



**March 2018**

**March 1**

DPO Social

**March 6**

Language Arts Workshop

**March 10**

SAT Test

**March 14**

Science Expo Projects Due

**March 15**

Science Expo Dinner

Reconciliation

DPO Muffin Madness

**March 16**

NHS Tag Day

End 3rd Quarter

Senior Reflection Paper Due

PG Band Festival

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**DeMatha Matters**

**Volume 10, Issue 8**

**Grades Published March 23**



Grades are available through Veracross. Please contact Mr. Chris Keplinger (ckeplinger@dematha.org) for any Veracross questions. Questions concerning grades should be directed to the teacher. See the website for contact information. School policy is that no senior may graduate with four failures. A senior with four failures must repeat the year at another school or take the GED.

**Report Absence Directly**  
**240-764-2230**

**NHS Blood Drive**



The National Honor Society will sponsor a Blood Drive on **Wednesday, March 21**, from 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. in the old gym. The Blood Drive is open to students, faculty and parents. Students who are 16 years of age must have a signed parent permission form (available from Mrs. McKee, Counseling Center). Students 17 years old do NOT need a permission form. Students earn one hour of community service. A photo ID is required. If interested, see Mrs. McKee, call 240-764-2225 or cmckee@dematha.org to register.

**Principal Notes**

I was at Senior Night for the basketball players and managers a week or so ago and at NHS Induction a few weeks before that. While at both events, I was thinking about how so many of our seniors are going through their "lasts". Last games, swim meets, club meetings. Last Ash Wednesday Service with us, last spring break, last Academic Awards Night and so on. At times, the reality of this sequence of "lasts" can give urgency to someone to have them really try to "drink life to the lees," as Tennyson's Ulysses says and as I quote alumni. Sometimes facing all of these lasts can essentially render a student academically catatonic - they can't see what's next and they are comfortable here and so as they slow down. That can be OK as long as they don't come to a halt. I often notice this nostalgia and excitement when Mr. Bright and I meet the seniors when everyone else is doing course selection - and they are held apart because they don't choose classes with us. We do some necessary paperwork for caps and gowns and hope to impress on them that "the measure of your character is how you finish anything." I, too, get nostalgic with them as they go through their last spring at DeMatha.

Daniel J. McMahon, Ph.D.

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

**United Way #8392 CFC #89951 Maryland Charity Campaign #520607798 SAT CEEB #210660**

## Academic Matters

### Summer School



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, 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. 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. Please note that Biology, Chemistry and Physics are **not** offered in DeMatha's Summer School.

Please take the summer school dates into consideration when making vacation plans. Summer school:

**Monday, June 18 through Friday, 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.

**Support the DeMatha Fund!** The DeMatha 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. Please see "Support DeMatha" on the website, or contact Mr. Tom Ponton at 240-764-2222 or [tponton@dematha.org](mailto:tponton@dematha.org).

## DPO Parent Matters

- ◆ Plan to attend the DPO Parent Meeting & Social on **Thursday, March 1**, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. in the Kilby Lounge for a fun adult night with complimentary food, drinks and music. This is the kick off day to purchase the winning ticket for the DPO Tuition Raffle with a chance to win a credit of \$10,000 towards your son's 2018-2019 tuition!
- ◆ Muffin Madness will be held on **Thursday, March 15**. Junior and senior families are asked to donate homemade or store bought muffins and deliver them to the lobby before classes. This event is to celebrate our DM teachers and staff.
- ◆ Senior Parents: Class of 2018 Graduation DVD order forms are available on the website and in the Main Office.
- ◆ Save the Date: The 17th Annual Mother/Son Luncheon will be held on **Sunday, April 22**, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. in the Antler Room.

## Junior/Senior

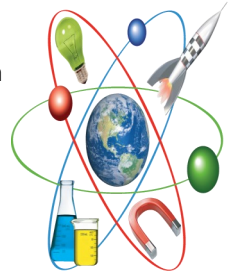


### Prom

The prom will be held on **Friday, May 4**, at the College Park Marriott Hotel & Conference Center, University of Maryland, 3501 University Blvd East, Adelphi, MD, 20783, from 7:00-12:00 a.m. Formal attire is required. Check-in begins at 6:30 p.m. Dinner will be served at 7:30 p.m. **No entry after 8:30 p.m.** Students may not leave until 11:30 p.m. Tickets will be available in the Business Office in St. John DeMatha Hall, **Monday, March 12 thru Friday, April 20**, for \$75 per person. Payment by cash or check. **No refunds!**

## Science Expo

On **Thursday, March 15**, the annual Science Expo & Dinner will take place. The Expo project is required for chemistry students.



