An Update on Travelmates
by Diane McCarty, 4th Grade Instructor

Auckland, New Zealand; Sitka, Alaska; Paris, France; Surfers Paradise, Australia; Guanxi, Peoples Republic of China; Kingston, Jamaica; Tokyo, Japan ....

By the time you read this article the fourth grade Travelmates that were sent out between November and December as a part of a geography project should be heading home; home to Price Laboratory School, that is. The stuffed animal that each fourth grader sent off at our farewell party this fall should be on the return trip back to its classroom according to the message that was printed on the Travelmate’s dogtag.

Postcards, letters, packages, pictures, books, and gifts for the students have been some of the items the fourth graders have received in the mail during the Travelmates absence. Most of these specialties have arrived from people we don’t even know! We have heard from pilots, parents, grandparents, managers, flight attendants, teachers, corporation presidents, aunts, uncles, farmers, retired friends, and so on. These people were just interested and considerate enough to continue passing on our Travelmates to other people and kept us informed about the journeys.

We have heard from quite a few of our Travelmates but not all of them. The locations at the beginning of this article mention just a small fraction of the wonderful places we know our Travelmates have visited. We have been able to track a few of them from the correspondence we have received. A phone call from Paris, France, let us know that one Travelmate had traveled the world and its picture would be included on the cover of a SW Airlines brochure!

Now the fun will begin! As the Travelmates arrive back at school the students will begin to recreate the trip itinerary from the diary, plot the locations on maps, and calculate distance traveled. We will write thank you letters to the people who gave us addresses in our diaries and inform them of the Travelmate’s completed journey. We might even throw a “Welcome Home Party!”

For now, we’ll be watching the mail and hoping that our Travelmates return home before the end of the school year!

P.S. Barney and Fred (two Travelmates) are already back!

Project G.R.O.W.*
*Growing, Reaching, Opening, Wondering

Three teachers who used to work together in the same school district but now have moved on to new jobs in different cities have continued their working relationship by connecting their students together in a project called G.R.O.W. Diane McCarty, PLS, Kathi Latta, fourth grade teacher at Grant in Waterloo, and Pat Leonhart, fourth grade teacher at Denver Elementary in Denver have just culminated this year’s G.R.O.W. activities. The project was designed to provide positive interaction for fourth grade students from different backgrounds. Inter and intra-personal communication skills were being developed by utilizing the unique contributions of each school district.

After video contact, letter writing, and telephone calls, the students finally met each other at Grant Elementary in February. The children were involved in mini-sessions on the topics of getting to know each other and African-American history. After spring break all the fourth graders met at PLS. Mrs. Heitzman was involved teaching creative drama adventures. Dr. Larry Leutzinger (UNI Math Dept.) performed and taught the students “Math Magic.” Senora Hawley conducted Spanish peer-teaching sessions for the visitors with our PLS fourth graders being the teachers! In April all the fourth graders lived one day in a rural setting at Denver. The students met for an outdoor picnic and enjoyed other mini-sessions.

This is the second year for G.R.O.W. activities. These teachers’ goals are that their students always continue to grow, reach, be open, and wonder about many things in their lives, in their surroundings, in their relationship with others.

G.R.O.W.
Growing, Reaching, Opening, Wondering
Tips for Selecting a Summer Camp

As families plan their summer fun, camps may be considered as a great way to offer kids a new experience away from home, new friendships outside the school setting, and new skills which will last a lifetime.

There are many good camps to select from in Iowa. State universities offer sports camps, youth organizations offer outdoor camps, and church groups also offer a variety of camping alternatives.

Parents should talk to their children about the child's expectations for camp and select a program which will help the child grow in several areas...always keeping in mind that fun is a major objective! Children as young as seven can benefit from and enjoy a summer camping experience. Overnight camps offer the added benefit of fostering a sense of independence which, in tum, builds self-esteem.

Here is a checklist of questions to ask when evaluating a camping program:

- How long has the camp been in operation?
- How are the staff members recruited?
- What is the staff to camper ratio? (1:15-18 is best in most situations)
- What is the age range of the counselors?
- What is the nature of the facilities? (It is ideal to visit the facilities before the camping experience)
- How are activities selected?
- Good camps will offer references from the parents of past campers. The best camps have many campers returning each year. Your school may have brochures of reputable camps offered for students between the ages of 8 and 17. Many camps will offer a choice of resident and commuter plans.

The first-time campers will have twice the fun if they go with a good friend and that often simplifies the transportation to and from the camp site. Of course, successful camps encourage early registration to avoid disappointment.

The University of Northern Iowa offers a unique camp called the All Sports Camp. Participants between the ages of 8 and 14 fine tune skills in the major sports and get an opportunity to experience sports which are gaining popularity, or which may not be offered in the school setting. The camp has been in existence since the early seventies and continuity of staffing has contributed to the momentum. The University has the advantage of plentiful and excellent facilities including dormitory housing close to the camp activity area.

The All Sports Camp dates are June 14-19, boys, and June 21-16, girls. For more information, call the UNI Camps office, (319) 273-CAMP.

