

DeMATHA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Faith-Filled Gentlemen and Scholars

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

October 2018

October 2

Blazer Sale

October 3

Tag Day - Walk-a-Thon

October 5

Grades Updated

Walk-a-Thon

October 6

SAT Test

October 8

School & Offices Closed

October 9

Full Uniform Required

October 10

Standardized Testing for

9th, 10th & 11th

No Classes 12th Grade

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DeMatha Matters

Volume 11, Issue 3

Student Progress



Student progress will be updated through Veracross. Every student has a Veracross account. Questions concerning student progress should be directed to the teacher first. See the website for contact information. The first date for publishing grades for parents to view on Veracross is **Friday, October 5**. Seniors with more than 3 failing grades at the end of the first semester will be required to withdraw from DeMatha at the conclusion of the semester. Any questions regarding this policy should be directed to Mrs. Maureen Ritz.

Weather Related Information



DeMatha follows Prince George's County for delayed openings of one or two hours and school closings only. In cases of an early dismissal for Prince George's County schools, DeMatha will make an independent decision. Please listen to WTOP 103.5 FM, News Channel 8, check the website and be attentive to parent alert emails. Bus transportation updates are found on the website and through parent alert emails.

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.

Principal Notes

Almost everyday I learn something new (or maybe I am re-learning things that I have forgotten). When I teach a text I have never taught or come back to one I haven't taught in a while I will often have some small anxiety about whether it will work. I think it is important for us to continue to try new things for our own growth and, in my case, it helps remind me that for all of my students, everything is brand new each year. At retreats this summer, Mr. Turk taught all of the faculty there how to play the handbells. We had to learn the terminology, the various rhythms, the proper holding and ringing of a bell to dampen sound or extend it and lots more. I thought to myself that this is what it must be like for my students as I use the technical vocabulary of my discipline with which I am familiar but my students are not. The chance to learn new things everyday - I suspect that's one big reason I still love to come to school after all these years. One DeMatha.

Pax,

Dr. Daniel J. McMahon

REPORT ABSENCE DIRECTLY
240-764-2230

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Academic Awards Night

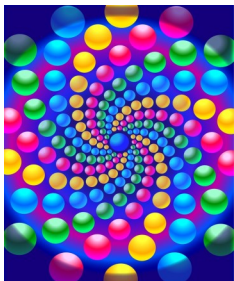
Academic Awards Night is scheduled for **Wednesday, May 1**. All students who have been on the Honor Roll, Academic Dean's List, or Principal's List for three consecutive quarters (1st quarter, 1st semester and 3rd quarter) will be awarded lapel pins. In addition, special awards will be given to seniors 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 a variety of other academic pursuits. Attendance is by invitation only.

REPORT ABSENCE

240-764-2230

Instrumental Music Booster Gala Fundraiser

Join us on **Saturday, October 13**, at 7:30 p.m., as four esteemed music directors and over two hundred young musicians will come together to form ten specialized ensembles performing popular, light musical pieces across three separate stages in the LT (SEAL) Brendan Looney '99 Convocation Center at the sixth annual **Kaleidoscope Concert**. Beginning at 6:15 p.m., enjoy hors d'oeuvres, refreshments, and a cash bar while supporting the DeMatha Instrumental Music Program. Advertise your business or support a musician by placing an ad in our concert Playbill. Please see the website for information.



Parent Matters

- ◆ The next meeting of the DeMatha Parent Organization (DPO) will take place on **Tuesday, October 23**, at 7:00 p.m. in the Antler Room. Everyone is invited to attend. For additional information, please visit the DPO webpage at www.dematha.org.

Mandatory Standardized

Testing - Wednesday, Oct. 10

All 9th, 10th, and 11th grades will be taking the PSAT. Students must arrive by 8:15 am in full uniform with two, #2 pencils. Approved calculators are permitted and encouraged; however, not required for the math portion of the exam. Testing will end by 12:30 pm. Students with approved accommodations will end by 1:35 pm. There will be no after school waiting room and the cafeteria will be closed. Check the website for transportation adjustments. Seniors do not have school; however, seniors are welcome to come in to work on college applications from 1:00-3:00 pm in Rm 202. The third personal statement/college essay workshop will take place earlier in the day from 8:15 am-12:00 noon in the cafeteria.

