BIENVENIDOS FAMILIA PRINCETON

Merry Christmas

&

Happy New Year

2013

LA BEFANA

La Befana vieni di notte
Con le scarpe tutte otte
Col vestito alla romana
Viva, viva la Befana...

Bienvenido Princeton Voice

Es un gusto para los directivos del Colegio Princeton de México ver concretado el proyecto Princeton Voice, periódico creado para nuestra comunidad por los alumnos de 6º de preparatoria en la clase de Journalism.

Todo medio que refuerce la integración y la comunicación entre nuestros educandos, docentes, autoridades y padres de familia merece nuestro apoyo y reconocimiento. Quisiera aprovechar la oportunidad para invitarles a sumarse a este loable esfuerzo en las próximas ediciones.

Además, es importante destacar que ustedes encontrarán artículos y avisos que se publicarán en cualquiera de los tres idiomas que manejamos en nuestro colegio (inglés, español o francés).

Esperamos que disfruten mucho este nuevo esfuerzo de nuestros educandos y que ustedes se unan a nosotros en desearle a todos los involucrados que el proyecto, Princeton Voice, sea todo un éxito.

Miss Pilar Álvarez Arakelian
Subdirectora General Administrativa

CONTENIDO:

- Day of the Dead in Mexico
- 7th Princeton Model
- Environmental
- What If Section
- Christmas Articles
- Wall Street Journal
- Ajusco’s Reforestation Videos
- Designer Joaquin Rodriguez Mtz.
- Environmental student
- Foundation Library Project 2012
- Ofrenda a Miss Katia
Almost everyone who has known Princeton School well over a long period has been touched at one time or another by a notable paradox. On one hand, the school has undergone many great changes: physically, academically, in the diversity, interests and activities of its student’s body, and teaching staff. Yet, in many other ways, Princeton has always been able to retain and extend its warmth and close personal attention to everyone who has been a part of its community.

Princeton School was originally founded by Miss Katia Arakelian de Álvarez during the 1980’s, and from its earliest beginnings, it has always focused its energy and aspirations towards teaching children to a higher academic standard than that of its contemporary’s. Miss Katia’s goal for Princeton was simple: “To make children feel happy, at ease and comfortable at school”, as well as to provide a carefully planned, stimulating, caring environment, which will enable students develop an academic foundation, installing core values, confidence, and positive attitudes, all of which are priceless assets for becoming responsible global citizens. Furthermore, the future of our country and our planet will in time, become our children’s responsibility.

We are proud to say that Princeton has maintained itself as a personalized school, without losing the character of one of the best schools in Mexico.

One of Princeton’s greatest strengths has been its ability to balance research and education, whilst instilling positive values, social skills, enhanced self-esteem and a greater sense of personal responsibility. Princeton School is conveniently situated in an urban setting in a nice neighborhood located in the southeast of Mexico City, and it has attracted a succession of exceptional teachers who have been teaching there for many years. After celebrating 33 years of its history, from the tiny beginnings in Av. de las Fuentes # 218, through the growth of High School at Princeton School, Campus Ajusco, up to the great and successful events happening academically and socially speaking, where does Princeton School go from here? What then, about the future?

Despite the new communications technology that has wired up the world outside, Princeton School has been able to change with time in its own terms, without compromising its purposes or its standards with which to face the future, and does not envisage the community of students being replaced by dispersed Princetonians “hanging out on the Internet”. Princeton School is going to maintain its position of leadership in education where intellectual and personal growth interact and are intertwined like twisted pairs of wires. In order to be able to fulfill this goal, school staff members have made sure that the programs are well defined and have executed this in a way that in some sense is unique, in the sense that no one will be able to copy its own pattern. The essence of Princeton’s uniqueness, flowing out of its past and present is to be, “The outstanding place for education and fellowship”.

![Image](image-url)
Conscious that the new era we are living demands of some new strategies for the immediate future such as: expanding, improving and maintaining the quality of teaching, community and ecology commitment, sustaining the capacity for excellence and leadership, and a stronger sense of core values, we can proudly say that Princeton School is an institution with a strong sense of shared purpose, where teaching, learning and research are not separate activities, but different aspects of the all-encompassing search to know. Princeton School has been able to adjust to the contemporary era while remaining true to its time on its own terms, without compromising its purposes or revolutionary break with the past, but a successful evolution, its history even while marching into the future. Princeton School has been able to adjust to the contemporary era while remaining true to its beliefs and it has changed with time on its own terms, without compromising its purposes or its standards. There has been no revolutionary break with the past, but a successful evolution, bearing the indelible imprint of its history even while marching into the future.

