



DALAT NEWS

Volume 26, Issue 9

Mar 21, 2008

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Where Education Clicks!

In the *Dalat News* last week I informed the Dalat community that in the coming three years we would be changing our graduation requirements as decided by the school board during the February meetings. The first change will be enacted for the incoming freshman class next year as they will be required to take at least one of their high school courses online.

Online education is growing at an exponential rate as universities push forward with new plans to offer more and more through the internet. It is not difficult to project that a majority of next year's incoming freshman will take one of their university courses through an online medium. This being the case, Dalat needs to create opportunities for our students to experience online education while still in high school.

For many schools the idea of requiring its students to take an online course would be a daunting task of developing policy and creating the necessary infrastructure. However for Dalat this will happen almost seamlessly. This is because Dalat has been involved in and has encouraged students to get involved in online education since 2000 when it joined the Virtual High School program. Dalat was the first school in South East Asia to do so.

In 2001 Dalat began to encourage its teachers to use class web pages to enhance the teaching taking place in the classroom. A majority of our high school teachers use the online course system called DIScourse to integrate the incredible educational resources found on the internet. Our support of technology integration has been so effective that this year over 100 high school students are taking one of their courses online.

With so many of our high school students already involved in online education it will not be a huge step for us to facilitate this new graduation requirement. Even so, we are taking two important steps for next year. The first one is that we have created a new part-time administrative position called the E-Learning Coordinator and Mr. Yost will be taking over that important role next year. The second step is the creation of a fourth computer lab on campus so that we have enough computers for all the technology integration happening throughout the school day. Room 12 which already has a few computers in it will be renovated with more computer stations being installed to make it a full functioning computer lab.

We are very excited to be moving this direction and see it as another example of Dalat truly living up to the statement "Education for Life." Here are some more interesting statistics about online education.

- The state of Michigan (in the United States) has mandated all of its students to take one online course to graduate.
- Currently, three staff members have achieved advanced degrees through online education while working at Dalat.
- Approximately 20% of university students in America last year took one of their courses online.
- With Dalat's involvement in VHS (Virtual High School) our students have over 200 elective courses to choose from.

Have a great long weekend,

[Karl Steinkamp](#)

Director

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Course Planning for next year

To all grade 8-11 students...registration for next year's High School classes is coming soon! All current grade 8 students and their parents will be participating in an information session and registration time on Tuesday, April 8th at either 4:00 pm or 7:00 pm in the computer lab. All grade 9, 10 and 11 students will receive more information about when to begin their class selection process soon! If you would like to meet to discuss next year's schedule, please contact Mr. Parsons and set-up a time to meet!

Tim Parsons
HS counselor

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

Students will be selecting the quarter 4 Exploratories and Eureka's this coming week. We try to provide students with a wide variety of educational experiences to assist them in discovering their strengths, interests, and talents. Please talk with your child about what options might challenge and stretch them. 7th and 8th grade students select exploratories while 5th and 6th grade choose Eureka's.

Exploratories: Exploratories are a wide variety of classes designed for 7th and 8th graders to explore their talents and interests for one quarter. Students are encouraged to try new classes and expand their experiences. Students may discover unknown talents or that they dislike certain activities. Exploratories are graded classes.

StuCo Student Council is an opportunity for Middle Schoolers to develop leadership skills. Students work through an event planning model to develop activities that build school spirit and serve fellow students and staff.

Jazz Band plays a variety of jazz music. It is a High School P period ensemble that meets one day per week. Occasionally, MS students who play instruments that are missing in the Jazz band, have been asked to join.

Archery During the first two sessions, students will learn basic archery range safety rules. Once the safety quiz is passed, students will practice using recurve bows at a distance of approximately 7 meters. The curriculum was adapted from the Boy Scouts of America Archery Handbook.

Worship is a performance oriented class. Students learn the techniques and dynamics of playing in a worship band, the unique aspects of leading Praise and Worship and management of sound and lighting.

