All Time Leading Scorer

At an away game against West Chester Rustin on January 9th, Jawan Collins broke the All Time Leading Basketball Scorer record at Academy Park High School.

Jawan played for the Academy Park varsity basketball team as a freshman and is the only player to score 1,000 points during their junior year. Now a senior, Jawan Collins was honored prior to the Academy Park vs. Chester High School boys’ basketball game on January 14th. Jawan broke the record set by Byu-deen Twyman who scored 1,294 points in 2000. Byu-deen gave Jawan a ceremonial ball to honor his achievements on the court.

Congratulations Jawan and continued success on and off the court!

Academy Park High School

Rising Scholars Visits Neumann University

The Rising Scholars of Academy Park High School visited Neumann University in January. Students were afforded the opportunity to see the facility in a small group setting guided by a university student tour guide. The tour included stops by the dining hall, library, sports facility, residence buildings, financial aid, registrar, and a typical classroom.

The tour ended with an in-depth question and answer session lead by an admissions officer followed by lunch at the dining hall. The students were encouraged to ask questions and to contact the admissions officer directly should they think of a question after the session.

The dining experience was memorable with many students exclaiming "Try anything! It's all good!" Students were delighted at all the great things Neumann had to offer; they never realized such a great institution was in their backyard. Many expressed an interest in getting more information saying, "I really liked having a chance to see what this university is all about!"
Looking Ahead

Students in grade 8 from Darby Township, Harris, Delcroft, and Sharon Hill Schools visited Academy Park and spent the afternoon exploring their future school. Students had lunch in the cafeteria, took a tour of the building, completed a science experiment or technology activity, and participated in team building games in the gym.

Students from the class of 2016 volunteered as guides for the students as they toured the building. Teachers also presented a slide-show explaining all of the activities and sports that Academy Park High School has to offer.

Darby Township School

Month of Service

In honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and as part of the January month of service celebration, DTS student council, under the sponsorship of Mrs. Camile Jackson and Ms. Nicole Bourque, worked with first grade students to create greeting cards for donation to the residents of Little Flower Manor.

Passport to History

Karyn Confer from the Delaware County Historical Society returned to Darby Township School and presented a lesson to our 4th grade students on archaeological artifacts and how to reconstruct them. The students were given broken pieces of pottery and challenged with fitting the pieces back together again.

On Ms. Confer's first visit to DTS she dressed in authentic colonial period clothing and explained the history of Delaware County and how it played a part in the development of the state of Pennsylvania. This was a wonderful program that is well suited to our fourth graders who study the state of Pennsylvania in social studies throughout the year.

Passport to History is part of the Historical Society's award winning curriculum-based program designed for grades 4 and 5.
**Sneak Peek**
DTS students that are currently in grade 8 attended a "bump-up" day at Academy Park where several team building activities were held that will help students acclimate to high school in the fall. Students returned to the building very excited with many positive experiences to share.

**Delcroft School**

**Pennies for Patients**
Delcroft School student council will again sponsor The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's (LLS) *Pennies for Patients* campaign. Each year the program sets a goal for schools who participate in the program on a regular basis. This year Delcroft's goal is $2,500. As an incentive, student council is running a homeroom contest to identify the class that collects the highest amount. Students will be provided coin boxes for collecting change or dollars and the winning team will receive a luncheon provided by The Olive Garden. In past, the lunch was delivered to our school but this year the winning homeroom will take a field trip to the restaurant to enjoy their reward.

The addition of a field trip has prompted a high level of competition among the homerooms. Students who raise $25 or more are eligible to win a free ticket to the Philadelphia 76er's game on April 2nd against the Indiana Pacers or April 5th vs the New Orleans Pelicans.

For several years Delcroft students and staff have proudly raised funds for this important cause. This year we plan to exceed our previous year's amount of $2,400. If you are interested in supporting this fundraiser you may drop off donations to the main office at Delcroft School until February 25th.

**Harris School**

**A Day of Discovery**
Harris students joined with fellow 8th graders from all district schools for a peek into the possibilities that await them as freshmen at Academy Park High School. This day of discovery was planned to ease what can be a stressful transition from a neighborhood school to a large high school filled with new teachers and unfamiliar faces.
After enjoying lunch in the cafeteria, Academy Park seniors escorted the students on a tour of the building. Students could then choose to take part in a science experiment or technology activity, after which they all gathered in the gym and participated in team building exercises.

The students returned to Harris impressed with what they had experienced and eager to begin the next chapter in their education.

2016 National Geographic Bee

Twenty-two students from grades 6-8 entered the Harris gym as participants in the 2016 National Geographic Bee on January 26th. Every student that participated also attended at least one after school review session and completed multiple study guides to help prepare them for the competition.

This year’s contest was extremely competitive and there were many proud parents in attendance to cheer on the students. This year’s winner was Laila Lewis, who is in the 6th grade and also won 1st place in the Spelling Bee earlier in December.

By winning the Harris Geography Bee, Laila will now take the online State Geography Bee test. A passing grade on the test will qualify her for participation in the Pennsylvania State Geography Bee.

Sharon Hill School

MLK Day of Service

At Sharon Hill School, the Martin Luther King holiday was not a day off; it was a day on! Students, staff, and community members chose to honor Dr. King with a day of service by volunteering at the school and taking part in several school beautification projects.

This year extra support was provided by Academy Park girls’ basketball team and the Rising Scholars. Closets were cleaned, classrooms were organized, and the inspirational quotes that were painted during last year’s day of service were touched up and refreshed.

Sharon Hill student council also collected toiletries from students and their families, which were donated to a local senior citizen’s home.
Building Bridges

The transition from 8th grade to high school can be exciting, scary and stressful all at the same time. It is really important that structures are set up to cultivate success and to ease anxiety for students as they make this transition from one level of education to another. On January 20th, Sharon Hill's grade 8 students joined their peers from Harris School for a high school transition day.

The students visited Academy Park High School and participated in activities designed to encourage interaction and collaboration with their fellow future 9th graders. This was a very exciting and insightful event for our students.

Thank you to the high school staff that worked so hard organizing this event and helping to build bridges by fostering positive relationships.

Kindergarten Center

A Duck, an Owl and a Lizard, Oh My!

In January, along with the first snow of the winter season, Kindergarten students enjoyed an assembly entitled Zoo on Wheels. A representative from the Philadelphia Zoo brought an armadillo, a duck, an owl, and a lizard to the Kindergarten Center and shared many interesting facts about the animal kingdom. It was an exciting and educational morning that was appreciated by both students and staff!