



#### **United States Department of the Interior**

BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION

Taos Day School 200 Rotten Tree Rd P.O. Box 1850 Taos, New Mexico 87571-1850

May, 2024,

Dear Reader.

Welcome to the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the Taos Day School Literacy Magazine. This year's theme is, "Our Traditions". Students have selected a writing theme where they will1develop essays, poems, and stories, embracing this year's literary theme, and shared their stories through different writing genres and original artwork.

The art of writing is not a simple task. It includes both technical and structured writing skills. It includes the tapping into the creative talents of each student. Taos Day School students in grades Kindergarten thru Eighth grade have shared their work with you in hopes that the works will bring a sense of pride and joy as you read and reflect on the many sentiments of our students, and the many traditions that our students enjoy throughout our school year. Student artwork in each issue compliments student writings, and are encouraged.

We would like to thank Ms. Paula Martinez-Mascarenes for her dedication to our Taos Day School. Literacy Project. She has worked diligently to assure that the current layout and publication matches the quality of written and visual work that is presented in the magazine. We would like to thank the Bureau of Indian Education Title IV Student Support Funding for believing and financially supporting our project through their grant process.

We would like to praise the continuous work, editing, and redesign of creative work that the students utilize to bring you their writings and artwork, that you and your family can cherish.

Most of all without the teachers of Taos Day School guiding the students and discussing this year's theme, this magazine would not be possible. Teachers and Staff, encourage students at all levels to persevere with their writings and artwork, and empower students to publish their work for dissemination throughout the Taos Pueblo Community and beyond!

And to the Community of Taos Pueblo, this issue of the Taos Day School Literacy Magazine is dedicated to all future native authors and artisans of Taos Pueblo.

We hope that you enjoy the 4<sup>rd</sup> Annual Taos Day School Literacy Magazine.

Respectfully,

Andrew Haimowitz

Principal

Taos Day School

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# WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN

MS. VALERIE SUAZO

Myfamily celebrates together. Axen



I go to the gark
with my fomily.
Adlijoh

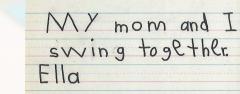


My faMily
gos to the Park
to gether.
Caelio



We cook together.
Logan









# FAMILY TRADITIONS

Mai t am il r







My family Plays to dether. Lillian

# kinærgarten

My fdmir celebrates together. Kidh









My faMily
gos to the Park
to gether.
Caelio



My family makes bonfires and songs for the buffalo dances.



### KINDERGARTEN FAMILY TRADITIONS

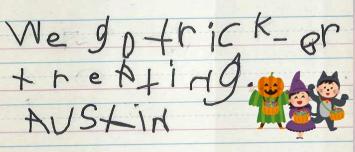


My fdmily We like to go to the boh fires. Ashton

I want to 30
to Space with
my family
sunny







## FAMILY TRADITIONS

I like to swim with my family.
Prince

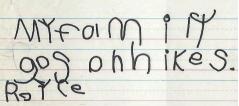






# KINDERGARTEN

SQUAD









My family likes
to go sledding.
Rosslyn

# MY CULTURE, MY FAMILY, ME! MRS. NOLA MILLER 1ST GRADE

When preparing for this project I initially asked for an artifact (an item) of importance. We all have things that have been handed down and they hold special memories and special meanings to our families. I was surprised that many of my students chose a person. Many of the people they chose were grandparents. Their memories were tied to the items they held special. They each felt love and admiration for their family. Even though the project was not where I wanted it to go, it was a learning lesson of how important our families are to even the youngest. They are part of their grandparents, and those who have gone on .

They will always have connections to our community, traditions, and culture. They will always be loved.

Nola Miller First Grade



#### My Favorite Clothes

My grandma made my clothes for me. She felt happy when she made them. I felt excited when she gave them to me. I wear my clothes for special times. I feel very proud of my clothes. I am proud to be an Indian.

Isaiah Lucero 7 years old

#### My First Pow Wow Dress

My first pow wow dress was made by my mom. I was 4 years old when she made it. I do not wear it anymore. I have a new dress. When I look at my first dress, I feel happy. The flowers make me feel excitement. Ta-ah mom for making my dress.













Avery Montoxa





My Shawl and Special Shoes My grandma gave me my shawl. It was my Little Grandma's shawl. The color is brown, and it is special to me. When I wear my shawl, I think of my village and my village is so special. I think my grandma made my shoes. I wear them to go ring the bells for grandma and grandpa. Sammie Gomez

6 years old

#### My Moccasins

My grandpa made them for me. I wear them when I dance. When I wear them, it makes me feel very happy and proud. They are brown and they fit me just right. They were made just for me. Avery Montoya

6 years old



My Grandpa
My grandpa Floyd told
me that the word Kah
and the word Dahmah,
means mom and dad in
our Taos Pueblo
language. It is important
to me because it helps
me remember our

me remember our language. It helps me not to forget. I love my grandpa Floyd.

Cruzito GonzalezEscobar





My Great Great Grandma
My great great grandma passed away
before I was born. Her dad was named
Aspen Song. My grandma taught my big
brother to paint and now he is teaching
us. It is important because it is part of
our tradition.



Amber Hise 7 years old



This blanket is special because my grandma gave it to me on my birthday. She has passed away. When I see my blanket, it reminds me of my grandma. We would spend the night together. We would eat good snacks and watch scary movies. I miss and I love her.

Mariah Lujan 7 years old









When it was Easter, I went to go run. I went with my grandpa. We went to the pueblo to the church and all the kids ran. When we finished, they gave us baskets. When I ran, I felt very happy. I also felt proud of being Taos Pueblo.

Emiliana Martinez 6 years old









My Grandpa's Buffalo Head
The buffalo head is special to us because my
grandpa killed the buffalo. We had it for a long time.
Buffalo is special to our community. We have a
buffalo dance in our village every year. Maybe I can
dance with the buffalo head one day.
Hugo Tedesco
7 years old

Hugo Tecles CO

Language of the second secon

My Grandpa Dean

He helps me learn my language and helped
me wash my face when I was sick.

He loves me that is why he is helping me
learn. My grandpa is not well. He will
be coming home soon. I want to tell him I
love him and miss him.

