



# TIGER PRIDE POST

Monthly news from  
Vista del Sur Accelerated Academy

**April 2023**

## **Principal's Note**

Vista Families,

I cannot believe it is April! This means it's time for the Arizona Academic Standards Assessment (AASA). We are so excited for our amazing students to show what they know. We try to motivate and get our student's excited by creating a theme for everyone to enjoy and participate in. This year our theme is "Train like a boss, test like a champ!". Please pump your child up by sharing your excitement and energy for their success. Staff and students have been preparing all year for this assessment; we can't wait to see how well they perform. Attendance during this time is very important. Make sure students eat a good breakfast, are well rested, and arrive on time every day. Our goal is to have 100% of our students tested!

Sincerely,

Jessica Epacs

Principal



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## Upcoming Events

- Monday, April 3rd,  
Chess Club  
4th - 8th Fine Arts Club  
MESA Engineering
- Tuesday, April 4th  
AASA Writing 3rd - 8th
- Wednesday, April 5th  
AZSCI 5th & 8th  
Site Council Meeting @ 5:30 pm  
PTO @ 6:00 pm
- Thursday, April 6th  
AZSCI 5th & 8th Grade  
MESA Engineering
- Monday, April 10th  
Chess Club  
4th - 8th Fine Arts Club  
MESA Engineering
- Wednesday, April 12th  
Half Day Release @ 12:00 pm
- Monday, April 17th  
AASA Reading 3rd - 8th Part 1  
Chess Club  
4th - 8th Fine Arts Club  
Mesa Engineering
- Tuesday, April 18th  
AASA Reading 3rd - 8th Part 2
- Wednesday, April 19th  
AASA Math 3rd - 8th Part 1
- Thursday, April 20th  
AASA Math 3rd - 8th Part 2  
MESA Engineering
- Monday, April 24th  
Chess Club  
4th - 8th Fine Arts Club  
MESA Engineering
- Thursday, April 27th  
MESA Engineering  
District Art Festival
- Friday, April 28th  
STUCO \$1 dress down



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## What' s Happening in Specials?

### **PE**

We will be changing our 5th-8th grade classes for the 4th quarter when we get back from break. We plan on incorporating more cardiovascular endurance by going outside and running a few times a week. Along with that we will be playing some floor hockey and other team games.

In K-4th grade we will also be doing some floor hockey skills and drills to introduce the game. We will continue to work on movement through different cardiovascular games

### **ART**

Traditional style Japanese Ink Painting, Aztec Sunstone Design. And spring themed projects.



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## What's Happening in Specials?

### **Music**

This month in music 5th-8th graders are going to be learning how to play the ukulele as well as beginning to learn the basics of music production. 3rd and 4th grade are continuing to learn how to play the recorder. Kindergarten will be learning about dynamics and tempo. 1st grade is learning about melodic direction. 2nd grade is learning how to identify, and compose using quarter notes, half notes, and eighth notes.

### **Band**

We will have three students being honored for their participation in the Arizona All-State honor band at our April school board meeting on Thursday, April 13 at 5:30 pm. Come out and support Nathaniel Sanou, Violet Ackley, and Gabriella Sullivan.



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## What's Happening in Specials?

### **Spanish**

In April, Kindergartens will be exposed to comprehensible input through storytelling, short videos, and songs. They will also have the opportunity to engage in activities that help them reinforce the vocabulary learned along the academic year. First graders will work on learning vocabulary related to the community and the city. On the other hand, second second graders will learn how to provide directions in Spanish. Third graders will work on question formation using the verb conjugations they have learned so far and fourth graders will work on identifying locations of major cities and acquiring cultural knowledge of three Hispanic countries: Mexico, Perú, and Argentina. To do so, they will read/listen to texts and watch videos containing historical events, legends, and cultural references to food and celebrations. After finishing Unit 5, 5th graders will read and analyze a book titled: "El cuento de Ferdinando". 6th graders will start working on Unit 13. In this unit, students will work on expressing their feelings. They will explore the importance of poems and they will read and analyze two of the best poems of Gloria Fuertes. 7th grade will start working on Unit 21. This Unit is called "Una Aventura de Camping" and students will use Spanish to talk about their fears and the people they can always count to be by their side. They will also explore the benefits of leisure and sports. Finally, 8th graders will continue reviewing grammar. This month they will work on verb gustar, verb tener, negation, question words, and express quantities.



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## Volunteer Hours

Total Families: 621

Number of Families that have completed their hours: 277  
(45%)

Number of families that have completed some hours: 147  
(24%)

Families with no hours: 197 (31%)

Our goal is to have 100% of our Vista Families complete their required 7 hours. Families, please remember our Vista student/parent handbook states: At least one adult from each family that enrolls their child at Vista del Sur Accelerated Academy is expected to volunteer a minimum of seven hours for the school year. As a reminder, volunteer hours may be earned at classroom and school functions, as well as things done at home. Here are just a few ideas to help you get involved at Vista.



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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 Pandemic-Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT), Federal and State funding for your school, reduced registration fees for academic tests, free or discounted fees for athletic programs, discounted rates for internet service, 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.