If some of the Princeton School’s students come back in a certain amount of years, precisely the same Princeton they left and knew, but they will that is perfectly recognizable. Yes, for the school there is pride. For many Princeton graduates, ties with classmates are among the strongest and most enduring friendships of their lives, as well, they will be able to say proudly that their parents, friends, or someone they might know studied at Princeton School, and that upcoming generations are currently thriving towards a promising and successful future.

Ms. Ariana López de Llergo A.
Head of the Academic Development

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**Education**

En toda Mesoamérica, el juego de pelota fue una práctica común de los pueblos prehispánicos, las más de 1200 canchas encontradas en la zona, dan cuenta de la importancia ritual y religiosa del juego, cuyo nombre en náhuatl es tachtli y que se jugaba con la cadera y, de acuerdo a los cronistas, en canchas con anillos y sin estos. Este juego se inició desde los tiempos más remotos de la época prehispánica; las canchas más antiguas se remontan a la época de los Olmecas, éstas fueron de forma simple, con muros de tierra. Era jugado con una pelota grande y sólida de caucho, en un patio construido especialmente, entre dos equipos. En el Período Clásico (300 a.C - 1000 d.C., aprox.) se han encontrado patios de mampostería con superficies inclinadas por toda Mesoamérica, donde se cree que los sectores hundidos de la Calle de los Muertos pudieron desempeñar el papel de canchas para el juego.

El juego de pelota entre los nahuas estaba relacionado con el culto solar, puesto que los antiguos mexicanos consideraban su deber ayudar al astro rey en su camino; por eso mismo, el juego tenía relación con los sacrificios humanos: la sangre del jugador sacrificado (al parecer, el perdedor) alimentaba al sol y aseguraba que sus rayos siguieran alumbrando la tierra. Es muy poco lo que se sabe sobre las reglas y la forma en que se ganaban puntos, lo que sí se conoce es que no se podía tener en la mano la pelota durante el juego y los mejores tiros se hacían con la cadera.

Los jugadores estaban vestidos con un cinturón ancho y pesado hecho de madera y cuero, llevaban protectores en las caderas y rodillas y, en algunas zonas, también cascos. Pese a todo ello, el juego resultaba muy peligroso por la velocidad y peso de la pelota.

Carlos Rodríguez Lavarino y Ricardo Padilla
2° Secundaria
Las calaveras literarias son propias de la cultura mexicana y semejan un epitafio o epigrama hecho con motivo del Día de Muertos, en otras palabras, es una breve composición poética que tiene como finalidad describir con agudeza un pensamiento satírico, burlesco y sarcástico, cuya temática está relacionada con la muerte.

Considerada la calavera como una composición poética en algunas instancias donde celebran concursos de calaveras piden que los versos se presenten en cuartetas y versos octosílabos, pero no siempre exigen esos requisitos.

Las calaveras son versos festivos que, en la vispera del Día de Muertos y durante éste, suelen repetirse o componerse en forma de epitafio, satirizando los defectos o las virtudes en forma de vicios de los personajes vivos, si bien presentados como ya difuntos.

La ofrenda fue diseñada por el Prof. Mariano Arzate Dir. Gral Académico de Secundaria y Preparatoria, en homenaje a nuestra querida y recordada “Miss Katia”.

Para los mexicanos el Día de Muertos o Día de los Fieles Difuntos representa algo más que la veneración de sus muertos, podría decirse que para nosotros los mexicanos a diferencia de otros países, lo reflejamos burlándonos, jugando y conviviendo con la muerte. Esta convivencia ha dado lugar a diferentes manifestaciones de su arte popular, a través de expresiones muy originales como lo son; las calaveras de dulce, el pan de muerto, dibujos que se burlan de la muerte, versos en los que se ridiculiza a cualquier personaje vivo, de las artes, ciencia y en especial lo de la política y las tradiciones.

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En las culturas mesoamericanas los nativos consideraban a la muerte como el paso a seguir hacia una nueva vida y fue hasta la llegada de los españoles que trajeron consigo las nuevas creencias con respecto a la vida y la muerte. La muerte producía terror, pues en el juicio final los justos recibirían su recompensa y los pecadores su castigo... Y lo difícil era no contarse dentro de los pecadores.

En la cotidianeidad del mexicano la muerte aparece salpicada de picardía, y en este día en particular, todos los cementerios del país se llenan de gente que está ansiosa de compartir esta fecha con sus difuntos.