Zayan Trujillo
7 years old



Zayan Trujillo

# WELCOME TO 2nd GRADE

## **MR LEROY MARTINEZ**



Family Tradition
Lyla

On Halloween me and my family go trick or treating.

After we trick or treat, we make something like a big orange cat or a black cat using the candies we got. After we do that, we take off our costumes and watch a movie.

After the movie we go to bed.

On Valentine's Day my family makes heart food. My mom and I make the dessert, while my brother and my sister make the dinner.

Family Tradition BY Taliah Martinez

For Christmas we go to my grandma house to open presents for Christmas. Then we eat the food that's on the table. We eat chile and chicken and then we eat dessert. We then go home to open the presents under the Christmas tree.

For Halloween We go to the plaza to trick-o-treat. 🎳 We get a lot of candy then we go home to eat the candy. 🕯

I eat a chocolate and my brother eats a lollipop





Family Tradition
By Michael Cortez

For Christmas we eat a big dinner. We have roasted and mash potatoes, chile, fry bread, posole and tacos. For dessert we go outside and start a bonfire and make roasted marshmallows. Then we go inside and watch movies, wrapped up in our blankets until midnight. We eat popcorn and then we have a treat before we go to sleep.

In the morning we wake up and celebrate
Christmas with a good breakfast. After lunch we
open our presents. Sometimes Santa gets mixed
up with the houses and drops off our presents at
my auntie's house. We go over there we stay and
eat crab legs. We open the presents there and then
we go home.



Family Tradition
By Nicolaus Munoz

My family tradition is on my brothers birthday. We eat some cake, we play outside and then we watch tv. I get everybody a drink then we go to the park. We play tag in the park. My brother wants to play games and have some more drinks and food. We play a little bit more and then I go read a book. My family tradition on Christmas is that we drink hot cocoa. We open one presents and, in the presents, there is a box. When I opened it, it was a 3D printer. I opened one more and I got a Lego set. For Christmas we watch a Christmas movie, and we open all the presents.













Family Tradition

By David E Winters

For Christmas the first

thing we do is eat turkey,

ham, and mash potatoes.

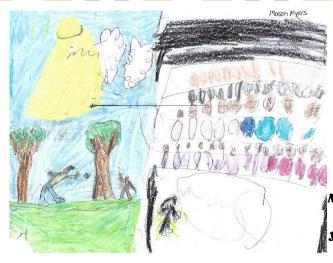
Then we go to the bonfires

at the pueblo. While we are
there, we eat fry bread with
honey. After, we go home
and open presents one by
one. After we open presents,
we play bingo and watch tv.

We watch football.

For new years we roast marshmallows. We light the fireworks then we go inside to eat steak, shrimp, and salad. For dessert we eat a pineapple upside down cake and then we go to sleep.





#### FAMILY TRADITION

By Mason Myers

This is what I do for Thanksgiving, I go to my grandma's dad's house and eat soup, turkey, stuffing, and mash potatoes. Me my Aunty practice baseball and me and my cousin, Sofia, play games together. We play trouble and run around the house. We go to sleep for a little bit and wake up and watch tv and play more. We go back home, and we go play at the park.

Me and my family go to pow wows and dance. Last
year I won 3rd place and got 40 dollars. Every
year we go to one in ABQ or Santa Fe or Taos. I am
a grass dancer, and my outfit is green, gold, and
black.



By Holly Sanchez

My Family tradition is about New Year's. On New Year's all my Family members come to visit at my grandma house. My cousin builds a little bonfire for the children. and my dad made a bigger bonfire for the grownups. We roast marshmallows and smores. We have frybread, chile, posole and dessert. The most exciting part is the fireworks, because they're beautiful and exciting. It gets cold but my grandma brings out extra blankets for in case we get cold.





## WELCOME TO

# Mr. Ramon Cisneros

## **3rd** grade

MAY 3rd



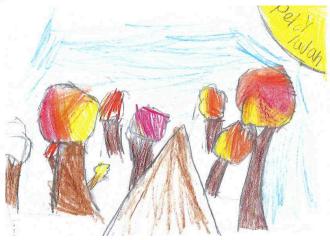
May 3rd is when the boys and men race. First, I get up early. Second, I get in my indian clothes and put them on. Third, I get in the car and we go to the village. Fourth, I get to the kiva. Fifth, I get paint on me. Sixth, we go to the track and race. Last, we get candy and we sing. We do this to keep the tradition alive. I like it because I get to eat good food and spend time with my family.



By, Percy Lujan

By, Thomas L Concha

My family tradition is just enjoying fall. The thing my family and I do when fall comes around is drive into the forest to look at the colors. Then when October comes we finally put out our Halloween decorations. Sometimes, we watch kid's Halloween movies. On the 31st of October we celebrate Halloween. My parents take me to family houses and I get candy! Fall is important to me because my parents were married in fall. Fall is important to my family because their birthdays are in fall.





My Family Tradition

My family tradition is San Geronimo Day at Taos Pueblo. In the morning my mom and I go to the pueblo to see the men racing. Then after we go to our pueblo house and throw candy at the men. After that we go back home to cook. Then we eat. Last my mom, dad, grandma, and I go to the pueblo to see the clowns climb the pole. To me this tradition keeps our culture alive. My family likes this because our ancestors did this when they were here.



#### My Favorite Tradition is Christmas Tamales

We make tamales in my family. First we warm the steaming pot. Then we make the masa. Then we make the meat by cooking the chicken and red chili. Then we put the masa and meat on a corn husk. Then they go into the steaming pot .This tradition is important to my family because we get to spend time with each other. This tradition is important to me because we get to eat my grandma's special chili.

By, Davina Garcia

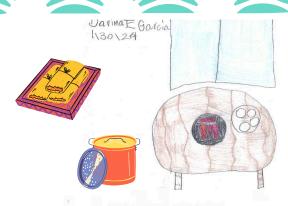
# 3RD GRADE



#### **Christmas Tradition**

My favorite tradition is the bonfire on Christmas. On Christmas Eve day we first make bread. We do this by getting the oven ready. Then you bake it and wait and you eat it. Then we get to open one present. Next we go to bed. When we wake up we open the rest of the presents. Then we all go to watch the deer dance. Finally we go home and play with all the new toys. I like this tradition because it makes Christmas feel special. My family likes it because we are carrying on with a tradition they had while growing up.

