

2024-25 Parent Newsletter #3

Alert!!! Report Cards for the 1st Marking Period were mailed out on Thursday, October 31st.

Thanksgiving is almost here!!!

"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them."

John F. Kennedy

The JKO staff and I would like to wish all our students and parents a very enjoyable and relaxing Thanksgiving.



A Brief History of Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is a national holiday in the United States. It is celebrated each year on the fourth Thursday in November. On this day, families gather together, and many people say prayers of thanks for the years blessings. In many homes, a big dinner of roast turkey and dressing is served. Thanksgiving is traditionally a harvest festival. Similar festivals are celebrated in many parts of the world to give thanks after the years crops have been safely harvested. Canada celebrates its Thanksgiving the second Monday in October.

A small ship called the Mayflower set sail from Plymouth, England, on September 16, 1620. The passengers spent 66 days in the hold of the ship arriving on November 21. Most of them were Puritans who had been persecuted for their religious beliefs in England. One month later, on December 26, all 102 passengers set foot on land and began to establish the colony of Plymouth. The Pilgrims, as these people came to be called, had borrowed money from a group of English merchants to cross the Atlantic Ocean. They planned to start a settlement in the Virginia Colony in America, but during the long voyage, storms blew their crowded little vessel off course.



After sailing for more than two months, the Mayflower finally reached land near what is now Provincetown on Cape Cod. This part of the American coast, called New England, had been explored several years earlier by an Englishman named Capt. John Smith. The Pilgrims followed Smith's maps and sailed across Cape Cod Bay to the mainland coast of Massachusetts.

They founded the Colony of Plymouth in December 1620. Most of the Pilgrims had suffered terribly from the long voyage. They immediately began to build shelters, but soon they were overcome by a general sickness. Through the course of the winter 46 died, nearly half their original number. Some who became ill on the voyage and who were too sick to be moved stayed on the Mayflower, which was anchored in Plymouth Harbor for the winter.

The Mayflower had been a cargo ship and had to be refitted to handle the Pilgrim passengers. It had three masts and a double deck. No one is sure of what happened to the original Mayflower after it returned to England the following April. A replica of the original Mayflower was built in England in the mid-1950's. This ship, Mayflower II, sailed across the Atlantic in 1957 to commemorate the Pilgrim's voyage. It is now anchored in Plymouth Harbor, Massachusetts.

The first American Thanksgiving probably took place in New England. It was celebrated by the Pilgrim settlers, who established Plymouth Colony in Massachusetts in 1620. The Pilgrims had struggled bravely through a grim winter with much sickness and little food.



The following spring, friendly Indians helped the settlers to plant corn, and in the autumn, the first crop was harvested. Governor William Bradford proclaimed three days of prayer and thanksgiving. The Pilgrims gave a huge feast and invited the Indian Chief, Massasoit, and 90 of his people.

The custom of observing a special harvest thanksgiving day spread throughout the other colonies in the following years. After the American Revolution, the various states continued the custom, each one naming its own day for giving thanks. In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed the first national Thanksgiving Day on the last Thursday in November. The present date was established by Congress in 1941.

Source: <http://www.celebratelove.com/thanxhistory.htm>



JKO SCHOOL COUNSELOR

CONNECT



From the counseling department:



- ❖ **1st 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 (9-10th Grade Students) at ext. 5052 or email at NGarcia33@schools.nyc.gov ; Mrs. Vega-Beltran (11-12th Grade Students) at ext. 5091 or via email at NVega11@schools.nyc.gov ; or Ms. Bernabel, Parent Coordinator, at ext. 1012 or email at 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:**
 - **November 1st – NO SCHOOL – DIWALI**
 - **November 5th – NO SCHOOL – ELECTION DAY**
 - **November 11th – NO SCHOOL VETERAN'S DAY**
 - **November 18th – COLLEGE TRIP TO VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY**
 - **November 21st – COLLEGE TRIP TO ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY AND EVENING PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES**
 - **November 22nd – DAY PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES**
 - **November 28 – 29th – NO SCHOOL – THANKSGIVING RECESS**
- ❖ **COLLEGE NOW** – If you are interested in having your 11th or 12th grader take **FREE** College courses while in high school through the City University of New York Colleges/Universities, **please contact Mrs. Vega-Beltran.** This is a great opportunity for your child to have those course credits apply to their College Degree for **FREE!**
- ❖ 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, Macbooks, Smart watches or any non DOE issued electronic device.** 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.**
- ❖ **12th 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 (9-10th Graders) and Mrs. Vega-Beltran (11-12th 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 reach out to Ms. Garcia (9-10th Grades) or Mrs. Vega-Beltran (11-12th 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 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.

