



# DaVinci Connection

## DATES TO REMEMBER

Scholastic Book Fair  
December 3 - 6  
7:30 am - 8:00 am  
3:00 pm - 5:00 pm  
December 8  
10:00 am - 4:00 p.m.

School Development  
Committee  
Monday, December 10  
4:30 pm

Policies and Procedures  
Committee  
Monday, December 10  
5:00 pm

Compensation Committee  
Monday, December 10  
6:00 pm

Facilities Committee  
Monday, December 10  
6:00 pm

Technology Committee  
Monday, December 10  
6:00 pm

Finance Committee  
Monday, December 10  
7:30 pm

Grades K-2 Music Concert  
Tuesday, December 11  
6:00 pm

Grades 3-4 & Green Choir  
Music Concert  
Thursday, December 13  
6:00 pm

Find more events on the  
DaVinci Academy home  
page, or go to the ["Calendar"](#)

13001 Central Ave NE  
Blaine, MN 55434  
763-754-6577

[www.davincicharterschool.org](http://www.davincicharterschool.org)

## PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

*(by Debra Lach, Interim Director)*

Parents play an extremely important role as their children's first teachers.

Research shows that children whose parents are involved in their education have better grades, a more positive attitude toward school, and more appropriate school behavior than those with less involved parents. In fact, when parents are involved in a variety of ways at school, the performance of all the children in the school tends to improve.

Research shows that the activities that are most closely associated with high achievement scores and a low incidence of behavioral problems are:

- Attendance at parent-teacher conferences
- Volunteering at school
- Homework checking and homework help

We had great attendance at our fall parent-teacher conferences, and we are aiming at 100% for the spring conferences. We also have a strong volunteer program with a variety of ways parents can help, both in the classroom and outside of class. Contact [Lee Swearingen](#), Volunteer Coordinator, to find ways you can volunteer at school.

Homework checking and homework help should be an ongoing support in every home, but parents often struggle with how to best help their students. Teachers at grades 3 and above assign homework on a regular basis, because practice is needed before children fully understand new skills or concepts. Homework also increases the amount of learning time and allows students to do more in-depth learning.

Guidelines for helping with homework:

- Every student has a planner and is learning how to use it effectively. Check your child's planner daily.
- Help your child develop a realistic

homework schedule that he/she can stick to.

- Talk to your child about homework assignments daily, go over work, see if it's complete, and ask questions about it.
- If your child has a test or large project scheduled later in the week or month, help them prepare by creating daily goals toward completion.
- If your child seems to spend too much time on homework, ask how the child is spending time in class. Teachers usually try to provide time in class to get started on homework.
- Check that homework time is focused. Multi-tasking or interrupting homework with texting or screen-time extends the process. In fact, after an interruption like a text message, it can take up to 15 minutes for a student to get back to focused learning.
- Reward progress, use lots of praise, and display good work at home.
- Provide a designated place for homework that is free of distractions.
- Put homework before play time, but avoid making homework a punishment.
- Remind students of the importance of turning in completed homework on time.

Whether or not your child has homework on any given day, read to your child or have him/her read to you every night. Encourage children to read by reading yourself and by having interesting reading materials readily available.

Finally, remember that a great deal of learning happens outside of school. Visiting a library together, attending a concert or play, visiting an art gallery, museum, or historical site, going together to a zoo or aquarium, or just spending time together relaxing as a family, are all ways to help your child grow and learn.



### **Getting to school on time**

**(by Terry Moffatt, Academic Director)**

As many of you are aware, we have been stressing the importance of students getting to school on time. Last trimester, we had 142 students with 0 tardies! This is 33% of the students. Congratulations to those students and parents for making the effort to get to school on time. We appreciate your support of our educational program. We are sincerely hoping that we are closer to 100% at the end of this next trimester!

