



**Santa Fe School for the Arts & Sciences Newsletter**  
*Academic Excellence, Respect & Diversity*

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

Volume 7 Issue 3

**Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>**

**SPECIAL SCHOOL STORE**

**8:00-9:00am & 3:00-3:30**

Last Chance to buy great gifts and help our school! Please come.

We have great presents- all sizes and prices for kids of any age.

**Weds. December 20 8:45am**

Our school Geography Bee

**Friday, Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>-**

**NO SCHOOL**

Winter Break starts

**Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup>**

Back to School

**Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup>**

Class Spelling Bees

**Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup>**

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

No School

**Monday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Rehearsals begin at Santa Fe High School

**Friday, January 26<sup>th</sup>**

Our annual drama performance

Musical Review shows at 12:30 & 6:30 featuring

Our Unicorns, Stargazers, Centaurs & Badgers

Both shows will be held at SF High School

**Can anyone take sewing home over the break?**

**Does anyone have cat ears or umbrellas??**

Dear Families,

Please remember, there is no school this Friday! Winter Break begins this Friday and we return on Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup>.

Please check your mailboxes and email this week for important information about our upcoming show and our overseas trips.

**RECYCLING!!!**

Thanks to our wonderful Centaur class, our school wide recycling program is going strong! However, we need some help from our community to deliver the recycling to the transfer stations on Friday afternoons. It is fun and easy and only takes about an hour of your time. If anyone is interested in helping out, please email Todd at [tstiewing@gmail.com](mailto:tstiewing@gmail.com) or call the school to find out more. Thank you.

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## Unicorn Update

This month our Expedition on exploring the Life Cycle of a Vegetable is underway. It will culminate with the planting of a vegetable garden in the spring. The Unicorns have started learning the parts of the pumpkin and corn, which were vegetables they harvested this fall. They have learned the parts of the pumpkin and corn by observing, identifying, drawing, and writing out the names of its parts: e.g., the skin, ribs, tendrils, vines, cavity and pulp of the pumpkin; and the stalk, cob, silk, tassels and kernels of the corn. One day last week, Jerry brought in an air popper hidden in a box. He set it up and turned it on, while the Unicorns guessed what was inside the box. They students deduced it was popcorn, which came from the corncob, and further hypothesized that the kernels from the corn popped because the air popper heated them up.

Last Friday after the Unicorns sang their song about the parts of the pumpkin, they washed off the pumpkin the students grew the previous year. Then the teachers cut it open, and the Unicorns scooped out the brains, seeds, and pumpkin pulp. Next, the skin was cut up and cooked so that it softened, and the Unicorns scooped the pulp out, like they learned in their song. Then they took the pulp and blended it with the teacher's help using a hand blender, and followed the recipe to complete a pumpkin pie. At 2:30 the pumpkin pie was finished, and they all enjoyed their tasty hard work.

Each Unicorn has planted a pumpkin seed in their science center and now everyone's seed is starting to sprout.

P.S. The chrysalis is still dormant.

-Suzanne Shakespeare

## Unicorn Quotes

Sylvie said, "Me and Eli were still in my Mom and Dad's tummy, I mean my mom's tummy. I keep forgetting."

After making fresh veggie juice with a juicer one day Noah said, "I love this, I want this for Christmas."

During free play, a girl in the class came up to Jack and gave him a hug. He said, "That's the first time I was attacked by a girl."

One day Jonah said, "If someone is crying and never stops, that's Prince Charming."

During naptime Laura was reading a book and asked who the characters were. Jack answered with, "That's a human sapien!"

During free-play Makai told me and some of her friends, "Once, during summer camp, these guys were fighting with the wands and the magic came out and got in someone's eyes."

During nap time Amy was reading a book and Noah asked who the author was. Jack responded saying, "That's my mother!"

While rehearsing for the musical Thumbelina with Rayna, Berke said, "Are we going to be dressed as thumbs?"