Intro to Fingerstyle Guitar For the beginning to intermediate guitar player who knows chords and can play basic songs, Introduction to Fingerstyle Guitar is a fun way to improve versatility and playing ability in a variety of styles. Instead of strumming with a pick, fingerstyle guitar uses the thumb and fingers to play individual strings, which allows guitar players to play several different picking patterns, add a variety of backgrounds to worship songs, or even play bass-lines and melodies at the same time. The course progresses from basic folkstyle techniques to more advanced picking patterns. Fingerstyle II is the second quarter's continuation of Intro to Fingerstyle. (Rob Nollan)

Girl's Weightlifting This class helps middle school students understand the benefits of lifting weights, the major muscle groups used, and correct technique. Students learn to develop a workout program and set and obtain goals. This class is not run co-ed

MS Drama Students are assigned roles in a one-act play which is rehearsed and then performed at the end of the quarter. Skills such as stage voice, character expression, and appropriate blocking are learned. Memorization of lines and additional dress rehearsals may be required outside of class time. The play is usually performed during a Friday P period All-MS Activity time.

Critter Gitter is an introductory course in the occupation of nuisance wildlife control. Students will be trained in the basic methods of capturing, handling, and transporting wild animals that have somehow become a nuisance. Students will also be trained in the basic methods of exclusion work designed to keep out nuisance animals.

Video Production is an introductory class to story boarding, video capture, and editing. Students will produce their own movie by the completion of class.

Industrial Arts is an introduction to wood shop. Students design and build simple projects. After learning proper safety guidelines and techniques, power tools are used to complete the projects.

Boy's Wrestling Students learn colligate style wrestling practicing basic moves and techniques. They will practice a variety of take-down and situational move wrestling. Students will develop a personal favorite moves list and practice a flow of their 10 best moves.

Food Studies is a course in cooking. Students learn the basic kitchen utensils, cooking vocabulary, how to read recipes, and of course, how to cook a variety of simple foods. They also learn how to plan a well-balanced meal. At the end of the course, the students will cook a dish at home and bring it to class.

Eureka's: Eureka activities are designed to help 5th and 6th grade students like Archimedes exclaim "Eureka!" resulting from an amazing discovery. They are focused learning times offering students a wide variety of experiences. This is not a graded class.

Mosaic Art Students will be shown examples of mosaic art pieces. They will design their own pattern to complete a mosaic picture considering color and shape. They will be given freedom to creatively reproduce their designs by cutting and gluing standard shapes of colorful paper, as would be done for a mosaic. Students should be able to finish this project in the quarter.

Competitive Swimming The class is for motivated swimmers ready to focus on endurance swimming and stroke improvement. It is NOT a swimming lesson. Prerequisite for the class include demonstrating proper side breathing while doing the crawl/freestyle. The students need to remember goggles and swim suits, and girls need some way to tie long hair back.

Brain Quest It's okay to be smart! Brain Quest is the curriculum-based educational game that quizzes you on all the material that you need to know. It will challenge you in Geography, World History, English, Math, Science and a "Grab Bag" of other skills that you should know. All of this can be yours in a team game format to prove that learning is, indeed, fun!.

IM choir Students will learn the basics of good singing technique and introducing some harmony. Students will present two to four songs at the quarter concert.

MS soccer/basketball This activity allows students to learn about the skills & rules required to understand & play the game of soccer & basketball. A group of Highschool students sign up to assist in organizing & supervising/coaching the grade 5/6 students. Small tournaments are organized if numbers allow & in most seasons this club is the school's entry for MSSPP U12 Boys/Girls Soccer & Basketball.

Studio 2B is an extension of the Girl Scout program. It is for girls in 6th grade and up. The costs include a \$10 yearly membership fee, \$7 for charm bracelet, and \$5-6 for books and charms. The girls can also purchase a RM20. During the weekly meetings, girls work through focus books on topics such as sea life, having your own business, creative writing, and a variety of other topics. Girls can also work through the books on their own time if they so desire. After each book is completed, the girls earn a charm. Girls may join at the beginning of each semester and need to commit for a semester at a time.

Chess Students of all abilities are welcome to participate in this club. We will cover the basic rules of the game and piece movement. The remainder of the time will be spent practicing new skills.

