November 2022 Newsletter

for Peace

Greetings ISP Families,

Many thanks to our community and Usborne representative Melissa Miller for supporting our Book Fair last month. It was our most successful Book Fair to date with ISP receiving \$363 for our general fundraising fund.

Did you enjoy the Fall Festival? Let's give a big round of applause to Event Coordinators Meredith Sandi and Serenity Wu for organizing this incredible event, which raised over \$1200. I would also like to thank the many volunteers, sponsors, and donors, musicians Jay and Noah Sagar, Saint Francis in the Foothills, and our wonderful families and friends for supporting this fun event.

A big thanks to ISP longtime friend and photographer Ellen Duperret for once again taking our school pictures. Pictures should be arriving in the next few weeks. A portion of the proceeds will go to ISP. Thank you!

It's hard to believe that we are entering the month of November. International School for Peace strives to provide a consistent, nurturing, and predictable environment for our students to thrive in and their families to feel secure about their childcare choice. Transitions will be challenging for children. Best practices tell us that providing children with positive routines, setting clear boundaries, offering emotional support, and helping children identify their feelings can help with smoother transitions. Children may need extra support from time to time and families may need new ideas and guidance to address these needs, so please let us know how we can help you.

One more time.....thank you for keeping your sick children at home! Please contact the preschool office if your child needs to stay home for any reason at all, and stay current with our updated COVID-19 Action Plan. As always, we need your child's most current immunization records on file. Good communication is essential during these times.

During this month, classes will focus on giving to others. We will be holding a Food Drive

(November 1-22) to benefit Saint Francis Food Pantry. Please consider helping your child give a nonperishable food item(s) in the decorated collection boxes found outside our classrooms. A list of needed items can be found in this newsletter. Later in the month, one child from each class and I will load up our wagon and deliver your donations to the Saint Francis kitchen located on our campus. Those donations will be distributed by Saint Francis to needy families in Tucson. Thank you ahead of time for helping with this endeavor.

The topic of holidays is an important issue that seems to come on fast and furious. Our staff at ISP recognizes that, although traditions may look a bit different again this year, they should still be part of our children's world, and ignoring them would not be child centered. Rather than taking part in commercialized activities, our staff would like to focus on your "family traditions" to further develop an appreciation of cultural diversity. Do you have a special book you read, song you sing, stories you share, traditional dress you wear, food you enjoy, or family activities that are special for you? We would love for you to share them with us! If you are interested in sharing a family tradition or teaching us about your culture, please contact your teacher. We look forward to seeing you!

I hope these holidays are filled with family, friends, food, and fun!

Cathy



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.

<u>Those who are happiest</u> are those who do the most for others." —*Booker T. Washington*



Reminder: There is no School

Friday November 11th: Veteran's Day

Wednesday November 23rd:

Teacher Inservice



November 24th-25th: Happy Thanksgiving!

Thank you to everyone who volunteered for the Fall Festival!

Meredith Keller Serenity Wu Cathy DeMers Joshua Lewis Katrina Shah Arielle Sare Justin Keller Tara Larsen Rachel D'Acquisto Chelsea Ford Angelo Fausti Paula Garcia Jorge Pascal Manal Kareem Regina Salaz Deb Campbell Shar Aslaksen

Maya Curry Flevry Ndayizeye Drew Terry Elizabeth Toscano Paola Sagar Jay Sagar Cat George Jodi Gottlieb Damaris Huerta Teagan Keller Sophie Keller Emmi Rocha Alysa Park Sofiya Arizpuru Kelley Jean Siemens Brooklyn Mitchell Kelsey Moran

Avrora Mellor Alison Gonzalez Mariana Gonzalez Alina Mellor Isabel Garcia Virgilio Garcia Caleigh Campbell Cole Campbell Noah Sagar Susie Vincent Moawya Yagob Ari Duggan

Thank you to Heather Chapman, Alejandra, and Joseph of Irene's Ice Cream!

Fall Festival Pictures!

























































A Special **THANK YOU** to Melissa Miller and to everyone who supported our Usborne Book Fair! We hope you enjoy your wonderful books!



Saint Francis in the Foothills creates space and opportunities for children to explore playful creativity, spirituality, grow in their gifts, and become a part of a community of love. Their Sunday morning K-5 program includes eco awareness, mindfulness and creating art in many forms.

For more information, contact Shar Aslaksen at saslaksen@stfrancisumc.org or 360-485-5185.



Community

Directory

You should have received class directories in your email in October. Contact the office if you did not get one!

