



DeMATHA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Faith-Filled Gentlemen and Scholars

4313 Madison St. Hyattsville, Maryland 20781 Main: 240.764.2200 Fax: 240.764.2275

August 2022

August 1:

- * Varsity Football Begins

August 7:

- * Mothers' Welcome Brunch
(freshmen and transfer moms only)

August 8:

- * ATS info due for Fall sports

August 10:

- * Course Changes 9th grade

August 11:

- * Course changes—All grades

August 13:

- * DPO Book Swap
- * Uniform Measurement
- * Ring Measurement

August 17-19

- * Senior pictures—by appt **only**

August 23:

- * Transfer Parents Cookout

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DeMatha Matters

Volume 15, Issue 1

Course Lists & Course Changes



Your son's course list for the 2022-2023 school year was mailed, and also available on Veracross now. Questions concerning courses should be directed to the student's counselor. Course changes for **FRESHMEN ONLY** will take place on **Wednesday, August 10** from 9:00a.m. - 1:00p.m., and for **ALL grades** on **Thursday, August 11** from 9:00a.m. - 1:00p.m. in the Counseling Center.

School Opening:

Freshmen - Day 1: **Thur. Aug. 25** 8:00am -2:00pm. Lite breakfast and lunch provided. *Wear play clothes.* Do not bring books. Day 2: **Fri. Aug. 26** 8:00am-2:00pm. Lite breakfast and lunch provided. *Wear warm weather school uniform.*

Transfers (So., Jr. & Sr.) - Friday, August 26 ONLY, 9:00am -1:00pm. lunch provided. *Wear warm weather school uniform.* Do not bring books.

(Freshmen & Transfers to meet at Original Gym)

Sophomores, Juniors, & Seniors-

Monday, August 29,
Schedules to follow.

***Freshmen no school on Aug. 29**

ALL STUDENTS - Aug. 30 - All Day -
Regular classes 8:15am-2:55pm

Principal Notes:

Our faculty summer reading has been a demanding work on the philosophy of teaching called To Know As We Are Known: Education as Spiritual Journey by Parker Palmer. I have been wrestling with this book for several years now and I really appreciate the indulgence of my colleagues in their reading of it and helping me think through it.

One important claim that Palmer makes is that "to learn is to face transformation." This can be profoundly disturbing—no one objects to being "transformed" by knowing how the Krebs Cycle works or by how to use the quadratic equation. But, to face transformation of our assumptions or our long-held ideas through a confrontation with a character in a book or an event in history or a theological truth—that can be profound. And still, we should make ourselves vulnerable to these transformations as we work our way to the truth.

It can be scary but it is the only way that we achieve the freedom we are called to by our faith and by our liberal art education.

This year like all the 41 before it (for me), I expect to be transformed by texts and relationships. We are a theotropic people—we grow towards God—and that means we change.

Dr. Daniel J. McMahon

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Parent Alert Emails: Communications on closings, weather, activity and sports updates from DeMatha will automatically be sent via e-mail to the primary email listed on the student's Veracross account.

Schedule & School Matters

Student schedules should be brought to school everyday during the opening week of school. **Please note the dates and times for schedule/course changes found on page 1.** Students with a free last period may leave school grounds provided they have transportation. **Students may not leave school grounds for any reason and then return for transportation.**

Students with free last periods who are staying on campus must report to study locations. All freshmen and sophomores are assigned to study halls during free periods. Please refer to the Parent and Student Handbook for information and to familiarize yourself with school policies and procedures.

REPORT ABSENCE
240-764-2230

Back-to-School Night

Back-to-School Night for 9th grade **ONLY** will be held on **Tuesday, September 6**, at 7:00 p.m. This is for parents only.

A general assembly will be followed by the opportunity to follow your son's schedule of classes. The purpose of the evening is for parents to hear expectations and not to find out how their sons are doing. If you are interested in talking specifically about your son, please contact the teacher directly. Contact information for all faculty can be found on our website.

DPO - Parent Matters

- ♦ The DPO will sponsor a Used Uniform & Book Swap/Sale on **Saturday, August 13**, from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. You will have the opportunity to buy, sell or trade used books and uniforms. **Bring cash.** See flyer mailed.
 - ♦ **New Mothers' Welcome Brunch** will take place on **Sunday, August 7**: from 1:00-3:00 pm in the Antler Room. Freshmen and Transfer moms only—Invitations have been mailed. RSVP required.
 - ♦ Everyone is invited to the first meeting of the DeMatha Parent Organization on **Tuesday, September 20**, @ 7:00 p.m. in the Antler Room.
 - ♦ Bake sales will take place throughout the year. 
- Friday, Sept. 16 - Freshmen**
Friday, Nov. 18 - Sophomores
Friday, Feb. 10 - Juniors
Friday, May 19 - All Classes

Cafeteria Optional Payment Plan

See the website under quick links for weekly specials and for instructions on the *optional* cafeteria payment plan which requires use of a student ID.

