

## **He Is Risen Indeed!**

Spring is definitely in the air. As new life springs up all around us, it is refreshing to know exactly where the source of all life comes. We just celebrated Resurrection Sunday, otherwise coined Easter, which to the world is a holiday filled with jellybeans and bunnies. But for us believers, we know there is so much more to Easter—and we find meaning from an empty tomb.



The tomb's emptiness ironically fills our lives with purpose. Our own emptiness is filled with the love of our Father, the gift of grace, and the sacrifice of our Savior. A tomb to us represents life! I love God's creative vision!

Likewise, it is great to call out "He is risen!" For as I look at the budding trees and blooming flowers, it appears to me that even His creation during the spring bursts with verdant growth and beauty, seemingly responding, "He is risen indeed!"

Remember to read our monthly newsletters and to frequently check our website, [www.dcs4you.org](http://www.dcs4you.org), so you can stay abreast of news and upcoming events as well as discover academic successes and outreach opportunities within DCS and our community.

- Principal Zach Davidson

## **Recent News and Updates**

**FINE ARTS FAIR and OPEN HOUSE:** On April 5<sup>th</sup>, our K-12 students showcased their many talents at an open house Fine Arts Fair. Attendees were graced with many opportunities to use their senses of sight, hearing, touch, smell, and taste to explore what students have accomplished this year. Features included individual elementary kids playing musical instruments, secondary students performing original songs they wrote themselves with the guidance of professional musician Ellen Whyte, eating scrumptious cookies baked and served by the Home Ec. class, getting their face painted by the cast of *Cinderella Confidential*, watching Rube-Goldberg machines demonstrate force and motion, and viewing skillful art work created by the entire student body. This event presented a wonderful collection of items demonstrating the many gifts of our students, hard work of our teachers, and the creativity of our own God.

**ELEMENTARY SPRING CONCERT:** On April 18<sup>th</sup>, elementary students donned masks of dogs, cats, and other farm animals to fill the auditorium with the sound of music. Family and friends listened to the elementary classes perform a collection of songs in this spring's concert turned musical, while the 4<sup>th</sup> grader class demonstrated their growth and musical knowledge using recorders.

**JOIN US IN PRAYER:** Please keep DCS in your prayers as we move into the spring. Although it feels a little like the school year may be wrapping up, things really are vamping up. Please pray for wisdom as we evaluate new students seeking admissions, as we seek to fill our vacant teaching positions in social studies, Bible and math, and as we conclude our Spring Fundraiser.

If you are interested in corporately praying with other parents for our school, please join Linda Urbanowski each Wednesday from 2:15 – 3:00 P.M. in the prayer room.

## Upcoming Events

**FEED THE NEED FUNDRAISER:** We are combining our local fundraising efforts with an outreach opportunity to provide and pack 10,000 meals for those in need in Haiti. We will be holding our packing party on May 11<sup>th</sup>.

As our annual fundraiser draws to a close, I encourage every family to make one last push to seek donations from neighbors and friends.



**MOTHER'S DAY SCRIP GIFTS:** Mother's Day is Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup>! Scrip is an easy way to support our school by purchasing gift cards for items that your family regularly purchases. You receive the gift cards to use as you would like, and DCS wins by receiving a certain % back for the purchase of the gift cards. Plan now to purchase gift cards as birthday presents, graduation gifts, and even Mother's Day gifts. Stop by the school office and support our school!



**OTHER IMPORTANT EVENTS AND DATES:** Just like at Christmas time, the end of the school year brings a number of events that fill the calendar. Please encourage your students to end the year academically strong and to enjoy their time with teachers and classmates before we depart for summer.

