

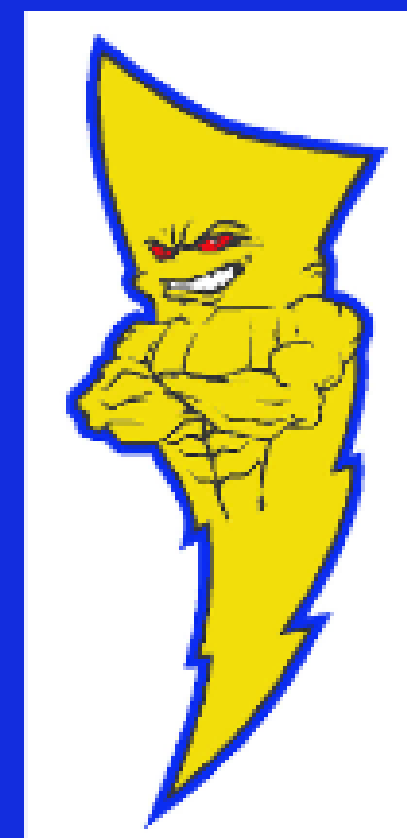
January, 2024

The Charger

Jodi Testa, Principal
Austin Hershberger, AP/AD
1.800.836.9525

The Official Newsletter of SFTJH/CAC

Wow! What a month it has been so far! I am confident I have never experienced a start of the second semester with this many snow days. Of course it's always nice and relaxing to spend a surprise day at home. However, I am not a fan for of all we had this 2024. The second semester of a school year finds students, families, and staff working, learning, and growing together very well. This January, though it's started a bit off-kilter, promises to be similar. I welcome families to join us later this month for parent-teacher conferences. Teachers of students in fourth and fifth grade will schedule a meeting time with the parents of each of their students. Teachers of students in grades sixth through eighth and teachers of elective classes will be available to meet with parents on a first-come-first-served basis. We have set aside time for parents on the 31st from 4:00-7:00 pm and on the 1st from 8:00 am-7:00 pm. I also invite families and community members to join us as we host our 2023/2024 CAC Town Hall Meeting on Wednesday, 1/24 at 6:00 pm. This meeting will take place at our school and will include words from our superintendent, Faith Flory and other district leaders as well as a tour of our school. I hope you will join us. Please plan to enter the school at door 1 which is labeled 'OFFICE' on the exterior of the building. And, finally I invite those 18+ years of age to consider applying for a position on our CAC staff. We are currently seeking applicants for a custodial position working 3:00-11:30 pm and several tutoring positions working 7:15 am-3:45 pm. You can apply at www.usd434.us any time. For specific questions, please reach out to me at JTesta@usd434.us. I am happy to assist with a thorough understanding of our needs.



Santa Fe Trail Junior High/CAC

HIRING NOW

EVENING CUSTODIAN
CLASSROOM TUTORS (ALSO KNOWN AS ACADEMIC
COACHES AND/OR PARAS)
NO EXPERIENCE? NO PROBLEM-WE TRAIN!

OUR STUDENTS ARE KIND AND CARING AND OUR STAFF IS
DEDICATED AND SUPPORTIVE. JOIN US!

apply at usd434.org
1.800.836.9525 option 3
JTesta@usd434.us



Nursing News ...

Please ask your children how often they visit the nurse in a day.

Several come in for headaches daily. If your child is doing this, please send ibuprofen or acetaminophen for them to take. Especially if your child can not swallow pills. *We do not keep chewable medicine stocked in the nursing office at CAC.*




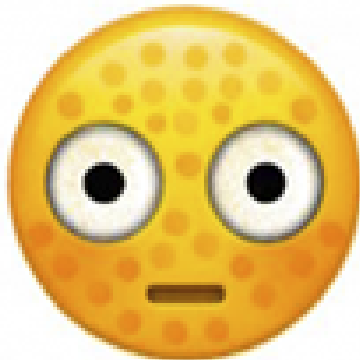



BREAKFAST!!!

Please, please, please encourage your children to eat a breakfast that includes more than sugar! I see several stomach aches and "I don't feel goods" in the morning that can be linked to no breakfast or a super sugary/no protein breakfast.


Parents of girls... cramps are a real pain! Hot hands really do help keep the girls in class and in school on the days that the cramps are vicious. Please consider sending some for your daughters to use if you know that they struggle with cramps.

