



# Parent Bulletin

September 2025

## Welcome Back

This September felt especially meaningful, as there was a time we were unsure if Preston would even remain open. What a joy it was to welcome back our Seniors, Juniors, and Sophomores, and to greet the Class of 2029 during the first week of September '25. Our faculty and staff lined both sides of the main building, cheering as the students arrived—a wonderful reminder of the spirit and community that make Preston so special.

Now, once again, we turn to the serious work of academic achievement, enriched by emotional and spiritual growth. Together—as parents and teachers—we share the responsibility of serving the best interests of your daughters. Let's continue to keep the lines of communication open.



## Information and Reminders

- 1st quarter interim report grades will be available on October 7 at 5pm
- First Quarter ends October 31.



## A Few Important Reminders for Parents

- Be sure to check our website ([www.prestonhs.org](http://www.prestonhs.org)) regularly for updates on events, breaking news, parent bulletins, school closing information, and information on how to contact specific teachers and administrators.
- As evidence of the value that Preston places on attendance, we continue to focus on increasing our students' personal responsibility by reducing the number of absences (including partial-day absences). **Therefore, please read *carefully* the section concerning absences, early dismissal and lateness on pages 17-20 of our Student Handbook. Note especially the penalty for excessive absences.** (You can find this in your daughter's Planner). Note in particular the following consequence: ***"Academic credit depends on instruction time, and as such will be withheld when a student misses more than 16 instructional days in a given class (8 for semester courses)."*** As parents, you have an important role to play in this process.
- We understand that adding funds to your daughter's Lessings lunch account through the Lessings website may come with extra fees. Please know that your daughter can also add cash directly at the cafeteria register—no additional fees required! Once funds are on her account, she can easily use her ID card to purchase breakfast and lunch. If she forgets her ID, she can still access her account by giving the cafeteria staff her student ID number, name, and grade level.

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## PHS Parent Association News

### Parent Association

We know that you are busy, but we also know that a partnership between school and home is best for students' success. With that in mind, we are asking more of you to attend the Parent Association meetings, and to assist with the many programs/events sponsored by Preston. Please find time for this meaningful participation in the school/parent partnership. This is one of the best vehicles for communication and input... but its success depends on every parent's presence and participation.

The next Parent Association meeting will be on Tuesday, October 7th at 6:30pm, via ZOOM.

### Golf Outing Fundraiser

#### Golf Outing

Preston High School is hosting its 16th Annual Golf Outing on Tuesday October 14, 2025. The event will be hosted at Pelham Bay/Split Rock Golf Course & Posto 22 Restaurant in New Rochelle, NY. We invite you to join us for a fun day of golf, great food, raffle prizes all in the name of raising funds to support our school!

Attached you will see sponsorships opportunities as well as the information on joining us for the day of. If you know of anyone who golfs, or perhaps owns a business they'd like to advertise, please share this information with them. We are also offering current families a unique opportunity to honor their scholar with the Junior Tee Sponsor. All Junior Tee Sponsors will be listed on a special sign at the event to recognize those scholars. Should you purchase a Junior Tee Sponsor,

please include the scholar's name and graduation year in the "Signage" box when you complete the online form.

All sponsorships and registrations should be completed by October 5th at the latest. Follow this link to submit payment: <https://payit.nelnet.net/form/lseIDWa>



**2025 Golf Invite Digital.pdf**

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**194782-PHS\_Golf\_2025\_Reply.pdf**

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## Faculty News

**Welcome to our newest Preston faculty members:**

**Admissions & Recruitment:** Maya Ranot: B.S., Communications, SUNY Purchase College

**Counseling:** Jeanette Coulthurst: M.A., Education, Teachers College Columbia University and M.S., Guidance and Counseling, The College of New Rochelle

**History:** Taleah Johnson-Harris: B.A. Adolescent Education, The College of Saint Rose

**Mathematics:** Lenise Nkwain: B.A., Applied Mathematics, The City College of New York

**Science:** Raymond Cheung: B.A., Biochemistry, New York University

Fatoumata Sow, B.A., Chemistry, Princeton University

**Theology:** Wyneisha Hunt: B.A., History, New York University; Master of Divinity, The New York Theological Seminary

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## ADAPP Counselor

We are also pleased to announce that Maria Doroni, a counselor/social worker from ADAPP, will continue providing prevention services to our school for this school year. ADAPP is the school-based student assistance program within the Department of Education of the Archdiocese of New York. Our school is very fortunate to have a counselor and the service.