By, Travis Beartrack



#### Making a Lot of Food

My favorite tradition is making food. We make enchiladas and stuff like that. First we go get the stuff. When we get home we have to go wash our hands. After we do that, we start cooking the enchiladas. Step 1 is to get the pan ready. Step 2 is to make the dough for the tortillas. Step 3 is to get the rolling pin and start rolling the dough. Then we start frying the tortillas. After frying the tortillas we start making the pink stuff. Step 1 for making the pink stuff is to put cottage cheese. Step 2 is to add Cool Whip in it. Then we add jello into it. Last we start mixing. After you do that you cover it. Then you wait for 30 minutes. Then it is done. Then you can eat it. My tradition is important to me because we want our ancestor's traditions to stay alive.

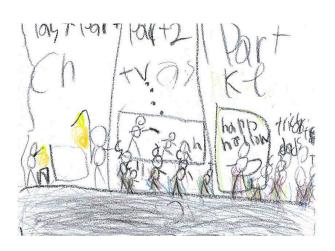
By, Moonlight Suazo





# 3rd grade

#### Dads Birthday and Halloween



My family tradition is to carve pumpkins and trick or treat. We watch spooky Halloween movies and we like to play the hunchback game. We do this when it's dark and scary outside. We like to carve pumpkins and light a match and put it in the pumpkin. Then we put the pumpkin in the kitchen and let it glow. In the morning my dad's wife makes pancakes. Then we watch a spooky Halloween movie. Then I go back to my normal house. This tradition is important to me because I spend time with my family and friends. This is important to my family because it's also my dad's birthday.

By, Chaske Lujan

My Family Tradition is Feast Day



My family tradition is to take part in Taos Pueblo feast day. I wake up really, really early to get the bread ready. I start the fire. Then we make the dough. Then I put more wood in the fire so it's nice and hot and so we could be warm. Then we get a lot of apple's to make some pies. This tradition gets my whole family together. I like this tradition because I get to help my mom.





By, Zaki Chacon









#### Christmas

For our Christmas party my mom and I make jello. First we boil the water. Then we put in the jello mix. Then my mom tells me to stir the mixture. Then we put it in the freezer to let it cool. When it cools we put whipped cream on top of it. Making jello reminds me of when I used to make it with my grandpa. That's why I like it so much.



By, Skyler Lujan



#### My Family Traditions

My Family Tradition is making pies. First we get the dough to start the crust. Then we put pudding in the crust. Then we put it in the oven. Then we take it out and bake another one. Finally we serve the pies and I get my piece. My mom gets the best piece and takes it to my grandma. I like this tradition because my grandma makes the best pies. This traditions Is important because my grandma teaches her secrets.

By, Aria Gaia





#### Making Chile

In my family we make chili. First I get the bread. Then my mom gets the chili powder. Then my grandma gets the meat. I get the water for the chile. Then we put all the ingredients in the pot and cook it. I like making chili because it tastes good. MY family likes chili too.



#### Halloween Tradition

My family always has fun during Halloween. We start the season by carving pumpkins. We carve creepy faces into each pumpkin. Then we put a candle to light up the face. Then we help each other choose a costume to wear.

When the big day comes we put on our costumes and we go to town to trick or treat. I like it when I get suckers, chocolate, and gum. When we are done we go home and eat candy. I like this tradition because I'm with my mom. Mom likes the costumes and candy too.



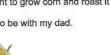
#### By, Kayo Hise



GRAD

#### Fall Corn Roast Tradition

My favorite tradition is roasting corn in the fall. The first thing we do is dig a pit. Then we put warm coals in the pit. Then we put com husks on top. Then we let it cool but not too long or it will get cold. Then we put the corn in the pit. Sometimes we do it at night. This is important to me because I want to grow corn and roast it really well. This is fun because I get to be with my dad.

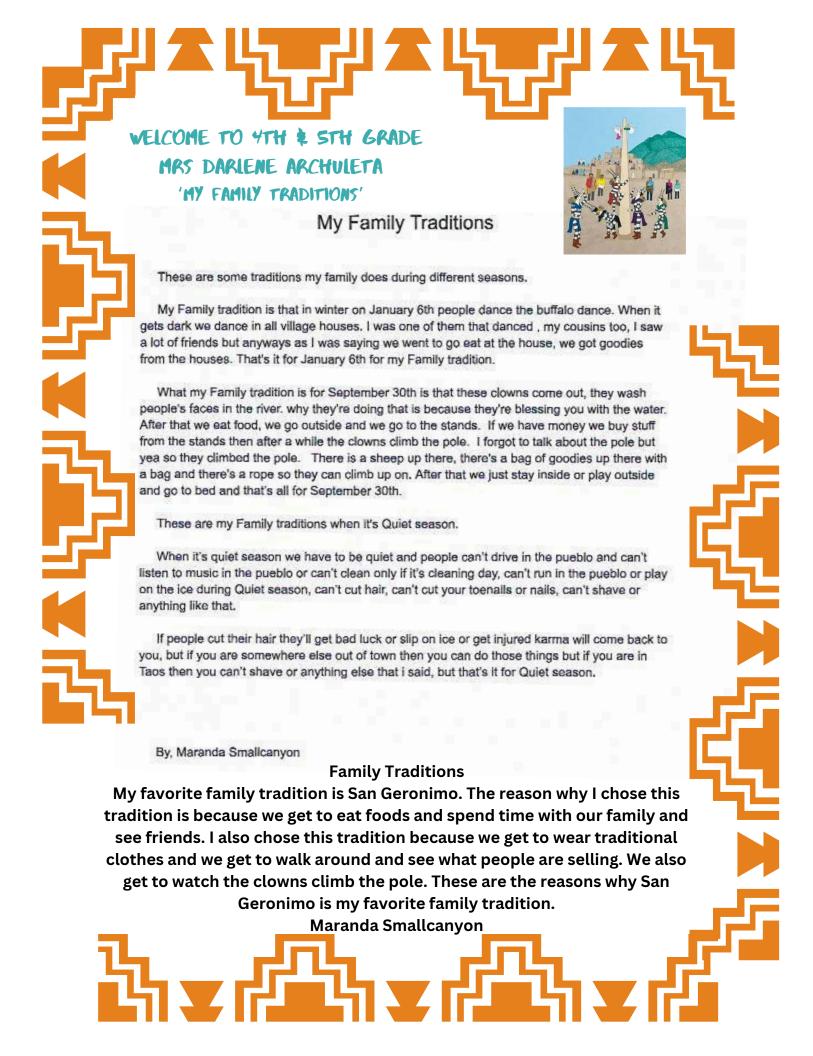


By, Acacia Johnston









# BY, JAHKAYA MANUELITO My Family Tradition

My favorite tradition is San Geronimo Feast Day. The reason I chose this tradition is my family and I get to learn how to cook by the elders. I also chose this tradition because we cook our favorite foods like oven bread, red chile, posole, prune pies and fancy cookies. We also wear shawls for the girls and boys wear the wraps for this tradition. These are the reasons why San Geronimo Feast Day is my favorite family tradition.

