

DaVTA Newsletter

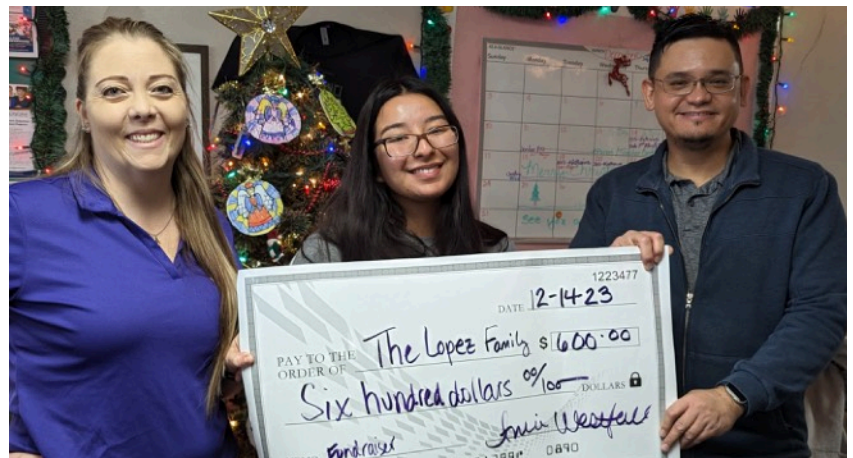


The Christmas/Hanukkah Pageant Success!

We wanted to thank all of the families who came out and or volunteered to make our Christmas Hanukkah Pageant such a smashing success! The turnout exceed all of our expectations and we are so pleased that we were able to help the Lopez Family. The event was raised around \$600 and it was tremendous time for all of us to get into the holiday spirit. Some additional photos are at the end of this newsletter along with our graphic design class's artwork made especially for the event!

A Big Thank You to Amie's Quality Cleaning!

We would like to give a huge thank you to Amie Westfall and her business Amie's Quality Cleaning. The business just did a fundraiser and raised another \$600 to help the Lopez Family! If you are looking for a great cleaning service and enjoy supporting your community (Ms. Westfall is a parent at Da Vinci Tree), consider Amie's Quality Cleaning at amiesqualitycleaning.com or call 520-271-6386.





Middle School Girls Basketball Over / Elementary Basketball on Break

One of the TUSD coaches contacted us last night and let us know that they decided to end the Middle School Girls Basketball season unexpectedly early due to scheduling conflicts. We are proud of our girls basketball team! They did an amazing job, and even though the season is being cut short, we are thankful they had the experience.

Elementary Basketball is not being ended, but it is being put on hold. Games will pick up again in February after the holidays. Accordingly, we will be postponing any further practices until late January. Since this is a new development for all of us, we have yet to put together a practice schedule for January. Please keep a lookout in the newsletters for more information!

Middle School Conferences

Unfortunately, some middle school parents were not able to get in to see us for a conference. If you are still needing to meet with your middle schoolers teachers, please email both Mr. Freyer and Mr. Roll at tfreyer@davincitree.academy and mroll@davincitree.academy. We are happy to schedule you a time to come in and see us!

Personal Junior Math Olympiad Not Happening

The Personal Junior Math Olympiad is not happening. Principal Roll got really excited for it but then found another program that he liked even better that includes ELA and Reading as well.

Exact Path Trophy Challenge

Beginning this week, our students will have the opportunity to increase their grade point average and their understanding in Reading, Math, and Language Arts from home! The Exact Path Trophy Challenge started Monday.

Exact Path is the program that our children do their benchmarks on, but it is so much more. In Exact Path, every child is assigned a “Learning Path” based on their individualized level. Each child’s Learning Path has achievement milestones called trophies. Each trophy takes students between 30-90 minutes to earn (on average).

