

THANK YOU !!



Thank you Catherine Fleming for donating a car for our Peace Jam club to decorate! Thank you to all of the parents who brought their children to the Villa Linda Mall for our music performance and school store sale. The marimba and cello students played beautifully. The school store helped raise hundreds of dollars for the middle school trips. Thank you to everyone who helped with our Heifer International fundraisers.

Thank you to everyone who brought food for our Winter Show- the potluck was a great success. Thank you Edgard and Adrian for helping with the sound. Thank you Tony and Cathy for videotaping the event. Thank you Capital High School, Brad Fairbanks and Felicia Bootes for your wonderful help and support with our winter show. Thank you Robin Jones for all of your help with the winter show. Thank you to all of the parents who battled against the traffic at Capital High to get their kids to rehearsals on time!

Thank you to all parents who gave money for the teacher holiday bonus gifts! You are all very much appreciated! Thank you to everyone who ordered school calendars and cards! Thank you Erem, Amy B. and Megan S. for your help with the school cards. Thank you Maida for your help with our haunted house!

Thank you Wendy for making our Dolphin Cove makeover a reality! Thank you to everyone who helped make the Badger mudroom! Thank you to the wonderful parents who are doing our Scholastic orders- Leonora, Kirsten, Chriss and Danusia! Thank you Katie for doing the Scholastic orders for the middle school! Thank you Michele and Sydney for arranging the inspiring field trips to your photography gallery. Thank you Maida for the articles you pass onto the middle school. Thank you Sally for continuing to do our recycling program! Thank you Stephen and Mark for chaperoning the Badger trip to the Bradbury Science Museum.

Thank you Roberto Jimenez for volunteering your time to teach CPR & First Aid to our middle school students! Thank you to all parents and students who helped with our Japanese Anime festival! Thank you to everyone who helped out at the Japanese Matsuri festival.

Thank you Santa Fe Opera and Eldorado Children's Theater for lending us props and costumes for our upcoming plays! Thank you to all parents who remember to show our Albertson's card when they go food shopping! Thank you to all parents who are signing up to help feed our animals on the weekends. Thank you to everyone who helped out and attended our Planetarium evening- it was a great success! Thank you to everyone who helped with the Recycle Fashion Show. Thank you Tracie and Dave for your continuing help with our fish and lizards and thank you Wendy for your continuing help with our geckos! Thank you Dave, Connie and Chintan for feeding the animals over Winter Break!

Thank you Lynn, Karen, Suzanne and Arin for coming in over the break to help paint our play backdrops! Thank you Alex for your help with our costumes! Thank you Wanicha for donating a monitor and printer.

Thank you to everyone who made a donation for our scholarship fund and for our spring break trips. Please let me know if I ever forget to thank someone in this column and please know that your help is always appreciated!

THANK YOU ONE & ALL!!

Wish List

“Boom Arm on pole” for our moving images class microphone.

A “pull down projection screen” that can be mounted above a blackboard. Does anyone have an old one?

Donations for our scholarship fund are deeply appreciated and much needed! We have many requests from current families for financial aid for next year and we need your help to keep our school diverse!

Donations for financial aid for our Spring Break trips to Japan, France and New York City. Help all of our middle school students have the trip of a lifetime! (see page 9)

Donations for our Heifer International Fund (see page 4)

Donations for the AFFA house in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. (see page 4)

Please note-

All donations (both in kind and monetary) to our school are deeply appreciated and are tax- deductible!

Let us know if you would like a fundraising packet or a video to send to someone who might be interested in helping our school.

Ways you can help!

1. Charlottes’ Web-

-Come to one of our hat & costume making parties.

Thursday, January 6 & 13 from 3:15-4:30. Bring a sewing machine if you have one, if not, just bring yourself!

- Truck anyone?- Please help us drive props and sets over to Santa Fe High School on Saturday, January 8th. Does anyone have an open bed truck or trailer? We need to take 2 large backdrops that are currently in the middle school DaVinci room over to the theater.

