

SAINT IGNATIUS LOYOLA WEEKLY
Saint Ignatius Loyola School
48 East 84th Street
New York, NY 10028-0806
212.861.3820 Fax 212.879.8248
Web site: saintignatiusloyolaschool.com

September 21, 2011

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Congratulations are in order to our Saint Ignatius Loyola School community for our newly awarded status as a National Blue Ribbon School for 2011.

On Wednesday evening, I received an e-mail that the U.S. Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan, designated Saint Ignatius Loyola School as a National Blue Ribbon School for 2011. An award such as this does not happen in a vacuum; it is through the hard work of the students, teachers, administration and numerous sacrifices made by you, the parents. I have included in today's Weekly a copy of the letter I received from Secretary Duncan on Friday.

Over the course of the past week, several of you have asked if this is the first time Saint Ignatius Loyola School has been awarded National Blue Ribbon status. Our school was recognized in 1985 when the program was just three years old. In the early stages of the program, schools could self-nominate. In 2002, the Blue Ribbon Program was restructured to bring it into line with the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 and to give recognition to schools whose students achieve at very high levels.

In October, we were contacted that our standardized and state test scores were in the top 10% nationally. To go forward in the process, we then had to complete a detailed self-study of all aspects of Saint Ignatius Loyola School. The extensive application was submitted on December 3, 2010. On January 16, 2011, The Council for American Private Education (CAPE) informed us, based on review of our application, that they were placing our name forward as one of the private schools nationwide to be considered for Blue Ribbon status. This was not a guarantee that we would be recognized as a Blue Ribbon School. After months of review by the Department of Education, I was contacted on September 14, 2011, that we had been awarded National Blue Ribbon 2011 status.

The e-mail stated that Secretary Duncan had named 304 schools in the nation as National Blue Ribbon Schools; of those, 49 were private schools.

In November, Father Witt, Ms. Savarese, Mrs. Abruzzo and I will travel to Washington to represent Saint Ignatius Loyola School at the 2011 National Blue Ribbon Schools Award Ceremony.

Sincerely,

Mary E. Larkin
Principal

Attached to the Weekly are the following:

Family Day Brochure – Grades K-8 (Oldest)
Permission Slip – Grade 1
Carnival Letter – Grade 8
Community Service Guidelines – Grade 8
Parent Safety Patrol Calendar October 2011 – Grades 8
Parent Reception Invitation Cocktail Party – Grades K, 1 and 2
FIT-ness Group Letter and Form – Grades 3-8 (2 sheets)
Parent Safety Patrol Letter – Grades K-8
The Blue Ribbon School Letter – Grades K-8
CulinArt Lunch Menu/October 2011 – Grades K-8

Please review these materials and promptly return those that need to be returned.

***Important to Note:**

- Wednesday, September 21st - **Back-to-School Night** Grades K-5 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in McKinnon Hall.
- Friday, September 30th – **Professional Day No School.**
- Monday, October 3rd – **Winter Uniforms begins.**
- Monday, October 3rd – **Applications** available for Grades 1-7 in the main office.
- Thursday, October 6th – **Band begins.**
- Friday, October 7th – **Faculty Meeting – 12:00 p.m. Dismissal.**

***Kindergarten Information:**

- **The school bus does not begin for students in Kindergarten until Monday, October 3, 2011.**

***Sixth through Eighth Grade Information:**

- Tuesday, October 4th – **High School Fair** Grades 6-8 from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Wallace Hall. Parents are welcome to attend.

***Eighth Grade Information:**

- Wednesday, October 5th – **Life Touch Graduation Photos** -Eighth Grade Students will have their individual Graduation pictures taken. The Eighth Grade boys are to wear a white collared dress shirt with their school tie for the picture. Eighth Grade girls are to wear their white school shirts.
- Please contact Mrs. Rodriguez to schedule your high school appointment with Ms. Larkin, Ms. Savarese or Mr. Sullivan.

The Convent of the Sacred Heart

Please note the tour for Saint Ignatius Loyola students is Friday, October 21, 2011.

Archdiocese of New York Catholic High School Information Fairs:

Bronx

Thursday, September 22, 2011

6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Cardinal Hayes School

650 Grand Concourse

Bronx, NY 10451

Tuesday, September 27, 2011

6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Cardinal Hayes School

650 Grand Concourse

Bronx, NY 10451

Manhattan

Sunday, September 25, 2011

12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Xavier High School

30 West 16th Street

New York, NY 10011

Westchester

Thursday, October 6, 2011

4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

St. Joseph's Seminary

201 Seminary Avenue

Yonkers, NY 10704

TACHS class begins Saturday, September 24, 2011 at 8:30 a.m.

PLEASE NOTE: Class will be held on Saturday, October 8th, which is Columbus Day Weekend.

The cost of the TACHS prep is \$200. All students are required to submit a check for \$20 to cover the cost of the TACHS prep book. The check should be made out to Saint Ignatius Loyola School.

The TACHS Test will be administered on Friday, November 4, 2011. The school will register the eighth grade students for the test. Testing sites are to be determined.

Private Schools

Request for recommendations must be submitted by 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, October 27th.

When you complete your paper work for the private schools or, in some cases, the Better Chance application, you should mail it directly to the schools. We submit our paper work separately.

Convent of the Sacred Heart

The Convent of the Sacred Heart is hosting an Open House for Saint Ignatius Loyola students on **Friday, October 21.**

Public High Schools

LaGuardia High School of Music & Art and Performing Arts:

Letters to request an admissions ticket to audition for LaGuardia must be received in Ms. Larkin's office no later than Friday, September 23, 2011. In the letter, you must clearly state that you are requesting an admissions ticket to LaGuardia.

