



# NEWSLETTER

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## **AN EXTENDED SEASON OF THANKS!**

We, the entire Divine Child staff, would like to extend a warm heartfelt thank you to all who remembered us so generously during the Christmas season. We appreciated the kind wishes, your delicious treats, and all the wonderful gifts. Thank you again from the bottom of our hearts and may God bless you a hundredfold!

## **THE BOOK FAIR IS COMING!**

The Parent Guild will be sponsoring another Book Fair during March. The Scholastic Book Company will be offering a variety of books for all grades. More information will be sent home regarding the Book Fair dates. The Book Fair is the week of March 7. If you could volunteer a few hours, we could use your help. Please volunteer on the DOVES Winter Resource Sheet.

## **STANDING OVATION FOR "ANNIE JR."**

Congratulations to the cast, crew and chorus members for their spectacular performances in "Annie Jr." on January 28, 29, and 30. The musical production was a five star performance. Special commendations to Mr. Dan Urbiel for recognizing and developing in our students the gifts that enable them to shine. A special thank you to all who worked so hard at sewing the costumes, building the extravagant sets, and monitoring back stage. Way to go students and Mr. Urbiel for sharing your talents with us and performing such a fantastic musical!

Applause! Applause! Standing Ovation!

## **WJR, WWJ and Channels 2, 4, 7**

As the season for inclement weather continues, the probability of school closings increases. Please note that radio stations WJR (760) and WWJ (950), as well as TV stations 2, 4, 7 carry regular announcements of area school closings. Visiting the [clickondetroit.com](http://clickondetroit.com) (channel 4 news) followed by the weather or going directly to [JustWeather.com](http://JustWeather.com) allows you to sign up for computer and/or phone text weather alerts and school closings. Divine Child Elementary School will be announced when school has been cancelled. Please DO NOT call the convent or the rectory to confirm what you have heard on the radio.

## **CONGRATULATIONS TO MATHCOUNTS**

In the beginning of the month, the MathCounts team competed and placed 3rd in the 2011 Chapter MathCounts Competition. The DC team members are Zachary Bustamante, Megan Schroeder, Olivia Stoops, and Rachel Szalay. They individually placed in the top ten out of forty competitors. Zachary Bustamante also qualified for the state competition. DC was the only team with all of our competitors in the top ten which certainly speaks to the hard work and dedication of both Mr. Sterbenz, their coach and our MathCounts students. Mr. Sterbenz mentioned that we were only a problem away from first place even with the first and second place students attending a MathCounts class every day. Our students are excellent! Congratulations to our MathCounts team and thank you for sharing your high leveled skills in math. You certainly are an inspiration!

## **2011 JUNIOR HIGH CAREER DAY**

The annual Junior High Career Day was held on Monday, January 24. The 7th and 8th grade students were very fortunate to spend the morning learning about six fascinating professions.

The speakers for this year's event were:

Reverend Father James Bilot - Catholic priest and pastor

Mr. Thomas Hoerauf - Special Education Teacher

Mr. Darrin Judd - Border Patrol Agent

Dr. Robert Malinowski - Emergency Room Physician

Mr. Ted Kulfan - Sports Writer

Judge Brian Zahra - Michigan Supreme Court Justice  
Our junior high students thoroughly enjoyed the morning and were most informed regarding these five career choices and one vocation. Thanks to all of the speakers that volunteered their time and shared their experiences. Career day was coordinated and sponsored by the DCES Parents' Guild.

**LETTERS OF ACCEPTANCE** from various high schools were received by eighth graders. Please remember that the two qualities of cooperation and a value for learning are of greater value to a high school than the High School Placement Test score. We hope that each student enters the school of choice and works with that school to develop his/her abilities to the hilt!

**REGISTRATION** for NEW students to the elementary school is continuing to take place. If a first grader is being enrolled, the child's birth certificate must be presented at the time of registration. The child must be six (6) by December 1, 2011.

**RE-REGISTRATION FORMS**

Re-registration forms for students continuing at DCES for 2011-2012 will be sent home during the third week of February. Please complete the entire form. The re-registration forms are due by Friday, February 25. The forms can be sent with your child and given to your child's homeroom teacher. The family registration check should be sent with the oldest child of the family.

After submitting the completed form/s and check, your child/children will be assured enrollment for the upcoming school year. If your child/children will NOT be returning, please submit the notice in writing to the child/children's homeroom teacher.

**REPORT CARDS** were distributed at the end of January. The card is an evaluation of school performance, both academic and social. Use it as a means of praise for maintenance and of encouragement for improvement. Conferences were held during Catholic Schools Week. Please continue an open communication with your child's teacher.

