

Bronx Lighthouse Charter School

Ms. Hardcastle's Weekly Letter Home

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

March 10, 2014

Greetings BLCS Families,

This week is Nutrition and Fitness Week! Mr. Hoard has planned some amazing activities for Wednesday.

Reminder: March Events

- There will be a family night this Wednesday 3/12, where we will talk about the coming state tests, and share preparation efforts with families.
- Also on 3/12 we will be hosting a community safety meeting after family night to address recent safety concerns and find solutions.
- There will be a Parent Association Meeting on Friday 3/21 at 6:00 pm

Staffing Updates

- We are excited to welcome Ms. Kimberly Maschak to our staff; she will be teaching 7th grade scholars **ELA**.
- We continue to interview for an Art teacher and a 7th grade Math teacher. Sadly, Ms. Koshers announced her resignation last week and her last day was Friday 3/7. We are fortunate to have Ms. Canton (our Coordinator of Family and Community Partnerships) who is a licensed social worker and will support our counseling services until Ms. Coleman begins in a few weeks.

Safety Issues

On Thursday and Friday, BLCS students (a 9th grade student on Thursday at 2:00, and two 7th grade students on Friday around 4:00) were assaulted near our school. These attacks happened at the intersection between 165th and Rogers Place. The attackers have threatened students with a knife on both occasions.

In response, we worked with the officers at the 41st precinct and our school police officers to take action and respond on Thursday and Friday. I have requested a presence of officers during dismissal times and the afternoon. Please message to students that these officers are here to support us. Please make sure to let your students know to be extremely cautious, and discourage students from leaving from the back exit of the school. Remind students to use the buddy system and be aware of their surroundings. We strongly encourage you to attend the meeting Wednesday evening where we address concerns and work towards solutions.

Contact Information

In an effort to make sure we have the most accurate and up to date contact information for families, we ask that you please notify us of any changes to your address or phone numbers. Forms are available in the Main Office and in order to change your address, you must bring in a utility bill. This will allow us to maintain contact with families and reach you in the event of an emergency.

SHINE on,

Ms. Hardcastle

We prepare our students for college through a rigorous arts-infused program.