Best wishes to all as you celebrate Thanksgiving!

Let us give thanks for the bountiful love of God in all we enjoy as Americans and as people of faith. May our hearts and homes be filled with joy on Thanksgiving Day.

FIRST QUARTER REPORT CARD GRADES will be available on Renweb At close of day on Tuesday, November 19th.

Parent / Teacher Conferences tonight: Thursday, November 21st
3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. & 5:30p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

(Please note that students will be dismissed that day at 2:30.)

PARENT ASSOCIATION NEWS AND THANKS

Thank you to everyone who helped make the Haunted Mansion event such a great success! Special shout out to Odalys Alonzo, Colleen Castiello, Nadeen Tirado, Kathy Solarzano, Audra Giuliano, Mr. and Mrs. Vento, Maria Pirraglia, Rosetta Napolitano, and many others including alumnae mothers Janine Beban and Maria Garvin for helping out the day of the event, and of course Chicklet Morales for all of her assistance with set up and break down and lending us so many wonderful decorations.

On Thursday, November 7th, Preston students and their dads, grandfathers, and other important male role models enjoyed the annual Father/Daughter Dance at the Marina del Rey. Senior Allie Walsh and her dad were crowned the Princess and King of the dance. Special thanks to Parent Association volunteer Leandra Bates who was a huge help the night of the event as well as our hard-working Recruitment & Development staff (Cristina Fragale, Karen Wszolek, Grace Fragale & Annamaria Rella!)

Our next Parent Association meeting is on Tuesday, November 19th at 6:30 pm in Room 100. Dr. Unger and Ms. DeMaio will present on Preston's many college course opportunities and how you and your daughter can benefit from them. Please RSVP to gfragale@prestonhs.org if you will be attending. We hope to see many of you there!
The Class of 2022 had their Sophomore Retreat on Thursday, October 17th, in the Preston gymatorium. The theme of the retreat, organized by Mrs. Dekajlo, was "For We Are God’s Masterpiece." Students spent the day in various activities - stepping away from the business of everyday life, to become closer with each other and with God. They sang, they played games, they meditated, they created banners, and they took the opportunity of a day together as a class to bond and create memories.

On Friday, October 18th, the Class of 2020 went on Senior Retreat to Mariandale Retreat Center in Ossining. The theme of the retreat, organized by Ms. Cornelius, was Servant Leadership. Students started off the day in the beautiful Mariandale Chapel with a powerful candle light ceremony. The day was filled with wonderful opportunities to reflect on their years at Preston together.

Sophomore Challenge Day was held on Thursday, October 24th. What is Challenge Day? Please continue to read the following information from the Challenge Day website: “Imagine a school where everyone feels safe, loved and celebrated. Imagine enemies finding common ground and making peace; friends healing past hurts and making amends; people igniting their passion for service and leadership; adults and youth working together to create a school where everyone is included and thrives. This is Challenge Day.” The program goes beyond traditional anti-bullying efforts, building empathy and inspiring a school-wide movement of compassion and positive change. We address some common issues seen in most schools including cliques, gossip, rumors, negative judgments, teasing, harassment, isolation, stereotypes, intolerance, racism, sexism, bullying, violence, suicide, homophobia, hopelessness, apathy, and hidden pressures to create an image, achieve or live up to the expectations of others.

Also on October 24th our Freshmen class visited the Museum of Natural History for their Discovery Day, a day of learning outside of the classroom.

On Sunday, November 3rd Preston held its annual Open House which brought 495 people including over 174 7th & 8th grade girls through our front door! We received great feedback about our school and especially about our student tour guides. We give thanks for our parent volunteers at Open House!

On November 5th, our Forensics Science class was treated to a special guest speaker, Alumna Brianna Bell ’12. Brianna was one of Ms. Wicks-Dharmay’s forensics students and is now working for the NYPD Forensics crime lab. Brianna’s love for this class led her to pursue her Bachelor’s degree in Forensic Science at John Jay College of Criminal Justice and is currently receiving acceptances from law schools. Brianna described her work responsibilities of analyzing evidence, summarizing her conclusions and reporting her results, communicating with the District Attorney’s office. Sometimes she is called upon to serve as an Expert Witness in court. The Forensic Class students were highly impressed with her presentation and gained a lot of knowledge of the outside world and
various avenues, they can pursue after taking our Forensics class.

