

INFORMATION UPDATE

Friday, August 14, 2009

Dear Students and Parents/Guardians of ***St. Ignatius of Loyola Catholic Secondary School***:

As you continue to enjoy your summer vacation, I am sure you are thinking of, and looking forward, to the first day of school at ***Loyola***. Classes resume on Tuesday, September 8th @ 8: 15 a.m. and the school day ends @ 2:47 p.m.

I would like to invite **all Grade 9 students to attend an orientation session on Monday, August 31st @ 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. in the Cafeteria.** A complementary pizza lunch will be provided. At the orientation, you will receive your timetable, your locker number and you will have the opportunity to walk through the school to locate your classrooms and your locker. We recommend only Dudley locks for your lockers as these offer greater security.

There is no orientation session for students in grades 10 – 12. **For all grade 10, 11 and 12 students,** you may access your timetable - **after August 31st** - on the SIS system online at www.hcdsb.org/sis using your OEN number and your birth date. If you do not access your timetables using the SIS system, you will receive your timetables in **your Period 1 class on Tuesday, September 8th**. To locate your Period 1 class, please go to the Cafeteria as soon as you arrive at school and find your name/period 1 class on the alphabetized list and then, proceed to your period 1 class. All lockers are assigned and **all students must use the locker assigned to them.**

For students who require a **timetable change due to a course failure or summer school update, please come to Student Services** on August 31st or September 1st to see a Student Services Counselor. Please note – this is on a first-come, first-served basis. Student Services will be open on Monday, August 31st and Tuesday, September 1st from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. **Please note there will be no timetable changes for any other reasons.**

Enclosed please find the ***Uniform Policy, Late Policy, Attendance Policy and information from the Vice-Principals.*** It is important to review these carefully so that you will have a clear understanding of policies and expectations. These policies are also posted on our web site.

All students are expected to be in **full uniform** on Tuesday, September 8th, the first day of classes. McCarthy's is our official uniform supplier; their number is 1-800-668-8261 or 416-593-6900.

Students registered in a **Physical Education course** are required to wear a **Phys-Ed uniform**; the price for both the shorts and top is \$40.00 (including taxes).

At ***Loyola***, we will continue to strive to create a **“minimized allergen environment”**. Some of our students have life-threatening allergies to certain food products and all types of nuts. While we cannot guarantee a “peanut-free” school, we hope to enlist your support by helping to make our school as realistically as possible a “minimized allergen environment”. As such, we ask you to bring lunches and snacks free of any peanuts or nuts. We thank you in advance for your support and understanding.

We will undertake a number of **routine safety procedures** that will help our school prepare for an **emergency situation**. While we cannot predict an emergency, we will do our best to practise

and prepare for emergency situations. Each semester, we will hold 3 fire drills/emergency evacuations. As well, we will hold a practice of a “lockdown” drill twice during the year. In a lockdown, we will teach students and staff to secure themselves in a locked classroom

To further ensure a **safe and positive learning environment**, a **uniformed Commissionaire** will also be on staff at *Loyola*. The Commissionaire’s main role is to provide visible and active supervision throughout the school day. The Commissionaire program is in all Halton Catholic Secondary Schools.

At *Loyola*, we will continue to promote a **safe, inclusive and positive learning environment** where all students belong. We will **never knowingly tolerate** any form of physical, emotional, verbal or sexual harassment, intimidation or bullying as well as any type of initiation or hazing. This is also consistent with our Board’s Safe School Policy.

We remind all students that you **may not sit on the floors anywhere in the building**. This impedes full access to many of our special education students who require the entire width of the hallways. In addition, this is a general health and safety concern.

Our Catholic School Council will be holding a “gently used” uniform sale on Monday, August 31 from 9:00 a. m. – 12:00 p.m. (Cash or cheque only, please).

Please note the following the important dates in your calendar:

Curriculum Night-	Thursday, September 17
Semester 1 Progress Reports *-	Friday, October 16
Semester 1 Parent-Student-Teacher Interviews-	Thursday, October 29
Semester 1 Mid-term Report Card *-	Wednesday, November 18
Semester 1 Final Report Cards*-	Tuesday, February 9
Semester 2 Progress Reports*-	Friday, March 12
Semester 2 Parent-Student-Teacher Interviews-	Thursday, April 8
Semester 2 Mid-term Reports*-	Friday, April 23
Semester 2 Final Report Cards*-	Thursday, July 8

***Please note that students will take home all progress reports and report cards.**

If you have any questions or concerns **at any time** regarding the academic progress of your child, please contact your daughter’s/son’s subject teacher. You **do not have to wait** until a Parent-Student-Teacher Interview Night.

At any time, you may access your child’s marks, attendance and timetable using our SIS system at www.hcdsb.org/sis.

To further enhance communication between home and school, we are initiating a new on-line tool where information, newsletters and attendance can be e-mailed directly to your most consistent e-mail address. Please e-mail us at loyolamail@hcdsb.org and include **Subject: Syner-Mail** and provide your child’s full name and your most consistent e-mail address.

We look forward to seeing you on **Tuesday, September 8, 2009** – the first day of class. Please be completely prepared - in full uniform and with all your school supplies. Together, we will continue our journey as an outstanding *Catholic Learning Community – St. Ignatius of Loyola Catholic Secondary School*.

We look forward to a great year! *Go Hawks Go!*

Sincerely,

Ms. N. Vaitonis
Principal

Mr. R. Dilanni
Vice-Principal

Mr. J. Jurus
Vice-Principal