



TIGER PRIDE POST

Monthly news from
Vista del Sur Accelerated Academy

December 2023

Principal's Note

I cannot believe we are almost halfway through the 2023-2024 school year! We have had a wonderful first half of the year and are looking forward to many exciting events this month. Please see the “What’s Happening in Specials” section in our newsletter. If you know any families looking to enroll their children in Vista, our open enrollment process begins February 5, 2024. Returning students will receive their recommitment letters during parent teacher conferences held in January. Thank you for all that you do for our students and community. Have a safe and restful winter break!



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Upcoming Events

- Friday, December 1st
District Winter Festival
Student of the Month
- December 4th - December 8th
Winter Book Fair
- Monday, December 4th
NWEA Math KG - 8th Grade
Art Club 5th - 8th Grade, 3:30pm.
Fine Arts Club 2nd & 3rd Grade, 3:30pm.
MESA Engineering, 3:30pm
Volleyball & Soccer Game @ Vista, 4:30pm.
- Tuesday, December 5th
Art Club 2nd - 4th Grade, 3:30pm.
Fine Arts Club 4th & 5th Grade, 3:30pm.
Volleyball & Soccer Game @ Paseo, 4:30pm.
- Thursday, December 7th
MESA Engineering, 3:30pm.
Volleyball & soccer Game @ Vista, 4:30pm.
- December 11th - December 15th
Aimsweb Plus KG-3rd
- Monday, December 11th
Art Club 5th - 8th Grade, 3:30pm.
Fine Arts Club 2nd & 3rd Grade, 3:30pm.
MESA Engineering, 3:30pm
Volleyball & soccer Game @ Cash, 4:30pm
- Tuesday, December 12th
Art Show, 4:30pm.
4th & 5th Grade Winter Concert, 5:00pm.
- Wednesday, December 13th
Half Day Release @ 12:00 pm.
Peter Piper Night, 4:00pm.
Art Show, 4:30 pm
2nd & 3rd Grade Winter Concert, 5:00pm.
- Thursday, December 14th
MESA Engineering, 3:30pm.
Volleyball & Soccer Game @ Vista, 4:30pm.
- Friday, December 15th
STUCO \$1 Dress Down
- Monday, December 18th
Art Club 5th - 8th Grade, 3:30pm.
Fine Arts Club 2nd & 3rd Grade, 3:30pm.
MESA Engineering, 3:30pm
Winter Band Concert, 5:00pm.
- Tuesday, December 19th
Art Club 2nd - 4th Grade, 3:30pm.
Volleyball & Soccer Game @ Rogers, 4:30pm
- Wednesday, December 20th
Site Council Meeting, 5:30pm.
PTO Meeting, 6:00pm.
- December 23rd - January 6th
Winter Break



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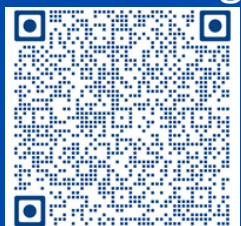
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Vista's Winter Book Fair December 4th - December 8th In the Vista Library



Volunteer sign up



E-Wallet





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What's Happening in Specials?

P.E

It has been a busy 2nd quarter for our Vista PE classes! Our 5th-8th grade classes continue to move through the different sports units, just finishing up volleyball and moving on to Hockey now. Our K-4 classes will also be introduced to some basic Hockey Skills as well for the first time this year. In addition to our general fitness activities and skill building, we have been excited to use our Rock Wall and look forward to continuing utilizing it as a piece of our PE curriculum.

Band

Our band concert is coming up soon! It will be held on December 18 at 5:00 pm. Students, please wear your band uniform (white top, black bottoms, black shoes/socks). You may wear a festive tie or something on your head for this concert. Reminder, this counts as your band final for the semester, and is a required performance.



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What's Happening in Specials?

Art

Art has had a lot going on lately! 7th and 8th grade have completed mini projects including a cityscape made with watercolor and mark making and we made a pamphlet book using a 3 hole stitch! 5th and 6th grade have completed their functional ceramic dishes! We learned how to slab roll clay, how to add attachments and then we painted them! In all 5-8 grade classes, students grade themselves and reflect on the artistic processes we have been learning in class. Kinder to 4th grade students have been working on a variety of projects focusing on geometric and organic shapes, balance, some pattern and design!

Art Club recently collaborated with STEM night on the 16th and created artwork to put on a mini show for families to enjoy. Artwork from this show will be going home with students after our next club meeting. Furthermore, Art club is getting ready to put on an art show taking place on December 12th and 13th in the library on campus from 4:30-5:30. We will have a teacher panel that will be anonymously judging the artworks and we will have gift cards for our 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners! There will also be an audience choice artwork award and a handful of superlative awards given out that are decided by club members! Students are encouraged to submit independent artworks as well as any artworks we have completed in class. All submissions must be turned in to Ms. Salger by December 4th with a simple 3 question slip that students can get from Ms. Salger in class or via email. Any questions, please reach out to Ms. Salger at esalger@laveeneld.org.



