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# 2024-25 Parent Newsletter #1

Dear Parents and Students,



Welcome to the 2024-25 school year! To our returning students, it's great to see you back at JKO. For those joining us for the first time, we are excited to welcome you to our JKO community.

This year is set to be outstanding as we continue to offer enriching learning experiences through our Magnet program. We are placing a strong focus on project-based learning, S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics), and literacy. These elements will be central to our approach, encouraging critical thinking and creativity through hands-on projects and interdisciplinary activities.

In addition to these exciting areas, we're expanding our academic offerings with more AP classes, College Now courses, and college classes in partnership with Berkeley College. Our AP for All initiative and strengthened business partnerships are designed to help students excel in both college and their future careers.

All students should report to school on Thursday, September 5, at 8:20 a.m. Daily dismissal will be at 2:40 p.m. Please find detailed information for the new school year in our first parent newsletter on the school website ([JKOhighschool.org](http://JKOhighschool.org)) under the "Parents" tab. We also encourage you to review the attached messages from our Parent Coordinator, Ms. Bernabel and the school counselors.

Thank you for your continued support of our students, staff, and school community.

Best regards,

Manuel A. Ureña, Principal

# JKO SCHOOL COUNSELOR

## CONNECT



**WELCOME BACK!!** We are excited to welcome your family and your child back to school for the 2024-2025 School Year! We look forward to working closely with your child and family to ensure your child's academic and social emotional growth and success!

- ❖ **The First Day of School is September 5<sup>th</sup>!** Students should arrive on the first day by 8:00 A.M.
- ❖ **1<sup>st</sup> period Class begins at 8:20 A.M.** Students need to **arrive to school prior to 8:20 AM** and on time regularly so they are able to effectively engage in their first period lesson. Lateness adversely impacts a student's academic performance. **The school day ends at 2:40 P.M.**
  - **Students will receive individual lockers in the coming weeks.**
- ❖ **If your child is or will be absent**, please contact Ms. Garcia (9-10<sup>th</sup> Grade Students) at ext. 5052 or email at [NGarcia33@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:NGarcia33@schools.nyc.gov) ; Mrs. Vega-Beltran (11-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Students) at ext. 5091 or via email at [NVega11@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:NVega11@schools.nyc.gov) ; or Ms. Bernabel, Parent Coordinator, at ext. 1012 or email at [ABernabel@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:ABernabel@schools.nyc.gov) . **Please be sure to send an excuse note for your child's absence and/or a doctor's note if your child has a medical appointment.**
  - **Please ensure that your child's medical documents or any other important documents are updated and we have updated copies.**
- ❖ **Please keep track of your child's academic progress, grades, and attendance in their classes through the SyncGrades website.** Please be sure that your child's NYC Student Email account is updated. If you would like to schedule meetings with teachers on Tuesdays, please contact your child's School Counselor.
- ❖ **IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:**
  - **Thursday, September 5<sup>th</sup> at 8 A.M.**
  - **Thursday, September 26 – Curriculum Night**
  - **Thursday-Friday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> – Rosh Hashanah, Schools Closed**
  - **Monday, October 14<sup>th</sup> – Italian Heritage/Indigenous People's Day – Schools Closed**
  - **Monday, October 21<sup>st</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup> Academic Marking Period Ends**
- ❖ In order to maintain a positive learning environment, it is **expected that students dress in a professional manner.** **We expect students to be dressed appropriately** to ensure safety and to keep the focus on teaching and learning. **We**

would like all parents and guardians to remind students of proper dress protocols on campus.

**Prohibited forms of dress at school include, but are not limited to:**

- 1) Clothing that contains references to drugs, alcohol, sex, violence, racism, or gang-affiliation.
- 2) Revealing clothing that does not provide coverage of torso, undergarments, and private body parts, including see-through garments of any kind.
- 3) Sunglasses while indoors.