The air is DRY. Please think about getting your child some chap stick if they are complaining about dry lips!!



I HAVE A FEVER	I AM VOMITING	I HAVE DIARRHEA	I HAVE A RASH	I HAVE HEAD LICE	I HAVE AN EYE INFECTION	I HAVE BEEN IN THE HOSPITAL
						
Temperature of 100° F or higher	Within the past 24 hours	Within the past 24 hours	Body rash with oozing, drainage or fever	Check with your school district policy	Redness, itching, and/or pus draining from eye	Hospital stay and/or emergency room visit

I am ready to go back to school when I am...

Fever free without the assistance of medication for 24 hours (i.e., Tylenol, Motrin, Advil)	Free from vomiting for 24 hours.	Free from diarrhea for 24 hours.	Free from rash or fever and have been evaluated by my doctor if needed.	Treated with appropriate lice treatment at home.	Free from drainage and/or have been evaluated by my doctor if needed.	Released by my medical provider to return to school.
 <i>It's ok to have a runny nose and/or small cough.</i>						

If your child has strep throat or another bacterial infection, he/she should stay home until the antibiotic has been given for at least 24 hours and your health care provider has given permission for your child to return to school. We encourage you to seek medical attention when your child is sick and to follow your health care provider's recommendations about returning to school and other activities.

StuCo News

by Tiffany Burget

StuCo has been keeping busy. The StuCo members run a snack cart selling healthy snack options for the student body every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday morning. All items are on sale for \$1.00 or less. StuCo members have decided that they will split the profit of the snack cart evenly between each grade level to help with quarter 4 field trips. The members of StuCo also hosted a spirit week for the holidays. The students came up with each days theme and created posters to share with the student body.

Leads on Learning

by Kaytee Deines

Before our winter break all students in grades 4-8 completed the winter FastBridge assessments for both math and reading. These two tests serve as the first data point when identifying students who are in need of interventions. After testing is completed, we use this data to group students for either Tier 2 or Tier 3 intervention groups. Tier 2 students receive interventions during Charger Time from a core ELA or Math teacher with the help of a Tier 2 Coach. To qualify for Tier 2 interventions, we use the national percentile range of 11-34. To qualify for Tier 3 interventions, we use the national percentile range of 0-10. Tier 3 students receive 20-30 minutes of pull-out intervention time from myself or a Tier 3 coach in a one to three student group. Students qualify based on these percentile ranges, are also given a diagnostic screener which serves as the second data point to insure intervention is necessary. At CAC we have worked extremely hard to grow and improve our Title 1 Intervention Program over the last three years. This winter we were able to dismiss 26 students from Tier 3 groups based on testing scores. This speaks volumes to the hard work of our classroom teachers and intervention staff alike. If you have any questions or concerns regard intervention services, please let me know!

JANUARY 2024 | BY KARA HOLBERT

CHOIR & MUSIC ANNOUNCEMENTS



We are so excited to get started with this semester! **JH Choir** will be working on music to perform in a concert combined with the High School Choirs at the beginning of March. We can't wait to have them collaborate!

We have an all new group of **6th Graders** that started this semester, who will be working on learning how to read choral music octavos. The music they are learning to read will eventually be performed in their concert at the end of April with the JH Choir! 6th Graders will be sent home with a Syllabus next week that has all information about policies and procedures, including information about the concert and communication. Please be sure to look these over, sign them, and have your student turn it in to receive credit!

5th Graders have started learning their music program "Making The Band!" coming up at the end of February. More info to come soon!

Coming up:

- 5th Grade Program - February 29th @ 7pm at CAC
- JH Choir/HS Choir Combined Concert - March 6th @ SFTHS
- 6th Grade/JH Choir Combined Concert - April 30th @ 7pm

4th Grade Music

Mrs. Sheri Moore- smoore@usd434.us

REVIN' UP OUR SONGS

Students are finishing their second level of orange belts for their rhythm and solfege learning. We have started Helper of the Day which gives each student a chance to help with attendance, passing out, collecting, and other assistance up front. Students have up to 3 bonus points added to their grade for their "Helper of the Day" assistance. This 3rd quarter, students can look forward to an invigorating time with ukulele and recorder songs. We will also be singing and practicing with the green belt level up of rhythm and solfege. Save the date for their important concert at Carbondale Attendance Center: Monday, March 4th at 6:00 p.m. This concert performance and any rhythm and solfege test of this quarter make 20% of the student's grade.

