



**January/February
2015**

team nine parent newsletter



Upcoming Dates:

January 12: First Day of 2nd semester

January 19: No School – MLK Jr. Holiday

January 20/21: First day of seminars

February 6: No School – Professional Development Day

February 12-13: Youth and Government goes to Sacramento

February 23-27: National Engineering Week

February 28: FRC @ Inland Empire

Team Nine Teachers!

(left to right)

Lenny Perez *..project lead the way..*

Jamie Larson *..physics..*

Merily Hernandez *..spanish..*

Caline Khavarani Smith *..algebra and geometry..*

Schehrezade Lodhy *..english..*

Megan Flower *..english..*

D'yann Crosby *..sign language..*

Happy New Year!

Welcome back from winter break! We hope you were able to spend some quality time with your son or daughter and that he/she are ready to start the new semester. We are excited to start off the new year and new semester with some great new projects! We are half way done with the school year and have so much content to cover. Read on for the exciting new projects.

What we're working on in...

English.

English 9 will kick off the semester with laughter. Humor is an ever-present and powerful communication tool. For our first unit we will explore how satire shapes our thinking and discuss how we can employ satire to change others' thinking. Douglas Adam's *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* will serve as our guide in understanding the various techniques of satire. In conjunction with the novel, we will dissect how contemporary mediums' use of satire influence their audiences. By the end of the unit students will contribute satirical pieces to our publication, "The Garlic" in hopes of provoking change in their community. Our goal for this unit is to teach students to be critical and independent thinkers in a media saturated world.

Schehrezade Lodhy

For our first project of Semester 2 we will be reading the #1 New York Times Best Seller, *The Book Thief*, by Markus Zusak. Throughout the course of this project we will be answering the question, "What would you be willing to risk for an education?" We will be taking a look at the disparities that exist in education here in America and internationally. Students will engage in a Socratic Seminar based on the novel, and then write a Position Paper after conducting research. Our final deliverable will be a Debate where students will have to debate their position on the Driving Question using evidence from their research.

Megan Flower

Spanish 1.

Welcome back DVS families! In Spanish, the students will be learning clothing vocabulary. They will work on completing a fashion magazine which will include, clothing articles, clothing material, sizes, and the price of the item. They will also be creating and participating in a Fashion Show. They will be modeling the various clothing and will also play the part of the MC. This will be a group project for which they will receive plenty of class time to work on the assignment.

Merily Hernández



Materials Requested

Sign Language: 2-inch binder, notebook paper, composition journal, 2 pencils, 2 black pens, 2 blue pens, purple pen, eraser, agenda
Wish list: black pens, hard candies, Bath & Body Works 1.5 oz. room perfume

Physics: children's books about science, rulers, stopwatches, tape measures, meter stick, scientific calculators, scissors, glue sticks
www.donorschoose.org/larsonphysics

Spanish: Kleenex, box cutters, children's books (in Spanish), masking tape, painter's tape

English (Ms. Flower): *The Book Thief* (no digital version), post-it notes, highlighter, colored pens

Travel Abroad to Peru

A trip to Peru is being organized for the Spring of 2015.

Presentations were given in all Spanish classes and information was sent home with the students. Participating in this trip would be a great experience for students.

Educational travel is a vital part of a complete education. It expands views, promotes understanding, and provides first-hand experiences of classroom lessons.

For more details please visit:
<http://www.explorica.com/Sy-5919>

You can also contact

Mrs. Hernandez
mhernandez@davincischools.org

Mrs. Sy
(asy@davincischools.org)



Español 1 Honores.

¡Feliz año nuevo a todos! ¡Bienvenidos nuevamente! Este semestre continuaremos trabajando en una serie de presentaciones en las cuales los alumnos demostraran su entendimiento del idioma. Es importante mencionar que para muchos de los alumnos fue difícil dominar (algunos o todos) los conceptos gramaticales y por lo tanto continuaremos desarrollándolos aún más.

En la siguiente unidad leeremos “La Casa en Mango Street” por Sandra Cisneros. La novela se trata de una joven latina que vive en un barrio en Chicago. Atreves de esta lectura, los alumnos estarán desarrollando el análisis de la lectura y la escritura.

Erika Magaña

Español 2 Honores.

Bienvenidos al segundo semestre del año escolar. Continuaremos nuestra aprendizaje en la clase de español 2 honores enfocándonos en el arte Hispano/Latino. Los estudiantes tendrán la oportunidad de escoger una obra de arte de un artista y analizarla. Describirán el mensaje de la pintura, el propósito, la época en la cual fue creada, y su propia interpretación. Ellos también serán responsables de crear su propia obra de arte inspirándose en un evento actual que está afectando a los Hispanos/Latinos. Presentaran todo esto a través de una galería de arte.

Merily Hernández

Engineering.

