

PTA NEWSLETTER

*Think Globally
Listen Compassionately
Act Inclusively*

Mark Your Calendars

November 30 6:30pm
PTA general meeting
followed by PTA Parent
Education Workshop
with **Deborah
Roffman, "Talking to
Your Kids About
Sex."**

**December 3-4 and
December 10-11**

Holiday greens sale.
Support Alice Deal by
buying your tree and
greens at the Holiday
Greens Sale.

February 25
Deal Auction

INSIDE:

- Letter from Interim Principal Albright
- Reno School Renovation to add classroom space for Alice Deal
- IM Soccer and other Deal Happenings
- Team, Department, Extracurricular and Sports News
- Spotlight on Team Alexandria
- Principal's Honor Roll and Honor Roll for First Advisory

A FINAL PRINCIPAL'S LETTER FROM DR. KIM

Since announcing my departure, I have been working with the Deal leadership team to make sure they are poised to drive Deal to the next level. Already during the transition, the team has faced several challenges and handled them skillfully, which has further bolstered my confidence in them. Finally, Mr. Albright knows our people and how the place works – a good foundation for a smooth transfer. He and the administrative team would benefit from your continued trust and support.

During this time, I have also been closely watching and listening to the students. I sense some sadness and confusion from some, especially the 8th graders, but even in the face of these isolated moments, their days proceed normally. Thanks to the superb adults at Deal, the student experience – both academic and social – continues to get stronger. Teachers are throwing themselves into creating even more interesting learning units while they continue to offer more interesting extracurricular opportunities, such as Bocci

ball, the wildly successful soccer intramurals that will shift to basketball intramurals, Deal sharks, and the Literature Film Festival! The dedication and work ethic of the people in our school is unbeatable and our students are thriving in their care.

I have been asked by the PTA to describe the principal selection process that Hilary Darilek (Hilary.Darilek@dc.gov) of DCPS will spearhead in the coming months. The process involves a national search for highly qualified individuals who will be the right fit for Alice Deal. The candidates will go through a rigorous process on paper as well as with in-person interviews at the central office level before they are cleared to interview for the school panel. Chancellor Henderson is proud of Deal's accomplishments and is personally committed to making sure that the school is led by a capable and skillful leader. Of course, Mr. Albright is very interested in serving Deal as



the principal beyond his interim status and I have no doubt that he will be one of the strongest candidates.

Finally, I am grateful to have had your confidence and support during my tenure at Deal. I will never forget the fabulous teachers, students, staff, and families of Deal. Serving this wonderful community and getting to know many of you personally has been an honor and a joy. I hope that my little guy will one day attend a school that is filled with so much joy, good intentions, and good will. I hope we stay in touch and work together in a different capacity from this point forward!





PTA Co-Presidents
Diana Rojas and Cathy House

From the PTA Co-Presidents

It's Just Not the Right Time

We watch the news and, of course, living in the nation's capital we know about the economic downturn. I am sure some of you have experienced it personally. I have as well. Therefore, it has not been the right time to pay my dues. However, rest assured, my dues will be paid. I do not want our children to go without resources. The concept of a lot of people doing a little bit, works. Diana and I want you to know how much we appreciate, all of you who have paid your dues. To those of you who are like me, even if "it's just is not the right time", I want you to know you still have time, even next semester is a good time. Because, your dues mean a **GREAT DEAL** to us!!!! Thank you for being such a wonderful and supporting community!

Cathy House, Co-PTA
President

Interim Principal's Message

These are exciting times to be part of the Alice Deal Middle School community. As IB Coordinator, Assistant Principal, and now Interim Principal, I have seen Deal teachers and students meet challenge after challenge head-on. It has been a pleasure to see pride continue to grow in Deal's accomplishments.

Community support has traditionally been a key factor in Deal's many initiatives. Deal piloted core instructional teams and then spread these across the school. Teams feel like little schoolhouses in a larger building, making it easier for parents and students to connect with teachers. Adding the 6th grade three years ago was managed with a carefully developed tran-

sition process, one that continues today to help students get acclimated to a bigger school. The warmth and cohesiveness of the 6th grade teams arises from how they enter the school. Additionally, the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program (MYP) was made a priority of Dr. Kim's and shapes today's curriculum. These initiatives define where Deal is now – and each step of the way the community has let its interests and concerns be known.

There is still much to do and there are more challenges to come. Deal's population continues to grow, and even with the beautiful renovation of a couple of years ago, more space is needed. A plan is moving forward that



will preserve the best of Deal and allow more students to benefit from that model. The heart of this expansion is the addition of a renovated Reno/Rose School. Unlike so many historic facilities, the school will not be "repurposed" but instead be allowed to serve its original purpose – a beautiful school building for neighborhood children. As we move forward, the community's support is again needed to ensure that Deal continues to offer the best to its students.

- Interim Principal Albright

6TH GRADERS TRAINING FOR DCPS GEOPLUNGE CHALLENGE TOURNAMENT

Six talented and hard-working sixth graders have been busy training for the DCPS GeoPlunge Challenge Tournament on November 15 at the National Portrait Gallery. At the tournament 4th-6th grade students from over 40 DCPS middle and elementary schools compete against one another to show off their U.S. Geography skills by playing the GeoPlunge! card game. The game quizzes students on their knowledge of the 50 state capitals, flow-

ers, and birds, as well as each state's rankings of population, statehood, and size. All six participants (Sophia Diggs-Gallagan, Tavon Thomas, Leonie Aksyonov, Nicholas Whitman, Eliza Zizka, and Ernesto Fritts) have demonstrated dedica-

tion, cooperation, and leadership and have given up two days of recess every week of the school year in order to prepare!



