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# PRESTON PARENT BULLETIN

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November 2022



*Hope your holiday is filled with traditions that uplift you, prayers that inspire you and your family and friends who love and appreciate you. Wishing you God's blessings, at Thanksgiving and always.*



**FIRST QUARTER REPORT CARD GRADES will be available on Parent Portal, AFTER 5PM on Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup>.**

**PARENT / TEACHER CONFERENCES: THURSDAY, November 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Session I: 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

**Session II: 5:30p.m. – 7:30 p.m.**

**Note from Lynsey Tortorella, Director of Counseling,**

**To Senior Parents/Guardians:**

All seniors with a January application deadline or who want materials sent to schools before Christmas break should submit their Counselor Review Forms by Friday, December 1st. Once your student has applied to college, please encourage them to check their email accounts for directions from individual schools to create online portal accounts and to check their application and financial aid status.

We hope that most seniors were able to take advantage of amazing opportunities from SUNY and CUNY schools to waive their application fee at the end of October. Students who did not participate are still eligible to apply to these institutions by their application deadlines, but will now have to pay. The CUNY application is \$65 for 6 campuses and each SUNY campus application is \$50. Our experience from previous years has shown the CUNY application system becomes backlogged, causing a delay in students receiving their decision letters until March and even April due to processing delays.

Please remember that the exact date of the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) opening has yet to be released. All we know is that it is supposed to open sometime in December. However please keep in mind that the CSS profile became available October 1, 2023. We have reminded seniors to please check the colleges' websites for their individual, and often strict, priority filing deadline for the CSS profile (only certain private schools accept the CSS profile). Links for these websites and other financial aid resources can be

found on the senior Counseling Google Classroom. For a list of colleges that accept the CSS profile, please visit [CSS Profile](#).

Reminder that if your student has not already done so, please encourage them to take advantage of our upcoming instant decision days. Students can sign up by completing the form on the counseling google classroom, please see the dates listed below for the participating colleges/universities:

**Pace University** on November 21st  
**University of New Haven** on November 30th  
**St John's University** December 11th  
**Quinnipiac University** on January 8th

We have already hosted instant decisions days for Dominican University and Iona University. Please note students who participate in instant decision days can receive scholarships which are only merit based. To receive other aid they must complete the FAFSA, TAP and still be reviewing the scholarship opportunities document located on google classroom and college websites for college specific scholarship.

**To Junior and Senior Parents/Guardians:**

Please review the accompanying [SAT Fee Waiver Eligibility](#) link to see if your student may be eligible for fee waivers when they register to take the SAT, AP exams, dual credit courses, college applications, etc. If you fit the eligibility criteria, you must submit one of the following documents to Mrs. Murphy for approval:

- \*Snap letter
- \*Confirmation of Student's SSI letter
- \*First two pages of your most recent filed 1040 tax forms

Once Mrs. Murphy verifies your eligibility, your student's counselor can then provide a fee waiver code or signature as needed when students register to apply for various tests and programs. Students need the fee waiver code BEFORE they register for their SAT through their College Board accounts.

**To Freshman, Sophomore and Junior Parents/Guardians:**

All students who took the October 2023 PSAT should have access to their scores online through their personal College Board account, starting November 16th. Students will receive instruction in their classroom counseling groups on how to access their PSAT scores and how to link their College Board accounts with Khan Academy to get free personalized SAT test prep. Juniors will also have instruction on how to register for the SAT if they have not already done so on their own.

To assist in understanding the score report, please go to the corresponding link:

Sophomores and Juniors

[Your PSAT/NMSQT Score Explained - SAT Suite](#)  
[Understanding Your Digital PSAT/NMSQT Scores](#)

Freshmen [Understanding your PSAT 8/9 scores](#)

Included you will also find fliers for Princeton Review's FREE virtual PSAT and SAT prep events for Preston students. Registration information is included in the flier.

"Always have an attitude of gratitude."

-Sterling K. Brown

## **PARENT ASSOCIATION NEWS**

Preston's Annual Father Daughter Dance was held on Thursday November 10th at Marina del Rey. We welcomed 124 students and their fathers and father figures who shared in an evening of fun and dancing. As per tradition, one senior in attendance is randomly chosen to become the Princess of the evening and her escort the king and this year it was Danielle DeMattia and her father James DeMattia. Thank you to Jason D'Oro Enterprises for the entertainment, Irvin Simon Photographers for the portraits and Mystic Wishes Inc. for the 360 Video Booth. If you attended, check your email in the next week for information on how to order portraits.

Get into the holiday spirit and travel to Bedford Falls with us for an interactive movie experience learning the Charleston dance and watching "**It's a Wonderful Life**" on Sunday December 10th at 2pm.