Forms and information have been handed to students. To increase the degree of scientific skills, the process of completing a science project has been divided into several stages. Information and due dates for forms, research plans, the abstract and backboards have been given to the students. Information on forms and requirements for students will be on the school website in January. Backboards for projects are available afterschool in February, Monday-Thursday in Rm106. Backboards-\$6.

**Wednesday, March 14:** Projects set up.

**Thursday, March 15:** Judging and interviews with dinner (optional) and guest lecture program. Viewing 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.

**Friday, March 16:** Projects removed.

## Science Expo Dinner

The Science Dinner (optional) & Lecture Program will take place on **Thursday, March 15**, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Dinner ticket prices are \$10 for students and \$15 for adults. Hank Stawinski, DeMatha Class of '86, Chief of Police, for the Prince George's County Police Department will be the guest speaker and an awards presentation will follow the dinner and speaker.

**Music Matters**



All are invited to attend!

**March 16:** PG Band Festival, Symphonic (3:15 p.m.) & Wind Ensemble (4:40 p.m.), Northwestern High School.

**March 17:** PG Orchestra Festival, Sinfonia (4:00 p.m.), Northwestern High School.

**March 21:** Jazz Lab & Ensemble, Hyattsville Middle School, 7:30 p.m.

**April 4 OR 5:** Parent meeting for music trip, Antler Room, 7:30 p.m.

**April 12-15:** Music Department Trip

**April 26:** Concert Bands & PEI Concert, Bladensburg High School, 7:30 p.m.

**May 2:** Spring Sing, Convocation Center, 7:00 p.m.

**May 3:** Symphonic Band, PEI I, & APE, Bladensburg High School, 7:00 p.m.

**May 7:** Orchestras Concert, Bladensburg High School, 7:30 p.m.

**May 10:** Wind Ensemble, Northwestern High School, 7:30 p.m.

**College Board & SAT**

Register for the SAT online at [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org). The SAT Test CEEB for DeMatha is 210660.

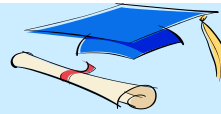
**Test Date & Registration Deadline**

(Late registration is available)

March 10, 2018	Feb. 9, 2018
May 5, 2018	April 6, 2018
June 2, 2018	May 3, 2018

The last after-school **SAT Prep** courses of the year begins April 9. Classes are limited and seniors will be given preference. Registration forms are located in the Counseling Center and online.

**Senior**



**Calendar**

Graduation gowns, announcements and name cards will be purchased by the school as this is included as part of your graduation fee. Graduation tickets and announcements will be distributed at the MANDATORY Senior Parent Meeting on **Thursday, April 12**, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Antler Room. An informational letter will be sent home in March with more details.

March 16- Senior Service Papers due  
 April 12 - Senior Parent meeting  
 May 7-18 - AP Exams  
 May 3 - Senior Exit Interview due  
 May 4 - Prom - optional  
 May 4 - No classes - seniors  
 May 16-18 - Senior exams  
 May 17 - Graduation practice 10:45  
 May 17 - Grades updated for seniors  
 May 18 - Faculty-Senior Dinner, 6:00  
 May 21-23 - College Prep Program  
 May 24 - May 31 - No classes - seniors  
 May 30-Graduation practice, 12:00noon  
 May 30 - Baccalaureate Mass, 4:00 p.m.  
 June 1 - Graduation, Shrine, 9:00 a.m.  
 June 30 - Parent Exit Interview Due

Official diplomas can be picked up in the Main Office, **Monday, June 11**.

**DeMatha Players**

The DeMatha Players will present an adaptation of William Golding's **Lord of the Flies**, **Friday, April 27** at 8:00 p.m., **Saturday, April 28** at 2:00 p.m., and **Sunday, April 29**, at 2:00 p.m. at the Bowie Center for the Performing Arts. Tickets \$5, available online, in the Staff Store or at the door.