#### My Family Traditions

The things we do for our family tradition is like New Years Eve. We have a bonfire, have a barbecue with a lot of food, we light fireworks and have a lot of fun and go to a restaurant and eat.

For Christmas we open presents and have a lot of food, we go to visit our families, open presents, me and my family go out of town, we stay at a hotel, we buy some things and we just stay home after things we did.

For Thanksgiving we go to the Pueblo, there will probably be a dance we will go see, when the dance is over we go home, we have a feast, my grandpa will come to Taos. He lives in Vanderwagen. When he is coming to Taos he will stay for a little bit, take my grandma with him because he has work and we watch football with him.

For Easter my family paints eggs and hides them around our house, the family has to find them. The egg might be real or have prizes like money or candy and we go to our family and have Easter with them then we have with our families, then we will probably go to the mountains and go camping with family. For Halloween we dress up and get candy. I mostly go get candy around the whole town and in the middle of the night we go to a restaurant and I have like three bags of candy, and I play games all night, if my parents let me stay home from school and I eat the candy while I'm playing games all night with my friends.

By: Caleb Sandy

#### **FAMILY TRADITIONS**

My family tradition is San Geronimo Feast Day. The reason I chose this tradition is because our family has a lot of food like chili, ham, drinks and dessert. I also chose this tradition because my family has a lot of fun celebrating Feast Day. We also go shopping to get ready for Feast day and the running. These are the reasons why Feast Day is my favorite family tradition.

By: Caleb Sandy





#### **Christmas**

My favorite family tradition is
Christmas. The reason I chose this
tradition is because I get to go to
my Grandma's house to eat dinner
and I get to see my Aunties too. We
also pray before we eat dinner. I
get to see m cousin Caleb and
hang out. These are the reasons
why Christmas is my favorite family
tradition.

By: Otis Banteah Sandy

#### **My Favorite Family Tradition**

My favorite family tradition is
Thanksgiving The reason I chose
this tradition is because I get to eat
and play with my family. I also
chose this tradition because I get
to see my cousins again. We also
get to play tag outside with my
cousins. These are the reasons
why Thanksgiving is my favorite
family tradition.

By: Lucius Munoz



#### **Family Traditions**

In this essay I'll be explaining what my family traditions are. For Chistmas, Easter, Thanksgiving and Halloween.

During Christmas time, my dad goes and cuts down a tree for our Christmas tree. Then on Christmas Eve we go to my grandma's house to open presents but first we eat then we open presents.

During Easter my family goes to my grandma's house so we could look for the eggs, but first we have to wait in my grandma's house until they're done hiding eggs.

During Thanksgiving my mom makes turkey for everyone to eat and she makes mashed potatoes and gravy with some jelly.

During Halloween sometimes I wear last years costume, or buy a new costume then I go trick or treating and this year I got a full bag of candy.

I have written about my four family traditions. By Otis Banteah Sandy

#### **Family Traditions**

On Thanksgiving we go to our grandparents house and my grandma has a long table so the whole family gets to eat. One time my uncle brought a chicken for my nephew and then we went the park and played together and sometimes we played tag. Then we went back to my grandparents house. Sometimes we stay there. In the morning we get ready to go back to our house.

#### **Family Tradition:**

By: Atreyu Pino

My favorite family tradition is Thanksgiving. The reason I chose this tradition is because I get to visit my grandparents and family. I also chose this tradition because we help our grandma cook and we also go to the park to play. These are the reasons why Thanksgiving is my favorite tradition. By: Atreyu





# WELCOME TO MS JACQUELINE GRAHAM



6th &

7th Grade

#### **Traditions**

Hunting has been a tradition that has been in my family for years. We travel to my mom's reservation in Fort Duchesne, Utah. That is the only place we can hunt for free.

My Dad is an amazing hunter. Almost every Elk, Deer or Buffalo he aims for, he hits! After the animal is shot, we drive close to the body and drag it to the truck bed to find a better place to skin it. My Dad works on taking out all the organs. He can take them all off while they're connected to the esophagus! My mother works on taking the head off the animal. Then they both help each other take the legs off. You have to expose the meat to the air so it doesn't rot. You can't leave it in the sun too long either. My mom's tradition is to take the eyes and bury them so your next animal can't see you for your next hunt. Then she cuts a piece of its heart and leaves it in a small tree as an offering to

an eagle for a thank you prayer.

I've loved hunting since I was tiny! My brothers would watch over me and my parents would go hunt. When they came back with elk horns in the back, we would run out to them and congratulate them. Now they take me with them so I can learn. One of my favorite parts is right after my dad shoots, we know we got a kill!! My least favorite part is probably the inside body smell. It sticks with me for a few days! Sometimes we don't get anything the first time or later on but we try again the next day because we don't like coming home with

nothing. That is why we take two weeks off for it.

I have grandparents on my moms side in Fort Duchesne so we like to visit them. My Grandpa, who we visit is also an expert hunter. He is so good that my dad looks up to him. After waiting and getting the animal fully processed, we pack up our RV, say our goodbyes to my Mom and head home with coolers full of wild game! Once we are home, my dad cooked up the meat we worked hard for and we relive the memories together. I love this Tradition a lot. I hope I can learn more and teach my son or daughter. If not I'll teach a niece or nephew, or





Ruby's kids! Pretty Plume Rainer









#### My Family Traditions

My traditions with my family matter to us because it makes us spend time with each other. My family and I celebrate Christmas because Jesus Christ was born on the 25th of December, which is Christmas Day. Before Christmas, we make gingerbread houses and set up decorations. On the morning of Christmas we wait for our parents to wake up. Then we pass the presents with our names on it and then we check in our stockings, and then after Christmas we eat the gingerbread house.

