

Aldo Leopold Charter School

Weekly Update

2.4.21



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410 West 10th Street
Silver City, NM 88061

Snow, cement, and cold metal railing
Fresh air and a cigarette burning
Smoke from a fireplace
The taste of coffee to keep me awake
The people yelling from a field across the street
Sirens going past my house
Snow, cars, cats, and trees
-Teneal

Cold surrounding me
Melting snow
wind
Whistling in leaves

Oaks
Willows and pines
Cottonwood
Frozen stream

Cold watery snow
Melting

Hills covered in snow
Deer tracks
Broken branches

Cold air burning my nostrils
Warm spit
Cold

-Luna (6th)

The word is out

By now many of you know that Governor Lujan-Grisham has said that secondary schools can begin hybrid learning (some kids here and some online) as of Monday, February 8. This is a BIG deal! Many of us have lived in our softest clothes for the past 10 months, we've forgotten that brushing your teeth twice a day is the norm, and shoes? What are those?

And...ummm...can you remind me....um....what I'm...um.....supposed to do when...ummmm...someone looks at me and their mouth starts moving and words...um... come out of it....??? Read these letters to [high school](#) and [middle school](#) families to find out where the school is at with welcoming students back into their school building.

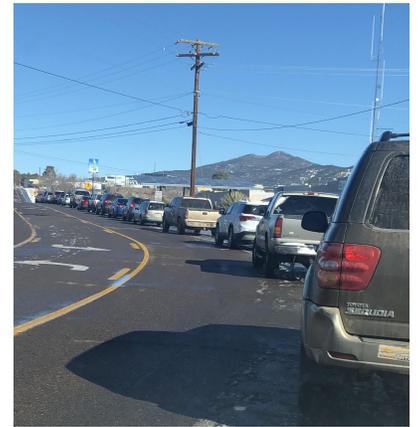
The young will save us from ourselves!

Carol Ann and Mike Fugagli are teaching the eco monitors about climate change and that by educating themselves they can be informed about this harrowing issue and then how they can make a difference. If you too want to be one of the cool(ing off the planet) kids check out the [Alliance for Climate Change Education website](#) and watch some of the videos that the eco monitors learned from. There is also this

beautiful video about the wolves on [Ted Turner's Montana Ranch and Val Asher the Jane Goodall of Wolves](#). And finally, for those of you who are into saving our perfect planet AND poetry, Carol Ann and Mike shared the poem [Earthrise](#) from Amanda Gorman, our country's Youth Poet Laureate.

Some encouragement

When asked, “What is something positive you have gotten out of this Covid-time?” one of the 8th graders said, “Well, we are living through a historical time. We are not going to forget this!” So true. And that is what I thought about as I sat in my car waiting for my first shot of the vaccine. That and I just want kids to come back to school and if my getting the shot is going to bring a level of comfort to my colleagues and parents, count me in! Many people are thinking critically about whether they should or shouldn’t get this new vaccine. Jim McIntosh, our school nurse, is also one who has given this a lot of thoughts and [here they are](#).



Sleek Snowy Day

Happy, throwing snow, at my dog,
Laughter
Snow, falling into, my mouth
Wind rustling, trees, birds flying
Fire
Warm,
love , light, happy
-Zeyah (6th)

Don't even try to consider how it makes sense!

The 8th graders are learning algebra. With fractions. Luckily Garrett gave them this [video with Larry Bird](#) (pre-Celtics days) to remind them how to add unlike fractions.

Be your own mirror

A crucial part of experiential education is reflection. Why are we learning this stuff? (See the above, for example.) Pete, Nathan, and Orien help the 9th graders to understand what this all means to them

by asking them to reflect each week on their experience in Community Orientation. Try this exercise for yourself and see what insight you might find when you reflect on an ordinary experience.

1). What did I learn? 2). Why did I learn it? 3). What skills did I practice? 4). How does this connect to what I learned? 5). How will I use this?

“Poetry might be defined as the clear expression of mixed feelings.”

—W.H. Auden

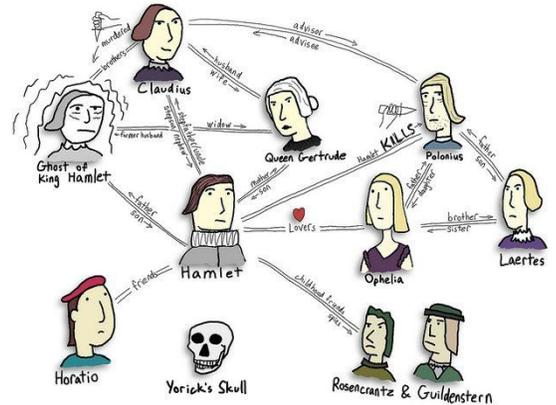
Thank you to the poets in Mr. Cantrell’s 6th grade class for the sweet reminders about our snowy day.

damp and bitter
fresh
Wood burning
Soft wind
A winter wonderland
-Chloe (6th)

“Men at some time are masters of their fates. The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars, but in ourselves, that we are underlings.”

— William Shakespeare, Julius Caesar

The seniors in Jim’s World Writers class are studying Shakespeare’s Julius Caesar. Katia Ibarra, Jim’s student teacher (lucky duck, Katia!) is leading this unit and starting out with a study of the characters using character mapping, like this example of the characters from Hamlet. This way students can keep track of characters and their relationships to one another, thus leading to an understanding of motivations which hopefully will bring students to recognizing Shakespeare's driving themes (whoa, I really slipped into English teacher speak there!)



Eye rolls and slamming doors and deep breaths and pleas for “Can we all just get along?!”

Snowy yard

White snow plated across the yard

Plants some dead some alive

Concrete condensed like a rock

Cold chill going down my throat

Moisture from the snow

-Alexander (6th)

Lots of people love the people they are living with right now. We just wish they’d go away. Just for a little bit. So we could get some peace and quiet and Me Time. But shoot, they can’t and neither can we because...WE ARE LIVING THROUGH A PANDEMIC.

This [video from KOED in San Francisco](#) gives some insights about why this whole staying home thing is so counterintuitive to the teenage brain and what as the people who love them more than anyone in the world (we don’t

always like them a ton, though), we can do to create peace and harmony in the place that we really wish we could leave.