The ADAPP counselor will be available 4 days per week. The service includes drug and alcohol prevention education, crisis intervention, as well as group and individual educational counseling. The purpose of the program is to help students develop positive life skills and foster healthy life choices. The ADAPP counselor will work closely with the school staff and me and is available to help parents with information and referral.

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## Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership (HOBY)

[Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership \(HOBY\)](#) is a nationally recognized leadership seminar for high school sophomores. Each spring, more than 10,000 students participate in one of HOBY's 70 State Leadership Seminars, where they develop their leadership skills and learn how to apply them as effective, ethical leaders in their schools, communities, and beyond.

Preston High School may nominate one sophomore to attend this year's seminar. On September 24, Ms. Cala, the Sophomore Counselor, invited interested sophomores to complete the essay prompt below, for consideration.

**Essay Prompt:** Describe the most rewarding and challenging aspects of being a leader in your school and community.

**Essay Deadline:** Friday, October 10th. Students need to send me their essay via email.

*\*This opportunity is optional, only students who wish to apply should submit an essay.\**

### Seminar Dates:

- **HOBY Seminar Dates\*:** June 5 - June 7
- **HOBY Location\*:** Adelphi University

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to Ms. Cala!

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## Upcoming Junior Ring Order Dates

Attn: Junior Parents/Guardians,

Kalob Williams, our Herff Jones representative, will be at Preston on September 30th & October 1st to take Preston Ring measurements and orders from our Junior Class. Orders may also be submitted on line by clicking [here](#) and please note that there is a required \$150 initial deposit to place the order.

The Junior Ring Night Ceremony takes place on March 12, 2026. All orders must be placed by December 1st to ensure delivery for the ceremony.



**Preston HS Ring Flyer SY 2026 09-02-25.pdf**

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## PRESTON HAPPENINGS

### Class Parties



Back-to-school came with a bang—free dress-down, icy treats, line dancing, and nonstop fun! Our annual class party brought everyone together as Juniors welcomed their brand-new Freshman sisters, and Seniors joyfully reunited with their now-Sophomore sisters. What a perfect way to start the year!



## Back to School Night

On the evening of Tuesday, October 16th, we welcomed Freshman and Sophomore parents and guardians to our Back to School Night. Families had the chance to meet many of their daughter's teachers and step into a "day in the life" of her schedule. We truly value this partnership with our families and encourage parents and guardians to reach out to teachers or counselors anytime with questions, thoughts, or celebrations to share.



## Liturgy of the Holy Spirit and Fall Honors Convocation

Preston celebrated the Liturgy of the Holy last week, and it was such a wonderful way to kick off the year! Our faculty really showed their Catholic school spirit by leading us in prayer with the Faculty and Staff Gospel Choir, Faculty Altar Servers, and lecturers. The students were amazing contributors too, singing and responding beautifully throughout the Mass.

This was the most faith-filled Mass we've had here at Preston. You could feel the Holy Spirit shining in all of us that day. What a

blessing to start the year this way!

And our Sophomore, Junior, and Senior Honor Students were recognized for maintaining First Honors the entire last academic year. Congratulations!

## Friday Rosary

Our weekly Friday Rosary has been a wonderful success this year, with student participation **doubling** compared to last year's average! The reverence and devotion our students show each week is truly inspiring. Looking ahead, we're excited to share that **First Friday Masses** will return beginning next week. It's shaping up to be a faith-filled year!

## Co-Curricular Fair

The Co-Curricular Fair on Friday, September 19th was buzzing with energy as students explored the many after-school activities Preston has to offer! From clubs to teams to special interest groups, there was something for everyone, and students eagerly signed up for the activities that sparked their curiosity.

Freshmen may have initially "overbooked" themselves, but over time they'll discover what fits best and make more lasting commitments. Co-curricular activities are such an important part of school life and personal growth that we encourage every student to join at least one. With so many options to choose from, we're confident that each student found something that excited her—and we can't wait to see new ideas and activities proposed by our students as well!



## Earth Science Lab: Sink or Float?



### Earth Science Lab: Sink or Float?

Students got hands-on with measuring and calculating **density**—figuring out if objects, from Ninja Turtle figurines to shiny marbles, would sink or float. They then took a “Gallery Walk,” sharing tips and checking each other’s work to make sure all calculations, units, and formulas were spot on!