Many Heartfelt Thanks to...

- Paola for bringing in bagels for the staff!
- Debbie Campbell for donating paper!
- Lori Lopez and her family for the use of her apple peeler!
- Shanleigh Sullivan for the link to Spanish resources!
- Cathy for bringing in cake for the staff!
- Lutsiya Canto's family for donating a pumpkin and taking out our recycling!
- Fleury for painting the porch supports!
- Leah Candelaria for cutting out pumpkins!
- Moawya for putting together a new wagon!
- Art Evans for donating rubber bands!
- Jorge Pascal for refurbishing the Room 10 rocker!
- Cecilia Gonzalez for bringing in pumpkin bread for the staff!
- Nick Thomas for landscaping!
- Bryan Moran for recycling our old printers!
- Paula Garcia for Costco shopping!

November Cultural Holidays

American Indian Heritage Month Día de los Muertos: October 31—November 2 Nanak Jayanti Sikh: November 7 International Day for Tolerance: November 16 World Kindness Day: November 13 Transgender Day of Remembrance:

> November 20 **Thanksgiving:** November 24 **Day of the Covenant** *Bahá'í:* November 26

ISP sends good wishes to

Zoe Whiteley



Attention!!

PEANUT, TREE NUT, SESAME SEED, MUSTARD SEED, AND COCONUT OIL FREE ZONE

Ms. Paola's Class Welcome, Santiago, to Ms. Paola's class!

We will miss you in Ms. Lydia's class!

Ms. Lydia's Class

Noemi Birkinbine

Please see information in Directory

Please add the following students to Ms. Lydia's student directory.

Aurora Apodaca

Cristina Fernandez 520-289-7357 Fernandez_cristina1@hotmail.com

Amelia Holley

Mary Holley 619-606-2978 maryhashiguchi@gmail.com Bill Holley 619-933-3599 Billy.holley075@gmail.com

We hope everyone takes advantage of the hand sanitizer station at pick-up. It is located outside the preschool gate. **Thank you!**





"ISP Gives" Holiday Service Project November 1st—22nd



As we head into the holidays, International School for Peace will be sponsoring a holiday service project! We will collect food for the St. Francis Food Pantry. From November 1st-22nd, please help us by having your child place items in the boxes found outside their classroom.

Thank you for participating in our holiday food drive!

Foods such as:

- Quick Bread mix
- Boxed roll mix
- Pumpkin pie or apple pie filling
- Canned pumpkin
- Bagged/boxed mashed
- potatoes
- Boxed cornbread mix



- Boxed scalloped or julienned potatoes
- Canned cranberry sauce
- Canned yams
- Boxed/bagged stuffing mix
- Jars/packets gravy mix
- Apple cider packets
- Canned vegetables
- Canned soup



Pros and Cons of the COVID-19 Vaccine for Children

With the June 18, 2022 announcement that the COVID-19 vaccination had been approved by the CDC for children under five years old, many parents have been debating on whether or not their child will get the vaccine. Anyone can put information on the internet, good or bad, and it can be difficult to tell what is accurate. We have put together a list of some pros and cons of vaccinating your child against COVID-19 from accredited sources, to help you make the right decision for your child.

PROS-Here is what John Hopkin's says about the COVID-19 vaccine for children.

- Prevents many children from being hospitalized by COVID-19: Most vaccinated children who have COVID-19 have mild symptoms.
- Prevents/reduces the spread of COVID-19: Children can transmit the virus to others when they are infected.
- Stops new variants from emerging: COVID-19 cases in children are rising, and new variants may be playing a role.

Source for all three points: <u>https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/health/conditions-and-</u> <u>diseases/coronavirus/covid19-vaccine-what-parents-need-to-know</u>

CONS

 It is possible to have an allergic reaction to the vaccine: Though rare, there have been some documented cases (in adults) of allergic reactions to the Pfizer and BioNTech vaccines.

Source: https://www.science.org/content/article/suspicions-grow-nanoparticles-pfizer-s-covid-19-vaccine-trigger-rare-allergic-reactions

• It is possible for the vaccine to cause myocarditis: There is a less than 0.01% chance that a child can develop myocarditis after receiving the COVID-19 vaccine.

Source: <u>https://www.choa.org/parent-resources/covid-19/myocarditis-in-kids-rare-after-covid</u> <u>-vaccine</u>

If you have other vaccine or COVID-19 related questions, talk to your pediatrician! They are a reliable source of information, and will be happy to go over any questions or concerns you might have.