- Mike Martini,
Harlan Kinzer,
and Cristina Cam-
pozano (6th
grade Humanities
Department)

The plan for the renovation of Reno School would add 12 more classrooms and 37,000 square feet to accommodate the burgeoning enrollment at Alice Deal Middle School

Reno School

Deal to Add More Classrooms with Renovation of Historic School

Only three years after the completion of its renovation, Deal is looking to add some more space to the school by rebuilding the next door Reno school and linking it to the current building.

The plan, announced in late September, would add 12 more classroom spaces and some 37,000 square feet to accommodate the burgeoning enrollment at the school. This year, there are 1,017 students in a school built to accommodate some 980.

The 2007 renovation did not anticipate the growth in student enrollment. While administrators say the school currently doesn't feel overcrowded, the addition of students without sufficient space would threaten the small team structure that defines the school's educational program. The additional space would allow for four teams per grade level, instead of the current three.

The historic Jesse Reno School dates from the early 1900s and served the black students of

Reno City, the community on and around Fort Reno that grew out of the Civil War. It later served as a special needs school, but has been vacant since the 1990s.

In the interest of maintaining the building's historic significance, the project will restore the Reno school's four original classrooms but retain its appearance as a standalone building. It will be connected to the main Deal building by a glassy two-story addition that will contain eight more classrooms, communal areas, administrative space, and a day care center for teachers' children.

Outgoing principal, Dr. Melissa Kim, said physically uniting the two schools is an "incredible symbol of taking the spirit of Brown v. The Board of Education and making it a reality."

Brown v. The Board of Education was the 1954 landmark Supreme Court decision overturning state-sponsored segregation in public schools. One of the collective suits that formed

the case had originated in Washington, D.C.

When Dr. Kim started at Deal in 2005, she said, classrooms were still, in effect, segregated, with white students in a majority of classes together, and black students in other classes.

"Kids are not stupid. They could see what was happening," she said. "It was becoming toxic. It wasn't a feel good sort of place."

To turn the school around, Dr. Kim structured the school around teams of instructors paired with 110-student that reflected the school's racial diversity. She eliminated the 5-tier tracking of math courses and established two rigorous math pathways, allowing 8th grade students to complete either Algebra or Geometry before leaving middle school. English and science tracking were also eliminated.

By Diana Rojas

LUNCHTIME INTRAMURAL SOCCER TOURNAMENT

This fall, the athletic department introduced an Alice Deal intramural soccer tournament.

When Deal transitioned from being a Junior High School to a Middle School, we were no longer able to play soccer games against the freshman teams of the private schools, which made up the bulk of the schedule. It became very difficult to find quality teams to play against so the athletic department decided to restore the intramural programs which we used to run about ten years ago. This way, those students who had a love for soccer would be able to play during the school hours as well as with their various soccer clubs. Deal

plans to do the same thing during the winter for basketball.

The soccer tourney featured three divisions, one for each grade level. A double elimination method was used to insure that each class played at least two games. The tournament has been exciting for both players and spectators as our students displayed great skills as well as excellent sportsmanship.

The 7th and 8th grade divisions have been completed with Ms. D'Antonio's homeroom winning the 7th grade division and Ms. Purcell's homeroom winning the 8th. The 6th grade division will

conclude next week. Then the 6th grade champion will play the 7th grade champion. The winner will play the 8th grade champion in the 1st Annual Deal Turkey Bowl Soccer Championship!

Congratulations to all of the participants of the 2011 Deal Intramural Soccer Tournament.

- Ron Jenkins

"It was fun to play against and with our friends and to have something to do at lunch."

- Sarah Burch, Ms. D'Antonio's 7th grade homeroom

"Playing soccer with my homeroom was really fun! We all got to show the amazing talent each one of us has. Lots of the other homerooms showed their talent, too, but we worked very hard to win the 7th grade division. Every single one of my teammates deserved the win. It was an entertaining activity that I plan to do again next year."

- Emily Durr, Ms. D'Antonio's 7th grade homeroom



Ms. Purcell's homeroom, 8th grade winners of the IM Soccer Tournament.



Pictured above is Ms. D'Antonio's winning homeroom after they won first place in the 7th grade soccer competition.

Congratulations 7th grade soccer stars!

Ms. D'Antonio's homeroom soared as they played multiple games to fly to first place. Their commitment, teamwork and perseverance resulted in them winning the championship! Way to shine on and off the field.

- Cecilia D'Antonio

World Map Mural Dedication Ceremony

On October 7, 2011 at 11am a group of thirty-two students, teachers and administrators gathered in the courtyard of Alice Deal Middle School to dedicate a world map mural painted by the 6th grade during Deal Gives Back Day, held June 8th, 2011. Interim Principal James Albright read a statement to those assembled, including Principal Dr. Melissa Kim and Assistant Principal for 6th Grade Diedre Neal. A plaque describing the world map, known as the

Dymaxion map, was also read and attached near the map.

The Dymaxion Map, designed by Buckminster Fuller, is a distortion-free projection depicting accurate sizes and shapes of the continents as an island archipelago in one ocean, and is widely regarded as the most accurate two-dimensional map in existence.

-Christopher Hyun



National History Day: *Revolution, Reaction, Reform in History*

Eighth grade students are currently working hard to select their topics for Deal's annual participation in National History Day. This program requires students to work with both primary and secondary source materials about a topic that reflects the annual theme. Students have received a list of benchmark assignments in preparation for the final project which is due in mid-February.

Students and families who need some extra support for completing this project can visit www.nhd.org for assistance, can contact missy.mcnatt@nara.gov to schedule research assistance at the National Archives, and can contact either Mr. Koenig, Ms. Simpson-Wayne or Ms. Mostoller. We are all here to help make your projects both content-rich and highly competitive.

The National History Day program engages more than 800,000 students in the United States, Department of Defense Schools, and international schools around the world. Deal's Humanities department sponsors participation at the classroom level for all 8th graders, but also sends student projects on to competition at the citywide and national levels. Many of our students have won prizes at the national level for their projects in years past—and we are looking to make this year every bit as successful as those of the past.

