



Bronx Lighthouse Charter School

BLCS Weekly Newsletter

**La Traducción en Español será enviada cada martes.*

May 5, 2014

Greetings BLCS Families,

I would like to remind you that this week is **TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK!** Please reach out to your scholars' teachers and let her know how much you appreciate them. Parent /Teacher conferences for grades K-7 will be held on May 7-8, 2014, from 2- 7pm. [Student dismissal is at 1:30 both days.](#) You should have filled out an appointment card with your scholar's teacher for your conference time. We look forward to seeing you!

[In the case that you have a CPA student who usually picks up your K-7 students, on Thursday we will provide child care for siblings until 3:00.](#)

Reminder: April Events

- **Pre- Election Meeting** will be held this Tuesday at 6:30pm, for all parents interested in running for office or who may want to be a part of the BLCS Parent Association. Please fill out the Nomination form that is located in the main office in the Lower Academy
- **ASSOCIATION ELECTIONS** will be May 13, 2014! Come out and let your voice be heard!
- Sunday May 18, 2014, we will participate in the **AIDS Walk in Central Park**. We are looking for parents to support our scholars, so please join us in fight for a good cause. You can find out more information about the AIDS Walk below.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY: MAY 7 & MAY 8, 2014 TIME: 2-7 PM

A key ingredient for educational achievement is the parent-teacher conference. To get the most out of parent-teacher conferences, parents should to take an active role in their child's education year-round and come prepared to discuss how their child can reach their full potential. Below I have a list of important things parent should do prior to meeting with their scholar's teacher, this will help to make the experience positive and productive for teachers and parents.

Tips for Parents:

- ✚ **The first on the list is: Show up, please!**
- ✚ **Get Ready:** Do your homework prior to parent-teacher conferences. Prepare by writing notes to yourself concerning:
 - Any questions about the school's programs or policies.
 - Things you can share with the teacher about your child and his life at home.
 - Questions about your child's progress.
- ✚ **Ask Important Questions:** Don't be afraid to engage in a frank conversation with your child's teacher. Your goal is to develop an action plan for your child's success at school. Good questions to ask the teacher include:
 - What are my child's strengths and weaknesses?
 - How does my child get along with classmates?
 - Is my child working up to her ability? Where could she use improvement?
 - What can we do at home to support what you are doing in the classroom?

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Initiate the Action Plan

Start immediately on the action plan you and the teacher put together. Discuss the plan with your child and track his progress. Stay in touch with your child's teacher throughout the year with regularly scheduled "report card" conferences that can keep the communication lines open.

"Parents are the best resource for a child to make the grade," said Van Roekel. "When teachers and parents work together, we can help a child have a successful school year." (<http://www.nea.org/home/53199.htm>)

STUDY HALL PREP

We are working to improve student work habits during "study time", instead of sending all homework home, every other week study hall will be reserved for the homework of a dedicated subject. Teachers will assign homework that can be completed within 45 minutes without a computer, but instead of giving the work to the scholars, they will give the work to Ms. Nye (Library Teacher) to hand out and collect in study hall. The homework will be due at the end of study hall and anything incomplete or not handed in at that time will be considered late and graded as such. This is not creating an extra assignment for kids, but simply saving the regular homework for study hall. This will start on **May 5, 2014**.

SCIENCE PERFORMANCE TEST DATES

4th grade Science Performance Tests will start on 5/26 and continue to 5/30.

AIDS WALK TEAM

Last year CPA students participated in the AIDS walk, and this is a great opportunity to get more staff and families involved. This is a great event to rally your families behind. On Sunday May 18, 2014, we will participate in the AIDS Walk in Central Park. If you registered last year, then you have probably been receiving emails from AIDS Walk NYC. You can register through the link provided in the email. For first time walkers, here's how you register:

1. Go to <http://www.aidswalk.net/newyork/participate/form-or-join-team> and select "Join a Team"
2. Once the new window/tab opens up, select "Join a team" and then find our team (**Bronx Lighthouse CPA - 7082**) on the drop down menu
3. You'll be asked to create a username and password; then click continue
4. Next you'll complete a series of questions and then you're set once you answer them.



STUDENTS' PERSONAL ITEMS

Parents' reminder that unauthorized items found on scholars will be removed by BLCS Staff; BLCS Staff is not responsible for lost personal items. This means that scholars should not carry unauthorized items with them to school. Please refer to the School handbook and we encourage scholars to comply with the uniform policy, healthy snacks policy, and other school wide policies.

UNIFORM REMINDER!

You should have received a letter last week, regarding the uniform policy. Please make sure your scholar is in the appropriate uniform attire each day, if your scholar can not be in uniform for any reason. Please fill out the Uniform assistance form that was attached to the letter or you can get a copy of that form in the Main office. Penalties will be enforced for all scholars who are not in uniform and did not bring in a uniform assistance form.

SHINE on,

Ms. Canton

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