Please keep in mind this is not an exhaustive list of reasons to get/not get the COVID-19 vaccine.

Precare

Hello Parents!

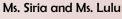
Our precare children have the opportunity to socialize with children from other classes. There are always plenty of activities which include art, prewriting tasks, story time, building and dramatic play.

Thank you for helping me to keep your child's backpack outside the precare classroom.

One of the first tasks at arrival is to wash hands. Children are all into that routine and handwashing well.

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

Thank you all!











Aftercare

Hello aftercare families!

I would like to take a moment to thank you all for your patience as we work to better our aftercare program! Our program will still run the same and offer the same fun activities, plus your children will be able to receive more one on one time with the aftercare teachers. We are already noticing a huge difference!

Our themes that we will be focusing on this month are Dia De Los Muertos, corn, and family traditions.

Reminder that our aftercare lesson plans will still be posted on the room 10 window.

Thank you for continuing to remember to sign out your children!

The Aftercare Team

- Ms. Anya
- Ms. Ana
- Ms. Tiffany







Friendly Reminders

- Please be sure with the onset of cooler temperatures your child has warm clothing for going outside.

- Please continue to provide an extra snack to enjoy during aftercare hours.

Younger 2's Partial Spanish Immersion

Ms. Ana, Ms. Tiffany Hola familias

Time really flies when you're having fun. We would like to welcome the month of November, one of my favorite months of the year. It brings me a lot of joy when I see all my children coming to school with happiness on their faces. In addition, I feel so proud of my parents when they give us a lot of support. Thank you, I really appreciate it (we work as a team). During these months we will be learning about family traditions, and we will be celebrating "El dia de Los Muertos," a Mexican Tradition. Another theme will be "giving to others" (different ways we can help others). We will focus on feelings and how to make other friends happy by donating something from us. Lastly, we will be learning about Exploring the Corn, the ways we eat corn, and its colors, shape, and size.

Vocabulary Corn-maiz Giving - dar Traditions- tradiciones Turkey-pavo November-Noviembre Dinner- cena Plate-plato Table-mesa Acorn-bellota

I just want to remind all my parents please do not send any snack or lunch that contains Acorn-bellota nuts (peanuts, sesame, and tree nuts) we have a serious concern in our classroom, and we

need to guarantee every child's safety, please read any label, especially on snack bars (example Granola bars).

We will create some art activities like:

Giving handprint Corn painting Turkey handprint Dia de los Muertos mask



Special Thanks for donations:

Worrell Family- toys and pumpkins Birmelin Family- books Canto Family-books Shiver Family- books Radovic Family- books

Songs of the month:

"Five little turkeys" "Dip the apples"



With love, Ms. Ana

















Older 2's Partial Spanish Immersion

Dear ISP Families,

November is a perfect time of the year to reflect and practice gratitude. I want to thank you all for your kindness and birthday surprises!! I hope that your child has been enjoying school as much as I have. Everything seems to be running smoothly. The kids are doing a great job with potty training at school!

I am excited to be going into the holiday season! The kids seem to feel the excitement in the air. We have fun themes planned for this month.

The first week we will be talking about Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead), a Mexican tradition. We will read books like <u>Dia de los Muertos</u> by Rosie Pajaro. We will also create some fun art such as decorating sugar skulls.

The second week we will talk about family traditions through literature, pictures, and stories.

I welcome any family who would like to share a family tradition or part of your culture with us. It could be something as simple as a reading a story, teaching us a new song, or sharing a tradition, etc. Please see me to schedule a time for this outdoor visit.

The third week we will talk about Thanksgiving, specifically what we are thankful for and who we are thankful to. We will be doing art activities with feathers, popsicle sticks, glue etc. We will read books such as <u>Thankful</u>.

The fourth week we will talk about corn. We will explore the production and uses of corn. We will explore different kinds of corn and share foods we eat made from corn. We will talk about how corn is used on the farm.

Please remember to include a spoon or fork in their lunch boxes, if needed. Thank you for sending food in easy to open containers. Please label all the containers with first and last name. The children are so proud when they can do it all "on their own."

November song: If You're Thankful and You Know It

Color Words Yellow-Amarillo, Orange-Anaranjado, Cafe-Brown, Green-Verde

Wishing you a wonderful holiday! Ms. Siria









Vocabulary introduced:

Flores/flowers Calavera/skull Plumas/feathers Pavo/turkey Familia/family Agradecido/thankful Elote/corn





3's Full Spanish Immersion

iHola familias!