-Cynthia Mostoller

TAGSDC

On Saturday, October 29th, eight sixth graders (Isaac Boris, Ricardo Lindo, Sierra Lewter, Lauryn Donahue, Fiona Lynch, Shiva Steele, Ernesto Fritts, and Carl Morison), along with Ms. Kinzer and Ms. Campozano travelled to National Geographic to learn ways to bring fun and creative geography programming back to our school. Students learned how to use a GPS device and how to use GPS technology to make maps of DC. This get together is the first of three. In addition, students will be

collaborating to bring a geography club to Deal, as well as to create a geography awareness website for our school.

—Ms. Campozano,
Ms. Kinzer, and Mr. Martini



Visual Arts Students Compete In 3rd Annual Eco Decathlon

First semester Visual Arts students were in for a real treat this year when they had the opportunity to explore the 2011 Solar Decathlon hosted by the Department of Energy. In the classroom, students examined sustainable architecture and technology models used in past Solar Decathlon entries to frame unique designs for their own sustainable houses to hypothetically be constructed in the Washington, DC area. Visual Arts students were challenged to work in "green teams" and take on similar planning and design responsibilities of architects, sustainable designers, and engineers. After walking into the houses con-

structed by college students and seeing numerous innovative solutions to energy and space efficiency problems, 8th grade students were given new inspiration for their culminating task of creating a scale model and presenting their eco house models to architects, engineers, and sustainable designers working in DC. The Visual Arts department would like to thank all art students for their never-ending energy, hard work ethic, and willingness to tackle artistic challenges with innovative solutions. The department would also like to extend their gratitude to all community members, admini-

stration, and Deal teachers for serving as judges at another successful Eco Decathlon.

-Carolyn Kouri and
Margaret Bustos



TEAM AND DEPARTMENT NEWS

From the ELL Department and Team Timbuktu

Situated on the second and ground floors of the school building, the ELL Department has a diverse group of students. It is no exaggeration to say that the Department is a mini United Nations. So far this year, we have students speaking at least 9 languages representing 16 countries and four continents: Vietnam, China, the Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Russia,

Argentina, Cuba, Ecuador, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and the U.S. Usually, as the school year progresses, we receive a few more students from other countries. Like their American peers, ELL students have many interests outside school. They love sports, music, computers, movies, reading and they like to make friends, too. Once you get to know

them, you will find their experiences very fascinating and that you have a lot in common with them. At the start of this new school year, we in the ELL Department would like to wish everyone a successful school year.

-Team Timbuktu
Mr. Mark Winn-Ritzenberg
Mrs. Jihong Wang

Alexandria Life Science

Ms. D'Antonio would like to congratulate the Alexandrian Science Scholars for their tremendous work on the Human Body unit. Students completed projects, readings and multiple class work and homework assignments in order to prepare for the Human Body unit assessment. Their hard work paid off with an overall average of 86.5% on the unit assessment! Great job on your hard work!

- Cecilia D'Antonio

Team Alexandria

Team Alexandria would like to extend a warm thanks to all families who purchased books from the Book Fair for our classrooms. We are looking forward to using the books to enhance our curriculum. We are constantly impressed with the generosity of our families. Thank you again for your kind gestures.

- Team Alexandria

Team La Paz Travels to Ford's Theater

Students on Team La Paz spent a day considering the dangerous influences of prejudice and anti-Semitism when we studied the Leo Frank lynching. Jake Flack, Education Coordinator for Ford's Theater, came to our history classes to help us understand how a young teen's murder in a pencil factory ended with an innocent man's hanging for the crime. Residents of Atlanta, Georgia had just emerged from the devastation of the Civil War and, given their

uneasiness with northerners in general and with Jewish northerners in particular, were quick to convict Leo Frank for Mary Phagan's murder despite the lack of evidence. Leo Frank's death sentence was commuted to life in prison, but angry Georgians lynched him anyway, and his case remains one that reminds us of how a little bit of hatred can lead to horrendous consequences. Ford's Theater then hosted us for a viewing

of the play "Parade" that tells the story of Frank, Phagan, and Atlanta through music and drama. We were a captivated audience throughout the performance, and were equally excited to be seated right next to the presidential box where Lincoln had sat the night he was assassinated. Two history lessons at one time! It doesn't get better than that.

- Cynthia Mostoller

8th Grade Students Visit Mount Vernon

On Friday, October 21 Alice Deal's 8th graders visited Mt. Vernon, George Washington's adult home and plantation, just south of Alexandria, VA. The trip coincided with Mt. Vernon's annual Colonial Farm days, which allowed the students to see demonstrations of many of the activities that made Mt. Vernon and other colonial plantations self-sufficient little villages. These activities included the production of candles, spices, fertilizer, and the processing of wheat. After their visit to the colonial farm, students toured the grounds of Washington's estate (including George's and Martha's tomb, and the slave memorial), the mansion house, and the Mt. Vernon museum. In addition to the historical content of the trip, students also completed a science activity on conversion of energy, making this a truly interdisciplinary experience.

- David Koenig

ELL STUDENTS STUDY THE CONSTITUTION

On November 2, twenty ELL students took the We the People Constitution Trolley Tour sponsored by the Children's Concierge Service. Students spent the day touring many famous landmarks in Washington, D.C: the Capitol, Lincoln Memorial, White House, George Mason Memorial, Supreme Court, and National Archives. Although all our students live in the city, most had never had an opportunity to visit these sites, let alone go around the city in a colorfully decorated red trolley. On the tour, each time students answered a question correctly, they received a round of applause. Many students showed great participation in this fun competition. In the halls of the Lincoln Memorial, stu-

dents read aloud Abraham Lincoln's famous Gettysburg Address. Outside, students took turns standing in the spot where Martin Luther King, Jr. made his "I Have a Dream" speech. After students were treated to a hot lunch in the cafeteria of the Department of Agriculture, they made a brief stop at the George Mason Memorial. Then in front of the Supreme Court, students did a dramatic reading of twelve excerpts about the landmark case *Brown V. Board of Education*. Czarina Kaye De La Cruz, Jeremy Garcia, Belit Gonzalez, Alexa Gudiel, Ngoc Nguyen, Trasey Nguyen, Evgeny Pototskiy, Brandon Rodriguez, Axel Salamanca and Dario Sarmiento each had one or more speaking parts. Af-

terwards, students went to the National Archives to view the most important documents in the history of the United States. Students found it incredible that they could still make out the signatures of the Founding Fathers in those hundreds-of-years-old documents. More importantly, students gained a true appreciation of the importance of the Constitution in the lives of We the People.

