Making Beautiful Music Together

By Michele McGlynn

Richard Tanner, the Director of Chapel Music at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance based at the Old Naval College in Greenwich, England volunteered his time to work with our Academy Park High School Choir.

Mr. Tanner taught the students new warm-up activities and provided feedback and guidance to students regarding their repertoire. The students were encouraged by his motivational words regarding practice and commitment to their personal musical goals.

Mr. Tanner is extremely well known and respected in England. He is most famous for his vocal contributions during the wedding ceremony of Prince Charles and Princess Diana.

District Honor Band Receives Grant

Based on the success of the first District Honor Band, Rebecca King, a Southeast Delco instrumental music teacher, applied for a Music Education Outreach Grant from Sigma Alpha Iota Philanthropies Inc. and was awarded monies for the purchase of music stands, chairs, folders and music. This will allow the district to hold a 2nd Annual District Honor Band and expand it to include a District Honor Chorus, as well. The district is thankful to Sigma Alpha Iota Philanthropies Inc. for their support of our music program. Our first band rehearsal starts at 7:30 am on November 4th and will continue to be held on the first Friday of every month until the concert, which will be held on Wednesday, March 7th at Academy Park High School. March is "Music in Our Schools Month", so this will be a wonderful opportunity to share the district's musical talent with our community.

Participating students have been involved in band or chorus for at least one year and are chosen by their band/chorus director to be part of these select ensembles. These elite students will attend monthly rehearsals before school to prepare for the performance.
Academy Park High School

APHS School Library
Keeping Up With The Times

By Michael Hooven and Tamara Scanlan

Academy Park High School library introduced ten new iPads on Thursday, October 20, 2011. The new additions will bring our library one step closer to becoming a 21st Century facility.

In the upcoming months of the 2011 - 2012 school year, many applications will be purchased and placed on each iPad. The applications will allow students to print, create a word document, PowerPoint presentation, Excel worksheet, and help supplement their course curriculum. An application called SAT Connect has already been installed, which allows students to practice for the SAT by taking practice tests, and by exploring the review sections within the application.

Another great feature that these tablet devices offer is the ability to read books. Books and magazines will be made available on the iPads in the months to come. Students will be able to take an interactive approach to reading. They will have the availability to stop at a word, click the word, and select dictionary to find the meaning. The LED backlight provides a crisp image that will practically bring the book alive.

The picture to the right is a 10th grade student using an iPad to research medieval food, which will be used to construct a menu for a medieval venue that he will create. What you cannot see in the picture is how excited he is to use the iPad to conduct his research, as are most students that ask each day to get their hands on these state of the art, 21st Century tablets.

Upcoming Academy Park Events

November

November 2  Early Dismissal – 11:00 AM
November 4 – 5  Fall Play – Almost Maine – 7:00 PM
November 8  Professional Education Day – No School for Students
November 17  Dodge Ball – 6:00 PM
November 19  Saturday School Success Academy – 8:00 AM
November 21  Parent / Teacher Conferences – 6:00 PM
November 24 & 25  Thanksgiving Recess – No School for Students and Staff

December

December 14  Winter Concert – 7:00 PM
December 23 January 3  Winter Recess Begins – No School for Students and Staff
January 3  School Resumes for Students and Staff
Darby Township School

Darby Township School administration and staff hosted the first of a series of planned Citizen of the Month (COM) assemblies on September 30th. Parents of honored students were invited to attend the recognition of their children as teachers presented them with a certificate and a Citizen of the Month t-shirt to acknowledge their exemplary behavior and attitude. The students’ pictures were also taken and prominently exhibited in the main hallway. Our next COM assembly is scheduled for November 4th and we are excited for the opportunity to celebrate our students.

Each week the DTS faculty nominates staff members who they believe should be recognized and celebrated for going above and beyond their regular call of duty. So far, Mrs. O’Boyle, Mrs. McDermott, Mrs. Manko-Morgan, Mrs. Connell, and Mrs. Deck have been “REELed in” and they have each been given a designated “FISH” parking spot for a week as well as a gift card to WAWA.

Celebrating our successes is what we do at DTS and the COM assemblies, as well as the “REELed in for good deeds” initiatives, are all part of the DTS focus this year. In addition, there is a reward system in place for students and as the end of the first quarter approaches, grade level teams are planning specific reward events for students.

Darby Township School Celebrates Red Ribbon Week

The DTS Student Council is an integral part of the school and during the month of October helped organize the Red Ribbon Week celebration, including special themes and events for each day of the week.

Monday – Celebrate Red Ribbon Week by Wearing Red
Students wore red shirts, red hair ribbons and bows.

Tuesday – Don’t Slip Into Drugs
Students wore slippers to classes during the school day.

Wednesday – Don’t Sweat Drugs
Students were permitted to wear sweat pants and shirts.

Thursday – Put A Cap On Drugs
Students were permitted to wear hats.

Friday - Don’t Mess Up Your Genes
Students were permitted to wear jeans.

