



Dragon Dispatch

December 7, 2023

Important Upcoming Dates

Thursday, December 7	Middle School Girls' Basketball home game vs. Wakefield
Friday, December 8, 3:30pm	4th & 5th Grade Girls' Basketball Game at Roskruge
Tuesday, December 12, 3:30pm	Parent Teacher Group Meeting
Wednesday, December 13, 2:45pm	School Site Council Meeting
Friday, December 15, 6:00pm	Guitar and Orchestra Winter Concert (at Safford Middle School Auditorium)
Monday, December 18	Writing Benchmark
Tuesday, December 19	ELA Benchmark
Tuesday, December 19, 6:00 pm	Kindergarten Violin Promotion (at Drachman cafeteria)
Wednesday December 20	Math Benchmark
Friday, December 22	No School – Grading Day
December 25-January 5	No School – Winter Break

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Tax Credit for Drachman

Please consider giving Drachman a tax credit donation this school year. We use the funds to support field trip costs, our music programs, and student athletes. Married couples filing jointly can donate up to \$400 and individuals can contribute \$200. Donations in lower amounts such as \$5, \$10, and \$25 can also be made. Again, anyone who works in Arizona pays taxes to the state; a tax credit donation to Drachman lets you control where your tax dollars go. The money comes back to you with your tax returns in 2023. The deadline to donate for this fiscal year is December 31st, and you can [donate online](#) or in person at Drachman.

Parent/Teacher Group (PTG) Meeting December 12

Our newly re-formed Parent Teacher Group is kicking off with its first meeting next week, and we'd love for you to be a part of it! Mark your calendars for next Tuesday, December 12, at 3:30pm on Zoom. Come [join our meeting](#) to discover more about our plans and how you can get actively involved. Your presence and ideas will make a huge difference!

Winter Clothes & Hygiene Products for Youth On Their Own

Our fifth grade classes, with support from Student Council, are sponsoring a winter clothes and hygiene products drive to benefit Youth On Their Own (YOTO), a local organization that provides services for teens who are experiencing homelessness in our community.

The students are seeking donations of:

- hygiene products (e.g. toothpaste, deodorant)
- school supplies
- clothes (including jackets, hats, gloves, and socks)

Please note that donation items must be new. Gently used clothing or other items which cannot be used by YOTO will be donated to other local charities.

Donations will be collected from now through December 20. Please note that Student Council will be supporting this drive in place of their previously announced hat/glove/sock drive.

To learn more about Youth On Their Own, [visit the YOTO website](#).

Register Now for the 2024-2025 School Year!

Please remember to register NOW for next school year to help Drachman get maximum funding and keep all current teaching and staff positions! We need all returning students/families in grades Kindergarten through 7th grade to do this (by opening your ParentVue account and following the steps) ASAP! If your student will not be returning to Drachman next year, please [email Dr. Celaya](#) to let us know by. Also, if you have a child who will enter kindergarten at Drachman next year, remember to [apply for the lottery through the Smart Choice website](#) and also let us know!

Choose Drachman's Montessori Middle School Experience!

In the coming weeks, we'll be sharing some of the things that set Drachman's Montessori Middle School program apart from other middle school programs; this is the first in the series.

One significant difference between Drachman Montessori's middle school program and most other middle schools is that Drachman's curriculum is integrated and structured around specific themes. Because students have the same teacher for almost all subjects, the teacher can help them to draw connections around the theme across the various subject areas. Research has shown that seeing the interconnections in their learning supports students in gaining a deeper understanding of concepts and remembering them. Also, because students remain with the same teacher, the schedule is able to be more fluid, allowing the students more opportunities to make choices about what they work on when and allowing for students to complete one thing before moving on to the next rather than being forced to stop because the designated period is over.

Drachman's middle school also produces results! Here are some highlights from the first quarter benchmarks:

- 6th, 7th, & 8th grades were in the Top 5 in Math among all TUSD K-8 schools!
- 8th grade was in the Top 6 in Math among ALL TUSD MIDDLE SCHOOLS!
- 6th grade was in the Top 6 in ELA among all TUSD K-8 schools and ALL TUSD MIDDLE SCHOOLS!
- 6th & 8th grade outperformed Dodge Magnet in Math!

Spirit Week December 18-21

Our final Spirit Week of the semester is coming up during the last week before Winter Break. Show your spirit by joining in the fun on the following days:

- Monday 12/18: Whoville Day – Dress up like a Who or a Grinch!
- Tuesday 12/19: Winter Wonderland – Wear white and blue and some sparkle if you would like!
- Wednesday 12/20: Holiday Cheer Day – Wear your favorite Holiday attire!
- Thursday 12/21: Cozy PJ Day – Wear your favorite cozy PJs!

Extra Drachman T-Shirts for Sale

We have a limited number of Drachman shirts from the order this fall available for purchase. They are the short sleeve ones, in black with a red imprint, and the only two sizes available are Adult Medium and Adult 2XL. They cost \$8 and must be paid for in cash. If you are interested, please [email Wendy Weeks](#).

Thank You to Tucson Sunset Rotary Club!

We are so grateful to Tucson Sunset Rotary Club for providing dictionaries to each Drachman third grade student! They have been providing these dictionaries to our third graders every year since 2011, and we are so grateful for their support!

Reminder: Orchestra/Guitar Concert on December 15

Students in orchestra and/or guitar classes will be performing on Friday, December 15 at 6:00pm. The concert will be at Safford Middle School's Auditorium. Families of students who are performing should have already received more details about what performers need to do that day.

Reminder: Yearbooks Available to Purchase

Yearbooks for this school year are on sale now! They cost \$10 each. If you have any questions, please [email Ms. Amanda Laub](#) or [email Ms. Tenaya Rosmaier](#), who are coordinating the yearbook.

Reminder: Non-Perishable Food, Hygiene Items Needed

We maintain a non-perishable food and hygiene pantry here at Drachman. We are continuously accepting donations of non-perishable food items (for example: canned foods, nuts, dried fruits and vegetables, nut butters, grains such as pasta and rice, jerky, granola and protein bars, cereal and oats) and hygiene items. We would love to see the pantry cabinets full thanks to the generosity of our community, so we can support all of our community members.

Drachman Montessori K-8 Magnet nurtures the whole child, helps students discover their cosmic task and role as citizens of the world, and guides students to achieve individual excellence.



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SCHOOL DISTRICT