2. Pottery Wheel- Would anyone like to babysit a pottery wheel for us?

3. Animal Feeding- Please sign up for animal feeding on the weekends. The sign-up sheet and instructions are in the new entry room in the main building. There is also a clipboard in the animal shed with complete details.

4. Please see page 8 for more ways you can help with our

Helping the World

This is a challenging time in our world and there are so many in need all over the world! I know many of us feel torn- we would like to be able to send help everywhere it is needed!

Our school and our students continue to be dedicated to serving others and helping the world in whatever ways we can. While we would like to help everyone, our students have decided to focus on 2 areas of serious need.

Heifer International- We are working with Heifer International to help families in need around the world. Our Winter Show focused on Heifer International since many of our students feel very connected to this organization and feel that giving life-sustaining animals to people in need is one of the best ways to help others. Our middle school students did henna designs and sold handmade cards (made by all of our students) during the holiday show in addition to collecting donations. The Stargazers and Badgers have been bringing in their allowance to help with this fund and the Unicorns have a Heifer Cow Bank to collect coins in. It has been very moving to see how our young students bring in their own spending money. Every donation of 1 or 2 dollars really adds up in the end!

We will continue to collect donations for Heifer International until we have reached our goal of \$300.

AFAA HOUSE- AFAA House is a transitional group home in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia which cares for 35 to 40 orphans at a time. The children are very well cared for while they wait to be adopted (which can take up to 3 years!). Sarafina's mom will be bringing our donations when she goes there in mid January to pick up Sarafina's little sister, Berke (age 4) the newest member of the Unicorn class.

For those who would like to purchase supplies, the home needs the following items:

Liquid baby vitamins, lice shampoo, cough medicine for babies, toddlers and older kids, teething medicine, cold medicine for babies and kids, Nizoral shampoo, powdered baby formula, baby lotion, hand lotion, vaseline and pajamas for older kids ages 8-14.

If you have items for Danusia to bring Ethiopia, please leave them in the boxes marked AFAA House, Ethiopia in the lobbies of the middle school and the main building. Please give your tax deductible donations made out to AFAA House to Rayna or Danusia.

**Parents Night Out
Spring Break Trip Fundraisers**

Our Planetarium Night

**Another Parent's Night Out!
Friday, January 28th**

On Friday, January 28th, for \$20, you can leave your child at our school from 7:00-10:00pm and some middle school students and a teacher from our school will babysit your child. Children who do not attend our school are also welcome to come.

There is a discount for multiple children (e.g.- \$30 for two children).

Many children come in their pajamas and bring a blanket and a pillow. We ask that all children have dinner before they come, but we do offer snacks and drinks. We usually play outside and then come in and play games and watch movies like a great, big sleepover.

It's a lot of fun and you can enjoy a great night out!

Spaces will be given to the first 20 children who are signed up.

You can sign up for this Parent's Night Out by placing a note and check with your children's names and ages in Rayna's box in the Main Building.

Unfortunately we cannot provide care for children under the age of 3.

Siblings who do not attend our school are welcome to attend. We need to have at least 8 children to hold the parent's night out.

Our planetarium night was a huge success with over 150 students and families members in attendance. The Lodestar Planetarium brought their huge domed indoor planetarium which seats 30 people inside. There were 5 showings of their indoor star show which was held in the Unicorn classroom.

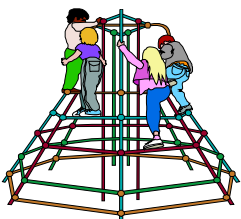
In the Stargazer classroom a Planetarium staff person did a wonderful science demonstration which illustrated how comets are made and there were many wonderful questions and discussions in each session.

They are also bringing telescopes that will allow us to see Jupiter and Saturn up close!

