

2021-22 Parent Newsletter #3

Thanksgiving this year falls on Thursday, November 25th. The **JKO family** would like to wish you and your families an enjoyable Thanksgiving holiday. On a day of giving thanks, we are thankful to each one for your support of our school, students, and staff.

This year Thanksgiving will take place on Thursday, November 26. Because of the shortened week I will not issue an administrative bulletin on that week.

Did you know? Lobster, seal and swans were on the Pilgrims' menu.

Thanksgiving 2021



Thanksgiving Day is a national holiday in the United States, and Thanksgiving 2021 occurs on Thursday, November 25. In 1621, the Plymouth colonists and Wampanoag Native Americans shared an autumn harvest feast that is acknowledged today as one of the first Thanksgiving celebrations in the colonies. For more than two centuries, days of thanksgiving were celebrated by individual colonies and states. It wasn't until 1863, in the midst of the [Civil War](#), that President [Abraham Lincoln](#) [proclaimed](#) a national Thanksgiving Day to be held each November.

Thanksgiving at Plymouth

In September 1620, a small ship called the [Mayflower](#) left Plymouth, England, carrying 102 passengers—an assortment of religious separatists seeking a new home where they could freely practice their faith and other individuals lured by the promise of prosperity and land ownership in the New World. After a treacherous and uncomfortable crossing that lasted 66 days, they dropped anchor near the tip of Cape Cod, far north of their intended destination at the mouth of the Hudson River. One month later, the Mayflower crossed [Massachusetts](#) Bay, where the [Pilgrims](#), as they are now commonly known, began the work of establishing a village at Plymouth.

Throughout that first brutal winter, most of the colonists remained on board the ship, where they suffered from exposure, scurvy and outbreaks of contagious disease. Only half of the Mayflower's original passengers and crew lived to see their first New England spring. In March, the remaining settlers moved ashore, where they received an astonishing visit from an Abenaki Native American who greeted them in English.

Several days later, he returned with another Native American, Squanto, a member of the Pawtuxet tribe who had been kidnapped by an English sea captain and sold into slavery before escaping to London and returning to his homeland on an exploratory expedition. Squanto taught the Pilgrims, weakened by malnutrition and illness, how to cultivate corn, extract sap from maple trees, catch fish in the rivers and avoid poisonous plants. He also helped the settlers forge an alliance with the Wampanoag, a local tribe, which would endure for more than 50 years and tragically remains one of the sole examples of harmony between European colonists and Native Americans.

In November 1621, after the Pilgrims' first corn harvest proved successful, Governor [William Bradford](#) organized a celebratory feast and invited a group of the fledgling colony's Native American allies, including the Wampanoag chief Massasoit. Now remembered as America's "first Thanksgiving"—although the Pilgrims themselves may not have used the term at the time—the festival lasted for three days. While no record exists of the [first Thanksgiving's exact menu](#), much of what we know about what happened at the first Thanksgiving comes from Pilgrim chronicler Edward Winslow, who wrote:

"Our harvest being gotten in, our governor sent four men on fowling, that so we might after a special manner rejoice together, after we had gathered the fruits of our labors; they four in one day killed as much fowl, as with a little help beside, served the Company almost a week, at which time amongst other Recreations, we exercised our Arms, many of the Indians coming amongst us, and amongst the rest their greatest king Massasoit, with some ninety men, whom for three days we entertained and feasted, and they went out and killed five Deer, which they brought to the Plantation and bestowed on our Governor, and upon the Captain and others. And although it be not always so plentiful, as it was at this time with us, yet by the goodness of God, we are so far from want, that we often wish you partakers of our plenty."

Historians have suggested that many of the dishes were likely prepared using traditional Native American spices and cooking methods. Because the Pilgrims had no oven and the Mayflower's sugar supply had dwindled by the fall of 1621, the meal did not feature pies, cakes or other desserts, which have become a hallmark of contemporary celebrations

Source: Historychannel.com



PARENT COORDINATOR CONNECTIONS

From the Desk of the
Parent Coordinator
Ms. Bernabel
ABernabel@schools.nyc.gov
Tel #646-265-5169

101 #242-522-2128

Announcements

- We will be offering parents a workshop on how to prepare your child for graduation, college, how to read a transcript, and how to navigate PupilPath on November 22nd at 5 pm. This will take place in a virtual and physical setting; covid vaccination is required for physical attendance. Dinner will be served. Email with RSVP to follow.
- Please reach out to Ms. Bernabel in the case you feel that your child needs social emotional support. We have an abundance of services for students at the school.
- If you have not already done so, please register for Pupilpath, our online grading and communication system. This will enable parents to monitor the academic progress of their child. Reach out to Ms. Bernabel if you need support with this.
- Below please find the marking period end dates for the fall semester. Progress reports will be emailed out by Friday, October 7th.

