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## 2020-21 Parent Newsletter #2

October 5<sup>th</sup> is **World Teacher's Day!!!**

To our JKO teachers, **THANK YOU** for all you do for our students daily!!!

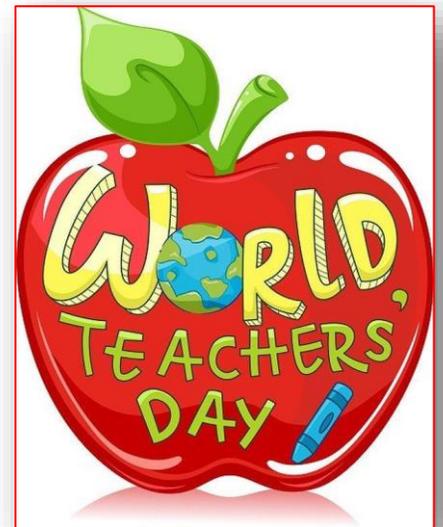
October 5 is a day to celebrate the educators who once affected you in some way as a student—to show gratitude to those you once aspired to be. It's a time to reflect on the teachers who were there for learning moments that defined your classroom experiences—even years ago—when you finally grasped a challenging concept with a feeling of accomplishment.

It's also a day for you to realize how you may now impact students in the same way. World Teachers' Day is an annual celebration across the globe. But what does this day represent? Let's answer some questions about its significance.

### What Is World Teachers' Day?

World Teachers' Day honors the anniversary of the 1966 adoption of the ILO/UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers. The Recommendation established benchmarks regarding the rights and responsibilities of teachers, according to UNESCO, and set standards for their training and continuing education, recruitment, employment, and teaching and learning conditions.

UNESCO holds World Teachers' Day in partnership with UNICEF, UNDP, the International Labour Organization, and Education International. Around the world, you can celebrate the protection of the rights and status of teachers while aiming to attract newcomers to the field despite the challenges educators currently face, including low pay and teacher shortages at K-12 districts nationwide. The day also honors teachers in light of the United Nations' [Sustainable Development Goal 4](#) on education, which defines access to an education and quality teachers as crucial to fulfilling the UN's [Education 2030](#) agenda.



This is an opportunity for you and your students to reflect on the role that educators have played in your life, and to consider ways to continue inspiring your own K-12 students each and every day in the classroom.

### **When Is World Teachers' Day in 2020?**

It's been held every year on October 5 since 1994. In 2020, October 5 falls on a Monday.

### **What Is This Year's Teachers' Day Theme?**

This year's universal World Teachers' Day theme is "Teachers: Leading in crisis, reimagining the future." According to UNESCO:

*The issue of teacher leadership in relation to [the COVID-19] crisis responses is not just timely, but critical in terms of the contributions teachers have made to provide remote learning, support vulnerable populations, re-open schools, and ensure that learning gaps have been mitigated. The discussions surrounding WTD will also address the role of teachers in building resilience and shaping the future of education and the teaching profession.*

### **How Is World Teachers' Day Celebrated?**

This year, UNESCO will honor World Teachers' Day with a week of virtual events, including an opening ceremony and the awarding of the 6th UNESCO Hamdan Prize for the Effectiveness of Teachers. UNESCO and its co-convening partners will also feature national, regional, and global virtual events tied to the 2020 theme throughout the week in an effort to celebrate educators worldwide, share their achievements, and ensure their voices are heard. The week will wrap up with a virtual closing ceremony on October 12.

By Jordan Friedman Shaped Editor



# PARENT COORDINATOR CONNECTIONS

From the Desk of the  
Parent Coordinator  
Ms. Bernabel

[ABernabel@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:ABernabel@schools.nyc.gov)

