

DAMASCUS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Chalkmarks

Last Issue this School Year
June 2, 2009

Home of the Eagles



CARPE AETERNITAS ~ Seize Eternity

Do Not Vacation!

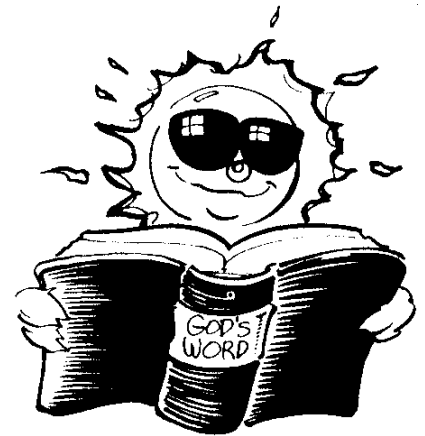
Friday, June 5th, the last of our students will excitedly exit the campus, knowing they have completed another year of school and now have the delightful prospect of three months to sleep in, go on vacation with their family, hang out with friends, try to find summer work, play ball, and in general, rest and recharge for another school year.

In the midst of camp-outs, water skiing, hiking, working, just-doing-nothing-significant - don't forget the Lord. Never are we admonished to take a vacation from the One who loves us most. In fact, Scripture is replete with encouragements to daily walk with Jesus regardless of the time or season of the year. Psalm 119 is rich with admonitions to hide God's Word in our hearts - vv. 9, 11 - *How can a young man keep his way pure? By keeping it according to Thy word. Thy word have I treasured in my heart, that I may not sin against Thee.* V. 24 - *Thy testimonies also are my delight; they are my counselors.* Vv. 33-38 - *Teach me, O Lord, the way of Thy statutes, and I shall observe it to the end. Give me understanding, that I may observe Thy law, and keep it with all my heart. Make me walk in the path of Thy commandments, for I delight in it. Incline my heart to Thy testimonies, and not to dishonest gain. Turn away my eyes from looking at vanity, and revive me in Thy ways. Establish Thy word to Thy servant, as that which produces reverence for Thee.* Vv. 97-104 - *Oh how I love Thy law! It is my meditation all the day. Thy commandments make me wiser than my enemies, for they are ever mine. I have more insight than all my teachers, for Thy testimonies are my meditation. I understand more than the aged, because I have observed Thy precepts, I have restrained my feet from every evil way, that I may keep Thy word. I have not turned aside from Thine ordinances, for Thou Thyself hast taught me. How sweet are Thy words to my taste! Yes, sweeter than honey to my mouth! From Thy precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way.*

Perhaps this summer, you could make a family project of reading through Psalm 119 and discussing what principles you find that motivate you to be consistently feeding on God's Word. Ecclesiastes concludes with these words, *The conclusion, when all has been heard, is: fear God and keep His commandment, because this applies*

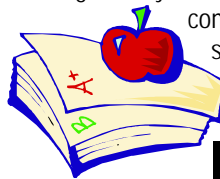
to every person. Because God will bring every act to judgment, everything which is hidden, whether it is good or evil.

Consistent reading and meditation in Scripture helps keep us God-focused and well balanced in daily living. It helps us maintain a right perspective on life and to deal with adverse circumstances which may occur. It creates in us a love for others and a desire to encourage them in their spiritual journey. It helps us make sense of an unpredictable world, unlovable people, and unresolved issues. May your spiritual life grow and prosper this summer. It just makes sense not to take a vacation from time spent with the Lord through His Word.



Tips for Staying on Top

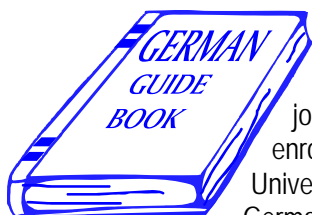
Just as it is imperative to maintain our walk and relationship with the Lord on a daily basis, so it is to keep up with our academic progress. By spending a few minutes on a regular basis reviewing and renewing basic reading, math, spelling concepts, your children will return to class academically ramped up and ready to go! I am not suggesting a formal home school situation, but rather, informal reviews as you are folding clothes, driving to the market, or relaxing during the day. Reviewing memory verses, spelling words, math concepts, and read, read, read. A few minutes spent consistently through the summer will pay huge dividends come next fall.



