



# DALAT NEWS

Volume 26, Issue 1

25 Jan, 2008

## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

### A New Year

Technically we are not in a “new” school year but it is a new semester and a new calendar year. I thought I would use this first Dalat News to just highlight some of the changes or “new” things at Dalat this semester.

Over the Christmas break we had a number of construction and renovation projects taking place on our campus. Here is a list of what was done

- a. **Outdoor Basketball Court:** The new surface for our covered outdoor court was laid. It will be surfaced and lines added in about two weeks once the cement has “cured.” The covering of the court will take place over the June-July school break.
- b. **Gym Floor:** The gym floor was resurfaced, lined and lacquered. The floor itself is much “lighter” in color and has added a fresh new look to our gym. This was made possible through the annual fund donations from last year.
- c. **Gym Roof:** The gym awning needed to be repaired and renovated.
- d. **Student Center:** The student center was extended and enclosed so we could add air conditioning. The final touches are being done this week and it will be open and available to students and parents next week. This also was made possible through the annual fund donations.
- e. **Painting / Landscaping:** Our maintenance crew was involved in numerous painting and landscaping projects to beautify the campus. There are a couple places that need time for the grass to take root so parents and students are asked not to walk or play in those areas. These areas will be marked with caution tape to make people aware of them.
- f. **Power Station:** The power station is almost ready to be activated. We are just waiting for some final steps to be taken by TNB. Our hope is to have it up and running within a month.

Let me also mention a few other “new” things for this semester:

- a. **New Students:** Dalat welcomed 21 new students to our school this semester.

- b. **New Staff:** We do have a new teacher on staff this semester, Mr. Dave Addink. He was technically with us for the last few weeks of first semester to fill in for Mrs. Holden after the birth of their son Samuel. He will be teaching the World Religions class this semester.
- c. **New Schedule:** This will be the first semester that we have a mid-semester break. We are hoping that this change will be a positive one for everyone in the Dalat community so mark your calendars for March 31<sup>st</sup> – April 4<sup>th</sup> for a break from school.
- d. **Speed Bumps & Cross Walks:** We have clarified our speed bumps and cross walks with new paint jobs. All speed bumps have been painted solid yellow and our cross walks with black and white stripes. Please encourage your children to use the appropriate cross walks for their safety around the many cars coming on and off campus.

Have a great weekend,

[Karl Steinkamp](#)  
Director

## FRIDAY HALF DAYS

### Friday Half Days

The difference between an average school and a great school is not the textbooks, campus facilities, or resources but the teachers. The key ingredient in the classroom is the teacher. Dalat strongly believes this and invests time and energy into providing professional development so that our teachers can improve their skills and curriculum. For that reason this semester we will be having three selected Friday's where school is let out at 12:35pm and students will go home. For the remainder of those days our teachers will be involved in curriculum and professional development opportunities. The dates of the Friday half days are the following: **February 22<sup>nd</sup>, March 14<sup>th</sup>, and April 18<sup>th</sup>**. We will remind parents through the Dalat News as those days get closer but wanted to let you know far in advance so that you can plan for those days.

[Karl Steinkamp](#)  
Director

## HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

It was good to see the students back on campus after the holidays showing their excitement to see each other with greetings of laughter, hugs and conversation. Our High School students returned to a newly renovated "Student Center". It's a great air-conditioned area for students to meet friends and relax with recreational activities or just hang-out. For the first time, however, I noticed the plaque that recognizes the

person, Bob Carter, the student center was dedicated to. I was interested in the man that would have a student center named after him. This is what I discovered about him.