**A SUCCESSFUL OPEN HOUSE**

Thank you to all our staff, students and parents who helped make our Open House a success. The school was open for tours and there was plenty of time for answering all questions. The students performed and welcomed all our visitors. Everyone was impressed by our Divine Child spirit. Thank you again.

**WINTER IS HERE!**

Just a reminder to all parents that students should always come dressed appropriately for the weather. Gloves, hats, scarves, boots are a must for recess. Girls may slip wind pants under their skirts or jumpers to keep their legs warm. Students are scheduled to go outdoors after lunch as long as it is above 24°F. Only a child with a note is allowed to stay in.

**NON-UNIFORM DAYS**

Please note the monthly calendar and adhere to the dress code for special dress days. The peace shirt dress code consists of a peace shirt, windpants and tennis shoes. Slippers, sandals or high heels are not to be worn.

**SPORTS ELIGIBILITY**

In order to be eligible to participate in any extra-curricular activity including all sport teams, a student must have at least a 2.0 grade point average with satisfactory conduct. Please check the grade point average before signing for any team or activity.

**TUITION ASSISTANCE OPPORTUNITIES**

Financial assistance forms will be available in the school office. Details for most of the programs will be sent as a flyer through your child's homeroom.

<u>Program</u>	<u>Due</u>
Archdiocesan	4/10/11
Community Caring	3/11/11
Brighter Future	TBA

**WORDS OF COMMENDATION** are due to the DCES students who so generously remembered the poor during the Christmas Season. Thank you again for warming so many hearts and bodies during this winter. Our Giving Tree was covered with articles that warm the body. These items were donated to the various needy in Detroit.

**JUNIOR HIGH LUNCHEON**

On December 16, our Junior High Students enjoyed a Christmas Luncheon planned by their homeroom moms and student council. Not only did the students savor the delicious meal, but also enjoyed the festive atmosphere. Many thanks go out to the parents who helped with this event. Thank you to the Student Council and Miss Burns for the fun activities and the organization of the candy cane messages.

**JUNIOR HIGH SPIRIT**

The Divine Child Junior High Students and staff caught the true meaning of Jolly Old St. Nick. The Student Council sponsored a candy cane message sale in order to raise money for the needy. We are all proud of the Divine Child Junior High and their spirit of gift-giving this Christmas season. Our students have truly found that it is far better to give than to receive.

## CHRISTMAS CONCERT SUCCESS

Thank you to the Band and Chorus students who provided an excellent Christmas Concert in December. Thank you to Mrs. Christine Shefferly and Mr. Dan Urbiel for their fine direction and dedication. Once again the fine arts helped us get closer to the newborn King and appreciate all the fine talent at Divine Child.

## DC POETS

Ten DC students are published poets in the "Anthology of Poetry" by Young Americans. Congratulations to Justin Arriola, Quinn Brick, Lachlan Broekman, Catherine Charron, Amanda Kiefer, Rachel Mangulabnan, Abigail Neill, Isabella Torres, Elena Welker, and Jackson Wilkie. We are so proud of your fine writing abilities and are honored to have poets among us. Thank you for sharing your gift of writing poetry with the world. Congratulations and keep the writing coming!

## HONOR ROLL

Congratulations to our Second Quarter Honor Roll students. As a result of focusing on scholastics and monitoring their own behavior, 164 fifth through eighth grade students earned Honor Roll status: 47% of fifth graders, 49% of sixth graders, 43% of seventh graders and 40% of eighth graders. These students earned A's and B's and at least an S in conduct on their first quarter report card. Their hard work is both appreciated and acknowledged by the DCES Administration and Faculty. Congratulations Honor Roll Students! Look for your name displayed on the Honor Roll board.

## WAY TO GO CRYSTALLETES

The Crystalletes are a synchronized figure skating group of fourteen that skate out of the "DISC" in Dearborn. Eight of our very own DC students belong to this fabulous performing group: Natasha Ali, Alaina Celeski, Claire Corcoran, Natalie Duffy, Cecilia Rankin, Caterina Rea, Megan Sutton, and Isabella Torres. Congratulations girls on taking 1st Place in the Midwestern Championship Competition in Rochester, Minnesota on February 5. They traveled during the blizzard and made it there in enough time to compete. The next competition was in Ohio. They placed first again and brought home gold medals. Congratulations on all those fantastic gold medals. DC is shining bright!