During the month of November our themes will explore: corn, giving to others and ourselves, thanksgiving, celebration of Dia de los Muertos, and our family traditions. If you are interested in sharing a family or cultural tradition, I would be thrilled to schedule your visit . All visits take place outdoors. Activities could include sharing a special song or book.

We will be celebrating "Dia de Los Muertos", sharing the traditional "Pan de Muerto", and doing face painting on Wednesday November 2. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns about this celebration that honors our loved ones that have passed away.

Our monthly activities will include painting, a science project, sprouting colored corn, learning about the parts of corn and different types of corn, and who eats corn.

I will be introducing numbers 1-15 in Spanish and the circle and triangle shapes.

Additionally, we will explore seasons, colors, days of the week, and ABC's. All our curriculum will be presented in Spanish.

We are happy to announce that we will continue our yearly food drive to support the Saint Francis Food Pantry. We will be collecting non-perishable food item donations. Please place your donations in the decorated box outside our classroom. Gracias!

I would like to thank room parents Mandi Gilman and Rachel Thomas for helping me with class communications and needs. Thank you! We highly appreciate your time and support!

November brings us chilly weather and that means SWEATER WEATHER! Please check your child's cubby and change their extra clothes for clothes that are weather appropriate.

ISP is closed Nov. 11 for Veteran's Day, Nov. 23 for Teacher In-Service Day, and Nov. 24 and 25 for Thanksgiving break.

Happy and peaceful

Thanksgiving!

Kindly,

Ms. Damaris





Kind Reminders:

- Please provide two labeled full sets of labeled clothing in a bag inside the cubbies to be kept at school for accidents.

- Please send food in easy to open containers. The children are so proud when they can do it all "on their own." November Spanish Vocabulary:

Corn - Elote November - Noviembre Give - Dar Circle - Círculo Triangle - Triángulo

3's Partial Spanish Immersion

Happy November!

I want to thank all who attended the Fall Festival! I was happy to see you!

We have many exciting traditions to explore in November.

Dia De Los Muertos" is celebrated on November 1-2. This tradition remembers and celebrates the lives of loved ones who have passed away. We will taste the traditional pan de muerto.

We will explore Corn (Maíz) through art, name the parts of corn (husk, cob, kernels), learn about different types of corn and the many uses of corn (animal food).

Please look for the decorated box outside our classroom. We ask children to give nonperishable food items to those less fortunate.

Lastly, we will explore family traditions during this season. I invite you to schedule a time to share your culture or a family tradition with us. It could include an art project, special song or book. I will be more than happy to schedule your visit!

I will be introducing numbers 10 to 15 in English-Spanish while continuing to reinforce number 1-10. We will continue exploring seasons, songs, finger play, and the alphabet in English-Spanish during our circle time.

I would like to give special thanks to the Horan Family for donating pumpkins to our class! Thank You!

Reminders:

- Please label morning and aftercare snacks, lunch, and water bottle!

-Pack utensil, if needed.

-Our temperatures are getting cooler, so please replace the clothing in your child's cubby with clothing suitable for the cooler days ahead!

Until Next Time!

Ms. Zulma







3's/4's Partial Spanish Immersion

Hello Dear Families,

Queridos Padres y Familia

Bienvenido Noviembre!

November is already here, and it's going to be great, nice weather and good times to spend with our families are coming. Our themes will be Día de los Muertos, Pumpkins, Giving, Family Traditions and Corn.

In Spanish, students will learn the song "Los Colores," and new words: Pumpkins- Calabazas Corn-Elote Share- Compartir Turkey-Pavo Kindness- Bondad



I will continue to work with the students on recognizing their name in print and spelling the letters aloud, identifying basic shapes in English and Spanish, and counting and identifying numbers 1 to 15. I am proud of some students who are eager to learn to write their first name.

The children planted pumpkin seeds in the garden last month and are now watering, weeding, and watching the newly grown sprouts. We are also observing Rosie, our sweet potato plant, inside our classroom. Ask your child what changes we are observing in Rosie. It's very exciting!

I'm very thankful for all families for your support in creating a positive learning environment. Thank you for all your donations for our class.

We are entering a season filled with cultural celebrations and family traditions. I invite you to schedule time to share with our class something special that reflects a tradition or your culture. It can be as simple as sharing a song, reading a story, or festive clothing. This is a wonderful opportunity to expand our knowledge of traditions and cultures.

I also want to welcome to our classroom new students Amelia, Aurora, and Noemi! We are very happy to have you in our classroom. And goodbye to Santiago, we are going to miss you very much.