Dave Jansen brought his amazing telescope which allowed everyone to view the Andromeda galaxy. The planetarium telescopes gave us great views of the constellations Cygnus, the Summer Triangle and Cassiopeia. Luckily, the sky was clear most of the time!

The staff from the planetarium was very impressed with the breadth of knowledge our students displayed.

The middle school students sold delicious hot chocolate and marshmallows which helped to raise money for their trips.



National Geographic Geography Bee

**The countdown has begun!
Thursday, January 13th
9:00 in the humanities room in the middle school**

Our school is going to participate in the National Geographic Geography Bee for the second year in a row.

This is a nationwide contest for students in grades 4-8 who are not older than 15. With a first place prize of a \$25,000 college scholarship, plus other prizes, the Bee is designed to encourage the teaching and study of geography. Each school must hold its own Bee and only one winner per school is allowed to take the written, qualifying test. The first place winner from each state then advances to the national level. Last year, Antonio Trujillo, our school winner, advanced to the state level after passing a difficult qualifying exam.

Questions at all levels of the Bee address geography in its broadest sense. Some questions will require a knowledge of place-names and of the location of cultural and physical features. The distribution and patterns of language, religions, economic activities, populations and political systems will also be covered. Students may be asked about cultural and physical regions, or about physical phenomena, such as tectonic activity, landforms, climate, bodies of water, soils and flora and fauna. The changes in places and regions through time, including how people have modified the environment may be addressed. Tools geographers use such as maps, instruments, graphs and statistics may be the subject of other questions.

We encourage all students to visit the GEOBEE quiz at www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee

Most students who compete in this sort of competition, study all year long in anticipation of the Bee. We hope to get our students excited about geography, and in learning as much as they can about the world!

We strongly encourage all students to participate and start studying geography whenever you can! Everyone has a chance to win if they know their facts!

Parent Mailboxes & Email Addresses

Every parent has a mailbox. Please check your mailbox everyday if you can.

Payments and papers for the school can be placed in any of the following places:

Rayna's folder in the Badger class (on top of the mailboxes)

Rayna's mailbox in the main building (in the hallway on the Unicorn sign in table)

The drawer in the Middle School rolltop desk which says "All Papers and Payments Here"

PLEASE do not put any notices or flyers in other parent's mailboxes without first asking Rayna.

Please do not put birthday invitations in school mailboxes unless all the children in the class are invited!

PLEASE do not email any parents or forward information to parents on our school email list. This is only to be used for school-sanctioned communication.

Please note there is a Parent-to-Parent Community Bulletin Board outside the Stargazer Classroom and in the Middle School Lobby for parents to post notices about upcoming workshops, their own work, items for sale, wanted posters, etc... We can also place your community news and requests in this newsletter.

New Mexico School for the Deaf

Visit the Badgers & Unicorns

On Weds., December 15th, the Badger class was treated to a very special morning. A group of 12 high school students from the New Mexico School for the Deaf came to do their community

leadership service with our students.

Rose Sanchez, who works at the school, is our community partner who has been arranging our class exchanges for years. The high school students were very excited and nervous about meeting our hearing students. They worried if our kids would understand them and if they would like them? Our Badger students were very brave and introduced themselves using only sign language. They played a few "getting to know you" games and quickly warmed up to the high schoolers.

The NMSD students were very kind and patient and went out of their way to make sure our students were understanding them and having fun. Rose helped with interpreting when needed, but most of the time, the kids were on their own!

By the end of the session, it seemed like everyone had been friends for a long time. They brought cookies and juice and hugged goodbye. The Badgers all wrote beautiful thank you cards and are looking forward to visiting their school next!

Earlier in the month, a younger group of 5 students from the NMSD visited the Unicorn class and read books to them in sign language. They taught the Unicorns new signs and then played games using only sign language and pantomime. The Unicorns have had deaf friends visit many times each year and they are very comfortable with their deaf friends and hang onto their legs when it's time for them to go!

