



Carthage students reflect on World Peace Day

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Carthage Press

<http://www.carthagepress.com/news/x105402305/Carthage-students-reflect-on-World-Peace-Day>

Posted Sep 23, 2010 @ 03:10 PM

CARTHAGE, Mo. —

Carthage students across the district planted pinwheels for world peace on Tuesday, holding ceremonies in observance of World Peace Day. The events also brought attention to **PeaceBuilders**, a program in nearly every school designed to help students resolve conflicts, stop bullying and bring peace to their school, their home and their community.

Throughout the day, students from a number of area schools took a few moments to reflect on what peace meant to them.

"It means to show respect and be kind to other people," said Wil McCombs, 8, a Pleasant Valley second grader. "It means, I think, to show loving to other people."

Pleasant Valley fourth grader Alyssa Talley, 10, said to achieve peace people have "to respect others and to always tell the truth and, if you do something wrong, you need to say you're sorry."

Talley said world peace was attainable.

"I think it would look like people sharing and having no wars. There would be no wars and everybody would be just friends."

"World Peace Day means everyone will get along, no matter who you are," said Mark Twain fourth-grader Andrew Raney, 9.

"It means caring for on another for who they are," said Carthage Middle School sixth-grader Katrina Buelow, 11. "Treating them the way you want to be treated, and not caring what they look like."

Sixth grader Ariana Rivera, 11, said that if there were world peace, "It would be safe all around the world. Everybody would love each other. It would be a good place to be."

"If there was no peace in the world, it would be dangerous," said Buelow. "You wouldn't live a very happy life."

"It's definitely important," said Rivera. "Because if there wasn't peace in the world, it would be hard to live here. It would be a terrible place to be in."

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Fairview teacher Rita Waynick helps student Kelly Thomas Barr stick her pinwheel in the ground at the Pinwheels for Peace event Tuesday morning.



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Teacher Jalon Smith (right) works to help students Luis Lara and Jonathan Lopez put their pinwheels in the ground at Fairview Elementary School for the Pinwheels for Peace program in the Carthage school district.



David Mink / Carthage Press

Students at Pleasant Valley sing a song about peace as **PeaceBuilder** facilitator JeTina Sidebottom leads the rhythm.



John Hacker / Carthage Press

Columbian Elementary School Principal Sonia Resa holds a sign with part of the peace pledge students took during Peace Day on Tuesday.



John Hacker / Carthage Press

Columbian Principal Sonia Resa speaks to the hundreds of students who gathered outside the school Monday after planting their pinwheels. She spoke to them about how peace begins within them and how they could help make the world and their school more peaceful and secure.



David Mink / Carthage Press

Carthage Middle School students show their support for peace after their World Peace Day event on Tuesday.



David Mink / Carthage Press

Heather Woodall, left, looks on as her sixth-grade class at Carthage Middle School plants their pinwheels for peace on Tuesday.



David Mink / Carthage Press

Pleasant Valley students sign along with a song during their Pinwheels for Peace ceremony on Tuesday.



John Hacker / Carthage Press

Ashley Taffner, Jasmin Villatoro, Joseph Vias and Travis Worley all hold their homemade pinwheels in the wind before placing them in the ground to symbolize peace in the school and the world.



David Mink / Carthage Press

Mark Twain students file by the pinwheels they planted Tuesday morning for world peace. The Pinwheels for Peace event took place across the district and was represented at each elementary and at the middle school.