develop important life skills like getting along with other people. We will read books about friendship and explain what good friends do, play together, share etc. We will make friendship art and have a friendship party. I would love it if your child wears red on February 14th!

The third week, we will learn about Rocks and Minerals. We will learn what rocks and minerals are, the difference between rocks and minerals, and we will explore rocks textures and colors. We will go on a Rock Hunt around the school! We will also work on rock painting.

The fourth week, we will learn all about Horses. We will learn about their characteristics and habitat, cowboys, and cowgirls. Students will do interesting art and use books to expand our knowledge of horses.

We will continue with enrichment classes, and you can find their lesson plan hanging on our classroom window.

Wednesday 9:35 am Hebrew with Ms. Jody

Thursday 9:35 am Farsi with Ms. Farzana

Gracias,

Ms. Siria

FRIENDLY REMINDERS:

I will continue sending a daily report of your child's day.

Please remember to check your child's cubby outside their classroom each day.

We will be closed on February 23-24 due to Rodeo weekend.

THANK YOU!!!

Vocabulary:

Red-Rojo

Pink-Rosa

Flower-Flor

Heart-Corazon

Love-Amor

Friendship-Amistad

Rock-Roca

Mineral-Mineral

Volcano-Volcan

Lava-Lava

Gem-Gemas

Horse-Caballo

Farm-Granja

Saddle-Montura

Gallop-Trotar

Songs:

The More We Get Together

Un Millon de Amigos

The Floor is Lava!

Old McDonald



3's Full Spanish Immersion

Hola queridas familias,

Let's welcome February with joy and excitement!

We will explore Rocks and Minerals, Friendship, and Rodeo (horses). Our class themes will be reinforced with stories, songs, art, math/science exploration, discussions, writing tasks, pictures, props, and books.

We will explore rocks and minerals in three phases. First, we will wash the rocks and minerals, then we will observe and examine their shape, size, texture, and color. Last, we will discuss and record our observations.

For our friendship theme, we are creating a Friendship Tree. It will be located in one of our classroom windows. You will be able to see it through the window. The tree will serve as a reminder of the importance of friendships and how to be a good friend.

It's Rodeo Time! We will learn about horses and life on a ranch! Our annual Rodeo luncheon will be on Tuesday, February 21, 2023. Everyone is encouraged to wear their western wear (no toy guns) to school that day. Additional information can be found in this newsletter.

Kindly,
Ms. Damaris



FRIENDLY REMINDERS:

- Please check your child's cubby outside their classroom each day.
- Please label morning and aftercare snacks, lunch, and water bottles.
- Please make sure to pack utensils for your children should their lunch require it.

SPANISH VOCABULARY:

Friends - Amigos
Friendship - Amistad
Rocks - Rocas
Horse - Caballo
Minerals - Minerales

RODEO BREAK:

NO SCHOOL

Thursday, February 23

Friday, February 24

3's Partial Spanish Immersion

Hello Dear Families!

During February we are learning and exploring about Fríendship, rocks and minerals, and rodeo, which includes learning all about horses and horse care.

Our themes will be emphasized through stories, games, art, songs, and group activities.

We will continue learning and identifying our names and letters in our name, reviewing and learning numbers 1 to 15 in English and Spanish, and reviewing primary colors and shapes.

We will learn 2 new songs: "Mis Amigos" in English-Spanish, and "La Vaca Lola".

Kind Reminders

-Please replace the clothing in your child's cubby with cooler weather clothing such as long pants and shirts. Extra socks and underwear are also useful.

-Pack utensils for your child's lunch/snack if needed!

-Please label the morning and aftercare snacks, lunch, and water bottle.

-Classroom door opens at 9:00 AM.

Until next time,
Ms. Zulma



3's/4's Partial Spanish Immersion

Hello dear families,

Our themes for the month include rocks, minerals and gems, horses and the Rodeo, and friendship!

We will reinforce friendship skills by reading books and sharing our thoughts on what makes a good friend. We will be working on our fine motor skills while creating a friendship bracelet with yarn. New items will be added to our ever so popular writing table, where we will continue writing names and names of our friends. We will exchange friendship letters and drawings.



