



Event Description
Overview
2025-2026

Table of Contents

Fall Sports (Optional for 7 th -12 th Grades)	3
Registration Day (Required for All Families)	4
Leadership Conference (Required for 11 th -12 th)	5
Homecoming (Required for 7 th -12 th)	5
Harvest Fest (Optional for 7 th -12 th)	5
Teacher In-Service (Required for Faculty Only)	5
Grandparents Day (Required for Lower School)	6
Junior High Play (Required for 7 th -8 th)	6
Christmas Banquet (Required for 7 th -12 th)	6
Christmas Vespers (Required for K5-12 th)	6
Winter Sports (Optional for 7 th -12 th Grades)	7
Ski and Ride Club (Optional for 3rd-12th Grades)	7
Winter Bible Conference (Required for 7 th -12 th)	8
Lower School Program (Required K5-6 th)	8
Fine Arts Competition (Required for 7 th -12 th)	8
Moving Up Day/Teddy Bear Picnic (Required School Day)	8
Spelling Bee	10
Senior High Play (Optional for All)	10
Work Day (Required for 9 th -10 th)	10
Senior Trip (Required for 12 th grade)	10
Jr. High Trip (Required for 7-8 th grade)	11
Baccalaureate (Required for Seniors & Choir - 10th & 11th)	11
Kindergarten Graduation/Lower School Honors and Awards (Required for K5-6 th)	11
Jr/Sr Banquet (Required for 9 th -12 th)	11
School Picnic (Required for 1 st -12 th)	12
Upper School Honors and Awards (Required for 7 th -12 th)	12
Fun Night (Required for 7 th -12 th)	12
Graduation (Required for 7 th -12 th)	12

NOTE: Please visit the online google calendar for the most up-to-date information regarding dates and times.

Fall Sports (Optional for 7th-12th Grades)

- **Description:** Upper School girls have the opportunity to try out for our varsity volleyball team. Upper School guys have the opportunity to try out for our varsity soccer team. The goal of the DCA Athletics program is to build character that ultimately reflects Christ. We desire that students develop a good work ethic, strong communication skills, and team unity by working together to achieve good sportsmanship.
- **Date/ Time:**
 - Practice - typically 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. every weekday except Wednesday during each sports' season. Soccer and volleyball seasons begin the week before school starts in the fall. Tryouts are scheduled during the first week of school.
 - Games – Please look on the school Google calendar for dates and times.

Registration Day (Required for All Families)

- **Description:** Registration Day is an important day for DCA families to kick off the school year. Registration day is a great time for students and parents to get acquainted with teachers and classmates. Lower School students may bring books and supplies and set up their desk and/or locker for the first day of school. Upper School students are able to verify their class schedule, organize their locker and meet their teachers. All students can pick up their theme t-shirts on registration day. Parents are able to connect with Faculty & Staff, and update family contact information, medical, & permission forms.
- **Date/ Time:** September 2, 2025 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. (times will be assigned based on family last name)
- **Dress:** Casual Dress (not limited to Stag Swag)

Leadership Conference (Required for 11th-12th)

- **Description:** Our upperclassmen participate in a two-day retreat in the White Mountains..
- **Date/ Time:** September 23-25, 2025
- **Location:** Appalachian Mountain Club
- **Dress:** Modified Casual Dress

Homecoming (Required for 7th-12th)

- **Description:** On Homecoming Day, we welcome DCA Alumni, friends, and former students to visit DCA for fellowship, our alumni soccer and volleyball games, and class reunions. Each DCA class (7th-12th) will be selling a food or drink concession as a class fundraiser.
- **Date/ Time:** October 4, 2025 at 12 p.m. (start time for the public is 12:30 p.m.)
- **Dress:** Casual Dress

Harvest Fest (Optional for 7th-12th)

- **Description:** Student Council hosts this event for Upper School students. The evening includes fun activities such as pumpkin carving and group games.
- **Date:** TBA
- **Dress:** Casual Dress

Teacher In-Service (Required for Faculty Only)

- **Description:** Students have no classes on our Teacher In-Service days. Our faculty will attend a Professional Development Seminar.
- **Dates:** November 13-14, 2025

