

DVD Senior Family Newsletter

December 2018

Grade Level Announcement!

Final POLs

You are invited to Final POLs. Your students should be receiving their POL schedules the week of December 3. We would love to have you participate in your student's Final POL as an audience member. Please join us if you are available during your student's Final POL. Final POLs will start on Friday, December 14 and end on Thursday, December 20.

Course Blurbs:

English 12: Russell Stoll (rstoll@davincischools.org)

The Seniors have done some very impressive work in their Exhibition project; their blogs, vlogs and podcasts have highlighted their wide array of passions. From reptile care to video games, from personal diaries to relationship advice, the 12 graders have pushed themselves to create really meaningful content. And now - onto debates! In an interdisciplinary POL for both English 12 and Government, the seniors will receive a week-long crash course in how to participate in a formal debate. After learning how to frame constitutional arguments regarding issues of civil liberties, and learning how to cross examine their opposition, groups of three will go head-to-head in an exciting and informative series of hour-long debates as their final opportunity share what their mastery of content, form and rhetoric.

If you did not receive this newsletter in your e-mail, you can request to be added to the e-mail list by e-mailing Frank Solis at fsolis@davincischools.org. We can also provide physical copies of the monthly newsletter upon request.



DA VINCI
design

Senior All-Star

Kevin Guerra



Kevin is this month's all-star for his dedication to high academic achievement in all his classes.

Paris Merriner



Paris is this month's all-star for the meticulous care she puts into her work in all her classes.

College Writing: Carmen Haas

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The semester is winding down in the 12th Grade College Writing class. Students have begun preparing for their Shark Tank POL. The seniors are tasked with coming up with a solution to a problem they care about. Seniors will work together in groups to create a solution and prototype that they will present. The POL will consist of a professional pitch presentation that uses research to defend and justify a solution for their targeted population and problem. Their idea must be "sold" to the Shark Tank Panel.

Math Explorations: Austin Anderson

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In Math Explorations we have recently begun our Sound and Music project. Many students are enjoying creating their own songs using GarageBand or similar software. Other students are creating a musical instrument or conducting a demonstration of the power of sound to move physical matter. Students will be analyzing the mathematical aspects of sound and music such as frequency and wavelength. Students will conclude this project with a presentation during POL week.

Government: Frank Solis

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The senior class is currently working on creating a political campaign. In this project, students are creating two campaign ads that they will turn in on Sunday, December 3. For their final POL, government and English will unite for the semester's final project, Debate POLs. Students will participate in a structured debate about one topic. These topics include voting rights, mandatory vaccines, the travel ban, physician assisted suicide, the Electoral College and more.

Pre-Calculus/Calculus: Austin Anderson

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Pre-Calculus has been digging into trigonometry topics, such as graphing the sine and cosine functions with transformations or solving equations that involve the trig functions. During POL's, each student will answer one big question: What is trigonometry? And why should we study it? In Calculus, we have begun to look at slope functions (derivatives), what they mean, and how to find them. For their POL's, calculus students will need to explain what calculus is, and why we study it.

Psychology: Erin Naymark

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In Psychology we will be finishing up our exploration of the brain. Students have created neuron models and explained how a specific drug works in the brain. For the remaining weeks in December, we will be focusing on our Shark Tank POL. Psychology is teaming up with College Writing to give students the opportunity to work across disciplines and in groups to come up with a solution to a world problem and present their findings. Students will do research, evaluate solutions, and communicate their original ideas and prototypes during POL presentations. Shark Tank is sure to be an interesting event. You are invited to come watch the Shark Tank in action!



Advanced Architecture: Katherine Simon

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Students will complete their exhibition project (passion videos and photo collages) that will be displayed at exhibition on November 14th. They will also be learning about different residential roof types through a research project and then individually build models out of cardboard. We will display their models, roof posters, and roof fact sheets in a gallery walk during class. Students will then continue their residential design project this month and start converting them to digital form through computer drafting.

Advanced Graphic Design: Ralph Villalobos

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In Advanced Graphic Design we will be focusing on the fundamentals of animation. In their studio groups students are tasked with developing a story intended for a three minute animated short. As part of their POL presentation, students will pitch their ideas for an animated short. their pitch must include a short synopsis of the intended story and some rough character designs. A scene list a group roles will be required as well.