Cash accepted **ONLY** first week of school.

DM Express

Interested in our online weekly newsletter the DeMatha Express? To subscribe email tfarrell@dematha.org.

Book Sales

DeMatha uses MBS Direct to provide online textbooks.

They also have a buy back program for used books. Visit www.mbsDirect.net. We caution students and their parents to be fully aware of the book *and* edition being used for the coming year.

Book lists are available on our website under Quicklinks>Buy Books where you will be linked to the mbsDirect website.



Parent Email & Profile Update

We use contact information from Veracross to send email updates to parents. Parents can update their information any time through the Veracross Portal by clicking on *Family Profile Update*. Only one email address is possible per parent. We will send any school to parents communications, any urgent notifications, meeting information and sport/activity changes with that email. If you receive any errors regarding account access, please click on *Can't Access Your Account* from the login screen.

Parking

Parking permit is \$100 for the year. Application form available on our website (under FORMS). Parking permit will be distributed on opening day. Any questions, please contact Mr. Dickerson 240-764-2233 / sdickerson@dematha.org



Senior Pictures

Senior pictures will be taken in the library on **Wednesday, August 17 to Friday August 19** from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. **by appointment only.** Seniors should have received information from Legacy Studios.

Please contact Legacy at 800-348-4360 or customer-care@legacystudios.com to schedule an appointment or if you have any questions.

**MORE DATES TO COME*



Parent Informational Coffees



Parent Informational Coffees will take place throughout the year. Administrators will be available to answer questions.

Everyone is invited to attend.

* **Freshmen Parent Coffee** will take place on **Thursday, Aug. 25**, from 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. in the Antler Room.

* **Sophomore Parent Coffee** will take place on **Monday, Aug. 29**, from 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. in the Antler Room.

* **Junior Parent Coffee** will take place on **Thursday, Sept. 1**, from 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. in the Antler Room.

* **Senior Parents** will attend a **mandatory** senior parent meeting on **Thursday, Sept. 15**, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Antler Room.

Uniforms

Students are required to be in full uniform **Monday, October 17**. The DM polo shirt is only available in the DM bookstore. See the Student Handbook for specific uniform requirements. Our school uniform company is Potomac Uniform, 301-339-8466. Uniform information can be found on the website at www.DeMathaUniforms.com Representatives of Potomac Uniform will be available on **Saturday, August 13**, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Summer Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 8:00 am-1:30pm

Friday 8:00 am-12:30 pm

Summer Reading

Each student must read **two** books from his upcoming grade-level list. Incoming freshmen must complete the summer reading note-taking chart for each title.

Freshmen

Unbroken, by Laura Hillenbrand ***Required**

& Choose 1 from below:

- 1) Akata Witch, by Nnedi Okorafor
- 2) The Seclusion, by Jacqui Castle
- 3) Long Way Down, by Jason Reynolds
- 4) Black Ice, by Andrew Lane
- 5) The Boys who Challenged Hitler, by Phillip Hoose

**Rising freshmen are to prepare written responses to two summer reading books*

Sophomores

March, Books Two and Three, by John Lewis and Nate Powell ***Required** (Students can request to borrow digital copies of these texts.)

& Choose 1 from below:

- 1) All American Boys, by Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely
- 2) Undeclared: Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indian School, by Steve Sheinkin
- 3) Dear Justyce, by Nic Stone
- 4) Outcasts United, by Warren St. John
- 5) Astrophysics for People in a Hurry, by Neil de Grasse Tyson

Juniors

The Kite Runner (Graphic Novel), by Khaled Hosseini

***Required** (Students can request to borrow digital copies of these texts.)

& Choose 1 from below:

- 1) Just Mercy, by Bryan Stevenson
- 2) The Boys in the Boat, by Daniel James Brown
- 3) The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time, by Mark Haddon
- 4) Norse Mythology, by Neil Gaiman
- 5) Soonish: Ten Emerging Technologies That'll Improve and/or Ruin Everything, by Kelly and Zach Weinersmith

Seniors

Choose 2 from below:

- 1) Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood, by Trevor Noah
- 2) This Boy's Life, by Tobias Wolff
- 3) They Called Us Enemy, by George Takei
- 4) Bird Brother: A Falconer's Journey and the Healing Power of Wildlife, by Rodney Stotts
- 5) Educated, by Tara Westover

Required for AP English Literature & Composition:
On Writing, by Stephen King

All details on our website, under Quicklinks
>Summer Reading

D P O BOOK SWAP

Sat. August 13, 2022
8:00am—12:00 noon

DeMatha Rear Parking Lot
(43rd Avenue)

Sellers Setup time: 7:30am

- Used Book /uniform Sales
- Uniform Sales - Antler Room
- Ring Measurements

FAQ:

What is this?