Thank you for packing healthy food for your child with colorful fruits and vegetables! We are always talking about eating healthy food to take care of our teeth and body, and kids take this theme very seriously when we are eating our snack or lunch.

Just a reminder with the winter weather coming up, please be sure that your child has a warm jacket; if possible, please provide an extra pair of winter clothes.

We hope you can enjoy family time over the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday.

With Love, Ms. Lydia















4's/5's Full Spanish Immersion

Dear Parents and Families,

Many Thanks to...

Adi

Mila

Luna

Teddy

Rio

Teo

Joni

Merrill

David

Maya

The parents and families who

supported Fall Festival. It was

great seeing you!

The Season of Holidays and Traditions has officially started! And we'll start by celebrating "Dia de los Muertos". This is a holiday that Mexico and other Latin American countries celebrate to honor their family members and ancestors that have passed away. People remember their loved ones by creating colorful and joyful "Altares" where they set up their ofrendas (flowers, pictures and food). Every year, my

students and I acknowledge this tradition by making an Altar inside our classroom. Children bring pictures of their family members and/or pets who have died and we celebrate their memories by making pictures The students and families who and sharing stories and memories about them. This activity is optional, so purchased books for our class: if you or your child would like to participate just send a picture for our Altar by Monday, October 31st. We'll set up the Altar on

Tuesday, Nov. 1st. I will also read books about this theme and I'll be very sensitive and supportive about any questions and/or feelings that can come to the surface.



I am inviting all my families during the months of November and December to visit our class and share how you celebrate and embrace Holidays and Traditions within your family. Presentations can be very simple such as reading a book, showing pictures, or sharing any traditional customs, songs, games or art projects. If you'd like to contribute with this meaningful learning experience, just let me know and together we can set a day and time that is mutually agreeable.

We will explore some different kinds of Corn/Maiz/Elote/Choclo. Children will sprout corn seeds in different types of soil (potting soil, sand, potting soil mixed with sand). Children will make hypotheses and observations, and finally make a conclusion about which type of soil is best for growing plants. I will also encourage children to come up with their own questions about what they want to find out and learn during this process. At the end of this unit, we will use the popcorn machine to make "Palomitas de Maiz"!

Every year ISP organizes a Food Drive to support and contribute to the Saint Francis Food Pantry. This is a great Service Project to get all of our community involved. It is also an



excellent learning experience for our children because they can witness the big impact we can create by doing something together for those in need. They can experience the feeling of making a difference. We are also going to discuss the concept of "Giving." What does it mean? What can we give to others besides material things? How does it make you feel when you give/share with others? We'll decorate a big box, so all the donations of non-perishable food can be placed there.

Keep your eyes wide open! This month our class will spread words of kindness by leaving messages around the campus.

This time of the year can bring a lot of stimulation that can impact and affect the behavior in our children (and grown-ups too). Trips, visitors, and parties can disrupt children's eating and sleeping routines. If your child is feeling tired or having a hard time, I would really appreciate if you can let me know so we can support and meet their needs. And let's be kind to ourselves and listen to our bodies during this fun and busy time of the year.

Because these next few months are full of celebration and excitement, I will focus on reinforcing all the Pre-Math, Writing and Reading skills we've been working on. The children are showing big improvements when recognizing and writing their names and those of others. They are also recognizing most of the numbers in Spanish 1-10 out of order! Last month I introduced Addition using toy apples. My class really enjoyed it, so we'll keep working on it using different kinds of manipulatives.

"Kindness in words creates confidence. Kindness in thinking creates profoundness. Kindness in giving creates love" - Lao Tzu

I can't thank you enough for all your help, support and generosity. I feel so privileged and grateful for all you do for our class and ISP.

Sending Love and Kindness,

Ms. Paola



	_		_	_
Novem	ber	Voc	abu	arv

November: Noviembre Traditions: Tradiciones Holidays: Celebraciones Kind: Amable Kindness: Amabilidad Give: Dar **Give Thanks: Agradecer** Thankful: Agradecido/a Corn: Maiz/Elote/Choclo Harvest: Cosecha

Covid-19 Action Plan

Updated 10-17-2022

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 Families are Doing:	
 What Administration is Doing: 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 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. 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. 	 What Staff is Doing: 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. Allow for families to participate in activities outside. 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. 	 What Families are Doing: 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's sense of security, ability to transition, or self-regulate and are considered essential. Speak with your teacher about having items at school. Vaccinate.