

RIST: Peace is Elementary

By Elizabeth Myers and Rachel Kirchner



Elementary students at RIST spent time talking about what peace means to them, our school, city and the world, in honor of International Peace Day on September 21st. We learned that peace can come to us in small ways and big ways. We created a class book, *Big and Small Ways to Peace*, which we shared at RIST Thursday morning assembly. Our book will also be on display in Fr. Kane library for all to enjoy!

Here are some of our thoughts on what peace means to us. Perhaps some of these things will make you feel peaceful when you find you are lacking a little peace in your life!

"Sharing makes me feel peaceful because if someone shares with me I feel happy inside." <Eing Eing>

"Counting to ten helps me feel peaceful because breathing helps me to stop crying." <Fong>

"Listening to music makes me feel peaceful because when I listen to music I can forget about everything." <Sayako>

"Getting to know other cultures makes me feel peaceful because then I can make international friends." <Hayato>

"Talking nicely makes me feel peaceful because it makes me and others feel happy." <Toto>

"Not littering makes me feel peaceful because then the world is a beautiful place." <August>

Union of Hearts: What Does It Mean?

By Dr. Somyas Lorwatanapongsa, RIST Grade 6 Homeroom Teacher

To follow up on this year's RIS/RIST theme, "Union of Hearts," the sixth graders of RIST wrote:

"I believe in good deeds. It must start with me." <Pongparin L. (Nat)>

"To fight air pollution, I will use more public transportation and less air conditioners." <Ga Rim Lee>

"If I want to save earth, I have to first save our environment." <Nattaphol N. (J.R.)>

"I will make myself useful at home." <Pavinee N. (Num Whan)>

"I will listen to my parents and help them as much as I can." <Vichita O. (Ben)>

"I will practice honesty and help others when opportunities arise." <Theera S. (Frank)>

"I am happy when I do things with my friends. We support each other." <Warathep S. (Neo)>

"In school, I try my best to understand and accept all my friends." <Alisa S. (Aim)>

These are just some ways to reach out to other people here in school and at home. To embrace the Union of hearts theme and be caring citizens, students need to learn to be open-minded, sensitive to others' needs and be involved in both local and world issues as opportunities arise.

