

Vinci Park Explorers

Vinci Park Elementary's Official Newsletter



Our Vinci Park December Issue is Here!

We always look forward to this time of year and although we have had to think of new ways of celebrating our holiday joy with friends and loved ones, we have learned to pause and connect in different ways. We hope you find your hearts and homes filled with more joy than ever before this holiday season. HAPPY HOLIDAYS from all of us at Vinci Park! Enjoy the time off and the magic that this season brings.



Vinci Blue Days
 Wear your Vinci Blue on the first Friday of the month!



Spirit Wear!
 Contact our PTA if you would like to purchase spirit wear.



Become a PTA Member Today!
 Click [here](#) to join

A Message From Our Principal, Mrs Nunez

Happy Winter!

I love this time of year. We get snugly and warm, and look forward to time with our families and this year it's going to be even more important to stay in and get cozy. We really have so much to be thankful for. The generosity of families is amazing and greatly appreciated.

Conferences are over, and students are full swing into their virtual classes. Thank you for the time you spent with each of your teachers. We so appreciate the support and camaraderie we experience with our parent community.

What a whirlwind of a year it has been with the new way of learning online!! Our teachers have worked so incredibly hard this year preparing, training, and networking with other educators to be able to teach all of our students virtually. Your children are now showing the benefits of all that hard work! They are learning the same basic concepts as in the past, only they are exploring those concepts more deeply and with higher rigor in a whole new way! It's exciting to see our children actively engaged in higher level academic conversations and problem solving skills!!

I would like to extend a special thank you to our PTA, SSC and all of the staff members, that support our school. Without you, our students could not be successful. I am particularly thankful for each teacher and dedicated staff member on and off this campus. Every day they choose to show up with integrity, enthusiasm, and professionalism. On behalf of the entire school faculty and staff at Vinci Park, I wish you and your entire family peace, joy, happiness and excellent health.

Warmest Regards,
Parisa Nunez
Principal



Important Dates & Announcements

Supporting Vinci Park Elementary

As you do your online holiday shopping, please remember that by using smile.amazon.com and selecting Vinci Park PTA as your charity, Amazon donates a percentage back to us. It's a simple and easy way to give back this season and throughout the year!



Second Harvest Food Drive

In the past, this time of year is when we held our Second Harvest Food Drive to collect food donations for the less fortunate in our community. Because we are not meeting in person and the food bank is not accepting food donations at this time because of the health risks, they are still providing resources to those in need. Would you please consider donating directly to the Second Harvest Food Bank?

Below is a link you can access their donation site directly.

[Donate Here](#)

Help Slow The Spread of COVID-19

If we all work together and continue to practice social distancing, wear masks and follow local health guidelines, we can help slow the spread of COVID-19. Please see the CDC's guidelines for proper mask usage featured here:

How to Safely Wear and Take Off a Mask

Accessible: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/how-to-wear-cloth-face-coverings.html>

WEAR YOUR FACE MASK CORRECTLY

- Wash your hands before putting on your mask
- Put it over your nose and mouth and secure it under your chin
- Try to fit it snugly against the sides of your face
- Make sure you can breathe easily
- Do not place a mask on a child younger than 2



USE THE MASK TO HELP PROTECT OTHERS

- Wear a mask to help protect others in case you're infected but don't have symptoms
- Keep the mask on your face the entire time you're in public
- Don't put the mask around your neck or up on your forehead
- Don't touch the mask, and, if you do, clean your hands

FOLLOW EVERYDAY HEALTH HABITS

- Stay at least 6 feet away from others
- Avoid contact with people who are sick
- Wash your hands often, with soap and water, for at least 20 seconds each time
- Use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available



TAKE OFF YOUR MASK CAREFULLY, WHEN YOU'RE HOME

- Untie the strings behind your head or stretch the ear loops
- Handle only by the ear loops or ties
- Fold outside corners together
- Place covering in the washing machine
- Wash your hands with soap and water



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Personal masks are not surgical masks or N-95 respirators, both of which should be saved for health care workers and other medical first responders.

For instructions on making a cloth face covering, see:

cdc.gov/coronavirus

Santa Clara County COVID-19 Testing

For Santa Clara County COVID-19 testing resources, please visit the [Santa Clara Public Health Website](#).

Wide Open School

Your family can find resources for balance and well-being with [Wide Open School](#). Build inner strength, navigate difficult feelings, and get support with this collection of fun and educational videos, games, books and more.

School Related Assistance

If you need assistance with school related business, please make an appointment with the school. Appointments can be made with Ms. Beatrice, School Clerk or Ms. Kim, Administrative Secretary.

Keeping Contact Information Up to Date

Please notify the school office immediately if you have a **change of address, phone number, or email address**. This will allow the school to communicate with you regarding your child. It is especially important while you are in Distance Learning.

Reporting Student Absences

If your child is absent, please call the school office at **(408)923-1970** on the day of the absence.

Please include the following information when reporting an absence:

- Student's Name
- Teacher
- Date of Absence
- Reason for absence
- Your name

Care Solace

Care Solace is an online resource to help our students and families in seeking local mental health support. It is important to recognize that these are challenging times, and that we must also take care of our mental health as we guard against COVID-19. Care Solace is now available for use by Berryessa students and families at no cost. If you are interested in seeking counseling-related services at this time, please consider visiting caresolace.com/berryessafamilies.

Dates To Remember

- **Dec 21-Jan 1** - Winter Break (NO SCHOOL)
- **Dec 18** - Minimum Day
- **Jan 4** - School Resumes
- **Jan 14** - PTA Meeting

Important Links

- IT Support, click [here](#)
- BUSD Reopening Communications, click [here](#)
- Free and Reduced Lunch Applications, click [here](#)
- Care Solace, click [here](#)

Interpretation Assistance

Should you need assistance in interpretation of school/teacher messages, please reach out to the following staff support.

- **Chinese/Mandarin:** Tsung-Lin Chen (408) 923-1901
- **Spanish:** Lourdes Calande (408) 923-1902
- **Vietnamese:** Juliette Thai (408) 923-1903

PTA Announcements

- It's that time of year and if you are thinking about getting your teacher a gift, please check out "Staff's Favorite Things" on the PTA website under Resources. <https://vinciparkpta.com/staff-favorite-things/>
- **Are you a member of Vinci Park PTA yet?** We would love to have you. Please join using: <https://jointotem.com/ca/san-jose/vinci-park-pta/join/register>
- If you are interested in donating directly to PTA, please mail in checks payable to "Vinci Park PTA" directly to Vinci Park School: 1311 Vinci Park Way, San Jose, CA 95131
- **Next PTA Association Meeting** will be January 14, 2021 at 6pm via Zoom. Zoom log in details to follow.
- **Boosterthon Fundraiser** coming February 2021. Details to follow.
- **Follow, Like and Connect with Us**
 - Instagram: @vinciparkpta
 - Facebook: @Vinci Park PTA
 - Email: ptaboard@vinciparkpta.com
 - Website: <https://vinciparkpta.com>

PARENT RESOURCES

[BUSD REOPENING WEBSITE](#)

[DIGITAL LEARNING LEARNING PORTAL](#)

[BUSD WELLNESS](#)

[MS. ALEECE'S RESOURCE CENTER](#)

[PARENT DISTANCE LEARNING RESOURCES](#)

[VINCI PARK PTA](#)