MP End Date
MP 1: 10/26
MP2: 12/10
MP3: 1/26



- Reach out to Ms. Bernabel if you have not registered for your NYC Myschools account. This is very important for parents to receive information regularly from the DOE and to be able to access certain services available online.
- Tuesday, November 2nd, is Election Day. All classes will be conducted remotely.
- Parent Teacher Conferences will be held **remotely** on Wednesday, November 10th (Evening-Time TBD), and Friday, November 12th (Afternoon-Time TBD).
- There will be no school on Thursday, November 11th, in observance of Veteran's Day.



JRO SCHOOL COUNSELOR

CONNECT




From the Desk of Mrs. Vega-Beltran

- ❖ If your child is or will be absent, please contact me at ext. 5091 or email me at NVega11@schools.nyc.gov. You may also contact Ms. Bernabel, Parent Coordinator, at ext. 1012 or email at ABernabel@schools.nyc.gov.
- ❖ Tuesday, November 2nd, is Election Day. All classes will be conducted remotely.
- ❖ Parent Teacher Conferences will be held remotely on Wednesday, November 10th (Evening-Time TBD), and Friday, November 12th (Afternoon-Time TBD).
- ❖ There will be no school on Thursday, November 11th, in observance of Veteran's Day.
- ❖ Please have your child schedule a one on one academic meeting with me immediately. This meeting is important to ensure they are on track academically with their progress towards graduation. The meeting may take place over the phone or via zoom.
- ❖ Make sure to keep track of your child's progress in their classes by logging on to <https://pupilpath.skedula.com/>. If you do not have an account you may contact me or Ms. Bernabel, the Parent Coordinator, to receive your registration code.
- ❖ Freshman and Sophomores should begin to research colleges/universities they would like to attend after high school.
- ❖ Juniors should continue their college search and create their lists for next school year to apply.
- ❖ Seniors should be beginning/finishing their FAFSA, NYS TAP, and College applications.
- ❖ Please reach out to Mrs. Vega-Beltran in the case you feel that your child needs social/emotional support. We have an abundance of services for students at the school.
- ❖ School starts at 8:20 am. Please ensure that your child gets to school on time regularly so that he/she is able to effectively engage in the first period lesson. Lateness adversely impacts a child's academic performance.
- ❖ Second marking period ends December 10th. Please make sure your child is current on their assignments and are studying for quizzes/tests.
- ❖ Below is the tutoring schedule for the fall semester. We encourage all students to take advantage of this extra support!

TEACHER	DAY	ROOM	COURSES
ALCORN	WEDNESDAY	302	SPANISH 1
ALCORN	THURSDAY	302	SPANISH 3
CUMBERBATCH	WEDNESDAY	306	LAW & MATH
KADISON	WEDNESDAY	303	ENGLISH
NICOLETTA	WEDNESDAY	301	ENGLISH
OKWABI	THURSDAY	308	CHEM & ENV SCI
RAFANIELLO	THURSDAY	402	GEOMETRY & TRIG

TULI	WEDNESDAY	307	LIVING ENV & AP ENV
URENA	THURSDAY	204	ALL HISTORIES

- ❖ Below please find the available after school clubs for the fall semester. It is important that the students get involved in school activities!

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

<u>CLUB</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>ROOM</u>	<u>TEACHER</u>
DEBATE	THURSDAYS	304	CUMBERBATCH/GORDON
TABLE TENNIS	THURSDAYS	CAFETERIA	RAFANIELLO
HELPING HANDS	WEDNESDAYS	309	KADISON
YEARBOOK	THURSDAYS	309	KADISON
B.S.U	WEDNESDAYS	308	OKWABI
GARDENING	THURSDAYS	306	WICKS
SMASH ARTS	FRIDAYS	201	DE GREGORIO
SLAM	FRIDAYS	201	NICOLETTA



- ❖ Please check PupilPath daily for important announcements and emails pertaining to your child!