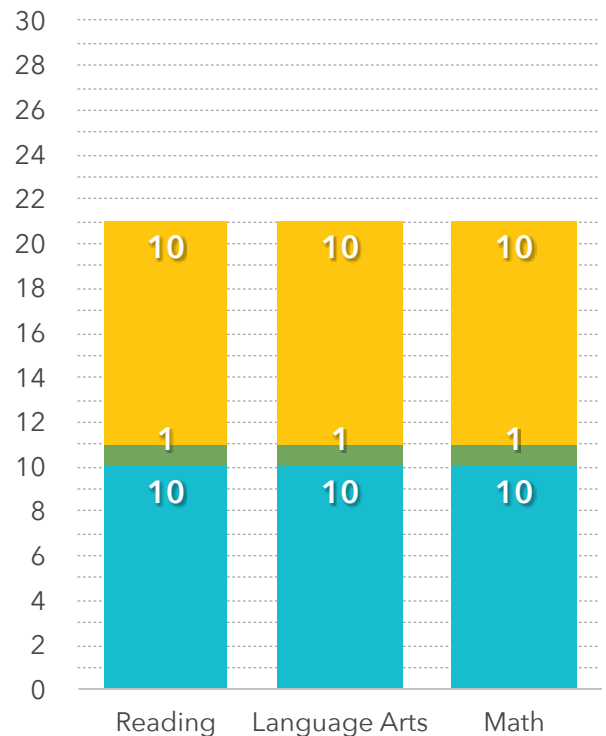
In trimester two, 30% of every students’ Reading, Math, and Language Arts grade will be based on their Learning Path Trophies. Earning the first 10 trophies will give our students their full 30%. Students can earn an 11th extra credit trophy which will increase their final report card grade by a full 3%! Students have until March 1st.

If our students are driven, and we hope they are, they can even earn money in the form of Target gift cards! If a student earns 21 trophies in a subject they will receive a \$5 gift card. For earning 21 trophies in the second subject, they will win a second \$5 gift card. If they earn 21 trophies in their final subject, they will be rewarded with a \$20 gift card bringing their total winnings to \$30!

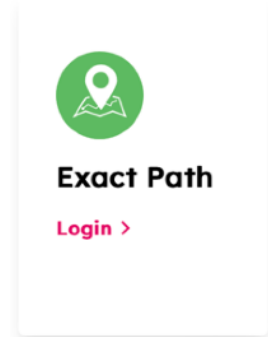
To log in, simply go to www.edmentum.com/product-login. Choose the Exact Path option. On the login screen, type “dvta” for the account. Your child’s user name is their first initial last name. For instance, a child named Taylor Swift would have the user name of “tswift.” If your child has the same first initial and last name as another child, there may be a number after their name, such as “tswift2”. The password for our students is “qwerty” (We don’t anticipate people wanting to break into our kid’s accounts to do their homework for them). Once you log into the system, simply select “Learning Path” and the subject that your child wants to work on. You usually have to watch or read the lesson before you are allowed to do the practice. Once you’ve done enough problems correctly you win a trophy!

Every child will have a Trophy Challenge grade in their grade book worth 30% of the total. This grade will be updated once a week starting in January.

How the Trophies Count



- 10 trophies - Required for 30% of grade
- 1 trophy - Extra Credit 3% of grade
- 10 trophies - for Target Gift Cards!





Zero Hour Graphic Design student artwork for the Christmas Hannukah Pageant! Art comes from 5th-8th graders in the class.



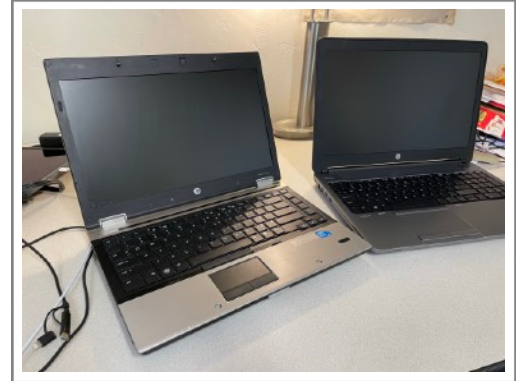


Photos from the pageant with a few more pictures from the students.



Borrowing or Buying Computers for the Exact Path Challenge

Especially during this stressful time of year, we are mindful that not all of our families have computing devices for their kids to use at home. The Exact Path Trophy Challenge, which is both for a grade and for special incentives, requires that kids do at least some of the work outside of normal school hours. While a child could conceivably be successful by staying after school and completing the assignment, it is a lot easier for kids to do the assignment at home.



We want to make it affordable for every child in our school community to have their own computer at home. While we are unable to help families pay for an internet connection, we can help families afford a computer!