## DC CHEER TEAM TAKES FIRST

The Divine Child junior high cheer team under the direction of Mrs. Angela Kraetke took 1st Place at the "Mellus News Herald" Invitational held at Grosse Isle and 1st Place in the Catholic League Competition held the following week at Ladywood. The team cheered against over 11 other teams. A great big thank you goes out to the following cheerleaders for their time and dedication to this sport: Madison Begin, Miranda Boulahanis, Brittney Colvard, Lauren Fudala, Laura Kastler, Ashlyn Kelly, Hanna Korpics, Juliana Latour, Emily McMichael, Julie Meyers, Annie Nelson, Faith Norwood, Shelby Robbins, Megan Schroeder, Alyssa Tocco, Cindy Vink, Olivia Wengrowski, and Shelby Wheeler. A special thank you to Mrs. Angela Kraetke, their coach, for all her assistance in leading our girls to such great heights. Congratulations girls on bringing home two 1st place trophies.  
GO DC CHEERLEADERS!

## DC HIGH SCORES IN BAND COMPETITION

At the end of January, eight Divine Child Elementary band students performed solos at the District 12 Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association Solo and Ensemble Festival. All eight students received either 1st Division or 2nd Division ratings earning them medals. Congratulation to :

Nicholas Dey-Oboe Solo - I  
Jonathan Lesinski-Violin Solo – I  
Nicholas Papanastasopoulos – Alto Saxophone Solo – II  
Thomas Papich – Piano Solo – II  
Christopher Prus – Snare Drum Solo – II  
Rachel Szalay – Trumpet Solo – II  
Evan Waskiewicz – Flute Solo – I  
Noah Welker – Violin Solo – I

Thank you for sharing your time and talents in the completion. DC is very proud of each of you. Way to go Band Students!

## SECOND GRADE RECONCILIATION

Saturday, February 19: Room 101 + Religious Ed.  
Saturday, February 26: Room 100 + Room 102  
Second graders who are receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation must be in church by 2:00 p.m. Please let us all remember them in our prayers as they receive this sacrament of healing for the very first time.

**2010-2011 IOWA Test Scores**

Teachers received the testing results for grades 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 who took the IOWA test in October. All grades were well above the average in their group composite test scores. The IOWA tests have been administered to all students in grades 3-7 in order to comply with the “No Child Left Behind” standards.

**IOWA Basic Skill Composite**

**Grade Equivalencies**

Grade 3 = 79 percentile

Reading:	75 percentile
Language:	70 percentile
Math:	66 percentile
Social Studies:	79 percentile
Science:	78 percentile
Sources of Info	80 percentile

4.0	Grade/Month
4.0	Grade/Month
3.7	Grade/Month
3.5	Grade/Month
4.4	Grade/Month
4.3	Grade/Month
4.2	Grade/Month

Grade 4 = 81 percentile

Reading:	81 percentile
Language:	79 percentile
Math:	86 percentile
Social Studies:	83 percentile
Science:	78 percentile
Sources of Info	87 percentile

6.2	Grade/Month
5.6	Grade/Month
5.7	Grade/Month
4.6	Grade/Month
6.0	Grade/Month
5.8	Grade/Month
6.2	Grade/Month

Grade 5 =74 percentile

Reading:	71 percentile
Language:	79 percentile
Math:	67 percentile
Social Studies:	83 percentile
Science:	71 percentile
Source of Info	73 percentile

6.7	Grade/Month
6.2	Grade/Month
7.4	Grade/Month
5.9	Grade/Month
7.6	Grade/Month
6.6	Grade/Month
6.6	Grade/Month

Grade 6 = 73 percentile

Reading:	86 percentile
Language:	80 percentile
Math:	68 percentile
Social Studies:	69 percentile
Science:	72 percentile
Sources of Info	8.6 percentile

7.9	Grade/Month
7.2	Grade/Month
9.2	Grade/Month
7.3	Grade/Month
7.7	Grade/Month
8.0	Grade/Month
8.6	Grade/Month

Grade 7 = 81 percentile

Reading:	78 percentile
Language:	86 percentile
Math:	75 percentile
Social Studies:	73 percentile
Science:	80 percentile
Sources of Info:	81 percentile

10.4	Grade/Month
9.5	Grade/Month
12.8	Grade/Month
12.8	Grade/Month
9.6	Grade/Month
11.0	Grade/Month
11.2	Grade/Month

**IOWA Cognitive Abilities**

**Composite**

Grade 3 = 60 percentile

Verbal:	66 percentile
Quantitative:	50 percentile
Non Verbal:	62 percentile

Grade 5 = 68 percentile

Verbal:	73 percentile
Quantitative:	61 percentile
Non Verbal:	67 percentile

Grade 7 = 74 percentile

Verbal:	76 percentile
Quantitative:	67percentile
Non Verbal:	73 percentile