Exploring Viking Culture

Students enrolled in the district’s gifted program learned what it was like to be a Viking during a visit to the American Swedish Historical Museum on October 31st.

Journeying back in time to the age of the Vikings (800-1100 AD), the students examined a 1000-year-old sword, dressed-up in Viking armor, and used hands-on artifacts to discover more about this often misunderstood culture, and how we are still impacted by it today.

Highlights of the visit included making rune stones and playing Viking chess, which they call *hnefatafl*.

Academy Park High School

APHS Students Visit Drexel University

On November 21st, Drexel University hosted a group of college-bound students from Academy Park High School’s enrichment program. Students were presented with useful information about Drexel’s offerings, as well as valuable college readiness tips. AP students were especially interested in the School of Entrepreneurship, the Create-Your-Own-Major option and the opportunity to study abroad. After a question and answer session with one of Drexel’s admissions officers, students were taken on a tour of the campus.
**Girls Tennis Team**

Congratulations to the Academy Park girls’ tennis team for capturing the Del-Val League Doubles Tournament Championship.

The Lady Knights took both top spots as the #1 seeded team of Camille Erskine and Rajah Azor defeated the combo of teammates Aasiyah Bey and Taylor Smith in the finals. Bey and Smith had earlier upset #2 Chichester in the semi-final round. Both teams qualified to represent Academy Park and the Del-Val League in the PIAA District 1 Doubles Tournament at the Legacy Tennis Center in Philadelphia. Earlier, Erskine also won the Del Val Singles title to earn a spot in the PIAA Singles Tournament, along with the team qualifying for the PIAA team tournament. Congratulations, Lady Knights!

**Darby Township School**

**Study Island Recognition**

To encourage students to work on their Study Island assignments at home, a bulletin board has been setup in the school’s lobby where students that have earned at least 25 blue ribbons will be recognized and honored. The students will also receive a gift certificate for a free kid’s meal at Applebee’s and the student with the most blue ribbons at the end of the school year will receive a $50 gift card.
**Canned Food Drive**

Darby Township student council sponsored a food drive in November and students collected a total of 1,774 cans for local families in need. Homerooms competed for a free dress-down day and the three homerooms that collected the most cans were Mrs. Zwolak’s class with 409 cans, Mrs. Juisti’s class with 211 cans and Mrs. Gannon’s class with 200 cans.

School administrators and staff are very proud of the hard work that went into this year’s food drive.

**Pink Out!**

Darby Township student council organized a pink out in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Students and staff were encouraged to wear a pink shirt and pink accessories and all grade levels participated and showed their support. DTS collected $129 and student council matched the donation, raising $258 for the American Cancer Society.

**Haunted Hallway**

To celebrate Halloween, the Darby Township Home and School Association held their annual Haunted Hallway on October 26th. The fundraiser included a haunted hallway, snacks and fall arts and crafts. Students enjoyed spending time with their families and it was a great fundraiser for home and school.

**Perfect Attendance Counts at DTS!**

Students are awarded ten DTS dollars for every month they achieve perfect attendance. Students who maintain perfect attendance for an entire marking period are also acknowledged. Extra gym time and a pretzel snack – donated by the PBIS team - were enjoyed by students this term. Keep up the good work.

**Delcroft School**

**Honor Roll**

Distinguished honors and honor roll students were recognized for their hard work and accomplishments in the 1st marking period. Student’s names were creatively displayed in the cafeteria for students and families to see during conferences. Congratulations to all honor roll students for this special achievement.
Thanksgiving Baskets
Delcroft’s safety patrol sponsored this year’s annual Thanksgiving food drive. Delcroft collected 1,218 food items for Thanksgiving baskets. Non-perishable food items donated by students were combined with turkeys donated by staff members to provide 10 local families with Thanksgiving dinner.

Homerooms competed to see which class would collect the most cans. Mrs. Baxter’s 2nd grade class collected 115 cans and earned a special pretzel party. Many thanks to Mrs. DiDomizio and Mrs. Ortiz for organizing this important yearly project.

My Buddy
Throughout the school year, students are paired up with grade level buddies for special projects and activities. In November, students in grade 6 were partnered with 3rd graders for a special activity. Students worked together to create snowmen using coordinates provided to them.
Students finished the project by decorating the snowman using various materials. Students are always eager to complete projects working as a team with their grade level buddies. The finished projects are prominently displayed in the hallway for all to enjoy.

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**Harris School**

**The Harris Parent Connection**

The Harris Parent Connection held its third Camp Out for Reading on November 14th. Formed by 3rd grade teacher, Dawn McCloud, and working with other Harris teachers and staff, the Harris Parent Connection’s purpose is to develop strategies and events that will engage both parents and students; resulting in better informed parents that are more involved with their child’s education.

The camp out was one of the first events hosted by the group, and along with the holiday cookie bake, the best attended. Over eighty students and parents participated. Students made tasty s’mores over a campfire and joined their parents in a treasure hunt set up around the school.

