



Teacher Mini-Grants

Thank you PTA for providing staff with an opportunity to request funding for special projects. For the first trimester here are some highlights of the grants that have been approved:

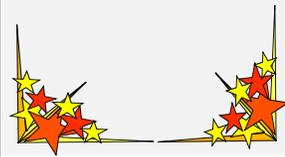
- Additional FOSS science kits for every grade level, providing hands on science resources to support our marine science program.
- Funding for a 4th grade field trip to Dana Point , more info to come on this spring field trip soon from 4th grade teachers.
- Funding for 1st and 2nd grade teachers to attend a conference regarding the Daily 5, an instructional strategy to promote literacy in our classrooms.

Saturday Academies:

Join us for extra curricular activities if your student has missed 1 or more day.

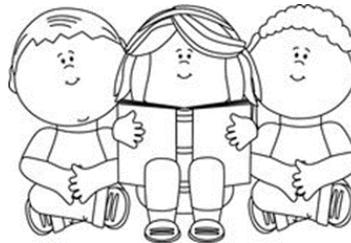
- 1/21/17 @ Pierpont
- 2/25/17—G.A.T.E
- 3/4/17 @ Pierpont
- 4/1/17 @ Pierpont
- 5/6/17 @ Pierpont

January Invitations will be coming home soon with students.



What is RTI?

Response to Intervention (RTI) is a strategic approach to providing support and intervention for students. This year, Lisa Vasta joins us as our RTI teacher. Ms. Vasta has extensive experience as an RTI and classroom teacher. She is working with students in small groups of less than 5 students three times a week. Students are selected to receive additional support by both their teacher and performance on standardized assessments. By providing small group instruction for students who demonstrate need in the area of reading and literacy, Ms. Vasta helps students with the individualized attention they need to help make progress. Ms. Vasta works with students for 3-4 weeks at a time, then re-evaluates their progress. If you have questions about RTI, or your student participating in RTI, please contact your teacher.



Health Update

As we start our New Year, here are some friendly health reminders:

1. Cold and flu season is here. Please remember if your student has a fever to keep them home until they have been fever-free (without fever reducing medication) for 24 hours.
2. If your child has lice or hand foot and mouth, please notify the health office as we track these cases. Please keep students home until lice have been treated or until your physical clears your student with hand foot and mouth. Our health office will check your child when they return. Our health office is happy to provide you with instruction on how to treat lice. VUSD policy is to notify all students in a class when we have 2 or more confirmed cases of these conditions in a classroom.



www.typingtraining.com

All of our students have access to this online typing software that can be accessed at home through the internet. This typing program helps teach our students typing skills and utilizes games and repetition to increase typing skill. See your teacher for log-in information.



Thank you for your help in keeping our students healthy and safe this year.