Amy was leading an activity with a balloon. She asked the Unicorns why we all don't go for the balloon at the same time. Jack said, "So we don't bonk our heads, and then you'd have a disease."

## Stargazer Scoops

The Stargazer's second trimester has begun.

In math we are beginning to study number operations and algebra. We are presently covering numbers to 100 for the first graders and 1000 for the second graders, We are learning about number order, odds and evens, skip counting by 2's, 5's and 10's and ordinal numbers, and we are beginning to group by ten's in preparation for learning place value. In algebra we are learning about grouping "like things" together, number patterns, and fact families.

In language arts we are continuing WatchWord and we soon be adding silent e and long vowel patterns. We are learning about word choice and voice in writing and discovering how authors create mental images in our reading. In read aloud I am reading Alice in Wonderland to the children..

Our expedition kicked off with a discussion of the question "What makes a poem, a poem?" We have been reading a variety of poems and then discussing this question afterwards and are discovering many things.

Here are some insights about poems the children have come up with so far.

*"It's like a story and then they would add words you wouldn't use when talking, like a song."*  
Alicia

*"Some poems don't rhyme."* Merit

*"A poem can sometimes be a weird story; like having the word poem in a poem!"* John

*"Poems can be long or short."* Isabel

*"A poem doesn't have to have real words in it."* Sofia

*"A poem is some words that rhyme that make a story."* Sarafina

*"A poem could be mad or sad or any feeling."* Nicky

*"A poem can tell mostly about one thing."* Alicia

*"A poem can actually make you have a feeling."* Sofia

*"It's kind of like a song 'cause it rhymes and has one thing in it."* Isabel

*"A poem normally has excitement in it."* Merit

*"Poems can come from stories and they shorten them into a poem, like otherwise the book would be really thick!"* Merit

*"A poem could come from a story and then the author puts his imagination in it."* Sofia

*"Poems can be detailed"* Isabel

*"They don't just make a story, they stop and start, like a rhythm."* John

*"They say more of the same words. Like whistling, whistling..."* Sarafina and Sofia

*"A poem could be a short, but funny story that could rhyme."* Alicia

By reading a variety of poems in class and defining what a poem is from experience, the children will have constructed their understanding. We have also written two class poems, one entitled "I Wish" and the other "I used to \_\_\_\_\_ but now I \_\_\_\_\_" They are posted in the class. A large part of this expedition is visual arts. We are also learning about the elements of art: line, texture, shape, balance, and color. The children will create their own illustrated books, illustrating their favorite original poem. We will be entering their books into the Reading Rainbow contest for young authors. KNME has chosen our school to host their annual reading rainbow event with a famous children's author in January. We have also arranged for a published poet and author to visit the class as experts. The children are natural poets.

Here is a conversation I was lucky to be a part of at recess:

Julianna "Do you know what we are playing?"

Chintan "No"

Julianna " We are playing we are in Chime's dream."

Okema "And we can't get out!"



## *Centaur Class Update*

The Centaurs really demonstrated their determination and resilience in getting ready for the Wintercomes showcase a few weeks ago. Even the snow day didn't slow them down as they put together an amazing show for the entire school community. Thanks to all the families who came and participated in this wonderful celebration of the remarkable work that our students do every day.

Now that we're on our way into the winter break the Centaurs are continuing to work on their energy guides in order to have it finished by the break. Each Centaur is creating their own informative guide to the energy source they have been studying these past few months. They are focusing on areas such as the process, history, and advantages of using different types of energy. The final product will be a comprehensive energy guide that will be critiqued by some very knowledgeable volunteers at the NM Department of Energy.

In math workshop, we have moved into our multiplication unit and will continue to focus on learning our facts throughout the rest of the year. Although I am amazed at how fast they are learning them already! After the break we will be moving ahead with multiple-digit multiplication and then jumping right into the world of division. The Centaur class has also been showing off their problem solving skills in our weekly math challenges.