Grandparents Day (Required for Lower School)

- **Description:** Each year we invite grandparents for a Lower School Thanksgiving program. Parents are invited to the program.
- **Date:** November 25, 2025
- **Dress:** Concert Dress

Junior High Play (Required for 7th-8th)

- **Description:** All junior high students perform in a play directed by the Speech II class under the supervision of the Speech II teacher.
- **Date/ Time:**
 - December 8, 2025 TBD
 - December 9, 2025- 6:30 p.m.
- **Dress:** School Dress (for attendees)

Christmas Banquet (Required for 7th-12th)

- **Description:** The faculty and staff host the Christmas Banquet as a gift to the Upper School students. They prepare a formal sit down meal with fun activities. Students enjoy an evening of fine dining and entertainment (sometimes at the expense of the faculty and staff!).
- **Date/ Time:** December 18, 2025, 5 to 8 p.m.
- **Dress:** Semi-Formal/Formal

Christmas Vespers (Required for K5-12th)

- **Description:** All students in kindergarten through 12th grade participate in the Christmas Vespers program on the half-day of school before Christmas vacation. Students are typically dismissed immediately following the program.
- **Date/ Time:** December 19, 2025 at 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- **Dress:** Concert Dress

Winter Sports (Optional for 7th-12th Grades)

- **Description:** Upper School students have the opportunity to try out for the girls' or guys' basketball teams. The goal of the DCA Athletics program is to build character that ultimately reflects Christ. We desire that students develop a good work ethic, strong communication skills, and team unity by working together to achieve good sportsmanship.
- **Date/ Time:**
 - Practice - typically 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. every week day except Wednesday.
 - Games – Please look on the school Google calendar for dates and times.

Ski and Ride Club (Optional for 3rd-12th Grades)

- **Description:** Students in 3rd through 12th grades may participate in a five-week ski school program through Pat's Peak in Henniker, NH which runs during January and into February. Families can purchase discounted passes, lifts, and rentals through DCA until mid-November. DCA organizes transportation one day a week for five weeks and has several chaperones on the mountain for the scheduled weekly times. Beginning skiers or boarders are required to take lessons from a Pat's Peak instructor. Parents may also purchase discounted passes through DCA's ski club for themselves, younger children, family, or friends, but the school may not be able to provide transportation or supervision for students younger than 3rd grade or additional family and friends. Appropriate winter weather attire including hats and gloves/mittens is required. More specific information is available from the DCA ski school coordinator.
- **Date/ Time:** Mondays, January 5 to February 9 (excluding Jan. 19), 2026
- **Dress:** Ski Gear

Winter Bible Conference (Required for 7th-12th)

- **Description:** Each February, the Upper School students get a break from the normal routine of classes and have an opportunity to participate in a camp-like program. The three-day conference includes team games, a scripture memory competition, and free-time to socialize and play games with friends. The highlight of the program is the preaching of God's Word. Each year, we have a guest speaker that brings several relevant challenges from the Bible.
- **Date/ Time:** February 4-6, 2026 through the evening
- **Dress:** Casual Dress (not limited to stag swag)

Lower School Program (Required K5-6th)

- **Description:** Our Lower School students will showcase a program of music and drama with a spiritual theme.
- **Date/Time:** February 26, 2026 (Time TBA)
- **Dress:** Concert Dress

Fine Arts Competition (Required for 7th-12th)

- **Description:** The New England Association of Christian Schools Fine Arts competition provides opportunities for students to compete in Music, Speech, Art, and Preaching.
- **Date/ Time:** March 13, 2026 (Times TBA)
- **Dress:** Concert Dress

Moving Up Day/Teddy Bear Picnic (Required School Day)

- **Description:** Lower School students move up one grade level for a morning (8 a.m. - 12 p.m.) to get a taste of what is to come in the next academic year. As kindergarteners get to experience learning in the Classroom Building, 6th graders get to experience moving classrooms each hour. Students return to their original classrooms after lunch and recess. Prospective preschool and kindergarten students have a

special time to visit the preK and K classrooms at a Teddy Bear Picnic during Moving-Up Day.

