

December

NEWS Letter

2020



A note from administration...

This semester is quickly coming to an end! You will find important dates and deadlines on this page so that you can plan accordingly. It is imperative that students keep up to date with grades and ensure all assignments are turned in with enough time for their teacher(s) to provide feedback and additional support as needed. Please continue to check [Tyler](#) on a regular basis and email your child's teacher(s) or advisor if you have any questions or concerns. Also keep in mind that all teachers have scheduled time every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday for individualized student support, so [email your child's teacher\(s\)](#) to determine the time(s) they are available to meet with you and/or your child.

Important Dates

Tuesday, December 15:
Final exam (varies by teacher)

Thursday, December 17:
Last day for classes and final exams (varies
by teacher)

Friday, December 18:
Make-Up Day for students that missed their
scheduled exam

Monday, December 21 through Friday,
January 1:
Winter Break (no school)

Monday, January 4:
Professional Development (no school)

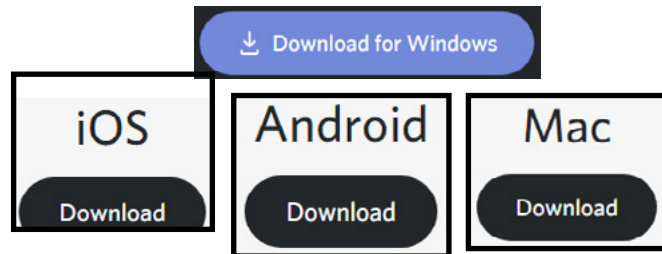
Tuesday, January 5:
First day of Q3 (second semester of 2nd,
4th, and 6th period classes begin)

Friday, January 8:
Final first semester grades available in Tyler

Friday, January 8:
Due Date for Grades 8 - 11 Student Portrait
(taken at home or professionally)
Submit pictures at
<https://uploads.picaboo.com/9138530>

Did you know that parents can join Discord too?

We encourage parents to download the Discord app and create their own personal account to stay in the loop with their child's classwork and attendance. You can click on the images below for a direct link to the software download:



After downloading the software, you can create an account and join the DATA Dragon Lair by using code UrJbDpW (case sensitive). Once you join our server, you will need to introduce yourself in the [# introductions](#) channel so that we can assign you a role. Please include your full name and the name and grade level of your student in your introduction.

The Dragon Lair will have school-wide information for you, but you can also join teacher servers, where you can find specific information regarding your child's classes. Links to teacher servers can be found in the [# staff-discord-invite-links](#) channel. If a teacher's link is no longer valid, simply ask us for a new one in the [# questions](#) channel.

For more detailed information about how to use Discord, you can read through our how-to guide at <http://datacharter.org/how-to-use-discord/>.

Students in Need of Glasses

If you think your child may need glasses, please contact Mia Valdez (mia.valdez@datacharter.org) so that she can have our school nurse do a vision screening. DATA has a program through Davis Vision that can help with the expenses associated with obtaining a pair of glasses. Through this program, a voucher for an eye exam and a pair of glasses can be provided to a child who does not have vision insurance and/or is identified as financially "in need", at no cost to the family.

Our nursing company has the necessary information, vouches, and steps for accessing a provider list, so please reach out to us!

Food Boxes Every Tuesday!



Food boxes are available for any who go to 8216 Central Ave. SE on Tuesday mornings from 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (or until they run out). You do not need an I.D. or any paperwork. Please be mindful of social distancing. Boxes will be handed out one at a time on a first come, first served basis. Look for the white table in front of the green doors beside the Grace Thrift store on the Southwest corner of Central and Utah.