**EXTRACURRICULAR
ACTIVITIES**



National Honor Society (NHS)			Degregrio
Wednesday	2:41 PM	Room 201	
Smash Art Productions			Degregrio
Friday	2:41 PM	Room 201	
Glamour Gals and Pals			Cumberbatch
Tuesday	3:21 PM	Room 303	
Volleyball Club			Rushforth
Tuesday	3:21 PM	GYM	
Chess			Chen
Wednesday	2:41 PM	Room 404	
Music Club			Chen
Thursday	2:41 PM	Room 405B	
Fitness Club			Chen
Friday	2:41 PM	Weight Room	
Student Government			Okwabi
Thursday	3:30	Room 308	
Senior Council			Okwabi
Thursday	2:41	Auditorium	
Crochet Club			Alcorn
Thursday	3:45 PM	Room 302	
Help Hands Society			Kadison
Alternating Thu	3:00 PM	301 B	
YearBook			Kadison
Wednesday	3:00 PM	301B	

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

Ms. Niurkary Garcia, 9 & 10th Grade Counselor (212)391-0041 Ext. 5052

Email: NGarcia33@schools.nyc.gov

Mrs. Nicole Vega-Beltran, 11 & 12th Grade Counselor 212-391-0041 Ext. 5091

Email: NVega11@schools.nyc.gov

DEL DEPARTAMENTO DE ASESORAMIENTO:

- ❖ **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 período. 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; Sra. Vega-Beltran (Estudiantes de 11º y 12º grado) en la ext. 5091 o por correo electrónico a NVega11@schools.nyc.gov; o la Sra. Bernabel, Coordinadora de Padres, en la ext. 1012 o correo electrónico a 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:**

- 1 de noviembre – NO HAY CLASES – DIWALI
- 5 de noviembre – NO HAY CLASES – DÍA DE LAS ELECCIONES
- 11 de noviembre – NO HAY CLASES DÍA DE LOS VETERANOS
- 18 de noviembre – VIAJE UNIVERSITARIO A LA UNIVERSIDAD DE VILLANOVA
- 21 de noviembre – VIAJE UNIVERSITARIO A LA UNIVERSIDAD DE ST. JOHN Y CONFERENCIAS NOCTURNAS DE PADRES Y MAESTROS
- 22 de noviembre – REUNIONES DIURNAS DE PADRES Y MAESTROS
- 28 y 29 de noviembre – NO HAY CLASES – RECESO DE ACCIÓN DE GRACIAS

❖ **UNIVERSIDAD AHORA** – Si está interesado en que su hijo de 11.º o 12.º grado tome cursos universitarios GRATUITOS mientras está en la escuela secundaria a través de las universidades de la City University of New York, comuníquese con la Sra. Vega-Beltrán. ¡Esta es una gran oportunidad para que su hijo obtenga los créditos de esos cursos para su título universitario GRATIS!

❖ 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.**

❖ **12º 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.

ACTIVIDADES EXTRAESCOLARES



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Thursday	3:45 PM	Room 302	
Help Hands Society			Kadison
Alternating Thu	3:00 PM	301 B	
YearBook			Kadison
Wednesday	3:00 PM	301B	

- ❖ 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

Sra. Nicole Vega-Beltran, Consejera de 11º y 12º grado 212-391-0041 Ext. 5091 Correo electrónico:

NVega11@schools.nyc.gov

Senior Corner

Select seniors have been invited to attend an informational session for ACCES- VR on Thursday, November 7th. This is an opportunity for students with disabilities to receive additional support with college and career readiness/training. Students may qualify to have their college or trade school training paid for as well as housing, transportation, books, etc.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Keep all appointments with my ACCES-VR counselor
- Let my counselor know if I change my address or phone number or email
- Follow medical and treatment recommendations
- Send my counselor my grades or progress reports
- Let my counselor know if I have any problems that will interfere with my plan
- Contact my counselor when I get a job!

Fill in this information at your first meeting with your VR counselor.
My counselor (VRC) is _____

Phone _____
Email address _____
Counselor's assistant (VRCA) is _____

Phone _____
Email address _____

THE ACCES-VR PROCESS

- Student makes an informed choice to apply for ACCES-VR
- Student completes application packet
- VR Counselor determines eligibility
- VR Counselor and student choose an appropriate employment goal
- VR Counselor and student develop an Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE)
- Student acquires skills and supports
- Student gets and keeps a job
- VR Counselor closes case as a **SUCCESS!**

APPLYING FOR ACCES-VR SERVICES

IEP/CSE planning or other school discussions prior to junior year should include the consideration of a referral to ACCES-VR so that you can make an informed choice about applying. You don't need to have an IEP to apply! Transition staff at your school will help you decide when you should apply, help you complete forms, send forms home for your parent or guardian to complete/sign, and send the entire packet to ACCES-VR once it's complete. ACCES-VR is Voluntary. You choose if you want to apply for services or not.

ELIGIBILITY FOR ACCES-VR SERVICES

There are four things student and counselor must establish to determine eligibility for ACCES-VR services.

- That the student has a *disability*
- That the disability creates an *impediment* to employment
- That the student can *benefit* from rehabilitation services
- That *vocational rehabilitation services* are required to achieve employment

Having an IEP or a 504 plan does not guarantee eligibility for ACCES-VR. All of the above criteria must be met.