- Mark Winn-Ritzenberg and Jihong Wang



6TH GRADE DC GEOGRAPHY SCAVENGER HUNT ON NATIONAL MALL

This October all 400 sixth graders embarked on a DC Scavenger Hunt on the National Mall. In small groups, students dispersed and had eight clues to

solve. The clues combined Earth Science and Geography and yielded a fun day.

Students also had a picnic lunch, recess on the mall, a discus-

sion with a National Park Service Ranger, and an IB Learner Profile Reflection.

- Ms. Campozano, Ms. Kinzer, and Mr. Martini

Team Geneva

During advisory one Team Geneva students are working with a graduate student from George Washington University's Museum Education Program. Ms. Claire Smith has been observing and assisting with Ms. Simpson-Wayne's Humanities classes. On November 2nd and 3rd, students were able to attend a field trip to the National Portrait Gallery, where they participated in teacher-led lessons that focus on expressing identity.

-Yvette Simpson-Wayne



Members of Team Seoul on the National Mall for the DC Geography Scavenger Hunt.

Team Seoul on the Mall

At 8:30 AM, intrepid groups of curious Deal sixth graders navigated the DC Metro system to arrive downtown in search of clues on a historical scavenger hunt through the memorial landmarks of Washington, DC.

Each group chaperone was given a clipboard and an envelope of clues to guide them through the hunt. Nothing could have prepared the chaperones for how knowledgeable and competitive the students were as we zigzagged across the Mall, visiting the Lincoln Memorial, the Martin Luther King Memorial, the World War II Memorial and

the White House along the way. The students were breathless with excitement to solve the next riddle in the secret package. Our efforts were rewarded with a delicious lunch and a fun game of frisbee and touch football in the shadow of the National Monument. Many students in our group pointed to cracks that were visible in the Monument from the recent earthquake in August.

After lunch, our spirits were only slightly dampened by a sudden downpour of cold rain—but we rallied under a stage canopy at the direction of Team Seoul's Humanities teacher, Ms. Kinzer. She and a local National Parks Service Ranger kept us dry and entertained

with a question and answer period filled with interesting and unusual facts about the history and origin of the National Mall. The students jogged through the rain to the Metro station with hardly a complaint and arrived back in school by 3:00 in time for dismissal. As we assembled in the auditorium, the Team Seoul teachers entertained the troops with questions and jokes. It was a jam packed day of education, fun and exercise.

- Renee Mitchell Rosse



STUDENT LIBRARIANS

Stop by the Deal Library after school any day, and you are likely to see the next generation of librarians working to keep books and magazines organized for their fellow students. Several students spend one afternoon a week shelving and processing books, creating signage, and assisting other students. We are so thankful to our student librarians for keeping the library humming as the reading, research and homework hub that it is!

-Tasara Redekopp

Why do you volunteer as a student librarian?

-I use the library, so I should help clean it up. - Maddie Parsons, Team Rome

-The library should be a place where everyone can read, so keeping it organized makes it better for everyone. -Mona Schamess, Team Alexandria

-It seemed like fun, and the librarians need the help. - Miles Mellott, Team Sparta

FROM THE LIBRARY

LITERATURE AND FILM SERIES AT DEAL!

The Library Media Center and the After School Book Group are teaming up to present the **Literature on Film** series. Our plan is to show one film adaptation of wonderful young adult fiction each month. All readers and film lovers are invited to join us in the Library Media Center to watch as our favorite novels come to life on the big screen - one Wednesday a month. Please mark your calendars for the two upcoming films -- and read

the books if you haven't already! We'll enjoy the film (and some popcorn) and then discuss how well the story was adapted to the big screen.

THE LIGHTNING THIEF - Wednesday - November 30th -- 3:30pm -- Is the first tale in Rick Riordan's series featuring Percy Jackson as a heroic demigod a faithful adaptation of the novel? Join us on Wednesday (11/30) and

decide for yourself!

MILLIONS -- Wednesday, December 14 -- 3:30 pm -- The Chicago Sun Times thought Danny Boyle's adaptation of Frank Cottrell Boyce's touching novel was "one of the best films of the year". Will you agree? Read the book and join us on December 14th for this wonderful holiday 'feel good' flick!

- Ms. Redekopp and Ms. Wylegala

A SMALL GROUP OF MIGHTY READERS!

The After School Book Group is made up of a small and dedicated group of avid readers. We happily welcome any interested readers to our ranks. We meet every Wednesday in room C130 at 3:30pm. [Our next meeting will take place on Wednesday, December 7 because of the Thanksgiving break and Literature/Film movie screening on November 30th.]

We've read six (or more) great books so far this year -- The Graveyard Book (Neil Gaiman), Flipped (Wendelin van Draanen) , Millions

(Frank Cottrell Boyce), Which Witch? (Eva Ibbotson), and Wednesday's War. (Gary D. Schmidt). We highly recommend all these books as "great reads"! For the last several weeks we've been unable to get enough of "The Sisters Grimm" series (by Michael Buckley). Book group members are tearing through this six book detective series set in a world of fairy tale characters. So, if you've ever read any of "The Sisters Grimm" series, or you'd like to give them a try -- check one out from our school library and join us on Wednesdays in room

C130 at 3:30pm for great conversation and delicious snacks. Our December book selection will be The Emerald Atlas, by John Stephens - another fantasy/mystery with a plot driven by time travel! Look for a copy in your local library and start reading! (It's a long one -- but we won't meet to discuss it until Wednesday, December 7) Feel free to join us and to make your own book recommendations. All of our reading choices are suggested by Book Group participants.