Our Recycling movie sneak preview was a wonderful representation of how our class contributes to our community and the environment. Most people told me they learned a lot about recycling from the movie, which reaffirms our main goal in doing this. However, we do need some help from our community to deliver the recycling to the transfer stations on Friday afternoons. It is fun and easy and only takes about an hour of your time. If anyone is interested in helping out please email Todd at [tstiewing@gmail.com](mailto:tstiewing@gmail.com) or call the school to find out more. Thank you.

Interesting energy facts from our Centaur experts;

- In 1890, the first commercially available solar water heaters were invented in southern California.
- In 1955, Arco Idaho was the first U.S town to use nuclear energy.
- Coal was discovered by explorers in 1673 along the Illinois River in northern Illinois.
- In 500-900 AD, windmills in Persia were used to grind corn and pump water.
- The 109 nuclear power plants in the U.S. make 620 billion kilowatt hours of net electricity each year.

## **Badger Business**

By Matt Burke-Newsum

The Badgers are rockin'!

In math, we are investigating different types of graphs. Students are learning about statistics and organizing them in graphical form.

Everyone enjoyed the Open House night. The students loved sharing their work and informing people about what they have learned and have been working on. The students did a beautiful job signing “Let it Be” and “Blackbird” and we hope to have a movie of all of the ASL performances from Wintercomes soon.

The Badgers have also been working hard in drama, preparing for their challenging musical review show. In addition to their regular drama class, they have been lucky enough to have the opportunity to work sometimes with Allegra Lillard on their choreography and Lisa Lincoln on their singing, as they prepare to perform difficult musical numbers from *Singing in the Rain*, *Wicked* and *Rent*.

Students have been working extremely hard on their narratives, research projects, power point presentations and character profiles. They are also writing persuasive essays on how we can help stabilize the climate. The Badgers have even done weather presentations in Spanish for their Spanish class and have made tremendous progress in Spanish so far this year.

We are continuing our work on our Weather Events expedition and hope to be done before break. The students are really appreciating the critique process. After every critique, they come up with new ideas and changes for their individual writing pieces. They are constantly adding to their work and many are impressed with how much they have actually done.

After Winter Break, the Badgers will begin Community Service on Friday mornings. They will have the opportunity to work at Food Depot, Challenge NM, Cesar Chavez Elementary School and in our Unicorn Class.

The Badgers continue to encourage each other and reach for new heights.

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### Poetry Workshops

The 7<sup>th</sup> grade has been working closely with Will Barnes (Cody's father) in weekly poetry workshops. For the past two weeks, we have been reading haiku and writing poetry inspired by haiku styles. It's been wonderfully successful, and both Will and I are impressed with what the students have written. Here is some of the students' work:

Dried leaves cover the ground  
The sound of breaking twigs  
Where is it coming from?

-Sachi

Drawing in the sand  
A pebble gets in the way  
I move it aside.

-Malia

The grass around me  
Welcomes me into its grasp  
It's very soothing.

-Bryce

A lonely table  
A lonely field  
A lonely world.

- Fernando

A slash in the land  
Made by a stick  
And covered with pebbles.

- Megan

Snow on the mountains  
It's getting colder outside  
But there's more dirt, right?

-Diego

The cold autumn air  
Biting at my arms  
And yet the sky is blue.

-Mark

Chills on my back  
Feathers on ice  
What else do you see?

-Nathaniel

The trees sway gently  
The wind flows with peace in heart  
this beautiful earth.

- Josh

The decaying tree  
All of the wonderful dreams  
Have gone with it.

-Cody

Chilled breeze on my cheek  
High in the decaying tree  
Please don't break now tree!

-Maddy

Death  
A falling branch,  
From the tree of life.

- Sophia

## Peace Jam Club Meets with Mayor Coss

Our Peace Jam club recently met with Mayor Coss to share their concern about the lack of services for homeless teens. Our students informed the mayor that while there are several animal shelters in town, there isn't a single place that a cold, abused or runaway teen can go to spend the night! The local Youth Shelters and Family Services program instead hands out sleeping bags and tents to teens in need!