It was 1986 the same year Val and Brian Weidemann and Karl Steinkamp were seniors here at Dalat. A number of students on October 14 went on a weekend trip to the waterfalls up past the fruit farm and up the island a way. Bob Carter was very involved in student life at Dalat. Apart from teaching 8<sup>th</sup> grade Science, Bible and all the Industrial Education classes he was the Alliance Youth Fellowship sponsor. This meant he led Sunday night activities for the youth and he also coached the Varsity Boys soccer team. In addition to all of this he was the Facilities Maintenance Manager. Bob was a very busy and committed young man. At the waterfall a grade nine student fell into the water and was about to plunge over the edge of the waterfall which was about 70 feet high. Bob Carter did not hesitate for one moment and he jumped into the water and pushed the girl to safety. In doing so, he was swept over the falls and was killed. He gave up his life to save another. You cannot give anymore than laying down your life for a friend. What a story of a remarkable sacrifice! What an example of what Christ did for you and me. So as our students use the newly renovated student center my hope is that they will honor Bob Carter with their conversation and behavior and remember the person Bob Carter and his sacrifice.

[Fred Colburn](#)

High School Principal

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS

The single most important skill that an elementary student learns is how to read. Quite simply, the students with the best reading skills have the potential to be the most successful in school. Over the next few months your elementary child will be participating in our annual “Battle of the Books”. I will share more about his fun activity to encourage students to read in future newsletters, but for now, I will begin by sharing some tips to encourage you to make reading at home a priority. Parents play an important part in developing their children’s reading ability.

### **Family Reading Activities**

By: Bernice Cullinan and Brod Bagert (1996)

**Children become readers when their parents read to them.** It really is as simple as that. And here's the good news: It's easy to do and it's great fun. With a little practice you will be making the memories of a lifetime, memories both you and your child will cherish. It is best to read to your child early and often. But it's never too late to begin. Start today. Although the following activities are designed to enhance reading aloud with preschoolers and beginning readers, a child is never too old to be read to.

### **For our youngest children...**

remember that reading is a physical act, as well as a mental one. It involves hand-eye coordination. So, when you read, involve your child by:

Pointing out objects in the pictures

Following the words with your finger (so your child develops a sense that the words go from left to right on the page)

Having your child help turn the pages (to learn that the pages turn from right to left)

**For older elementary kids...**

Ask friends, neighbors, and teachers to share the names of their favorite books.

Visit your local public library and as early as possible, get your child a library card. Ask the librarian for help in selecting books.

Look for award-winning books. Each year the American Library Association selects children's books for the Caldecott Medal for illustration and the Newbery Medal for writing.

Check the book review sections of newspapers and magazines for recommended new children's books.

As soon as they're old enough, have your children join you in browsing for books and making selections.

**For everyone**

Read slowly and pause occasionally to think out loud about a story. You can speculate: "I wonder what's going to happen next!" Or ask a question: "Do you know what a palace is?" Or point out: "Look where the little mouse is now."

Answer your children's questions, and if you think they don't understand something, stop and ask them. Don't worry if you break into the flow of a story to make something clear.

Read the name of the book's author and illustrator and make sure your children understand what they do.

Adapted from "Reading Rockets <http://www.readingrockets.org/article/385>

[Brian Brewster](#)

Preschool-Gr 8 Principal

**THIS WEEK**

Saturday, 26 January	SAT I & II
Tuesday, 29 January	Troop 222 Meeting
Wednesday, 30 January	New Parents Breakfast

**THIS WEEK'S MENU**

Monday	Peanut Sauce Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Carrots Sandwich Bar - PB&J, Fried Rice, Salad Bar Ice Cream, Water, Milk, Milo
Tuesday	Lasagna with Garlic Bread, Steamed Veggies Sandwich Bar - Tuna Salad, PB&J, Salad Bar

	Fruit, Water, Juice
Wednesday	Creamy Chicken & Peas, White Rice, Asian noodles, Sandwich Bar - Chicken Salad, PB&J Salad Bar, Fruit, Water, Milk, Milo
Thursday	Pork Roast, Rice Pilaf, Corn Sandwich Bar – Ham and Cheese, PB&J Salad Bar, Fruit, Water, Juice
Friday	Chicken Rice with Cucumbers, Asian Noodles Sandwich Bar: Egg Salad and PB&J Salad Bar, Fruit, Water, Milk, Milo