Student Showcase

Ms. Grilo's Drama 1 Technical students made some incredible set designs for their Q1 final projects! Here is a glimpse of some of the work that was submitted:



by Anthony Garcia



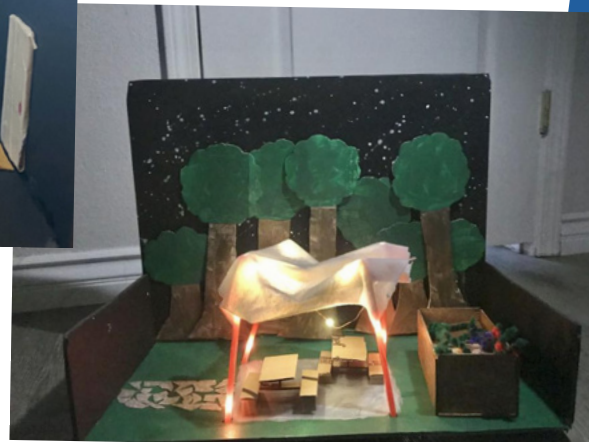
by Logan Wesner



by Sammy Candelaria



by Ollie Nore



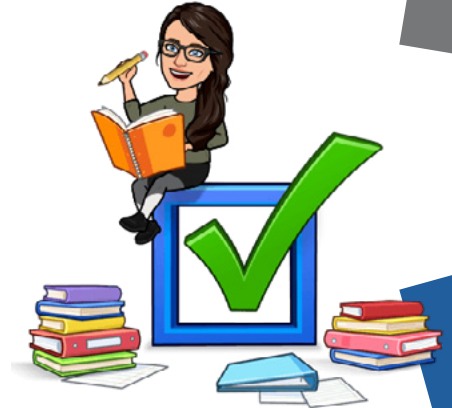
by Reghan Mendez

Excellent work, everyone! For those that are interested in work like this, consider enrolling in Ms. Grilo's Drama Tech class next school year!

Academic Support at Home

We all know that virtual learning is very different as compared to in-person learning, which means that the academic supports provided at home also need to look very different. Here are some tips to help your students find success with virtual learning at home:

- **Help your child establish and stick to a routine.** A routine lets your student know what to expect from one part of the day to the next. Although we have created a [bell schedule](#) for students to follow, it is important for students to have a schedule that they follow at home too! Creating a schedule that includes study/homework time, exercise, and time with the family can help students establish productive routines both during and after school hours. Students can use a calendar, planner, chalkboard, or [digital organizer](#) to keep track of what's happening each day.
- **Create a space specifically dedicated to learning.** “Most families don't have the luxury of a whole extra room just for learning. But don't worry. If you are stressing about where to create a space, know there are tons of exciting and easy ways you can do this!” [Click here](#) for some tips.
- **Check in with your child about what they're learning in school.** Students often respond to the age-old question of “what did you learn at school today?” with a short response of, “nothing,” but we all know that is not true! Here are some [alternative conversations starters](#) that can help you engage in a productive conversation with your child about what they are learning.
- **Check in with your child's advisor and/or teachers.** Teachers have scheduled time every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday for individualized student support and check-ins, so [email your child's teacher\(s\)](#) to determine the time(s) they are available to meet with you and/or your child. This time can be used to ask questions about assignments, grades, or general feedback about class performance. We encourage communication with your child's advisor and teachers, especially if you have any questions or concerns about your child's performance in class this quarter.
- **Engage in physical activity and exercise regularly.** Your child is sitting in front of a computer for at least 4 hours per day for school. Encourage them to use breaks during the day to stretch, walk the dog, go outside to get the mail, or even take out the trash! Many students often indicate that their sleep schedule does not align with that of a traditional school schedule, so it is important to remember that exercise helps people fall asleep faster and improves quality of sleep! Based on a [Johns Hopkins Center for Sleep](#) study, “People who engage in at least 30 minutes of moderate aerobic exercise may see a difference in sleep quality that same night.” [Click here](#) to read more about the benefits of exercise for sleep and encourage your child to create an exercise routine that works best for them. You can even incentivize it by using [gamification strategies!](#)



DATA 2020-2021 Yearbook

Would you like to have some of your very own pictures or stories featured in the 2020-2021 yearbook? The Yearbook Club is working hard to make this a memorable book for you all. We ask that you help out by contributing photos for us to use in the yearbook. These could be images of you virtually learning, screenshots of you in breakout groups or presentations, pictures