Archery During the first two sessions, students will learn basic archery range safety rules. Once the safety quiz is passed, students will practice using recurve bows at a distance of approximately 7 meters. The curriculum was adapted from the Boy Scouts of America Archery Handbook.

D for Davis A small group Bible study for 5th and 6th grade boys interested in a deeper walk with the Lord. Informal devotional with Scripture reading is followed with discussion and prayer.

Activities with Holden This outdoor activity-oriented class introduces students to a variety of goofy games and activities. Some games are competitive; most require utilizing cooperative skills with teammates. Successful periods occur when students have increased their heart rate and have fun!

Scrabble All students are welcome to participate in this club. We will learn the rules of Scrabble and practice how to appropriately play student directed games. Students will play Scrabble in groups of 4-6 students where they will practice their spelling and vocabulary

a-MAZE-ing Students with strong spelling and vocabulary skills are welcomed to participate in this club. We will learn the rules of various styles of Speed Scrabble. Students will play Speed Scrabble in groups of 3-5 where they will practice their spelling and vocabulary in this timed, cross-word style game of Scrabble.

[Brian Brewster](#)

Preschool-Gr 8 Principal

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS

Parent Teacher Conferences

We look forward to seeing you at your scheduled time for conferences on Wednesday March 26th. This is a valuable time for us to collaborate and discuss your child's progress in school. As a reminder, students do not have school on this day to allow for conferences.

[Brian Brewster](#)

Preschool-Gr 8 Principal

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT NEWS

Parent Volunteers Needed Annual Fund 2008

I am looking for some parent volunteers to help with this year's Annual Fund to make sure it is a huge success! Our goal this year is to raise RM 150,000 in April and May for the Dalat music department, athletic department, Student Center upgrades, library resources and new student technology.



I need help:

- Parent Representative for all grades Preschool to 12
- Making posters
- Planning kick-off and thank you events
- Organizing parent lunches and dinners with the Director
- Writing and sending letters
- Talking to parents
- Talking to local businesses and churches
- Translation materials into Korean, Chinese and Japanese

If you would like to be a part of making Dalat a better place for your kids please contact me in the school office or by email at lchinn@dalat.org by Friday 28 March. If we all do a little we can accomplish a lot!

2008 Annual Fund Starts Soon!

Have you noticed Dalat's new gym floor and elementary playground surface? Have your kids commented on the newly renovated Student Center with more space and air conditioning? All these projects along with 40 new dorm mattresses, sports uniforms, library materials, chapel audio visual improvements and many others have happened because of the generosity of our community during the 2007 Annual Fund!

The 2008 Annual Fund will begin on Monday, 7 April.

Get Ready to Do Your Part!

New Dalat Website is Coming!



Starting in early April Dalat will have a brand new website online with more tools and features to help you keep up with what is happening at school and with your children!
Larry Chinn
Director of Development
lchinn@dalat.org

THIS WEEK

Sunday, 23 March	7.00am Sunrise Service
Tuesday, 25 March	7.00pm Troop 222 Mtg 7.00pm Intermediate Musical In the Chapel
Wednesday, 26 March	ES no school /ES Parent Mtg 6.30pm Prayer Mtg
Thursday, 27 March	3:10pm Middle School Drama In the Chapel

THIS WEEK MENU

Monday	Fried Chicken, Fried Rice Sandwich Bar - PB&J, Fried Rice Salad Bar, Ice Cream, Juice/Water
Tuesday	Lasagna and Garlic Bread, Asian Noodles Sandwich Bar - Tuna Salad, PB&J Salad Bar, Fruit, Milo/Water
Wednesday	Baked Potato and Bacon Soup, Rolls, Asian Noodles Sandwich Bar - Chicken Salad, PB&J Salad Bar, Fruit, Juice/Water
Thursday	Tao Yu Pork, White Rice, Veggies, Sandwich Bar: Ham & Cheese, PB&J Salad Bar, Fruit, Milo/Water
Friday	Baked Chicken, Roasted Potatoes, Steamed Veggies, Sandwich Bar: Egg Salad, PB&J Salad Bar, Fruit, Juice/Water

FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT



Dalat Intermediate Musical Tuesday, March 25, at 7:00 PM

Please join us for a special Easter musical, "Simon Says: the Rockin' Trial of Simon Peter," which will be presented by Dalat's Intermediate students this Tuesday, March 25, at 7:00 PM in the Chapel. The cast includes all students in Grade 5, plus fourteen sixth-graders who have elected to participate.

