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A Peaceful Demonstration

Falls Church School Sponsors Pinwheels for Peace

FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA – In celebration of the International Day of Peace, students and staff at The Congressional Schools of Virginia took part in the national Pinwheels for Peace project. On Friday, September 21, the Congressional Schools campus on Sleepy Hollow Road transformed itself into a vision of peace and tranquility as students planted hundreds of pinwheels. Hand constructed and decorated by students in Kindergarten through grade 6, the pinwheels featured messages of peace written by students and staff.

Pinwheels for Peace is an art installation project started by two art teachers, Ann Ayers and Ellen McMillan, as a way for students to express their feelings about what's going on in the world and in their lives. The Pinwheels for Peace website points out that: "Peace doesn't necessarily have to be associated with the conflict of war; it can be related to violence/intolerance in our daily lives, to peace of mind. To each of us, peace can take on a different meaning, but, in the end, it all comes down to a simple definition: a state of calm and serenity, with no anxiety, the absence of violence, freedom from conflict or disagreement among people or groups of people."

An independent, coed day school founded in 1939, The Congressional Schools of Virginia enrolls 375 children from Preschool through grade 8. As part of the schools' mission to educate the whole child, its teaching goes beyond academics to enable students to become productive members of society. Giving back to the community is an important part of the schools' values. For more information visit: www.congressionalschools.org.