Tel #646-265-5169

101 #242-522-2128

## Announcements

- Calendars with report dates for the groups a, b, and c were emailed via pupil path to all students and parents. If you have any questions regarding whether to report to school on any given simply go to our website to review the calendar indicating which group reports on any given date. For your convenience the calendars for October is posted below.
- Reminders: Students must:
  - 1. Always wear a face mask while in school. Teachers will give students mask breaks when needed.
    2. Follow the directional arrows for the staircases; staircase A is up and staircase b is down.
    3. Always sanitize your hands upon entering all classrooms.
    4. Maintain 6 feet distance from others at all times.
    5. Answer the screening questions upon entering the building.
    6. Stay home if they have a fever or are feeling sick.
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> floor will be used on M-W-F and the 4<sup>th</sup> floor will be used on T-TH, with the exception of the gym, the art room, and room 101. Signs are posted throughout those floors and the cafeteria in case students need to find out where to report to.
- Students can see Ms. Vega (Guidance Counselor) in room B9 during their lunch period for any programming or scheduling issues.
- Students should bring their computers to school for use in the building. We will provide wifi access. If your child needs a computer we will assign them one for the school day. The student must return it to the 8<sup>th</sup> period teacher.
- Metro cards will be distributed during lunch periods in the cafeteria.
- Please complete the forms given to students and return them back me. The forms include the lunch forms, condom opt out letter, military opt out letter, emergency contact card, random covid 19 testing consent form, and the photo consent forms.
- Bathrooms for students are located on the floor being used on any given day. During lunch periods 4, 5, 6, and 7, the bathrooms will be located in the basement near the cafeteria.
- Please reach out to me at the number listed above to activate your DOE myschools account for you and your child if you haven't already done so. This will give you access to DOE web based software, the Teacher Hub, and direct communication from the DOE. This is especially important now that most students are engaged in remote learning and that parents need to stay informed and alert of any vital communication from the DOE regarding Covid 19.

- The following are the designated attend days for groups A, B, and C during the month of October, November, and December:




OCTOBER 2020 (Blended Learning Groups A B C)						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
				A	A	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	B	B	C	C	A	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Columbus Day No School	A	B	B	C	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	C	A	A	B	B	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	C	C	A	A	B	HAPPY HALLOWEEN

- At this point, all students should have received Google Classroom codes for their classes and engaged in synchronous instruction (Whichever web based platform preferred by the teacher; Zoom, Google Meet, Microsoft Teams, etc.). Please reach out to Ms. Bernabel, our parent coordinator, if your child is having problems logging onto synchronous instruction. **It is a requirement that students engage in synchronous instruction during the periods they are offered.**
- PTA elections will take place virtually on Monday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, at 5 pm. Ms. Bernabel will email a Zoom invitation. The positions available are PTA President, Vice President, and Treasurer. We will also vote on Title 1 funds and seek parent members for SLT.
- SLT will take place virtually on the same date as the PTA meeting at 4 pm. A virtual invitation will be provided to current members.
- A message from Ms. Milan (Business Teacher and WBL Coordinator):



The Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) of NYC Workplace Mentoring Program is a site-based program in which JKO students are matched 1:1 with mentors where they attend program meetings once/twice a month and learn about workplace and professional skills. This fall, the program will be held virtually over an online platform, every other THURSDAY from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Program meetings are facilitated by a BBBS of NYC Program Manager and cover topics like resume writing, interviewing skills, and personal branding and networking. BBBS of NYC also offers workshops and opportunities to support our students and families in different areas including academic success, college and career readiness, and immigration.

Program partners are American Eagle Outfitters with our seniors, TD Bank with our juniors and Morgan Stanley with our sophomores. Start dates for each program and information on how to apply will be provided. **Currently we are looking to recruit three (3) juniors for the TD Bank program and fifteen (15) sophomores for the Morgan Stanley program.**

- A message from Ms. Vega (Guidance Counselor):

Dear Students,

Join other great minds and pitch your business idea. You may win money to help pay for your education at Seton Hall University!

During Pirates Pitch, students can learn the basics of entrepreneurship and idea generation by pitching their own business idea.

### Prizes

1st Place Winner: \$2,500 cash prize. Plus, a \$10,000 scholarship to attend Seton Hall University (\$2,500 annually).

2nd Place Winner: \$1,000 cash prize. Plus, a \$6,000 scholarship to attend Seton Hall University (\$1,500 annually).

All other Finalists will receive a \$4,000 scholarship to attend Seton Hall University (\$1,000 annually).

### How to Enter

Students can submit an original business idea in 350 words or less, describes an innovative product or service that they would like to create. Or, students can tell us about a business they've already launched! They just need to be sure to answer the following questions:

What problem does your product or service solve?

How do you propose making money?

Who are your customers and why will they buy your product or service?

Who is your competition and how are you going to be better than them?

Deadline



Tuesday, October 27 at midnight.

## Eligibility

All high school sophomores, juniors and seniors with a GPA of 3.0 or higher.