Students should arrive on lower campus at 6:45 that evening. Please note that each student will need to bring in a flashlight marked with his or her name. Other information about costumes, etc., is included in a letter being sent home. Parents, if you have any questions you may contact Mrs. Valeri Brokaw at school extension 7326 or at vbrokaw@dalat.org. We look forward to performing for you this Tuesday night!



Dalat Middle School Drama Thursday, March 27, at 3:10 PM

During this Thursday's P period, the third quarter middle school drama exploratory will present the one-act play "Way, Way Off-Broadway." This corny melodrama features a corny cast, including the Cornball family, a villain, and a worthless hero. Everyone is welcome to attend!

FROM LIBRARY



A note from the Library...



To kick off the Battle of the Books contest the children marched in a Book Float Parade. A great big thanks to the cheering crowd of parents, teachers and students! We appreciate your enthusiastic support!

Congratulations to the following students for their winning parade floats:

Homeschool: Rachel Hurlbut
Grade 1: 1st-Ke-erh, 2nd Jessica
Grade 2: 1st-Tian, 2nd Ben G.
Grade 3: 1st -Ivana, 2nd Peter
Grade 4: 1st - Morris, 2nd Mark



You could feel the excitement in the air as you entered the chapel to begin the “battle”. All of the children were well prepared and did a fantastic job recalling titles and authors from the books. In the end the winner of the coveted **first place** ribbons went to **The Ghost Readers** from Grade 2: **Louise, Tyler, Seung-Wie, Sarah B., Danielle.** Well done! **Second place** went to Grade 2 team: **The Super Readers: Julia, David, Seon Bin, Tian and Austin Hill.**



Congratulations to all!

A special thank you is due to DIS awesome PTO. Thank you so much for the donation of 300 RM towards the purchase of the button badges shown up above, and other prizes.

Thanks for your generous support of Library

programming.

Thanks to so many parent volunteers. We couldn't have done it without you! It's truly a privilege to work in such a caring community. Have a blessed Easter. *Mrs. Mia Steinkamp*

DOCTORS UNAVAILABLE

We have been informed that until further notice the following two doctors will be unavailable:

- Dr. Lim from Meridian Dental Clinic
- Dr. Elizabeth Rajan

If you have any questions or need help finding a physician please contact Aunt Nellie Koethler in the Dalat Clinic.

Nellie Koethler

Dalat Nurse

nkoethler@dalat.org



DISNEY COMES TO PENANG



Disney Comes to Penang!

Disney On Ice Live! Mickey's Amazing Journey will be at the Penang International Sports Arena on the 12 and 13 of April 2008. Dalat International School families are eligible to receive a 20% discount on all seats.

Saturday, 12 Apr 2008	11:00 am	4:30 pm	8:30 pm
Sunday, 13 Apr 2008	11:00 am	4:30 pm	8:30 pm

You can get your 20% discount tickets by making reservation through Amy.

Seating Type	Discount Price	Regular Price
Rinkside VIP (Assigned seating)	RM 167.00	RM 205
Rinkside (Assigned seating)	RM 127.00	RM 155
Lower Tier (Assigned seating)	RM 87.00	RM 105
Upper Tier (Free seating)	RM 47.00	RM 55

FROM THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR



Greetings Sports Fans!

MSSPP March Madness 2008

U18 Girls Volleyball Tues 25th: Lisa Munson & her squad venture out for their road swing to Hamid Khan for their 2 pool games. **8:00 Vs Convent Green Lane; 9:20 Vs Phor Tay;**

MSSPP Softball: All games will be played at the KWSP Center of Excellence – Westland School.

