

# Aldo Leopold Charter School

## Weekly Update

3.12.21



(575)538-2547

410 West 10th Street

Silver City, NM 88061



Deidranee, 8th grade

## The best day ev-eeerrr!



After nearly a year of only seeing our students through a computer screen, **middle school** teachers were jubilant and ecstatic to see their students face to (6-ft away) face. Your children have bodies! and voices! and they say stuff! and they interact! It was a-MAZ-ing! 8th grade started out with fan favorite Mafia, led by Don Lola (pictured left). Then we took a tour of the campus, stopping at Old James Stadium for a Simon Says-like game where everyone had to lie flat on their backs until Garrett said, “Fire on the roof,”

(NOT “Fire

on the roomba” NOT “Fire on the rheumatoid arthritis” NOT Fire on the roooooo-m.”) and then everyone had to jump up and the last one standing was out. We wrapped up our precious time together with reminders for students’ **return to FULL-TIME IN-PERSON school** starting **Tuesday, March 23 (9:00-2:35)** Parents, see [the letter, schedules and details](#) about our return. We can’t thank you enough for all your flexibility and patience!

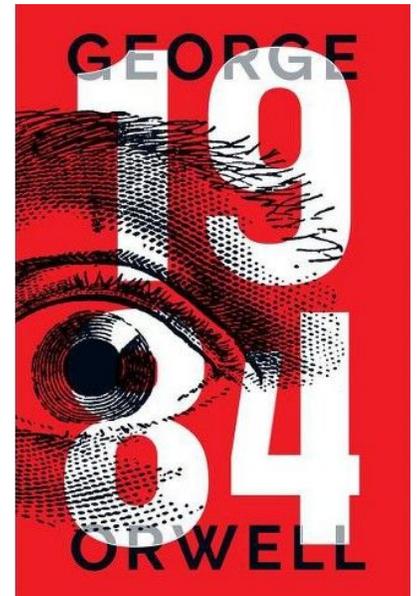


## The big kids are coming back too!

The high school's plan for return is to give students the first week to adjust to their new schedule and remembering to wear proper clothes to class (NO SPONGEBOB PAJAMA BOTTOMS!). The second week will be activities to reinforce the school culture and norms, similar to how a normal school year would start. Keep an eye on your google classroom, email, and the website for details. For starters check out the [letter to all families](#) from our director Mr. Sherwood and the [high school first week back schedule](#).

## A look into Dystopian novels

The 10th grade Language Arts classes have decided to take a crack at reading "1984" by George Orwell. Led by the great and wise **Mark Martinez**, the students are taken to a Dystopian future in which a twisted and corrupted government is in complete control of every little detail. If there was one way to describe this book, it would be a wild ride for sure! The narrative is odd for some, but it provides an interesting concept that is expanded on with each passing chapter. *(Because trust us, you'll need it if you're one of those people who loves getting lost in fictional worlds!)* The class has been following the story of Mister **Winston Smith** since last semester, and seeing how he progresses as a person and how that progresses the plot itself really solidifies "1984" as a great read. Have you ever learned or done something that made you feel like you moved forward as a person?



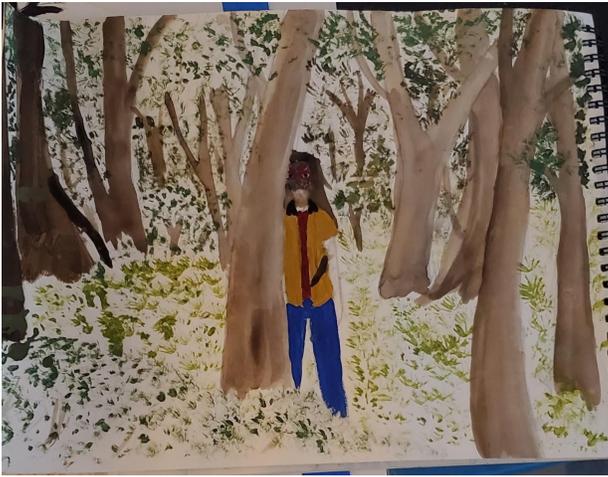
## Pencils up for Cliff Swallows!

The Art Class is back at it again. They've finished up their **Mexican gray wolf** stamps, so what's next on the agenda? **Alison Phillips** has assigned the students with a new task, to design a sticker featuring...*drumroll please...*oh, you read the headline. A **cliff swallow**! The aim of the stickers is to promote cliff swallows in all their beauty. Not only do these junior artists get to use their creativity, but the fruits of these creative minds are for a good cause as well. The stickers they have designed will be sold to **raise money for the SW**



**Audubon Society**. This project will help bring attention to these birds, and spread awareness of their importance to our ecosystem. Oh, and slogans are fair game for these art pieces as well. Go wild with words and promote the cliff swallows! Good luck, Aldo Art Students!