Ned Bittinger Visit

On Thursday, November 18th, Ned Bittinger, an award-winning portrait painter visited our school. The Stargazers, Badgers and Middle School students all attended his very enjoyable presentation. Ned showed many slides of his illustrations and portraits. He has a wide range of style and art mediums which was very interesting to see. He told many humorous stories which helped each slide come to life. He talked about the tricks and tools of his trade and how important it is to do drafts...something our kids are learning a lot about this year. It was great to see the process through which a rough sketch becomes an award winning illustration. Ned asked our students many questions during his presentation and was very impressed by how much they knew and how many kids love to draw! Ned answered many questions and was very encouraging of our students.

Ned showed us examples of illustrations from his books, The Matzah that Papa Brought Home, When the The Root Children Woke Up and Rocking Horse Christmas. He showed us how he uses live models (like Rebekah's sister!) and the ways he uses his imagination to make his illustrations more captivating. He shared a bit about the world of book illustrations and editors

Ned then went into our DaVinci Room and worked for 3 hours drawing a charcoal portrait of Veronica Monroe, the winner of our raffle. All of the students were allowed to walk in and out during the portrait drawing so they could see the complete process from start to finish. The portrait was really beautiful and all of the students were really impressed to see Ned work in person. Ned also encouraged our students to show him the portraits they were working on. The Middle School students had done many jobs and ended up doing a fantastic job on their character profile portraits. They hung them up for Ned to see when he entered the humanities room. He was very impressed with the high level of talent. Then the Badgers brought over their character profile portraits in progress and Ned was equally impressed. He spoke with each student and really gave them all a wonderful sense of encouragement and confidence. The kids all left the presentation that day filled with enthusiasm for drawing and painting! The Badgers made thank you cards for Ned and the students have referred back to that morning many times since. Thank you Ned Bittinger and thank you Amy Birkan for arranging this inspiring visit.

Charlotte's Web Tickets Now On Sale

Be sure to buy your tickets now for
Charlotte's Web!

There are 2 shows on **Friday,**
January 21.

FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED!

Matinee at 12:30 pm.
Evening show at 6:00 pm.

Both shows are at the Santa Fe High
School Theatre.

There are 130 seats available at each
show.

Tickets will sell out quickly -
especially for the evening show.

IF YOU CAN, please buy
tickets for the matinee and save
seats for parents who can only come
at night!!

Parents who volunteer to work
concessions or backstage at one
show will attend that show for free!

You do **NOT** need to buy tickets for
kids who are in the play and for
children who sit in your lap.

We are not allowed to let people in
without a ticket and we cannot have
more than 130 people in the theater!

Charlotte's Web Rehearsal Schedule

(for Unicorns, Stargazers and Badgers)

During the week of **January 10th**, we will be taking some of the students in the play over to Santa Fe High for rehearsals. **Please let us know if you need to pick up your child early that week, because they may be at the theater rehearsing!**

During the week of January 17th, we will be taking all of the kids in the show over to the theater to rehearse following this schedule: (Unicorns are always welcome to join us at the theater for rehearsal even if they do not usually attend school that day)

1. **Monday, January 17th-** even though there is no school, we may have rehearsal on that day. Rayna will call you if your child is needed to rehearse that day. We will, of course, understand if your child is not able to attend this day.

2. **Tuesday, January 18th-** we will need volunteer drivers to help us bring kids over to the theater at **12:15** and drivers to bring kids back at 2:45.

3. **Weds., January 19th-** we will need volunteer drivers to help us bring kids over to the theater at **12:15** and drivers to bring kids back at 2:45.

4. **Thursday, January 20th-** Dress Rehearsal- we will need volunteer drivers to help us bring kids over to the theater at **12:15** and drivers to bring kids back at 2:45.

5. **Show Day- Friday, January 21st-** We hope to have all kids dropped off at the theater that morning by 10:00am. If you also have a middle school student, or it is too difficult for you to bring your child to Santa Fe High, we can help drive your child to the theater from our school in the school bus. We will hand out a special flyer about show day with all times and drop off options.