- Ms. Wylegala

FROM THE COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

An Attitude of Gratitude: Tips for Fostering Gratitude in Children

How often do we remind our children to appreciate what they have or be thankful for the good things in their lives? Probably many! Parents and teachers should make it a point to encourage the experience and expression of gratitude in our children. Research has shown that people who experience gratitude have more positive emotions, fewer negative emotions, higher levels of connectedness, improved relationships, improved achievement, and greater progress toward goals. Factors that promote gratitude include positive thinking, empathy, humility, and problem-solving skills, whereas factors that inhibit include a sense of entitlement, pre-occupation with materialism, lack of self-reflection, and lack of resiliency. Fostering gratitude can help students become more

mindful of the positive aspects of their lives, engage in more pro-social behaviors, and become more aware of strengths in themselves and others. Gratitude is a learned behavior, thereby one which parents and teachers can foster through a variety of simple acts:

1. Model gratitude. Allow your child to see you behaving gratefully to family, friends, neighbors, and others. Explain why you are saying thank you, not just because "it's the right thing to do."
2. Encourage your child to write thank-you notes after receiving gifts or special assistance from a friend, family member, or teacher. Have them reflect on why they are grateful and include it in the note.

3. Reinforce grateful behavior. Identify when you see your child behaving gratefully and reinforce it.

4. Make time daily to share gratitude. Whether at breakfast, the dinner table or before bed, make time for the family to share at least one thing for which each person is thankful. Starting or ending the day with gratitude can reinforce positive connections.

5. Have your child keep a gratitude journal. Regularly have your child write down 3 or 4 positives that they are grateful for and why. Encourage your child to think of experiences, people, and events, not just material possessions.

- Team Vienna

"Parents and teachers should make it a point to encourage the experience and expression of gratitude in our children."



Photos from Deal Faculty-Student Soccer Match



DEAL FENCING CLUB

The 2011 Deal Fencing Club has 65 members, boys and girls from 6th, 7th, and 8th grades enjoying the Olympic martial art of epee fencing. The club has been meeting every Wednesday since September and will run until the end of December. The fencers learn the basic moves and various strategies during warm-up drills with Mr. Hughes, Deal's coach for 21 years. Then they head to the courtyard when the weather is clear

to fight for fun with their friends. When the weather is wet, they take over any available public space indoors. Who is going to tell them otherwise?

-Mr. Hughes



Winning Boys and Girls Cross Country Teams at DCIAA Championship meet on November 5th.



The 2011 Deal Cross-Country team continued their tradition of excellence this season. Both the boys and girls teams won the DCIAA Cross-Country Championship titles. For the boys team, this year marks their 9th championship in the last ten years. The girls team

is not far behind, winning 6 titles in the last ten years. Congratulations to all of the team members and a special thanks to the parents and administrators for their support during the season.

-Ron Jenkins

Deal Boys and Girls are DCIAA Cross Country Champions!

ULTIMATE FRISBEE CLUB FALL SEASON RECAP

With over 60 students regularly coming out to practice and scrimmage, this year's Ultimate Frisbee Club is bigger and better than ever! Ms. Kouri, Mr. Martini, and Mr. Roose took the helm this year coaching the Deal Vikings to victory against local competition in two tournaments for the fall season. The first tournament, "Fall Fling," was hosted in Virginia and

the Vikings were up against some steep competition including Arlington's middle school squads and YHB's high school girls' team. With veterans Jake Radack, Avi Taylor, Colin Trinity, and Chris Bock leading the two Viking teams, victory was assured with deep looks, incredible bids, and great cutting by both new and veteran teammates. The Vikings hosted their

own tournament October 29 and despite the unexpected weather, good ultimate was had by all who dared to play. Deal-O-Ween was a huge hit with players vying for top prizes in the longest throw competitions for hammer, forehand, and backhand throws in addition to the coveted "Best Costume" trophy which was bestowed upon Jonah Merriam who sported an

interactive whoopi cushion costume! The coaches want to thank all fall frisbee players for their enthusiasm, great spirit, and impressive improvements across the board. Stay tuned this spring for more Ultimate Frisbee adventures!

-Carolyn Kouri and Mike Martini



What is the best thing about teaching seventh grade?

Teaching seventh graders is exciting because they are idealistic and impressionable. Developing their critical thinking now can influence the trajectory of their lives.

-Michael Hughes

The best part of teaching 7th grade is seeing the creativity the students bring to projects daily.

-Cecilia D'Antonio

I find that 7th grade is such a pivotal year for children. It is great seeing them mature and change through out the year and because the 7th grade floor

Rocks.....

-Patricia Milikin

The best thing about teaching seventh grade is the students' hunger for knowledge and good role models.

- Natalie Diaz

TEAM SPOTLIGHT—ALEXANDRIA

Team Alexandria is the A-team of scholars. Our motto "Be the light" comes from the lighthouse of Alexandria, Egypt. Just as the lighthouse guides sailors, we as a team want to exemplify Deal behavior by always choosing the right and guiding those around us. We use the Golden Rule- *Treat others the way you want to be treated*- as the measure of all civilized behavior. Our team colors are blue and gold, blue for the serenity and strength of the ocean and gold representing the light.

Alexandrian Scholars are becoming a close team of *caring* students as they work in-group activities in Ms. D'Antonio, Ms. Diaz, Mr. Hughes and Ms. Milikin's classes. The scholars have different IB strengths; one that many students are exemplifying is *balanced*, as shown in that these disciplined Alexandrian scholars are also wonderful athletes. We have runners, fencers, swimmers, dancers, and (American-style) football players. Team Alexandria even won the 7th grade Deal I.B. World School Soccer Championship, thanks to Ms. D'Antonio's homeroom (world-style) footballers!

