



## teamnine parent newsletter

**October 2014**



### Upcoming Dates:

**October 6-9:** SLC's (1:30pm dismissal)

**October 6-9:** No seminars this week

**October 10:** No School  
(Professional Development)

**October 14:** School Site  
Council Meeting @ 5:30pm

**October 16:** Great CA Shakeout

**October 17:** Silent Movie Night

**October 27-31:** Spirit Week!

### Team Nine Teachers!

*(left to right)*

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

**Merily Hernández** *..spanish..*

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

**Jamie Larson** *..physics..*

**Schehrezade Lodhy** *..english..*

**Megan Flower** *..english..*

**Lila Kalaf** *..resource.. (not pictured)*

**D'yann Crosby** *..sign language..(not pictured)*

## Student Led Conferences!

The week of October 6, students will be participating in Student Led Conferences (SLC's). The purpose of these conferences is to have the students evaluate their effort put forth in all of their classes and to create action plans for their areas of growth. All students are expected to have a student led conference in which their parents/guardians and their teachers will be their audience. In order to be prepared for this, the students have received a script they must complete and follow during their conference as well as present evidence which would consist of their work completed thus far.

# What we're working on in...

## English.

Metaphorically and literally, the future is in your hands. Most, upon hearing this, may assume it is in the hands of someone else. They may assume "someone else" will ensure that things run smoothly, and secure their happiness. We here at Da Vinci, think a bit differently. We know the world will be what we make it. We know that through the process of identifying and supporting the disadvantaged, we can become agents of social change. We will be innovative and devise new ideas to help the disadvantaged within our community. We are the difference. Our vision is the future. You are the innovators. Using John Steinbeck's Cannery Row as our foundation, we will develop a Non-Profit Organization designed to help the disadvantaged members of our community. This process begins with reimagining the lives of the socially disadvantaged, and working to raise awareness and rally support for their cause!

*Schehrezade Lodhy and Megan Flower*

## Spanish 1.

We are off to a great start in Spanish 1, acquiring new vocabulary on a daily basis. At home, the students should be practicing the vocabulary on a daily basis. There is always new vocabulary that they can be studying or reviewing. The students have just turned in their first project but there is still so much more to learn.

Our current project focuses on the cultural aspect of learning a new language and specifically Hispanic Heritage Month. As mentioned, at back to school night, the students are to attend an authentic cultural event and document their experience via video and images. I highly encourage parents and other family members to attend the student chosen cultural event as well. The cultural events can be found on Edmodo.com. Following the cultural events the students will compose a 3 minute news report of the experience, create a piece of art, and will also be researching a specific Spanish speaking country.

This project will be on display on Exhibition night. Stay tuned for more information.

*Merily Hernández*



## materials requests

**MATH:** 2 graph composition books, colored writing utensils, 1 white board dry-erase marker, 1 three-ring binder (2" or more), 1 highlighter, pencils, 1 scientific calculator

**PHYSICS:** 9V batteries, tape measures, meter sticks, scientific calculators, scissors, neodymium magnets, or donate through the class website [www.donorschoose.org/larsonphysics](http://www.donorschoose.org/larsonphysics)

**ENGLISH:** 1-composition book, blue or black pens, highlighters

**SPANISH:** painting kit (brushes, paints, canvas etc.), rags, hand sanitizer, painter's tape, masking tape

**SIGN LANGUAGE:** poster board size between: 11in x 20in – 21in x 28in, jolly rancher candies, gel pens, glue sticks, giant easel-sized post it note pads, Bath & Body Works 1.5 oz. Room Perfume

**ENGINEERING:** ruler, glue sticks, scissors, colored pencils



## Silent Movie Night

**When:** Friday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014

**Time:** 6:00 p.m.- 9:00 p.m.

**Where:** Da Vinci Auditorium

**What:** DVS newly founded ASL club will host its first "deaf friendly" event to raise funds for a fieldtrip.

More information to come!

## Agenda Check

Students should be writing their homework assignments in their agenda on a daily basis, as well as project deadlines. The 9<sup>th</sup> grade teachers would like to ask the parents/guardians to check their student's agenda on a daily basis to ensure that work is being completed and assignment due dates/deadlines are met.

## Español 2 Honores.

Hemos empezado a un muy buen paso en la clase de español. Los estudiantes están ansiosos por aprender. Ya han entregado su primer proyecto del semestre, hemos comenzado el segundo proyecto.

El proyecto actual se enfoca en la cultura Latina/Hispana y los festejos en honor al mes de la herencia hispana. Como fue dicho en la noche de regreso a escuela, como departamento de español, les estamos pidiendo a los estudiantes que atiendan a un evento cultural y documenten su experiencia a través de un reportaje corte de 3 minutos. También estarán investigando países específicos para presentar en la clase. Fianlmente van a transformar toda esta información en una imagen de arte, la cual será usada para crear murales en los salones de las clases de español. Todo al información relacionada en este proyecto la pueden encontrar en Edmodo.com

Tendremos este proyecto en exhibición para la noche de exhibición que ocurrirá en noviembre. Espero y todos puedan venir a ver los resultados.

*Merily Hernández*

## Engineering.

Every human civilization throughout history developed its own measuring tools and, along with them, its own measuring standards. It was through the establishment of measuring tools and standards that the Egyptians were able to build their giant pyramids and the Romans were able to build their roads and aqueducts. Shared understanding and communication established through standardization played a key role in their successful outcome. Standardization is what allows many people to work individually on parts that come together to form a finished product or system. Without measurement standards, manufactured parts would not be interchangeable and mass production could not exist. Measurement is so important that the founding fathers of the United States included it in the Constitution, giving Congress the power to set uniform standards for weights and measures. Today, the American National Standards Institute serves as the unifying force system for the measurement used in the United States.