Mon 24th Boys – 2:00 Vs Tanku Abdul Raman; 3:15 Vs Telok Kumbar; 4:30 Vs Penang Free;

Tues 25th Girls – 2:00 Vs Convent Dato Keramat; 3:15 Vs Sungei Nebong; 4:30 Vs Telok Kumbar;

Wed 26th U15 Girls – 3:15 Vs Telok Kumbar; 4:30 Vs Convent Dato Keramat;

State T&F Competition Batu Kawan Stadium:

25th – Joshua Watson HJ; Angela Steiert 100M HurdlesSF + Pentathlon #1-3; Frances Wong 400MSF; **26th** – Angela 200M HurdlesSF + Pent #4&5; Theresa Phan 100MSF; Margaret Stebbins 100MSF; Elmo Lin Javelin; **27th** – Angela 200M HurdlesF; Theresa 100MF; Margaret 100MF; Frances 400MF; **28th** – Frances Wong HJ; Angela 100M HurdlesF;

U18 Badminton Tuesday March 18th Elmo Lin lost in the 1st round at the TCH Badminton hall BW, 30-21. Later that same day **Elmo & Frank Cheng** Doubles. Single knockout competition begins **Tues, Mar 18th** @ TCH Badminton Hall in Butterworth.

U18 Girls B'Ball: Our girls defeated our Youngster friends 101-56 last weekend & will be meeting them again this coming Easter weekend, 10:30 in the gym!

U18 Basketball Island competition April 7th-18th @ Dalat. 23 boys & 7 girls teams will be meeting for this competition. Remember the **State Tourney April 29 – May 2 @ Chung Ling Butterworth.**

Penang Floorball Association League March 2008 Our very own **Dalat Eagles** are undefeated with 1 game remaining.

That's all for this week folks.

[Gerry Steiert](#) PE Dept
HP 012-430-6896

EASTER SUNRISE

Easter Sunrise Service at Dalat International School

When ? – March 23rd at 7:00 am
(be there early!)

Where ? – Amphitheatre (beside
the Art Room below the Gym)

What ? – Service, Baptism and
Breakfast to follow!



We look forward to seeing you there!

Rich Gwaltney
Spiritual Life Director
rgwaltney@dalat.org

CHARITY AND COMPASSION

It is in giving that we receive.



*Charity & Compassion
It is in giving that we receive.*

During this special week of Easter please remember all those whose lives we touch through the Charity & Compassion ministry. It has been an honor for us to offer our assistance to the hungry, the poor, the homeless and the refugees. The donations that come to the C & C office are distributed to people all over Penang, Kulim, Nebong Tebal, Sungei Petani, Taiping and K.L. We do what we can to ease the suffering of those less fortunate than ourselves, and this would not be possible without the generous donations that come through the door.

At the moment the greatest need is still rice. This is a staple for all people, in all situations and we never seem to have enough to go around. One bag of rice given to a family that is struggling right now has a huge impact.

If you would like more information about Charity & Compassion projects please contact Beth Steiert at bsteiert@dalat.org or call 012 430 2231. All donations of cash, food or clothing are gratefully accepted.

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

MOVIE REVIEWS

Movie

Rating

Acceptable

10,000 BC

US-PG13, MY-U

Intense action violence and peril. High School only.

27 Dresses

US-PG13, MY-U

Mild inappropriate language and sexuality, Good message about marriage.

Be Kind Rewind

US-PG13, MY-U

Some sexual references. Very funny movie. High school only.

Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who

US- G, MY-U

Based on the classic Dr. Seuss book for the whole family.

Spiderwick Chronicles

US-PG, MY-U

Scary creature action and violence, some peril and mild inappropriate language.

The Water Horse

US-PG, MY-U

Mild action violence. Family movie about a mythical creature.

Unacceptable

Awake

US-R, MY-U

Inappropriate language, disturbing situation and drug use.

Gone Baby Gone

US-R, MY-18PL

Extreme violence, drug content and inappropriate language.

Shutter

US-PG13, MY-U

Terror, disturbing images, inappropriate sexual content and language.

Larry Chinn

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.

DIS INFORMATION

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

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