

# VIPER NEWS



May 2021

## STAAR TESTING AT VISTA

Schools across Texas look forward to the month of May all year long. This is the climax of the school year, the part of school our 3rd through 6th graders look to define their progress and hard work throughout the year. Educators have worked tirelessly with each child to set them up for success when taking these state exams.

It goes without saying—but we are going to say it anyway—this year has been a little different. Our Viper Educators have remained focused on educating our Viper students and preparing them with the life skills necessary to take the state exams throughout the pandemic. They have not wavered from our plan of teaching the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) provided to educators across Texas. Our Educators have assured that each section of the Year at a Glance (YAG) has been completed by their class and each student has mastered the content. If mastery was not reached, the teachers have re-taught concepts, brought students in to Saturday school sessions, tutored after school and provided small group instruction in order for mastery of the content to be achieved. Through the pandemic our Viper Educators led the way in the education field and continued to make school a routine for our students. When others were teaching from home, our Viper Educators were in their classrooms getting business done and educating our students day in and day out.

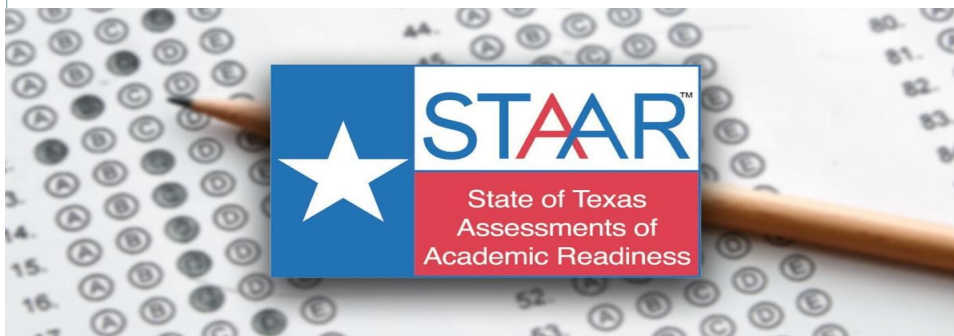
May 11 - 14, 2021, our 3rd—6th Grade Vipers will be taking the State of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness (STAAR) in Math, Reading, and Science. (Our 4th Graders have already had a small taste of the STAAR test when they took their writing test on April 06, 2021.)

### THIS MONTH'S IMPORTANT DATES

- May 03 - 07 - Teacher appreciation Week
- May 05 - Cinco de Mayo
- May 06 - National Nurses Day
- May 07 - REPORT CARDS ISSUED
- May 07 - Military Spouses Appreciation Day
- May 08 - World Ovarian Cancer Day
- May 09 - Mother's Day
- May 11 - 3rd—6th Grade Math STAAR
- May 12 - 3rd—6th Grade Reading STAAR
- May 13 - 5th Grade Science STAAR
- May 14 - Make-Up STAAR testing for any missed tests
- May 15 - Armed Forces Day
- May 25 - National Missing Children's Day
- May 27 - Early Dismissal/Staff Development
- May 31 - Memorial Day Holiday

### NEXT MONTH'S DATES

- Jun 16 - Students Last Day of School
- Jun 16 - End of 6th six weeks
- Jun 17 - Teacher Work Day
- Jun 21 - Jul 10: Summer School Session



# STAAR CONTINUED

Because our year has been so different, some have questioned if their children NEED to take the STAAR test. The simplest answer: YES. The STAAR test is NOT cancelled this year and we will be taking the test by paper and not computer based. The only students not required to take the test are those that have been learning virtually through the entire pandemic. If your child is learning face-to-face they are required to take the STAAR test.

What are some things you can do at home to prepare your student for success on the STAAR Testing?

1. Make sure they get a good nights rest the night before the test date.
2. Make sure they have a hardy breakfast.

3. Relax the brain by doing a fun activity together your student enjoys. Something small and not too over stimulating.
4. Discuss anxiety and remind your student to breathe through it. Always remind them that they already know the material, just let the information come to their minds.
5. Have confidence in your student and assure them that they are ready for the test and you know how hard they worked to get to where they are. Reassure them that no matter the outcome, you are proud of all they have accomplished this year.

*“...Some have questioned if their children NEED to take the STAAR test. The simplest answer: YES.”*

## MAY BIRTHDAY CLUB— STUDENTS

- 05 - C.Y.
- 06 - K.E.
- 06 - A.D.
- 12 - V.S.
- 12 - M.G.
- 14 - K.M.
- 16 - V.M.
- 16 - L.L.
- 17 - S.O.
- 17 - C.G.
- 17 - M.B.
- 21 - V.F.
- 22 - I.A.
- 23 - R.C.
- 24 - D.M.
- 25 - S.A.
- 25 - R.T.
- 26 - D.S.
- 27 - A.S.
- 27 - A.H.
- 28 - J.G.



## STUDENT SHOUT-OUT

A big SHOUT OUT goes to Ethan Pinon in 2nd Grade!

Ethan was given a Shout Out by Mr. Cervantes because he is a new student who has made the transition from another school to Vista look so easy!