Our students really impressed Mayor Coss with their sincerity and caring and he said he would look into several of their suggestions, including using the empty Albertsons or Ambers as a temporary shelter. The mayor had two assistants on hand to take notes and write down all of our students' suggestions. Several students also read their letters to the mayor out loud.

When one of our students mentioned that it seemed like very few people in town were aware of this problem and that perhaps he needed to get the word out more with public service announcements on TV and radio, the Mayor asked our students if they would be willing to film a commercial for TV and record a PSA for radio about this! They were thrilled to be asked and readily agreed!

The students then visited Youth Shelters and Family Services and delivered over 10 bags of clothing and food for their programs. The director was very kind and appreciative of everything our teens were doing and she said she wished more teens cared about other people the way our teens do. She also offered to come to our school and talk with students about the services they provide.

Last year, a group of our students made a film about runaway teens and the Youth Shelter program for homeless youth called "Finally Gone." This film won first place at the Espanola Film Festival (ESE )last year. Our Peace Jam club gave a copy of this film to the mayor and he was so impressed with it, that his office called the school and asked if they could show our film on Public Access TV!

Overall, our students were thrilled with the impact of their efforts and felt really good about all they had done. On the way home on the way they were even singing the old Queen song, "We are the Champions!"

## Fine Art

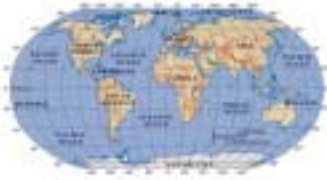
Art classes are now happily working on winter cards for their families. The Centaurs and Badgers are working on a "winter theme." The middle school art classes are using William Bentley's amazing snowflake photographs as their inspiration for collages and watercolors. The artwork will be sent home to make copies if you wish. Kinkos and Office Max can both take artwork and transfer it onto mugs, mouse pads, cards and calendars.

The student's wonderful peace posters are now available as postcards for \$2.00 each! A complimentary card was sent home in your mailbox this week.

All postcard orders are due by Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>. We could make more in January as well. Postcards of the 8th grade hubcaps are available as well.

The Peace Poster awards were presented in school last Tuesday. The participants received a certificate and the winners received a savings bond and a gift certificate to Valdez art supplies. Congratulations to all!

Check out the new **art on our website (it will be up any day now!)**...we have last year's Andy Goldsworthy pieces and some of this year's ornamented art and peace posters and hopefully much more as the year progresses.



## Geography Fever!

The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Humanities classes have been looking in the atlas and on the web to gain as much information as possible for the National Geographic Geo Bee. This will be held at school for Centaurs, Badgers and Middle School students on Wednesday, December 21. There are quite a few students who will be hard to beat in this competition.

At the Wintercomes festival at the beginning of December, middle school students challenged parents to compete. It was neck-and-neck for a long time, but in the end, the parents won by two points. Congratulations!

Geography has become our year-long Expedition. We're looking at the Five Themes of Geography, and have begun in-depth investigations into Japan and France to prepare for our trips. Each student will also become an expert in a geographical region – the physical characteristics, culture, daily life, politics, clothing and human interaction with the environment. The focus question – how does geography affect all aspects of a culture?

Here are some of the globes made by the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, and some of the Iraq/Mesopotamia projects from the 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Many students have also completed maps of North America, the Middle East, Africa and Europe as they work in the Mapping the World by Heart program.



Zay's Dad

# PREMIER

MOTORCARS of SANTA FE

4480 Cerrillos Rd. Santa Fe, NM 87507  
(In the Autopark)  
Roman Ramsey 505-677-3261



Let me help you with your next vehicle purchase. We sell Honda, Subaru and Volkswagen as well as all kinds of used cars. Now you have someone "on the inside".

\$50 from each SFSAS purchase will be contributed back to the school.