Tickets are \$20 in advance & \$25 at the door. Use this link to purchase tickets by Thursday

December 7th: <https://payit.nelnet.net/form/ql6lySvE>.

The next Parent Association meeting is tomorrow November 14th at 6:30pm via Zoom. The December Parent Association meeting will be on December 12th via Zoom with a presentation from Mrs. Wyneisha Huntt on DEI. The January Parent Association meeting will be in-person on January 9<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Maria Daroni, our ADAPP counselor, will present **Hidden in Plain Sight**- an Interactive Educational Experience for Parents on Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, immediately after the monthly Parent Association meeting at 6:30pm. Please see the flyer towards the end of this bulletin

## **PRESTON HAPPENINGS**

- ❖ Noche Latina, sponsored by the Spanish Club and under the direction of their moderator, Spanish teacher, Mr. Ocando, and English teacher, Mr. Irizarry, as the DJ, was held on October 11<sup>th</sup>. The event was well attended by faculty, staff and students alike, all whom enjoyed delicious traditional Spanish food, prepared by and served by Spanish club members, and danced to wonderful Spanish music.



- ❖ On Thursday, October 19th, several students from Ms. Connolly's Introduction to Law class attended the annual Girls Rule the Law Youth Conference at Fordham University School of Law. The day consisted of sessions on what to expect in law school, the importance of leadership and communication, why political participation is critical and why women should run for office, why you should find and work with a mentor, as well as time to network with judges, attorneys, and corporate leaders. The event is designed to inspire and educate middle and high school girls to introduce young minds to the intricate worlds of law and the political process



- ❖ Congratulations to Sophomore Sofia Perez, winner of the Italian Heritage Essay Contest at the Eastchester High School ceremony on October 25<sup>th</sup>. Sofia, one of two winners, was the only Catholic School entrant who competed against various public school students in the tri-state area.



- ❖ Our students embraced the Halloween spirit with a fantastic Halloween walk, showcasing their fabulous costumes. Congratulations to our winners who received a gift card: Danielle DeMattia, Jamie Kibler, Victoria Malone, Sophia Arciuolo, Erin Crowe, Julie Salazar, Lia Dellacamara, Isabella Dinuovo, Nicole Yencik, and Emilia Holz. But the fun didn't stop there! Our talented Step Team impressed us with their incredible performance. The seniors also treated us to a memorable skit that concluded with a spooktacular group dance to Michael Jackson's iconic "Thriller." Our assembly was filled with laughter, excitement, and Halloween spirit, and we thank all the students, teachers, and staff for making memorable. Lastly, our faculty took to this year's Barbie theme and dressed for the part.

- ❖ The Italian Club invited guest speaker, Mrs. Skylar Jeffries, President of the Italian Teacher's Association and Executive Director of CIEE, to their November 1<sup>st</sup> meeting. She spoke to the students regarding many study abroad programs and scholarships offered to students totaling over 6 million dollars. These programs are offered in many countries for foreign languages, STEM, art, and history. Students are offered scholarships ranging from 10% to 100% based on both need and merit.





- ❖ Congratulations to Emely Morel and Isabella Bautista, both whom were second prize winners of the Italian Poetry Contest on November 4th. They are pictured below with Italian Teachers Association President Mrs. Skylar Jeffries and National Italian Honor Society President, Mrs. Lucrezia Lindia.



- ❖ **Senior Retreat.** The Seniors gathered in the Silver Beach Hall for their grade-level retreat on Thursday October 12. Dressed in their step-up day jerseys, the students had a beautiful opportunity to bond as a



class - reminiscing about memories of the past four years, writing letters to each other, molding personal pendants from clay... and focusing on the fact that they are "Dwelling in God's Hands"

- ❖ On October 25th, Appellate Judge Julio Rodriguez III spoke to Ms. Connolly's Intro to Law class. He discussed his experiences in college

