



THE DGK PRESS

“ WE SNIFF DOWN THE STORIES!”

THE DGK PRESS



OCTOBER 2011

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Holy Cross Greek Cultural Festival Shines Once Again!

On September 16th, 17th, and 18th, the Annual Holy Cross Greek Cultural Festival was held. It took place from 84th Street to 86th Street on Ridge Boulevard. Volunteers from the community helped make this year's festival especially successful. The festival is an excellent fundraiser for both the church and community school.

At the festival there were many activities and rides for the children. Some of the popular rides were the Salt and Pepper Shakers, the Round Up, the Superman themed Bounce House, the Super Shot, and several other rides. There was also a basketball game for little kids and of course, Soak the Bloke, a fan favorite. In addition, there were games like Crazy Katz, Street Cans and a new game where you could win a Mac book for ten dollars!

Outside near the front entrance there was candy, candy apples, beverages, frappe, and glow



(Top): Holy Cross community preparing for Annual Greek Cultural Festival. (Below): Holy Cross community setting up DGK gymnasium with various games and booths for all to enjoy.



Reported By: Farah El-Choum & Luke Bantis



sticks for sale. Near the side of the school, there was an area with tables and a place to order and enjoy all the great food. Some of the food selections were: Souvlaki, Spanakopita, Gyros, French Fries, and many other amazing Greek delicacies. In the gymnasium of the school booths were set up. At these booths there was fine jewelry, sweatshirts, icons and much more. Also, there was the Famous Greek Desserts including: delicious Loukoumades, Baklava, Galaktobouriko and Diples.

During the festival a group of Greek dancers from the Greek Afternoon School performed and we thank Ms. Garifalia, our 3rd Grade Teacher for all her hard work with the dancers. On the last day of the festival the Church's Annual Raffle Drawing was held during this weekend for the first time. There were many prizes to win, including two cars. We thank Mr. Jimmy Kalamaras, the Raffle Chairman, and his committee for a great fundraiser.

Finally, we would like to thank all the volunteers and Mr. Evans Kotsis, the festival chairman all from the community for making this one of the best festivals ever. All the children thought it was a great event with lots of fun and look forward to next year's festival!

We would like to extend our sincere appreciation to Mr. James Mollo for donating the printing of the newsletter.



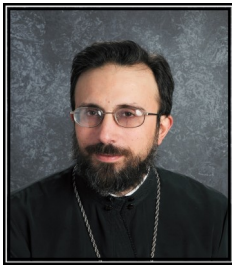
A Message from Our Principal... Mr. Giuseppe F. Campailla

Welcome Back! September was an exciting, busy and eventful month. I would like to welcome two new members to the faculty of DGK; Nicole Antoniadis, our nursery teacher and Danielle Bacigalupo our middle school ELA teacher. DGK welcomed close to 100 students to our Early Childhood program and 100 students in our Elementary school program.

Our "Back to School Night" was a success with many parents in attendance. This event was a great opportunity for parents to meet their child's teacher and listen to an overview of the activities for the weeks and months ahead. I would like to thank the KAPT for providing the refreshments that evening.

The Holy Cross Greek Cultural Festival certainly added to the excitement of September. It was great to see many familiar faces at the Festival.

I am looking forward to working with all of you in the school and church community. Remember to visit our school website at www.dgkschool.com



A Message from Our Priest... Father Gerasimos Makris

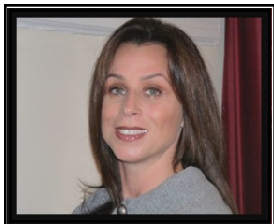
Dear DGK family,

As we do each year, on September 14th, our DGK children participated in the Divine Liturgy for the feast of the Holy Cross. The church was full of parishioners, as each made an extra effort to be present, since their church was celebrating its name day. As the parish priest, I was happy to see our church full, but my highlight of the day was seeing our children in the pews of the church. I missed not seeing them during the summer months. What was especially nice was when the time came to chant the main hymn of the Holy Cross "Σώσον Κύριε τον λαόν σου..." It was so beautiful to hear our children's voices blend with those to the adults, as they chanted the hymn they had learned last year during morning lineup.

What a great blessing it is, that many times we forget, to have a parochial school in which our children can attend the major church feasts, have religion taught to them on a regular basis and be exposed to their church and parish priest daily.

I pray this year that each parent becomes a herald to others of the important ministry of our school. It is not just simply a good school in which our children get a good education. More importantly it is a safe haven and a family environment in which our children grow not just mentally but spiritually and morally as well. May we have another blessed year!

Fr. Gerasimos Makris



A Message from Our K.A.P.T. ... Mrs. Cheryl Papadopoulos & Mrs. Chrissy Menegatos



Another exciting school year is under way here at DGK! It is with great pleasure and anticipation that we welcome all of our new and returning students, teachers and staff. We especially would like to extend our warmest wishes from the KAPT to our new principal, Mr. Giuseppe Campailla. We hope he has found a comfortable new home here with us. We look forward to all we can accomplish together for our school this year and for all to come! The KAPT is already hard at work making this school year a success! With the help of our incredible teachers and staff, we have already been able to implement a successful after school science enrichment program entitled, "Little Science Adventurers." We hope to continue down this road of enrichment with offerings in chess, yoga, language, etc., for the spring. Also, as you may already be aware, we are full fledged into our first fundraising project—The Chocolate Sale! Eat it, sell it, love it--its chocolate --what is there not to love? Thank you for all your continued support! Please look out for our fall festival to come on Friday, October 28th. It is sure to be a great time! This is all for now but we have lots in the works for this exciting new year! We hope to see you at the events! We send our wishes for a successful academic school year to all our students and teachers--onward and upward!

