

Chalkmarks

April 1-7, 2009

Home of the Eagles



CARPE AETERNITAS ~ Seize Eternity

Tuition set for 2009-2010 year

After hours of prayer, discussion, debate, and deletions, the School Commission has established next year's tuition rate. The goal was to keep tuition as low as possible for the upcoming year without compromising the integrity of our program. We are pleased to announce the following tuition rates – kindergarten - \$2685, an increase of only \$80 over this year's rates; 1st – 8th grades - \$6,025, an increase of \$175; 9th – 12th grades - \$6,400, an increase of \$250 for the year. Salaries have been frozen for the DCS staff for the upcoming year.



Families with children currently enrolled at DCS will be grandfathered in to the current multiple student discounts. Effective for the 2009-2010 school year, new school families will have a straight 20% discount per student for multiple children. This more accurately reflects the actual cost of educating each child. In other words, a new family with two children in elementary grades will see a \$1,205 reduction in the second child's tuition, bringing it down to \$4,820. That same 20% discount off the first-child tuition would apply to third, fourth, and fifth (or more) children.

Curriculum usage fees (book fees) will remain the same for next year – 1st – 3rd grades - \$170, 4th – 6th grades - \$175, 7th – 8th grades - \$180, and 9th – 12th grades - \$185. The curriculum usage fee includes Bibles for 1st – 3rd graders, all textbooks, workbooks, test books, one yearbook per family, and other learning materials. Sports participation fees will increase, again to more accurately reflect what it actually costs to provide an athletic program at DCS.

'09-'10 student financial assistance applications ready



For those desiring to apply for student financial assistance for the 2009-2010 school year, the application forms are now available, either on-line or by hard copy. To apply online, go to www.factstuitionaid.com, select Applicant Sign In, (new users select Create an Account or returning users enter their existing Username and Password – if you have forgotten your password, click on Trouble signing in?). Hard copy application forms may be picked up in the school office. The application deadline is May 31, 2009.

DCS uses FACTS as an independent, third party institution to help objectively determine family need and recommended financial assistance amounts. Their recommendations are taken under advisement by a School Commission Financial Assistance Committee who makes the final determination.

The DCS Financial Assistance Guidelines are as follows: DCS will disperse a maximum of 25% of designated Financial Assistance Fund monies. Each family may receive up to a maximum of 25% of tuition per child. DCS teachers will be given priority in disbursement of funds. Damascus Community Church members will be considered next (DCC allocates additional monies for DCC members); Non-DCC families will be considered for any remaining monies.; FACTS recommended amounts may be accepted or amended (increased, decreased, rejected) by the School Commission Committee. All applicants will be notified by the committee's decision by letter.

If you would be interested in giving to the DCS Student Financial Assistance Fund, we would encourage you to do so. Tax deductible checks may be made payable to DCS with a memo indicating Financial Aide.

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DCS Drama Department adopts Annie!



Leapin' Lizards! The popular comic strip heroine, Annie, takes center stage at DCS in one of the world's best-loved musicals. Annie is a spunky Depression-era orphan determined to find her parents who abandoned her years ago on the doorstep of a New York City orphanage run by the cruel, embittered Miss Hannigan. In adventure after fun-filled adventure, Annie foils Miss Hannigan's evil machinations, befriends President Franklin Delanor Roosevelt and finds a new family and home in billionaire Oliver Warbuck, his personal secretary Grace Farrell, and a lovable mutt named Sandy.

Tickets will go on sale Thursday, April 2nd, for the April 23rd – 25th and April 30th – May 2nd, 7 PM presentations. For the Friday and Saturday performances, adult tickets are \$9; students and seniors (62) are \$6. For the Thursday evening performances, tickets are discounted – adults - \$8 and students and seniors \$5. All seats are reserved so you will want to get your tickets early. Tickets will be available to purchase at Parent-Teacher Conference times.

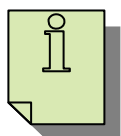
Because of the nature of this presentation and its obvious tie-in to orphanages and our growing interest and involvement through drama teacher/director **Lisa Closner** with the Heart2Heart Honduras orphanage, we are encouraging everyone to bring a new toy that can be shared with the orphans in Honduras. Toys should be lightweight and small enough to pack in a suitcase.

Get out your umbrellas...time for a shower!



Love is in the air! You are invited to a wedding shower on Saturday, April 4, in honor of former DCS student, **Katie Dennis**. The event will take place at 2:00 P.M. in the DCS Library. We would be pleased if you could join us as we celebrate her upcoming May wedding. **Katie & Jake** are registered at Target, Macy's, and Bed, Bath & Beyond. Hope to see you there! **Linda Dennis**, DCS Librarian (and Katie's mom ☺).

ChalkMarks in your Inbox



ChalkMarks is available through our [website](#), just click on the Notification Sign-up link. That's all there is to it. You will be notified by e-mail when each week's edition is published.

Early dismissal & parent-teacher conferences

We will be dismissing early this week in order to prepare for Parent-Teacher Conferences, set to begin Thursday afternoon. Parents with students in our junior and senior high programs have the option of doing their conferences either Thursday (3:30 – 6:30 PM) or Friday, 9:30 AM until noon. For parents with children in our elementary grades, please be prompt to your scheduled conference time.

Those who choose to use the conference time for vacation may run the risk of not being able to meet with their child's teacher at a later time.

Thursday dismissal times are: kindergarten – 11:30; 1st – 3rd grades – 11:40; 4th – 6th grades – 11:50, and 7th – 12th grades – noon.



Birthday party for all



Most of you know that this is Oregon's 150th birthday. To celebrate the event, our DCS Librarian, **Linda Dennis** is planning a special birthday cake ... and she needs your help. No eggs, flour, or aprons are required. What makes this cake special is photos. Yes, photos! Photos of you and your family in anyplace, at any time of day or night, taken in the last 150 years ... in Oregon.

These photos will be the substance of a three layer cake proudly displayed in our DCS Library. Will you rise to the occasion and loan (all photos will be copied and originals returned) some special shots to decorate our cake? Each picture should have people in it to commemorate not just the scenery, but the joy of being there.

Good desserts are a labor of love and take time. This cake is no different. So please choose some special pictures and get them to the Library right away. The cake will be under construction starting this week. The sooner we get the "ingredients" on hand, the sooner we can all enjoy our just desserts.

P.S. Don't forget a note on the back of each for where to return it. Thanks for your help!

Juliette opens for the Oregon Symphony

Juliette M., DCS 7th grader, has been playing the violin since the age of 4. When she was a young girl of only 8, she was blessed with the opportunity to see Itzhak Perlman, violin virtuoso perform live. It is rare that you are present to witness the moment of enlightenment in a child; however, when Juliette saw him on stage and heard him play, something magical happened. From that moment Juliette has practiced her violin with unfaltering determination and enthusiasm.

Saturday, March 14, 2009, Juliette opened for the Oregon Symphony at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall. Juliette is coached by Mrs. Sandra Kuziemski, who also plays for the Symphony Pops Orchestra. It was a beautiful evening filled with family, friends and mesmerizing music of the violin. Congratulations Juliette!