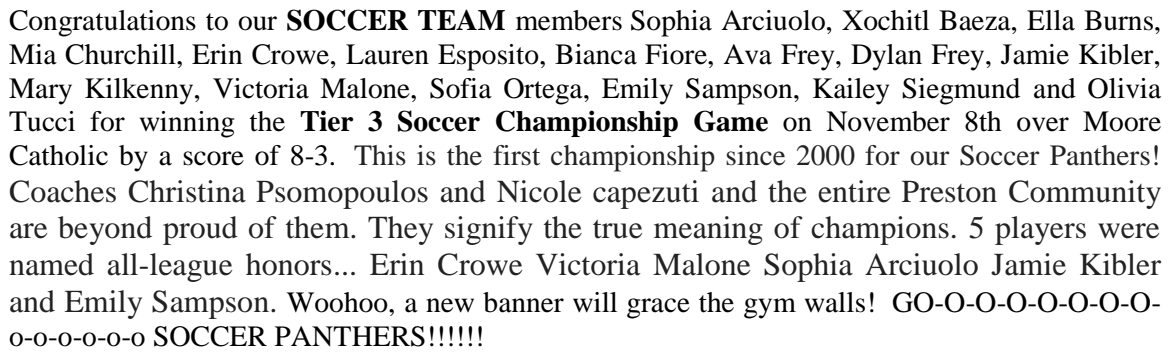
and law school, as an ADA, as Deputy Commissioner and Executive Director of the Environmental Control Board for the New York City Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings, as a New York City Administrative Law Judge, as Inspector General for the New York City Department of Investigation, and as a n Administrative Judge in the Criminal Part. He helped students to better understand criminal law and criminal procedure.



- ❖ **Compassion Connection** members have once again donated Christmas gifts for children in need through Samaritan's Purse - Operation Christmas Child.



- ❖ Above, Panther Vision filmed a new segment for our semi-daily announcement show called *Fondue for Two*. Look for even more exciting things to happen in the revamped Learning Center!



**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. 21 & 22, NOR WILL ANY HOMEWORK BE DUE on Nov. 27 & 28 TO KEEP THE THANKSGIVING BREAK HOMEWORK FREE.**

## SUMMARY OF APPROACHING EVENTS ~

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☑ November 14<sup>th</sup></li> <li>☑ November 16<sup>th</sup></li> <li>☑ November 17<sup>th</sup></li> <li>☑ November 21</li> <li>☑ November 22<sup>nd</sup></li> <li>☑ November 23<sup>rd</sup></li> <li>☑ November 24<sup>th</sup></li> <li>☑ November 27<sup>th</sup></li> <li>☑ November 28<sup>th</sup></li> <li>☑ December 1<sup>st</sup></li> <li>☑ December 3<sup>rd</sup></li> <li>☑ December 7<sup>th</sup></li> <li>☑ December 8<sup>th</sup></li> <li>☑ December 9<sup>th</sup></li> <li>☑ December 10<sup>th</sup></li> <li>☑ December 12<sup>th</sup></li> <li>☑ December 14<sup>th</sup></li> <li>☑ December 15<sup>th</sup></li> <li>☑ December 19<sup>th</sup></li> <li>☑ December 21<sup>st</sup></li> <li>☑ <b>December 22<sup>nd</sup></b></li> <li>☑ January 3<sup>rd</sup></li> </ul> | <p>Sophomore Retreat/ PA Meeting, via zoom / 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Grades Released at 5PM</p> <p><b>Parent/Teacher conferences.</b> 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.</p> <p>1:30pm Early Dismissal- Grade Level faculty meeting</p> <p>Cultural Thanksgiving</p> <p>Noon Dismissal</p> <p>Happy Thanksgiving – School Closed</p> <p>School Closed</p> <p>Classes resume</p> <p>National Giving Tuesday / \$2 Giving Tuesday Dress Down</p> <p>Freshmen Christmas Breakfast, cafeteria / Admissions Application due</p> <p>First Sunday in Advent</p> <p>Herff Jones is here to collect the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ring payment. &amp; take new orders</p> <p>Feast of the Immaculate Conception Liturgy—Special Schedule</p> <p>Sophomore /Junior Social, 7pm – 10pm</p> <p>Second Sunday in Advent</p> <p>PA Meeting, 6:30pm</p> <p>Senior Class Luncheon at Marina del Rey, noon – 4pm<br/>2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Interim Reports released at 5pm</p> <p><b>NO School for students</b> – Faculty Conference day</p> <p>Advent Liturgy &amp; NHS Senior Induction Ceremony</p> <p>End of Day Christmas Assembly- Christmas Theme dress up (no charge)<br/><b>EARLY Dismissal at Noon</b></p> <p><b>January 2<sup>nd</sup> – Christmas / New Year Holiday break</b></p> <p>Classes Resume</p> |
|---|---|



Happy

Thanksgiving!



*Preston High School presents*

# *IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE*



Join us for a Charleston dance class and an  
interactive movie experience!



SCAN ME

Sunday, December 10th at 2pm  
2780 Schurz Avenue  
Bronx, NY 10465

Refreshments  
included &  
raffles available.

