

# Vinci Park Explorers

Vinci Park Elementary's Official Newsletter



## Our Vinci Park January Issue is Here!

Welcome back to school and to a brand new year! We hope that you all had a restful holiday break and a wonderful season with your family. We would like to begin this new year by sharing a quote by Desmond Tutu that reminds us that no matter what challenges face us, the good that we do matters and together we can change our world for the better.

*“Do your little bit of good where you are; it’s those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.” - Desmond Tutu*



### 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

Dear Vinci Park Families,

Happy New Year!

For me, 2020 has been a year of slowing down a bit, and learning that even the greatest plans are subject to change. And, the best opportunities and gifts are sometimes unexpected. Whatever 2020 has been for you, may 2021 bring brighter days for all.



It is so hard to believe that winter break is over and 2021 is upon us! This school year is going by strangely quickly and Spring Break will be here before we know it. We are excited for a new year and the sense of excitement and renewal and hope brought with it. Once again, we are so grateful for all the students, parents, and staff that bring joy to us on a daily basis in these hard times.

January is a great time to reflect on the areas in our lives where we felt successful during the past year. It is also a time to consider how to make changes in areas where we would like to improve. One of the focus areas at Vinci Park is our students' social emotional well being. We will be working hard to define a process through which our students can acquire and effectively apply the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to understand and manage their emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions. We hope with the knowledge and practice we gain we can welcome our kids back into school with the skills they need to continue to be successful at Vinci Park.

We have so many wonderful and exciting events coming up at Vinci Park, please take the time to participate and support our students, staff and parents.

Best,

Parisa Nunez

Principal

# A Message from our Superintendent, Dr. Roxanne Fuentes

Dear Berryessa Community,

Many of you have been watching and listening to the coverage of the events unfolding in Washington, D.C. No matter what your beliefs or affiliations, it is clear we are all living through a unique and challenging time in our nation's history.

The past few months have brought daily headlines that are adding stress along with what we are experiencing with the ongoing pandemic. One of the things that makes the Berryessa community so special – and has been so clearly demonstrated during the ongoing pandemic – is the determination to look out for one another, support each other, and find ways to remain resilient and resourceful in the face of the unknown.

There may never be a more important time than now to continue to demonstrate our support of our students and one another. In Berryessa, we celebrate our diversity, including the diversity of our perspectives. Critically, we also value our ability to discuss and share diverse opinions and perspectives with civility. Let us not ever take these important values for granted, and instead let us work together to impart them to our students.

Below are some resources that may be helpful as we all have conversations over the next few days regarding what is transpiring. Let us be mindful of our physical and emotional wellness.

**BUSD Mental Health & Wellness Resources:** <https://sites.google.com/busd.net/busds-wellness-page/home>

**CareSolace** - An online resource with a live 24/7 concierge to assist individuals in finding local mental health programs and counseling services: <https://caresolace.com/site/berryessafamilies/>

**Helping Children Cope:** <https://www.cdc.gov/childrenin.../helping-children-cope.html>

**Having Difficult Conversations with your Child:** <https://www.common sense media.org/.../how-to-talk-to-kids...>

**Supporting Your Child's Mental Health:** <https://www.nasponline.org/.../supporting-childrens...>

Together, we will get through this. We send all of our BUSD community warm wishes for this new year!

Sincerely,  
Dr. Roxane Fuentes  
Superintendent

# Important Dates & Announcements

## Parent Meeting - 1/21/21 @ 6:30pm

Mark your calendars, grab your favorite beverage and join us for a virtual **Parent Meeting with our Principal, Mrs. Nunez on Thursday, January 21st at 6:30pm.**

Zoom link to follow closer to the date. Stay tuned...

## Library Corner

Vinci Park's Library has gone virtual this year. Students can listen to their favorite books by going to the [Vinci Park website](#) and clicking on the [Library tab](#). They can also enjoy seasonal favorites as the website is updated.

This month we have a New Year Virtual Library. Next month look for our Black History Month and Valentines virtual library.

The library continues to provide a Scholastic Book Fair to the community. This year, it will be our first **Virtual Scholastic Book Fair beginning on February 8th and ending February 18th.** Teachers will be sharing the link with their students and it will also be posted on our website. All book purchased will be sent directly to the students' home.

## Suicide Prevention 101 for Parents

Please feel free to join this webinar and Facebook Live event.

This free webinar will provide information about suicide prevention for parents.

Topics to be addressed include: warning signs for suicide, how to have a conversation about suicide, actions to take if you are worried your



child/teen is having suicidal thoughts, and resources.

This opportunity is provided in partnership with the California Department of Education, the Directing Change Program, and Teen Line. The webinar is offered in English, Spanish and Hmong.

### **In English:**

- January 27 from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM
- [Register here](#) or join the California Department of Education [Facebook Live Event](#)
- [English flyer](#)

### **For the Spanish recording:**

- Visit [https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story\\_fbid=1289458924770207&id=169118003125900&\\_tn=%2As%2As-R](https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=1289458924770207&id=169118003125900&_tn=%2As%2As-R)

## BUSD Wellness

Be sure to check out BUSD Wellness, our webpage dedicated to mental and physical wellness information and resources. Make sure to take some time with your family relax and practice mindfulness.

<https://sites.google.com/busd.net/busds-wellness-page/home>



## 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](https://caresolace.com/berryessafamilies).

## Dates To Remember

- **Jan 14** - PTA Meeting 6:00-7:00pm
- **Jan 18** - MLK Day (No School)
- **Jan 21** - Parent Meeting 6:30
- **Jan 25** - Boosterthon Donating Opens
- **Feb 1** - Boosterthon "Dance Fit" Kick Off
- **Feb 10** - Boosterthon "Dance Fit" Event Day
- **Feb 12** - Early Release
- **Feb 8-18** - Virtual Scholastic Book Fair
- **Feb 15-19** - Presidents Week Break

## PARENT RESOURCES

[BUSD REOPENING WEBSITE](#)

[DIGITAL LEARNING LEARNING PORTAL](#)

[BUSD WELLNESS](#)

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

[PARENT DISTANCE LEARNING RESOURCES](#)

[VINCI PARK PTA](#)



## 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**

- **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.  
Meeting ID: 878 4766 9239  
Password: Vinci1
- **BOOSTERTHON NEWS!**  
In just a few weeks, we’ll kick off our Dance Fit Live Boosterthon on 02/01/21! Our goal is to raise \$10,000 to support Distance Learning, close the achievement gap caused by the pandemic, and to strengthen our school community.

**This year more than ever, we need additional funds to provide an excellent educational experience for all of our students.**

We completely understand if your family is not in a position to financially support the school right now. You can still be involved by simply SHARING about our fundraiser with friends and extended family online at [funrun.com](http://funrun.com). Sharing IS supporting! All students will participate in the Dance Fit Live Boosterthon, regardless of financial participation. We will also be following our school safety guidelines to ensure a safe and fun experience for everyone.

We appreciate your support more than you know. More details to come as we get closer to kickoff!

### Key dates to remember:

- Donating Opens on [funrun.com](http://funrun.com) - 1/25
- Kickoff Day - 2/1
- Event Day - 2/10
- Are you interested in being a **PTA Executive Board Member for 2021-2022** school year? Contact PTA for more information. Currently all Executive Board Positions are available.
- **Follow, Like and Connect with Us**
  - Instagram: @vinciparkpta
  - Facebook: @Vinci Park PTA
  - Email: [ptaboard@vinciparkpta.com](mailto:ptaboard@vinciparkpta.com)
  - Website: <https://vinciparkpta.com>