- On Friday, November 8th, Preston hosted the annual Test for Admission into Catholic High School (TACHS) exams 8th graders from our area.

**SPORTS NEWS**

**Congratulations!!!** to our **Varsity Volleyball team**, coached by Joel Sanchez and assistant coach Saeedeh Saledpout, who are this year’s NYC Champions! Go Volleyball Panthers Marilian Arboleda, Jessica & Melanieann Broderick, Ananda Burgos, Isabella Colon, Kaitlyn Feliciano, Sara Kocovic, Miranda Loughery, Briana Marmolejos, Lauren Pabon, Mia Rodriguez, Brianna Schroeder, Margaret Varenne and Chloe Western!

Our **JV Volleyball** made it to the playoffs but unfortunately, lost in the first round. The team continues to improve and look forward to next season.

Our **Soccer team**, coached by Mangandie Fofana, had a good season, going all the way to the quarter-finals.

**Basketball team** tryouts took place on November 9th & 10th. Congratulations to the team players listed below.

**Varsity Team**: Jessica Broderick, Melanieann Broderick, Brianna Giuliano, Tavier Haye (manager), Chelsea Marcano, Megan McKenna, Antonia Paturzo, Madison Quattlander, Gina Tienken, Kelly Toro, Rohm Williams-Pedro and Emma Wilson Saltos. The team will be coached by Dawn Cillo and Alex McKillop.

**JV Team**: Christina Apuzzo, Sydney Bertoni, Paris Briggs, Danielle Brown, Renee Castiello, Maria Criotlo, Kayleigh Crowe, Priscilla DelToro, Janat Gul, Jade Haney, Lauren Kenny, Erika Livica, Carluz Munoz and Alyssa Pedo. The team will be coached by Ben Piacquadio and assistant coaches AnnaMaria Evers and Stacy Ramos.

**Reminder**: ALL ATHLETES ARE REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE in the athletic fundraiser by purchasing or selling at least 5 Lotto tickets. See Jamie for tickets.

**PLEASE NOTE**: STUDENTS WILL NOT BE ASSIGNED HOMEWORK on NOV. 26 & 27, NOR WILL ANY HOMEWORK BE DUE on DEC. 2 & 3 TO KEEP THE THANKSGIVING BREAK HOMEWORK FREE.

**SUMMARY OF APPROACHING EVENTS ~**

- November 19th – 1st Quarter Grades available at the end of the day
- November 21st – 2:30pm **Early Dismissal** followed by Parent / Teacher Conferences
  
  1st session: 3:00pm – 5:00pm  
  2nd Session: 5:30pm – 7:30pm
- November 27th – Thanksgiving Liturgy - **Noon Dismissal**.
- Thursday, November 28th & Friday, November 29th **Thanksgiving Holiday break**
- Sunday, December 1st – First Sunday in Advent
- Monday, December 2nd – Classes resume
- Wednesday, December 4th - Freshmen Christmas Breakfast, cafeteria,
- Sunday, December 8th – Second Sunday in Advent – Feast of the Immaculate Conception
- Tuesday, December 10th – Herff Jones is here to collect the 2nd Ring paymt. & take orders.
  - **Parent Association meeting, 6:30pm**
- Wednesday, December 11th – Senior Class Luncheon, Marina del Rey, Noon – 4pm
- Thursday, December 12th- NHS Senior Induction Ceremony, 6:00 pm, café
- Friday, December 13th – **NO School for students** – Faculty Conference day
- Sunday, December 15th – Third Sunday in Advent
- Tuesday, December 17th – **2nd Quarter Interim grades available at the end of the day**
- Friday, December 20th – End of Day Christmas Assembly- Christmas Theme dress up (no charge) - **EARLY Dismissal at Noon.**
- Monday, December 23rd – January 1st – Christmas / New Year Holiday break
- **Classes Resume** – Thursday, January 2nd

![Happy Thanksgiving!](image)