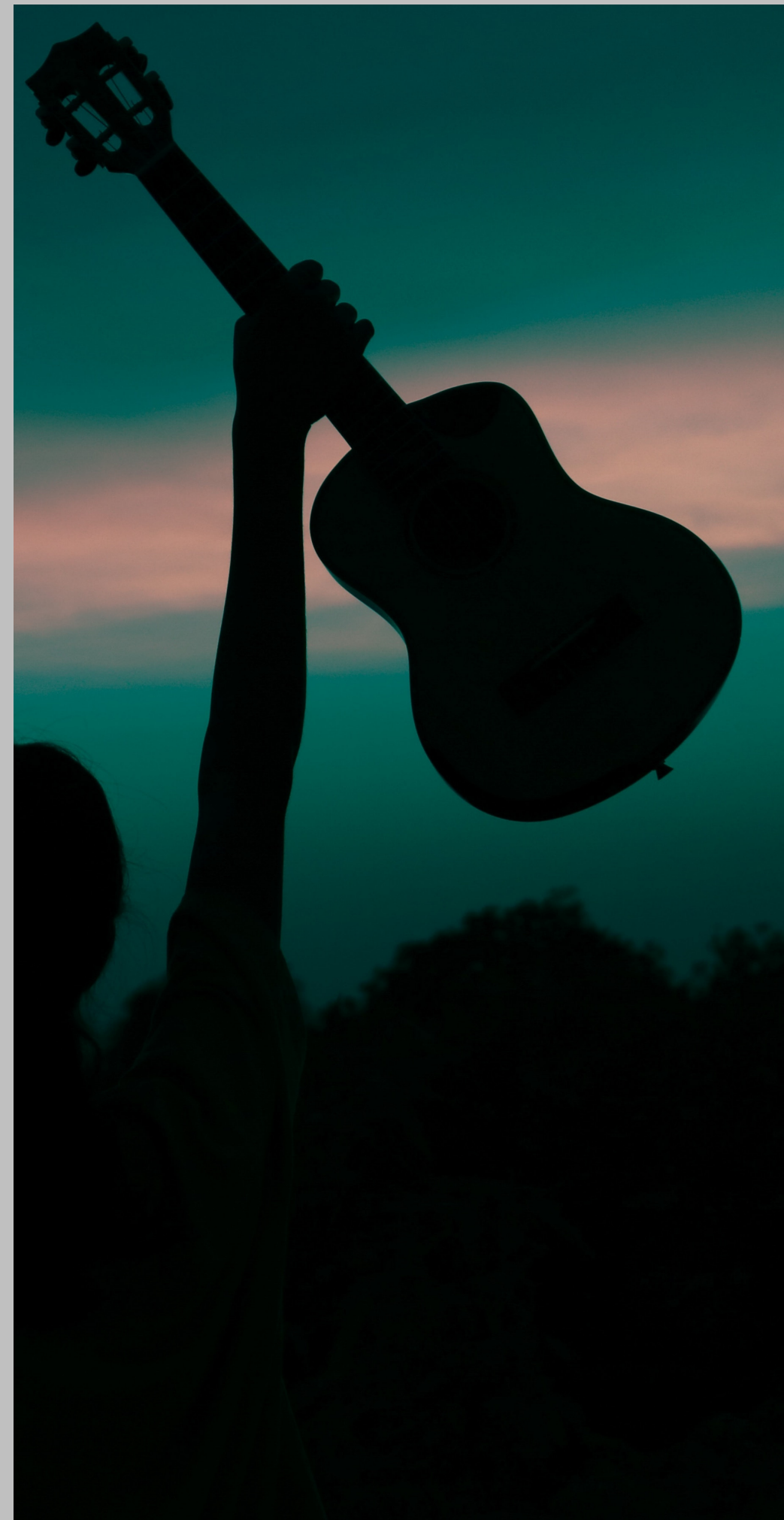
If your child has access to a recorder or ukulele at home, get on this practice link for helpful songs:

<https://musicplayonline.com/>

Login: Click on: "Student"

Enter the code: s456512

On the left hand search tab, locate the Instruments tab, type in ukulele or recorder for more resources. For ukulele this site has 1-2-3 Chord (in C) 1-2-3 Chord (in D) Pop Songs (in D) Pop Songs (in C)



ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES

JAN 2024

By: Austin Hershberger

Winter Sports

Girls Basketball wrapped up their season on December 4 at Iola. 8th Grade finished the season as League Champs with an 11-1 record in League play. This marks the fourth League title for Santa Fe Trail Junior High Athletics this school year! The girls brought home the first 8th Grade Girls Basketball League plaque that is now on display in the CAC trophy case. 7th Grade finished the season tied for second place with an 8-4 record in League. The squad started the season 2-4 before finishing on a 6 game win streak. We are so proud of all of the girls and coaches! Congratulations on a successful season!