However, Team Alexandria teachers know that as the school years continues even more IB strengths will be clearly revealed. We encourage our students to be on top of their academic games by offering lunch tutoring everyday with the individual teachers and combined Alexandria Library study every Thursday from 3:30 to 4:30 in Mr. Hughes's room. What do Alexandria Scholars do for fun? They help others, they compete, and they learn. Deal Alexandria is in an exciting online contest with Deal Romans at the SAT-type quiz game, freerice.com, students win points for their team and food for the world's poor by learning English, other world languages, science, math, art, and geography. — Team Alexandria

Meet the Team Alexandria Teachers

Team Alexandria is one of three seventh grade teams. Michael Hughes who teaches English has been at Alice Deal since 1990 and teaching since 1980. Mr. Hughes was the first person in his family to go to college. He has a degree in English from Glassboro State College (now Rowan University) in New Jersey. He is currently the Scoutmaster for Troop 52, the oldest Boy Scout Troop in Maryland and DC.

Cecilia D'Antonio is the science teacher for Team Alexandria. This is her first year at



Team Alexandria (from left): Ms. Diaz, Humanities; Mr. Hughes, English; Ms. Milikin, Math; Ms. D'Antonio, Science

Patricia Milikin is the math teacher for the team. She has been teaching for 17 years and this is her third year at Deal. In her free time she enjoys riding her "beautifully chopped out Harley." She also loves reading and taking pictures. She has a BS in Mathematical Education from the University of Florida and an MA in Educational Leadership from the University of Central Florida.

Alice Deal, though she has been teaching for six years. She has a degree in Elementary Education from American University where she minored in Biology. Ms. D'Antonio is involved in her local neighborhood watch. In her free time she enjoys reading and spending time with her family.

Natalie Diaz received her degree in teaching from Brigham Young University. This is her second year teaching and her second year at Alice Deal Middle School. An interesting fact about Ms. Diaz—she likes to salsa dance!

Alice Deal Middle School

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Washington, DC 20016

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**James Albright,
Interim Principal**

PTA Co-Presidents
Diana Rojas & Cathy House

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www.alicedeal.org

*Thanks to all who contributed
photographs and content to the
newsletter!*

Messages for the Deal Community

The family of Pat Sweeney wishes to thank the Deal community, staff, teachers, parents, students and past students for your kind expressions of sympathy. You have been a great comfort to us and you will always occupy a special place in our hearts.

Sincerely,

Jim, Patrick, Daniel, Joseph and Timothy Sweeney

Help Combat Hunger In Our Local Community

Deal is hosting a Thanksgiving Food Drive which ends Wednesday—Send in some canned goods!

DEAL INTERNATIONAL NIGHT

Neither rain nor lightning could keep Deal families from International Night on October 13. Families turned out in force for a fun and food-filled evening of international cuisine that raised nearly \$5000 to support our school. Deal cooks contributed dishes from Europe, Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America and the Caribbean. There were also American regional and soul food dishes, and more desserts than you could imagine. Even recent Deal alumni came with their families to enjoy the great food and to visit with friends and teachers. International Night co-chairs Betsy Andersen, Pamela Garlick, and Amy Tanen, together with a host of Regional

One of the best things about Deal is International Night in the fall. Each year the parents try and outdo the previous year - more variety, more authenticity, lots more food! I love being able to sample so many amazing cuisines, so well prepared, and then to spend the time breaking bread with Deal families. This year was memorable in many ways for me - being challenged to eat from each table, trying foods I had never seen nor heard of before, and leaving space for dessert.

- James Albright, Interim Principal

Table Chairs and Volunteers did a terrific job managing this great event. We owe our thanks to the fabulous Deal custodial and kitchen staff for staying late and helping us make this event such a success. "Every year this event just keeps getting bigger and better," noted co-chair Betsy Andersen.

"It reflects the rich diversity of our school and the deep commitment we all have to it and what it does for our kids. I can't wait for next year!"

- Linda Geen and Betsy Andersen

Principal's Honor Roll 1st Advisory

Congratulations to those students with all As!

6th Grade

Principal Honor Roll

Tala Anderson
Justin Atwood
Julius Ball-Heldman
Olivia Barr
Nathaniel Bensing
Elena Bogopolskiy Lipman
Jacob Boles
Isaac Boris
Danielle Breslow
Eden Breslow
Tara Bretzfelder
Ella Buring
Zola Bzdek
Karren Cao
Kyle Clemente
Samantha Cohen
Mei Copacino
Langley Custer
Peter Dart
Akari Davidson
Hannah Demas
Sophia Diggs-Galligan
Lauryn Donahue
Meredith Ellison
Lucas Engvall
Billie Evans
Fatimah Fair
Nasirah Fair
Isaac Frumkin
Yusuke Fukuda
Andonny Garcia
Cameron Harrison
Samuel Himmelfarb
Dev Hippenstiel
Jazba Iqbal
Ragan Johnson
Isabelle Johnston
Rebecca Kades
Lucy Kellogg
Abigail Korman
Benjamin Korn
Azaan Lambkin
Chloe Leo
Claire Lewis
Sierra Lewter
Fiona Lynch
Anasuya Lyons
Emilia Majersik
Leonardo Manzo
Paul McCoyer
Charlotte Mestrich
Brooke Milligan

Carl Morison
Alessandro Nardello
Asa Nugent
Aysha Nunes
Alana O'Brien
Nathaniel Reistetter
Olivier Retourne
Emily Ringel
Ethan Rosenthal
Arianna Sablad
Aidan Saccocio
Holden Scharpf
Jocelyn Schulman
Theodore Shapinsky
Regan Staudenraus
Grace Stohr
Madeleine Teems
Sophie Thurschwell
Gwendolyn Tsai
Nerissa Tunnessen
David Vaden
Nathan Wagner
Benjamin Wallach
Ella Weiner
Jacob Weitzner
Lauren White
Anna Wilson
Jonah Winchell
Connor Yu
Nora Zich
Eliza Zizka