Ethan is very intelligent and well mannered. He made friends here at Vista very quickly and has a great outlook on all he does.

Congratulations, Ethan on your outstanding performance in and out of the classroom!

Vista del Futuro Charter School is proud to have you as one of our own!

#ViperStrong

# TEACHER SHOUT-OUT



*Mr Javier Napoles*

Shout out to the following Vista Vipers Educator!!

Welcome to Vista!!

We want to take this opportunity to welcome Mr. Javier Napoles to the Vista Viper Family!

Mr. Napoles began his educational career as an Educational Aide, Step III, in 2015. He then obtained his degree from The University of Texas at El Paso with a degree in Painting. In 2020, he became a fully certified educator gaining TWO certifications, one in Art and the second in Special Education.

A little background from Mr. Napoles: he has worked for Socorro Independent School District and Gadsden Independent School District in New Mexico. Mr. Napoles stated that he is “very happy to join the VDF staff and help our students reach their goals.”

Some of his hobbies include but are not limited to running and cooking. We here at Vista Del Futuro Charter School are beyond blessed to have Mr. Napoles join our Viper Family. He has shown so much passion for education and a drive to make each child successful.

We truly appreciate the work you are doing here at Vista!

MAY  
BIRTHDAY CLUB -  
FACULTY & STAFF

- 15 - Mrs. Vanessa
- 29 - Ms. Myrna A.



# SCHOOL TRAFFIC SAFETY



With more and more students returning to campus, our traffic has become slightly more hectic. Please remember the following pick-up etiquette and always remember that this is a school zone area:

1. Do not pass a stopped car in the pick-up area. A child could be coming in/out of the vehicle.
2. Put down your phone and concentrate on what is happening around you.
3. Keep the crosswalk pathway clear.
4. Yield to ALL walkers.
5. Drive SLOWLY on campus property and the streets in front of the campus.
6. Do not honk out of frustration. If honking, it is alerting the school staff that an issue is at hand and we need to react immediately.

## WHAT DOES SEL LOOK LIKE IN THE CLASSROOM?

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

#### SELF-AWARENESS:

I can distinguish how the same emotion can mean different things in different situations

I can understand my own strengths and challenges

#### SELF-MANAGEMENT:

I can recognize ways to deal with upsetting emotions

I can identify how obstacles are overcome to achieving goals

I can remember a time when I was successful and recall the ways I can apply what worked in that situation to future goals

I can recognize socially appropriate responses to emotions

# SEL CONTINUED

## SOCIAL AWARENESS:

- I can communicate my needs and feelings verbally
- I can understand that emotions play a major role in the nature of relationships
- I can respect and identify with other people's perspectives and behaviors
- I can understand and evaluate social situations

## RELATIONSHIP SKILLS:

- I can establish and maintain positive relationships
- I can listen actively
- I can respect diverse perspectives and resolve conflict effectively
- I can be a loyal and considerate friend

## RESPONSIBLE DECISION MAKING:

- I can understand and explain why it is important to obey rules and laws
- I can understand the importance of being dependable
- I can understand what it means to be responsible
- I can set goals and create a plan related to them
- I can think of different solutions for problems and think of the consequences



**Self  
Awareness**



**Self  
Management**



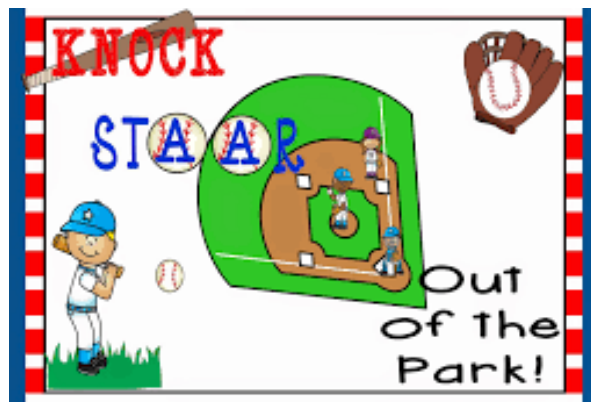
**Social  
Awareness**



**Relationship  
Skills**



**Responsible  
Decision  
Making**



### STAAR Testing Schedule:

April 06, 2021 - 4th Grade Writing

April 09, 2021 - 4th Grade Writing Make-up

May 11, 2021 - 3rd thru 6th Grade Math

May 12, 2021 - 3rd thru 6th Grade Reading

May 13, 2021 - 5th Grade Science

May 14, 2021 - All make-up sessions due by the end of the day

The only students who have the option to “opt-out” of taking the STAAR tests are those students who have been virtual and opted to not return face to face. Those students who are currently face to face **do not** have the option to opt-out.

Please know that the 2020-2021 STAAR testing is not going to be held “against” any student as a means of not passing to the next grade level. This years STAAR testing will assist the school in observing exactly what we need to work on to close gaps the students are exhibiting due to our current school situation.

## ENROLLMENT FOR 2021 - 2022 SCHOOL YEAR

Please make sure to get your enrollment packets in as soon as possible.

Spots are filling up and grade levels are almost at capacity for next year. Please do not lose your spot by not turning in your packet.

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