My family and I celebrate halloween but my grandma doesn't, because she thinks it supports the devil. Anyway, people wear costumes to scare off bad spirits but I don't know why we get treats. During Halloween we can't set up decorations but we get to give out candy. My family goes trick or treating with our cousins in their neighborhood and we always see cool and scary decorations. There was this one house that was my favorite. It had a bunch of model trains on a decorated table that had terrain with train tracks, and the trains made noise.

Every weekend, my family and I have a movie night with snacks in the living room. This is a treat because normally we can't have any food or drinks in the living room. My family and I celebrate the Fourth of July because of the fireworks. Last year we had firecrackers and fountains. Last year we saw a few fireworks because the trees were covering the sky but in California you could see a bunch. My Favorite things about my family traditions are spending time with my family during Christmas. I like trick-or-treating with them on Halloween and seeing the train decorations. I like watching the fireworks with the family and watching movies with them in the living room. When I have kids I want to share what I did with my family as a kid. I want my kids to make gingerbread houses and be happy during the holidays like I am. Im really happy with the times I had with my family especially when we are celebrating our family traditions.

By: Isaias Munoz

My Family Traditions Every 4th of July my grandma throws a party! She cooks all day for more than 30 people! The food is always different. Sometimes we have chili, spaghetti or hamburgers with either rice, beans or salad. People start to get there around 6:00. We sit around and talk for fifteen minutes until the food is ready. Everyone gets a plate and enjoys the delicious food. After we eat, we all help clean up. The kids play games like tag, hide and seek, go on walks or lay in the grass. The adults sit around and talk until it gets dark. Then we bring a big bucket of water to the place where we light the fireworks. We light all the fireworks on the road. We do this in case something goes wrong with the fireworks. Everyone who brought fireworks gets a chance to light their own fireworks. We start with the small fireworks, then we slowly move up to the big fireworks! I hope that my family will choose to carry on this tradition for the rest of my life. I plan to carry on this tradition to

> and so on. By: Aleah Vigil 6th grade

my children and I hope they carry

on the tradition to their children



#### MY FAMILY TRADITIONS

MY TRADITION IS FISHING. MY DAD SAID MY GRANDPA TAUGHT HIM HOW TO FISH AND WHAT THE FISH LIKE TO EAT. MY DAD TAUGHT MY BROTHER HOW TO FISH. MY BIG BROTHER TAUGHT ME HOW TO FISH. HE GAVE ME HIS TACKLE BOX WHEN I WAS 12. I REALLY ENJOY GOING FISHING WHETHER IT'S WITH SOMEONE OR IF I AM BY MYSELF. SOMETIMES THE WATER SOOTHES ME WHEN I GO FISHING BY MYSELF. WHEN I'M WITH MY FRIENDS IT'S LIKE I'M IN A SAFE PLACE. IF I HAVE A KID OR KIDS, I WILL GIVE HIM OR HER THE TACKLE BOX AND WHAT I GOT FROM MY BROTHER. I WILL TEACH THEM HOW TO SAY FISH, POOL, HOOK, RIVER AND WATER IN OUR NATIVE LANGUAGE. WHEN I GET OLD I HOPE I CAN HELP MY KID OR KIDS FISH. I FEEL LIKE FISHING IS ONE OF OUR FAMILY TRADITIONS, THAT I HOPE CONTINUES ON . THIS TRADITION MEANS A LOT TO ME.







HUNTER CONCHA 6TH



#### MY FAMILY TRADITIONS

SOMETHING THAT MY FAMILY HAS PASSED DOWN IS MAKING JEWELRY. MY GRANDPA MAKES TURQUOISE BRACELETS HE TAUGHT MY DAD HOW TO MAKE HIS JEWELRY. MY DAD STARTED MAKING HIS OWN JEWELRY WHEN HE WAS ABOUT 20 YEARS OLD. I ASKED MY DAD TO TEACH ME HOW TO MAKE MY OWN JEWELRY WHEN I WAS TEN. HE TOLD ME TO PASS ON OUR TRADITION. I CHOSE TO TEACH MY NEPHEW BECAUSE HE HAS BEEN WATCHING ME, SHOW HIM HOW TO MAKE JEWELRY. MY NEPHEW IS EIGHT. NOW HE'KNOWS HOW TO MAKE JEWLERY AS WELL. I PLAN ON CONTINUING TO TEACH WHOEVER WANTS TO LEARN HOW TO MAKE JEWLERY. IN TURN I HOPE THEY CONTINUE TO TEACH OTHERS AS WELL.

ANOTHER TRADITION I ENJOY IS THANKSGIVING. WHAT I LIKE ABOUT THIS TRADITION IS THE FOOD. MY FAVORITE FOOD IS TURKEY. I LIKE THAT WE GET TO SPEND TIME WITH FAMILY FOR THANKSGIVING. MY FAMILY PLAYS VIDEO GAMES AND WE SIT AND TALK TO EACH OTHER. WE ALSO PLAY BOARD GAMES. THE BEST THING ABOUT THANKSGIVING IS BEING WITH MY FAMILY.

**ELIJAH PINO 6TH GRADE** 



#### MY FAMILY TRADITIONS

I like many of the Taos Pueblo Traditions. I feel honored that my dad was Warchief for a year. He got to do alot of cultural traditions when he was the Warchief. I think the best thing he got to do was go horseback riding in the mountains.

We speak Tiwa here at Taos Pueblo. I am still learning how to speak it myself. I think our language is important. You need to kow our language in order to become a Warchief. When you hold a tribal position, Tiwa is the language mostly used to communicate most of the time. It's also important to learn your language and teach your kids so the language doesn't disappear.