- National Day of Prayer – Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>
- *Cinderella Confidential* Drama Production – Friday–Saturday, May 3-4<sup>th</sup>
- District Track Meet – Friday—Saturday, May 10-11<sup>th</sup>

- Packing Party for Feed the Need Fundraiser – Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup>
- Mother's Day – Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup>
- Junior/Senior Dessert – Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 PM
- Spring Band Concert (5<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Graders) – Thursday, May 23<sup>th</sup>
- Memorial Day, No school – Monday, May 28<sup>th</sup>
- Promotions and graduations (see school calendar for age-level event and times)

## Parent Training: Improving Communication with Your Kids

*Jim Burns (President and Executive Director of the HomeWord Center for Youth and Family at Azusa Pacific University)*

As I've interacted with hundreds of parents over the years, I've come to the conclusion that if you are having trouble communicating with your kids, you are in the vast majority. Here are my five best tips for how to improve:

**1. Make mealtime family time.** A large amount of research has shown that teenagers who dine regularly at home with their families are more satisfied with life. They are better students, less likely to be sexually promiscuous, and tend to be less involved with drug and alcohol abuse. Families that dine together regularly are more connected to one another. Why? It's all about the communication that happens around the dinner table. Hectic schedules make dining together difficult, but the rewards are worth the effort.

**2. Make bedtime communication time.** I found that one of the best times to have good communication with my teens was their bedtime. This was a carryover from their younger years when we tucked them into bed and said a prayer. At bedtime I found them more in tune with talking about their day, their problems or whatever was on their mind. The relaxed atmosphere seems to work well for good communication. This is not a good time, however, for tougher conversations.

**3. Have parent-child dates or hangout times.** By the time kids are teenagers, they are very focused on their friends and peers. They are establishing their identities apart from Mom and Dad, but most are willing to do something fun with their parents; they still like to eat or shop. My habit was to have a monthly date with each of my children. Times like these create a relaxed atmosphere where communication comes easier.

**4. Walk around the block.** My good friend John Townsend, author and speaker extraordinaire, regularly took his sons on a walk around the block. At first they would complain, he said, but about the second time around the block "the floodgates of communication would open." Do whatever it takes to keep the communication lines open with your kids.

**5. Listen more, talk less.** Parents can find it challenging to really listen to their kids. It often seems easier to lecture and scold, but listening produces better results. Sometimes kids just want to talk and they aren't really looking for a parent's opinion or another lecture. When you feel you need to weigh in on a topic, it helps if you ask for your teen's permission to share your opinion. This gives them a feeling that you really care for and respect them. Remember, some of the best communication comes through listening. Listening is the language of love.

## Sport and Extra-Curricular Highlights

**SPRING DRAMA PRODUCTION:** We invite you to come and enjoy our comedic performance of *Cinderella Confidential*.

***About the play:***

This is a fresh, modern take on the classic tale of Cinderella that involves investigative reporters competing for the scoop of the century and getting interviews from everyone, including a fairy godmother in desperate need of a day-planner and mice in a witness protection program.



***Performance Dates:***

Performances are Friday and Saturday, May 3-4<sup>th</sup>. Auditorium doors open 30 minutes before the start of the performance.

***Tickets & Prices:***

You can pre-purchase tickets Thursday and Friday @ 2:45-3:30 P.M. in the church lobby or at the door on performance nights. Ticket prices do increase \$2 a piece if purchased at the door.

Pre-purchase prices:

- Adult: \$7
- Student/seniors 55+: \$5

**TRACK AND FIELD:** Rain or shine, approximately thirty junior high and high school student-athletes have been out practicing and performing at meets. Under the guidance of Coach Moses Wakefield, Coach Jennifer Manning, Coach Amanda Maddux and Coach Christa Hemmenway, these students have set personal records and look forward to districts at Portland Christian on May 10-11. We have several athletes poised to qualify for state and earn a place on the podium. Please consult our weekly Eagle Eye or the school website for upcoming meets, so you too can cheer on our Eagles as they jump, run, and throw their way to success.

## **Damascus Community Church**

**Sunday Services:** 8:15 & 11:00 AM

**Community Groups:** 9:45 AM

**Children's Sunday School:** 8:15, 9:45 & 11:00 AM

**Zachary Davidson**  
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