Important steps:

- When you are determined eligible or ineligible you will get a letter.
- If you are eligible, services will not begin until you have met with your counselor and developed a plan.

KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH ACCES-VR

- By telephone to your VRC or VRCA
Listen to the message - it is often customized to let the caller know the person's schedule and activities
Leave a clear message - your name, your phone number, what you are calling about, and times to call you back
- By mail - note the counselor's name on the envelope
- By email - sometimes the quickest
- By appointment - be responsible - arrive on time - call ahead to cancel if you can't make it

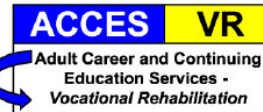
****BRING THIS TO YOUR 1ST MEETING WITH YOUR ACCES-VR COUNSELOR****

Manhattan District Office
116 West 32nd Street, 5th Floor
New York, NY 10001
(212) 230-6300

Harlem Satellite Office
Adam Clayton Powell Jr. State Office Building
163 West 125th Street Room 713
New York, NY 10027
(212) 961-4420

Staten Island Satellite Office
2071 Clove Road Suite 302
Staten Island, NY 10304
(718) 816-4800

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USER-FRIENDLY GUIDE TO
TRANSITION SERVICES
FOR
HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS,
THEIR PARENTS, AND THEIR
TEACHERS



a bridge to your future

The University of the State of New York
The State Education Department
Adult Career and Continuing Education Services
Vocational Rehabilitation
Albany, New York 12234
<http://www.acces.nysed.gov/vr>



MEETING WITH YOUR ACCES-VR COUNSELOR

While you are still attending high school:

- You may meet at your school.
- Your parent or guardian will be invited
- A transition staff person at the high school will help schedule these meetings.

At the first meeting:

- Your ACCES-VR counselor will talk with you about your plans when you leave high school.
- You will talk about your ideas about a job goal and the services you will need to become employed.

Once you leave high school:

- Meetings will be at our district office or in a community location.
- You will schedule these meetings directly with your ACCES-VR counselor.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE EMPLOYMENT GOAL

Everything ACCES-VR does is directed toward helping you to reach an employment goal.

You will meet with your ACCES-VR counselor as often as you need, to:

- Choose a realistic and achievable goal.
- Decide how you will gain the skills you will need to do the job.
- Decide what help you need to find a job.
- Figure out what supports you need to keep a job and who will be able to provide them.

SERVICES TO HELP YOU GET A JOB

All services are directed toward helping you to reach an employment goal and are based on your individual needs.

ACCES-VR is NOT a financial aid program.

- But some services ARE based on your family income (*) - see below
- You may need to provide your family tax return and records of expenses annually.

Examples of types of services include:

- Vocational counseling
- Assessment for career planning
- Assessment for assistive technology needs
- Purchase of assistive technology (*)
- Funding toward the cost of education or training after high school (*)
- Assistance with some transportation costs (*)
- Funding for academic support services (note takers, tutors)
- Job readiness and job placement services to help you get and keep a job (may include job coaching)



UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				1. SCHOOL CLOSED
				DIWALI
4	5 No Students	6	7	8
STUDENT GOVERNMENT APPLICATION OPEN	Election Day		NO BAKE CHEESECAKE EVENT	STUDENT GOVERNMENT APPLICATION CLOSED
11 School Closed	12	13	14	15: CAMPAGIN WEEK ENDS
Veterans Day	CAMPAIGN WEEK BEGINS		STUDENT GOVERNMENT DEBATE	COOKING EVENT # 2
18: SG VOTING	19 STUDENT POTLUCK	20: COOKING EVENT # 3	21. PTC Evening	22. PTC Afternoon
SPIRIT WEEK				
25: STAFF ONLY POTLUCK	26	27	28. School Closed	29 School Closed
			Thanksgiving Break	



JKO ELECTION Schedule

OCTOBER 20, 2023	APP DUE	
OCT 23 - NOV 3	PROMOTION WEEK	
NOVEMBER 1, 2023	DEBATE @ 3:00 PM	AUDITORIUM
NOVEMBER 6, 2023	Election Day	LUNCH ROOM

PLAN
YOUR
VOTE.



Are You Interested to Join

Student GOVERNMENT?

Let's Join Today & Make a Difference



Make Your
Voice Heard

There will be an
Interest Meeting in
RM 308 Tuesday
11/6

APPLICATIONS DUE November
8, 2024 AT
5 PM

SCAN THE QR CODE

APPLICATIONS CAN BE
FOUND ON YOUR
COHORT GOOGLE
CLASSROOM





Dear Panthers,

A message from Ms. Okwabi

What a fantastic Spirit Week we just had! Thank you to everyone who participated, supported, and made each day special. Here's a quick recap of all the fun-filled events:

Monday: 🛌 Pajama Day

We kicked off the week in comfort, with students and staff showing off their favorite pajamas. It was a cozy start to Spirit Week!

