For the past two weeks the Junior Scholars at Vista Verde have been conducting a project to expand their learning beyond the classroom. The 8th grade students tackled the Moreno Valley World Logistics Center and took a stand for or against it. The 7th grade students took on the challenge of supplementing fossil fuels with alternative energy. The 6th grade students took on trying to solve the drought that is affecting California. During these two weeks the students conducted interviews, surveys, and conducted research to help support their stance on the issue. The 8th grade student seven had city official come in and talk to the students about their project. How cool is that? This whole project allowed the students to have ownership in their learning and culminated with an informative 15 minute presentations. The 8th grade students presented to the city council members, parents, teachers, and their peers. The other two grades presented to their peers and teachers. This was a great experience for all the students and prepared them for next semester’s PBL.
Volleyball is in full effect right now here at Vista Verde! Practices are Monday’s and Wednesday’s for 7th and Tuesday’s and Thursday’s for 6th. It is being coached by Mr. Kramer and Mr. Martinez. They will be playing against other middle schools on December 19th. Stay tuned for more information to follow so you can come out and support the team!

**Soccer is coming up on January 25th!**

You need to have and keep a 2.0 GPA to play. So study hard so you can play!

Bring your friends and let’s have fun!

**Flag Football Results!**

Vista took 3rd place for 7th and 8th grades and 6th grade took 4th place.

Great job cougars!!!
GATE Enrichment Classes

**Leather Working**

In leather working, we make wallets but it is not as simple as you think. You have to get graph paper, make a template using measurements, and cut it out. After you have your templates you cut them out of leather and lay them out. Then your stitch them together after punching holes. It really is a long process but a lot of fun.

**Knitting**

Knitting is a after school gate enrichment class ran by Mrs. Scharwark. The class is learning how to knit and making preemie beanies for the premature babies of the March of Dimes. The class has learned to make stitches on their knitting needles. In the next class they will actually learn to start knitting.

**Friendship Bracelets**

As part of the gate enrichment classes Mrs. Ornelas has decided to teach students how to make friendship bracelets. The classes will be taking place Thursdays after school. In this class Mrs. Ornelas will be teaching students how to make bracelets out of simple beads. For boys who don’t want to make these bracelets she will give them the choice to make key chains. If you signed up for these classes make sure to attend them since they are a ton of fun.
**Upcoming Events**

January:
- 1/04: NO Students--Professional Development Day for teachers-Citrus
- 1/11: Pennies for Patients Begins
- 1/18: MLK Day (No School)
- 1/22: Pennies for Patients Ends
- 1/28: CA Science Field Trip (8th Grade GATE)
- 1/25-1/29: ASB Sock Drive (for Homeless)
- 1/25 Soccer Starts

February:
- 2/2-2/10: Secret Valentine’s Grams (ASB)
- 2/3: ASB Valentine’s Dance (12:00-2:00 p.m., MPR)
- 2/8-2/10: Astro Camp (6th Grade Jr. Scholars)
- 2/11: Deliver Secret Valentine’s Grams
- 2/14: Valentin’s Day!
- 2/12 & 2/15: No School!!
- 2/18: STEAM Night
- 2/25: Parent Teacher Conferences

---

**Cougars in Action!**

(Continued from page 1) This year our Jr. Scholars students presented their projects about the upcoming World Logistics Center that’s being built here in Moreno Valley. In their project they had to conduct research about the WLC and see if it was a right fit for Moreno Valley. They interviewed residents, teacher, and students to gauge the public on how the felt about the project. Using this data and they formulated a position for or against it. They then presented it to their peers and teachers before moving on and presenting it to the Moreno Valley City Council. Talk about being involved in your community. Keep up the great job students and the Jr. Scholars team!

---

**We’re on TV!**

(Continued from page 1)