

Live Learn Lead



The 9th graders and their upperclassmen chaperones limber up before their first full day at Winter Count this past week

ALDO LEOPOLD CHARTER SCHOOL

WEEKLY UPDATE

February 13, 2019

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Very important!

Here is a little math: if you are the parent of a current Aldo student + you have another child that you want to attend Aldo = you must put in a [lottery application](#) today!! Your second child will automatically get into the school, but **only if you put in the lottery application today!** If you know someone who would like their child to come to our school, please tell them to put in a lottery application. The first drawing happens this Friday, February 14 at 1:00pm.

NO GO!

Weather, grades, and interest caused the ski trip to be canceled. Good news: you get your kid for Valentine's Day ❤️ (Also: someone has saved \$130! If you already paid that fee, please contact Business Manager Harry Browne at hbrowne@aldocs.org to discuss your options.)

Thinking beyond themselves



Mike Fugagli, Sterling (11th, with the sign), Molly (10th), Hawk (11th), Joseph (10th), Carol Ann Fugagli, and Tigerlily (10th) (Pictured above from left) are hoping to go to the Climate Reality Leadership Corps in Las Vegas, Nevada. This three-day training with Former Vice President Al Gore, Jr. is March 8-10th (students will be gone the 7-10th). When the students finish the training, they will be certified Climate Reality Leaders, like Aiden, Emily, and Izabela (the three Aldo students who were trained in Atlanta last year), committed to fostering climate action in our community. The training is made possible as a partnership between the Upper Gila Watershed Alliance's youth empowerment and climate justice

program, Thinking ON a Mountain, and ALCS. If you would like to help these changemakers get to the training, you can go to their [GoFundMe page](#) to make a donation.

Doubling up



At last week's Kiwanis Student Of The Month luncheon, Aldo was extra represented. Our picks for January's Students of the Month, eleventh grader Hawk (the tall drink of water in the middle) and eighth grader Meliani (to the right of Hawk) were unable to make the January luncheon so they tagged along with February's Students of the Month senior Haley (to the left of Hawk) and sixth grader Angelio (far left). Each of these students is special in their own right.

Angelio has made leaps and bounds, according to his teacher Mr. Cantrell. We have seen

Angelio participating more and more and applying himself like nobody's business! Meliani is one of the nicest people at our school. She is always ready to lend a hand, quick with any supplies one might be out of, and sure to encourage anyone who is feeling down. She is so positive and friendly, putting everyone at ease. Hawk is one of the busiest kids on campus! He has become very involved in the school and we are so impressed with his enthusiasm and drive. Finally, Haley is finishing out her time at Aldo with kudos from her teachers for her leadership and the help that she so readily offers to other students. Thank you to these students for adding so much to our school community!

We are baffled

Always Bring a Pencil

By Naomi Shihab Nye

There will not be a test.
It does not have to be
a Number 2 pencil.

But there will be certain things—
the quiet flush of waves,
ripe scent of fish,
smooth ripple of the wind's second name—
that prefer to be written about
in pencil.

It gives them more room
to move around.

The teenage brain is full and muddled with hormones and crossed or not connected-yet wires and pathways that are like rutted, two-track roads, and so it is understandable that remembering to bring a writing utensil to school can be a real challenge. Buuuut we can notice that students always remember their phones, hmmm.....



The ups and downs of 8th grade science

Garrett's 8th grade science class studied energy transfer by building roller coasters! Super cool and colorful. You can't believe how many rolls of painters tape they went through. In the photo to the left The Loose Screws (Maya, Brandon, and Kevin) explain the design of their coaster "A Ride to Jewsus" (their spelling).

Here's to life!

On Valentine's Day the ~~6th and 7th graders~~ will bus out to ~~Windmill Wash on the Georgetown Mine Road~~ where they will transform into fossil hunters. After lunch they will go to the historic cemetery out there and do some rubbings and imagine the love stories of the people buried there (Valentine's Day, remember?)