Tuesday: 👯 Twin Day

It was great to see so many creative pairs and groups dressed alike for Twin Day. The matching outfits definitely brought smiles throughout the school!

Wednesday: 🧙♀️ Witch & Wizards Day

Students and staff embraced their magical side, showing off enchanting costumes. The day ended with a fun game of catch in the gym that brought out everyone's playful spirit!

Wednesday Evening:

Some students had the exciting opportunity to see the Broadway show *Six* with Ms. Kadison, which was a highlight of the day. Shout out to Ms. Garcia as the additional chaperone, Mr. Williams and SSA Caraballo for keeping the school open while we waited for showtime.

Thursday: 🎃 Halloween Color Day

The school was a sea of Halloween colors, with orange, black, and purple everywhere. The school community got creative with mask-making, showcasing some amazing designs.

Throughout the week, seniors were also busy applying to colleges during Free CUNY & SUNY College Application Week, conducted by Mrs. Vega during Ms. Kadison and Ms. Pelletier's English classes.

Friday: 🎃 Costume Day

Spirit Week concluded with everyone dressed in their best Halloween costumes. The evening featured our annual Haunted House, hosted by Smash Art Production and the students of the National Honor Society. Special thanks to Ms. Degregorio for organizing a fantastic event that had a turnout of over 100 students. We truly appreciate all her hard work. A big shoutout as well to all the staff who volunteered their time to make the event a success: Ms. Okwabi, Ms. Kadison, Ms. Acosta, Ms. Bernabel, Mrs. Vega- Beltran, Mr. Vincent, Mr. Urena, Ms. Gordon, Mr. Chen, Mrs. Fares, Ms. El Mardi, Ms. Garcia, Ms. Hernandez, Noel, Monty, Luis, SSA Ms. Caraballo, and additional SSA.

Saturday: 🏰 Six Flags Trip

As the grand finale, we spent the day at Six Flags, enjoying rides, laughter, great memories, and a few scares during Freight Fest. Thanks to the chaperones and staff who gave up their Saturday to ensure our students had a fun day of thrills and frills: Ms. Okwabi, Ms. Kadison, Ms. Bernabel, Mr. Williams, Mr. Vincent, Mr. Chen, Mr. Urena, SSA Ms. Caraballo and additional SSA.

We've captured some of the best moments from the week, and you can view the pictures down below. Thank you to all the staff, students, and organizers who helped make this Spirit Week unforgettable. Your enthusiasm, participation, and school spirit were truly inspiring. We can't wait for the next one!

Thank you Ms. Okwabi and Ms. Kadison for spearheading these events!!!

Monday: Pajama Day



Pajama
days
are the
best
Days



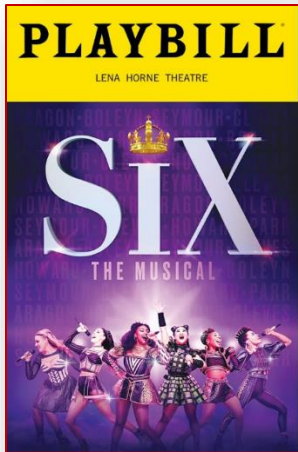
Tuesday: Twin Day



Wednesday: Witch and Wizard Day



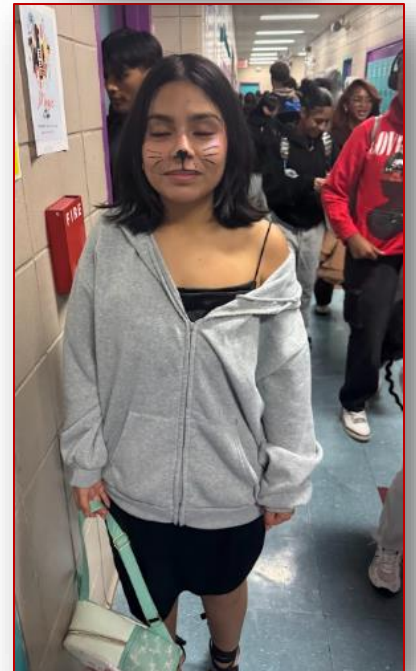
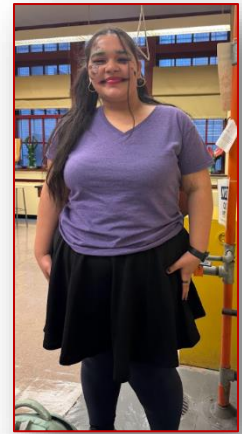
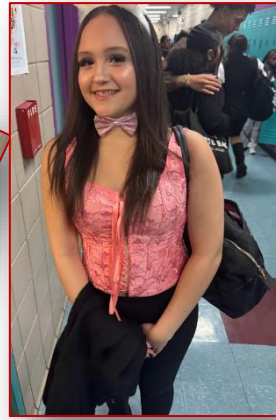
Wednesday: Broadway Show Six