State Nonpublic Textbook & Technology Program

In 2017-2018, \$56,225 in state funds was used to obtain new servers for computer labs, new network switches, and new projectors for classrooms. MD Nonpublic Student Textbook Program has provided tremendous support allowing DM to update and improve technology without any additional student fees. Please thank your state officials for this funding, and encourage them to continue their support for nonpublic education.

Course Expectations & Veracross

Faculty have been asked to post course expectation sheets on their class website under the **Resources** tab in Veracross. Please notify the Principal's office if there is no course expectation sheet posted. If you are having trouble accessing Veracross, please click **Parents** on the DeMatha website, and then select **Veracross Information** on the left.

Cafeteria Optional



Payment Plan

See the website under quick links for instructions on the optional cafeteria payment plan and weekly cafeteria specials.

Support through Giant

Our sincere thanks to all who have supported us in the past and we hope you will continue to do so. Our NEW supporters should register at www.giantfood.com. The DeMatha ID number is 00583. Those previously registered DO NOT need to register again. Thank you for your support!

Yearbook Pictures

Yearbook pictures will be taken on **Thursday, October 11**, for **9th, 10th, and 11th grades**. Information with order forms will be available in the main office and on our website. All students must be in full uniform and have a free photo taken for the yearbook. **Seniors** - Photographers will be at DM on **Thursday, November 15**, to take pictures. Any senior who has not had a picture taken **MUST** make an appointment and have his picture taken on this day. Contact Legacy Studios customer-care@legacystudios.com or **800-348-4360**, to schedule your appointment.



Workplace Giving

DeMatha will participate in the following campaigns: the United Way (#8392), Combined Federal Campaign (#89951), Maryland Charity Campaign, DC Government's One Fund, America's Charities, and others. Contributions are tax deductible and donors are recognized in the DeMatha Annual Report. Call Mrs. McCart in the Development Office at 240-764-2221 for questions.

Lead Mandates

In order to comply with Maryland state law, DeMatha has completed lead testing in all water access points. Results of the lead testing can be found on the DeMatha website, www.dematha.org.

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Lead
207.2

ACT & 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)

Oct. 6, 2018	Sept. 7, 2018
Nov. 3, 2018	Oct. 5, 2018
Dec. 1, 2018	Nov. 2, 2018
Mar. 9, 2019	Feb. 8, 2019

DeMatha offers after-school **SAT Prep** courses throughout the year for \$50 for the verbal course, \$50 for the math course or \$90 for both. Classes are limited to 25 students and seniors will be given preference. Registration forms are located in the Counseling Center and online. SAT Prep class dates will be announced and posted in the Daily Bulletin.

Bus Transportation DeMatha operates bus routes servicing the following areas: 1) Annapolis-Bowie, 2) Dunkirk-Upper Marlboro, 3) Charles County - Ft. Washington, 4) Montgomery County, 5) Eastern Market, - AM only, 6) Eastern Market - PM only, 7) Howard County/Laurel, and 8) St. Peter's/Waldorf. **For updates, information regarding times, routes and costs, check our website under DeMatha Quicklinks/Bus Transportation.** Call Mr. Tony DeStefano at 301-327-5390 or email transportation@dematha.org for more information. Please respect the bus drivers as you would respect school staff. If a student is disciplined for an infraction, the parents shall still be responsible for payment of all fees for transportation services. **No refunds will be given.** Thank you for your cooperation. For billing questions: 240-764-2216 or ametz@dematha.org. For general questions and weather-related messages: 240-764-2200. For technology issues: ckeplinger@dematha.org. All routing/general information questions: Tony DeStefano – 301-327-5390 or transportation@dematha.org

Shuttle - College Park Metro
Free shuttle service to the College Park Metro station, Rt. 1 side of Calvert St. Pick up daily at 7:45 a.m. and depart DM 3:10 p.m. on regular school days. Delayed Opening days of two hours, pick up time will be 9:45 a.m. For early dismissal days, depart DM at 1:05 p.m.

