



THE GUIDING KNIGHT

A Monthly Publication of the J. Frank White Academy
Guidance Office

Nuzhat Nadvi, Guidance Counselor

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October... Oh the joys of fall, PSAT (!?) and Halloween... !

As we start to enjoy the beautiful fall colors, let us not forget the order of business here:

- Progress reports were mailed out on Sept. 22nd, along with other pertinent information. If you did not get it please let us know and we will be happy to send it again. For more information please turn to page 2....
- Juniors and seniors met with Mr. Cross to review their spring ASVAB Aptitude scores, which were sent home with the students. Hope you had a chance to review them.
- Sophomores and juniors need to sign up in the Guidance office for the **PSAT** test **ASAP**. **The charge is \$13.00**; checks need to be made payable to JFWA please.
- College Fair – Juniors and seniors attended the LMU College Fair on Sept. 29th and were able to visit with the admissions counselors from many colleges. This will help seniors who are still undecided ...see below:

Seniors Corner... Juniors take heed!

Testing Info

Please register online at www.actstudent.org for **ACT** and www.collegeboard.com for the **SAT**. The JFWA school code for both: **430-868**

Do explore the websites for valuable test-taking tips and college related information.

ACT help!

ACT Prep classes are being offered by Ms. Ayers (English) on Mondays, Mrs. Welch (Science) on Tuesdays, and Ms. Partin (Math) on Thursdays, from 2:30 to 3:30p.m. If interested, please see the teacher of the subject **ASAP**.

College Info

LMU hosted the **College Fair** at the Arena on **Sept. 29th**, from 9 to 11 a.m. About 30-35 colleges had booths set up, and about 1100 seniors attended from several high schools in the surrounding counties. It was a great opportunity for juniors and seniors to see the choices available, in terms of colleges, majors and financial aid, as well as opportunities beyond college. More importantly, they were able to connect with admissions counselors and have their questions answered.

LMU's Preview Day is **Oct. 3rd & 31st**. Check out www.lmunet.edu/admissions.

October 2009

- 1-9 – sign up for PSAT with Ms. Nadvi**
Grades 10 & 11 – cost \$13
- 1 – SAT reg. deadline for Nov. 7 test**
- 7 – Last day -drop LMU class w/out WD**
- 10 – SAT Test**
- 14 – PSAT Test (grades 10 & 11)**
- 12-16 – LMU mid-term exams**
- 16 – JFWA/KANTO Halloween Party**
- 19 – World School team leaves for Tokyo, Japan, for the World School Forum**
- 19-20 – Fall Break- JFWA & LMU**
- 21 – End 1st nine weeks/mid-semester**
- 23 – Last day to drop LMU class w/out F**
- 24 – ACT test**
- 26 – 1st nine weeks report cards mailed**
- 26 – LMU early reg.— spring semester**
- 27 – Underclassmen picture retakes**
- 30 – SAT reg. deadline for the Dec. 5 test**
- 31 – World School team returns from Tokyo, Japan**



Please note...

Hooray! And welcome to the Guidance newsletter online! Please note: the Guidance office will continue to send all progress reports and report cards by regular mail, along with newsletters *if you* have requested that they be mailed to you. Please check the JFWA calendar so you will know when to expect those.

Please continue to check the website often for other information as it is updated frequently.

Enjoy the fall colors while they last...!!



Progress Reports

The first mid 9-week progress reports went out over a week ago. Most students have settled into the routine, and the grades reflect that. Some are still trying to find their focus; a reminder to parents that these progress reports are only meant to give an idea of where the student is at this moment.

The next one will be the 1st 9-week or mid-semester report card, so students have a good chance to get caught up and pull up their grades. Our students not only work hard at academics but most are also involved in sports, and quite a few take LMU classes which demand college level work. So they are to be commended for their dedication and the effort they put into all they do. The best thing that parents can do is to help them set priorities and find a balance as they juggle with myriad demands on their time and energy.

Please remember too that the first four to six weeks is an adjustment period for new students: a new environment and routine, new teachers and friends - it is a lot to deal with for anyone. After the first progress report reality starts to set in, and most students get on board.

Please note that the 1st 9-weeks will end on October 21st, and the 1st 9-weeks (mid-semester) report cards will be mailed out by October 26th.



PSAT

The PSAT is taken by juniors, and sophomores take it for practice. It is a curriculum based test that measures critical reading, math problem-solving and writing skills, thus identifying areas that need improvement as well as giving them a head start on improving academic skills needed for success in college.

The PSAT also provides practice for the SAT[®], and juniors enter NMSC scholarship programs and gain access to college and career planning tools. Juniors will also receive information from colleges when they check "yes" to Student Search Service box on the test.

Juniors may also qualify to enter the competitions for prestigious scholarships and participate in recognition programs, e.g. The National Hispanic Recognition Program (NHRP), National Scholarship Service, and the Telluride Association

Juniors and sophomores need to sign up with me for the PSAT test, and pay the fee of \$13.00 when they sign up. Do check out www.collegeboard.com, go to the student section and follow the links for the PSAT, for useful tips and pointers as well as sample test questions. Teachers will also be reviewing practice tests in class for the PSAT, in order to allay test anxiety.

The test will be held at the Academy, starting at 8:15 a.m. on October 14th, and will end before 11:00 a.m. Students need to bring the following with them:

- a) school I. D. card
- b) three sharpened soft lead (#2) pencils
- c) watch and d) calculator

Scores will be released in about 6 weeks.

My College QuickStart

Attention seniors and juniors:

My College QuickStart is a personalized college and career planning kit powered by your PSAT/NMSQT test results (available free to students who took the test in 2006 or later).

To sign in, you will need the access code printed on your PSAT/NMSQT paper score report. If you do not already have a College Board account, you'll be prompted to create one. It typically takes less than two minutes to create your FREE account.

My College QuickStart includes these features:

- My Online Score Report – An enhanced score report that allows you to review each test question, your answer, and the correct answer with answer explanations.
- My SAT Study Plan – A customized SAT study plan based on your PSAT/NMSQT test performance, highlighting skills for review and practice.
- My College Matches – A starter list of colleges based on your home state and indicated choice of major.
- My Major & Career Matches – Personalized lists of majors and careers plus access to a personality assessment that suggests other compatible possibilities. Please check out:

<http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/psat/quickstart.html>