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Dear Darien Community,

Huge congratulations to the entire cast and crew of Theater 308 for an absolutely electric production of *The Lightning Thief*! I had the pleasure of attending opening night with my daughter, and the energy from the cast and crew was truly exhilarating. From the choreography to the special effects, they really brought Rick Riordan's world to life. Don't miss your chance to join the quest, there are three more performances tonight at 7:00 pm and tomorrow at 1:00 pm & 7:00 pm! Tickets are still available at the door or [online](#). Bravo on a legendary show!

Byrne's Book Club: Rescheduled

Join us at The Depot on Monday, March 30 at 7:00 pm for our second book club meeting. We will be discussing *More Than Just a Game*, which offers an insightful look at the high-stakes world of modern youth sports. Since this is a must-read for parents and coaches alike, we hope you can make it for the discussion.

Vision of the Graduate In Action at DHS

The past several weeks have beautifully exemplified the Vision of the Graduate in action at DHS as students in the Authentic Science Research program demonstrated profound **curiosity**, professional **communication**, and academic **independence** while participating in three of the top statewide science and engineering competitions. Every participant underwent a rigorous evaluation process that included designing a professional poster exhibit, delivering a formal presentation, and defending their findings during intensive question-and-answer sessions with panels of expert judges. At the Connecticut STEM Fair, Claire Chan earned first place in Physical Science while Avery Hanson took top honors for her Health and Medical Science research proposal. Kehara Morton secured second place in the Health and Medical Science category, and both Ananyasri Baranidharan and Taylor Platt achieved third-place finishes in Physical Science and Behavioral Science respectively. Success continued at the Connecticut Science and Engineering Fair where Claire Chan received second place in Senior High Engineering along with the Pepsico Engineering Award, and Matthew Li was named a Senior High Finalist while earning the Pfizer Computational Biology and Bioinformatics Award. Additionally, Anastasia Buchesky was recognized with the American Psychological Association Award, and Stella Nehro received the Alumni Botany Award. Rounding out these impressive achievements, Claire Chan and Ananyasri Baranidharan were both selected to present their research posters at the prestigious Connecticut High School Science and Humanities Symposium held at the UConn Health Center.

Vision of the Graduate in Action in the Community

In its inaugural year, the Darien Community Association's Youth Leadership Board successfully raised \$5,000 to establish a new scholarship supporting Darien High School students. This milestone achievement by the nine member youth leadership board including DHS students Kaitlyn Au, Maddie Brisbane, Maya Collins, Will Curtis, Ally

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Kennedy, Anden Kennedy, Addie Leonard, Sadie Noonan, and Claire Wood was made possible through a community trivia event and dedicated outreach to local businesses. This new award joins the DCA's historic scholarship program, which has supported students since 1941, and ensures continued financial aid throughout a student's college journey. This success perfectly reflects the tenets of the Vision of the Graduate when students lead with **empathy** and **integrity** to come together to support their peers and strengthen the Darien community.

Around Town

The Depot Student Governing Board is hosting a [High School Pickleball Tournament](#) tomorrow from 5:00-7:00 pm at Pickleball America. High School students should grab a friend and [register a team](#). The first 24 teams to sign up will be included in the official bracket and compete for cash prizes.

Warmest wishes to everyone celebrating Eid al-Fitr. May this season of reflection and joy bring peace and prosperity to you and your family.

Happy Spring!

Sincerely,



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