2° Jr. High students

Mtra Ma. De los Angeles Martínez
Princeton Family working for the Environment

Life, particularly in this age and place, has its ups and downs. Human beings have the opportunity of being part of wondrous happenings or of being silent witnesses to cruelty, horror or devastation. However, I believe that each day we should find the courage to speak up, instead of just watching senseless actions done by fellow “humans” who normally think that, as a species, we have the right to do as we please.

Moments like the ones I lived through on September 8th, 2012 are especially poignant. Throughout that morning I spent hours with many of my students, their parents, teachers and principals planting over 4,000 tree saplings, endlessly hoping that they would survive the torrid rains that hit Mexico City, as well as the freeze that characterizes the Ajusco area during the winter months. We carefully, and exhaustingly, did our share of hole-making, tree-planting, and earth-covering, hoping to contribute ever so slightly to the reforestation of this beautiful part of the city.

The morning dawned lovely, the temperature was lukewarm, under an azure blue sky. After planting, some of us stopped to enjoy some “quesadillas” a meal commonly found in the rural stops that dot the Ajusco. In all, it was a highly successful and fun morning. Unfortunately the feeling would not last ... As I arrived home I was shocked and infuriated by the actions of a long-lost neighbor who had suddenly decided to take care of the house she had abandoned about 15 years ago.

As usually happens in this world, strange events come together in the weirdest of moments. After so many years away, this woman decided to give her house a “facelift” precisely on a day in which the irony would strike the most and I would be terribly frustrated. As I approached my house, I was struck by the irony of the situation: I had spent the morning planting trees, while my neighbor had done so hacking savagely at the two spectacular trees that used to stand proudly in her terrace, and also tearing down the magnificent fuchsia-colored bougainvillea on her wall. She tried to excuse herself by arguing that the branches from the trees had found a way to seep under the red tiles of the roof. .. Yeah, right! If that were really the case, any humane person would have cut the branches off in a careful manner, not chopping at them as if the trees represented the subject of her fury and she were transferring all the feelings of hatred that she had bottled up throughout the years. Needless to say, within a couple of weeks one of the two trees dried up. And once again she “excused” herself by saying that the trees had died, so she simply had to tear them down!

A huge lesson that this situation reaffirmed is that when one is so full of pain, hatred and fury, it is so easy to destroy the magic that is within and around us. Horrible feeling that struck me that previously happy and beautiful early September morning!
Every year, in the neighborhood Jardines en la Montaña, to celebrate Christmas a fair comes. It is held at the main park of this huge neighborhood, so kids and their parents can have a nice day full of smiles. The fair stays for a couple of days and it brings music, lights, and fun together in a beautiful way. There are games for all the family. Even teenagers can go and have some real fun. The food stands are filled with people who want to be entertained by all the pretty lights, the kids running around and a delicious crepe. From all around you can hear the laughs of the children and you can smell the popcorn and the delicious treats that wait for you. Going to a classic fair is an experience like no other and the neighbors of Jardines en la Montaña are lucky to get one every year in such a lovely time as it is Christmas.
Mexican posadas and a famous Christmas Carol

By Brenda Peralta

December 2012. Mexico, DF. Did you ever go Christmas caroling, wrapped up against the cold, on a snowy night? Bring back memories of red, runny noses and your warm breath making clouds in front of your face? There usually was a cup of hot chocolate waiting for you somewhere along the way.

Mexican children have their nine days of posadas before Christmas. Two are chosen to dress up like Jose and Maria and lead the other neighborhood children from house to house singing a request for a place to rest. There are singers inside the houses they pass who are programmed to sing a refusal of lodging. Finally, they arrive at a house where they are received and refreshments are served. Usually, there are several piñatas filled with wrapped candies, fruit and small toys. The kids, one by one, are blind-folded, given a strong stick and allowed their turn at whacking the piñata until it breaks and the toys, the fruit and the candy.

The partridge in the pear tree was Jesus Christ. Two turtle doves were the Old and New Testaments.

Three French hens represented faith, hope and love. Four calling birds were the four gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

Five golden rings were reminders of the first five books of the Old Testament: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy.

Six geese a-laying stood for the six days of creation.

Seven swans a-swimming represented the seven gifts from the Holy Spirit: Prophecy, Serving, Teaching, Exhortation, Contribution, Leadership and Mercy.

Eight maids a-milking were the eight beatitudes.

Nine ladies dancing were the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self Control.

Ten lords a-leaping were the Ten Commandments.

Eleven pipers piping stood for the eleven faithful disciples.

Twelve drummers drumming represented the twelve points of belief of the Apostles’ Creed.