Designers have used Computer Aided Design (CAD) programs for decades to refine ideas and generate images that manufacturers and other professionals can use to make profitable solutions to problems. The development of three-dimensional CAD solid modeling programs has resulted in significant increases in the quality of complex designs while drastically reducing the amount of time needed to produce those designs. Some engineers feel that the development of three-dimensional CAD solid modeling programs

has made engineering more engaging and fun not to mention more accurate and precise.

Today's software that employs parametric design functionality requires an understanding of geometric relationships, such as perpendicular, parallel, and tangent. Students will transfer their knowledge of geometric relationships to parametric modeling.

Lenny Perez

Physics.

Students will become science authors in our first project of Semester 2: Story of my Light. After exploring, applying, and researching properties of light and the electromagnetic spectrum, students will be writing chapter books for middle school students. These books will include helpful diagrams, illustrations, and key vocabulary to help younger students understand these phenomena in the context of a creative story. The focus of this project will be to develop students' scientific vocabulary and improve their science literacy. Students will work in expert groups, where they will zoom in on one property of light: absorption, reflection, or refraction. Each student will then write one chapter specific to this property of light to contribute to their team's final three-chapter book. We will go through the critiquing and editing process to ensure that students produce high quality work for their final drafts. The tentative project due date will be February 4th.

Physics Office Hours: Mondays & Wednesdays 8:00 – 8:50 am. Students can access all class materials on EdModo.com which will include important updates, calendar checkpoints, quizzes and YouTube videos of solutions to challenging word problems will also be posted on this website. Please do not hesitate to email me with any questions or concerns!

Jamie Larson

TEACHER CONTACT INFO:

We are an email-friendly school, so this will be our primary mode of parent communication. Please make sure the front office (see Liz) has your correct parent email information on file.

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MATH [Caline Smith]
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RESOURCE [Lila Kalaf]
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SPANISH [Erika Magaña]
emagana@davincischools.org

Announcement

Parent volunteers are needed to assist with planning and coordinating the Spring Signing Recital to be hosted April 16, 2015.

If interested, please contact Ms. Crosby by January 20th, 2015 via email: dcrosby@davincischools.org

Experts Wanted

Authors, book illustrators, Highway Patrol/Police Officers, Optometrists, Opticians (or any related professions).

Ms. Larson would love to connect to involve you in their projects this year.

jl Larson@davincischools.org

Math.

Happy New Year, Everyone! I am very much looking forward to another great semester with you and your students!

Below is some detailed information about what we are learning in each math course.

Algebra.

We will start the semester in Chapter three by focusing on multiplying expressions and solving equations that contain products. While these new ideas will be introduced using algebra tiles, we will also develop a method to multiply expressions without using tiles. We will then move on to Chapter four, where we will learn how to solve word problems by writing a pair of equations, called a system of equations. Then we will solve the system of equations with the same multiple representations we used for solving linear equations: table, graph, and by manipulating the equations. Finally, we will use mathematics and birdhouses that the students will build in engineering to examine how one would determine the budget for painting an actual house.

Geometry.

Before winter break, we began to discover that the side ratios in a right triangle can serve as a powerful mathematical tool that allows us to find missing side lengths and missing angle measures for any right triangle. This semester, we will add to our triangle toolkit by finding other trigonometric ratios that can be used in solving problems and then looking for patterns that we can use as shortcuts. Next, in chapter six, we will build on our concept of similar triangles when we ask ourselves: What if two triangles are congruent? What information can congruent triangles provide? Finally, we will use mathematics and birdhouses that the students will build in engineering to examine how one would determine the budget for painting an actual house.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. I am here to support you and the students.

Here's to a wonderful second semester!

Caline Khavarani Smith

Sign Language.

THUMBS UP!! and a big welcome back to all ASL students. Last semester we learned about important events and people who made great contributions to American society, we developed core language competencies such as fingerspelling, signing, facial expression and grammar in American Sign Language and learned to sign songs and frozen texts. This spring, expect to learn even more about communication, cultures, comparisons and communities.

First Project

American Sign Language plays a central role-as all spoken languages do-in the context of understanding the culture of the people who use it to communicate. Students will learn the elements that comprise culture and investigate these elements in cultures around the world, the United States, and their own family. Students will create a poster board to showcase a comparison of an aspect of their family culture versus (world, or U.S.) culture as it relates to food, tradition, clothing, music, religion and values and present signed/ spoken) before the class. In addition, students will present a 3-5 minute signed video on "Where I am From?," highlighting family relationships. ASL I, II, and III levels will perform in a signing concert April 2015.

D'yann Crosby

teamNine

office hours

	MON	TUES	WED	THURS
ENGLISH <i>SchehrezadeLodhy</i>	•		•	
ENGLISH <i>Megan Flower</i>	•		•	
MATH <i>Caline Khavarani Smith</i>		•		•
SPANISH <i>Merily Hernandez</i>		•		•
PHYSICS <i>Jamie Larson</i>	•		•	
ENGINEERING <i>Lenny Perez</i>		•		•
SIGN LANGUAGE <i>D'yann Crosby</i>		•		•