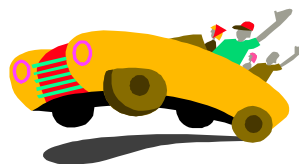
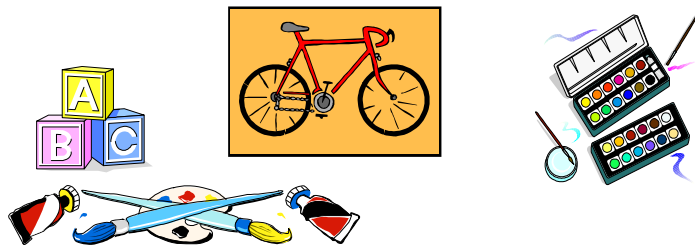





## SNOW DAYS

If we have a delayed opening or are canceling school due to icy road conditions or snow, you can listen to the radio and listen for the public school closings or call our school cell phone, 920-9709 and listen to the message! If there is no snow day message, then we have school as usual.

If anyone would like to donate an unwrapped gift to the Santa Fe Fire Fighters Association to be distributed to needy children please contact Paul Moreno (Andrew and Jacob's dad) for information or any other help.



**Jesse Andrew Colvin (aka Andy: Sarah & Makai's Dad and Cathy Weber's husband) would like to offer a \$200 bonus fee to the school for any customer referred to him who then buys a new or used car from Santa Fe Chevrolet, in the Auto Park on Cerrillos Road. Call Jesse (Andy) at 505-660-8565 for an appointment and make sure to tell him "Rayna sent me."**

## Ways to Help our School.....

**Thank you so much to 20 families & teachers who have already made a donation to our Capital Campaign.**

We truly hope everyone will consider making a donation. Donations can be directed towards our Capital Campaign and our scholarship fund.

Any size donation is deeply appreciated and much needed. Every little bit really does add up and we can reach our goal if everyone helps!

Each family who makes a donation, (any amount) receives a 2007 SFSAS school calendar free of charge!

We are also looking for in kind donations of building supplies and landscaping services. Please let us know if you can make an in-kind donation of services or supplies.

We are currently sending out our Capital Campaign brochure and donation request packet to the larger community. Please let us know if you have any friends or relatives to whom you would like to send a packet. We can give you our donation request letter to include and you can write your own personal note on it or you can handwrite your own.

Please remember, all donations are tax-deductible.

We know this is a challenging time for everyone, but if we all chip in as best we can, we can make this dream come true!

## PAINLESS FUNDRAISING

- ✓ Use your **LOCAL's CARE Card**- we have more cards you can give to family and friends!
- ✓ Make sure you have your Albertsons preferred shopper card set up to benefit our school and just present it every time you shop and we receive a percentage! It's our best fundraiser!
- ✓ **Smith's** also has an Earn & Learn program. Just sign up and designate our school as your school of choice. Present your card at checkout and Smiths will automatically donate up to 5% of your purchases to our school. To enroll, call 1-800-764-8897 or log onto [www.smithsfoodanddrug.com](http://www.smithsfoodanddrug.com)
- ✓ Go to [www.schoolpop.com](http://www.schoolpop.com) before shopping online and we receive a percentage at no cost to you! You can also get a Schoolpop Visa card.
- ✓ **Target:** You can get a Target card to help our school- just go to their website [www.target.com](http://www.target.com) or call 1-800-316-6142 and tell them our account number is 115315!
- ✓ **Office Depot**- Just tell them the name of our school at check out and again, we receive a small percentage of your purchase at no cost to you!
- ✓ **Recycling Fundraising** - Every empty toner, inkjet printer cartridge and used cell phone that we collect will earn us points towards a wide range of educational materials. Please collect them from your work and tell your friends!! We have a plastic recycling basket for this in the main building entryway. We also refill our computer ink jet cartridges so bring them in and help our school!

**THANKS FOR HELPING US IN SO MANY WAYS!**