

# Bronx Lighthouse Charter School

## Ms. Hardcastle's Weekly Letter Home

*\*La Traducción en Español sera enviada cada Martes.*

March 3, 2014

Greetings BLCS Families,

Based on feedback from families, we are moving the newsletter to go home with families on each Monday, along with the weekly progress reports that are sent out. This means that each Tuesday, a translated version in Spanish will be available in the main office.

### **Reminder: March Events**

- There will be a family night on 3/12, where we will talk about the coming state tests, and share preparation efforts with families.
- There will be a Parent's Association Meeting in the third week of March (between 1/17 and 1/21)
- There are no special days off during March, so this is a great chance to get down to business in the classroom.

### **Staffing Updates**

We are excited to announce the start of several important staff members in our school:

- Welcome to Ms. Sanayi Canton, who will be supporting us as the **Coordinator of Family and Community Partnership**
- Welcome to Ms. Terry Warren, who will be teaching our 5-7<sup>th</sup> grade scholars **Spanish!**
- Welcome to Ms. Latoya Coleman, **School Social Worker**, who will be supporting student social and emotional development in our lower grades

We continue to interview for 7<sup>th</sup> grade ELA and Math teachers, and have demonstration lessons scheduled for this week. We are also looking to replace Mr. Kazanjian, who has resigned as the art teacher.

### **State Testing Dates**

Enclosed with this mailing are all state testing dates for our scholars in elementary and middle school grades. We expect that families will ensure that students are getting the proper amount of sleep and are developing strong habits to lead them into important tests. Also, please note that it is our goal and expectation that students are receiving support in their classes to access and achieve success on upcoming assessments. Your first point of contact for test preparation should be your scholar's teacher.

### **Afterschool Tutoring Program Updates**

We have started our afterschool tutoring program with honors CPA students (Afterschool Fellows) working to support lower grades scholars. The tutors will meet weekly with teachers to get feedback on what students can use special help with, and they will be working to support three goals for students:

1. **Tutoring will ensure that students are completing required assignments for success**
2. **Tutoring will support students to learn skills that they did not yet master or learn in class**
3. **Tutoring will help to support additional skills based on student needs**

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Please note that while we are launching tutoring, we will focus the majority of our efforts on our first goal.

## **Progress Reports: Every Monday**

Along with this newsletter, you should also expect to get a copy of your scholar's report card. If you have questions about grades or notice errors, please make sure your first point of contact is your scholar's teacher. In addition, we are sending out additional copies of login information for all scholars

SHINE on,

Ms. Hardcastle

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