**Senior Information**

On **Thursday, April 12**, there will be a **mandatory senior parent meeting** beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Antler Room. End of the year responsibilities and calendars will be reviewed. Graduation tickets and announcements will be distributed. The school provides 25 announcements, 12 graduation tickets, 6 Baccalaureate tickets, caps and gowns which are included in the senior graduation fee. If you are interested in purchasing additional announcements at \$1 each or are looking for additional tickets, email [mkerley@dematha.org](mailto:mkerley@dematha.org). If you are unable to attend the meeting, you must contact Mr. Bright at 240-764-2227.

**Academic Awards Night**

On **Wednesday, April 25**, beginning at 7:30 p.m., we will celebrate the academic achievements of our students. All stu-



dents who have been on the Honor Roll, Academic Dean's List, or Principal's List for three consecutive quarters (1st quarter, 1st semester and 3rd quarter) will be awarded lapel pins. In addition, special awards will be given to seniors graduating with honors (a cumulative 3.0 average) and with highest honors (a cumulative 3.8 average). Also receiving recognition will be students who have achieved excellence in other academic pursuits. Attendance is by invitation only. If you receive an invitation, please RSVP in a timely manner to [ddavis@dematha.org](mailto:ddavis@dematha.org).

**Service Reminders:** All service hours are expected to be turned in no later than the end of the month in which they were completed. Any service hours completed during the 1st semester will not be accepted. Senior service hours were due **February 16**. The required Senior Reflection Paper is due on **March 16**. Service hours for freshmen, sophomores and juniors are due **Friday, May 18**. Students must have completed and submitted the hours required for their class year using the online system. Links and information have been emailed to students and are on the DeMatha website, under Christian Service Program. A reminder that students who do not complete their required hours will be assigned additional summer school hours and will be required to complete those summer school hours before returning to DeMatha. Freshmen owe 5 hours, sophomores owe 10 hours and juniors owe 20 by **May 18**. See pp 37-38 in the student handbook or the Christian Service website for clarification. Questions concerning requirements and hours should be directed to the Campus Ministry Office at [240-764-2260](tel:240-764-2260).

**Lenten Project:** Our Lenten Drive this year supports Catholic Relief Services through their Rice Bowl program. The Rice Bowl is Catholic Relief Services' Lenten Faith-in-Action program which collects money for various needs in specific countries. This year, we are collecting for programs in Iraq, Burkina Faso, Nicaragua and Haiti. There are small cardboard boxes all over campus; we invite students and faculty to drop their spare change or a few dollars into the boxes throughout Lent in support of those in need. We will be having a Tag Day on **Thursday, February 22** to support this organization. Please support our efforts supporting the most vulnerable.



## Art & Photography Show

All are invited to attend the 12th Annual Student, Staff, Alumni and Parents Art & Photography Show and Reception, **Sunday, April 22**, from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Parents are invited to participate. Artists must submit their work - paintings, drawings, photography, printmaking, sculpture, mixed media and digital works framed and ready for hanging. Artwork must be delivered to the Art Center no later than **Friday, March 16**. Please contact Mr. Holsey to set up a drop off time, 240-764-2261 or [vholsey@dematha.org](mailto:vholsey@dematha.org).



## Ray Smith Golf Tournament

Join alumni, parents and friends at the 30th Annual Ray Smith Golf Classic on **Friday, April 27** at Renditions Golf Club, Davidsonville, raising funds to benefit the Fr. Michael Malloy Scholarship Fund at DeMatha. Continental breakfast, greens fee and cart, happy hour, dinner, prizes and gift bag are included in your \$225 per person player (\$900 per four-some) registration. Sponsorships are also available. See the Alumni page on DeMatha's website for information or to register online. Have fun and support our students too!



**Spring Break**  
**March 26 - April 2**

**Report Absence Directly**

**240-764-2230**

## Calendar 2018 Continued from pg 1

### March 17

PG Orchestra Festival

### March 21

NHS Blood Drive

Jazz Concert

### March 23

Grades Published

March Service Hours Due

### March 26 - March 30

Easter Break - No Classes

### April 2

No Classes

### April 3

Classes Resume

### April 4 & April 5

Music Parent Trip Meeting

## AP Exams

Advanced Placement (AP) Exams will take place **Monday, May 7** through **Friday, May**

**18**. Students must be registered by submitting payment to be permitted to take his exam(s). Payment is due by **Friday, March 16**, and a Pre-Administration Session will be held during the school day on **April 19**. If your son is participating, please encourage him to be prepared and well rested. If you have any questions concerning AP testing, please contact Mr. Garrett at 240-764-2229 or [tgarett@dematha.org](mailto:tgarett@dematha.org).