One of our fun activities for this month will be digging in the sand pit and looking for rocks and sparkling gems.

During the mornings, we will learn one new song called "I Love You No Matter What". Students will also be introduced to a new song about a blue bird called "Periquito Azul". We will continue to explore the letters K, L, M, and N and their corresponding sounds. Please keep encouraging your kids to think about words that start with the letter we are learning that week for this phonetic activity.



The math table will focus on recognizing numbers to 10 and their value. During circle time, we will continue counting aloud to 31 in Spanish and English and recognizing numbers 1 to 10. During calendar, we will count, recognize days of the week, and discuss important days and events on the calendar.



We will have UA geologists stop by to teach us all about rocks and minerals.

Before Rodeo, we will explore the care and importance of horses. Our annual rodeo luncheon will be on Tuesday, 2/21. Students are welcomed to wear their western wear anytime 2/20-2/22. We hope to find a volunteer to visit and share their knowledge of horses. If you have horse tack and would like to share it, please contact the office.



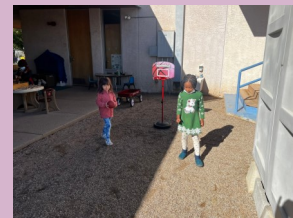
A lot of wonderful visitors and experiences are coming for this month.

Thank you for checking your child's cubby daily and taking home all the art that they have worked so hard to create. Please be sure your child has a change of clothing in their cubby, if ever needed. We appreciate you returning any borrowed items!

Thank you and Happy February!

With Love

Ms. Lydia



4's/5's Full Spanish Immersion

Feliz Mes de la Amistad/Happy Friendship Month!

We are going to dedicate the whole month of February (yes, February already!) to celebrate Friendship/Amistad. We will have a number of different activities where our friends will practice all the social/emotional skills they've been working on during their time at school. Our students will have plenty of opportunities to work/play on projects with other friends as a team (cooperative games). They will have to share ideas, listen to each other and come up with solutions when there are challenges. Our writing table will be set up with a display of different writing tools for them to make friendship cards. Children will keep practicing recognizing and writing their friends' names.

On Tuesday the 14th, we will have another Pajama Day (requested by my friends) and we will exchange Friendship Cards! Also on the 14th, we will celebrate Arizona's birthday! Children will look at pictures from well-known places in AZ, describe what is unique about them, and we will locate the places on the map.

On our first week of the month we will all become Geologists! We will study, examine and play with Rocks, Crystals and Minerals. I always ask my friends to bring a rock or crystal from home to display on our science table. At the Dramatic area I will set up an "Explorers - Digging Camp". Children will explore and learn the names of the tools that Geologists use in their work. I will also have a basket with different shapes and sizes of rocks, so children can use them to create different designs, count, sort and/or build.

It's Rodeo Time in Tucson! ISP will host a Luncheon on Tuesday, February 21st. The school will provide hot dogs, carrots and apples, yum! Children can wear their western-themed clothes that day. We will read books about Vacas and Caballos to find out more information about these hard-working animals. We will also learn new songs and play games to incorporate what we are learning.

Pre-Reading and Pre-Writing Skills: Children will continue to work on recognizing, tracing and writing their last names. They will also practice tracing and drawing shapes in sand, shaving cream, on the chalkboard and on paper.

Pre-Math Skills: Children will review the basic shapes (circle, square, triangle, rectangle and, of course, heart) and I will introduce rhombus, oval, pentagon, and hexagon. Children will create 2D and 3D structures. We will also look for these shapes in our different environments to reinforce this content. We will also focus on integrating more math vocabulary (in Spanish) in our daily conversations (more than, less than, heavier, lighter, shorter, longer).

We only have a few more months before our journey together comes to an end. I appreciate the efforts you make every morning to get your child to school on time. This makes a big difference in your child's day in the following ways:

-How they approach transition time throughout the day.

-Knowing what to expect during the day because they have been present during our short but very informative Group Time.

- And the most important thing - they are spending precious time with their friends!

I'd like to thank from the bottom of my heart all my friends and their families for making my birthday such a special day. I feel so blessed I was able to celebrate with 17 friends! Thanks to Ms. Lulu too for getting the children together to sing Happy Birthday.

