

PENNIES FOR PEACE

From left, Bird McGuire, Sloane McGuire, Natalie Parker and Alexa McGuire, head of the Del Mar Chapter of Kids for Peace; along with Luke Kaminskis, Ruthie Kaminskis, Chloe Kaminskis and Jesse Yu, gather at Del Mar Heights Elementary School with the pennies collected for Pennies for Peace. It is an organization started by Greg Mortenson, author of "Three Cups of Tea," who raises funds to build schools in Afghanistan and Pakistan, mostly for girls. "There are currently 11 chapters in San Diego County, and most are headed up by moms," McGuire said. "Our mission is to cultivate every child's innate ability to foster peace through cross-cultural experiences and hands-on arts, service and environmental projects. Every month we give out peace challenges to the kids. Last month, the youngsters took Pennies for Peace into their classrooms." The entire first and second grades at Del Mar Heights Elementary School pitched in, collecting for the entire month of October. On Nov. 4, the Kids for Peace group gathered up 67,480 pennies, cashed them in and prepared a check at its meeting Nov. 6 for \$674.80.

Courtesy photo

