DA VINCI TREE ACADEMY JANUARY 17, 2024

DaVTA Newsletter

Center: Chevelle in Mrs. Frank's Kinder Class back in 2018.

Right: Chevelle last week in Tennessee with Dr. Klimo celebrating another cancer-free scan!

Below: Right scan before operations, Left scan after the two operations.



Chevelle is Cancer-Free and Recovering Vision!

It is with tremendous thankfulness that we announce that our wonderful Chevelle has had her second eye appointment and sixth MRI scan

and is showing cancer-free! When Chevelle first joined Da Vinci Tree back in kindergarten, everyone, doctors included, believed that she had an inoperable brain tumor. Her unflappable mother was undeterred. After years of searching, she found a skilled surgeon and medical team on the other side of the country that believed they could help.

In June and September of last year Chevelle underwent invasive surgery to remove the brain tumor under the care of Dr. Klimo. While everyone was cautiously optimistic that the surgery was successful, unavoidable damage was done to Chevelle's vision. Again, it is with great pleasure that we let everyone know that her scans are cancer-free and her eyes are showing stability with progress. Thank you all for your thoughts, prayers and donations!

No More Food Deliveries for Students

We are no longer allowing students to receive Door Dash or Uber Eats orders at school. We have free breakfast and lunches in addition to packing boxes of food for families in need over the weekends to make sure our kids do not go hungry. Kids are always allowed to bring food with them if they would like to pack their own lunches or snacks.

Invitations for Hide and Seek Being Sent Out

We are sending out Hide and Seek Invitations today via email. Please be on the lookout for an invitation if your student received Honor Roll, High Honor Roll, Student of the Trimester (also called "Teacher's Choice Award"), or Perfect Attendance. If your student did receive the award but you do not get an email today, please let us know!

Half Day Friday

Please don't forget that we have a half day coming up this Friday. Students need to be picked up around 12:30. Thank you!

Arizona Tutoring Program (ATP) Beginning

Da Vinci Tree Academy is participating in the Arizona Tutoring Program (ATP) being sponsored by the state government. It is scheduled small-group tutoring featuring a teacher and one to three students. This is different from our normal Study Hall (which is one staffer to many students) or our normal tutoring (which is one staffer to however many students show up). We are working on setting it up now. Teachers who are participating will be selecting students of highest need to fill the available time slots. Any open slots not filled by a bespoke student will be available for open signup.

Although our staff will be doing the tutoring, this is a state program that has very specific guidelines. It is a free service. If a family accepts the tutoring service however, they must be sure that their student is present. If the student misses three sessions they will be dropped from the program. Invitations for the tutoring will be going out either this weekend or next week.

Protestor Concerns

On Tuesday we had a woman dressed in black holding a sign outside the school that read something like, "Da Vinci Tree Abuses Children." This is a boldfaced lie and is objectively untrue, but as an American school we respect and defend this woman's right to peaceful protest. Unfortunately, the Tucson Police Department did have to remove and trespass the woman as she took it upon herself to block traffic and run in front of cars.

The woman was upset by Da Vinci Tree Academy's policy of reporting suspected child abuse to the Department of Child Services (DCS). When a child comes to us and tells us that they are being either physically or sexually abused, our policy is to immediately report it to both DCS and the Tucson Police. If a DCS agent or police officer comes to the school and needs to question a child to be sure that they are safe, we always fully cooperate with them. This is not only the law, but it is also our ethical responsibility as educators. Unfortunately, this individual does not agree with our legal and ethical obligations. This individual had already been "trespassed" back in September when they disrupted Ms. Hayde's class. We want all of our parents to know that this individual no longer has any ties to Da Vinci Tree and is not allowed near campus. If there are any lingering concerns, please contact Principal Roll at mroll@davincitree.academy.