Thursday: Halloween Color Day



Friday: 🧛 Costume Day

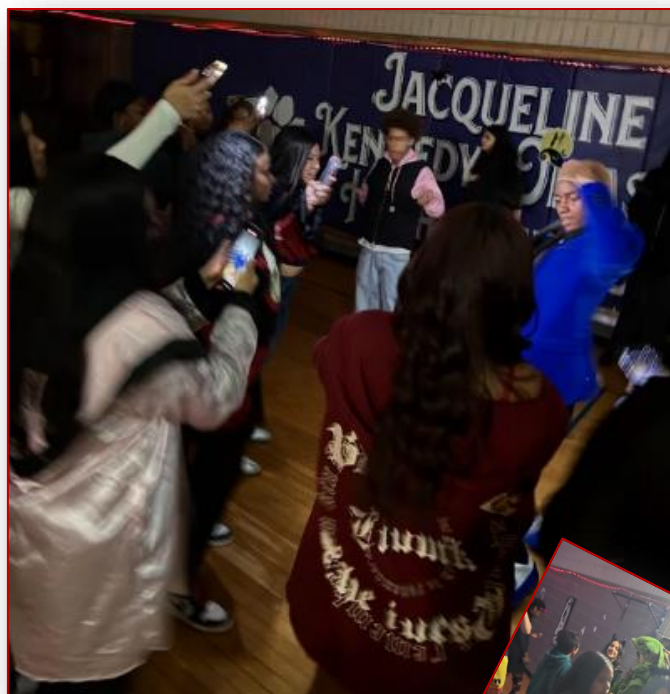


Saturday: 🏰 Six Flags Trip



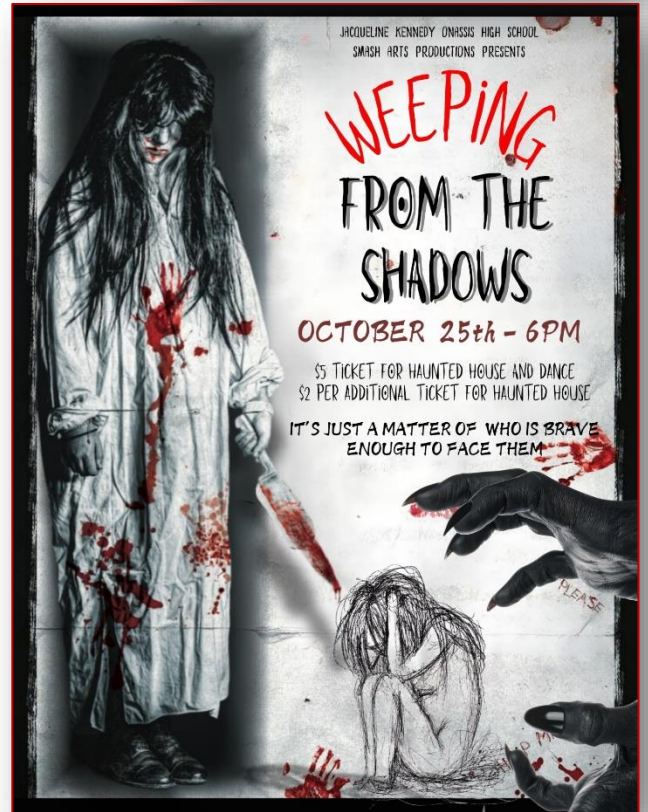
In the Spotlight

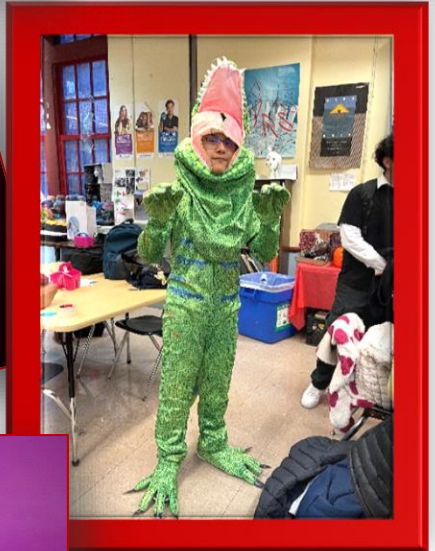
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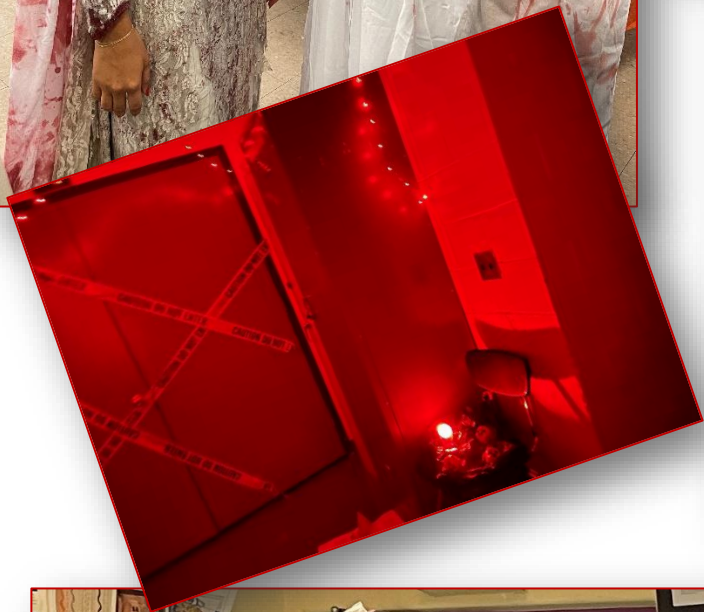