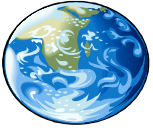
The first show begins at **12:30**. We hope all parents can take their kids home after the show or at 3:00 (we can bring kids back to school if you do not attend the matinee) and let them rest and eat dinner before they have to be back at the theater for the **6:00** evening show. We will let you know what time your child needs to be at the theater for the evening show.

How You Can Help!

1. We need volunteer drivers for rehearsals at the high school.

2. We need some parents to head up organizing the concession sales for the matinee and evening shows.

3. We could use some volunteers backstage before the show.



Middle School Spring Break Trips Who, What, Where, When & Why!

This year, our lucky middle school students have the opportunity of a lifetime. Three different groups of students are going to visit 3 very exciting places that are related to their academic studies this year.

1. **Japanese students:** Our 7th and 8th grade students who are in Noriko Ralph's Japanese class will be traveling to Tokyo, Japan and surrounding areas over Spring Break. They will spend 4 days with a Japanese host family where they will have a great opportunity to sightsee with a traditional family and practice their Japanese. The students will then rejoin the group and visit famous sights, museums and anime attractions. The students will be traveling with their teacher Noriko, Shizuko Kobayashi, the director of the Santa Fe Japan Connection tour company, and Katie Irving.

2. **French Students:** Our 7th and 8th grade students who are studying French with Rozie Kennedy will be traveling to France over Spring Break. Upon their arrival the students will tour Paris with our Intercultural Student Experiences Tour Guide. They will then spend 2 days with a French speaking host family in Fontainebleau and then rejoin the group for 5 days in Paris where they will visit museums, famous sights, go to the Eiffel Tower and more. They will practice their French wherever they go! The students will be traveling with Rozie and Cathy Weber.

3. **American Sign Language Students:** Our middle school students who have been studying American Sign Language with Rayna Dineen will be traveling to New York City during Spring Break to visit a famous school for deaf students. They will also visit museums, see a Broadway show and visit many famous New York City sights- using as much sign language as they can! They will be traveling with Rayna and Anna Bunker.

Fundraising

We have made these trips available to every student, regardless of their ability to pay for the trip. As a result, we are fundraising as a group to raise \$10,000 to provide confidential financial aid for all families who needed assistance. The middle school students and their teachers have worked very hard since October and have so far, raised \$6,500!

The students and their families had a huge garage sale and they have worked at our Parent's Night Out babysitting evenings, sold cards, calendars and artwork. They have held 2 anime festivals, 2 movie nights and served a French lunch and hot chocolate at the school. They sold manga and anime at the Japanese Matsuri festival. They have worked at the school store at the mall and have babysat many long hours! We held a raffle for a portrait by Ned Bittinger and they sold glow in the dark items at our Halloween festival. Many of the students wrote to relatives asking for money to help go on their trips instead of presents for the holidays or birthdays. The students have a coin collection jar in the middle school lobby and they are hoping that lots of kids sign up for burritos as that profit will also benefit the trips.

Any donation you make to help us raise the rest will be greatly appreciated and tax-deductible.
Any ideas for new fundraisers???

SF School for the Arts EBAY AUCTION



Thanks to Pam Michaels (mom of John, Julia and Benjamin) we now have our very own ongoing Ebay auction!

If you would like to help raise money for the school scholarship fund, you can donate an item or a service (free computer consulting or a weekend at a cottage in Red River) to our Ebay auction site. 100% of the proceeds will benefit our scholarship fund. Pam is doing all of the work for us!!

