



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Band Makes Students Smarter

If you have looked at our calendar for the remainder of the semester you will see that in the next two week the music department will be putting on a number of concerts and events. A few years back I had a conversation with our music department chair about his statement that “smarter kids are not taking band, but instead that band makes smarter kids”. I have asked him to be a guest writer this week for the director’s message to explain that statement a little bit further. I do want to encourage all parents to come out to watch the students of Dalat show their musical talents which are the result of a lot of hard work and practice.

Karl Steinkamp
Director

[Karl Steinkamp](#)
Director

For several years Mr. Steinkamp and I have continued a narrative about the tremendous benefits of musical instruction, why Dalat students need a comprehensive program, and what our school leadership can do to facilitate a quality music education. There are credible reasons why this is important information for your child because those reasons translate into your child’s learning success.

From the University of California Department of Neurological Studies: “[*Dr. Frank Wilson’s*] research has shown that involvement in music connects and develops the motor systems of the brain in a way that cannot be done by any other activity. In support of this, Dr. Wilson shared recent data from UCLA brain scan research studies which shows that music more fully involves brain functions (both left and right hemispheres) than any other activities studied.”^{[1](#)}

From CollegeBoard: “*Students of the arts continue to outperform their non-arts peers on the SAT, according to reports by the College Entrance Examination Board. In 2005, SAT takers with coursework/experience in music performance scored 56 points higher on the verbal portion of the test and 39 points higher on the math portion than students with no coursework or experience in the arts.*”^{[2](#)}

Within music education, teachers know that music instruction makes students’ brains work better and that this improvement is reflected in unrelated, external exams; but these are not necessarily the primary reason for a quality music education. “*Perhaps the basic reason that every child must have an education in music is that music is a part of the fabric of our society. The intrinsic value of music for each individual is*

widely recognized in the many cultures that make up American life — indeed, every human culture uses music to carry forward its ideas and ideals. The importance of music to our economy is without doubt. And the value of music in shaping individual abilities and character are evident.”³

Dalat has provided the time and resources necessary for your child to succeed in their music education. Please come to the concerts next week and enjoy the results of their work and effort.

Merry Christmas!

Kerry Mahoney
Fine Arts Department Chair

ELEMENTARY / MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

Just a friendly reminder to all parents. Semester one ends on December 20th at 12:30. Please plan to be in attendance until the end of the semester (we want you to get your money’s worth ☺!) If you must miss time at the end of the semester please get approval from the appropriate principal before buying expensive plane tickets or booking your hotel rooms. Your cooperation helps us to assure that the last few days of school can continue to be productive for all students.

[Brian Brewster](#)
Preschool-Gr 8 Principal

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT NEWS

Compassionate, Caring Students



Dalat International School is in the midst of reevaluating who we want to be. Where do we fit in? How can we best prepare our students for their future? How can we make a positive impact on the world?

As we hold these discussions amongst administrators, staff and parents one thing is clear: Dalat wants to foster compassionate, caring students.

Caring for our students and community is what we have been doing for almost 80 years and it continues to be a focus of our goals and efforts.

Just this week our entire school has been swept up in a fury of activity focused around helping others in Penang and throughout Malaysia. Charity and Compassion, has given our students the opportunity to buy food, school supplies, toys, clothing and donate cash for the benefit of refugees, widows and orphans. **It has been wonderful to watch**

your children excited about helping others and taking responsibility for people's needs.

This is not just an effort of one, or even a few, but one that we all must take part in. This is an endeavor that will take a lot of hard, sustained work but will also be lots of fun and very rewarding. We want to be a school that takes care of each other and shows compassion to those around us. I am excited and proud to be a part of it.

Larry Chinn
Director of Development
lchinn@dalat.org

FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT



Upcoming Fine Arts Department Events:

High School Drama

Thursday, December 6, and Friday, December 7, 7:00 PM

Middle School Christmas Concert

Tuesday, December 11, 7:00 PM

High School Christmas Concert and Art Exhibit

Thursday, December 13, 7:00 PM

Middle School Drama

Friday, December 14, 3:10 PM

Elementary Christmas Musical

Tuesday, December 18, 7:00 PM



GRADES 5 & 6 CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES

Dalat's Intermediate (Grades 5 & 6) students have some special performance opportunities coming up in the next week or so. Here are the details:

- All 5th and 6th graders will be performing on the **Middle School Christmas Concert** this Tuesday, December 11th. (Parents, watch for notes that should have come home about that event.) This will include the 6th Grade Band, a Middle School Choir that includes some 5th and 6th graders, and a special musical performance by the entire 5th Grade class.
- The 5th Grade will be taking those same songs and a few more, along with a simple script, to **Kawan House** on Monday, December 17th. Located in downtown Georgetown, Kawan is a ministry to needy street people providing food and facilities for rest and refreshment. The 5th Grade performance will be offered as Christmas entertainment to the people who come to Kawan for lunch that day. **The same program will be performed at Dalat for the Elementary Chapel on Thursday, December 20th, at 8:30 AM.**(More details are included in the note to Grade 5 parents.)



CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

Please join Dalat's Band and Choir students for two evenings of musical entertainment in the Chapel this coming week!

Middle School Concert~Tuesday, Dec. 11, 7:00 PM

...Featuring the Middle School Choir, the Grade 5 Choir, the Grades 6-8 Beginning Band, the Intermediate Band, and the Jazz Ensemble.

High School Concert~Thursday, Dec. 13, 7:00 PM

...Featuring the High School choral and instrumental ensembles. Enjoy both holiday and non-seasonal music performed by the High School Concert Choir, Concert Band, Vocal Ensemble, and Jazz Band.

An art exhibit will be open for viewing in the art room immediately following the concert.



The Villain and the Toy Shop
A Tongue-in-Cheek Melodrama in One Act
by Barbara Winther



During P period (3:10) on Friday, December 14, the Middle School Drama Exploratory will present a Christmas comedy in the Chapel. Everyone is invited to come and see how the evil Mr. Glowerpuss nearly spoils the Toymaker family's Christmas.

THIS WEEK

Tuesday, 11 December	MS Christmas Concert In the Chapel, 7:00pm
Wednesday, 12 December	Troop 222 Court of Honor In the Chapel, 7:00pm
Thursday, 13 December	HS Christmas Concert In the Chapel, 7:00pm
Friday, 14 December	MS Drama In the Chapel, 3:10pm

THIS WEEK MENU

Monday	Hoagies, Veggies, Sandwich Bar: Egg Salad and PB&J with Homemade Bread Salad Bar, Ice Cream, Milk/Milo
Tuesday	Chicken Fettuccini Alfredo, Carrots Sandwich Bar - Tuna Salad and PB&J, Salad Bar Frosted Banana Bars, Milk/Milo
Wednesday	Cheese Pizza, Sandwich Bar - Chicken Salad and PB&J , Salad Bar, Fruit, Milk/Milo
Thursday	Cheddar Beef Enchiladas, Corn Sandwich Bar: Ham & Cheese and PB&J, Salad Bar, Fruit, Juice
Friday	Creamy Chicken with Peas, White Rice, Sandwich Bar: Egg Salad and PB&J with Homemade Bread, Salad Bar, Dessert – Fruit, Milk/Milo

FROM THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR



Girls Softball

Nov 29th - Mark Sasse & his girls hosted Dato Keramut on upper field for what is certain to be the 1st Softball game of this millennium. Dato Keramut scored 9 runs to

our 6 on this particular night. Girls had fun and in a way are a bigger part of Dalat's continuing history. Thanks to Coach Sasse & his assistants for their work in getting softball back on the map!

Dalat Boys Basketball Tourney

Nov 30th – Dec 1st: Once again it can be seen that the Dalat community loves basketball...that or they simply love being in the gym! A solid crowd watched 18 games take place this past weekend with playoffs being held on Sat. Heng Ee repeated as Champs for this 7th Dalat Invitational tournament by a convincing 64-47 over Silver Medalists St. Xavier. Uplands edged by our Varsity 48-42 in an excitingly tight match, earning themselves the Bronze Medals. Varsity, coached by Greg Stenlund, Karl Steinkamp & Clay Moss placed 4th. KL teams Alice Smith & Garden, plus local Georgetown did not make the playoffs. Big thanks to Clay Moss & his younger crew of future varsity players who filled in at the last minute to give us 8 teams.

Special thanks to our competent Dalat official team which handled 24/36 slots, including Rob Nollan, Drew Steiert Tim Steinert, Greg Stenlund & myself for the help! 18 games also means 72 table official slots which were once again filled by our students & alumni who graciously volunteered their time for the tournament. Many thanks to these people without whom we would not be able to run the tournament. Once again thanks to our Junior Class sponsors: Kerry & Robin Mahoney & Brian & Val Weidemann & their Grade 11 assistants for providing 2 days worth of food; Plus maintaining an incredibly clean gym!