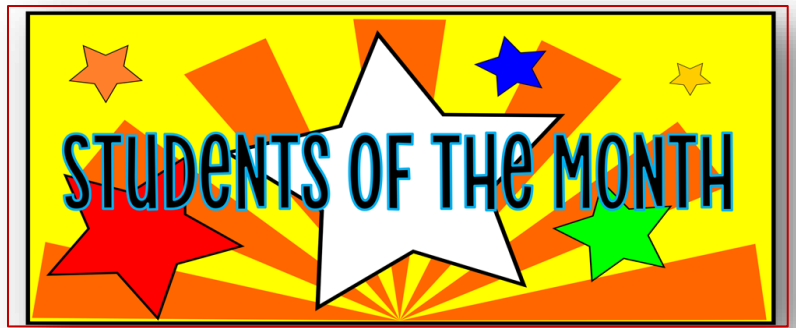
In the Spotlight

On Friday, October 25th, Ms. De Gregorio, the NHS, and SMASH ARTS students presented the Halloween Dance and the Haunted House fundraisers. Students had scary fun!!! Thanks Ms. D for spearheading this!!!



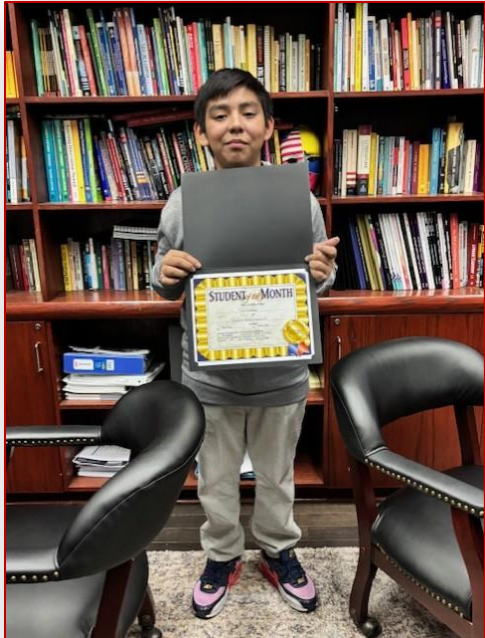






Congratulations to all the **Students of the Month**!!! See below...

9th Grade SOM: Yariel Contreras



10th SOM: Nataly Cajchun



12th SOM: Anjoleen Edwards



12th Grade SOM: Adrianna Smalls





A message from Ms. De Gregorio:

Fashion Design students completed their first sustainable fashion collection. The designers learned about basic fashion silhouettes and were then challenged to create the silhouettes using newspapers. Class fashion show was Friday October 18. **Thank you, Ms. D, for spearheading this event!!!**







A message from Ms. Okwabi and Ms. Kadison:

Dear Panthers,



What a fantastic week it has been! We wanted to take a moment to share some of the exciting activities that brought joy, creativity, and community spirit to our school over the past few days.

Wednesday: Breast Cancer Awareness Day

Students showed their support by wearing pink, creating a wave of color across the school to raise awareness for breast cancer. Each student received a small treat at the door to thank them for their participation. Take a look at the attached pictures to see them rocking their pink!

Thursday: Slime Creation

Our students unleashed their creativity with a fun slime-making session. It was a sticky, colorful mess, but they had a blast experimenting with different textures and colors. Check out the photos to witness the chaos and creativity!

Friday Morning: Zams Café

We opened up Zams Café, offering coffee, hot chocolate, tea, and snacks for both staff and students. It was a wonderful start to the day, and all funds raised will go toward supporting the Class of 2026's senior year activities. Thank you to everyone who contributed!