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What's Happening in Specials?

Spanish

In December, Kindergarten and 1st grade will be working on acquiring new vocabulary to write the date (days of the week and months). 1st grade will also learn idiomatic expressions related to weather. 2nd grade will learn about grammatical gender in Spanish (all nouns are either masculine or feminine.) While 3rd grade will start working on “verb ser”, 4th grade will learn how to describe themselves using complete sentences both oral and in written form. 5th grade will be learning the vocabulary and grammar required to describe their character. They will also be learning about the Panama Canal and its impact on world trade. 6th grade will be working on the connection between food and their sense of family and community. To do so, they will explore some aspects of Mexican literature. 7th grade will be working on learning grammar and vocabulary to express beliefs. They will also explore how beliefs are influenced by culture in Hispanic speaking countries. Finally, 8th grade will learn about journeys (physical, mental, spiritual, emotional). To do so, they will explore the history and modern day practices of El Camino de Santiago in Spain.



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Music

This month 2nd-4th grade are finishing their concert preparations and performing in our class competition of the Singing Bee. Kinder and 1st grade are learning about pitch and solfege syllables sol and mi. 5th-8th grade will be starting their third unit in the behind the scenes of musical theater, and choreographing dance numbers for the upcoming spring show.



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Open Enrollment 2024-2025

We will begin accepting 2024- 2025 school year open enrollment forms for prospective students on February 5, 2024. Forms must be completed online. All applicants will first be placed on a prospective student list and assigned an assessment screening time upon submitting their open enrollment form. You will receive an email providing you a list of documents you need to submit to testing and your scheduled testing time. We do not provide assessment scores to the parents, as they are for school use only. A student will not be considered for acceptance if required documents have not been received.

Acceptance at Vista del Sur Accelerated Academy is based on the following:

- **Assessment test scores**
- **Laveen School District residents**
- **Prospective students with siblings currently attending Vista del Sur**
- **Out of district residents**
- **Date/Time open enrollment form was submitted**

All openings are on a first come first serve basis and we fill enrollment openings from our waiting list. This means that if you are placed on the waiting list we will contact you immediately if space becomes available. Unfortunately, we are not able to tell you what number your child is on the waiting list because lists are constantly changing based on the criteria above. Openings are based on available space within each grade level, your child may not be testing to fill an available seat but rather to be placed on the waiting list.

Campus tours will be offered on the following dates: February 7th, March 21st, April 11th, and May 9th. All tours begin at 3:30 pm.



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Dress Code

It's getting cold, especially in the mornings. Please remember acceptable attire is as follows:
Solid white, navy, or light blue shirt with collar, such as a polo or dress shirt/blouse.

Solid black navy blue or tan khaki slacks, shorts, skirts, or jumpers. No jeans (of any color).

All shorts, skirts, and jumpers must be an acceptable length.

Any undershirts/undergarments must be white.

When coats are necessary only navy, white, gray, or black sweatshirts are allowed in class and must be worn over a uniform shirt. When outside, students may wear any type of coat.

Please refer to the student handbook for more details.



Bus Passes

All bus riders must present their bus pass/student identification badge when they board and exit the bus.



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Free and Reduced Price Meal Applications

Families are encouraged to submit a school meal application for free or reduced-price meal benefits because this information may be used for other programs, such as Federal and State funding for your school, reduced registration fees for academic tests, free or discounted fees for athletic programs, and many more.

How to Apply

Your child may qualify for free or reduced-price meal benefits. We strongly encourage parents & guardians to apply online through EZMealApp.com to ensure a quick, safe, and contact-less application process. Applications must be submitted annually and may take up to 10 business days to process.

Online Menu

Our school menus have gone digital! Introducing Nutrislice, an interactive way to view your child's school menu.





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A Note from the District Nurse...



Please make sure that your child's emergency and health form is up-to-date. This provides the school with important information in case an emergency should arise. I encourage parents to speak with the Health Associate if your child has any medical needs or concerns.

TAXPAYERS CAN LOWER THEIR TAXES AND SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS!

You can send all your state taxes to the State of Arizona or make a contribution to a public school and receive a State Income Tax Credit for up to \$200 for tax payers who file a tax return as single or head of household and a maximum of \$400 for married couples filing jointly on your State Income Tax Return.

A.R.S. §43-1089.01 gives you this opportunity to help your local school. A tax credit, which is the dollar-for-dollar reduction of your tax liability, is better than a tax deduction, which only reduces your taxable income before taxes are computed. The tax credit is available to all Arizona taxpayers, regardless of whether they have children in school.

For more information, go to our website at <http://www.laveeneld.org/about-laveen/tax-credit> or call the school office.