The ~~8th graders~~ will be going with Jennifer, Garrett and Mr. Knight to [Bear Mountain Lodge](#) to view the [One Million Bones](#) installation. This project started in Albuquerque "with the vision of installation artist Naomi Natale, who wanted to make the problem of genocide visible to the world." After a massive campaign of making bones out of clay and then ambitiously laying them on the mall in Washington, D.C. "as a visible petition against the ongoing genocides and mass atrocities in the Darfur region of Sudan, South Sudan, Congo, Burma and Syria," these bones ended their journey on the Bear Mount Lodge property. We will also be hiking on the other trails out there. It's going to be a bea-u-ti-ful day!

Actually the middle school will be doing none of this because with the snow and rain we got this past week, the dirt roads are too muddy for the bus. Sooooo.....we are working on Plan B. Bring the BIG 5 and all will go fine.

Community Orientation

After spending three days camping and learning primitive skills at Winter Count outside of Tucson, the 9th graders of CO will spend Friday hiking Purgatory Chasm near Lake Roberts. This is a lovely hike that requires care and intention. The BIG 5 is always a must.

It's not all coming up roses: Nursing Notes - The Other "Corona Virus"

Not a day goes by when we don't hear a story on the morning news about the coronavirus epidemic. Pandemics frighten us, and not without cause; in the last major coronavirus outbreak, the 2002-03 SARS pandemic in southern China, the virus killed nearly 800 people worldwide. As of February 10 of this year, the latest coronavirus has infected at least 42,000 people and claimed more than 1000 lives.

It's not unreasonable to be frightened by these numbers. But when we put coronavirus into context, we see that the number of fatalities—at least so far—is relatively low. Last week, I wanted to share a little epidemiology with my freshman math students, so we looked at the exponential growth of coronavirus infections in China. And then we looked at the number of influenza (flu) deaths in the United States—and even I was astonished by the large numbers of people affected by this very common annual viral revisitation.

During the 2018-19 flu season—which by the way was an "average" year for the last decade—about 35 million people contracted the flu, while 34,000 people died of their influenza infection. These statistics show us that about 1 in 1000 Americans who *contract* the flu end up *dying* from the flu.

But I want to take this troubling conversation a step further and put flu deaths in the context of an even *larger* threat to young people's lives. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the three leading causes of death in people ages 15 - 24 are (1) car accidents, (2) homicides, and (3) suicide. Flu and pneumonia rank a distant 9th as a cause of death for that age group, accounting for slightly more than a half-percent of fatalities. (In 2018, that amounted to fewer than 200 deaths.)

By contrast, 41% of the deaths in the 15-24 age group were the result of motor vehicle accidents.

Here are some troubling but useful data from the Centers for Disease Control:

- About a quarter of drivers age 15-20 who died in motor vehicle crashes had a blood alcohol content of 0.08 grams/deciliter or higher. (Incidentally, 0.08 g/dL is New Mexico's legal limit for adults over 21; for drivers under 21, the state sets the legal limit at 0.02.)
- A 2008 study found that three-quarters of teen drivers who died in motor vehicle crashes after drinking and driving were not wearing a seatbelt.

These are in every sense of the word *sobering* statistics.

It's probably human nature to confront our fears by making jokes about what scares us; you've probably heard the one-liner advice from the family wag, alerting you that "drinking Corona can stop the Coronavirus!" For now, there's not much we can do (outside of setting up quarantine stations) to limit the spread of coronavirus in the US. As for the flu, we can practice hard-core hand hygiene, sneeze into our arms, and stop by the doctor's office for a flu vaccine.

As for the epidemic of motor-vehicle deaths among our young people, there is *much* that we can do. Above all, we adults can respond as we would to any public-health threat: by practicing preventive measures, like talking to the young people in our lives about the role alcohol plays in motor-vehicle accidents. This "viral" public-health threat is at least 20 times deadlier than the worst flus we've seen in the last decade. Why wouldn't we take every reasonable safety precaution to stop this 21st-century plague?

And then a little humor

[What the middle school journalists thought the middle school students would be interested in this week.](#)