

DeMATHA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Faith-Filled Gentlemen and Scholars

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

January 2023

January 3

- Classes Resume

January 11

- NHS Induction Ceremony

January 13

- End of 2nd Quarter

January 16

- No Classes—Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

January 17-20

- DeMatha Experience

January 23

- Grades published

January 24

- Juniors— College Process meeting

January 25

- Senior Portraits—APPT ONLY

Cont...pg 4

Inside this issue:

DPO, Grad Video	2
Senior Calendar	2
Re-Registration	3
Last picture day,	3
CMO, DM Experience	4

DeMatha Matters

Volume 15, Issue 6

Report Cards



2nd quarter grades will be published on Monday, January 23. As stated on Page 52 of the Parent-Student Handbook, a senior failing more than three subjects at the end of the first semester will be required to withdraw from DeMatha at the conclusion of this semester. Questions concerning report cards should be directed to the teacher and/or the student's counselor.



Weather Related Information



DeMatha follows Prince George's County for delayed openings of one or two hours and school closings. In case of an early dismissal for PG County, DeMatha will make an independent decision. Check the website and be attentive to Veracross emails. If DeMatha is delayed one or two hours, buses will run 1 hour or 2 hours later accordingly. Please check the website for any updates.

Principal Notes

Happy New Year! I hope that everyone had a chance to reflect on where we have been and think about where we still have to go. January is named for Janus, the Roman god of doorways and has forces that allow him to look behind as well as ahead. Even as we look to our New Year's resolutions, let's not forget to look back and see how far we have come.

During the third week of January we are introducing a program called The DeMatha Experience. Each class level will be in 3 days (you can see the general schedule elsewhere in the newsletter).

Each class has an "Olympic-style" day and 2 additional days filled with things that need to get done (course selection assemblies and other school business) and things we want to emphasize. The goal to develop Faith-Filled Gentlemen and Scholars requires a "curriculum" that explains some of the ways we approach that first part. Schools (probably all institutions—and families) need what we called "rally-points". Places where we gather and affirm and reaffirm who we are. Since this is our first time, we are going to make mistakes—but I expect we'll learn a lot and have some fun on the way.

Dr. Daniel J. McMahon

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.

Graduation Video



The 2023 Commencement Video will be available to purchase for \$50 if ordered prior to April 1. This professional DVD typically runs 2 hours, 15 minutes and contains graduation from start to finish and more. Orders placed after April 1 will be \$55. DVD's will be shipped directly to your home. Order forms can be found on our website under forms, and in the Main Office. *Other delivery formats also available.*

Senior Calendar

(check website for most updated info.)

March 6

Senior Service Hours Due

March 14-15

Senior Service Interview (if eligible)

March 23

Mandatory Senior Parent Meeting, 7:00pm, NO STUDENTS.

March 24

Senior Service Reflections Due

May 1 –12

AP Exams

May 5

Prom—optional. No Classes for Seniors

May 10-12

Senior Exams **(Mandatory)**

May 11

Graduation Practice 10:30am at Original Gym **(Mandatory)**

Senior/Faculty Picnic

May 22-24

Senior College Prep **(Mandatory)**

May 31

Graduation Practice, **(Mandatory)** 11:00am at the Shrine

Baccalaureate Mass, **(Mandatory)**

4:00pm at the Convocation Center.

Seniors to arrive at 3:30

June 2

Graduation 9:00AM at the Shrine

Parent Matters - DPO

- Senior Parents: Class of 2022 graduation DVD order forms are available on the website. Please turn in your order form and payment to the main office.
- The next bake sale will be held on Friday, February 10, sponsored by the Junior class. All junior families are asked to contribute baked good. Please bring individually wrapped items to the cafeteria in the morning prior to classes.
- Plan to attend the DPO Parent Social & Raffle on **Wednesday, May 17** to network and meet others in a relaxing setting with refreshments and music. Please join us in the Kilby Lounge from 6:00-8:00 p.m. for an evening of fun! For further information, contact the DPO@DeMatha.org
- Mark you calendar now for the 18th Annual Mother/Son Luncheon to be held on **Sunday, May 7.** (Time and location TBA)

Visitors

All visitors

MUST report to

the Main Office

to receive a visitor pass.



School & Offices Closed

Monday, January 16

Friday, January 27

Monday, February 13 **Cyber Day**

Monday, February 20 **President's Day**

Academic Matters -

Summer Session School regulations stipulate that any failing grade must be made up in summer school. Students are also required to attend summer school if they meet one of the following criteria: a final grade of F in any class; a grade of D in Algebra 1, Part 1; Algebra 1, Part 2; regular Algebra 1, or Algebra 2. A grade of D in Honors Algebra 1 or Honors Algebra 2 does not result in required summer school. Instead, the student will move out of the honors math program. A grade of D in the first two levels of a world language also requires remediation in summer school. If a student achieves an extremely low final grade, he may be required to repeat the course the following year depending on individual academic department regulations. DeMatha makes every attempt to remediate failed classes. Please check the website for summer session offerings beginning April 1. Please take the summer school dates into consideration when making vacation plans. **Summer school: Tuesday, June 20 – Thursday, July 20.** Failure to make up a class in summer school will result in a \$400 fee being assessed in the fall for administrative and scheduling purposes.

Pictures - Last Call

Any student who has not had the required picture taken for the yearbook or need a make-up should plan on having their picture taken on **Wednesday, January 25**. All students must have one free picture taken for the yearbook. Seniors **MUST** have a picture taken by this date! Senior pictures are used in graduation materials, programs, etc. Pictures need to be completed by January 25. Seniors, please contact Legacy Studios <https://seniors.legacystudios.com/dematha-catholic-high-school-hyattsville-md/> or 1-800-348-4360 to set up an appointment time for your picture on January 25. This is the last opportunity to have pictures taken at school!



