



DaVinci Connection

DATES TO REMEMBER

Parent/Teacher Conferences
Tuesday-Thursday,
October 18-20

Scholastic Book Fair
Monday-Thursday,
October 17-20

No School
Wednesday-Tuesday,
October 19-25

School Resumes
Wednesday, October 26

Facility/Technology
Committee
Wednesday, October 26
6:00 pm

2nd Grade Meet & Greet
Thursday, October 27
5:30 pm

3rd Grade Meet & Greet
Thursday, November 3
5:30 pm

Find more upcoming events
on the DaVinci Academy
home page, or go to the
"Calendar" page for future
important dates.

[http://davincicharterschool.org/
Calendar.aspx](http://davincicharterschool.org/Calendar.aspx)

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MCA TEST RESULTS

In April 2010, our students in grades 3-8 took the MCAII in reading and the MCAIII in Math. As a result of the government shut down, the release of the results was delayed. All of the results are now out. As mentioned in a recent newsletter, our math scores were terrific this year! Not only were we above the state average as a school, but every grade was above the state average as well. Being that we worked very hard on math last year, these results were well-deserved. Unfortunately, our reading scores did drop. We are looking at various reasons for this drop and are working on improving those results this year.

After all of the scores are in, the state then determines AYP. AYP stands for "adequate yearly progress" and is a part of No Child Left Behind. In order to calculate AYP, test scores and academic growth, as well as attendance, are taken into consideration. Even though we showed tremendous growth in math, we did not make AYP because of our reading scores. At this point, there are no real ramifications for not making AYP, but we will certainly put measures into place to make sure we meet AYP next year.

Last week, we did receive individual test results, so these will be mailed out with report cards at the end of the 1st quarter.

VISIT THE BOOK FAIR

Our Scholastic Book Fair theme – "To the Book Fair and Beyond!" – is part of an out-of-this-world reading event that brings to DaVinci Academy a wonderful selection of fun, engaging, and affordable books kids want to read. Please plan to visit our Book Fair. Hope to see you there!

Tuesday, October 18, 8:30- 9:15 am
During conferences, 4:00-7:30 pm

Wednesday, October 19
During conferences, 3:00-8:00 pm

Thursday, October 20
During conferences, 9:00 am-4:00 pm

The online book fair is currently open!
Please visit [http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/
homepage/davinciacademy](http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/davinciacademy)

SCIENCE IS FUN

After a unit on physical and chemical changes, 6th grade students conducted an experiment that included baking soda, vinegar, and Tupperware containers of varying sizes to demonstrate that chemical reactions only release a fixed amount of product. The students measured given amounts of vinegar and baking soda, quickly put them into a Tupperware container, snapped the lid on, and backed away as fast as they could. In a matter of seconds (depending on the size of the container), the lid would pop off and fly in the air! Students were skeptical at first, but after that first lid popped off in each class, the students' eyes got as big as boulders and they couldn't wait to try theirs. Students experimented with small and large containers. They discovered that the lids wouldn't pop off as quickly on large containers because the product given off was not enough to fill the empty space (in the larger containers) as compared to the smaller containers. One student ended the class saying, "That was so cool! I'm going to try this at home with even more baking soda and even more vinegar!" Parents, thank you for encouraging your children to continue their love for science at home.



PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES THIS WEEK

Parent/Teacher Conferences are this week!

- October 18 from 4:30-7:30 pm
- October 19 from 3:00-8:00 pm
- October 20 from 9:00 am-4:00 pm



PTO Place

UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct. 18-20 - Parent/Teacher Conferences
(Uniform Swap, Scrip Cards for Sale, PTO Provides Food for Teachers)

Oct. 27 - Meet & Greet, 2nd Grade

Oct. 31 - "Calling Cards for Soldiers" Campaign Ends

Nov. 3 - Meet & Greet, 3rd Grade

Nov. 15 - PTO Meeting, 6:30 pm

Dec. 10 - Marketplace
(email llagoon@msn.com to be part of this)

WE LOVE OUR VOLUNTEERS

DaVinci Academy PTO thanks Amanda and Mukthi for helping with childcare during our last Meet & Greet! They had their hands full with lots of kids and did an awesome job! Thank you!

Art Stamps went home thanks to a room full of helpers, ArtStamps coordinator Julia Redding, and Laurie Greeninger, Art Teacher Extraordinaire! Signs went up thanks to Jennifer Park...fabulous job, Jennifer! Thanks to everyone's help, DaVinci Academy families have the opportunity to get some fabulous gifts for their loved ones while encouraging their students' artistic talent.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO HELP DURING CONFERENCES

We could use help with feeding our teachers and staff who do an awesome job with our children everyday! Contact ttanner75@yahoo.com if you want to bring something!

We could also use some help with the Uniform Swap. We specifically need someone to help with exchanges. We will be there the whole time to staff it, so you can imagine how much time is committed for one or two people to do it the whole time. If you're available for even an hour or two, stop in and we will gladly receive your help. This is a great chance to fill some volunteer hours!

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

PTO has a lot going on this week during conference times. Be sure to stop and say, "Hi!" to your PTO leaders when you come for conferences.

We will be holding a Uniform Swap for DaVinci Academy families. This is where you can exchange your gently used uniforms for uniforms in other sizes. Just bring your old uniforms during conference time, and you will get a ticket for each item that can be used to "purchase" other items. If you don't have any uniforms to exchange, we re-sell uniform items for \$3 each! It's a great way to help DaVinci Academy families save money and recycle.

Scrip Cards will be for sale as well. We have a lot of cards in stock for places like Target, Rainbow, KwipTrip, Applebee's, Chipotle, Kohl's, Bath & Body Works, and many others places too numerous to mention. Use them the same way you would a debit card; it costs you nothing more. Scrip cards are gift cards that pay DaVinci Academy PTO back.

We will also be starting our community service project, "Calling Cards for Soldiers," where you can purchase a calling card for deployed military personnel to help them keep in contact with their loved ones at home. We have a few DaVinci Academy families with deployed soldiers that we would like to bless as well as contact with other units in need. Purchase a card or two at the Scrip table.