It was great seeing so many parents at the annual grade level meetings! We hope you found them informative and helpful in advising your daughters about their academic goals and college planning.

**Interim Reports:** On October 10, the mid-first quarter progress reports were made available to students and parents via RenWeb’s Parent Portal. As this will be the first evaluation of the year, it is a good time to follow up on any difficulties your daughter may be having and, of course, to encourage her in her strengths.

On October 16th all Sophomores and took the PSAT/NMSQT exam. Freshmen and Seniors did not report to school on this date. Freshmen will be taking the PSAT9 on March 27, 2020.

Parents and students will be able to view the 1st Quarter Report cards, via RenWeb’s Parent Portal, at the end of the day on Tuesday, November 19th. On Thursday, November 21st, teachers will be available to talk with parents from 3:00-5:00 and 5:30–7:30. (Please note that students will be dismissed that day at 2:30 and that there will be a 1/2 hour dinner break at 5PM for the faculty.) In the meantime, do not hesitate to call a teacher or an administrator if you have concerns or just want to be sure things are “on track” relative to your daughter’s academic achievement.

**Calendar Change:** November 1st will be a 1:16pm early dismissal to allow the Preston community to prepare for OPEN HOUSE on Sunday, November 3rd.

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**CONGRATULATIONS**

- to **Amanda Brown**, **Daphne Buitron**, **Vicqueline Escalona**, **Melanie Espinal**, **Daniela Garcia**, **Marisa Garvin**, **Emmalee Gomez**, **Catherine Kien**, **Hannah Kildoyle**, **Marlin Medina**, **Blessing Njoku**, **Soraya Sanchez**, **Yeriel Smith**, **Katherine Sukaj** and **Alisha Sukhram** all of whom earned the distinction of being named a 2019 AP Scholar for their outstanding performance (scores of 3 or higher on three or more Advanced Placement exams).
- to **Tyler Nicholson** and **Ally Valera** both of whom earned the distinction of being named a 2019 AP Scholar with Honor for their outstanding performance (an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams).
- to **Emmalee Gomez** and **Erica Mitchell** both of whom were honored for Commended Achievement in the National Merit Scholarship program.
The annual **Freshman Family Liturgy & Picnic** was held on Sunday, September 29th. Over 100 freshman family members were in attendance for a Mass, lunch, and games. Thank you to all who attended and made the day so special!

Preston’s first **Women's Empowerment Summit** was held on Sunday, October 6th from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Attendees were greeted by keynote speaker and alumna, Pat Palumbo, and then moved on to their respective sessions with various speakers who touched on subjects such as self-care, career, living out God’s purpose, and the "re-imagining renaissance" for women over 50. The day ended with some light yoga led by alumna Niomi Rupram, and an ending keynote speech by alumna Wyneisha Kinsey. A special thank you to all who lent their talents for this event as well as those who attended.

**Haunted Mansion Tours and Activities** will be held Saturday, October 19th from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. In the first session, carnival games, pumpkin decorating, face painting, clown entertainment, and much more is available for children of all ages. In the later session, attendees will be taken on tours of the mansion with spooky scenes, sounds, and in the gym there will be music, scary movies, and refreshments. We hope for a large crowd, bring your family and friends. The cost is $10 per person and tickets may be purchased at the door.

**Reservations are now being accepted** for the annual Preston High School **Father/ Daughter Dance**. Fathers, uncles, brothers, grandfathers, or other loved ones, wear your Sunday best and show her how special she really is. Come spend an evening full of music, dinner, dancing, photos, and more on **Thursday, November 7th at the Marina del Rey**. The price per individual is $75 or $150 per couple. The reservation form has been handed out to your daughters and was also sent as an attachment in an e-mail this week. **Please send the forms in no later than November 1st**. Please note that no refunds will be issued after that date.

**Preston Happenings**

❖ **Class Parties ~** In order to strengthen the Big Sister/Little Sister relationships, grade-level parties were hosted by the Big Sister classes on September 13th. Special thanks to Class Presidents and Treasurers who coordinated events.

❖ Over 100 students (male & female) from various ADNY schools, along with a teacher representing each school and an additional 14 volunteers were welcomed at Preston High School to attend an **Engineering Tomorrow**’s Conference on September 20. The morning started with an Engineering
presentation, and then the students participated in wind energy and 3D printing experiments. They were able to lunch with an Engineer and ask questions as well.

Our school-wide Compassion Connection Food Drive is well under way. The school held its annual Food Drive Kick-Off Assembly on Oct. 3. And in order to get excited about donating food, the school sang a song "Old Town Road," to the melody of a popular Lil Nas X song featuring Billy Ray Cyrus. Our goal each year is to surpass the amount of food collected the previous year, which was 5 tons. We are hoping (planning!) to raise more than 5 tons of food this year. The Drive lasts for 6 weeks and concludes on November 15th. As every year, we are incredibly grateful to the generous support of all the students and parents who donate during this drive.