In addition to Ms. McCloud, thanks go out to Ms. Silverthorn, Ms. Hall, Ms. Donnelly, Ms. Chambers, Ms. Pulli, Mr. Ruane, and members of the Academy Park National Honor Society for helping to make this event so successful.
Season of Giving

Autumn is an exciting time at Harris School. As soon as the leaves fall from the trees and a chill fills the air the Harris family starts to think about community members that may need a helping hand to get through the Holidays. For the past 10 years, the students and staff of Harris School have stepped up to make sure that Harris families have a wonderful Thanksgiving.

The tradition continued this year with enough donations of food and turkeys to provide 20 families with a hearty Thanksgiving dinner. Each family received a reusable shopping bag containing a turkey, dessert and a variety of non-perishable items, including stuffing and vegetables.

As well as the generous donations from students and staff, Harris also received support from Mercy Home Health through their association with former Southeast Delco student Angela Natale. At the beginning of the school year, she and Mercy donated boxes of school supplies with everything from pencils to backpacks. They have also offered to donate toys and coats for the holidays. Harris School is extremely grateful for their kindness and generosity.

Of course, collecting the food and donations is just the beginning. Thanks go out to Danny Ruane, Doranne Nattress, Chrissy Frederico, and Tony Lorine for all of their help with collecting donations, putting the bags together, contacting the families, and delivering the baskets to the homes.

In addition to helping Harris families, Harris student council collected over 600 canned and non-perishable food items for donation to the Neighbor to Neighbor emergency food cupboard in Sharon Hill.

Sharon Hill School

Community Service Project

Students are currently taking part in two different community service projects: collecting canned and non-perishable food to donate to families in need and raising funds to contribute to the Chris Long Foundation. The foundation uses the money that is raised to help dig wells in African countries with no fresh water sources.

Students are competing to see which homeroom can collect the most food and raise the most money. Both projects will continue throughout the month.
**PBIS**

Sharon Hill is supporting positive behavior by rewarding students for exhibiting appropriate district, school and classroom conduct. In November, eligible middle school students visited Arnold’s Funplex and had an amazing time representing the Sharon Hill community. Elementary grades enjoyed fun activities in their classrooms to celebrate their success.

![Image of students at Funplex](image1.jpg)

**Kindness is Cool Challenge**

As part of an on-going, school-wide campaign, students at Sharon Hill School created videos promoting kindness and anti-bullying. Homerooms competed against one another and the students had a great experience collaborating with their classmates and teachers to create the videos.

The winning homerooms included: 8th grade – Mr. Samar, the entire 5th grade team, and 2nd grade – Ms. Schaffer. Congratulations to all of the students and staff who participated.

**Reading is Super Cool**

To be eligible to partake in two fun activities, students have to first read related, on-level chapter books. In November, grade 4 completed a chapter on ancient Egypt by creating pyramids, hieroglyphic cartouches and necklaces. Third grade students finished a unit on wildfires, so they made fire pits out of pretzels, marshmallows and candy corn and watched “Fire and Rescue”.

![Image of students making fire pits](image2.jpg)
4th Grade STEM Project
Students in the 4th grade constructed catapults out of popsicle sticks, rubber bands and spoons. The students then competed against one another to see who could catapult their candy pumpkin the farthest. This activity required skills in science, engineering and mathematics and the students needed to use all the strategies they have learned to be successful and engaged learners.

Word Parade
Students and staff recently participated in the Sharon Hill School’s annual word parade. Each student was provided a list of grade-level words to select from and then created a costume to illustrate that word. The highlight of the parade for the students was walking around the neighborhood and showing their creativity to the community.

Book Fair
Sharon Hill School held a Scholastic book fair and students were excited to attend and purchase books. All books were age appropriate to a variety of students, with a wide range of interesting and relevant topics. Many students brought their parents to the fair to share the experience. Students cannot wait until the spring book fair.

Kindergarten Center
The Conservation Caper
The Kindergarten Center students walked to Darby Township School on November 9th to see an assembly entitled “The Conservation Caper”. Peco Energy Company sponsored this free assembly that teaches students about where energy comes from and how to conserve it in their homes.

Thanksgiving at the Kindergarten Center
Kindergarten students celebrated their annual Thanksgiving feast, and according to tradition, students and staff dressed as either pilgrims or Native Americans and performed Thanksgiving songs and poems. After their performance, the classes had Thanksgiving trail mix. It was a wonderful activity enjoyed by everyone.
Canned Food Drive

One of the goals of the Kindergarten Center for the 2018 / 2019 school year was to organize various community outreach programs. The first endeavor was a canned food drive that ran from November 5th through November 16th. The students and teachers collected over 800 canned goods and non-perishable food items. The collection was then stored in a food pantry to assist Southeast Delco families. We greatly appreciated all the support to help those in need.

SOUTHEAST DELCO SCHOOL DISTRICT

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