Hopefully our players & their fans enjoyed some of the basketball on display this past weekend. Much more will be coming our way in semester 2!

ISAKL Swim Meet – Bukit Jalil Stadium Dec 7th KL:

Good luck to our single Dalat entry Simon Karing in this annual competition as he competes in the 50M & 100M in each of the Freestyle & Breaststroke, 4 races in all.

Remember that Semester 1 sports are complete. We will resume January 24th-25th with a trip for our HS Basketball teams to ISKL for a tourney. Then the local MSSPP season will begin with Cross Country, Track & Field, Boys Soccer, Basketball, Volleyball, Tennis & Softball to mention some of the major sports.

That's all for this week folks. Have a wonderful restful but hopefully active Christmas Holiday. CU next semester.

[Gerry Steiert](#)

PE Dept HP 012-430-6896

FROM THE LIBRARY



A gentle reminder: all library books and other materials are due back to the Library on

December 14. Students will need to have a clear record (all items returned and fines paid up) by the last day of the semester. If you'd like your password to log into your library account from home, email Mrs. Mia at librarian@dalat.org.

The Library will be open much of the holiday break, but the hours may vary from the regular school schedule (call 899-2105, ext. 7546). Ms. Valli will be here to help circulate books etc., but all students will need to be *supervised by their parents* at all times. Thank you!

We sincerely hope you will have the time to read for relaxation and leisure over the much deserved break. Parents, your children deserve a pat on the back for their hard academic effort this semester. Have a blessed Christmas!

Mrs. Mia

Mrs. Tyas

Ms. Valli

CHARITY AND COMPASSION

It is in giving that we receive.



Charity & Compassion

It is in giving that we receive.

By the time you read this we will be on the road to deliver all the items for the refugee relief project in KL. Thank you to everyone for opening your hearts and giving so generously.

The Dalat students and community have done a great job of supporting the Refugee Relief project. The Elementary students brought in all the children's Christmas presents for the Refugee Christmas Party. Middle school students brought in specific canned food items or donated cash to buy bags of rice in KL. High school students brought in blankets or donated money to help purchase tarps needed to shelter the refugees. I have been asked to pass along sincere thanks for all you have done.

We are still in need of the following items for our 2007 Christmas projects.

- Large bags of rice, Milo and milk powder for Sunshine Home in Kulim and the Dhyana Ashram Boys home in Kulim.*
- School supplies; pens, pencils, colored pencils, erasers, scratch paper.*
- Cash to purchase necessary items for poor families.*

If you would like to help out either financially or physically please contact Beth Steiert bsteiert@dalat.org 012 430 2231

Where Charity & Love exist, God is there. Thank you for your donation

MOVIE REVIEWS

Movie _____ Rating _____

Acceptable

Bee Movie	US-PG, MY-U
Mild suggestive humor	
Enchanted	US-PG, MY-U
Some scary images. Overall great Disney film.	
*The Golden Compass	US-PG13, MY-U
Sequences of fantasy violence, anti-religion themes.	
Mr. Magorium's Wonder Emporium	US-G, MY-U
Great for the whole family	

Not Acceptable

Across the Universe	US-PG13, MY-U
Some drug content, inappropriate sexuality and language.	
Beowulf	US-PG13, MY-U
Intense sequences of violence, inappropriate sexual material	
The Heartbreak Kid	US-R, MY-U
Strong sexual content, crude humor and language	
Hitman	US-R, MY-NA
Strong violence, language and sexuality	
The Kingdom	US-R, MY-NA
Graphic brutal violence and inappropriate language	
Unrest	US-R, MY-U
Horror, graphic violence and sexuality	

*Please note that **The Golden Compass** is an adaptation of part of an objectionable trilogy of novels. Titled *His Dark Materials*, the books were written to be an influential atheistic counterpart to "The Chronicles of Narnia" and "The Lord of the Rings." They are aimed at children and were written by anti-God activist Phillip Pullman.

Larry Chinn
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DIS DAILY BULLETIN

The Dalat International School Daily Bulletin contains announcements for students, staff, and parents. You can subscribe to receive the bulletin by email. To subscribe simply send a blank message to DALAT-BULLETIN-SUBSCRIBE-REQUEST@netpals.lsoft.com.

DIS INFORMATION

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