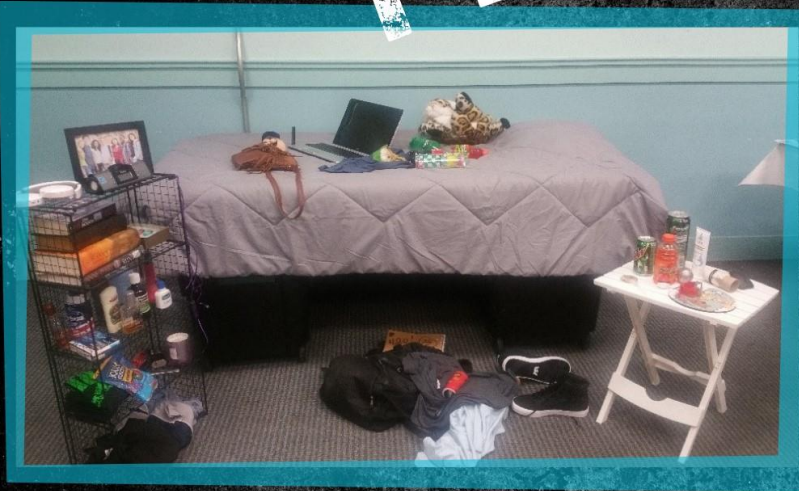
Tickets are \$20 per person in  
advance and \$25 at the door.

Questions? Contact [gdelvalle@prestonhs.org](mailto:gdelvalle@prestonhs.org) or (718)863-9134 ext. 143



**ADAPP and Preston High School presents an  
Interactive Educational Experience for PARENTS:**

# HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT



**ADULTS  
ONLY!**

*Find out how  
to identify  
clues from a  
teen's  
bedroom.*

Come into our teen's bedroom, test your knowledge, and strengthen your observational skills. As you stroll through the bedroom, can you find what's hidden - references and/or paraphernalia?

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2024  
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE  
PA MEETING AT 6:30**

**This activity is intended for adults over the age of 21.**

Please contact Maria Droni at [mdroni@adapp.org](mailto:mdroni@adapp.org)  
with any questions you may have.



# Free College Prep Events & Discounts for Preston High School Families Spring 2024!

**Registration is required.**

Scan the QR codes or click the links to register.

**Digital PSAT Virtual  
Practice Test**



Click [HERE](#)

**Where: Virtual  
When: March 16, 9:00am  
Register by March 15**

**The Digital SAT: All You  
Need to Know Presentation**



Click [HERE](#)

**Where: Virtual  
When: March 19, 7:00pm**

**Digital SAT Virtual  
Practice Test**



Click [HERE](#)

**Where: Virtual  
When: March 23, 9:00am  
Register by March 22**

**Virtual ACT Practice Test**



Click [HERE](#)

**Where: Virtual  
When: March 30, 9:00am  
Register by March 29**

**Ready to enroll?** Use promo code **Preston25** to receive 25% off  
courses and **Preston10** for 10% off tutoring.

Go to [PrincetonReview.com](https://PrincetonReview.com) or call **(800)2REVIEW** to learn about more  
programs and enroll.

**Questions?** Contact your local Outreach Specialist : [Jamie.Hernandez@review.com](mailto:Jamie.Hernandez@review.com) | **646-768-9944**



# December Virtual Events for Preston High School

The Princeton Review will be holding the following virtual events for HSAS students.  
Registration is required to receive instructions and links to join each event.

## The Digital SAT®: All You Need to Know Tuesday, December 5th at 7:00PM

The College Board has announced a significant change to the SAT, turning the exam into a computer-based test. Join us in a virtual presentation as we discuss what's changing on the SAT, what's not changing on the SAT, and what a digital SAT means for students.



Click [HERE](#) or scan the QR Code  
to register for presentation.



**Digital SAT Free Virtual  
Practice Test**  
**Saturday, December 9**  
**9:00AM**

Click [HERE](#)  
or scan QR  
to register for DSAT.



**ACT Free Virtual  
Practice Test**  
**Saturday, December 16**  
**9:00AM**

Click [HERE](#)  
or scan QR  
to register for ACT.



Free practice tests are a great way to find out you may score on the DSAT or ACT without having the scores count. Multiple timing options are available for students with approved testing accommodations. Students will receive detailed instructions explaining how to log onto Princeton Review student portal and complete the test online at home.

**Registration is required for each event.**

**Ready to enroll?** Preston students receive 25% off courses using **Preston25** and 10% off tutoring using **Preston10**.



**Want more information on courses and programs?**  
Visit **PrincetonReview.com** or call **800-2REVIEW**.



**Questions? Contact your local Outreach Specialist : [Jamie.Hernandez@review.com](mailto:Jamie.Hernandez@review.com) | 646-768-9944**