If you have an item you would like to donate for auction, please follow these steps:

1. Email the name and complete description of the item to **SFAAuctions@aol.com**. Include the size and weight of item. The date and place of original purchase. The purchase price or appraised value of item. Describe any special features (original art, signed works, limited editions, historical value etc.)
2. Include the minimum acceptable sale price of item.
3. Note if there are any special shipping, handling or packaging instructions.
4. Our digital photography class (Fridays, 3:15-4:30) can take photos of your item or you can bring in 4-6 clear, sharp close-up photos of the item in digital format (against a white or neutral background) and email them to **SFAAuctions@aol.com**
5. Upon completion of the auction of your donated item, you would then bring the item to school for Pam, so she can pack and ship it to the new owner.

If anyone has a first-edition signed book, art, jewelry, mineral specimens, fossils, books, old lunchboxes or games, dolls, collectibles etc...anything that you think might sell on Ebay and is relatively easy to ship, we would love to give this a try!

Pam would appreciate any packaging materials anyone has- boxes, packing peanuts, shipping tape or envelopes, paper rolls.

Please spread the word to friends and family! Anyone can donate and everyone can look at our EBAY site and shop as well!
Pam can be reached at 982-0642.

Personal Narratives by Chintan's Stagazer Group

A Memory with a Grandparent

A Kid Went to Guatemala to See His Grandfather

by Merari

First we went to his house and then we went to the beach with him. His house is nice and clean with bedrooms, TV's, bicycles, pictures of him and pictures of me. In the backyard, there are cows.

I Visited Grandma

by Julia

We went to Florida to visit my grandmother. We did fun stuff together. It smelled like cookies at my grandmother's house. She lives in a 'partment. She has stairs. You go upstairs and you turn upstairs and there is a lot of toys.



Fun Day with my Grandmother

by Lauren

After Thanksgiving I visited Grandma's house. I had fun. I made a necklace. It looked like a dog. My grandmother made one that is a butterfly. My grandma has a studio. The studio has a closet and she makes scarfs. She has a rectangle table. She has some bending lights. I was working on the table. On the table was paints, sparkles and plastic.

My Grandmother's

by Ryan

My grandmother's smelt good, like cakes. Grandma made me cinnamon toast. She lives out of town. People are staying there. It felt like I am the specialist because she loves me. We made a cake together. They have a hot tub. The weather is windy and warm. I have never spent the night.

Nana

by Jacob

We tasted blackberries. The wind tasted of salt water and smelled good. We went to the farm. I smelled the peach trees and the dog barked.



The Halloween Festival

by Wesley

Every year my grandpa comes to our Halloween festival and brings his horses. They feel like a very soft feather. When I got on the horses my grandpa did not know who I was. It was because of my costume. It was a vampire costume. When I got off the horses, I went on the blinka-blinka. I did a front flip and crashed into the net. I said, "That was so fun, I want to do it again!" When I got off, I ate a lot of food. It tasted like a sugar cane. I drank a cup of diet coke. I was so hot. People were laughing and playing. It was super loud. There were a lot of people. Before the festival started my grandpa had to get the horses all ready. He had to get He had to get them off the truck and get the carriage on them.

My Grandparents

by Jasmine

I love my grandparents a lot. Every once and a while, my grandparents visit my house and I have fun when they come. we cook, play games, and have a lot of fun. The games we play are Sorry, Hoopla (A Cranium Game)...lots of games. Their house has red wood shutters and the whole house is white. There are lots of beds, a nice warm kitchen, and lots of rooms. I love my grandparents very much.

My Great Grandmother

by Eli

My great-grandmother lived in an apartment. The bottom floor had Zebra Finches and her room had candy corn and I sometimes smelled candy corn and her room looked big. I only saw her ten times. The time I went last it was raining. The last time I heard about her she was dead. I wanted to go to her funeral but my mom did not let me. I made something for her to bring.



**Personal Narratives by Chintan's
Stagazer Group**

A Memory with a Grandparentcontinued

Me and My Grandmother
by Alliya

Me and my grandmother liked to be together and she is very old. She read me stories. She came to Santa Fe and read me stories in my room. It is tan colored. She sat on the bed. The bedspread is white and there is a white pillow.