Flea Market / garage sale style used text books and uniform sales

Who can sell or buy?

Any DeMatha parents/students can buy or sell used books or uniforms

What form of payments?

Cash usually / other forms of payment may be accepted

Where to park?

Sellers should park in the rear lot of DeMatha on the 43rd Avenue side of the school campus.

-Freshmen books/items - Parking row closest to the building;

-Sophomore books/items - 2nd row from the building;

-Junior book/items - 3rd row from the building;

-Senior books/items - Parking row next to the iron fence.

Buyers should park in the front lots of DeMatha on the Route 1 side of the school campus and walk down to the Rear Parking Lot.

Don't forget your schedule/book list!!!

Christian Service Program

Service hours must be submitted online via the Mobilserve app. Instructions can be found on our website under > Christian Service Program. Any questions, please refer to Mrs. Bright / EBright@dematha.org

Summer service hours are due August 31.

Completion of service hours and the service reflection paper are graduation requirements

Available Service opportunities / events can be found on the Christian service Program page also.

Metro Shuttle

DeMatha operates a free shuttle service to and from the College Park Metro Station. The morning pick up is 7:45 a.m. and the return trip is made at approximately 3:15 p.m. Shuttle service will begin on **Tuesday, August 30**, and will operate on regular school days. If your son uses the shuttle, please remind him of his responsibility for good behavior. Students misbehaving will not be allowed to ride the shuttle.

Physicals

All incoming freshmen and transfers **MUST** create an ATS account online and upload physicals onto their profile. All students must have this submitted by the first day of school and all athletes must have it done **before** the first practice. Paper copies of physicals and other medical forms will NOT be accepted. Students not registered on ATS will not be permitted to practice. Instructions can be found on the DM website. Any questions, please contact Ava Griese / AGriese@dematha.org.

*ALL vaccinated student should upload their COVID vaccination card to their profile

Transportation Matters

Five bus routes have been established: 1) Annapolis/Bowie, 2) Dunkirk/Upper Marlboro, 3) Charles County/Ft. Washington, 4) Montgomery County and 5) Clinton/Forestville/Eastern Market. Each of the established routes operate with predetermined pick-up and drop-off locations with adjustments made for the safety of the students. Interested individuals must complete a registration form which can be found on the school website www.DeMatha.org - and include a \$100 non-refundable registration fee. Routes, as used this past year, may be updated and confirmation of the routes and schedules for the current year will be published on the website before **August 23**. Bus fees will be **\$2400 for both ways and \$1340 for one way (in addition to the \$100 non-refundable registration fee)**. Expect quarterly payments at the beginning of each academic quarter. Transportation is billed separately from the FACTS Tuition billing. Billing questions, please email ametz@dematha.org. Route information and questions, please refer to the website or email aack@dematha.org. Please register as soon as possible in order for us to confirm routes and consider possible changes. General questions regarding transportation should be directed to aack@dematha.org.

Service begins on Tuesday, August 30.



New Mothers' Welcome Brunch

Invitations were mailed to all mothers / female guardians of freshmen and transfers for the Welcome Brunch which will take place on **Sunday, August 7**, 1:00-3:00pm

RSVP is required

Calendar August 2022

Cont. from pg 1

August 25:

- * Opening Day 1 - Freshmen
- * Freshmen Parent Coffee

August 26:

- * Opening Day 2 - Freshmen
- * Opening Day - Transfers

August 29:

- * Opening Day - Sopho., Jr., & Sr.
- * Sophomore Parent Coffee

August 30:

- * Opening Day - All grades

August 31:

- * Summer Service Hours DUE

September 1:

- * Jr. Parent Coffee

September 2 :

- * NO CLASSES

September 6:

- * Back-to-School Night—9th grade ONLY

September 10:

- * Men of DM Cookout

September 13:

- * **Virtual**—Back-to-School-ALL grades
- * Instrumental Music Parent meeting

September 14:

- * Chorus Parent Meeting

September 15:

- * Senior Parent Meeting

Ring Measurements

Any junior or senior interested in purchasing a school ring, measurements will take place on:

Aug 13 at the Book Swap

Sept 1 at the Jr. Parent Coffee

Sept 20 at the DPO meeting

Details to follow.

