

CELEBRATING OUR 34<sup>TH</sup> YEAR

DAMASCUS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL  
CHALKMARKS  
HOME OF THE EAGLES



SEPT. 23-29, 2009

The Heart Of Education is Education of the Heart



*Want Some  
Encouragement?  
Try Wandering*

Ever wonder what really goes on behind closed classroom doors at Damascus Christian School? What are the students really learning? While wandering about last week, checking to see how our classes were settling in, I observed some amazing things.

First, quality teaching takes place on a consistent basis. Focused, purposeful instruction happens by teachers who are well prepared, know what their learning objectives are, and present material in refreshing, creative ways in order to capture and hold the attention of each student.

Secondly, DCS offers a wonderful variety of classes designed to challenge and motivate our students. In one class, you will find students working their way through some basic vocabulary in Spanish I or II. In a high school Bible class, you might discover students wrestling with what it means to think Biblically or debating the implications of the sovereignty of God. In a quilting class, you could find students carefully measuring, cutting, fitting, and sewing pieces of material together to create a beautiful tapestry of color and design. In another classroom, you might see an elementary class in the science lab making smoke and smells and developing a curiosity that may someday have them making new discoveries in astrophysics, medicine, or scientific research. In the next room, you might observe **Mrs. Huggins** helping her Journalism class write, design, and produce our newly resurrected school newspaper. As you wander past the computer lab, you could see students in our robotics class engaged in successfully programming their robot to follow a pre-determined obstacle course. Glance to your left and you might see an elementary class down on the

gym floor putting into practice the fundamentals of basketball. Back in the main building, you could catch the yearbook staff busily entering text or pictures for their layout of this year's annual. In the Discovery Center, you could see our educational therapists working one-on-one with students, helping them to become independent learners. Go past the sixth grade class and you might hear them working their way through a grammar lesson. Check out the auditorium – it could be a band, high school ensemble, or a drama class refining their playing, singing, or acting skills. Wander down the hall, and you will find high school Art I or Art II students experimenting with clay, watercolors, acrylics, printing, or a myriad of other mediums. What about those high school students working one-on-one with some elementary children? Those are our mentors, helping younger students become more proficient in their math, reading, or spelling.

Solomon advised in Ecclesiastes 12:11, "A wise teacher's words spur students to action and emphasize important truths (TNLT). That is our goal – to motivate students to do something with what they have heard, and to accentuate key points in each lesson. Variety of course offerings, a focus on the basics, along with compelling presentations make for a school day that is spiritually enriching, intellectually challenging, and designed to help meet the social, emotional, and physical needs of our students. Welcome to a typical day at Damascus Christian School!

Welcome  
to Our Class

**SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST ON  
NEXT PAGE**

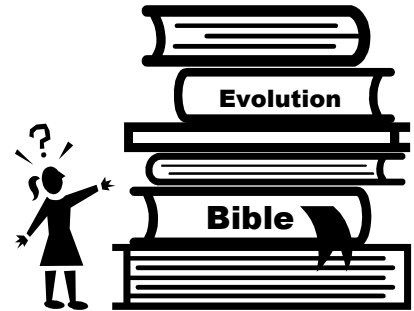
- ⇒ 8<sup>TH</sup> – 12<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS TO ANSWERS IN GENESIS CONFERENCE
- ⇒ GRANDPARENTS' DAY
- ⇒ FRIDAY FEAST

## 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Graders Heading to the Answers in Genesis Conference

Monday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, our eighth through twelfth graders will be heading to Rolling Hills Community Church to participate in the “Answers for Darwin – Refuting 200 Years of Evolution” conference. Two bus loads along with several cars will transport the 109 students plus chaperones and teachers to the 11 AM presentation by Ken Ham, *How to Defend the Christian Faith Biblically and Scientifically*. This will be a wonderful opportunity for our students to hear one of the

top creationists in the country lay out a plan that will help them stand for truth in a reasonable and rational manner.

This free two-day seminar begins on Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, at 6 PM, running through Monday, concluding with Dr. Jason Lisle presenting, *The Darwin Connection to Astronomy*. For further information, contact Craig Hubler at [cwhubler@msn.com](mailto:cwhubler@msn.com) or (503) 968-5467.



## Grandparents’ Day, Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup>

One of the highlights of early fall is our annual Grandparents’ Day event. Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 10:30 AM, grandparents from across the nation will descend upon Damascus Christian School to enjoy class presentations in the auditorium and then head to their grandchild’s class(es) to meet their teacher and see what happens at their grade level. The purpose of Grandparents’ Day is to honor our students’ grandparents, to remind them of the significant influence they have with their grandchildren, and to show off the school.

It is important that every K-6<sup>th</sup> grade student have a grandparent representative present. We realize that not all grandparents are able to be here; we urge families to “adopt” grandparents for the day so every-

one will have someone to hang out with. This stand-in grandparent could be a trusted neighbor, relative, or family friend.



“adopt”  
grandparents  
for the day...

School for all students will be dismissed early (K – 11:30; 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> grades – 11:40; 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grades – 11:50, and 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> at noon) in order to encourage grandparents to hang out with their grandchildren. Pray for safety as our grandparents travel

and for a delightful day at DCS!



## Friday Feast Feeds Famished Fans Fueled by Fantastic Volunteers!

Fridays are great days! Not only is it the end of the school week, but it means *FRIDAY FEAST!* That means Moms (or Dads) get a break from putting together a sack lunch. Students get a variety to their diet, and volunteers have a setting in which to exercise their desire to serve others. It’s a win-win-win situation for everyone!

Headed up by DCS Mom **Meredith Wilson**, Friday Feast provides a variety of nourishing lunches ranging from pizza, sub sandwiches, Chinese food, salads, tacos, and hot dogs, along with Booster Juice smoothies, cookies, and fruit cups. **Nineteen Moms** make up the volunteer group that assists Meredith in this tasty endeavor. The small margin of profit helps fund extra educational resources for teachers and students. Bon appétit!