PLS Winter Olympics

Cindy Bucknam and Paul Waack
Physical Education Instructors

This year the PLS Physical Education Department incorporated the "Winter Olympics" theme into the elementary physical education classes. The events lasted two weeks including opening and closing ceremonies. We started the Olympics by having each classroom in first through third grade represent two countries. Classes selected individuals to be flag carriers for opening ceremonies after learning background information about the countries they represented.

The events included in the "Winter Olympics" were downhill skiing, biathlon, speed skating, luge, and bobsled. The events were performed in the field house with the use of creative equipment such as carpet square skis, a padded stairwell luge track and other applications of creative imagination.

Opening ceremonies included the marching in of each country with flag carriers and music, the lighting of the torch, and a brief presentation of Olympic history. The ceremonies ended with gold medal presentations to each participant along with comments regarding sportsmanship, discipline and teamwork.

The PLS "Winter Olympics" were well received by the entire school body. The students truly enjoyed their Olympic experience in an atmosphere of total participation and mutual support.

Update on PTP Carnival

The annual PTP Carnival was held on Saturday, April 18, 1992 in Nielsen Field House. With the excellent team work exhibited by the PTP officers and other parent volunteers, the carnival was again a great success. We appreciate the efforts put forth by the parents in supporting the school in this way. A complete report on proceeds of the carnival and expenditures will be included in the summer newsletter.

Actor's Laboratory

A Summer Acting Class

For two weeks this summer Mr. Rick Vanderwall will conduct an acting class for beginning and experienced actors. The class will include skill building in the following areas: stage movement, concentration, character development, voice training, and scene work. The class will be offered in two sections. The middle school section, which includes current 5th through 7th graders, will start at 8:30 a.m. and end at 10:30 a.m.; the high school section, which includes current 8th through 12th graders, will run from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Each section will be limited to 15 students. The tuition for the class will be $50.00 with a $6.00 book fee. For registration information call Mr. Vanderwall at 273-2572 or 273-6047.
**Theatrical Season for Next Year**

Next year will be an exciting year for the theater at PLS. The season will commence in the fall with a classic comedy YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU by Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman. The play centers around the exploits of the eccentric Vanderhof family and friends. The combination of bizarre characters and humorous situations makes for an enjoyable evening in the theater. The production has parts for 19 students. SPLENDOR IN THE GRASS by William Inge will be the spring production. This insightful drama is an honest and affecting story of young love. The play tells of an ill-fated high school romance set in a small mid-western city. Tim Clark, NU junior, is composing original music for the production. The season will close with a Variety Show in the late spring. Season tickets will again be offered this spring and next fall. Don't miss your opportunity to be a part of the great Laboratory School tradition of fine theatrical productions.

**Elementary Class List Policy**

During the month of May, preliminary work will be done on developing class lists for the 1991-92 school year. A number of factors will be taken into consideration. Every effort will be made to balance gender, academic achievement, ethnic or racial background, and emotional/social development. As we are committed to positive communication with parents, we welcome the opportunity to discuss student placement with any interested parents. Those wishing to request a specific teacher should forward a written request to the elementary principal no later than June 30, 1992.

These requests will be carefully considered. However, we will not guarantee that a parent request for a specific teacher will be honored. Please do not request a placement change after class lists are posted in August. If there are any questions regarding this policy, do not hesitate to contact the office at 273-2138.

**Price Laboratory School Fee Policy**

The following fee policy governs all current and future student registrations at Price Laboratory School:

1. All school fees must be paid at the time of the August school registration.
2. Parents unable to pay fees at registration must make an appointment with the appropriate principal to set up an adjusted payment schedule.
3. Continued attendance at the Laboratory School is contingent upon payment of school fees. At the August registration, names of students with unpaid fees from the previous year will not be placed on class lists until fees are paid. Graduating seniors will not receive diplomas until fees are paid.

**Update on Athletics**

As we look ahead to the next school year, I want to make you aware of two important items.

First, to make your job a little easier at registration time, the administration has condensed several registration forms into two forms. These forms will need to be completed prior to your son/daughter's participation in any athletic practice. Failure to do so might result in your son/daughter being ineligible for 1 game. I ask your cooperation in getting these forms completed and turned in on time.

Secondly, the 2nd Annual Gus Macker Basketball Tournament will be held on August 8th and 9th. You will be contacted by a Booster Club member in the near future and I strongly encourage you to participate in some manner. I guarantee that you'll have a lot of fun and the tournament will have a great financial impact on our activities program. So make plans now to help the Booster Club out and start promoting Gus Macker with your relatives and friends.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

April 30 - PTP Meeting - prior to band concert, 7:10 p.m.

May 1 - Nursery/Kindergarten Round-Up, 1:00 in the south cafeteria

May 8 - Elementary El Rastro, 12:30-2:30 in the south cafeteria

May 12 - Elementary Field Day, 12:45-2:45

May 17 - Honors Assembly, 2:00 p.m., Butzier Auditorium

May 22 - Seniors' Last Day
Commencement Rehearsal - UNI AUD 11:45

May 24 - Commencement - UNI AUD, 3:00 p.m.