Boys Basketball will tip-off their season on January 4 vs Prairie View at Carbondale Attendance Center. The 8th Grade team is coached by Rob Colvin and Assisted by Amy Colvin this season. The 7th Grade squad will be coached by Christian Gulker and Assisted by Matt Lyda. The 8th grade will look to go back-to-back by capitalizing on their League Championship from 2023. The 7th Grade team will look to write their own story with a fresh slate this year. Best of luck this season, Chargers!

**If your child wishes to participate in a Junior High sport, please contact the CAC office to ensure that all required forms are on file.*



UpComing Events:

- Jan 4 - BBball vs Prairie View 4p
- Jan 6 - BBball B Team Tournament @ Central Heights 9a
- Jan 9 - 7th BBball @ Baldwin, 8th vs Baldwin 4p
- Jan 11 - BBball @ Osawatomie 4p
- Jan 16 - BBball @ Wellsville 4p
- Jan 18 - BBball @ Prairie View 4p
- Jan 22 - BBball @ Anderson County 4p
- Jan 25 - BBball vs Wellsville 4p
- Jan 27 - BBball Classic Tournament 7th @ Rock Creek, 8th @ Wabaunsee 9a
- Jan 29 - BBball vs Osawatomie 4p
- Feb 1 - BBball @ Iola 4p
- Feb 6 - BBball vs Anderson County 4p

For more, please visit usd434.org



*Inspiring and Empowering
Every Charger, Every Day!*

JANUARY 2024

FBLA- Middle Level Chapter

by Kim Dayhoff & Rob Colvin

Students signed up for their district competition events via a google form that was emailed to them the week of December 4th.

Students will continue to have access through the FBLA google classroom to practice and gain more knowledge as they study for their specific events.

The district competition will be held at Washburn University on Wednesday, January 31, 2024 and students need to make sure they have the proper dress attire for competition and there is a visual in the FBLA google classroom. Here is the link:

<https://www.fbla.org/dresscode/>

Students will not be allowed to go to districts if they are not dressed in business attire. Make sure they try on their outfits as students are still growing.

The state level competition will be held at the Stormont Vail Event Center in Topeka on Thursday, April 4th.

KAY News

by Alicia Amborski

During the month of December, the KAY group sold candy canes to pay for two four-year old foster children. We

sponsored the Holiday Door Contest at CAC. Our winning doors were in order Mrs. Hutcheson's 4th grade, Mrthe s. Lattimer's 6th grade, and Mrs. Obregon's 8th grade.

On January 25, our KAY group will attend our Unit Conference at Santa Trail High School. This will be a time to hear from speakers, network with like minded individuals, and learn about new ways to serve our community.

Technology Classes

4th & 5th grade

Mrs. Dayhoff

The students in 4th and 5th grade tech class will continue to focus on learning proper keyboarding skills.

The students finished their 2nd 9 weeks by completing a winter scene they designed using ONE google slide and using only shapes and drawing tool in the formatting toolbar. The students then learned how to convert the google slide to a .jpg picture file.

Students will continue to learn more about all the google programs along with stop motion animation.

6th Grade Tech

As the 9 weeks is ending for this group of 6th graders, they did a variety of activities about being a digital citizen and all the do's and don'ts that comes with living in the digital world. Students continue to practice their typing skills twice a week along with activities about the 6 topics of digital citizenship.

Students learned real life situations through banzai.org a digital citizenship simulation program and they will finish their 9 week class by creating an animation using animaker.com about a specific digital citizenship topic.

7th/8th Grade

The students will end their semester class by learning about financial literacy. They will participate in the program banzai.org and complete simulation activities that deal with budgeting, running a lemonade stand and choosing real life budgeting situations.

