

# DeMATHA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

*Faith-Filled Gentlemen and Scholars*

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

## September 2018

### September 3

School & Offices Closed

### September 4

Back-to School Night

### September 6

Student ID Make-Ups

### September 8

Men of DM Cookout

Voices Retreat

### September 10

Opening Liturgy

SAT Prep Class Begins

### September 11

Instrumental Music Parent

Meeting

### September 12

Chorus Parent Meeting

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## DeMatha Matters

Volume 11, Issue 2

### 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, September 14**. 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

Welcome Back! We are excited to start the new school year. The campus really doesn't come alive until the students are here. Student orientation, Parent Coffees, Back-to-School Night and various program-specific meetings crowd the days and nights and I am extremely grateful for your attendance at so many things. The campus is undergoing several upgrades in safety and we'll be adopting camera and buzz-in systems for the building, directing all pedestrian traffic up Madison Street, and implementing a messaging app called **CrisisGo**. Thematically, we are thinking about how "our lives are shaped by people we have never met." We hope to spend some time thinking about that with humility—how much we don't know; and optimistically - every interaction is our change to be shaped for the better and to shape someone else for the better.

Pax,

Dr. Daniel J. McMahon

### Back-to-School Night

On **Tuesday, September 4**, we will hold our Back-to-School Night for all 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grade parents at 7:00 p.m. in the LT (SEAL) Brendan Looney Convocation Center. Students should NOT attend.

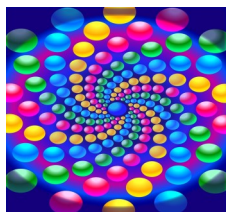
## Academic Awards Night

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

- ◆ Men of DeMatha Cookout Saturday, **September 8**, from 12:00–2:00 p.m. Rain or shine in the Courtyard. DM students, fathers, grandfathers, uncles, male guardians are welcome to attend. Free food and fellowship.
- ◆ The first meeting of the year for the DeMatha Parent Organization (DPO) will take place on **Tuesday, September 25**, from 7:00-8:00 p.m. in the Antler Room. Everyone is invited to attend. For additional information, please visit the DPO webpage at [www.dematha.org](http://www.dematha.org).
- ◆ The first bake sale will be held **Friday, September 28**, sponsored by the freshmen class. Each freshmen family is asked to donate baked homemade or store bought goods wrapped for individual sale in baggies or plastic wrap. All items sell for 50 cents. Whole cakes or pies are welcomed. Deliver the baked goods to the cafeteria in the morning before classes.

## MD 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. For several years, Maryland's Nonpublic Student Textbook Program has provided tremendous support in allowing DeMatha to update and improve technology in the school without any additional student fees. Please thank your state officials for this funding, and encourage them to continue their support for nonpublic education in the coming years.

## 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.

## Ring Measurements



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

on **Wednesday, September 19**, and **Thursday, September 20**, during lunch periods. A deposit is required.

## Homecoming Activities

**Friday, September 28**, Football vs Avalon School @ PG Sports & Learning Complex, 7:00 p.m. **Saturday, September 29**, Homecoming Dance 7:30-11:00

p.m. in the old gym. Interested in assisting with chaperoning, set up or clean up, contact [dpo@dematha.org](mailto:dpo@dematha.org). An announcement will be made when tickets are to go on sale in the Main Office. Couples will be \$50, single tickets \$30 each.



## 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.

## Parking

Spaces have been assigned. **Please do not park in numbered or reserved spaces when you visit the school.** Please DO NOT park in the faculty parking lot. Visitor spots are located in front of the school, closest to Route 1.

## ACT & SAT Information

Register for the SAT online [www.collegeboard.org](http://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. First class begins Sept. 10.

**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](mailto: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](mailto:ametz@dematha.org). For general questions and weather-related messages: 240-764-2200. For technology issues: [ckeplinger@dematha.org](mailto:ckeplinger@dematha.org). All routing/general information questions: Tony DeStefano – 301-327-5390 or [transportation@dematha.org](mailto:transportation@dematha.org)

**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 is Potomac Clothing, 301-339-8466 or [www.DemathaUniforms.com](http://www.DemathaUniforms.com) Potomac Clothing will be available at Back-to-School Night, on **Tuesday, September 4., 7:00 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.

## Senior Parents

Mandatory meeting **Wednesday, September 13, 7:00 p.m.** in the Antler Room. Graduation, college applications, and more will be discussed. A parent or guardian from each family is expected to attend.

## 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.

## 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](mailto:ebright@dematha.org). Be sure to identify your son's graduation year in the email.

### Daily Mass

The celebration of daily mass will take place 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 not a student and interested in attending mass, please call to verify that we have not had a change in the schedule.



## 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 18**

**March 25 - March 29**

**April 18 - April 22**  
Easter Break

**May 27**

**REPORT ABSENCE DIRECTLY**

**240-764-2230**

## Physicals

All players **MUST** register online, on their ATS account and upload physicals onto their profile. **This is the only way physicals will be accepted.** Physical forms will **NOT** be accepted on the first day of practice. Students not completely registered on ATS will not be permitted to practice. Instructions for the ATS system are found on the DM website under athletics/forms. Any questions, please contact Adrienne Faircloth 240-764-2253 or [afaircloth@dematha.org](mailto:afaircloth@dematha.org).

## September 2018

*Cont. from pg 1*

### September 13

Senior Parent Meeting Mandatory

### September 14

Grades Updated

Last Day Drop/Add Courses

### September 14 & 15

Urban Plunge Service Trip

### September 19

Religious Liberty Prayer Service

### September 19 & 20

Ring Measurements

### September 22

Senior Booster Crab Feast

### September 25

Parent Organization Meeting

### September 28

Bake Sale Freshmen Contribute

Homecoming Football

### September 29

Homecoming Dance

### September 30

September 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.