I like the traditional dances at Taos Pueblo. I like to watch the dances. I try to pay extra attention so I can learn how to do them. My grandma used to dance for Pueblo. My favorite dance is the Deer dance. I really like the location of Taos Pueblo. We have mountains all around us I really like the mountains. I enjoy going up to the mountains because of the fresh air we get to experience. It feels peaceful up there. I also like when it rains or snows up in the mountains

I like our traditional food. My favorite food is our fry bread. I don't know how to make it, but my mom does. I hope to learn how to cook our traditional food. Both my parents know how to make it and I must admit, they are really good at it. I really hope our traditions continue. I think it is important to keep our traditions going so our traditional ways do not disappear.

Jacob Gomez 6th grade

PHOTO COURTESY TAOS NEWS 2021



#### **My Traditions**



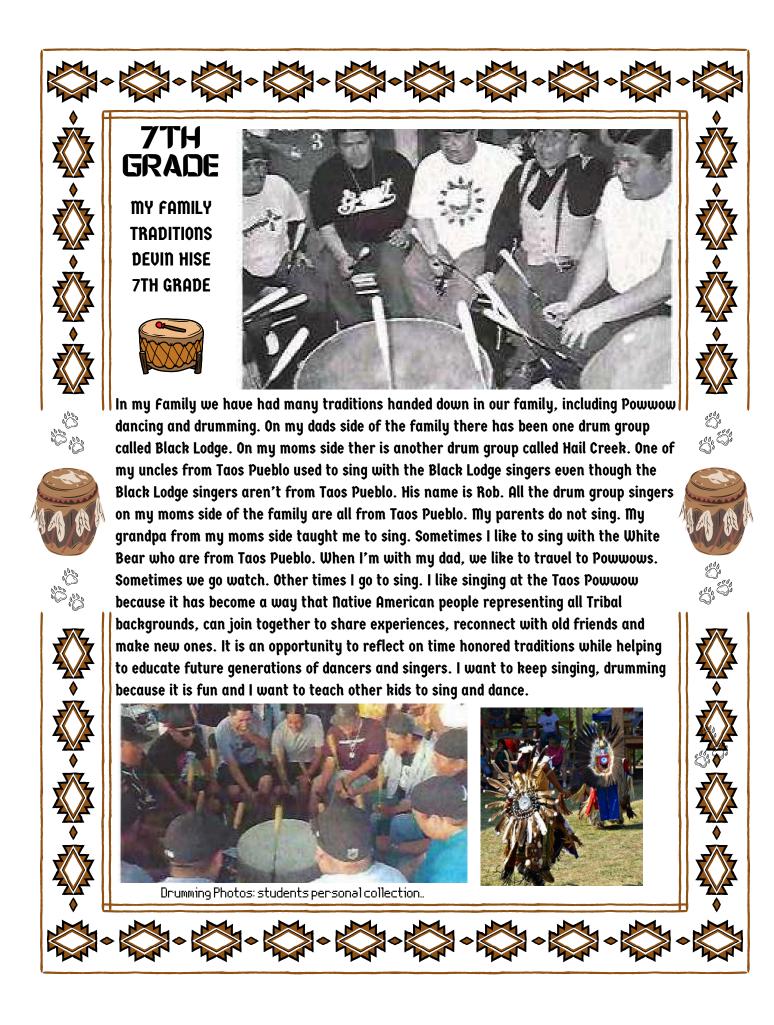
There are artists in my family and I know almost all of them. They do drawing or painting. I've seen some of them. They have some pretty paintings and cool drawings too.

My brother does drawing and painting. I will sometimes draw with him but we don't really do that much. Some drawings and paintings have some meanings to them. There is a pretty story behind the drawings or painting. If you saw it somewhere you could remember it and draw it. The paintings bring you happiness or just a calm feeling about the place you've

You can also draw from your dreams. I do that sometimes when I don't have anything to draw. I think that there is something that can be just so annoying for some of the young people who draw or who are artists. That is school. I think school can get in the way of your drawing or anything your doing because you just work, work and work until the day is over. As for me, I will draw in class but I don't want to get in trouble. I know I can draw at home, but sometimes my phone distracts me. I don't know if other young artists have the same problem as me.

I hope that drawing and becoming an artist continues for many generations. My advice is not to let school or other distractions take you away from what you are good at.

Aubree Archuleta 6th





#### **My Traditions**



By: Katie Concha 7th grade

The traditions in my family are really special to me because some of them are really old and have special meanings. Some of my family traditions include baking, sewing, beading and painting. My grandma does beading and dances the Jingle dress Dance. My grandpa and uncles are painters. My aunt sews. My mom bakes. I know how to do all of the family traditions. The one I like the best is our tradiiotnal Jingle Dress Dance. I have been dancing since I was 3 years old.

I enjoy Taos Pueblos feast day, which is on September 30. On September 29 all of the family members go to our Pueblo house and we bake all kinds of food, like pies, bread and cookies. On September 30, we watch the races early in the morning. Then after, me and my friends go to all the stands that are set up in the Pueblo. We walk around before the clowns come out. Afterwards we like to watch them climb the pole. After they are done, we invite people to our Pueblo house so that they can eat and visit with us.

My favorite holiday is Thanksgiving. I love all of the food that we eat. I like it because we say a long prayer before we eat, to say what we are thankful for. I also like Christmas. I love Christmas because we all get together on my dads side of the family. Each year, one of my family members hosts our get together at their house. We bring all the presents to their house. First we eat, after we finish eating, we open presents. After we open presents we play all kinds of games. I want to keep the traditions going. I plan to teach them to my children. Hopefully they will teach their children. I really enjoy all our family traditions because I get to see my family. Not only do I get to see and spend time with my family, but I also get to meet new family members. I also get to participate in some traditions that have been passed down from generation to generation. I hope to keep all the traditions I talked about going.









Fry bread photos courtesy student





#### MY FAVORITE FOOD TRADITION

Fry bread is a tradition that has been in my family for a long time. I like fry bread cause its so good to eat. I like to eat fry bread wih home made red chili. You can put powdered sugar and honey on fry bread. Fry bread is usually round. But it can be different shapes. My family has fry bread all the time. My grandma, my mom and my aunt are the ones who make the fry bread in my family. I hope this tradition continues.