## PARENTS OF DALAT SCHOOL SOPHOMORES

The sophomores were in attendance yesterday at an informational meeting about the Advanced Merit Diploma (AMD). If they are interested in this alternate diploma and you would like to have more information regarding the program please refer to [www.dalat.org](http://www.dalat.org) under the “Students” section entitled “Advanced Merit Diploma”. If you would like to discuss the program with me I am generally available after school and would gladly meet to give you more information. Interested sophomores may get applications from me beginning Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January. The last day applications will be accepted will be Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February. Thank you for considering this option with your sophomore.

Sincerely,

Greg Stenlund  
AMD Coordinator

## PRAYING MOMS

### Praying Moms

Attention, Moms! Dalat has a group of mothers who meet for one hour each week to pray for their children, the teachers and our school. (You may be familiar with Moms In Touch International?)

We know our children face many pressures with growing up and going to school We believe to "stand in the gap" through prayer is the best gift we can give to them. We meet Thursday mornings, 11:30-12:30, at a home walking distance from Dalat. Come see what a difference prayer makes for you and your children!

If you are interested in joining us or have any questions, please contact Mollie Lupinacci at 016 428 8296 or [mlupinacci@mac.com](mailto:mlupinacci@mac.com).

## HELPING MOMS

## Helping Moms

Dalat has a LUNCH MOM program for our elementary children. We help get kids through a healthy lunch and a safe time on the playground. We also get a chance to be a part of the students' community and get to know the kids in a deeper way. At the same time, we serve our elementary teachers so they are fresh when class starts. We work in pairs, daily, from 10:40-11:40.

If you can help out one hour, just one day a week, or have more questions, please contact Mollie Lupinacci at 016 428 8296 or [mlupinacci@mac.com](mailto:mlupinacci@mac.com).

## FROM THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR



Welcome back folks... I sincerely hope you had a wonderful Christmas Holiday. Lots of extra-curricular activities planned for you this semester. Read on...☺

**ISKL Basketball Tourney Jan 25&26:** Dalat is sending both a boys (**Coach Clay Moss**) & a girls (**Yours truly coach**) team to the annual ISAKL B'ball tournament held this year at the International School of Kuala Lumpur (ISKL). Teams will return Sat by Midnite at the latest.

**Girls:** 9:20am vs Garden Int'l School (GIS); 12:40 vs ISKL JV; Playoffs begin @ 1:50pm.

**Boys:** 8:30 vs KTJ; 10:10 vs GIS; 11:50 vs ISKL JV A; Playoffs begin @ 2:40.

**MSSPP:** The annual MSSPP season begins with a trip to Balik Pulau for 3 of our young runners. **Debbie Chinn & Lisa Munson** will be coaching their young athletes in this fun event known locally as **Merentas Desa**. **Emma & Evan Chinn** along with **Daniel Munson** will tackle the 2.8km stretch this coming **Sat, Jan 26<sup>th</sup>** after leaving the comfort of their bed somewhere around 5:30am. Race is scheduled to begin @ 7:30. Good luck to these young runners & especially Daniel since this is his 1<sup>st</sup> Malaysian running competition! Emma & Evan participated last year & did quite well.

**Track & Field** entries are due **Feb 4<sup>th</sup>** with Kelawai Zone competitions scheduled for Feb 18-20 @ City Stadium. If your athlete is interested please have them contact either myself or Lisa Munson so that we can get him/her interested.

All **Boys Soccer** looks like it will begin in late Feb.