Other Red Ribbon events included a drug awareness assembly for grades 3 – 6 and a “Cruisin, Not Boozin” assembly for grades 7 and 8. Additionally, during Responsive Classroom, students created Awareness Ribbons, which they colored red, cut out, and on one side wrote, “I have better things to do than drugs” and on the other side listed positive hobbies/activities they like to do. The Awareness Ribbons were then hung outside the classrooms.

Home and School at DTS

The DTS Home and School hosted a spooktacular event on Friday October 21st. The event began at 6 30 p.m. with a costume competition based on 3 categories: scariest, funniest and most original. Students also participated in a pumpkin decorating competition, and were spooked going through our “Haunted Hallway”. This event attracted a fairly large crowd and both adults and children had a spooktacular time!
The DTS Home and School will be hosting a book fair November 14th through 18th and there will be a family night so parents can have the opportunity to do some book shopping. Also, be on the lookout for a Holiday Season event sponsored by the DTS Home and School! The next Home and School meeting is on November 21st at 7:00 p.m. in the library.

**Upcoming Darby Township School Events**

**November**
- **November 2** Professional Day – Early Dismissal – 12:45 PM
- **November 4** End of 1st Marking Period
- **November 8** Professional Day – No School for Students
- **November 10** Picture Retake Day – 1:00-2:00 PM
- **November 21** Home & School Meeting – 7:00 PM
- **November 21 – 23** Parent / Teacher Conferences – Early Dismissal – 12:45 PM
- **November 21 – 23** Book Fair (Open to Parents to Buy Books in the Library)
- **November 24 – 25** Thanksgiving Recess – No School for Students and Staff

**December**
- **December 12** Winter Concert – 7:00 PM
- **December 23 January 3** Winter Recess Begins – No School for Students and Staff
- **January 3** School Resumes for Students and Staff

**Delcroft School**

Delcroft School celebrated National Red Ribbon Week, a national drug prevention campaign, with a variety of activities that support and celebrate living a healthy and drug-free lifestyle. Delcroft students and staff participated in raffles, dress down days, giveaways, contests, and assemblies.

Each day during the week of October 24th through 28th, a different theme guided the day’s activity.

**Monday - Team Up Against Drugs**
Students wore team jerseys or favorite sports team shirts.

**Tuesday - Switch Gears and Pick a Career**
Students wore an outfit that represented a career of their choice.

**Wednesday - I’m a Jean-ius! I’m Drug-Free!**
Students were permitted to wear jeans to school.

**Thursday – Drugs Are Ridiculous!**
Students dressed in their most ridiculous outfits, such as a silly shirt, an ugly tie, and/or crazy socks.

**Friday - Red Ribbon Day**
Students wore a red shirt with their uniform pants.

Grade levels participated in a hallway decorating contest, which was judged by the superintendent and assistant superintendent. Students created a giant red ribbon in the cafeteria composed of individual ribbons, and were able to purchase candy grams to send a message to themselves or a friend to promote a healthy lifestyle. Each student signed a pledge to be drug free. These pledges were linked together and displayed in the cafeteria.
Delcroft also hosted guests to help celebrate Red Ribbon Week. Holcombe Behavioral Health visited classrooms to provide lessons about the importance of living a drug-free lifestyle. Delcroft 7th and 8th grade students attended an assembly provided by Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital titled Cruizin' not Boozin'. This program provided students with the opportunity to hear from individuals whose lives have been changed dramatically because of a poor choice they made as a young adult. Speakers Tim and Dan each recounted injuries they suffered, including a traumatic brain injury, as a result of drinking and driving. Tim and Dan shared their stories in hopes that others could learn from their experiences. The impact of their stories was immeasurable and will not be forgotten.

Students were taught how to create a safety plan with their parents to assist them in making good choices. Delcroft students and staff are grateful to Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital for coming to their school and sharing this valuable information.

Students and Staff at Delcroft School enjoyed all the special activities during Red Ribbon Week and will continue to promote the message of Red Ribbon Week that our choices to live a healthy and drug-free lifestyle are not just for one week, but for a lifetime.

**Upcoming Delcroft School Events**

**November**
November 2  
*Professional Day – Early Dismissal – 12:45 PM*

November 4  
End of 1st Marking Period

**November 8**  
*Professional Day – No School for Students*

November 9  
Delcroft Science Fair

November 11  
Awards Assembly – Grades 1 – 5
November 11
Home and School Vendor Night – 7:00 PM
November 21 – 23
Parent / Teacher Conferences – Early Dismissal – 12:45 PM
November 24 – 25
Thanksgiving Recess – No School for Students and Staff

December
December 13
Winter Concert – 6:30 PM
December 23 January 3
Winter Recess Begins – No School for Students and Staff
January 3
School Resumes for Students and Staff

Harris School

Harris School hosted several events in October, beginning with the annual Fire Prevention Week assembly on October 13th. As they have in the past, Collingdale Fire Company #1 staged a demonstration of fire safety techniques for students in grades 1-5. The students were invited to a walk around a fire truck and explanations of how the equipment works were provided. Mrs. Cook, a 2nd grade teacher commented on how enthusiastic the students were, and how well the firemen presented to the students. The students look forward to the assembly every year, and are never disappointed.