Christmas Happiness and Psychological Health
Through Giving

By: Gabriela Alvarez

Christmas is a time for giving and giving is the act of generosity. It nourishes love in our relationships and builds the human spirit. Research shows that people who give without expectation and who do not feel diminished by the act of giving are the most psychologically healthy in our society today.

Giving is an expression of our love. We give in many ways with our supportive words, our listening, attention and giving of our time and of course through material giving too. Giving materially, emotionally and physically is the glue that hold people together and is a way to renew our love for one another, create lasting cherished memories, deepen relationships and create psychological health and happiness for ourselves!
Qu’est-ce que c’est le marché de Noël ?

En France, le marché de Noël c’est un lieu et un événement très important pour les Français et assez attrayant pour les touristes de tout le monde qui aiment cette fête.

C’est dans la région d’Alsace à Strasbourg où se fait depuis 1570, le plus ancien marché de Noël. Strasbourg, « capitale de Noël » avec 4 siècles de tradition, a environ 2 millions de visiteurs tous les ans. Au marché, nous pouvons trouver beaucoup de cadeaux, biscuits ou jouets pour offrir à nos parents, aux enfants ou à des amis.

À côté de sapins et une lumière exceptionnelle on fait une promenade unique, en dégoutant un bon verre de vin chaud et un beignet sucré délicieux.

ALORS, JOYEUX NOËL !!!

Rendez-vous du 15 novembre au 05 janvier 2013 en France.

Professeur Juan Carlos Escobedo

Cite du jour:

“Le vrai philosophe n’attend rien des homes, et il leur fait tout le bien don’t il est capable.”

The true philosopher expects nothing from others and offers them the best he can give them.
Princeton students following the reforestation program at the Ajusco National Forest.

Our 4th grade students have been working on the Environment Project at the Ajusco’s National Forest, as part of their academic program.

LET’S WORK FOR THE CHANGE...

Galería de fotos y videos
Students Documentals
Please follow our Blogg at www.tumblr.com
sixthprinceton@gmail.com

What to do during the Holidays?
Visit a good museum: www.sanldefonso.org.mx
www.map.org.mx
Enjoy a good concert at http://www.ofunam.unam.mx/

Staff Organization
Journalism Students
Our gratitude to:
All the students who enjoy writing and of course our wonderful teachers.

Journalism Teacher: Miss Elizabeth Garcia Romero.
PRINCETON’S UNITED NATIONES MODEL is an academic simulation of the United Nations that aims to educate participants about current events, topics in international relations, diplomacy and the United Nations agenda. The participants role-play as diplomats representing a nation in a simulated session such as the Security Council or the General Assembly. Participants research a country, take on roles as diplomats, investigate international issues, debate, deliberate, consult, and then develop solutions to world problems. The participants that the executive panel considers to be most contributing are given awards, such as 'Best Delegate award'.

Video Conference at Princeton with Jim Carlton
Special Senior writer at Wall Street Journal

Great Video Conference held by our Journalism students as part of their academic program. During the past days Jim Carlton kept Princeton authorities nervous expecting technology would finally work on our side and so it did. Carlton has covered West Coast political and economic issues for the Wall Street Journal during the past six years, prior to that was an environmental writer for the journal and also covered Sillicon Valley.

Author of “Apple The Inside Story of Intrigue, Egomania and Business Blunders “ (Times Books 1997) Before joining the Journal he has been a reporter at The Los Angeles Times (1987-1990) Orange County Register (1984-1987) Houston Chronicle (1979-1984) and Port Arthur (Txs) News (1978-1979) Based in the Journal’s San Francisco office as a senior special writer, he is part of The Society of Environmental Journalists. Jim Carlton shared valuable information on journalism but perhaps what is behind the magic of it is “to love what we do”.

Miss. Elizabeth Garcia Romero

WHAT IF..????
…… we had more of MORE???
Tricky huh?? History has always helped us solve our present problems, the thing is that sometimes we forget to read.... How’s this? Our current social and political problems could be solved if we only applied at least 50% of what Thomas More wrote over 1500 years ago, without even following some strict rules he wrote.... AHHHH! .... Things would be so different! Let me remind you Thomas More was a humanist, he wrote ‘UTOPIA,’ a very sometimes maybe for some an unrealistic state of perfection including the individualism flourishing and social problems being eliminated. However, maybe not get to perfection but moving towards it wouldn’t it help? I invite you to open a book this vacation period and read something that could help you improve our society. What if..... you write and maybe in the future get a PULITZER PRIZE!!!!

By Miss Angie Navarro