Your son/daughter must bring the original admissions ticket with him/her on the day of the audition.

Specialized High School Admissions Test (SHSAT) Registration

The New York City Department of Education **will NOT** accept individual student registration for the SHSAT test.

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE of DATE

The New York City Department of Education changed the date for schools to register students who wish to take the SHSAT test. Therefore, I am changing the deadline for letters requesting a ticket.

Letters must be submitted directly to me by 9:00 a.m. FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2011. The letter must clearly state that you wish to have your son/daughter take the SHSAT test.

The SHSAT test is on Saturday, October 29, 2011.

Regular Public School Application

If you wish to receive a Regular Public School application, a letter clearly stating your intent must be submitted to me directly by **Friday, October 7, 2011**.

Public High School Directory

The students were given the Public School directory on Monday. The directory is also available on the New York City Department of Education's website.

2011 Citywide High School Fair takes place on Saturday, September 24th and Sunday, September 25th.

2011 Borough High School Fair takes place on Saturday, October 22nd and Sunday, October 23rd.

***Parent Information:**

- Friday, September 23rd – **Back-to-School Bingo.**
- **Wrapping Paper Sale**
In order to receive your wrapping paper orders in time for the holidays, please note that the deadline for returning orders is Monday, September 26th. If you have any questions regarding the sale, please contact Mrs. Mary Oing, Chairperson for the sale.
- **Back-To-School Bingo**
Thank you to all who have sent in their reservations for Friday evening's Bingo night. We are sold out, so please be reminded that no reservations will be accepted at the door. Volunteers will be contacted by the chairs regarding timing and assignments at the event.

The following parents have signed up to volunteer for the event:

Michelle Phillips	Maite LaVega	Maria Zehler	Patricia Brett
Coleen Landry	Melissa Campfield	Elizabeth Varghese	Kristy Harris
Denise O'Dea	Brian McNamara	Karen Anderson	Linda Russell
Caron Young	Christine Harvey	Elaine Cronin	Lora Amelio
Danielle Smith	Myriam Berardino	Katherine Todd	Robert Seyffert
Doris Giraldo	Emma Marciano	Dagmara Szulce	Caroline Cora

- **Used Uniform Sale**
Please be reminded that items for the Used Uniform Sale should be dropped off beginning on Monday, September 26th.
- **Girl Scouts**
We are ready to begin another year of Girl Scouts at Saint Ignatius Loyola School. All girls in grades K-8 are welcome to join, even if you have not previously been involved with scouting. Meetings will be scheduled as follows: Brownies (grades 2 and 3) will

meet every Monday, beginning September 26th. Daisies (K and 1) and Juniors (grades 4 and 5) will meet on the first Monday of the month beginning October 3rd. Cadettes (grades 6 - 8) will meet on the second Monday of the month.

All troops meet immediately after school and conclude at 4:30 p.m. For more information, or to join as a new scout, please contact the appropriate leader:
Bridgette Foley (Daisies) at thefoleys4@verizon.net or 212-426-5776,
Terri Daly (Brownies and Cadettes) at nycdaly@att.net or 212-876-6764,
Danielle Klyap (Juniors) at dschaefer@stonelioncapital.com or 212-876-8975.

- Wednesday, September 28th – **Guest Speaker Meeting** at 8:45 a.m. in the Great Room. All are welcome to attend to offer ideas, thoughts, and suggestions.
- Wednesday, October 5th – **Life Touch Individual Pictures – Students are to be in full winter uniforms.**
- Wednesday, October 6th – **Life Touch Class/Group Pictures Grades K-8. Students are to be in full winter uniforms.**
- **A New Initiative – The Ronald McDonald House**
In recent weeks, I have had several conversations with the Chairperson of the House Committee from the Ronald McDonald House. The Ronald McDonald House as you know helps many families at a time when their children are faced with extremely serious illness. It is a temporary “home-away-from-home” for families from around the country and worldwide, while their children receive cancer treatments at one of the hospitals in the New York area.

The Ronald McDonald House has contacted many schools in Manhattan to help initiate a campaign to support these families. Families who live in Ronald McDonald house pay a nominal fee to stay at the House. However, they are still faced with the costs of purchasing food, paper goods, etc. while they are residents. Sadly, some of the children’s illnesses require them to stay at the House for months and, in some cases, years at a time.

When I spoke with the Ronald McDonald House representative, I shared with her how Saint Ignatius Loyola School is always willing to give back and help others. I have offered, as a school, to donate paper goods and other necessities to the House. Beginning October 1, each grade will be assigned particular items to collect.

I appreciate any help you can offer in this endeavor and I thank you in advance for your support for such an incredibly worthy cause.

- **Admissions Tour Volunteer Meeting**
Please note that the Admissions Tour Volunteer meeting is Monday, September 26th at 8:45 a.m. The meeting will take place in the Great Room.

- **Smart Tuition**

As a reminder, the front office will no longer be accepting tuition payments. If you need to contact Smart Tuition, their phone is number 888-868-8828. If you have any questions regarding Smart Tuition, you may also call Ms. Larkin.

All textual, graphical and other content appearing on the Saint Ignatius Loyola School website and in its directories, handbooks and Weekly publications are the sole property of Saint Ignatius Loyola School and shall not be copied, edited or reproduced without written permission from Saint Ignatius Loyola School.