



Southeast Delco School District

Knightly News

Collingdale ★ Darby Township ★ Folcroft ★ Sharon Hill
Communities

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Pals for Life

Some very special furry friends from Pals for Life recently visited students at Harris School. Jackie, Izzy, Molly, and their human handlers taught lessons about proper pet interactions and care. They also focused on each animal's method of communicating non-verbally. The children were challenged to think about their own non-verbal communications and how to read another person's body language - an important life skill.

The animals provided our students with incentive to respect their need for a calm environment. As a reward for practicing self-control the children were given the opportunity to pet, and in the case of Marble the rabbit, hold the animals. Interacting with our animal friends from Pals for Life was a highlight that brightened everyone's day!



Academy Park High School

APHS Basketball Team Plays Team from Australia



The Academy Park boys' basketball team has gone international! Recently, the school had an opportunity to invite a team from Australia to play in a 9th grade, junior varsity, and varsity game. Trinity Grammar School has been on tour playing schools in the US and requested a game against our students. Academy Park was happy to host the boys from "down under."

The boys were first treated to an amazing dining experience with our school's student-athletes, and then the schools played in exhibition contests. While the score at the end of each game was not representative of a competitive contest (Academy Park won each game in lopsided victories), the experience was of much greater importance. Being able to play against teams outside of their immediate area is a wonderful opportunity for both teams.

Both schools exchanged memoirs - A 100 Year History of Trinity from their athletic director and a 2014 Academy Park Yearbook from Dr. Small.

Darby Township School

An Exciting New Year at DTS

The holiday season brought renewed energy and enthusiasm at Darby Township School. The annual Spelling Bee was held on December 8th and special education director, Ms. Kim Brown - Flint and human resources director, Mr. Tom Hauptert served as judges and reading interventionist, Ms. Nicole Bourque acted as pronouncer. The DTS winners were Aiyana Jenkins and Anna Conrad and both will represent Southeast Delco School District in the county-wide competition.



Students Perform at Annual Winter Concert

The elementary chorus, middle school chorus, and band performed at the DTS annual Winter Concert on December 9th at Academy Park High School. Parents, friends, and family members were excited to attend and see the students perform. All involved were very grateful for the instruction and assistance provided by music teachers, Mrs. Manko-Morgan and Mrs. Cabbage.



Deck the Halls

DTS 2nd grade students traveled to Darby Township District Court on December 17th to join with community members and township staff to celebrate the holiday season. Accompanied by teachers Mrs. Poole, Ms. Schaffer, Ms. Parker, and 8th grade students, Eliana Gavilan and Jasmine Burke, the students sang holiday carols and helped decorate the court's Christmas tree.

Delcroft School

Delcroft Students Compete in Spelling Bee

Delcroft School held its school-level Spelling Bee in December. The top nine students in grades 6 through 8 who successfully completed the qualifying spelling assessment participated in this year's competition. Delcroft's first place winner was 6th grader, Gabriella Jackson. She won in round 15 and the winning word was "agenda." Second place went to 6th grader, Kiara Kidd.

Both girls are excited about participating in the 2015 Delaware County Scripps Spelling Bee, which will be held at Neumann University in February.



Better to Give Than Receive

Throughout the holiday season, Delcroft sponsored or partnered with multiple programs to provide assistance to local families. Delcroft student council sponsored a hat, scarf, gloves, and mittens collection and received over 100 items. Delcroft staff members also donated new toys throughout the month of December for distribution to families of students in need.



Plumbers With a Purpose helped make holiday wishes come true for several local families. The program was introduced to Delcroft School by Folcroft's Mayor Bob Frey and provided families with generous donations to local food markets and gift cards to purchase gifts and toys. Through the generosity and combined efforts of the Delcroft staff and Plumbers With a Purpose, a total of 13 families received assistance this holiday season.

Harris School

The Sound of Music at Harris School

Harris School held its annual Winter Concert on December 11th. The Harris band, comprised of students in grades 4 through 8 was led by music teacher Ms. Rebecca King and performed along with the 4th and 5th grades chorus and middle school select chorus, which was led by music teacher Ms. Rebecca Dulac.

The students spent a lot of time practicing to ensure their performance would be spectacular. During the school day, students and staff were treated to "warm-up" performances by both the band and the chorus. Student behavior during the concert was exceptional and they were thoroughly entertained. In addition to the entertainment factor, the "warm-up" concert also served as a great way to help recruit future band and chorus members. The students' hard work was evident during their performance for family and friends. The audience showed their appreciation and expressed their eagerness for the spring concert.