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DCS Grad Erin Huggins Combines Passion for Journalism and German into Internship Opportunity Abroad



With an English major and German minor, Erin Huggins turned that in to an opportunity to travel to Berlin, Germany, where she will be immersed in an 11-week study abroad/ internship geared towards aspiring journalists. Starting June 8, Erin will be enrolled in classes *auf Deutsch* at Freie Universität Berlin, where she will learn about the German media scene, politics, and recent history. Six weeks later, she will be working as an intern for an online magazine, newspaper, or PR firm in Berlin.

Erin's dream trip began in eighth grade at DCS when she fell in love with the German language, hanging out with a favorite teacher and soaking up bits and pieces of language instruction. She continued her language study at Western Oregon University. Erin hopes to widen her journalistic environment and broaden her perspective in order to gain a better understanding of the art of journalism and its connection to global relations.

Congratulations Erin, on another step in your journalistic adventure!

Early Start Reminder



Due to a later than usual Labor Day, we are starting school on Wednesday, September 2nd (half day) for 1st – 11th grades. Seniors will be on their annual Senior Retreat through Friday, Monday, September 7th, Labor Day, there will be no school. School resumes on Tuesday, September 8th, for all grades. Even though this may mean a change of plans for some, we feel the advantages merit the early start. It allows for finals and Parent-Teacher Conferences to be completed before Spring Break, thus freeing up students, parents, and staff. It also enables us to end our school year Friday, June 4th, thereby allowing our students to enjoy their summer vacation rather than showing up for school through June 11th. This arrangement also allows our summer camps (soccer, basketball, drama, and water ski) to build their schedules around their traditional camps dates. Finally, it minimizes any conflict with setting up for the annual DCC Car Cruise-In and our Back-To-School Parent Night.

Thank you for your flexibility in this matter.

Purchasing Scrip Pays Off!

When you buy Scrip each week, your name is qualified for random drawings for great goodies! Congratulations to Mrs. Eddy, Mrs. Gianelli, Mrs. Carpenter, and Mrs. Teixeira, our most recent winners of \$10 Fred Meyer gift cards! Emily Buller enjoyed a \$25 Starbucks gift card! Got Scrip?!



Check out the Wonderful DCS Basketball, Soccer and Drama Summer Camps On Line at www.DamascusChristianSchool.org

News From DC

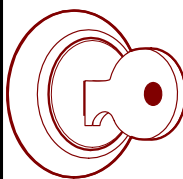
Our latest report indicated that our students and parents were having a wonderful time on their Washington, DC trip. Visiting memorials, tromping around Gettysburg, solemnly viewing the Holocaust Museum, the Viet Nam, Korean, Iwo Jima, and Air Force Memorials plus Arlington National Cemetery and participating in the wreath-laying ceremony, all create visual pictures that will remain with our students the rest of their lives.

According to a recent report, our students have had an impact on the Capitol tour guide. This seasoned lady reported to our teachers, "Your group of students is the best group ever!"

Please continue to pray for safety, good health, and an on-going positive testimony.



DCS Key Club Makes Big Impression



Earlier in May, the newly chartered Damascus Christian School Key Club helped sponsor and work at an electronic recycling day. TVs, old computers, monitors, and key boards showed up en masse. How much was collected on that Saturday? At the end of the day, we had 36 large pallets totaling twenty-five thousand pounds of recycled material!

Laura Parsons, local Kiwanas member and DCS Key Club advisor had this to say about our Key club students, "Dear Andy (McClellan, DCS teacher and Key Club advisor), This is a small card with a big thanks to you, Key club and Damascus Christian School and Church. Our community is so blessed by having you here. I am very happy you are having a wrap-up meeting with one of the most outstanding Key Clubs in our Division. While you certainly don't come close to the student numbers of Clackamas HS Key Club, you are giving them a run for their money on your many different service projects. This Key Club is MIGHTY!!! You and this club have energized me more than you will ever know."