Dex Hudson 7th grade



### 7th Grade Anastasia Quintanilla My Traditions



The traditions in my family matter to me because it's been around for a long time and I plan on passing it down to others. My traditions include sewing, painting, pottery, jewelry, and moccasin making. In my family my uncle likes to make moccasins. He's been doing it for a long time and he is very good at it. My mom likes to paint. She's really good at it and some days I want to paint like she used to. My grandma likes to make pottery and she is really good at it. I like to sew. I like to sew because it is really fun and it's something that I'm pretty good at. I used to like beading and jewelry when I was younger but I'm not as good at it anymore because I haven't done it in a while. One of my favorite traditions is probably making pottery. My favorite part of making pottery is making the desings on whatever I'm making. I learned how to do sewing, pottery, jewelry and beading from my grandma and my Tiwa teacher.

I also like the traditional food that my grandma always makes. She makes the best food like chili, posolè and fry bread. My grandma has always liked to teach me to cook and I always like to help her. We make traditional foods on feast days. I have been helping my grandma cook since I was about six years old.

Another thing I like are the many things we can do at Taos Pueblo. I like the many types of traditional dances at Taos Pueblo. I have never participated in the dances but I love to watch them. I like our language which is Tiwa. I don't know a lot of Tiwa but I think our language carries our culture values and our culture doings. It is a very nice language. I like to go swimming in the river at the pueblo with my family or friends during summer time.

My family traditions have been passed down from generation to generation. I plan on passing down the traditions to others. I will continue to show others how to sew, make pottery, make jewlery and cook our delicious traditional food.

### NAVAJO TRADITIONS

BY: HUNTER CHAVEZ

There are four clans we belong to in the Navajo reservation.

The four original clans are the Kinyaa'áanii (The Towering House Clan), Honágháahnii (One-walks-around Clan)

Tódich'ii'nii (Bitter Water Clan) and Hashtł'ishnii (Mud Clan).

There are many more clans that have been created. My family belongs to Deer Spring and Salt Clan. My dad explained to me that the clans were made so that we can know who we are related to within the clan. This prevents us from getting into a relationship with someone who we are related to.

Tradition on the Navajo reservation is very common because

Tradition on the Navajo reservation is very common because of the stories behind it and the tradition of the dances is very important because it heals the Earth because of the stories. It's important to continue to do those traditions because you carry those traditions to the future. I plan on continuing the traditions that I have been taught.



# My Family Tradition James Vigil 7th grade



Alot of my family has been in the Military. My grandpa, my stepdad and a lot of my cousins have been in the military. The one that we remember the most was my grandpa, His name was Charlie. My grandpa has since passed away. I don't remember what war he served in or anything like that but he did come home alive and well. He lost his finger in the war. His finger was blown off by a grenade in a ditch. When he was back from the military he was at home chopping wood. He accidently cut his finger. So he lost two fingers. I did't get to know him, because I was not born then so these are all stories of him that my mom told me.

It turns out my stepdad was also in the military. He fought in Iraq so he spent most of his time in Germany. He also has a lot of stories. I am thinking about joining the military as well.

## WELCOME TO 8TH GRADE MRS. CLAIREEN S. ESPINOZA

#### **My Traditions**

My traditions are getting together with my family on special days such as, Feast Day, Birthdays and sometimes other cultural days. These days my family and I like to cook and bake good food for everyone to eat. When there is an important event that goes on in the pueblo such as Feast Day (September 30th) our family tradition is cooking or baking the day before feast day, then in the morning we like to go watch the races. After that my family goes back home and prepares the food. The kind of food my family makes on this day is red chile, posole, potato salad, oven bread, and other stews and deserts. Once we are done setting the table me and my family sit down and eat until it is time to go down to the pueblo again. After my family and I are done eating, we go back dow<mark>n to the pue</mark>blo and wa<mark>it for</mark> the clowns to climb the pole.

While we are waiting I like to walk around and see the stands and the different things you can buy. Once the clowns come out me and my family stay at the pueblo until everything is over and we go back home.

Another tradition me and my family have is getting together with someone in our family on a birthday. My Family likes to invite everyone in our family to celebrate. These are some of my traditions that my family does. Why this is important to me is because I like to see my family come together and celebrate on this day. It also is important to me because my family has done this tradition since before I was born.

Tava Concha 8th Grade

#### **TRADITIONS**

On September 30th I went to the races early in the morning at 6:30 I got ready to go out and race. It was a little cold in the morning but it started to warm up. It was finally warm when I got back to the kiva but then we had to go wash in the river, it was cold.

After that, I went to my mom's to get ready and go down to the village. Every elder is dressed in their nice Indian clothes like beaded moccasins and ribbon shirt and leggings not many kids wear that some just wear regu<mark>lar clothes. Th</mark>ere are all kinds of non-natives that go to the village on September 30th. They all just line up at the vendors to get some food. Some nonnatives like to ask a lot of questions because it's their first time being there or don't know what's going on. There is a lot of War Chief members around the village making sure the non-natives don't go snooping around where they're not supposed to be, like by the kivas or behind the village some people don't listen and get in trouble.

But once the clowns come out they like to walk around the village and go to village houses. Families that are in the village houses give baskets to the clowns. Some people from their stands like to give things to the clowns like money, food or other

Stuff. LightningHawk Lujan 8th Grade





#### Drawing and Sewing

My favorite traditions are to draw and sew, I like art and to draw and I can draw people and the scenery and other things. It's fun to draw and it's calming to do but when I get into my drawing it will calm me down and make me forget everything, I don't have to worry about anything just drawing. I like to draw things that I love and when I draw, it comes out pretty and I love it when other people and my family like my drawings, it makes me happy when they like my drawing because it takes a long time to draw and it will take time to draw but just do what you see and feel inside you, then draw it.

Drawing can get you to design ideas for sewing and sewing I can do. It's hard through but I can get it done and I learn how to sew when I was little and my mom and sister showed me how and it was cool and I wanted to do it, but I didn't know how and my sister kept showing me how to do it so I got the hang of it.

Now that I am older I can sew skirts and other stuff and it's fun to do like when I draw and it is fun to show everyone and how surprised they are at my work. It makes me proud that I learned it from my family. Sewing is fun but hard too, and you can get hurt from it but at least you get it done so you will have a finished piece later. Just like drawing, get it done, don't worry about it. Drawing and sewing can be a tradition I can teach someone else in the future.