Please feel free to contact me directly with any questions, concerns, or if you need assistance:

Nicole Vega-Beltran 212-391-0041 Ext. 5091 ; Email: NVega11@schools.nyc.gov

Parents Association



A message from our PA:

- Our November PA meeting will take place on Monday, November 1st at 6 pm.
- The PA will be having guests at upcoming meetings with info families will find useful. Details to follow. We will also have a demonstration on how to use PupilPath at our next meeting on December 6th.
- The PA donated and distributed goodie bags to the students who enjoyed the Halloween festivities. Lots of fun was had by all. Please come out for the next event, we'd love to have you.
- The PA email address is 02M529PA@schools.nyc.gov
- Please let us know of any workshop or event that you would like to have, and any other topics of interest. Please also let us know of any concerns you want addressed.
- The following are Parent Teacher Conferences tips to be aware of as we approach this event:

10 tips to make the most of your parent-teacher conference

By Understood Team

Most parent-teacher conferences only last 10 or 15 minutes. That's not a lot of time to connect with your child's teacher. But with a little preparation and planning, you can make the most of this time. Here are 10 tips that can help.

Before the conference

1. Look over schoolwork. Take some time to look over your child's homework, essays, reading logs, and other schoolwork. How does it look like your child is doing? Is the homework too easy or too hard? Does your child need help?

Review report cards, too. What are your child's grades like? You can also look over any emails or newsletter updates the teacher has sent.

2. Talk with your child. Get a sense from your child about how school is going. What's most and least enjoyable? Does your child feel unsure about school? Who are the kids your child talks with most in class?

Ask your child if there's anything you should talk to the teacher about. Mention that every family has a conference, so your child doesn't worry about what this meeting means.

3. Make a list of questions. Now that you've talked with your child and reviewed schoolwork, make a list of questions.

Think through anything you want to make sure the teacher knows. Are there specific things that helped your child thrive in school in the past? Have there been any big changes in your family or living situation? Are there holidays you'll be away? Talk with other family members to make sure you cover everything.

Once you have your list, put questions and concerns in order of importance, so you can cover the biggest things first.

At the conference

4. Be on time. Double-check the time slot for your conference. Then plan to be ready about five minutes before your assigned time. This way, you won't miss any of your time with the teacher.

5. Skip the class overview (unless you need it). Teachers often begin the conference with some general class information. While this can be helpful, it takes up valuable conference time. If you already know this information, politely say something like: "I've been reading your newsletter. If it's OK with you, can we spend more time on the questions I have about my child?"

6. Stay calm. It's important to keep your emotions in check during the conference, even if your child is struggling with something. Taking a few deep breaths can help. Using a respectful tone will also help you and the teacher work together to find solutions for your child.

At the same time, if you disagree with the teacher, be sure to speak up. If you don't say something, the teacher may assume you don't have concerns.

7. Ask the most important questions first. Remember that you only have a short time. Try to cover your most important questions and concerns first.

But try not to worry if you don't get to everything. You can still ask for a follow-up meeting with the teacher to discuss anything you couldn't get to. And if you don't understand something the teacher says, ask for an explanation.

8. Figure out next steps. Save a few minutes at the end of the conference for next steps. Depending on what you've talked about, here's what you might suggest:

- Staying in touch: "How can we keep talking about this? Could I get weekly feedback for the next month — maybe a quick email on Fridays?"
- In-class help: "We talked about giving my child more support in class. What should we look for in the coming weeks to decide if it's working or not?"
- School services: "I'd like to meet with the school to talk about extra reading instruction. What information should we gather before that meeting?"

After the conference

9. Update your child. Talk to your child about what happened. It's important to share anything positive that you and the teacher discussed. But it's also important not to shy away from problems or challenges. If there are next steps, make sure your child knows what they are.

10. Follow up. If you and the teacher agreed on next steps, follow up in the next week or so to see how things are working out. It's useful to have check-ins before the next conference. At each check-in, ask for an update. Also be ready to share what you've been doing on any action steps.