7th Grade

Principal Honor Role

Nynetta Adams
Samuel Alten
Alexandra Bauman
Stephen Berg
Eva Brickman
Sarah Burch
Emma Buzbee
Michael Cervino
Sophia Claman
Jana Cohen
Avery Cronyn
Isabella Cruz
Nicole Davies
Luca Delgado
Benjamin Di Rosa
Matthew Di Rosa
Alexander Dorosin
Ayelet Drazen

Matthew Dulaney
Emily Durr
Alexander Englert
Sofia Fekade-Sellassie
Michael Foose
Vincent Graham
Kyra Hamerling-Potts
Quinn Heinrich
Amara Jerome
Anna Joos
Alexander Joyce-Johnson
Brian Keyes
Abigail Koerner
Alexander Koritsas
Kayode Lambkin
Kira Lee-Genzel
Megan Lennon
Samuel Levenson
Sean Lindstrom
Martin Marquez
Samuel Masling
Lucia McCurdy
Caitlin McDermott
Nicholas McGrew
Jonah Merriam
Madeline Mulder
Jovan Nenadovic-Simmons
Keith Newman
Ngoc Nguyen
Elizabeth O'Brien
Tana Palomino
Madalena Parsons
Shu Phua
Nicholas Pomper
Samuel Radack
Joseph Rosas
Maxine Rubin
Allison Schwalb
Ben Schwartz
William Shamma
Caroline Shea
Elton Smole
Lidia Solorzano
Joseph Spaeth
Kayla Stewart
Hope Stonner
Kymani Thompson
Teodoro Topa
Joshua Valdez
Calvin Wagner
Moriah Williams

8th Grade

Principal Honor Roll

Anton Afonsky
Lillian Agnvall
Ceridwyn Albers
Ayah Arafat
Nicolas Blackwell
Christopher Bock
Justin Bodley-Bjorklund
Juliana Borrazzo
Benjamin Browning
Asa Canty
Nicholas Carnevali-Doan
Nora Charles
Xiu Chen
Nina Clemente
Leo Confalone
Erin Doherty
Nora Douglas
Francis Dragulet
Reuben Dubester
Franklin Edwards
Allison Eigsti
Eden Elam
Christopher Engvall
David Fadul
Amanda Fraley
Antonio Fratto
Miro Furtado
Benjamin Garrett
Sangeeta Goel
Margaret Iapalucci
Gavrielle Jacobovitz
Trent Jones
Jonah Kildon
Lina Klose
Nathan Kovar
Maude LaVaute
Sofia Laguarda
Jordan Lawrence-Bethea
Stuart Lindstrom
Yared Lingo
Duc Luu
Andrew Mahaffie
Helen Malhotra
Camryn McCarthy
Elizabeth McClellan
Danielle McCombs
Susanna McGrew
Samantha Mehning
Samuel Meroney
Angela Montero
Emily Morin
Zachary Nachbar-Seckel

Julia Nessman
Luc Nikiema
Rochelle O'Brien
Gillian Page
Rachel Page
Asha Pappajohn
Niklas Persson
Kaitlin Power
Jacob Radack
Neilah Rovinsky
Gabriella Saccocio
Eva Schulman
Laura Schwartz
Eva Shapiro
Ryan Shea
Meredith Sherman
Johanna Siegel
Rachel Snyderman
Gabriella Statia
Carl Stewart
Nicholas Swanson Hutchison
Abigail Tanen
Benjamin Topa
Colin Trinity
Maximilian Vichr
Kyla Vigdor
Michael Vigdor
Molly Wackler
Emma Walsh-Alker

Honor Roll 1st Advisory

Congratulations to those students with all As and Bs!

6th Grade Honor Roll

Tsega-Ab Abera
Leif Aiken
Leoniya Aksyonov
Alexander Aspiras
Eli Austin
Elena Bagnoli
Clay Baldwin
Zoe Barnes
Jasmine Barrow
Jalen Beasley
Matteo Berger
David Bernard
Maren Berryman
Theo Biddle
Kathryn Billings
Simon Birnstad
Jacob Boss
Logan Botts
Willem Bouma
Kendra Brown
Lauren Brown
Eliza Caldwell
Zola Canady
Leo Canty
Zarina Carpenter
Lauren Carrette
Guangzhong Chen
Calia Christie
Samuel Coan
Jacob Cohen
Emily Colley
Anna Conley
TiMoune Cooper
Alandra Corbett-Johnson
Krishna Cousins
Jason Danh
Johnny Danh
Abelina De Leon
Karim Diaite
Jackson Dolge
Allyson Edge
Michael Edgell
Adelaide Elliott-Joy
Joshua Emanuel
Sebastian Encinas
Malik Ennis
Ayia Evans
Preston Evans
Arthur Fairclough
Dominic Fantauzzo
Mary Fraley
Ernesto Fritts
Rebecca Frye
Sofia Geislinger
Surina Goel
Belit Gonzalez
Emahni Grant
Boghdon Green
John Gretschel
John Grieve
Clara Hager
Greggory Haggray
Keagan Hall
Audrey Hansen
Owen Hanson
Hannah Harrison
Vineeta Hennessey
Joaquin Hill
Michael Houghton
Deidra Hoyt
Dylan Hurst
Lindsay Husbands
Adam Ido
Gregory Jefferson Jr
Charles Johnson III
Joseph Kahoe
Czarina Kaye DeLa Cruz
Erin Keegan
Rachele Larkin
Nicole Latifullah
Rory Latifullah
Nicholas Levy
Mark Lindblom
Liyao Ma
Cole Maner
Grace Marion
Nina Matthews
Reilly McClure
Emma McGann
Conor McMurtrie
Claire Medina
Eli Mehring
Adelaide Mendelson
Clare Messina-Fitzgerald
Kayla Miller
Joshua Moneme
Eli Moraru
Alessandro Nardello
Asa Nugent
Aysha Nunes
Alana O'Brien
Nathaniel Reistetter
Olivier Retourne
Emily Ringel
Ethan Rosenthal
Arianna Sablad