May 25 - Memorial Day - No Classes

May 29 - Last Day of Classes, 11:32 Dismissal

**PLS Bus to Get a New Engine**

The College of Education has located some funds to help repair the bus. We hope to have it running within the month of April. Thanks to all who have contributed to getting the bus going again. We will continue to work on the problem of providing transportation which meets the rules of the State of Iowa. Any donations which you have given or you would like to designate to the Bus Fund will be used to secure better transportation in the future.
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<td>4:00pm GTEN-at Waterloo East</td>
<td>4:00pm TEN-ENP (G-Eldora, B-H)</td>
<td>4:00pm GF-NICL at Denver</td>
<td>8:00pm Jr.-Sr. Prom</td>
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<td>4:30pm GTR-N.Hart/W.Cent.</td>
<td>4:15pm JH TR-Dike/ENP (G-Dike, B-H)</td>
<td>5:00pm GTR-BCLUW Inv. (at Conrad)</td>
<td>4:00pm GTR-Dike (G-H, B-T)</td>
<td>4:00pm TEN-Dike (G-H, B-T)</td>
<td>10:00am BTR-Aid Rel at C.F.</td>
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<td>4:30pm JH TR-N.Tama (B&amp;G at Traer)</td>
<td>7:30pm Elementary Orchestra Night</td>
<td>5:00pm BTR-G. Center Relays</td>
<td>4:15pm GF ENP (at Eldora)</td>
<td>4:15pm GF ENP (at Eldora)</td>
<td>12:30-3:15 p.m. N/K Round Up</td>
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<td>4:00pm BTR-at Ackley Invitational</td>
<td>4:00pm TEN-ENP (G-Elkora, B-H)</td>
<td>4:00pm GTR-Waverly-Shell Rock</td>
<td>5:00pm JH TR at G.Center</td>
<td>11:30-12:40pm</td>
<td>12:30-2:30pm ERIastro (Gr. 1-6)</td>
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<td>GTR Districts GF-NICL at Denver</td>
<td>4:00pm GTEN at Ackley Geneva</td>
<td>4:00pm JH TR-NICL (G-H, B-Union)</td>
<td>4:00pm GTEN-Cedar Falls High</td>
<td>12:45-2:45pm Elem. Field Day</td>
<td>GTR-NICL at Grundy Center BTR Districts</td>
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<td>4:00pm GTR Districts</td>
<td>5:00pm Fine Arts Award Potluck</td>
<td>SB Practice Begins</td>
<td>8:00pm H.S. Vocal Night</td>
<td>4:00pm BTEN - Wartburg Inv.</td>
<td>GF Sectionals</td>
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<td>2:00pm Honors Assembly</td>
<td>4:00pm NICL Track Meet (B&amp;G)</td>
<td>2:00pm Spring Tea</td>
<td>3:00pm Senior Project/Recital</td>
<td>Senior's Last Day GTR State</td>
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<td>3:00pm Commencement-UNI Auditorium</td>
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<td>4:00pm TEN-NICL at Union</td>
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<td>3:00pm Commencement-UNI Auditorium</td>
<td>GTEN Districts</td>
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<td>Last Day of School</td>
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<td>Hot Ham 'n Cheese Sandwich</td>
<td>Beef 'n Bean Burrito Salad Bar</td>
<td>Chicken Sandwich Potato Salad</td>
<td>Turkey Gravy/Baking Powder Biscuit Salad Bar</td>
<td>Egg Salad or Cheese Sandwich Vegetable Sticks Fruited Jello Peanut Butter Bar</td>
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<td>Raw Vegetable Salad Fresh Fruit</td>
<td>Apple Crisp</td>
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<td>Toasted Cheese Sandwich Turkey Noodle Soup</td>
<td>Hot Dog French Fries Fresh Fruit Salad Bar</td>
<td>Spaghetti Cinnamon Roll Green Beans Applesauce</td>
<td>BBQ'd Pork Sandwich Baked Beans Salad Bar Pears Chocolate Chip Bar</td>
<td>Pizza Burgers Corn Fresh Fruit Pudding</td>
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<td>Lasagna Garlic Toast Cole Slaw Diced Pears</td>
<td>Beef 'n Noodles Peanut Butter Sandwich Salad Bar Peaches</td>
<td>Pizza Sub Sandwich Vegetable Sticks Fresh Fruit Ice Cream Sundae &quot;Senior's Day&quot;</td>
<td>Turkey Sandwich/Gravy Mashed Potatoes Salad Bar Pumpkin Bar</td>
<td>Meat Pattie Sandwich Choice Sweet Potatoes Apple Salad Rocky Road Frosty Creme</td>
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<td>Holiday No School</td>
<td>Taco Salad Cornbread Fresh Fruit Salad Bar</td>
<td>Hogie Sandwich/ Lettuce &amp; Tomato Applesauce Brownie</td>
<td>Hamburger French Fries Fruit Choice Salad Bar</td>
<td>Early Dismissal</td>
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Milk included with all meals
Mini-Salad Bar - Elementary - Tuesdays & Thursdays
"UNI is an equal opportunity educator and employer with a comprehensive plan for affirmative action."