This lesson provides an introduction to measurement through the study of linear distance and angles. During this unit students will measure linear distances (including length, inside diameter, and hole depth) with accuracy using a scale, ruler, or dial caliper and report the measurement using an appropriate level of precision. These measurement will be used to dimension orthographic projections of simple objects or parts according to a set

of dimensioning standards and accepted practices. Students will calculate statistics related to central tendency including mean, median, and mode in order to determine whether or not a part follows within an acceptable tolerance range.

*Lenny Perez*

## Physics.

**Experts Wanted:** Electrical Engineers, Sound Engineers, Highway Patrol/Police Officers, Opticians (or any related professions, I would love to connect to involve you in our projects this year)

**PROJECT UPDATES:** *We have just completed our first Physics project "You WIND some, You lose some." In teams, students formally presented their data and research from their wind turbine experiments to a panel of judges. Students enjoyed watching their unique wind turbine blade designs created on the laser cutter and were challenged to test multiple trials and process raw data.*

*We are currently turning up the volume with our Sound of Music project, where students will be demonstrating knowledge of energy, waves, and electromagnetism through their design of a working speaker. The goal is for students to build a speaker, which can play music when plugged into a smartphone or computer. Students will be "DJ-ing" with their speakers during lunch at the end of the project, where they will get feedback and be judged for best quality of sound and most creative speaker design.*

**Honors:** The honors project for this semester will be a DIY (Do it Yourself) Video explaining how to build a speaker. Students will be demonstrating mastery in most essential knowledge of the semester including Energy, Sound Waves, and Electromagnetism. Students will be given the project outline in late September and need a B- or higher in the class to be eligible to complete the project. The final due date for the Honors project will be the last class of 1<sup>st</sup> semester.

**Physics Office Hours:** Mondays & Wednesdays 8:00 – 8:50 am. Students can access all class materials on [EdModo.com](http://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!

**Resubmission Policy:** *If students submitted a lab report rough draft, they are eligible for resubmission. After receiving formal feedback on the individual lab reports, students will have 2 weeks to make changes and resubmit their work to improve their score.*

*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.

**ENGLISH [Schehrezade Lodhy]**  
[slodhy@davincischools.org](mailto:slodhy@davincischools.org)

**ENGLISH [Megan Flower]**  
[mflower@davincischools.org](mailto:mflower@davincischools.org)

**SPANISH [Merily Hernández]**  
[mhernandez@davincischools.org](mailto:mhernandez@davincischools.org)

**PHYSICS [Jamie Larson]**  
[jl Larson@davincischools.org](mailto:jl Larson@davincischools.org)

**ENGINEERING [Lenny Perez]**  
[lperez@davincischools.org](mailto:lperez@davincischools.org)

**SIGN LANGUAGE [D'yann Crosby]**  
[dcrosby@davincischools.org](mailto:dcrosby@davincischools.org)

**MATH [Caline Smith]**  
[csmith@davincischools.org](mailto:csmith@davincischools.org)

**RESOURCE [Lila Kalaf]**  
[lkalaf@davincischools.org](mailto:lkalaf@davincischools.org)

**SPANISH 1H & 2 [Erika Magaña]**  
[emagana@davincischools.org](mailto:emagana@davincischools.org)



## Math.

Dear Parents and Guardians:

We have gotten off to a wonderful start this school year! At home, please continue to check your students' stamp sheets, as this is the most efficient way for you to see how your student is keeping up with the math assignments. Below is some detailed information about what we are learning in each math course

## Algebra.

In Chapter 1, we learned the basics about functions: function notation, domain, range, and how to describe the graph of a function. We also reviewed some foundational skills, such as square root, cube root, and order of operations. In our second unit, we will move on to the appendix. We will use tools called “algebra tiles” to represent expressions and equations physically and visually. This unit will allow us to lay a strong foundation for simplifying expressions and solving equations that we will need and build upon repeatedly throughout the course (and throughout the students' future in math).

## Geometry.

In Chapter 1, the students studied many common geometric shapes and learned ways to describe a shape using its attributes. In Chapter 2, they will further investigate how to describe a complex shape by developing ways to accurately determine its angles, area, and perimeter. The students will also use transformations from Chapter 1 to uncover special relationships between angles within a shape. Throughout the chapter, the students will be asked to solve problems, such as those involving area or angles, in more than one way. This will require them to “see” shapes in multiple ways and to gain a broader understanding of problem solving.

I very much look forward to seeing you all at the student-led conferences! Also, please do not hesitate to contact me with questions or concerns at any time.

I am always here to help!

*Caline Khavarani Smith*

---

## Sign Language.

The use of signed communication dates all the way to pre-history. Students will travel back in time to explore how the viewpoint of one famous Greek philosopher shaped the perceptions about deaf people and changed society's attitude toward them for centuries to come. Students will learn the history of ASL, how sign language came to America, the history deaf education and the rise of ASL as an appropriate language of instruction for deaf students and second language for hearing students in high schools and universities in the United States. Students will select a famous deaf person in history and create a timeline. The timeline will include eight (8) important dates from the 1800's and ending the year they were born. Students will place the famous deaf person in the timeline to indicate the era the person was born in. Students will present the challenges the deaf person might have been challenged with during that era as it relates to basic civil liberties and rights. Best work will be displayed during Exhibition Night!

*D'yann Crosby*

**Parent/Guardian Signature**

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have received and read the team nine parent newsletter.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

X\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# teamnine office hours

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