My Memory of Long Ago
by Brass



When I was young my grandmother and I loved to go exploring places that we have never seen or heard of before. We loved it. Ever since she lives in Alabama, we have gone to the sand hills. I was six years old when we went to the sand hills. My family came too. Eventually my family was going to get food for us: me, my dad and my grandmother. My dad and I went out exploring because my grandmother felt too tired to come with us, so me and my dad went too. It was hot and it looked like a desert to me. I thought that there was nothing there, but a few minutes later I saw a garden of Sunflowers. Then we went back. We gathered fire wood and all of us gathered around the fire.

At My Grandma's House
by John

My cousins have a trampoline and it is big and it is fun. It was fun playing games and at my cousins we played football. Behind the tree by the side there was bees. My aunt is my grandpa's daughter and my cousins live upstairs and my grandparents live downstairs. There is a kitchen upstairs and downstairs.



Our School Scholarship Fund

Thank you VERY MUCH to all of the families who gave donations for our scholarship fund.

Thank you in advance if you are still considering making a donation!

We are in dire need of more donations for our scholarship fund.

If you can think of anyone who might be open to donating to our school we would greatly appreciate the opportunity to send them some of our fundraising materials.

If you do think of anyone (grandparents, relatives, business owners?) who might want to support our school scholarship fund and receive a tax donation credit, please be sure to leave their names and addresses in Brian's box in the office.

We are hopeful that if we all work together we can reach our scholarship fund goal.

MIDDLE SCHOOL POETRY

The Middle School students have been deeply involved in the writing process the past few months. Most recently they have begun to compose poetry. One of our biggest goals in writing this year is to learn about and practice revising, critiquing, and re-writing pieces so that they approach "presentation level" quality. With that information, we invite you to read and perhaps provide feedback for the student poems-in-progress printed here. (You can e-mail any responses to Katie at pancakes3@earthlink.net)

Winter

Monet, Monette
winter is a childhood debt
Freezing for the snow
and waiting for Santa
Childhood dreams
Typical arrogance
of the boy next door
crawl to your bed
stay close to the floor
ancient smells
reindeer bells
hear them ring
a painful spine
lets itself sing
depression and sorrow
a spell-bound tomorrow
red on the snow
slide with a sled
don't let go
wait for it to melt, and all is felt
wait for it to thaw and putrid feelings are raw
Why do we wonder?
Wind making thunder
end of the year
A holiday?
Celebrate something lost and wasted
Snuggle up
too cold to think
sit by a theater
try something sour
with no tastebuds
fill your stomach
because you have to.
drink it and feel it
pocket it and steal it
this is winter

Koral Gordon 8th grade

Sledding

Cold wind whooshing past my face
My troubles seem to melt away behind me
I fly over jumps and smile in spite of the crunching of
my spine as I land
Slowing down I feel darkness closing in on me
And I hear the soft fall of snow all around as I am
cocooned.

Rebekah Birkan 7th grade

The night is silent
there's nothing moving outside
or in the trees
or in the hole in the ground.
The only thing that is moving is
the snow falling down from the sky -
the snowflakes wet and full of moisture.
As I watch the snow fall to the ground,
I think to myself how white and clean the snow is.
From far away, it looks like the snowflakes are dancing.

Nikki Valdez 7th grade

Winter Brunch

Winter is here.
Snow is everywhere.
Food is harder to find.
I watch the coyote eat
a freshly killed rabbit
that was hit by a car
in the middle of the road.
Its blood is everywhere.
The ravens are waiting their turn.
Watching, hoping the coyote
Leaves them a snack.
A car speeds past.
Did it hit the coyote?
The car was too slow.
The coyote was too quick.
The ravens are disappointed.
I watch from my window,
And I wonder if,
had the coyote been hit,
would the ravens feast?

-Aidan Sawyer 7th grade