- **Date/ Time:** April 28, 2026

Spelling Bee

- **Description:** Students in Lower School compete in a school spelling bee
- **Date/ Time:** April 16, 2026, 9 a.m.
- **Dress:** School Dress

Senior High Play (Optional for All)

- **Description:** Students in 9th through 12th grades have the opportunity to try out for the annual high school play.
- **Rehearsals:** After school as scheduled
- **Date/ Time:** April 30 - May 1, 2026 (Times TBA)
- **Dress:** School Dress for attendees

Work Day (Required for 9th-10th)

- **Description:** Students, faculty and staff work together to get our campus ready for commencement-week activities. **This date is subject to change due to weather. All changes will be communicated through email.**
- **Date/ Time:** Thursday, May 7, 2026 - 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- **Dress:** Work Clothes/Casual Dress (not limited to stag swag)

Senior Trip (Required for 12th grade)

- **Description:** Each year, during the month of May, the senior class takes a trip with their class advisors to a chosen destination for a couple days of fun-filled activities that help unify the class and give time to reflect on their years at DCA.
- **Date/Time:** May 6-9, 2026
- **Dress:** Modified Casual Dress

Jr. High Trip (Required for 7-8th grade)

- **Description:** Each year the junior high (7th and 8th grades) take a trip with their class advisors to a local area attraction for a day of fun-filled activities that help unify the class.
- **Date/Time:** May 7, 2026 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- **Dress:** Casual Dress

Spring Concert (Required for K5-12th)

- **Description:** This is a whole school program. Come see the accomplishments of our students!
- **Date/Time:** May 14, 2026 7 p.m.
- **Dress:** Concert dress

Baccalaureate (Required for Seniors & Choir - 10th & 11th)

- **Description:** Baccalaureate is a special service honoring the graduates. This event is held in DCA's Auditorium the week before graduation. Everyone is welcome to attend.
- **Date/ Time:** May 22, 2026
- **Dress:** Seniors- Graduation Dress (see handbook),
Choir-Concert Dress

Kindergarten Graduation/Lower School Honors and Awards (Required for K5-6th)

- **Description:** At our Lower School Honors and Awards Ceremony we recognize students for their academic and character achievements. The Kindergarten Graduation is an important part of this event.
- **Date/Time:** Wednesday, May 27, 2026 3 p.m.
- **Dress:** School Dress

Jr/Sr Banquet (Required for 9th-12th)

- **Description:** Each year, we honor the Senior Class at a banquet hosted by the Junior Class.
- **Date/ Time:** Thursday, May 28, 2026, 5:30 p.m.
- **Dress:** Formal

School Picnic (Required for 1st-12th)

- **Description:** Our school picnic is a day filled with activities and games. The day begins with an Honors and Awards rehearsal in the auditorium.
- **Date/ Time:** Friday, May 29, 2026 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- **Dress:** Casual Dress

Upper School Honors and Awards (Required for 7th-12th)

- **Description:** We recognize Upper School students for sports, extracurriculars, and academic achievements. This event also includes our annual Moving Up Ceremony.
- **Date/ Time:** Friday, May 29, 2026 at 7 p.m.
- **Dress:** Semi-Formal

Fun Night (Required for 7th-12th)

- **Description:** Fun Night directly follows the Upper School Honors & Awards Ceremony. It is a relaxing time when the student body presents some light music and skits to help +everyone relax after a busy week and just before the big event of graduation.
- **Date/ Time:** Friday, May 29, 2026 after Honors & Awards
- **Department:** Fine Arts Department

Graduation (Required for 7th-12th)

- **Description:** Graduation begins at 10 a.m. on the Saturday after Memorial Day. If we have good weather, the ceremony will be held on the back lawn of DCA behind the Main Building. In case of inclement weather, the ceremony will be held in the school auditorium. All Upper School students are required to attend and should arrive early enough to find a seat. We serve a lunch buffet following the ceremony.
- **Date/ Time:** Saturday, May 30, 2026 at 10 a.m.
- **Dress:** 7th-9th Semi-Formal; 10th & 11th Concert Dress