STUDENT NEWSLETTER

KUAOREGON.ORG KIDS UNLIMITED ACADEMY @KUACADEMY



Staff Spotlight:

Q&A with Mrs. Heather

by Jackie Solis

When did you become a teacher?

I became an elementary school teacher in 2025. However, for many years, I was a flight instructor and taught people how to fly airplanes.

Why did you become a teacher?

I became a teacher because I love kids, and kids matter.

What do you like about being a teacher?

I get to play a role in creating a community where students know they belong and are in a safe place to learn. I love fostering curiosity in students by looking at insects, trees, condors, current events and examining issues through a humanitarian lens. Teaching provides me the space to be a lifelong learner.

I like to be in Mrs. Heather's classroom. She makes everything fun, especially learning math. Being in her class makes me happy!



Royal Kids Theatre to adapt classic tales

BY ARIA DEMARCO

"Big Bad" is a show about the Big Bad Wolf going to court with her lawyer, Ms. Evil Stepmother. The plaintiffs are Little Red Riding Hood, The Three Little Pigs and the Boy Who Cried Wolf, represented by Ms. Fairy Godmother.

The Big Bad Wolf will be proven either innocent or guilty in a class-action lawsuit and charged 50 million gold coins. Hear the verdict Nov. 20.

Ms. BriAnna Johnson, KUA music and theater teacher, said she was drawn to this show because it offers a twist on the classic fairy tales we know and love. She did this show back in 2018, and the students loved it.

Ms. Bri said she likes how this play challenges our beliefs and presents multiple perspectives. She said she is excited for students to show off the hard work they've put into these characters and to shine onstage.

Fifth graders playing some of the characters this year are Aria DeMarco as Evil Stepmother, Kayzel Austria as Fairy Godmother and Val Damman as Judge Wise Old Man. Fourth grader McKinley Morris is the Big Bad Wolf, herself.

Will the Big Bad Wolf pay or be cleared of her crimes? Purchase your $20 ticket to find out. Doors open at 6:15 p.m., the show starts at 6:30, and you will be served dinner.

The cast and crew think this will be a play that audiences will love.

Teacher Feature

Ms. Annie shares passion for dance

BY ALIZE CARR

Ms. Annie teaches dance at KUA. She became a dancer because her parents put her in it when she was young, and she loved it. Her favorite thing about dance is sharing her passion with other people.

She teaches KUA classes every Tuesday from 7 to 7:45 p.m. She said it's a lot of work, but some students' moms help out. She selects a group of students to perform at the Craterian Theater, based on their behavior and how many dancers she has.

Ms. Annie is such a great singer and dancer. Fun fact: She is vegan, meaning she only eats stuff that doesn't come from animals.

Students love Ms. Annie because she makes us feel like we can do anything. Thank you so much, Ms. Annie!



Staff and parent volunteers make Trunk-or-Treat possible

BY AUDRINA HARO-PALMARES

Characters from "Toy Story," "Coco" and "Wicked," plus some skeletons were expected at this year's Kids Unlimited Academy Trunk-or-Treat.

Parents passed out candy from their decorated cars Oct. 30 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the KUA parking lot. Students wore a variety of costumes, and DJ Gemineye played holiday-themed music.

This beloved tradition has continued because of KUA's English language development teachers. A couple of years ago, KUA leaders considered getting rid of Trunk-or-Treat, but the ELD team decided to officially take over the event's planning, said Ms. Jaqueline Rangel. She, Ms. Yolanda Ortega and Ms. Elaina Lambert organize the event.

Ms. Jackie said she and the other ELD teachers are grateful parents can volunteer to participate. They request volunteers and candy donations by email and ParentSquare.





KUA-TV shines spotlight on our charter school

BY DALEYZA MALDONADO

KUA-TV is a fun project that helps students to know what's happening in our school. You can see it on the Kids Unlimited Academy website and on YouTube.

Mr. Geminieye posts KUA-TV every day on Monday. He does questions of the week on Wednesdays when he interviews KUA students about a specific topic.

You wanna be a weather man? No worries. Mr Geminieye can do that for you!

Dr. Beto Vargas started helping with KUA-TV this year. "In September, I saw an opportunity to help with KUA-TV and send a good message about the school," he said.

What's different with KUA-TV since Dr. Beto has been involved? He said: "skits coming up and practicing to pause."

I love KUA-TV because you can do fun stuff! And meet nice students that help with our school.

Get involved!

Do you want to be in KUA-TV but don't know how? Just ask your teacher, say you want to help Mr. Geminieye and see if he reaches out.

‘Friendly’ advice from Mr. Tyrone

BY KATHERINE CAMPOS

Being yourself is the best way to make friends. That is the advice of Mr. Tyrone McDonald, behavior coordinator at Kids Unlimited Academy.

Making friends is easier than it sounds, said Mr. Tyrone. The best way is to be authentic to yourself — be yourself and be kind.

“Always lead with kindness,” he said.

Being kind to friends happens when you think about things that make you feel good. What do people say or do for you that makes you happy? Then do those things for others.



“Simple kindness is the way to make and keep friends.”

– Mr. Tyrone McDonald

Most importantly, he said, you do not need to try to change who you are to make others like you or play with you. Remembering you are enough the way you are is very important.

KUA students ‘warm up’ to math

BY CAMILA RAY WISER

I like math because it helps me learn. At KUA, we do daily math warm-ups to help us get better.

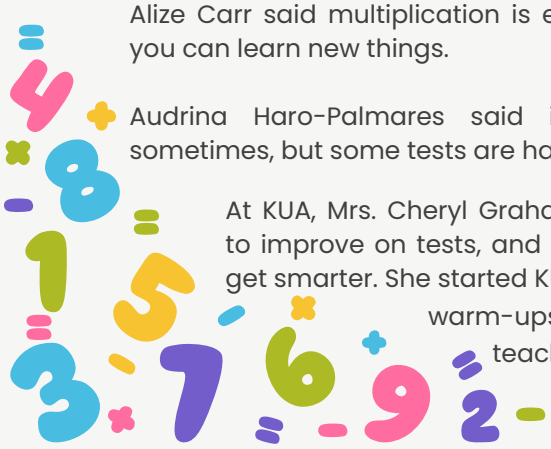
Here are some things KUA fifth graders said about math:

Addie Thomas said she likes math because it can be fun.

Alize Carr said multiplication is easy and fun. And you can learn new things.

Audrina Haro-Palmares said it can be easy sometimes, but some tests are hard.

At KUA, Mrs. Cheryl Graham helps students to improve on tests, and she teaches us to get smarter. She started KUA’s daily math warm-ups. She’s been a teacher for 34 years.





Thoughts on kindness

BY ADELYNNE THOMAS

Kindness can be really helpful. Even picking up a little trash paper can help clean up Mother Earth.

Kindness can be really sweet. Spending time with someone can make them smile. You may not notice the feeling of making someone smile, but once you really feel that kindness, you’ll want to keep being kind.

Maybe asking “Do you need some help?” or saying “I can help you out” will make someone want to be your friend. If you keep doing that, it slowly builds and builds.

If you’re kind, most likely no one will have any problems with you, and they’ll tell stories about you to their friends. Being a kind friend can make everyone like being friends with you! Caring, helping, hanging out and giving out gifts can make a friend smile.

One of my friends is Mr. Tyrone. He loves being kind to others, and that's why I represent him — or I try to. You can try, too!

Kindness makes people happy and brings a smile to our faces. It also makes us feel peaceful inside. Even small acts can be a big difference. The world becomes a better place when people care for each other.