You are...more than meets the "I"
We polled the student body asking them to complete the sentence “you are…” with an adjective that made them feel good about themselves and compiled a total list of 125. The students listed below then decorated this mirror with those words so that, like filters on smartphone photos, viewers will always see different adjectives alongside their reflection providing a positive affirmation:
Dr. Nikolaus Unger, History Department

Preston represented well at the Columbus Day Parade on Sunday, October 13th, supporting our community as well as our very own Miss Columbus, Senior Maria Terzulli. Our cheer teams kept the Preston spirit and energy alive throughout the parade, delighting the crowds and Preston marchers.

The PSAT/NMSQT will be administered to all Sophomores and Juniors on October 16. For the Juniors, this is their first official college admission test, which results in students receiving informational literature from prospective colleges. It also serves as the qualifying exam for the National Merit Scholarship program. For the Sophomores who take it, this is a trial run, but since the feedback is very helpful, it is in their best interests to take the exam seriously. Freshmen will be taking the new PSAT9 in March.

Students who wish to request NHS peer tutoring should simply EMAIL: nhs-tutoring@prestonhs.org and include:

Student Name
- Homeroom (Please include Room number)
- The Subject you would like to be tutored in
• When you are free to meet for tutoring

The request will be sent to our NHS leadership team who will facilitate an NHS member getting back to you as soon as they can via email or in person and set up a time and date that works for you both. Please understand that you will be connecting with students like yourself and be patient in awaiting a response.

If you have a problem with arranging tutoring, please email/see Seniors Valmores Frances Faye <valmoresf2020@prestonhs.org> or Nacaj Elona <nacaje2020@prestonhs.org> and Dr. Unger <nunger@prestonhs.org>, the NHS Faculty Adviser, so that they can help work out any issues between students as quickly as possible.

Lastly, for students seeking tutoring in MATH subjects, tutoring is available EVERY MONDAY, TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY in Room 203 via Math NHS (beginning October 28). No appointments are needed.

We at Preston understand the difficulty in the transition from Middle School to High School. The purpose of the Freshman Academy is to assist all freshmen in this pivotal time of academic and social transition. The program includes:

• Freshman Orientation- This is held during the summer to give rising 9th graders an opportunity to meet their new classmates, Student Council officers, teachers, Dean of Students, Dean of Studies, and the Principal.

• Academic Boot Camp- This is a two-week program held in early August. The girls participated in 4 classes each day consisting of Math, English, Study Skills and Technology. By attending the Boot-Camp they start developing positive relationships with teachers, staff, administrators and peer mentors. They also start the process of building friendships through participation in various group activities.

• Parent Orientation- This meeting provides freshman parents with information on school policies, academics, guidance program and Preston’s goal of helping their daughters become Women of Dignity, Honor, Respect and Compassion.

• Peer Mentoring
Each freshman homeroom is assigned a Junior Ambassador who will meet with them throughout the year to assist and instruct on matters of Preston life such as academics and extra-curricular events.

• Tutoring- Extra help is provided through each academic department as well as through peer mentors.

• Dedicated Staff- The program is composed of dedicated professionals who work collaboratively to ensure the future success of all Preston girls. This group will meet on a regular basis for the sole purpose of making freshman year a success both academically and socially.
Calendar for October and November

✔ October 19th, Preston’s 4th annual Haunted Mansion, 2pm – 4pm (children) 6:00pm – 8:00pm (Teens & Adults)
✔ October 24th – CHALLENGE DAY / DISCOVERY DAY
✔ October 28th – 1st Qtr. Service Time Cards due
✔ October 31st: School Closed for Archdiocesan Seminars
✔ October 31st: School Closed for Archdiocesan Seminars
✔ October 31st: School Closed for Archdiocesan Seminars
✔ November 1st – Veterans’ Day (No Classes in session)
✔ November 2nd – First Quarter Ends / 1:16pm Early Dismissal for a faculty meeting
✔ November 3rd – OPEN HOUSE for 7th & 8th graders and their families, 11am – 2pm / Daylight savings time ends—turn clocks BACK 1 hour!
✔ November 4th – First Quarter Ends / 1:16pm Early Dismissal for a faculty meeting
✔ November 5th – Election Day – School is in session
✔ November 7th – The Father/Daughter Dance will be held at Marina del Rey on Thursday, November 1, 7-11 p.m. See p. 2 above for more information.
✔ November 8th - School closed to Preston students – TACHS Exam administered to 8th graders
✔ November 11th – Veteran’s Day (No Classes in session)
✔ Report Card grades become available to parents/students on Tuesday, November 19th @ end of day
✔ November 20th - Parent/Teacher conferences. Students will be dismissed at 2:30. Teachers and Guidance Counselors are available at the following times: 3:00 to 5:00 and again between 5:30 -7:30.