Shuttle - College Park Metro

Free shuttle service to the College Park Metro station, Rt. 1 side of Calvert St. Pick up daily at 7:45 a.m. and depart DM 3:10 p.m. on regular school days. Delayed Opening days of two hours, pick up time will be 9:45 a.m. For early dismissal days, depart DM at 1:05 p.m.

Daily Mass

Mass will take place daily at 7:45 a.m. in the chapel. All are welcome to attend to spend some time in prayer every day. We do suggest, if you are interested in attending mass, please call to verify that we have not had a schedule change.

Discipline Matters

- ◆ **Full uniform** will be required on **Tuesday, October 9**. All students are expected to be wearing navy or maroon blazers, solid color dress shirts, dress gray or khaki DM pants, belt, socks, tie and specific dress shoes. **Students are also required to be clean shaven. Facial hair is NOT permitted except neatly groomed mustaches.**
- ◆ Students may not wait for rides on the front steps of the school or in the rear parking lot. Students may not leave school grounds and return to meet their rides.
- ◆ Students not involved in an official school activity are required to leave the school by 3:15 p.m. on regular days and by 1:15 p.m. on early dismissal days.
- ◆ **After-School Waiting Room**
Open from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in Rm. 202 on regular school days and from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. on early dismissal days, except holiday week ends. There is no charge.
- ◆ **After-School Study Hall** Study Hall is in the library from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m., Monday - Thursday on regular school days. No books can be checked out at this time.
- ◆ **Uniforms** Students may wear the warm weather uniform until **Tuesday, October 9**. The DM polo shirt is only available in the DM bookstore. See the Student Handbook for specific uniform requirements. Our school uniform company, Potomac Clothing, will be holding a blazer sale on **Tuesday, October 2**, from 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. in the library. 301-339-8466 or www.DeMathaUniforms.com.

Christian Service

Hour Verification System

Students are required to complete Christian service hours each year at DeMatha. All students who had re-registered by the end of April were sent a letter with information from Campus Ministry on the service hour requirements for the 2018-2019 school year. Christian service hours can only be submitted by students via their DM email accounts. Instructions, service opportunities and suggestions, and links to submit hours can be found on the Christian Service page on the DM website: <http://bit.ly/DMChristianService>

All juniors and seniors need to work with organizations that fulfill their specific yearly requirement. Pre-approved service locations for each grade are listed on the Campus Ministry website for your reference. **Please do not complete projects without checking to see if they fulfill the requirement first!!!** For community service concerns, your son should visit the Campus Ministry Office or see pages 36 - 38 in the Student Handbook. Please email all questions about deadlines and opportunities to Mrs. Bright at ebright@dematha.org. Be sure to identify your son's graduation year in the email.

Coat Drive

CMO's Annual Winter

Coat Drive will be POSTPONED until January when organizations are most in need of coats and winter accessories. More information will be sent after Christmas break.



Attendance

- ◆ **Lost and Found:** Lost and Found is located in the Attendance Office.
- ◆ Every student should have a Student Handbook. Please review the handbook with your son.
- ◆ We have incorporated "strategic long weekends" along with the holiday breaks. We hope you will use these weekends for college visits, medical appointments, etc.

October 8 & October 26

November 12

November 21 - November 23

Thanksgiving Holiday

December 24 - January 4

Christmas Holiday

January 21 & January 25

February 1 & February 4

February 18

March 25 - March 29

April 18 - April 22

Easter Break

May 27

Service Every February, the CMO runs a service trip for juniors and seniors to the Romero Center in Camden, NJ. The Romero Center is an outreach ministry that provides Catholic education and service retreat experiences in urban poverty. DeMatha partners with Elizabeth Seton High School to bring students together for a weekend of compassion, justice, education and fellowship. Sign ups for juniors and seniors interested in this trip will begin on October 16; applications can be picked up in the CMO. Questions contact ebright@dematha.org

October 2018

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October 11

Yearbook Pictures 9th, 10th, 11th

October 13

Kaleidoscope Concert

October 18

Tag Day

October 19

End 1st Quarter

October 22

Grades Posted

October 23

Parent Organization Meeting

October 25

NHS Candidate Information Due

Grades Published

Bonfire

October 26

School & Offices Closed

Cyber School

October 29

Food Drive Begins

Report Cards Distributed

October 31

October Service Hours Due

Asbestos Management Plan

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.