Aidan Saccocio
Holden Scharpf
Jocelyn Schulman
Theodore Shapinsky
Tijara Smith
Shiva Steele
Anna Stewart
Jilani Sutton
Andrew Tam
Saraswati Temple
Olivia Toggas
Alexandra Tomkin
Bryson Torgovitsky
Abubakr Uqdah
Anders Viomose
Nicholas Wade
Taylor Watson
Anastasia Webber
Medgar Webster Jr
Sophie Weich
Nathan Weiner
Benjamin Werb
Nicholas Whitman
Alison Willsey
Quinn Wright
Madeleine Yando
Youssef Youssef
Laurence Zeffler
Thomas Zeitler

7th Grade Honor Roll

Jisca Adigo
Julia Agostino
Ayesa Akhter
Alexis Anderson
Jarvis Andrade
Coleman Ayers
Amir Barnett
Caleigh Bartash
Eleanor Beckerman
Annemarie Bell
Molly Berman
Joseph Bloom
Ines Borges
Ross Brandon
Anne Brennan
Samuel Brodsky
Irra Cafino
Christian Calhoun
Lily Cooper
Gabrielle Crawford
Julie Dao
William Davis
Jordan Dean

Dorotea Debelack
Maya Edwards
Aman Efrem
Fayben Elias
Adam Epstein-Shuman
Joshua Fikeru
Anabel Forte-Fast
Juliette Fratto
Jorge Garcia
Daniel Geen
Thomas Giagtzoglou
Alexei Girdis
Natalia Greene
Natalia Guill
Kennedy Gullatte
Helene Gusman
Thomas Hagerty
Geoffrey Haggray
Ezona Haile
Charles Haines
William Hamlin
Lindsay Harper
Jordan-Taylor Harris
Nadeeya Harrison
Julia Haskins
Ursula Hedlund
Jakob Hegewisch-Allen
Kalia Hoechstetter
Perri Hollar
Johanna Horvath
Mica House
Amilcar Hudson
Bruce Hudson
Kyra Ingber
Kieran Irwin-Leventhal
Matilda Jensen
Nicolas Jochnick
Marcelus Jones
Vaughn Jones
Shakeelah Jordan
Zya Kinney
Viren Kiridena
Lalita Kohls
Alexander Kott
Adam Kramer
Jonathan Kurtz
Dominique Landinez
Erik Latimer
Tommy Le
Mayim Lehrich
Henry Lent
Hannah London
Cara Lowengrub
Innes Mackay

Kimberly Manalang
Augustus Marrkand
Sarah Meade
Elinor Melick
Miles Mellott
Ella Moore
Patrick Mulderig
Liam Murdoch
Anya Navidi-Kasmai
Abyan Nery
Anh Nguyen
Son Nguyen
Luke Nogueira
Evgeny Pototskiy
Sophia Poulos
Faith Prince-Sydnor
Lucas Quilter
Alexandra Radifera
Isabel Roessner
James Sarokin
Mason Sayles
Mona Schames
Jacob Siegelman
Jalen Simons
Sofija Sir
Natan Skolnik
Benjamin Solberg
Lauren Spriggs
Lucas Sternlieb
Pearl Strand
Mason Strazzella
Isabel Suarez
Adam Tafur
Sarah Thompson
Walter Thurschwell
Thomas Townsend
David Tran
Tiffany Tyler
Ashley Vigil
Kelila Weiner
Carson Wheeler
David Whitehead
D'Angelo Whittaker
Ariana Williams-Mitchell
Hannah Wyatt
Ava Zechiel

Honor Roll 1st Advisory

Congratulations to those students with all As and Bs!

8th Grade Honor Roll

Adirah Abney	Dylan Deshler	Elizabeth Kapuscinski	Kimberly Narciso	Elizabeth Seablom
Jessica Armstrong	Tosca DiBella	Joseph Keegan	Oto Njovu	Tobias Shapinsky
Rebekah Armstrong	Ashley Dickerson	Lars Kerwin	Julian Paulay	Daniela Staneva
Muska Atarud	Helene Douglas	Devin Khan	Sean Pendergast	Demi Stratmon
Isabella Barnes	Ari Ettleson	Laila Kunaish	Justin Penn	Urjii Tahir
Michael Bayliss	Maya Ettleson	Eleanor Le Blanc	Mya Pitts	Avraham Taylor
Mary Brown	Max Finkelpearl	Seamus Lynch	Liza Rahman	Lalibela Temple
Rowan Campbell	Briana Forester	Jeremy Mallin	Henry Rankin	Margot Trouve
Marcus Cetina	Ryan Frey	Rose Marshall	Ali Rashedi	Lina Vo
Nicholas-Tsai Chang	Alexander Ganote	Jazmine Mayfield	Maxim Reeves	Jeremiah Walker
Xiu Chen	Malaika Hall	Thomas McCarren	Andrew Roberts	Luke Wallis
Henry Cohen	Jocelyn Hernandez	Sophie McDowell	Antonio Rodriguez	Zahra Wardrick
Mark Custer	Nathaniel Jackson	Peter McGann	Maksym Rykov	Roderic Williams II
Ademir Delcid	Abraham Jacobson	Jordayne Moses	Sahna Sabbakhan	Josephine Witaschek
	Janea Johnson	Andrew Mueller	Max Schamis	
	Armani Jordan	William Murphy IV	Peter Schans	