**If you need assistance providing your child clothing, please contact your child's counselor.**

- ❖ **Students are NOT ALLOWED TO USE CELL PHONES DURING SCHOOL HOURS. This includes ipads or smart watches that are connected to their phones.** They must keep their phones locked in their yonder pouch. **In case of an emergency, please call the school to contact your child and students can use a school office phone to contact their parent/guardian.**
- ❖ **12<sup>th</sup> GRADE SENIOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS:** Please work closely with your senior child this school year to discuss their post-secondary options (plans after high school). They will need your support and encouragement when applying to college/university, trade school, military, and/or financial aid/scholarships. Please look out for future communication regarding college trips, workshops, financial aid, and important deadlines.
- ❖ **Please have your child meet for one on one academic/personal progress meetings with their counselor immediately:** Ms. Garcia (9-10<sup>th</sup> Graders) and Mrs. Vega-Beltran (11-12<sup>th</sup> Graders). This meeting is important to ensure they are on track academically with their progress towards graduation and to check in on their personal well-being.
- ❖ **Please have your child attend tutoring and join extra-curricular activities** to be an active member of the school community. This a great way for students to make new friends, network, and be exposed to various activities/hobbies. We will send information for tutoring and extra-curricular activities in the coming weeks.
- ❖ **Please reach out to Ms. Garcia (9-10<sup>th</sup> Grades) or Mrs. Vega-Beltran (11-12<sup>th</sup> Grade) if you feel that your child needs social/emotional support.** We have an abundance of services for students at the school and can refer your family to outside resources/assistance.

***Please feel free to contact your child's School Counselor directly with any questions, concerns, or if you need assistance:***

***Ms. Niurkary Garcia, 9 & 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor (212)391-0041 Ext. 5052 Email:***

***[NGarcia33@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:NGarcia33@schools.nyc.gov)***

***Mrs. Nicole Vega-Beltran, 11 & 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor 212-391-0041 Ext. 5091 Email:***

***[NVega11@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:NVega11@schools.nyc.gov)***

**DEL DEPARTAMENTO DE ASESORAMIENTO:**

**¡¡BIENVENIDO!!** ¡Estamos emocionados de dar la bienvenida a su familia y a su hijo de regreso a la escuela para el año escolar 2024-2025! ¡Esperamos trabajar en estrecha colaboración con su hijo y su familia para garantizar el crecimiento y el éxito académico y socioemocional de su hijo!



- ❖ ¡El primer día de clases es el 5 de septiembre! Los estudiantes deben llegar el primer día a las 8:00 A.M.
- ❖ **1 periodo La clase comienza a las 8:20 A.M.** Los estudiantes **deben llegar a la escuela antes de las 8:20 A.M.** y puntualmente regularmente para que puedan participar de manera efectiva en su lección del primer periodo. La tardanza afecta negativamente el rendimiento académico de un estudiante. La jornada escolar finaliza a las 14:40 horas.
  - **Los estudiantes recibirán casilleros individuales en las próximas semanas.**
- ❖ **Si su hijo está o estará ausente**, comuníquese con la Sra. García (estudiantes de 9.º a 10.º grado) en la ext. 5052 o correo electrónico a [NGarcia33@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:NGarcia33@schools.nyc.gov); Sra. Vega-Beltran (Estudiantes de 11º y 12º grado) en la ext. 5091 o por correo electrónico a [NVega11@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:NVega11@schools.nyc.gov); o la Sra. Bernabel, Coordinadora de Padres, en la ext. 1012 o correo electrónico a [ABernabel@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:ABernabel@schools.nyc.gov).  
**Asegúrese de enviar una nota de excusa por la ausencia de su hijo y/o una nota del médico si su hijo tiene una cita médica.**
  - **Asegúrese de que los documentos médicos de su hijo o cualquier otro documento importante estén actualizados y que tengamos copias actualizadas.**
- ❖ **Realice un seguimiento del progreso académico, las calificaciones y la asistencia a clases de su hijo a través del sitio web SyncGrades.** Asegúrese de que la cuenta de correo electrónico estudiantil de NYC de su hijo esté actualizada. Si desea programar reuniones con los maestros los martes, comuníquese con el consejero escolar de su hijo.
- ❖ **FECHAS IMPORTANTES PARA RECORDAR:**
  - **Jueves 5 de septiembre a las 8 a.m.**
  - **Jueves 26 de septiembre – Noche de Currículo**
  - **Jueves a viernes, 3 y 4 de octubre: Rosh Hashaná, escuelas cerradas**
  - **Lunes 14 de octubre – Día de la Herencia Italiana/Pueblos Indígenas – Escuelas cerradas**
  - **Lunes 21 de octubre: finaliza el 1.er período de calificaciones académicas**
- ❖ Para mantener un ambiente de aprendizaje positivo, **se espera que los estudiantes se vistan de manera profesional. Esperamos que los estudiantes vistan apropiadamente** para garantizar la seguridad y mantener el enfoque en la enseñanza y el aprendizaje. **Nos gustaría que todos los padres y tutores recuerden a los estudiantes los protocolos de vestimenta adecuados en el campus.**

**Las formas de vestimenta prohibidas en la escuela incluyen, entre otras:**

- 1) Ropa que contenga referencias a drogas, alcohol, sexo, violencia, racismo o afiliación a pandillas.
- 2) Ropa reveladora que no cubra el torso, la ropa interior y las partes privadas del cuerpo, incluidas prendas transparentes de cualquier tipo.
- 3) Gafas de sol mientras esté en el interior.