I'd like to thank Luna's mom, Susie Salmeron, for offering and providing a big tray of fruit and popcorn to share with our class on Luna's birthday. For some of us that was the first time trying cotton candy grapes and raspberry oranges. They were delicious! Thank you Cece's mom, Alison Gonzalez, for bringing in yummy snacks for her birthday! Thanks to Hope, Westyn, and Ainsleigh Spear for visiting our class and sharing about Chinese New Year! And last, but not least, thanks to all of you for your support and kindness.

"We didn't realize we were making memories. We just knew we were having fun" - Winnie the Pooh

Sending Love and Kindness,

Ms.
Paola



COVID-19 Action Plan

Updated 12-1-2022

At International School for Peace, we understand that families are entrusting us with not only the education and socialization of their children, but also with their health, safety, and well-being. Our administration, teachers, staff, and families are doing our part to ensure the safety of everyone who enters our campus. Below is a list of what we are doing in the best interest of the community as a whole. ISP will continue make updates to our policies as deemed appropriate or mandated.

What Administration is Doing:	What Staff is Doing:	What Families are Doing:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employ Jani King, a professional cleaning service, who will clean our campus each evening M-F. When directed they may utilize a hospital grade method of disinfecting. In the event that a hospital grade method of disinfectant needs to be used, families will be notified. The same team will clean our classrooms each evening. • Follow current CDC/PCHD guidelines and recommendations in regard to a response when close contact or a confirmed case occurs, which will include reinstating mask wearing, testing, or quarantine. • Establish separate entry and exit points to the school and encourage directional traffic at high traffic times. • Apply ground markers to aid in distancing. • Set up hand sanitizer stations around the ISP campus for use by students, families, and staff. • Ensure only staff and essential persons have access to classrooms at this time. • Ensure sufficient supplies of disinfectant, tissues, masks, hand sanitizer, and gloves are available at all times. • Establish an emergency plan should a staff member or student display COVID-like symptoms during school hours. Plan may include release from school, isolation, mask wearing. • Ensure regular changing of air filters in all ISP buildings. • Contact the community when a confirmed case occurs. • Post signs to demonstrate the importance of proper handwashing and social distancing. • Share community resources to access assistance and education about vaccines. • Follow CDC and PCHD recommendations regarding domestic and international travel. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support children who wear masks. • Keep separate all outer clothing, water bottles, and lunches. • Disclose to the Director should you have close contact, display symptoms yourself, or test positive. • Ensure children are 6 feet apart at meal times. Classroom windows will be open. Eating will take place outdoors when weather permits. • Design activities in the classroom environment that support physical distancing in respect to a play-based philosophy. • Invite families to participate in outdoor activities. • Promote, demonstrate, and reinforce healthy hygiene habits. • Model and reinforce effective handwashing with soap and water for each child upon entry to the classroom, before/after eating, after using the bathroom, and at other times throughout the school day. • Post lesson plans and class happenings in the windows for family viewing. • Clean and disinfect classroom toys frequently. • Present curriculum utilizing outdoor space as much as possible. • Unless essential, discourage nap bedding from home. • Vaccinate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disclose to ISP director should your child test positive for COVID-19. A plan will be set into place for your child's return to school which will include isolation and wearing a well fitted mask for 10 days . • Disclose to the director should your child have close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19. While at school, your child will wear a high-quality mask for 10 full days and get tested after day 5 of the most recent exposure. • Practice physical distancing outside classrooms and adhere to ground markers. • Limit your time on the campus during pick up and drop off. • Adhere to established entry and exit points. • Ensure that your child has two spare sets of clothing at school. • Provide the most current copy of your child's emergency information and immunization / exemption forms. If COVID vaccinated, provide updated record. • Monitor your child for the safe use of hand sanitizer. • Commit to staying abreast of school communication. • Keep sick children home and contact preschool office of absence. • Ensure having a backup childcare plan should your child be diagnosed with COVID-19. • Understand what personal items support a child's sense of security, ability to transition, or self-regulate and are considered essential. Speak with your teacher about having items at school. • Vaccinate.