

Damascus Christian School Chalkmarks



A Weekly Newsletter for DCS Family and Friends

October 18-24, 2006

Volume 6

Grandparents' Day 2006 Great!

Last Friday, the auditorium was packed with expectant grandparents and excited kindergarten through sixth grade students. It was the annual DCS Grandparents' Day. As our grandparents entered the auditorium, they enjoyed a *PowerPoint* presentation featuring our elementary students involved in various daily activities.

A special thanks goes to **Ginny Nevin** for putting this production together!

Each grade had practiced a variety of presentations from songs (choreographed by the class) to poems to pledges (American and Christian Flags, and the Bible), to recitation of Bible verses. Our seventh and eighth

grade band, under the direction of **Mr. Rich Stafford**, presented several songs as did the fourth grade recorder class. A totally unexpected song was *Claire de Lune*, played by the fourth grader recorder band *through their noses!* It sounded great, but do not try to picture what it looked like... The grand finale was our first through sixth grade combined choir under the direction of **Mrs. Mandy Russau** singing *Ambelin' Down an Autumn Avenue*.

Scrip gift cards were given to the grandparents who traveled the furthest (**Minnesota**), who had the most grandchildren, great grandchildren, and great great grandchildren (**20**), who **attended a one-room school house** (1st - 9th grades), and who was born in the furthest-away foreign country (**Iraq**). In addition, sixth grader **Anne E.** was presented with a *Scrip* gift

card for her artistic talent in designing this year's button. Congratulations!!

At the conclusion of the presentations, the students paired up with their grandparents to visit their classrooms. After a brief open-house visit, it appeared that many of the grandparents and grandchildren were headed for a favorite restaurant.

We are so thankful for our grandparents and the wonderful influence they have on their grandchildren. We urge them to continue to "...give heed to yourself and keep your soul diligently lest you forget the things which your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life; but *make them known to your sons and your grandsons* (Deut. 4:9 NASB). Timeless advice for each of us as we seek to teach, train and influence generations that follow. Truly, grandparents play an influential role with our children. We feel it a privilege to honor them at our annual Grandparents' Day.



A Word On Halloween...

And An Alternative Suggestion

Because of the occultist origins of Halloween, Damascus Christian School does not celebrate Halloween and its



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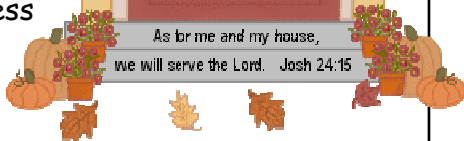
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many manifestations. This policy is in place because ghost, witch, goblin, devil, etc. costumes or decorations may tend to diminish the reality of the existence and seriousness of evil and the occult in the minds of our students.

Instead, we would suggest we help them dwell on those things that are true, honorable, excellent, and of good repute (Phil. 4:8). One way to do that is at our annual **Harvest Festival, Tuesday, October 31st, 5-8 PM, in the gym.** This is a wonderful alternative to trick-or-treating - it is safe, warm and dry, and filled with games and activities and tons of candy. Make plans now to join us for a great time of fun and festivities at this year's DCC/DCS community **Harvest Festival!** Bring the family!!!



As for me and my house,
we will serve the Lord. Josh 24:15



Shepherding Parents Conference This Saturday

A wonderful opportunity is available this Saturday, October 21st, to join others from various local churches at the **Shepherding Parents Conference** from 9 AM – 4 PM. This is a wonderful opportunity to deepen and develop discipleship-making steps to help guide and shape a Biblical worldview in the mind and heart of your children. It will give you insight, guidance and support to help you accomplish that Biblical mandate.



The conference will be held in the auditorium and costs only \$15 per individual or \$25 per couple. This includes workbooks and lunch! For an application or more information, please stop by either the church or school offices.



DCS Eighth Grader Finishes Third In National Competition

DCS eighth grader **Isaiah A.** finished third in the nation in his division in the recently held waterskiing competition in Bakersfield, California. Isaiah has been slalom waterskiing competitively for the last seven years and is currently ranked third nationally in the Expert Division. Congratulations, Isaiah!!



Parent-Teacher Conferences Coming

Friday, November 3rd, marks the end of the first quarter grading period. That is about two-and-a-half weeks away! At the conclusion of the first and third grading periods, we host the Parent-Teacher Conferences. This is an important opportunity for parents to meet with their child's teacher(s) to discuss progress, strong areas and those which may need attention.

Conferences are held beginning Thursday late afternoon/evening, **November 9th**, concluding **Friday, November 10th**. Parents with children in elementary grades will soon be receiving a notice stating the date and time of your conference. If the date/time does not work for you, simply contact Pam in the school office and she will make the necessary change. For parents with seventh through twelfth graders, there are no set conference times; you simply show up either Thursday or Friday during the designated conference times, Thursday, 3:30-6:30 PM and Friday, 9:30 AM - noon. Please mark your calendars for Parent-Teacher Conferences!



Christmas Is Coming. Order Your Wreaths & Poinsettias!

There are only 69 days until Christmas!!! And you say you haven't ordered a wreath or poinsettias yet?? Never fear – our ninth and tenth grade classes will be selling beautiful wreaths and poinsettias to raise funds for their Washington, DC trip. This lovely greenery will be available to order through a 9th or 10th grade student and will make a wonderful addition to your holiday decorating.

All orders need to be turned in by November 3rd. The items will be delivered to the school on November 30th, and will be available to be picked up that afternoon. The DCS freshmen and sophomores are hoping they can count on your support! Contact **Patty Estrada** at (503) 492-9851 or **Jennifer Easterbrooks** at (503) 663-0540 with any questions. Remember, you have less than 69 days...

Chalkmarks On The DCS Website

www.damascuschristianschool.org