

CHALK MARKS

A Weekly Newsletter for DCS Family and Friends

Vol. 3, September 28 - October 4, 2005

How Are We Doing?

We are already into our fourth week of school. Everyone has settled into the school routine, new students are making new friends and adjusting to the class/homework expectations. *Scrip* and *Friday Feast* are up and running. Our soccer and volleyball teams are well in to their season. We have had our Back-To-School Parent Night. Parents of high school students have gotten updated information concerning requirements and deadlines for graduation and next spring's Washington, D.C. trip for sophomores and juniors.



Contact with the DCS staff – adequate? Thought they would be more accessible? Appear to be open and very willing to meet to discuss school-related issues? Opportunities to get involved in some aspect of the school community – thought there would be more? Feeling overwhelmed with lots of people asking you to join their cause?

Please take a moment to jot down areas of frustration or where you are pleasantly surprised concerning the year so far. We are planning a morning gathering in the near future to give opportunity to voice your opinions – pro and con – about the school year thus far. We call it Pastries With the Principal. The purpose is to hear how we are doing and solicit comments and suggestions on how we can do things better. Be watching for the date and time and come prepared to share.

Our question - how are we doing? Have we or are we fulfilling the commitments you understood as you entered this year? Is our communications timely and complete? Homework load – less than expected? Much more than expected? Just about right? Directions to off-campus game sites – clear and accurate?

Fall Work Day Scheduled

Saturday, October 8th, 9:00 until noon, has been designated as a DCC/DCS Work Day. Projects include bark dust distribution, interior and exterior window washing, swing set demolition (see above article), parking lot beautification, cabinet painting, locker assembly and installation, and cupboard cleaning. There is a job for everyone!! Come and pitch in, enjoy refreshments and great fellowship as we work side-by-side to accomplish these much-needed tasks. .

Park And Pray Begins This Week

Each Wednesday, from 2-3 PM, Park and Pray will meet in the prayer room next to the third grade classroom. Hope to see you there as we pray for the needs of our school.

October Calendar Events

- 12th – PSAT Tests – Juniors
- 20th – Elementary Talent Show, 7 PM
- 21st – Grandparents' Day
- 21st & 22nd – Outdoor School Counselors' Training
- 26th & 27th – Outdoor School – 6th graders
- 31st – Harvest Festival

For Teenage Girls...

The Women of Faith ministry has established a weekend conference for teenage girls called *The Revolve Tour*. Natalie Grant, ZOEgirl, and Tammy Trent are a few of the performers and speakers who will be at the Memorial Coliseum, October 14th and 15th. For more information, see Mrs. Tillstrom.



Smile! School Pictures Coming

On Tuesday, October 4th, be sure your student wears his or her brightest colors and biggest smile because it is picture day!!! Each student will be photographed for individual portraits and composite class pictures. Order packets will be sent home this Friday, September 30th.

Swings Now Swingless

After years of faithful service, our playground swing set has been retired due to safety concerns. We were not aware of its condition until the children began using it this fall. Bottom line – it needs to be replaced.

Bids from various vendors show us it will cost approximately \$2,500. Unfortunately, it was not included in our budget. We are asking DCS parents and friends of the school to participate in helping fund a replacement swing set. If you would like to join a growing number of donors for this project, please make your tax-deductible check payable to DCS and mark it “Swings.” We hope to have the old set removed on our Saturday, October 8th, Work Day. If you have any questions, please contact Tim Oakley or Dorian Forrar. Thanks!

New Lockers Arriving

We are expecting our new lockers to arrive soon. These will be for high school use. That is the good news. The bad news – our new lockers are arriving soon and... they need to be put together and installed! This is a job that requires an assembly line crew. Each unit takes approximately three hours to put together and there will be six units. If you enjoyed working with Legos, Tinker Toys, Erector Sets, or puzzles, this is the job for you!!! The lockers will be put together off-site and then moved to room 205 (middle classroom in the gym building). We could sure use your help – Saturday, October 8th. Hope to see you there!!

Don't Forget Scrip!!!

We are off to a great start with this year's Scrip program! Remember – Scrip is just like cash! You order it Tuesday mornings and it arrives Fridays. The school gets a portion of the vendor's profit. We then pass along 50% of whatever profit your order generated and pass it back to you in the form of a tuition credit!!! Everybody wins!! Got Scrip?! Got eScrip yet?

Visit our website at

dcs.damascus.org or

email us at

DCS@damascuscc.org

ACSI Teachers' Conference Next Week

Just a reminder that next week, Thursday and Friday, October 6th & 7th, is the annual ACSI Teachers' Conference at the Portland Convention Center. That means no school on either of those days as our staff attends general and seminar sessions. Also, it is the time where Damascus Christian School is presented with our official accreditation plaque.