Ten finalists will be selected by late October and invited to present their business ideas virtually to a panel of judges from Seton Hall University on Friday, November 20, 2020. Judges are successful alumni entrepreneurs, corporate leaders and business faculty.

Encourage your students to take advantage of this great opportunity to put their skills to the test and earn money for college. Learn more by visiting [shu.edu/go/HSPitch](http://shu.edu/go/HSPitch).

Sincerely,

Office of Undergraduate Admissions  
Seton Hall University

- A message from Ms. Vega:

**The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) application is now OPEN** for you and your parents to begin to apply for financial assistance to pay for college next year. ***It is important that both you and your parent complete this application together and extremely important that this application is completed As Soon As Possible!*** Due to Covid-19, federal aid for schools have been limited to states and schools across the country.

**Please see Important Information below regarding FAFSA and links:**

**FAFSA Application LINK:** <https://studentaid.gov/>

If you or your family's financial situation has changed significantly from what is reflected on your federal income tax return (for example, if you've lost a job or otherwise experienced a drop in income), you may be eligible to have your financial aid adjusted. Complete the FAFSA questions as instructed on the application (including the transfer of tax return and income information), submit your FAFSA form, then contact the school you plan to attend to discuss how your current financial situation has changed. Note that the school's decision is final and cannot be appealed to the U.S. Department of Education. Visit [StudentAid.gov/coronavirus](http://StudentAid.gov/coronavirus) for more information.

If you have any questions, concerns, or need assistance please do not hesitate to contact me via email at [NVega11@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:NVega11@schools.nyc.gov) or phone at 212-391-0041 Ext. 5091.





# In the Spotlight

JKO



Welcome back!!! October 1<sup>st</sup> marked the first day students returned to school since the closing of school buildings. Students and staff were both excited about their first day back.

**Cathleen (Sophomore):**  
Highlight—"Seeing all the teachers and my friends again. I hope that things get back to normal. I miss my school."



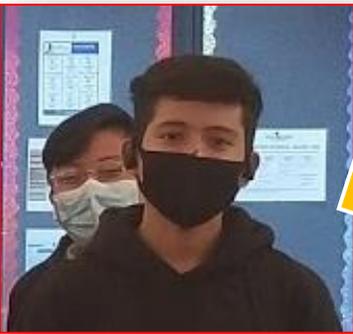
**Ms. Bernabel (Parent Coordinator):** Highlight—"Seeing our students again and being able to interact with them. It was surreal after so much time without seeing them."



**Vanessa & Jeremy (Seniors):** Highlight "Getting help directly from my teachers, making morning announcements, and connecting with friends and teachers. We look forward to a real graduation!"



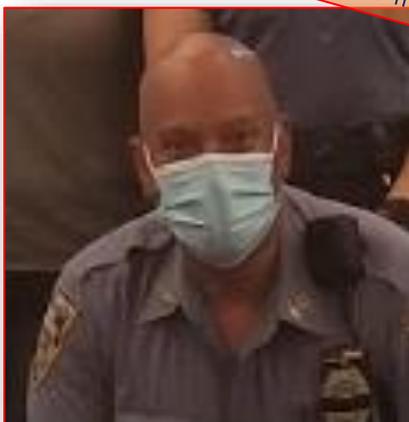
**Ms. Vega Guidance Counselor:** Highlight—"Seeing the kids and seniors. Meeting the freshmen for the first time. I had to hold back tears."



**Keilyannie (Senior):** Highlight-"I loved connecting with my teachers. I love coming to school. Too much stress learning from home."



**Graciela (Freshman):** Highlight-"meeting my teachers and I hope to grow in areas of need throughout the year. I love this school!"



**Alexandra and Anthony (Freshmen):** Highlight of 1st day-"Meeting and talking to the principal in his office talking about his electric scooter. He is the coolest principal ever!!!"





Our website has been a hit! It has received over 1200 views in 30 days, but most importantly 340 of them in the last 7 days. We were ranked one of the top performing sites in education. A result of a freshening up as per our plan to rebrand our school and to prepare for the admission season. We are still working on improving the user experience in order to maximize our exposure and digital footprint. It is hard to believe that our school had no website a year ago today!!!

**How's it calculated?**  
Your custom InSight score calculates website engagement and social presence. It factors in how often your website is viewed, how many visits, and how active your customers are on connected social accounts.

**Why does it change?**  
Your InSight score is relative to the performance of sites like yours. For example, your score may go up if your site traffic is high compared to similar sites in education.

