

**For Immediate Release**  
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## **Miriam School Students Plant Pinwheels for Peace**



At 9:30 a.m. on Monday, September 22, the Miriam School took part in Pinwheels for Peace, an international art and literacy project. During this International Celebration of Peace, Miriam students planted pinwheels with messages of peace in the front of Miriam School at 501 Bacon Avenue in Webster Groves.

Pinwheels for Peace is an art installation project started in 2005 by art teachers Ann Ayers and Ellen McMillan of Coconut Creek, Florida. This project allows students to express their feelings about what's going on in the world and in their lives. Last year (year 3) over 1.2 million pinwheels were spinning in over 2,500 locations, including the United States, Europe, Asia, Australia, Canada, the Middle East, Africa and South America.

The children learn that peace is non-political and doesn't have to be associated with the conflict of war. Peace is defined by the project as "a state of calm and serenity, with no anxiety, the absence of violence, freedom from conflict or disagreement among people or groups of people."

Miriam School students planted their pinwheels and wrote their thoughts about war and peace, tolerance and living in harmony with others on one side of the pinwheel. On the other side they drew, painted and collaged a visual expression of their feelings about peace. On the September 22nd, they "planted" their pinwheels as a public statement and art exhibit.

Miriam School, which is funded by the Miriam Foundation, has served children Pre-K through 8<sup>th</sup> grade with multiple learning disabilities in the St. Louis community for over 50 years. To learn more about Miriam School, visit [www.miriamschool.org](http://www.miriamschool.org) or call 314 968 5225.

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