Students continue to practice their typing skills twice a week with formal typing lessons using www.typing.com and they are always encouraged to carry over their typing skills onto each computer lesson.



Band Announcements

by McKenzie Rice and Lance Quilling

Congratulations to Skylar Boggs, Annabella Torneden and Lillian Barnes on their wonderful performance at the district honor band. Another congratulations to the 5th, 7th, and 8th grade bands for completing their first concerts of the year! You all performed wonderfully and we are very proud of the hard work they have put in this semester. Our final band concert for the semester will be the 6th grade band taking place on December 6th at 7:00pm in the CAC gymnasium. Again, so proud of all of the hard work they have done this semester and we are looking forward to diving into next semester with many fun songs coming their way.



As the fall semester comes to a close, students have been reflecting on skills they've learned and how their creativity has evolved since August. After reviewing topics from the semester, students gave suggestions and feedback.

"I learned that I'm better at art than I thought I was." - 6th grader



THANK YOU

We had a great turn out for our first art show of the year! Thank you so much for your participation and support. Category winners were recognized at morning assembly.

4th - 5th graders have taken advantage of the leftover scraps in the art room to make unique projects of their own.

"It's not really that hard. You just have to practice more than you think." - 7th grader



"Sometimes it has to look really bad before it can look really good." - 8th grader



Weights and PE



Questions & Answers with Coaches

Favorite Sport?

Favorite Hobby?

Favorite TV Show?

Favorite Singer?

Favorite Pet?

Favorite Food?



Watch football and play golf

Duck Hunting

My TV only gets Sports

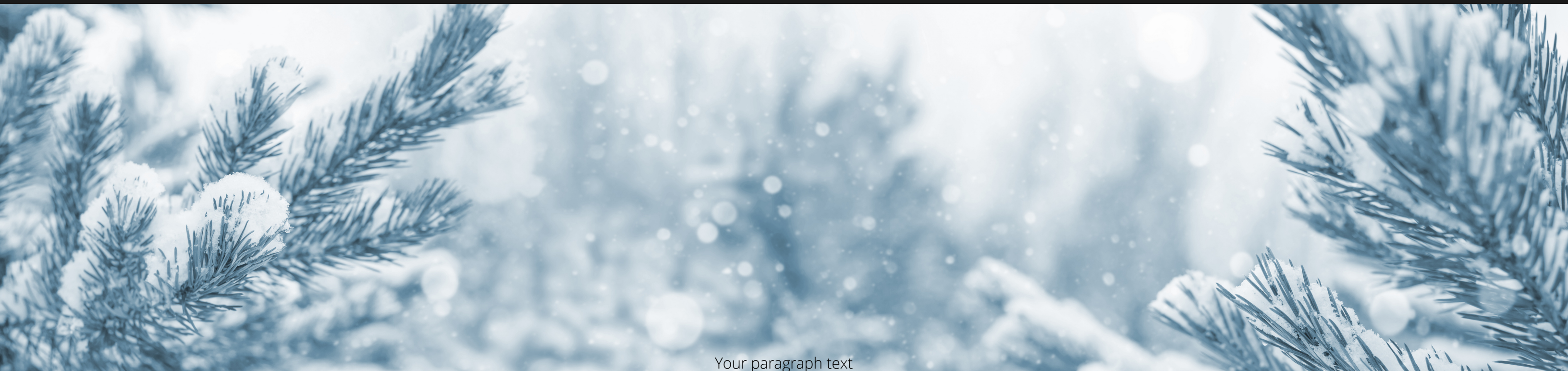
Chris Stapleton

My Chocolate Lab, Ca\$h

Meatloaf

Football
Deer Hunting or Fishing
Yellowstone
Toby Keith
My Dog, Riley
Steak and Potatoes

COUNSELOR'S CORNER



Your paragraph text

In January, 4th and 5th grade students will continue learning how to manage strong emotions. Emotional regulation helps children achieve higher academically, promotes healthy peer relationships, and builds resiliency. Children who can manage strong emotions often have greater focus, express their feelings appropriately, develop social skills, and make more thoughtful decisions. Development of these skills is an important part of overall well-being. Below are some tips for parents to encourage emotion management at home. We are looking forward to the start of a great second semester!

- Encourage your child to express their feelings openly.
- Help your child identify and label their emotions.
- Teach and practice coping strategies (breathing, drawing, journaling, etc.).
- Encourage problem-solving.