Beginning today, we are accepting orders to purchase or borrow basic laptops. In order to place an order, please visit www.davincitree.academy/computer and complete the form. Please see all the disclaimers below. If after reading all the disclaimers you still have questions, please reach out to Principal Roll at mroll@davincitree.academy. Thank you!

NOTICES AND DISCLAIMERS

Computers are being offered to help students do their Exact Path Trophy Challenge.

To purchase a machine, the school is accepting a \$40 donation. To borrow a machine, the school requires a \$60 cash deposit. At the end of the year once the laptop has been returned in working order, the \$60 deposit will be returned. Laptops are old and the batteries are spent. All the laptops work, however, they must be plugged in to operate. Please wait to receive confirmation that your laptop is ready before coming in for it!

1. Computers are ONLY available for all families with students in K-6th grade. Students in 7th and 8th already have iPads that they are required to take home upon which they can do the Exact Path Trophy Challenge.
2. We are not Geek Squad. We cannot offer technical support. If a computer is issued non-functional then we can replace it with a functional machine. Beyond that we do not offer support.
3. Machines are used (not new) and do not have web cameras.
4. We are not allowing people to choose which machine they get.
5. Computers are only available for a limited time.
6. Computers have an inbuilt web filter. This does NOT MEAN however that your child will be unable to use the computers offered through this program to access inappropriate content including but not limited to pornography, violence, and more. WE STRONGLY ADVISE that children are supervised when using a computer on the internet.
7. Computers do not contain a SIM card or data connection. They can only access the internet through Wifi.
8. Computers are being sold for the purposes of children doing their Exact Path Challenge. While the computers are able to do other things, such as stream video, we are only issuing the machines for the one purpose.
9. Computers run on a Linux operating system. The operating system is locked. We will provide buyers and borrowers with the passcode to be able to access the student portions of the device. After the computer is purchased, the owner may over-write the operating system with any OS they want, but the school will not be responsible for restoring the original OS.
10. Computers were originally property of the US Department of Homeland Security. Da Vinci Tree Academy was donated the computers. Da Vinci Tree Academy is not selling the computers for a profit, rather, we are charging \$40 to recuperate the cost of the parts and the time we had to pay our employees to rebuild each machine.
11. Families with multiple students enrolled in K-6th may purchase or borrow up to two machines.
12. If you would like to purchase one machine and borrow another, simply check both boxes on the order form and select "2."

The Ultimate Hide and Go Seek Challenges!

In an effort to be awesome and get kids pumped about being at school and on honor roll, we are trying something new! Kiddos who made honor roll, high honor roll, student of the trimester, or had perfect attendance in Trimester One will be invited to participate in the ultimate Hide and Go Seek Challenge!

For students in K-2nd, kids will be allowed to hide anywhere in the GWC Building! We will be playing multiple rounds with lights on and lights out (seekers with flashlights).

For students in 3rd-8th, we will be unlocking all the doors around campus and we will be doing a campus-wide challenge! Participants will be given a tracking device and set of rules (like no going on roofs or climbing in trees). Staff members will be monitoring student progress and safety both in-person and over the cameras.

While final details are being ironed out, we wanted to let families know that we will likely be doing the Ultimate Hide and Go Seek Challenge sometime around January 3rd, 4th, or 5th. If all goes well, we would like to make this a new tradition. Invitations will be sent out to parents via email in the coming weeks.



More Christmas art from the kids.

Da Vinci Tree Annual Christmas Toy and Food Drive Contest!

Ms. Alice is at it again! Starting now through Thursday, 21 December, each classroom is competing for the heaviest weight of can/box goods and unwrapped Christmas gifts for the children of our own school community. The last week of school we will take any fresh produce/ bread to put with our food boxes.

The class that has the heaviest weight will win an Eegee's and pizza party!

Thank you in advance, I appreciate you all! If you have any questions please feel free to contact Ms. Alice at aledford@davincitree.org.

PTO Meeting

Thank you to all who have volunteered! We will try to schedule our first meeting to help Mrs. Alice with the holiday food boxes. If you would still like to join, email mroll@davincitree.academy.



Food and Toy Drive
for Local Families in Need

Starting Thursday, 23 November,
through Thursday, 21 December