**Si necesita ayuda para proporcionarle ropa a su hijo, comuníquese con el consejero de su hijo.**

- ❖ **NO SE PERMITE A LOS ESTUDIANTES UTILIZAR TELÉFONOS CELULARES DURANTE EL HORARIO ESCOLAR.** Esto incluye iPads y relojes inteligentes **que están conectados a sus teléfonos.** Deben mantener sus teléfonos bajo llave en su bolsa. **En caso de una emergencia, llame a la escuela para comunicarse con su hijo y los estudiantes pueden usar el teléfono de la oficina de la escuela para comunicarse con sus padres/tutores.**
- ❖ **12° GRADO PADRES/TUTORES MAYORES:** Trabaje estrechamente con su hijo mayor este año escolar para discutir sus opciones postsecundarias (planes después de la escuela secundaria). Necesitarán su apoyo y aliento cuando soliciten ingreso a la universidad, escuela de oficios, ejército y/o ayuda/becas financieras. Esté atento a comunicaciones futuras sobre viajes universitarios, talleres, ayuda financiera y fechas límite importantes.
- ❖ **Haga que su hijo se reúna inmediatamente para reuniones individuales de progreso académico/personal con su consejero:** Sra. García (estudiantes de 9.º a 10.º grado) y Sra. Vega-Beltrán (estudiantes de 11.º a 12.º grado). Esta reunión es importante para garantizar que estén encaminados académicamente con su progreso hacia la graduación y para controlar su bienestar personal.
- ❖ **Haga que su hijo asista a tutorías y se una a actividades extracurriculares para ser un miembro activo de la comunidad escolar.** Esta es una excelente manera para que los estudiantes hagan nuevos amigos, establezcan contactos y estén expuestos a diversas actividades/pasatiempos. Enviaremos información para tutorías y actividades extracurriculares en las próximas semanas.
- ❖ Comuníquese con la Sra. García (grados 9-10) o la Sra. Vega-Beltrán (grados 11-12) si cree que su hijo necesita apoyo social/emocional. Tenemos una gran cantidad de servicios para los estudiantes en la escuela y podemos derivar a su familia a recursos/asistencia externos.

**No dude en comunicarse directamente con el consejero escolar de su hijo si tiene alguna pregunta, inquietud o si necesita ayuda:**

Sra. Niurkary García, Consejera de 9y10 grado(212)391-0041 Ext.5052 Correo electrónico: [NGarcia33@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:NGarcia33@schools.nyc.gov)

Sra. Nicole Vega-Beltran, Consejera de 11º y 12º grado 212-391-0041 Ext. 5091 Correo electrónico: [NVega11@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:NVega11@schools.nyc.gov)

# PARENT COORDINATOR CONNECTIONS

From the Desk of the  
Parent Coordinator  
Ms. Bernabel  
[ABernabel@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:ABernabel@schools.nyc.gov)  
Tel #929-617-0122

## Announcements

- The first day of school for students to report to school is Thursday, September 5th.
- The following is the bell schedule for the 2024-25 school year:

PERIOD	BEGINS	Breakfast is available from 7:30 AM to 8:15 AM	ENDS
1	8:20		9:05
2	9:08		9:53
3	9:56		10:41
4(LUNCH)	10:44		11:29
5 (LUNCH)	11:32		12:17
6 (LUNCH)	12:20		1:05
7 (LUNCH)	1:08		1:53
8	1:55		2:40