Another October event that is celebrated at Harris and in many schools across the country is “Red Ribbon Week”. An entire week is dedicated to this event with a unique theme, assigned to each day. All themes are designed to demonstrate each student’s commitment to leading a drug free lifestyle.

**Monday – I Have Better Things To Do Than Drugs**
Kick-off to Red Ribbon Week, students wore red to school.

**Tuesday – Turn Your Back On Drugs**
Students wore their clothes backwards.

**Wednesday – Stay In The Game**
Students wore team jerseys.

**Thursday – Being Drug-Free Is No Sweat**
Students were permitted to wear sweats.

**Friday - Put Down Drugs**
Students were permitted to dress down for the day
Upcoming Harris School Events

November
November 2  Professional Day – Early Dismissal – 12:45 PM
November 4  End of 1st Marking Period
November 8  Professional Day – No School for Students
November 15  Harris Science Fair
November 16  REACH Training – Grade 5
November 17  REACH Training – Grade 2
November 17 – 23  Fall Book Fair
November 18  Picture Retake Day
November 21 – 23  Parent / Teacher Conferences – Early Dismissal – 12:45 PM
November 22  Annual Harris “Turkey Bowl” Football Game – Staff vs. 8th Grade Students
November 30  District Science Fair at Harris School

December
December 15  Winter Concert – 6:30 PM
December 23 January 3  Winter Recess Begins – No School for Students and Staff
January 3  School Resumes for Students and Staff

Sharon Hill School

Sharon Hill Students Celebrate “Red Ribbon Week”

Sharon Hill School students joined in the nationwide observation of “Red Ribbon Week” in October. Each day of the week-long celebration had a unique theme and activity.

Monday – Red Rally Day
Kick-off to Red Ribbon Week, students wore red to school.

Tuesday – Team Up Against Drugs
Students wore their favorite team jersey or shirt.
Wednesday – Being Drug Free Is No Sweat
Students were permitted to wear sweats to school.

Thursday – Sock It To Drugs
Students wore crazy, mismatched socks.

Friday - Take A Stand For A Drug Free Land
Students wore a red, white, and blue.

As part of the celebration for Red Ribbon Week there was a daily drawing for prizes for students dressed according to the theme for each day. Also, throughout the week bookmarks, comic books and bracelets were distributed to students to help show their support of Red Ribbon Week.

Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS)

Sharon Hill School held its first PBIS Social for the 2011 – 2012 school year on October 28th.

Students that exhibited positive behavior and “OWL Pride” during the months of September and October were invited to the event, where they enjoyed dancing, socializing with peers, and refreshments.

Upcoming Sharon Hill School Events

**November**

- **November 2**  Professional Day – Early Dismissal – 12:45 PM
- **November 4**  End of 1st Marking Period
- **November 8**  Professional Day – No School for Students
- **November 10**  Home & School Italian Food Night
- **November 15**  Science Fair
- **November 17 – 23**  Scholastic Book Fair
- **November 21 – 23**  Parent / Teacher Conferences – Early Dismissal – 12:45 PM
- **November 24 & 25**  Thanksgiving Recess – No School for Students and Staff
- **November 29**  Marking Period I Awards Ceremony – Grades 1 - 4
- **November 30**  Marking Period I Awards Ceremony – Grades 5 – 8

**December**

- **December 20**  Winter Concert – 6:00 PM
- **December 21**  Winter Assembly
- **December 22**  Positive Behavior Social
- **December 23 January 3**  Winter Recess Begins – No School for Students and Staff
- **January 3**  School Resumes for Students and Staff
Fire Prevention Week Assembly

The Kindergarten Center held fire safety assemblies on Wednesday, October 12th, as part of Fire Prevention Week. Assemblies were presented by visiting Upper Darby fireman, Andrew Hunger.

Fireman Hunger instructed students on how to stay safe if their house was on fire. He dressed in and demonstrated the protective equipment that rescue workers wear when they save people.

Fireman Hunger taught the children about having a designated area outside their home where they can meet up with their parents and other family members and how to remain low to the floor to avoid inhaling smoke in a burning building.

Kindergarten Students Enjoy Field Trip to Highland Orchards

Kindergarten Center students traveled on a field trip to Highland Orchards as the educational field experience for Kindergarten Science units on seasonal change and plant growth. The field experience included seeing how apples and pumpkins are grown and harvested. Students then observed apples being prepared and pressed into cider and other products to be sold in stores. Pumpkins were brought back for each class. The pumpkins will be studied in individual classrooms to identify plant parts such as the seeds and plant stems. Classes also worked together to build scarecrows to bring back to the school for the Harvest Festival, a culminating event for the seasonal change unit.

Upcoming Kindergarten Center Events

**November**

November 2  
*Professional Day – Early Dismissal – 12:45 PM*

November 7  
Safe Touch Presentation

**November 8**  
*Professional Day – No School for Students*

November 10  
Picture Retakes – 9:30 AM

November 11  
Safe Touch Presentation

November 11  
Progress Notices Issued

November 23  
Thanksgiving Feast

**November 24 & 25**  
*Thanksgiving Recess – No School for Students and Staff*
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<td>December 23</td>
<td>Winter Recess Begins – No School for Students and Staff</td>
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