### **Scholastic Book Fair**

Our Scholastic Book Fair theme - **All-Star Book Fair: Every Reader is a Star!** - is part of an exciting reading event that brings to school a wonderful selection of fun, engaging, and affordable books kids want to read. Giving kids access to good books and the opportunity to choose their own books will motivate them to read more. And like most acquired skills, the more kids practice reading the better they get.

Please visit our Book Fair!

- ◆ Monday December 3— Thursday December 6  
7:30 am - 8:00 am, 3:00—5:00 pm
- ◆ Saturday, December 8 -10:00 am— 4:00 pm

I am still looking for volunteers to help during the hours listed above. Please let [Stephanie Severson](#) if you can assist! Thank you!

### **Honor Roll**

**(by Terry Moffatt, Academic Director)**

We have reached the end of the first trimester and grade reports have gone out. If you have not received your child's grade report, please let us know.

We have two levels for the honor roll: High honors is for students who have all A's and Honors is for students who have nothing lower than a B. The following students are on the honor roll for the first trimester:

## **High Honors**

### **Third Grade**

Jaden N.  
Elizabeth H.  
Nathaniel H.  
Reema I.  
Tim B.  
Isaac S.  
Grace T.

### **Fourth Grade**

Nathan K.  
Ashley G.  
Alex B.  
Aubrey B.  
Regan V.  
Josh W.

### **Fifth Grade**

Lauren K.  
Kylie N.  
Mark H.  
Boatema A.  
Sarah B.  
Emma B.  
Reece D.  
Sierra S.

### **Sixth Grade**

Maaz M.  
Ashley P.  
Faith B.  
Grace S.

### **Seventh Grade**

Casey F.  
Durowaa A.  
Samantha B.  
Andrea F.

### **Eighth Grade**

Emma N.  
Sarah P.  
Kayleigh S.

### **Ninth Grade**

Angelisa P.  
Bella T.



## Honors

### Third Grade

Seth S.  
Jaya B.  
Chloe B.  
Jac C.  
Emma C.  
Elizabeth D.  
Andra G.  
Corrin H.  
Hailey H.  
Elijah H.  
Josiah L.  
Saketh M.  
Alexzander M.  
Anna M.  
Nicholas M.  
Grace P.  
Elizabeth R.  
Lucas S.

### Fourth Grade

Katya H.  
Grace S.  
Joshua T.  
Bassaa T.  
Phi T.  
Varsha U.  
Andrew B.  
Simon B.  
Liam B.  
Tom B.  
Rahul B.  
Addie C.  
Peter C.  
Marina D.  
Maria F.

### Fourth Grade (cont'd)

Sam F.  
Grace G.  
Ashlyn G.  
Molly H.  
Mia K.  
Aidan K.  
Riley K.  
Zennon K.  
Ellie K.  
Aidan M.  
Rishi R.

### Fifth Grade

Greta S.  
Emma S.  
Allison R.  
Olivia T.  
Elijah T.  
Sandy W.  
Max W.  
Josh Y.  
Sydney B.  
Ken B.  
Zack F.  
Erin F.  
Natalie H.  
Lillian J.  
Kaden K.  
Meghan K.  
Dessa K.  
Brooke L.  
Jack L.  
Joey R.

### Sixth Grade

Jacob S.  
Jayden T.  
Claire Y.  
Ethan Z.  
Carter A.  
Tim B.  
Sierra B.  
Samra C.  
Daniel C.  
Nellie F.  
Autumn G.  
Eliza H.  
Nathaniel H.  
Teagen J.  
Reese K.  
Micayala M.  
Faith N.  
Julia S.

### Seventh Grade

Jack S.  
Will T.  
Riley W.  
Darin C.  
Jack F.  
Ava I.  
Lilly K.  
Matt N.  
Nathan P.

### Eighth Grade

Connor S.  
Anna T.  
Shanna B.  
Sam C.  
Quinn S.

### Ninth Grade

Anna M.



**CONGRATULATIONS!**