Starlene Chee 8th grade

#### **TRADITION**

When I think about my traditions, I always remember my time at home when my grandma was still living. My grandma always made Thanksgiving special, I always looked forward to her red chili and fried bread. My job was to set the table for the family. When I think about Thanksgiving I remember when my grandma would make her red chili really spicy hot!

Hayden Antonio 8th Grade







I want to be a ski teacher, I want to teach kids how to do tricks, I want to teach them how to hit jumps and do tricks in the air. I want to teach kids how to go down a steep hill without freaking out and how to slow down I want to teach kids how to do moguls, how to go fast down them I want to be a ski teacher, I want to keep skiing for myself, I want to be the best I could be, I want to show my family that I could be anything I want to be, I want to keep feeling that excitement I feel when I hit a jump, I want to hit the biggest jump and to be fearless.

# **Tradition**

Ben Mondragon 8th

When I think about my traditions I think about skiing. Skiing is important to me because I've always wanted to ski when I was younger.

Now that I'm older, skiing is one of my favorite things to do. I like skiing because I get to be away from school and ski all day in the mountains, the mountain air makes me feel free.

**Photos Courtesy students.** 

My tradition is my home, Taos Pueblo has been here for over 1,000 years. The people have never left this land, I believe the traditions we share as a community is what keeps us so close. I don't like people knowing all my business, but I also know I wouldn't prefer a place where everyone is strangers. The tradition and people are what keep the land going, everyone has their own traditions but the village still connects us.

A tradition my family does is every Christmas Eve we go to the bonfires, and we also open presents at my house every morning. Then we go to eat and spend time at Auntie Benita's house.

At my home we always host Thanksgiving dinner, and sometimes we host Easter. Those events are special to me because of the gathering, and we always talk and have a good time when we are around each other. We always joke over football because there's always a game on Thanksgiving.

A personal tradition for me is at the end of every May 3rd, I always find a secluded place and think of the rest of the year and just enjoy the trees being green again. Because in my opinion early summer is the best time to enjoy how far we've come from winter and spring.

#### By Logan Winters 8th







Kale Concha 8th grade
Our community



In our community we like to do a lot of stuff like eat and get to do Traditional stuff and my favorite ones are May 3rd and San Geronimo. They are my favorite, and the reason is we get to participate in the morning races and at the end we get candy. In San Geronimo we get to go see the booths and it is cool to see friends and family.

In our community we pick up trash at the pueblo and help with other things, the culture is also nice and there are some famous people at Taos Pueblo like Robert Mirabal and a lot of other artists. Some of the crops that grow here are corn, beans, squash, pumpkin and Taos Pueblo is also roughly 1000 years old and we continue to farm.

After I fulfilled becoming a man while committing my time and effort in the kiva, I am happy that I was able to partake in learning about my traditions. I am proud to be a Native American as well as celebrate my culture where I could be who I am because I love being Native American. I can do so many things in my life and help with traditional doings in my community. I look forward to becoming a leader in my community..

My tradition starts at home with our family pueblo house. It says who I am and where I came from. Our family pueblo house has been around for a long time since my grandma was small, and my mom talks and tells me about when she was growing up and she used to live there with some of my aunties and uncles when they were small and she would tell me funny stories about her growing up there with all her siblings. On feast day my family comes over to our pueblo house and we all eat and spend time together because sometimes we don't really see each other that often. Most of the time we have all my cousins birthdays at our pueblo house because it's the only house we all agree on having our birthdays at. When my whole family is together and spending time together it makes me really happy because I like seeing my family happy when we're all together. Our family is kinda separated and one of my aunties lives in Albuquerque. My auntie sometimes comes to Taos for Christmas and September 30th.

Now that my aunties and uncles don't live at our pueblo house anymore me, my sister and grandpa and grandma live there now and it makes me feel happy and grateful that I live there even if we don't have running water I always remind myself that at least I have a place to sleep and a roof over my head.

Tasha Smallcanyon 8th grade

# **DEAR READER** 'As The Eagles Fly'



It is with great pleasure and honor that I present to you, this years 4th Edition of Taos Pueblo Day School's Literacy Magazine,

This years theme was based upon 'Our Traditions'

As you read this years magazine I hope it touches your heart as it did mine. The talent of Story telling is not easy, but your students definitely are 'Storytellers,' through their creative writings and artwork...

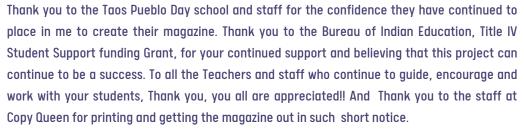
This year I invested in a new computer software, it allowed the option of more imagination and creativity to bring your students writing's to life, with backgrounds, photographs and clip art, in hopes of representing and respecting the Culture and Traditions of the

Taos Pueblo Community.

Storytelling is a Cultural Tradition.

I take great pride in working with all of your students. It feels my heart with much Joy knowing how important their traditions are to them. In the previous pages you will have read how much, Family (togetherness), Traditional clothing, food, cultural doings, Feast days, Holidays and most importantly who they are (Native American), where they live (pueblo house), and their language (Tiwa), means to them. It's important to continue to instill these traditions in your children. For they will be Our future leaders to carry on their Language, Cultural Doings, and your legacy you leave behind.





A big Thank you to all, Taos Day School Students, for sharing your creative talents, expressing your love of family and traditions. I hope you continue to feel deeply and strongly about your traditions and culture as you go about your journey in life.

Many Blessings and Gratitude,

Paula Martinez Taos Day School Magazine Coordinator/Editor



Serving Taos since 1980











# As The Eagles Fly

HOLD ON
HOLD ON TO WHAT IS GOOD,
EVEN IF IT'S A HANDFUL OF EARTH, HOLD ON
TO WHAT YOU BELIEVE,
EVEN IF ITS A TREE THAT STANDS BY ITSELF,
HOLD ON TO WHAT YOU MUST DO, EVEN IF ITS
A LONG WAY FROM HERE,
HOLD ON TO YOUR LIFE,
EVEN IF IT'S EASIER TO LET GO,
HOLD ON TO MY HAND
EVEN IF SOME DAY I'LL BE GONE AWAY FROM
YOU
HOLD ON

**PUEBLO INDIAN PRAYER** 

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