

DeMATHA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Faith-Filled Gentlemen and Scholars

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

September 2019

September 2

School & Offices Closed

September 3

Back-to School Night

September 5

Student Chip ID's

September 7

Men of DM Cookout

September 9

Opening Liturgy

September 10

Instrumental Music Parent

Meeting

September 11

Chorus Parent Meeting

September 12

Senior 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 updated grades for parents to view on Veracross is **Friday, September 13**. 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 Mr. Andrew Bright.

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

Happy New Year! There has been such a good feel to the opening of the year - the students have been really good and accommodating as we have bounced through a couple of unexpected periods of turbulence. The ID cards with chips in them that were ordered last spring did not arrive as scheduled. They won't arrive until this week. The chip will allow us to give students access to buildings and use in the cafeteria. We will all be wearing our ID's on lanyards this year. We are adjusting to the new schedule and how we manage crowds at lunch - but these are all ordinary issues and, as I indicated, the students have been very patient and helpful. I am looking forward to getting past these "urgent" matters so that we can focus on the "important" matters of helping develop Faith-filled Gentlemen and Scholars.

Pax,

Dr. Daniel J. McMahon

Back-to-School Night

Tuesday, September 3, is Back-to-School Night for all 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grade parents from 7:00-9:00. New format this year. Students should NOT attend. Begin in your son's Period 1 class. Schedules will be available.

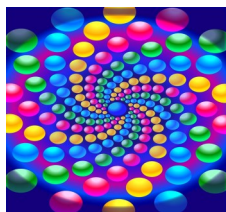
Academic Awards Night

Academic Awards Night is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 29**. 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 12**, at 7:30 p.m., as five esteemed music directors and over two hundred young musicians will come together to form eleven 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 7**, 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 24**, 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.
- ◆ The first bake sale will be held **Friday, September 20**, 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 2018-2019, \$55,640 in state funds was used to obtain additional chrome books, software licenses, replacement projectors for the science wing and an updated sound system for the cafeteria. 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.

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. For the first 2 weeks of school, through September 6, students buying lunch must be prepared to pay with **CASH ONLY** as we convert to a chip ID card system.

Ring Measurements Any junior or senior interested in purchasing a school ring, measurements will take place on **Wednesday, September 18**, and **Thursday, September 19**, during lunch periods. A deposit is required. More information will follow.

Homecoming Activities

Friday, September 27, Football vs Life Christian Academy at PG Sports & Learning Complex, 7:00 p.m. **Saturday, September 28**, Homecoming Dance 7:30-11:00 p.m. in the



old gym. Interested in assisting with chap-eroning contact 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. The SAT Test dates and registration deadlines for the year are as follows:

CEEB# 210660

Test Date & Registration Deadline

(Late registration is available)

Oct. 5, 2019	Sept. 6, 2019
Nov. 2, 2019	Oct. 3, 2019
Dec. 7, 2019	Nov. 8, 2019
Mar. 14, 2020	Feb. 14, 2020
May 2, 2020	Apr. 3, 2020
June 6, 2020	May 8, 2020

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 Monday, October 7.

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. Andrew Eck at 240-764-2194 or email aeck@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: Andrew Eck - 240-764-2194 or aeck@dematha.org.

Uniforms Students may wear the warm weather uniform until **Friday, October 11**. 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. Potomac Clothing will be available at Back-to-School Night, on **Tuesday, September 3, 7:00 p.m. Full uniform - October 15.**

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 **Thursday, September 12, 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 15**. 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 2019-2020 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>

Students 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 38 - 40 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.

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 14 & October 25

November 11

November 27 - November 29
Thanksgiving Holiday

December 23 - January 3
Christmas Holiday

January 13

January 20 & January 24

February 17

March 23 - March 27

April 9 - April 13
Easter Break

May 25

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.

September 2019

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September 13

Grades Updated

Last Day Drop/Add Courses

September 13 & 14

Urban Plunge Service Trip

September 18 & 19

Ring Measurements

September 20

Bake Sale Freshmen Contribute

September 24

Parent Organization Meeting

September 26

Homecoming Bonfire

September 27

Trinitarian Celebration

Homecoming Football

September 28

Homecoming Dance

September 30

September Service Hours Due

Asbestos Management Plan & Lead Monitoring

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.