

DRAGON DIGEST

The official Da Vinci newsletter of the Burnhamwood Charter School District.



Welcome Back!

Principal's Message

Da Vinci Family, I hope this newsletter finds you well. This month students received their first semester report cards! We are now half way through the first cycle of second semester.

As a reminder, Da Vinci is still following a synchronous learning model, which is "all students online via distance education that happens in real-time". The expectation is that students will attend school virtually until it is safe to return for face to face instruction. Teachers are providing instruction as if they were in the classroom. Therefore, it is imperative that students log in every day. Our school will follow the Compulsory Attendance Law (In order to receive credit for a final grade for a class, a student is required to attend class 90 percent of the days a class is offered regardless of whether the student's absences are excused). School begins promptly at 8:00 AM. Please make it a priority to get your student to school on time, whether they are in person or virtual learning.

Alexandro Medina

Alexandro Medina
Principal

Important Dates:

- 1/26** - PSAT/NMSQT Testing for 10th & 11th Grade
- 1/29** - Early Dismissal/Staff Development
- 2/15** - Presidents Day Holiday - No School
- 2/26** - Students Return Back to School, Report Cards Issued
- 2/26** - Early Dismissal/Staff Development

SNEAK PEEK

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PSAT/NMSQT Testing

10th and 11th graders took the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) test on Tuesday, January 26th, 2021. This exam measures what students are learning in school to determine if they are on track, as well as connect you with opportunities for financial scholarships. By taking the exam, students will be connected to over \$300 million in scholarships, are eligible for the National Merit Scholarship Program and will learn more about their academic strengths and have access to free, personalized test prep. **Scores will be released mid-March.**

When your PSAT/NMSQT scores are ready online, you'll get an email with instructions on creating your College Board account, going to your online score report, and using your access code to view your scores. If you need a paper score report, ask an educator at your school. From your account, you can also print your online score report by clicking the Download Your Score Report button.



WATCH THIS VIDEO HERE!



SAT Testing

All current 12th graders are scheduled to take the SAT test on Wednesday, March 3rd, 2021. **The exam will take place in person on Da Vinci's campus.** The SAT is an entrance exam used by most colleges and universities to make admissions decisions. The purpose of the SAT is to measure a high school student's readiness for college, and provide colleges with one common data point that can be used to compare all applicants. College admissions officers will review standardized test scores alongside high school GPA, classes took in high school, letters of recommendation from teachers, extracurricular activities, admissions interviews, and personal essays.

How to prepare for the exam:

- Take a practice test
- Answer sample questions
- Study using Khan Academy
- Get a good night's sleep
- Have a hearty breakfast
- Arrive to school on time
- Have a positive attitude!

If you are a **virtual student who plans to attend**, please contact one of the counselors for more information.

InSPIRESS

BY ALEXANDRO MEDINA

Our Juniors and Seniors this semester will be participating in the InSPIRESS Competition. The Innovative System Project for the Increased Recruitment of Emerging STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Students (InSPIRESS) is an outreach project that provides the opportunity for high school students to develop and design a scientific payload to be accommodated on a spacecraft which is designed by undergraduate students in the UAH IPT project. High school students collaborate with the undergraduate engineering students to understand the engineering requirements, the design process, and the role a customer plays in design. InSPIRESS teams compete for selection by the undergraduate engineering teams. At the end of the semester, they will present to a panel of professional judges from different STEM fields, UAH, NASA, and the DOD.

For more information, please visit our website:
<http://www.burnhamwood.org/>

Class T-Shirt Contest

BY JIMENA MONTES ANCHONDO

We want to thank those students who participated in the Da Vinci Class T-Shirt contest and a huge congratulations to the winners! The shirts are now on sale for \$10 and will have a dragon logo on the front, Da Vinci logo on the sleeve and grade level number on the back. **Show your school spirit and help support the DV International club by purchasing a shirt!**

Place your order by filling out the T-shirt form (found at the front office) and paying at the front office. If you are unable to come in person, please contact Mrs. Montes Anchondo (janchondo@burnhamwood.org) to work out an arrangement.

Thank you for your support!

If you would like information regarding the International Club's 2022 Europe trip contact Mrs. Montes Anchondo (janchondo@burnhamwood.org) or Mr. Carlos Garcia (cgarcia@burnhamwood.org).

GECU Board of Directors

For the second year in a row, one of our students was selected to participate on the GECU Student Board of Directors. The Student Board of Directors by GECU is an initiative that provides high school seniors with inside exposure to GECU and the credit union industry, with an additional understanding of the importance of economics, business and the free market. They are introduced to the different departments that help run the daily operations of GECU, such as Accounting, Branch Operations, Compliance, and many others.

The elected student board are representatives of their high school during the 2020-2021 school year and meet on a monthly basis at GECU Community Development. Way to represent Da Vinci!

Counselor's CORNER

BY CHRISTINA BODY, CHRISTINA BUCKROP & CLAUDIA CASTANON



Seniors, make sure you are finalizing your college applications! This month you should be: (1) Submitting your applications (2) Studying for and scheduling to take the SAT or ACT - make sure you send your test scores to your colleges (3) Fill out your FASFA!! (4) Complete scholarship applications (5) Ask your teachers and/or counselors for letters of recommendations (6) Call schools and check on the status of your applications and submit missing documentation.

As always, continue to check the Class of 2021 Google Classroom for the latest senior information.

Seniors - we will have a SAT school day on March 3rd, 2021.

Have questions? Send us an email or come stop by the counseling office so we can help you!



@dvschoolcounseling

Follow us on Instagram for school announcements, special events, testing updates and more!

Contact us: cbody@burnhamwood.org | chargrove@burnhamwood.org | ccastanon@burnhamwood.org

For more information, please visit our website:
<http://www.burnhamwood.org/>