Friday Afternoon: Tim Burton Movie Night

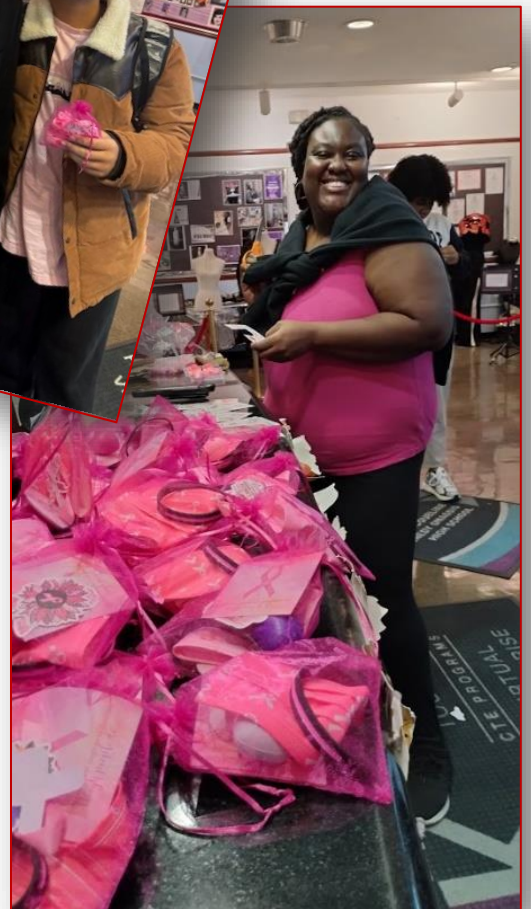
The NHS hosted a Tim Burton-themed movie night, and it was a great success! Students enjoyed Halloween-themed movies and indulged in a variety of snacks. It was a perfect way to wrap up the week and get into the festive spirit.

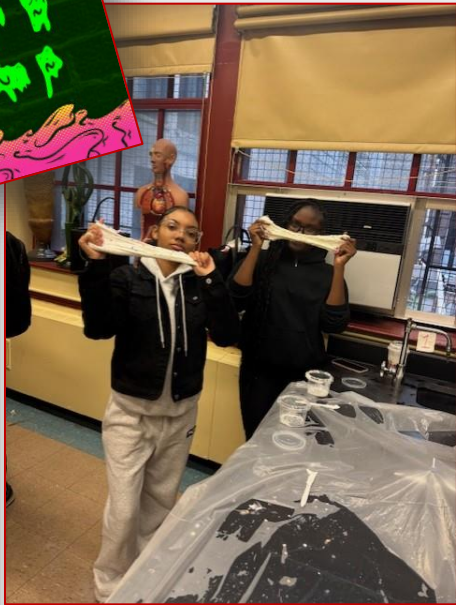
Thank you to all the staff, students, and organizers who made these activities possible. We hope you enjoy the photos that capture some of the best moments from this week!

Best regards,

Ms. O and Ms. Kadison (COSA)











A message from Ms. Okwabi:

Dear Panthers

I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the wonderful events that took place last week.

Paint & Sip Event – Student Artwork

Our Thursday Paint & Sip event was a huge success! The students showcased incredible artistic talent, and I've attached some photos of their beautiful artwork. It's amazing to see their creativity in action. Thank you to everyone who helped make this event possible! Please see attached picture