**Cricket:** Malaysia is hosting the ICC U19 Cricket World Cup 2008 specifically Johor, KL, & Penang. Penang is group C which is Australia, Sri Lanka, Nepal & Namibia. Penang Schedule:

**Penang Sports Club:** Feb 17– Australia Vs Namibia; Feb 18 Sri Lanka Vs Nepal; Feb 22 Australia Vs Sri Lanka;

**USM:** Feb 19 – Australia Vs Nepal; Feb 20 – Sri Lanka Vs Namibia; Feb 21 – Nepal Vs Namibia;

If you get a chance, come & see the recently refurbished **Dalat Gym Floor**, complete with freshly sanded flooring, a new Dalat logo in the middle plus 2 additional Badminton courts, 2 smaller basketball courts & lines for Floorball. Head facilities guru Mr. Patrick Rogers did a great deal of work to make this happen. Thanks Pat!

That's all for this week folks. Stay tuned!

[Gerry Steiert](#)

PE Dept HP 012-430-6896

## FROM THE LIBRARY



### A note from the Elementary Library Battle of the Books 2008

Grades 1 through 4-- it's time to get busy reading, reading and reading some more! Our annual Battle of the Books competition is scheduled to start next Thursday. Battle of the Books is a reading incentive competition designed to excite our children about reading good books and remembering the authors' names. The competition "kick-off" will be on Thursday, January 31. The actual Battle of the Books competition is scheduled to take place in the chapel on Thursday, March 20<sup>th</sup>. Each student will be carefully placed on a reading team by their teacher. Each grade-level reading team member will cooperate with their teammates and read through a list of twenty-four pre-selected books that they will check out from the library. At the actual competition the teams will be asked questions from the list of books that they have read and, working as a team, will need to name the title of the book and write the author's name, for example: "In which book does a little girl save a baby pig from being killed?" (*Charlotte's Web* by E.B. White). If you have any questions, please see Mrs. Mia or Mrs. Tyas in the Library, [msteinkamp@dalat.org](mailto:msteinkamp@dalat.org), 899-2105 ext. 7546. DLRC students are welcome and encouraged to join in the reading fun-- please see Mrs. Mia early next week so that we can put your child onto a team. We are looking for parent volunteers and prize donations too. Happy Reading!

## NEW PARENTS BREAKFAST



## New Parents Breakfast

Motivating presentations by the Director,  
Director of Development and Guidance Counselors  
on what you need to know about having a  
successful year at Dalat International School

at the Paradise Hotel  
on Wednesday, January 30th, 2008  
from 8:30-10:00 am

RSVP: Lydia Roberts by Friday, January 25th, 2008  
Email: [admissions@dalat.org](mailto:admissions@dalat.org)  
Phone: 899-2105 ext 1734 or 012-409-5441

All Welcome

### MOVIE REVIEWS

#### Acceptable

- The Game Plan** US- PG, MY-U  
Mild thematic elements
- In the Name of the King** US-?, MY-U  
Action violence, disturbing images
- Mad Money** US-PG13, MY-U  
Mild drug and sexual material and references. High school only

#### Unacceptable

- Aliens Vs. Predator 2** US-R, MY-18SG  
Violence, gore and inappropriate language
- American Gangster** US-R, MY-18PL  
Violence, pervasive drug content and inappropriate language and sexual content
- Cloverfield** US-PG13, MY-U  
Violence, terror and inappropriate sexual material
- Eastern Promises** US-R, MY-18PL  
Brutal and bloody violence, inappropriate language and sexuality
- Gabriel** US-?, MY-18PL  
Extreme violence
- John Rambo** US-R, MY-18SG  
Strong graphic bloody violence, grisly images and language

**Meet the Spartans**

US-PG13, MY-18PL

Crude and sexual content throughout, inappropriate language

**Sweeny Todd**

US-R, MY-18PL

Graphic bloody violence

Larry Chinn

[lchinn@dalat.org](mailto:lchinn@dalat.org)**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](mailto:DALAT-BULLETIN-SUBSCRIBE-REQUEST@netpals.lsoft.com).

**DIS INFORMATION**

Online back issues are available at <http://www.dalat.org/news.html>

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