Re-Registration Due Feb. 15

Thank you for sending your son to DeMatha. We are looking ahead to the 2022-2023 school year and that begins with re-enrollment. In late January, you will receive an email invitation to begin the re-enrollment process at the primary email address listed on Veracross. The message header is DeMatha Online ReEnrollment. Online re-enrollment will begin **February 1, 2023**. At that time you may login to Veracross and click on the banner in the top-left corner of the screen reading "SIGN-UP-Online Re-Enrollment." **The re-enrollment process and payment must be made by mid-night Wednesday, February 15.** A late fee of \$100 will be assessed after February 15. If you have not setup Veracross, please see/ go to the help page <http://www.dematha.org/parents/veracross/index.aspx>. For billing/enrollment questions please contact the Business Office. If you continue to have trouble with Veracross, please contact Mr. Keplinger via email at ckeplinger@dematha.org.

Report Card Conferences



Conferences will be held on **Thursday, January 26, from 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. in the original gym and cafeteria**. No appointment necessary. One of the purposes of the conference is to establish a working partnership with the teacher. We ask that you limit your meeting to no more than 5 minutes. Parents are encouraged to bring their son along as it is worthwhile for both parents and students to hear teacher comments.

Parent Informational Coffee

- The Freshmen/Principal Parent Coffee will take place on **Tuesday, January 31**, from 8:15—9:15am
- The Sophomore Parent Coffee will take place on **Wednesday, February 1** from 8:15-9:15am
- The Junior Parent Coffee will take place on **Thursday, February 2** from 8:15-9:15am
- **Mandatory Senior Parent Meeting Thursday, March 23 @ 7:00pm**

Asbestos & Lead Monitoring

82
Pb
Lead
207.2

Several times a year, the facilities of DeMatha are inspected to ensure that our buildings meet all requirements with respect to the containment and abatement of asbestos covered surfaces (pipes, floor tiles, etc.). DeMatha fully complies with all environmental laws and regulations mandated by state and federal regulations with regard to AHERA. Copies of inspection reports and AHERA compliance documents are available in the Main Office during normal business hours. Additionally, as mandated by MD state law, all drinking water supplies have been inspected for lead and found to be in compliance with state regulations.

SAT Information

Register for the SAT online www.collegeboard.org. The SAT Test dates and registration deadlines for the year are as follows:

CEEB# 210660

Test Date & Registration Deadline

(Late registration is available)

Mar 11, 2023
May 6, 2023
Jun 3, 2023

Feb 10, 2023
Apr 7, 2023
May 4, 2023

Support the Annual Fund!

DeMatha's Annual Fund provides for ongoing yearly costs, including student programs and scholarship funds. Donations, as well as gifts of stocks, real estate and planned giving, allow us to continue educating all of our young men in the DM tradition. Designations to scholarship funds or specific programs are welcome. For more information or to donate online, please see "Support DeMatha" on the website, or contact Mr. Thomas Ponton at 240-764-2222 or tponton@dematha.org.

Campus Ministry - CMO

Service Hours Reminder

All completed January service hours are expected to be turned by **Tuesday, January 31**. Senior service hours are due **Monday, March 6**. The required Senior Reflection Paper is due on **Friday, March 24**. Questions concerning requirements and hours should be directed to the Campus Ministry Office, EBright@DeMatha.org or (240) 764-2260

Thank You

for your generous donations. We collected over 200 toys for the St. Augustine's Toy Drive which will benefit children in shelters and temporary housing in DC. We also donated some of the toys to families at St. Matthew's Episcopal in HJyattsville.

Thank you DeMatha community!

Attendance

- We encourage frequent hand washing and use of hand sanitizer located throughout the school. If students are sick or not feeling well, please keep them home.
- We have incorporated "strategic long weekends" along with the holiday breaks. We hope you will use these weekends for college visits, medical appointments, etc.

January 16
MLK Day

February 13
Cyber Day

February 20
President's Day

March 31 - April 10
Easter/Spring Break

May 29
Memorial Day

REPORT ABSENCE DIRECTLY

240-764-2230

or

Attendance@DeMatha.org

January 2023

Cont. from pg 1

January 26

- Yearbook picture Retake/Make-up
- Parent-Teacher Conferences

January 27

- NO CLASSES - Faculty Meeting

January 31

- Freshman Parent Coffee
- Service Hours Due

February 1

- Sophomore Parent Coffee

February 2

- Junior Parent Coffee

February 3

- Last Day to Add/Drop Courses

February 8

- Junior Retreat / Cyber Day for 9th, 10th & 11th grades

February 13

- Cyber Day

DeMatha Experience 2023

January 17-20, 2023

Strengthening the Foundation

The DeMatha Experience 2023 is a three-day, Community Building Experience for each Class Level meant to strengthen the foundation upon which each DeMatha student is building during his journey to be a faith-filled Gentleman and Scholar. The DeMatha Experience will take place from January 17-20, 2023. While each class level of students will have grade-level specific topics during the Experience, there will be some common events for all grade levels including: a class wide Liturgy, a day long Olympic style House Competition, a Student Speaker, a Faculty Speaker chosen by a vote of the students, and a Course Selection Process for Freshman, Sophomores, and Juniors, and a Career Day for Seniors.

Each class level will be on campus for three days and off campus for one.

Juniors will be off campus Tuesday, January 17th.

Freshmen will be off campus Wednesday, January 18th.

Sophomores will be off campus Thursday, January 19th.

Seniors will be off campus on Friday, January 20th.

Class levels voted for the day they wanted off.

The Senior class voted first, followed by the Junior class, and then the Sophomore class.