- Student lockers will be assigned on the last week of September.
- Student OMNY (Transportation Passes) cards will be distributed on the first day of school; September 5th. student MetroCards will be replaced with OMNY passes for all eligible students; students will now be able to tap to pay for up to four free rides a day on MTA buses and subways. Students can use OMNY passes beginning September 1–August 31, 2025, as long as they remain eligible (grade and distance) throughout the school year.
- Your child will receive his/her schedule upon entering the building on September 5<sup>th</sup>.
- 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 as well as our online grading system. You can register for an account at: <https://www.myschools.nyc/en/account/log-in/>
- Please complete the NYC financial forms, formerly known as Lunch Forms. While lunch is currently given to all students regardless of income, schools still need parents to complete in order to qualify for federal Title I funding. All information submitted by parents is completely confidential. The following is the link for this: <https://www.myschoolapps.com/>
- PTA/SLT Meetings: PTA/SLT meetings are held on the first Monday of every month. Stay tuned for the time and day of the September meeting which sometimes takes place later in the month. SLT commences at 4 pm and ends at 5 pm. PTA meetings commence at 6 pm to 7 pm. Additionally, meetings will be held virtually and in person (hybrid). An email with the Zoom links will be sent to parents ten days in advance.





- Computers/Laptops will be distributed to students who need one during the second week of school. These laptops should be carried to school daily since they will be needed for instructional use while in the building.
- The following are documents students will be given on the first day of school which must be completed by parents and handed to Ms. Bernabel:



- Emergency Contact Card
- Military Parent Letter: This form requests information regarding the military active-duty status of parents and guardians. Parents who are not on active duty can disregard this form. Parents who completed this form in prior years must complete it again. For every family who submits a survey response indicating that the student's parent or guardian is on military active duty, you or your designees must use the BINU screen in ATS to enter 'M' in the District C field.
- Housing Questionnaire
- CH-205 Child & Adolescent Health Examination Form
- Parent Ethnicity Survey
- Home Language Identification Survey
- Financial Forms (AKA Lunch Forms)
- The following is the Student Phone Policy:
  - All students will be assigned a personalized phone pouch to place their phones in during the school day. Students will take this home with them and bring back to school daily. Upon entering the school building students will secure their phones inside the pouch and activate the security system that locks the pouch. When student exit the building they will be able to unlock the pouch for access to their phones. The goal is to have a phone free instructional environment that is conducive towards teaching and learning. Students are responsible for any pouches that are purposely destroyed (\$20.00 replacement fee).
  - No phones are allowed to be used inside the school building without express permission from an administrator.
  - Students in violation of the school phone policy are subject to applicable disciplinary actions based on the NYCDOE Behavioral Expectations for Students.

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- 2) Revealing clothing that does not provide coverage of torso, undergarments, and private body parts, including see-through garments of any kind.**
- 3) Sunglasses while indoors.**

**If a student comes to school wearing clothing prohibited by the Dress Code, then the student's parents will be notified, the student may be subject to the interventions and disciplinary responses set forth in the Discipline Code, and the student will be expected to make appropriate adjustments to his/her clothing to conform with the Dress Code (e.g., turning shirt inside out, borrowing temporary clothing until the end of the school day, etc.).**



Ana Radeboldti (Spec. Ed.)
Anthony Padgett (Phys. Ed.)
Emillie Marshall (Social Studies)
Guy Kloppenburg (ENL)
Kelly Hur (School Counselor)
Mohammad Faruque (Math)
Rehab Fares (Spec. Ed.)
Steve Nson (Business)
Troy Beauchine (Science)







# CLASS OF 2024

Congratulations to the class of 2024 who graduated last June. We are very proud of you all!!!



*Congratulations!*





Here they are at prom!!!!







As one group leaves we welcome another. Welcome to the new students at JKO!!! During the last week of August we welcomed our new students as they engaged in our New Student Summer Bridge Program. See pictures below as they participated in the Roundabout Theatre Post Card Production on day one and a host of other activities on day two and three. During day one, students were broken up into groups (Lighting, Set Design, Costuming, Sound, etc.) which culminated in a production performance at the end of this special day.







# In the Spotlight

Smash Arts Productions and NHS presented its annual Bee Rave & Pride fundraiser celebration mash up "Bee an Ally" on Wednesday June 12 in the courtyard. Proceeds went to Friends of the Earth to help support honeybees, and the Trevor Project to support LGBTQIA+ youth. Tacos and drinks were supplied by Ms. Okwabi and student government. Mr. Urena graciously volunteered to be our pie target this year.

A BIG thank you top Ms. D for spearheading this event!!!





