



# Peace Signs Newsletter

June 2013

Hello Member Schools!! Peaceful Schools International is excited to be bringing back the Peace Signs Newsletter! We encourage you to share with us all the hard work your school has been doing to create a culture of peace and potentially be featured in the next edition of Peace Signs!



Students from Ivan Goran Kovacic School creating their tree of friendship

## Millstone River School

PSI would like to celebrate Millstone River School in being the first school in the state of New Jersey to become a member. We'd also like to share a deep appreciation and pride in March 1, 2005 being declared Peaceful School International Day in New Jersey to honour Millstone River School! After sharing with us the top place papers from their essay contest about peace in their schools it is easy to see the dedication to creating a peaceful environment. Students speak of the helpfulness of teachers, the friendliness of students and the safety of the school environment which helps them excel at school and maintain their own peace in day-to-day life. Congratulations Millstone River School!

## Ivan Goran Kovacic School

PSI has received a delightful letter from our member school in Niska Banja, Serbia, Ivan Goran Kovacic School. Over the past school year Ivan Goran Kovacic School has participated in activities that promote empathy, acceptance and friendship. Some of their successes have been fundraising money for students that come from low income families, building skills for peaceful conflict resolution through theatre and creating their own tree of friendship to celebrate their school's love and kindness! These are only a handful of the many other activities the school has participated in over the past year! Well done Ivan Goran Kovacic School!

Students at Saint Mary's University continue to show strong commitment to a culture of peace and importance of peace education! In February 2014, Peaceful Schools International, Saint Mary's University and Barnardo's UK Children's Charity will be commemorating 10 years of collaboration in promoting peace education and conflict resolution in schools both in Halifax and in Belfast, Northern Ireland. Each year a group of Saint Mary's students have created and facilitated workshops in Halifax while diligently fundraising to make their way to Belfast in order to work in Integrated, State, Catholic Maintained and Irish Language schools respectively to help create an overall culture of peace!

## PSI's New Home!!!

PSI has a new home!! We are proud to share the news that Peaceful Schools International now has a new permanent head office in Halifax, Nova Scotia. The new office is located on Saint Mary's University campus after signing a memorandum of understanding between the two organizations in September 2012. The address is:

Peaceful Schools International  
c/o Saint Mary's University  
923 Robie Street  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
B3H 3C3

## Saint Mary's Conflict Resolution Project



Saint Mary's Peace Education and Conflict Resolution Society  
2012-2013

## Activity!

### Peace Poems

Have your students create a peace poem! Discuss what peace means to them and help them create a poem which represents their visions of peace. Have the students share their finished poem with the class, this will help students understand the different ways people view peace.

Discussion:

1. Were there lots of similar words/phrases used in the poems? Why or why not?
2. Does peace mean the same thing to everyone?
3. If we all describe peace differently, how can we all work together to create peace?

Send PSI some of your wonderful Peace Poems! We would love to hear what peace means to you!!

## Important!!

**PSI is updating our files and we need your help!** To ensure we have the most effective communication with your school we are updating the "Primary Contact Person" in each file. Please send an e-mail to [info@peacefulschoolsinternational.org](mailto:info@peacefulschoolsinternational.org) with the name and e-mail address of the individual in your school you would like to designate this position to.