Although parent-teacher conferences are short, they're a good time to learn more about your child's school experience.



In the ^{JKO} Spotlight

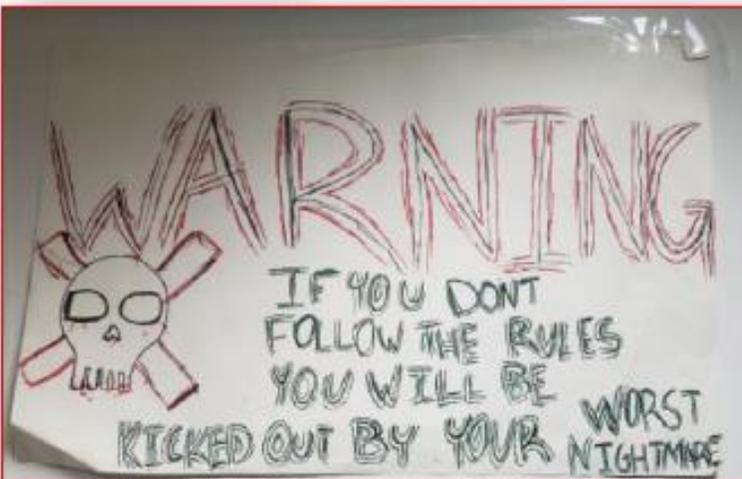
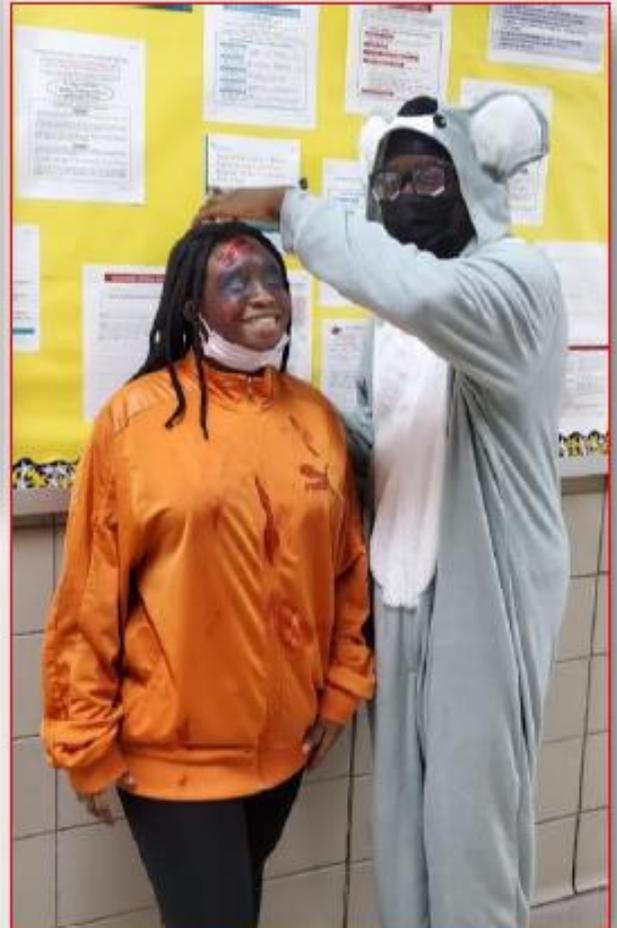


On Friday, October 29th, JKO hosted its annual Haunted House and Halloween Dance events. They were both **SCARY** good fun!!! A BIG thank you to all of the students who helped out, Ms. DeGregorio, Ms. Okwabi, and Ms. Kadison for getting the building ready for this even. Another BIG thank you to the Parent Association for volunteering to help out at the event (Ms. Conte, Mr. Lawrence, and Ms. Fernandes) and for donating the goody/candy bags to students who attended. See pictures below...



Parent Volunteers: Mr. Lawrence, Ms. Fernandes, and Ms. Conte...thank you!!!









COLLEGE TOUR

In the Spotlight



On Thursday, October 27th, our sophomores and juniors attended a college trip to Manhattanville. They had a great learning experience. Thank you to the staff chaperones for ensuring students were always engaged and safe. A BIG thank you to Ms. Vega-Beltran for spearheading this trip!!! See pictures below...