The Harris Holiday Extravaganza

This year at Harris, students in the 8th grade staged a play called "The Harris Holiday Extravaganza" for students in grades 1 through 5. The students formed the concept for the play, which was a variation of the Charles Dickens' classic, *A Christmas Carol* that focused on bullying. The students were involved in the writing, production, and performance of the play. The audience was treated to an original play, that while very entertaining also provided a powerful message about bullying; why it happens and its effect on the victim and the whole school community.



The students did a great job and the message of the play was understood and well received by the audience. A big thank you goes out to teachers Ms. Preisendorfer, Ms. Kelly, Mrs. Rickards, and Mr. Alexander for helping the students put the play together and supporting their effort to spread the message about bullying.

Santa's Helpers

As they do every holiday season, the Harris community collected donations of new and unwrapped toys, school supplies, gloves, hats, and jackets to distribute to families that may be struggling and could use a little help. Harris "elves" then wrapped, labeled, and organized for distribution the donated items. This year, over 100 items were donated for families in need.

A special thank you goes out to our merry band of "elves" that helped in various ways. Staff members Annemarie Teodori, Rebecca Dulac, Doranne Nattress, Pat Alford, Stacie Lacava, Karen Cook, Jen Donnelly, Sherry Baumann, Dolores Monzo, Terrie Maisano, Theresa Welsh, Danielle Luciano, Deb Rickards, Tony Lorine, and Harris student council, led by Danielle Luciano and Danielle Vaccaro, who stuffed 38 stockings, which were added to the gift bags for our families. In addition, big thanks to Danny Ruane for organizing the whole operation and making sure that no one in need was forgotten.

Sharon Hill School

Busy Bees

The Sharon Hill School annual Spelling Bee was held on December 12th. To qualify to participate in the Bee, students in grades 6 through 8 were administered a test and the top spellers from each grade level were given the opportunity to compete in the Bee. Mrs. Betty Schellinger, retired gifted support teacher, and Academy Park students that were past Sharon Hill Spelling Bee winners came out to assist during the event.

Sixth grade student Gwyneth Bevans was our first place winner and Janiyah Carter, grade 8, was the runner up. Both students will be participating in the county-wide Spelling Bee.



'Twas the Season

The Sharon Hill School and community geared up for the holiday season by taking part in some fun and exciting activities. Students had the opportunity to visit our Holiday Shoppe where they were able to purchase gifts for friends and family. Classrooms competed in the annual door decorating contest and student council hosted a holiday sweater contest. Students were very creative and were excited to participate.



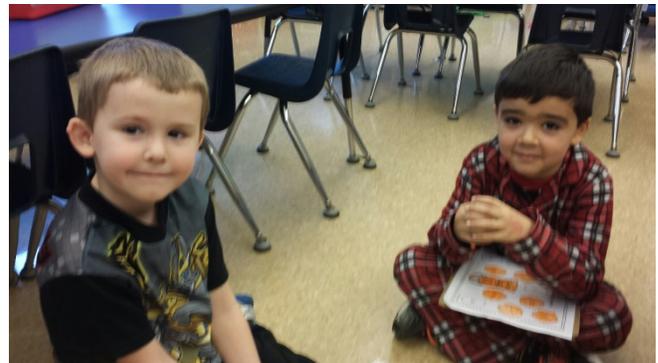
Kindergarten Center

Students Return from Winter Break

Teachers and staff welcomed students back from winter break on January 5th. The students were eager to share their many adventures that took place over the break. Students were also anxious to get back to learning new skills and concepts in 2015!

Polar Express Day

Kindergarten students celebrated a "Polar Express Day" on December 23rd. It is a tradition at the Kindergarten Center that students wear their pajamas and participate in a variety of activities that focus on the book, *The Polar Express*. It is a wonderful day that the children truly enjoy and a great way to lead into the winter break!



Student Assessments

During the week of January 12th, students will be given a variety of assessments that will assist teachers in designing differentiated instruction over the next few months. Also, parents will receive their child's first report card on Friday, January 30th. The information gathered from these assessments will be included in the report cards.

SOUTHEAST DELCO SCHOOL DISTRICT

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