KAPT Science Adventurers



Reported By: Manoli Theodorakis & Othon Kordistos

On Tuesday, September 13, the KAPT began and sponsored a new After School Science Enrichment Program at DGK. It is called "Little Science Adventurers." It takes place every Tuesday afternoon from 3-4:30pm in the school cafeteria. Mr. Castillo, our school Science Teacher is working with the students to make the activities educational and enjoyable. Mrs. Biondi, the school Art Teacher is also working in the program assisting the students to complete their projects.

Little Science Adventurers is a way to introduce the children to science concepts with interactive projects that are fun and educational. The program provides an



(Top) Science Adventurers Program gets underway. The KAPT is sponsoring this new after school program.

increased excitement for education that is above the standard school curriculum. Some of the upcoming activities planned are: Anatomy Academy (9/13 to 10/11), Spy Tek (10/18-11/15), and Slime Time (11/22 to 12/20).

Currently, the Science Adventurers program is well attended and space is limited. If you should need any further information on the program please visit the school website at www.dgkschool.com or contact the school office for an application. We look forward to seeing you at one of our fun science activities planned. We thank the KAPT for all their hard work in making this program possible.



First Lady of Cyprus Visits D.G.K.



On Friday, September 23, 2011 the First Lady of Cyprus visited DGK.

(Pictured Left to Right): Mrs. Maria Antonopoulou-Anastasiades (Wife of Ambassador to Cyprus), Dr. Ioannis Eftymiopoulos (Director of the Department of Greek Education), Father Sebastian Skordallos, Mrs. Elsie Christofias (First Lady of the Republic of Cyprus), Father Gerasimos Makris (Holy Cross -Pastor), Ms. Koula Sophianou (Consul General of the Republic of Cyprus), and Mr. Sarantos Vallas (Holy Cross Parish Council President). Also in attendance were Mr. & Mrs. Kaloidis our Grand Benefactors.

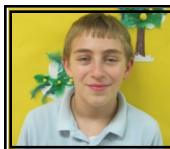
Bottle Rocket Experiment

On Wednesday, September 21, the 5th and 6th grades participated in an interesting science experiment called "Bottle Rocket." Our Science Teacher, Mr. Castillo along with Mr. Panagakos, our Technology Teacher took the classes outside near the side lobby to see first hand how this experiment works. The students were very excited to test and try the "Bottle Rocket."

The purpose of this experiment was to prepare and introduce one of the events at this year's upcoming Science Olympiad in March 2012. Everyone in



(TOP) Bottle Rocket Experiment with 5th and 6th Grades.



the class enjoyed launching the "Bottle Rocket" which was made of a 1 liter beverage bottle. The experiment requires the students to design and build a "Bottle Rocket." In the upcoming enrichment classes students will construct fins and a nose to the "Bottle Rocket", and a launcher will be provided by the teacher.

We look forward to preparing and constructing the "Bottle Rocket." This is a great way to get ready for this year's competition. We are very excited to be competing at this year's Science Olympiad once again.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

OXI DAY
Thursday, October 27
At 1:00pm



First Marking Period Ends
Tuesday, November 1

Report Cards– November 4

Parent/Teacher Conferences
Thursday, November 10
1:00-3:00PM
6:30-8:00PM

KAPT Fall Festival
Friday, October 28
3-5 pm



Election Day
Tuesday, November 8
School Closed
Staff Development
Day

Prospect Park Zoo Trip
K & 1st Grade
Monday, October 24

Veterans Day
Friday, November 11
School Closed



Picture Day
Wednesday, November 9
Lifetouch
Full Uniform Required

Back To School Night

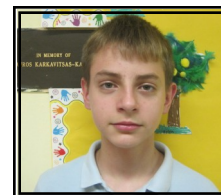


On Wednesday, September 14th 2011, at 6:30pm "Back to School Night" took place at DGK. All parents were invited to come and see how the school operates and functions each day. The parents were especially excited to meet the new principal, Mr. Giuseppe F. Campailla, the new Nursery Teacher, Ms. Antoniadis, and the new middle school English teacher, Ms. Bacigalupo.

The night began with Mr. Danny Ballas, our School Board Chairman discussing our school and how excited he was about the new principal. He then introduced Mr. Campailla who spoke about his goals and plans for our school. Next, the teachers were

asked to go upstairs to their classrooms and the parents followed. The parents were excited and looked forward to visiting with their child's teachers to discuss their expectations for the upcoming year.

"Back to School Night" is a wonderful opportunity to discuss curriculum, routines, and goals. We all look forward to a great academic school year.



Reported By: Alexandra Mollo & Justin Wojda