



Saint Michael Academy Parent's Newsletter

November 2009

Wall of Fame

Congratulations to the outstanding students from the month of October whose pictures were displayed on our Wall of Fame. Gabrielle Rajerison, a senior, was named *Michaelite of the Month* for her impressive performance on the PSAT (the top 3% in the nation in her category). Kimberly Corcino, a junior, was named *Community Service Student of the Month* because she has gone far beyond the necessary requirements. Adeline Manzano, a sophomore, was named *Athlete of the Month* for her performance on the volleyball team as well as her stellar academics. We also honor our PACE (Positive Attitudes Change Everything) Club. Congratulations to all!

Tuition and Fees Policy

Report cards and transcripts cannot be released on Report Card Day, November 20th, until all financial obligations (tuition, fees, candy money) have been met. Students with debt will be kept out of classes starting November 23rd.

Parent-Teacher Conferences/Report Card Day

You will have the opportunity to meet with your daughter's teachers on Report Card Day, November 20th from 3-6PM. Please arrange your schedule so that you will be able to spend time with the teachers. We cancel classes that day so that you can speak with teachers. Please take advantage of that.

Open House(s)

Our annual open house on Saturday, October 24th went very well. We doubled our attendance from last year and were able to really show SMA off. Special thanks to all of the students who volunteered their time and to everyone who helped during SMA Service Day on October 23rd. Our next open house, on November 5th from 6-7:30PM, will showcase the arts and performance groups of SMA. We hope to see you there!

Guidance

The financial workshop for parents on October 21st attracted over thirty parents. Allan Katz discussed how to pay and save for college. We'll host a second workshop in May. All parents can come; it is never too early to plan for college.

Spiritual Growth

As a Catholic school, we strive to provide your daughter with a firm moral background and guidance.

- On October 21st, eight of our students attended the Pro-Life Leadership Day events at St. Joseph's Seminary.
- That same day Peter Kimeu of Catholic Relief Services in Africa spoke to our 9th and 12th graders about his work.
- On October 22nd a delegation delivered over 400 pounds of food collected by SMA students to Little Sisters of the Assumption Food Pantry in East Harlem.
- Our annual Senior Retreat on the 27th at the Cabrini Shrine was a day of reflective growth for the Class of 2010.
- Our Sacramental Program, designed to help students become full Catholics, meets on Mondays. Contact Ms. Nee at ChrisNee01@gmail.com to enroll your daughter.

School Events

Already this year we have arranged a variety of events to enrich our students' learning experiences.

- On October 14th we provided, free of charge, the PSAT exam which gives sophomores and juniors an idea of how they will perform on the SAT exam their junior year.
- Later that day, our freshmen were visited by an Assistant District Attorney, who discussed the dangers of gangs.
- That afternoon, our Senior Freshman Social was a fabulous success full of music, food and friendship.
- We've already had a number of field trips this year. Students traveled to *Tanguera: The Tango Musical*, the Bronx Zoo, a career workshop and other locations. On November 11th, select students will visit the New York Aquarium.
- On October 28th we honored this year's inductees to the Honora Nagle Society and the National Honor Society.

Junior Parents

Ring measurements will be taken on November 17th. Send the non-refundable deposit (\$100 for 14 carat gold, \$50 for all other rings) with your daughter. JOP applications from students chosen for the program are due November 19th. Participants for our elite McGraw Hill group will be chosen this week.

Senior Parents

Cap and gown measurements will take place at 8AM on November 17th. Mercy College payments for students in Mr. Callahan's history class are due November 18th. Mandatory 7th period guidance sessions began November 2nd. November 6th is the last day for seniors to submit brag sheets, college lists and recommendation requests. December 1st is the SUNY application deadline. The common application is due January 1st.

Yearbook

Shout-outs and full, half and quarter-page dedications to your daughter in the 2009-2010 yearbook can be purchased by contacting Mrs. Dominowski. Leave a message at the front desk for details. Yearbooks are available for sale to underclasswomen. Books purchased by November 25th cost \$25. After November 25th, books cost \$45.

Candy Sale

The mandatory sale has been extended to November 12th. The student who sells the most candy receives a \$150 prize. If a student's candy money has not been turned in by November 20th, we will not release her report card.

Thanksgiving

The Wednesday before Thanksgiving, November 25th, students will be dismissed at noon. We will have a Thanksgiving Liturgy, followed by a film. The stars and producer of the film will hold a question and answer session as well.

Tutoring

Please see the enclosed tutoring schedule for details on the many resources our teachers and others provide. If your daughter is struggling in any subject, she *must seek help*. Now is the best time to start tutoring.

Regents Preparation

The following Regents exams must be passed by every student: Global Studies, US History, Algebra (or Math A), Living Environment (or another science) and English.

- Global Studies- Your daughter takes this in June of her sophomore year. Students who still must pass are enrolled in World Cultures II for preparation. If they are not in this course, they must attend tutoring with Ms. O'Riordan.
 - US History- Your daughter takes this in June of her junior year. Students who still must pass must attend Sunrise Tutoring or tutoring with Mr. Rice.
 - Algebra- Your daughter takes this in June of her freshman year or January of her sophomore year. Students who still must pass are enrolled in *mandatory* after school classes.
 - Living Environment-Your daughter takes this in June of her sophomore year. Students who still must pass are enrolled in *mandatory* after school classes.
 - English- Your daughter takes this in January of her junior year. Preparation is done in class and during tutoring.
- ** Juniors enrolled in Math 11BH must attend *mandatory* after school classes to prepare for the Regents in June. Teachers offer free Regents preparation to SMA students for these and other Regents exams. See the attached schedule.

Calendar

November

5th 6-7:30PM: Open House, Parents welcome
6th 1st Quarter ends
11th **NO SCHOOL**, Veterans Day
Field Trip, New York Aquarium
13th **NO SCHOOL**, TACHS for 8th graders
17th Measuring: junior rings, senior caps and gowns
20th **NO SCHOOL**, 3-6PM Report Card Day
Parent must attend and pick up report card
25th **12PM dismissal**, Thanksgiving Liturgy, film
26th-27th **NO SCHOOL**, Thanksgiving Break

December

4th **1:30PM dismissal**, Schedule X, Faculty Meeting
8th Schedule C, Immaculate Conception Mass
18th **12PM dismissal**, Christmas Assembly
21st-31st **NO SCHOOL**, Christmas Break

January

1st **NO SCHOOL**, New Year's Day
4th School resumes