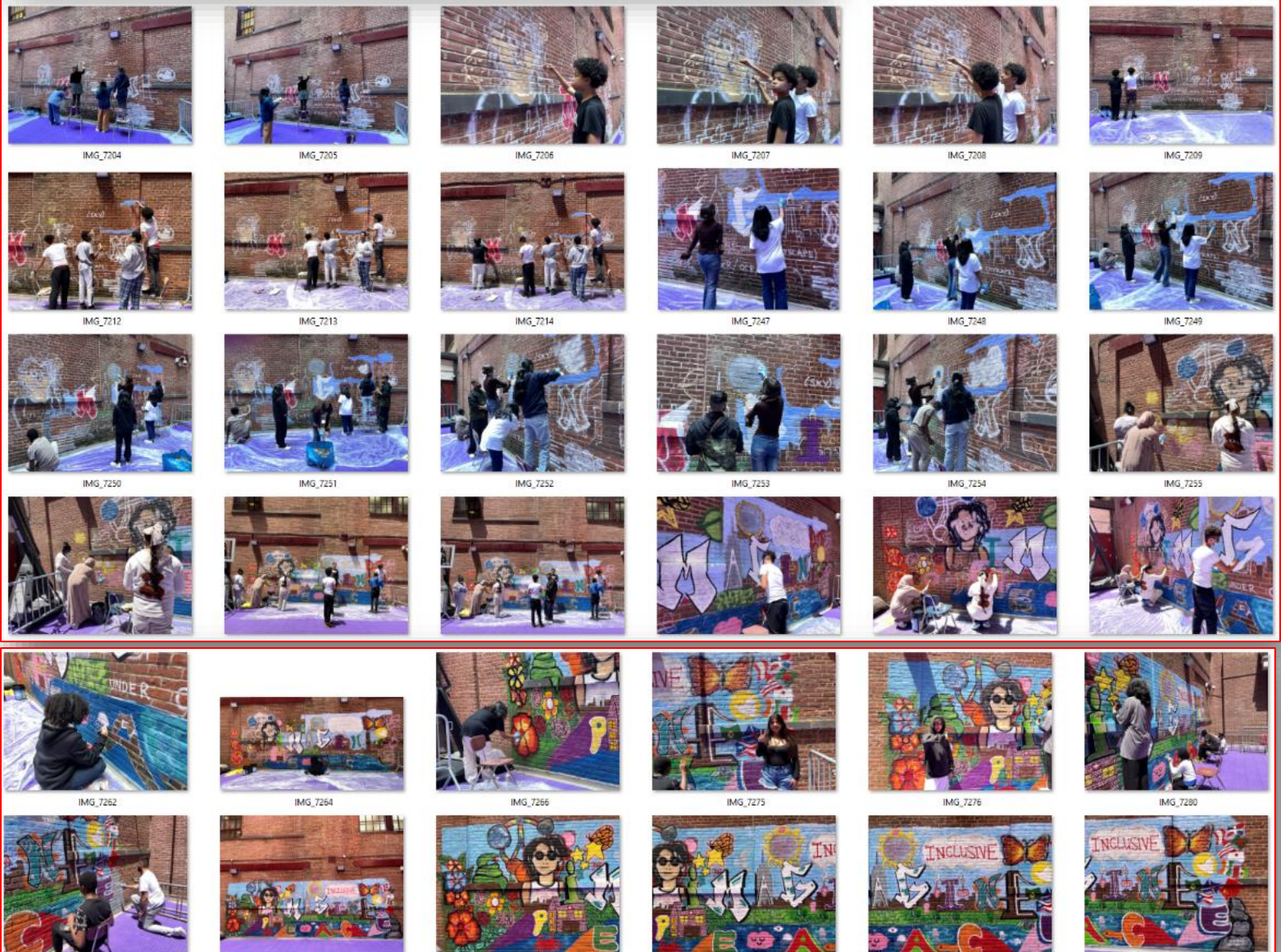






## "Imagine" mural in courtyard.

Studio Art period 6 worked on creating murals inspired by John Lennon's song "Imagine." In the song the artist expresses how he envisions the world could be better; Imagine Peace and the things that divide humanity; no boundaries of religion, countries, war, economy, etc... Students analyzed the song and were then asked to think about the things that they think would make the world better. These ideas were then translated into sketches that then were developed into murals. This was part of the residency with the artist Andrew Godreaux, former JKO student, who works as an interdisciplinary artist who helped guide the students in creating painted murals here at JKO. Here is the final product as well as students engaged in the process. **A BIG thank you to Ms. D. for spearheading this!!!**







Friday June 7th was National Gun Violence Awareness Day. JKO had orange ribbons for everyone. Art students created chalk murals in the front of the building throughout the day. See pictures below.

**Thanks Ms. D for spearheading!!!**