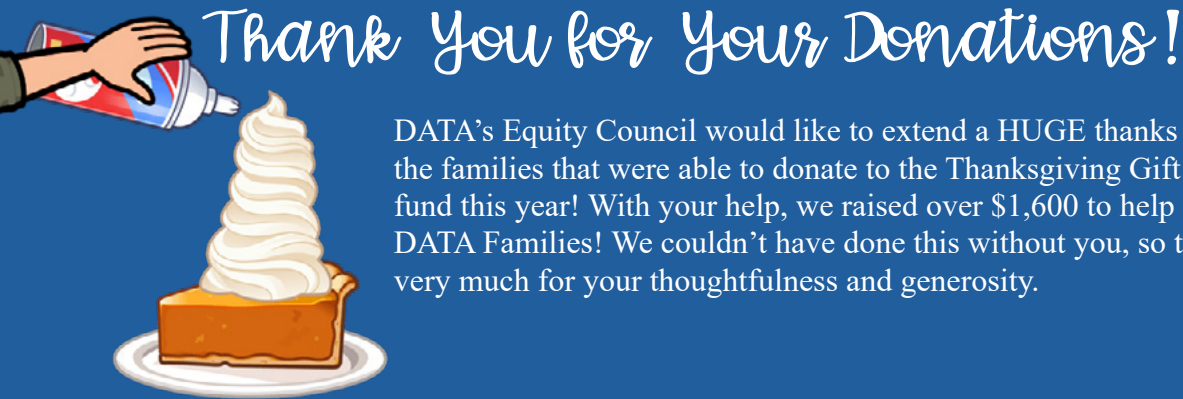


of your projects, etc. Additionally, we are asking students to upload self-portraits by January 8th. Please use this link (<https://uploads.picaboo.com/9138530>) to upload your school photos for the yearbook. This link is open all semester and in the spring until the book is finalized. Thanks! We look forward to seeing your contributions!

Teacher Trivia

ATTENTION ALL STUDENTS!! You've been in school for approximately 3 months now, and we know that you've learned a lot in your classes, but now you have a chance to show what you've learned *about your teachers!* We've gathered some random facts and info about your teachers and put them all together in one, fun trivia game! We will be sending out gift cards to the top 3 students that get the most answers correct on this trivia game, so be sure to enter your full name and email address in your submission so that we know how to reach you!

[Click here](#) if you are interested in participating in the trivia. If you don't do well this time around, don't worry, you'll have other fun opportunities to win prizes! Be sure to read all of DATA's newsletters throughout the year so that you don't miss out on any of these opportunities!



Thank You for Your Donations!

DATA's Equity Council would like to extend a HUGE thanks to all of the families that were able to donate to the Thanksgiving Gift Card fund this year! With your help, we raised over \$1,600 to help our DATA Families! We couldn't have done this without you, so thank you very much for your thoughtfulness and generosity.

Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST)

PAEMST is the highest honors bestowed by the United States government specifically for K-12 science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and/or computer science teaching.

Anyone [may nominate](#) exceptional STEM teachers who are currently **teaching grades 7-12** for the 2020-2021 award year. Teachers may also apply directly at www.paemst.org.

The **nomination deadline** is March 1, 2021, and the **application deadline** is April 1, 2021, for secondary teachers (grades 7-12).

What else would you like to see?

Is there something you'd like to see more of in our monthly newsletters? Do you know of some community opportunities that you'd like to share with the DATA community? We welcome any ideas you might have! Send your ideas to our Dean of Students, Ms. Porras, at isla.porras@datacharter.org and we'll make it happen!

In-Person Support

We would like to open up our school to small groups of students for individualized support. We provided a survey in our [October newsletter](#) and we plan to start scheduling those respondents first, however [here is a link to the survey](#) again if you find that you are interested in taking advantage of this wonderful opportunity!