



DEER CREEK

PRIDE

Spring/Summer 2018

Mission

Deer Creek Christian School partners with families to help children grow in **Academics, Faith, and Character** for Kingdom service.

Will you help us as we learn?
www.deercreek.org/giving



DEER CREEK CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Preschool–8th grade
330 W. Highland Drive
Chicago Heights, IL 60411
www.deercreek.org
708-672-6200

 facebook.com/DeerCreekChristianSchool

PRINCIPAL'S POST

SCHOOLING TOGETHER (NOT JUST IN THE CLASSROOM)

by *Brian Verwolf, Head of School*

Have you ever wondered why we call a bunch of fish swimming together a 'school'? It is true; if a group of fish are swimming in the same direction, they are 'schooling.' What are the benefits? Safety, a better chance of finding food, and higher success in finding a mate (but only after graduating from high school, of course).

At Deer Creek, we do school. We create processes for teaching and

learning. It is never less than that, but teaching and learning is a big, important vision, and it happens most effectively in community. It happens in school, in family, and in your place of worship.

When Jesus meets with us and shows Himself to be the answer to all that our culture lacks or destroys, He is teaching and forming us. He does this as we 'school together.'

Deer Creek schooling offers a unique path that is not merely limited to the classroom.

Flip the page to check out how we're engaging students in teaching and learning in many different ways. 



SPIRITUAL, PHYSICAL, AND MENTAL SUCCESS

ATHLETICS AND ACADEMICS

by Ms. Erinn Behn, Athletic Director and PE Teacher

At Deer Creek, we strive to shape students not only in the classroom, but outside of it as well. Deer Creek Athletics is a program in which coaches challenge each athlete both mentally and physically to compete as hard as they can every day. While this can be difficult for some, it's important that our student-athletes understand that it takes hard work to improve their skill and to be successful.

We offer five sports at Deer Creek: Co-ed Soccer, Girls Volleyball, Boys Basketball, Cheerleading, and Girls Basketball. Each sport brings a unique set of challenges that our student-athletes embrace with the encouragement and guidance of their coaches.

Keeping Christ at the center of all we do at Deer Creek is our main priority. Students are reminded that they are not performing for themselves or others, but for Christ as we have nothing without Him.

Student-athletes are held to an academic standard that must be met in order to participate in athletics. Students are taught that academics should be a priority in their lives, as they are students first and athletes second.

It's exciting to see how much athletics shapes our students at Deer Creek. While we do value winning games and being successful on the court, our main objective is to guide student-athletes to spiritual, physical, and mental success.

Thank you to all our coaches, parents and fans who have encouraged us to do our best throughout each season! 🏆



Student-athletes at Deer Creek are taught to keep Christ at the center of all they do—in the classroom as well as on the court.





LUMEN-US (pictured, left)

Out of 350 participants in Chicago, 30 essay writers were named winners of the “A Perfect World” essay contest organized by Lumen-US Publishing. Five of this year’s winners are Deer Creek students, and their pieces have been published in a book collection of the winning essays. Well done, student authors!

PARENT TEACHER FELLOWSHIP (below)

This is a committed and tireless group of parents who serve Deer Creek as volunteers, helping shape our school culture through community events and raising funds to support classroom needs. Thank you, Deer Creek PTF, for your amazing work and support!



BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

At Deer Creek, students are offered a variety of opportunities to learn skills, apply facts, participate in process, experience culture, and develop Christ-like character—in our classrooms and beyond!



CHESS CLUB (above)

Each fall and spring, Deer Creek partners with BrightKnights Chess Club to provide an opportunity for K–8 students to learn and compete in the game of chess. Checkmate!

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS

At the beginning of each school year, a list of books is distributed to area schools for students to read. Teams are formed, the books are dissected, and grade-level competition ensues as schools battle it out each spring at the Crete Library Battle of the Books. Thank you to all the volunteers who make this an incredible event!

MATH OLYMPICS

A select group of Math Scholars in grades 3–8 put their skills to the test through the ACSI Regional Math Olympics. Congratulations to all, and thank you, Mrs. Wroughton, for your coordinating work!

SPELLING BEE

They study word lists and compete in their classrooms. After winning at the school level, our Deer Creek Spelling Masters move on to the ACSI Regional Spelling Bee competition!



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Thank you for supporting Christ-centered education at Deer Creek!
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ALUMNI, ILLUMINATED

HOPE IS A CALL TO ACTION

On May 11, over 100 friends, families, teachers, and leaders of Deer Creek gathered to celebrate and support The Gift of Hope at Deer Creek. We are incredibly grateful to all who came out and helped raise over \$24,000 in support of Christ-centered education. A special thank you to the Lotton family for their amazing donation of art glass.

Deer Creek alum Megan Murday shared her perspective on hope through the lens of many academic, volunteer, and career opportunities explored since graduating in 2007. "Jesus provides the strength and reminds

us of the responsibility to act on our hope and lift up those who may have lost the belief that tomorrow can be better," she said. "Hope is a call to action."

After graduating from Deer Creek, Megan attended Marian Catholic High School, where she graduated Valedictorian in 2011 and went on to attend Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. While at Georgetown she interned with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Congressman Adam Kinzinger, and U.S. Department of State. She also served as the President of the School of Foreign Service Academic Council

and co-founded the Walsh Scholars initiative to inspire, encourage, and support students called to careers in public service. Megan graduated magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa with a degree in International Politics from the Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown in 2015.

She now works as a strategy and operations consultant at Deloitte in Chicago. Along with her work and education, Megan volunteers

with *Madre De Dios*, a religious foundation in Bolivia.

"I appreciate the chance to share a fraction of what Deer Creek has given me since I began kindergarten here 19 years ago, and I am thrilled to see so many people dedicated to the school's continued success," said Megan. ♥