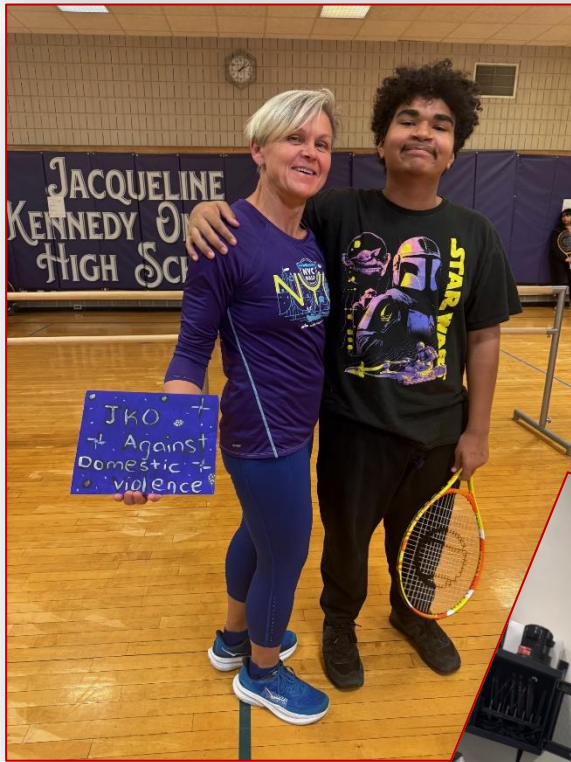
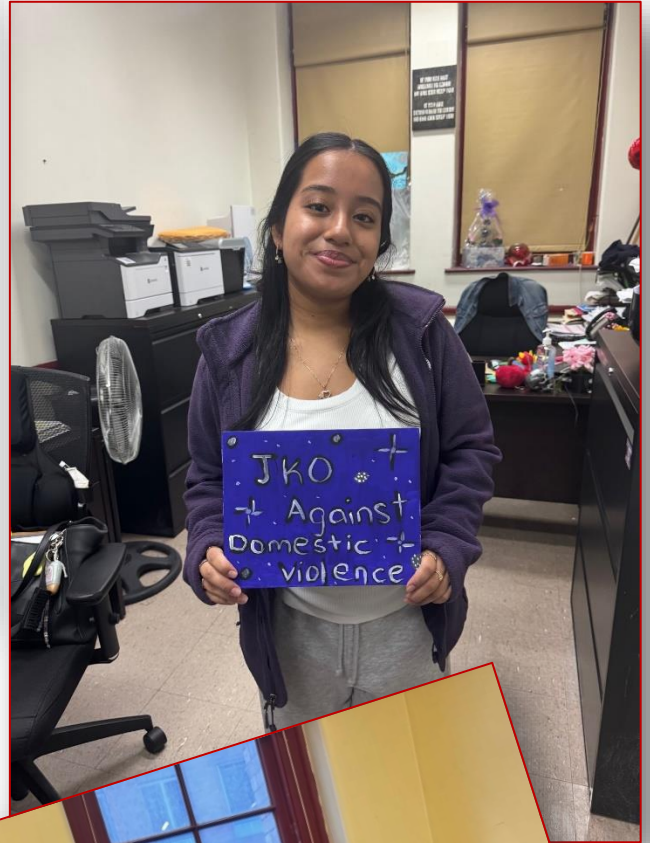
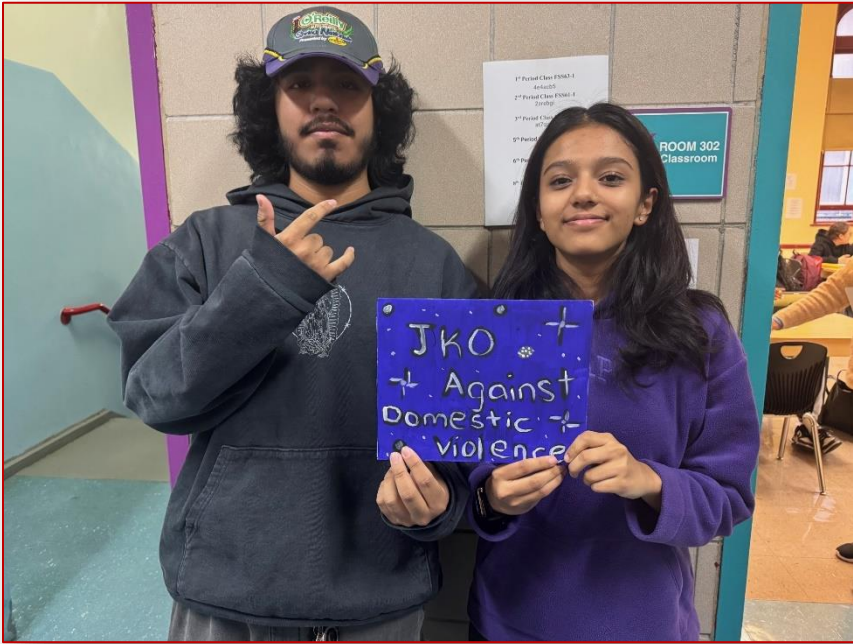
Domestic Violence Awareness – Thank You for Wearing Purple

A big thank you to everyone who wore purple in support of Domestic Violence Awareness. Your participation helped raise awareness and made a powerful statement against domestic violence. It was great to see the Panther community come together for such an important cause.

I truly appreciate all of your support and involvement in making these events meaningful for our students.

Best regards,
Ms. Okwabi





October is
National
Domestic
Violence
Awareness
Month



A message from Ms. Okwabi:

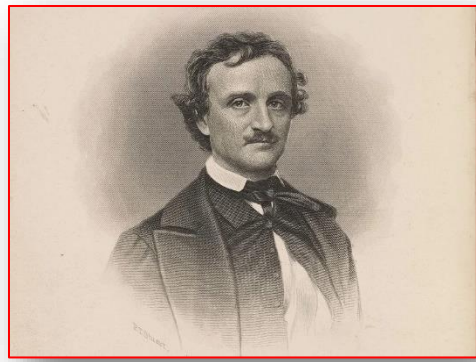
I just wanted to take a moment to thank you all for your help with our *Savor the Flavor of Hispanic Heritage Month* celebration. Whether you assisted with planning, coordination, or simply showed up to support the event, your contributions were appreciated and made a real difference in its success. Together, we truly showed what Panther pride is all about!

A special shout-out to those who helped with donations! Your contributions made so many things possible, and it wouldn't have been the same without you.

I also want to give a big thanks to the administration for their support throughout the process. And of course, I'm excited to continue working with all of you for future events—we'll need that Panther spirit and support again for our students!







A BIG thank you to Ms. El Mardi and her students for putting together the Edgar Allen Poe memorial display in the lobby marking anniversary of his death; October 7, 1849





On September 28th and 29th, JKO participated in the Manhattan High School Fair at the MLK Campus. **A big thank you to all who participated;** NHS students, Mr. Vincent, Mr. Williams, Ms. Bernabel, Ms. Okwabi, and Ms. De Gregorio. You are all AWESOME!!!





On Wednesday, September 25th, our juniors attended a college fair at the Jacob Javits Center. A big thank you to Ms. Vega Beltran for spearheading this trip!!!