## We are still in a pandemic



Our state and the states around us are loosening the restrictions we have all lived with for the past year (yes, it's been nearly a year since the lock down starting March 13, 2020- a Friday the 13th, OF course). But even though we feel a bit freer to move about the cabin that is the state of New Mexico, many people are still feeling the effects of lost jobs. **If your child qualifies for free and reduced lunch, you will be receiving a Pandemic-EBT card to help pay for food.** You should have received a P-EBT card last spring in your child's name. The Public Education

**Luna, 6th grade** Department and the Human Services Department have been receiving thousands of calls a day from their constituents with questions related to these benefits. BEFORE you pick up the phone to call the PED or the HSD, **read through these FAQs from the HSD** on the [Reentry and Covid Protocol page](#) on the school's website to find your answer. If you are *still* stuck, THEN call the P-EBT hotline 1-833-415-0569 OR go to their website <https://www.yes.state.nm.us/yesnn/home/index>

## Art work! Art work! Get your art work here!

Through a program called Co-Starters, Kori and Nathan were trained to inspire and help the students of Community Orientation to discover an interest that they could turn into something that maybe they could make some money with. The program encourages the entrepreneurial spirit! This past Saturday, two of the go-getters from the CO class, Willow and Makiah, took the Farmers Market up on their offer for free space to sell their artwork. Go to the Farmers Market next Saturday, March 20 to support these two artists!



## Water is life

**Saturday, March 20** is **World Water Day** and the Southwest Watershed Keepers is honoring that with a **community clean up in our beloved Big Ditch**. Come from **9:00 am-noon**. *Wear a face mask, and bring a water bottle, hat, and work gloves (sounds a lot like the Big 5, Aldonians)*. You can help pick up trash, do some water quality monitoring, and plant some native seedlings. Then on **Monday, March 22**, you can listen in on a [virtual panel discussion](#) hosted by the Bayard Public Library with local activists. For more information go to [Silver City Watershed Keepers](#).

## Eco Monitors using some elbow grease!



Sophomores Rachel, Zoe, and Phoenix begin work work to make soil sifters which will help the Eco Monitors learn about regenerative agriculture.



L to r: Aiden (11th), Evan (12th), Minnie and Phoenix (10th), Mauri (11th), and Zoe (10th) work on the soil sifter in the back parking lot.



Zoe, Rachel, Phoenix, and Minnie with their completed soil sifter!

## So this is how those soil sifters will get used



Digging out the poor soil in a planting bed in San Vicente Creek. The soil will be sifted to remove rocks, and inoculated with biochar and compost, then put back in the bed. Plants will be planted on World Water Day involving garden crew and Watershed Keepers.

**Mauri, Phoenix, and Zoe**



**Minnie and Evan**



**L to R: Mike Fugagli (Eco Monitor Supervisor), Hawk, Rachel, Minnie, Aiden, Mauri, Phoenix, and Zoe**



# Nature/Art Contest!

All Middle and High School Students\*

\*In Grant County

UPPER GILA WATERSHED ALLIANCE

## \$1,000 IN PRIZES!

- ALL SUBMISSIONS MUST BE ORIGINAL AND CREATED BETWEEN DEC. 1 2020 AND MAY 5 2021
- PARTICIPANTS MAY ENTER ONE PIECE IN EACH CATEGORY
- VIDEOS LIMITED TO 5 MINUTES

Visit the UGWA website at:

[ugwa.org](http://ugwa.org).

for all details and  
submission guidelines

Questions?

Carol Ann: [admin@ugwa.org](mailto:admin@ugwa.org)

Full rules and details: [ugwa.org](http://ugwa.org)

\*All entries could be displayed at art galleries, coffee shops, or other public locations.



### Creative Expression in Art

*Using a medium of your choice, how does nature make you feel?*

Examples:

- A drawing of the Gila River
- Photographs of your backyard
- A video about a picnic or camping trip
- A sculpture of an animal
- A poem/short story/essay about your experiences in the natural world.

Make it personal.

### Creative Expression in Life Science

*Using a medium of your choice, describe a process of science that you find engaging and important.*

Examples:

- A drawing of the life cycle of a mayfly
- A time lapse of a flower blooming
- A drawing with the labeled parts of a plant
- A description of an experiment you did

Visit <https://scistarter.org/finder> for more science ideas.