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## SPORTS

### Sports Update

Preston Volleyball is off to an amazing start! Our Varsity Volleyball is currently undefeated, with a big win against Spellman on 9/25, and our Junior Varsity team is 3-1. Preston Soccer has played hard in all of their games with victories against Montfort and Holy Cross. Preston Cheer has started another year of dedication and determination with the girls believing this is their year to be successful at Nationals in Florida.

### Want to Win Big with Amazing Odds 🎰

Preston’s Athletic Department is running an exciting raffle—**only 300 tickets will be sold!** That means your chances of winning are better than ever. Tickets are just **\$100 each**, and the prizes are:

🏆 **1st Prize: \$5,000**

🏆 **2nd Prize: \$3,000**

🏆 **3rd Prize: \$2,000**

Get your ticket before they’re gone—once the 300 are sold, that’s it! See attached flyer



**Athletics Raffle.pdf**

[Download](#)

115.3 KB

### 🌟🌟 Preston Varsity Cheerleading Paint n’ Sip Fundraiser 🌟🌟

Grab your friends and your creative spirit and join us for a *Paint n’ Sip* night on **Friday, October 3, 2025, at 6:30 PM at Preston High School!** For just **\$45 per person**, you’ll paint a fun fall masterpiece, sip, laugh, and help our Varsity Cheerleaders raise funds for Nationals. 🍷❤️

Check out the attached flyer for all the details—including a **QR code to purchase your tickets**.

Spots are limited, so grab yours early!



**Paint n' Sip.pdf**

[Download](#)

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## Upcoming Calendar Dates

### **Tuesday, September 30**

- Jr Ring Measurements and orders (Last Names beginning with A-L, \$150 initial deposit to place order).

### **Wednesday, October 1**

- Jr Ring Measurements and orders (Last Names beginning with M-Z, \$150 initial deposit to place order).

### **Thursday, October 2**

- First Open House for 7th and 8 grade students, 6:30pm

### **Tuesday, October 7**

- 1st Quarter Interim Report Card Grades released to all at 5:00pm
- PA Meeting (virtual)

### **Thursday, October 9**

- Student Council Induction Ceremony, am
- Junior Parent Night: Re: College Prep, 6:30pm

### **Friday, October 10**

- 1:30pm Early Dismissal

### **Sunday, October 12**

- Italian Heritage Day Parade in Morris Park, line up at 11:30am

### **Monday, October 13**

- School Closed

### **Wednesday, October 15**

- PSAT / NMSQT Exam for grades 09, 10 and 11 - Students will be dismissed after the exam, around noonish.
- Senior College Visits

### **Friday, October 17**

- Senior Class Retreat

## Friday, October 24

- 1:30pm Early Dismissal

## Saturday, October 25

- Open House, 11:00 am - Visit for 7th & 8th grade families

## Tuesday, October 28

- Sophomore Retreat

## Friday, October 31

- 1st Quarter Ends
- Free Costume Dress Down

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## Parking and Smoking Prohibitions

### PARKING PROHIBITIONS

**Parking in the bus stop or double parking in front of the school is strictly prohibited!** We ask our parents to park up the block or on one of the side streets close to Preston. There have been far too many close calls in front of the school at dismissal time. Parents: PLEASE be considerate of our students, our neighbors and other drivers when you pick up your daughters. We will get Parking Enforcement Officers involved if we have to.

### SMOKING PROHIBITIONS

#### **FYI: NYC/NYS Smoking Laws Affecting Schools**

As part of its Smoke-Free Air Act, NYC Administrative Code:

- Section 17-503(d) **prohibits smoking in "all indoor and outdoor areas of...all public and private pre-primary, primary and secondary schools providing instruction for students at or below the 12th grade level, and any vehicles owned, operated or leased by such schools which are used to transport such students or the personnel of such schools"**
- NYC Board of Health's administrative tribunal can impose penalties ranging from \$200 to \$2,000 for employer-type violations, and **\$100 to a person smoking in prohibited areas**

NYS law:

- **Prohibits smoking within 100 feet of school premises. Employees and visitors to PHS may not use any tobacco products within 100 feet of our campus**, as defined by the gates and fences that surround our property.
- Another NYS law prohibits the sale of e-cigarettes to minors.

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## Contact Info

### **Preston High School**

Principal: [Ms.](#) Jennifer Connolly

Asst. Principals: [Mrs.](#) Kelly Keane and Mr. Edgar Martinez





Main Office: Mrs. Casario and Mrs. Murphy

Email: [amurphy@prestonhs.org](mailto:amurphy@prestonhs.org)

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