



# Service Learning News

## 10.5.09

by Amanda Kuhen

Dear Parents,

Since the beginning of the school year, **fifth grade** students in our **Intermediate School** have been actively working on a service project based on their summer reading assignment. Students read *Three Cups of Tea*, by Greg Mortenson.

While mountain climbing in Pakistan, Mr. Mortenson gets lost, becomes ill, and is helped by Pakistani villagers. Paying it forward, Mr. Mortenson vowed to come back to the village and build a school. He helped accomplish this by creating the **Pennies for Peace** service-learning program. The Pennies for Peace project is designed to broaden students' cultural horizons while teaching them about philanthropy – “one penny at a time.” The proceeds of this project help provide community-based education and literacy programs to more than 28,000 students in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

According to Mrs. Johnson, Old Trail School fifth grade teacher, “How can a penny bring peace? It doesn't buy much in our community. However, in the villages of Pakistan and Afghanistan, a penny can buy a pencil, start an education and transform a life.”

If you have pennies collecting dust in a jar, or between the cushions in your couch, please consider sending them to one of the fifth grade classrooms. They would greatly appreciate the support! The **fifth grade** will be collecting pennies until winter break.



Serving together,

*Mandy*

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