In the Spotlight



This week students engaged in Game Night and Tie Dye events. The students had a blast! A big thank you to Ms. Okwabi and Ms. Kadison for spearheading these events. See pictures below:





Congratulations to the winners of the student government elections!!! And they are...

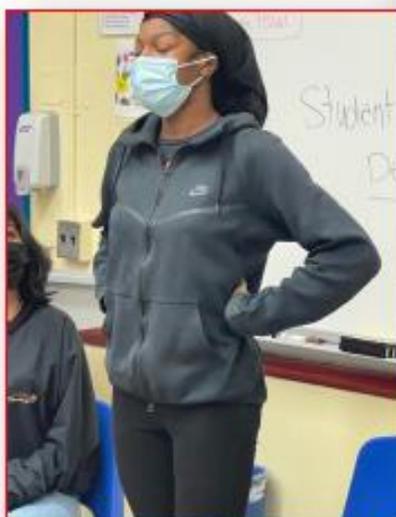
President: Pilar Canalizo (12th Grade)

Vice President: Fatima Koita (12th Grade)

Secretary: Jadah Porter (11th Grade)

Treasurer: Jared Canela (10th Grade)

School Representative: Ivonne Tellez (9th Grade)





In the Spotlight

STUDENT
CLUBS AND
ORGANIZATIONS

Clubs and sport tryouts commences this week. Students were beyond happy to engage in the various after school activities. See some pics below:



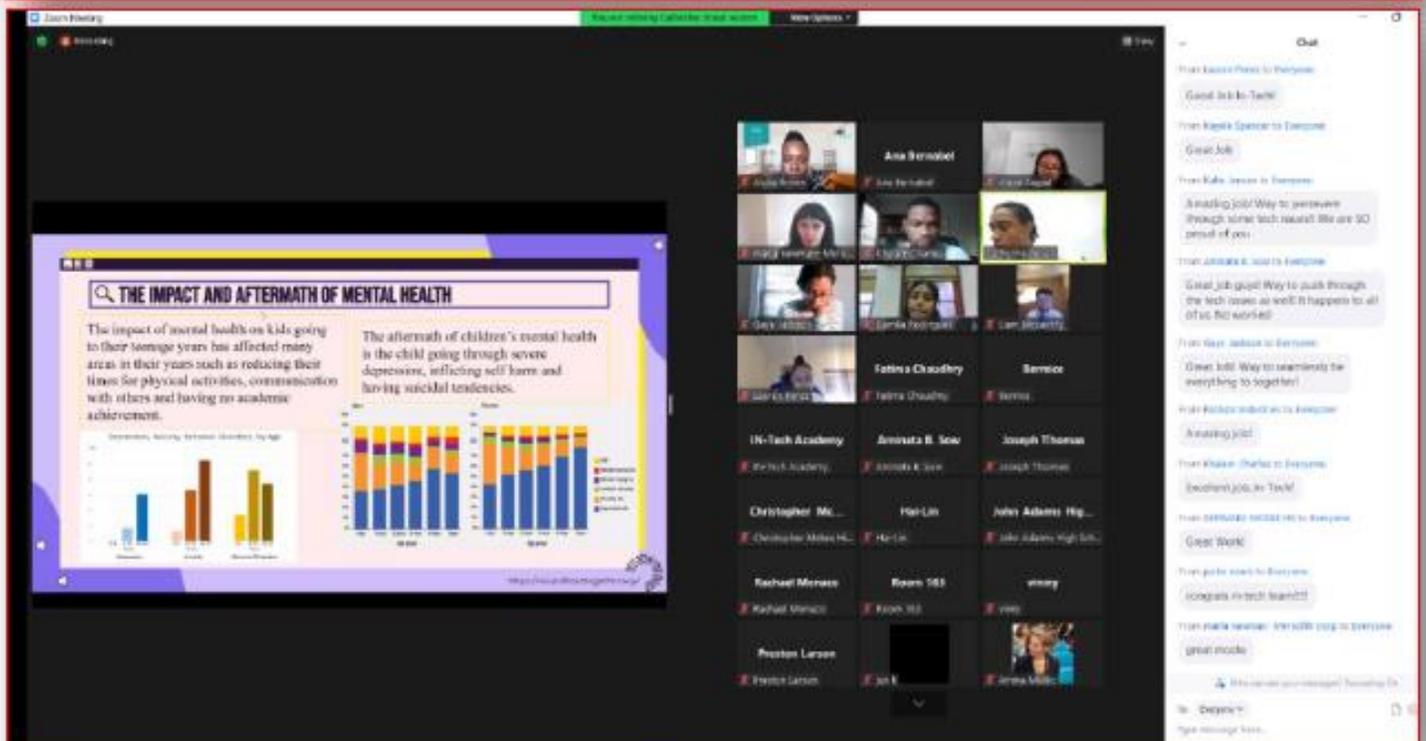
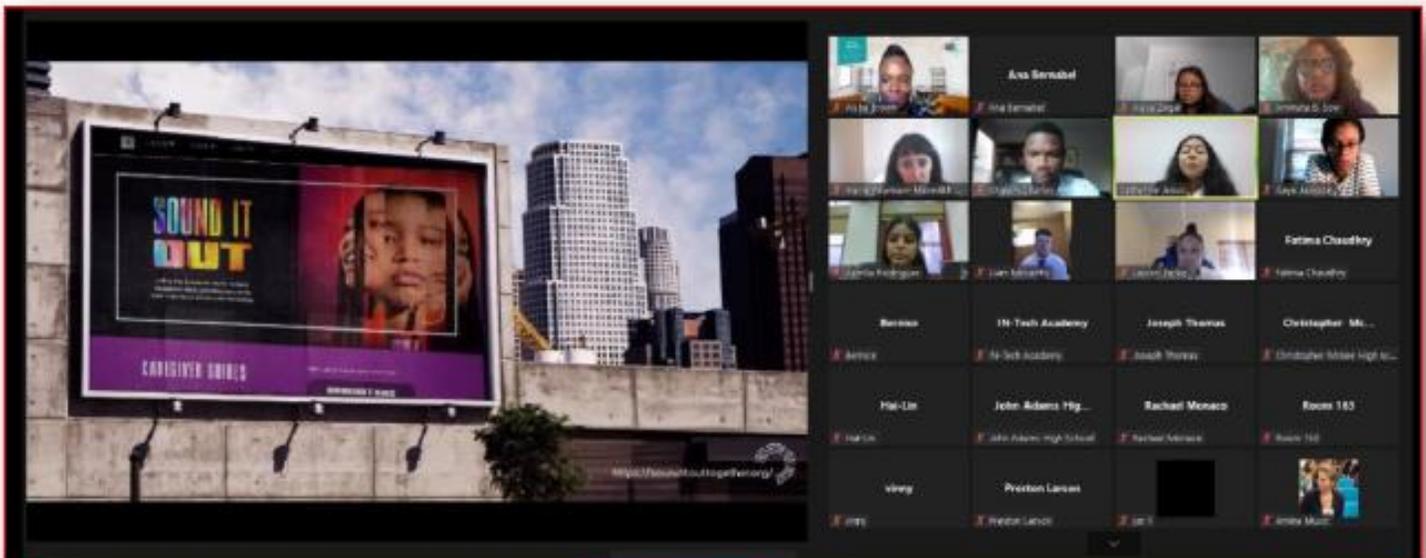


In the Spotlight



A message from Ms. McMahon: In partnership with the Ad Council Club of America, ShoutItOutTogether.org, Publicis NA, and Viva Women of Color Advertising Mentors, our wonderful Virtual Enterprise Students engaged in the Annual Ad Futures Competition. This is an exciting time for these youngsters, having just completed a two-week rigorous campaign under the guidance of their mentors.

JKO Student Participants: Catherine Jesus, Hai Lin Duckett, and Kamila Rodriguez.





ANDREW GODREAUX

A message from Ms. DeGregorio:

Some of you may remember our talented photographer Andrew Godreaux who graduated a few years ago. We have a few of his photographs in the lobby. He also had his first solo gallery show during the weekend! See pictures below...

The show is called "Patria y Vida: Ganaremos"

"In his first solo exhibition, Andrew Godreaux celebrates his Cuban heritage, while exploring the dichotomy between beauty and struggle."

