

Dear Students & Parents/Guardians:

Hello! My name is Sunshine Wiesner, and I am very excited to welcome you to the 5th/6th grade classroom for the 2016-2017 school year. After spending my summer whale spotting in the San Juan Islands and exploring the exotic islands of Indonesia, I'll be ready to begin our new adventures and expeditions in the classroom. I can hardly wait to get to know my wonderful new La Tierra students and families!

I am excited to be joining LTCS for my second year. Last year was filled with so many wonderful experiences both inside and outside of the classroom. My students and I created beautiful projects, went on grand adventures, and learned so much about each other and the world around us. Besides last year at La Tierra, I have a background filled with teaching and learning experience. From a young age I have been involved in teaching music lessons, gymnastics classes, and working with special needs children and adults. After earning my education degree from Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, I got to practice my teaching skills in the snowy Bavaria, Germany for the Department of Defense. I moved to Thailand where I taught English on the tropical island of Phuket, then I spent a year teaching 6th grade at an international school in Guatemala. After returning to Arizona I spent some time substitute teaching, tutoring, and working in special education before coming to La Tierra. All of this travel and experience will help me to provide an enriching and positive learning experience to every student in my class this year. As a community of learners we will have opportunities to learn about ourselves, each other, and the diverse world around us through real-world tasks and hands-on projects.

It is my aim to have active and open communication with students and parents throughout the course of the school year. When teachers and parents work together to set and achieve common goals, students have a chance to thrive in academic and personal realms. During the first days of school I will be sending home surveys for both parents and students to complete so that I can get to know the individual needs and preferences of each student. Additionally, please feel free to contact me at any point with questions, concerns, or comments.

I look forward to seeing you all soon!

Miss Wiesner

swiesner@latierracommunityschool.org

