

KNIGHT TIME



FALL BREAK: OCT 19-20

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS ARE NOW LINKED ON THE JFWA WEBSITE.

PLEASE NOTE:

OCCASIONALLY WE HAVE LAST MINUTE CHANGES, ESPECIALLY TO ATHLETICS PRACTICE SCHEDULES, THAT WILL NOT BE REFLECTED IN THE ANNOUNCEMENTS THAT GO OUT BEFORE LUNCH. THOSE CHANGES ARE ANNOUNCED AT THE BUILDING LEVEL DUE TO TIME CONSTRAINTS AND STUDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO NOTIFY PARENTS WHEN THAT OCCURS.

PARENTS OF JUNIORS AND SENIORS

Be sure to read the guidance newsletter, especially the corner that deals with deadlines for college applications, standardized tests and related information.

Please be sure to read the flyers we sent home about helping us prevent wide-spread infection as we enter the flu season. It is also on our website. LMU posts regular updates and alerts on the University's Homepage as well. Click on the "Healthy LMU and U" link.

A Mission Moment

My son, JFWA Class of '97, is now teaching history at the college level at two different institutions. He recently told me of an incident when one of his students came into class on a major exam day, and when the test was distributed, the student looked over his paper briefly and then brought it to him completely blank. The class had been given a study guide the week before and he was really confused about why the student had turned in a totally blank test. He stepped into the hallway with the young man and asked him what the problem was.

"I didn't know we were having a test," the student said. My son was very surprised and he asked him how he could be totally unaware of a scheduled major test. He reminded the student the whole schedule of due dates and assignments was on the syllabus, which they had reviewed as usual during the first class. The student's answer was, "Oh, I never look at that."

This was good validation to me of the importance of teaching our students here at JFWA how to manage long term assignments, keep up with deadlines and develop personal organizational skills.

When we say we are a college prep school, that implies more than curriculum. It includes our desire to teach our students to be proactive when it comes to their own time management methods by giving them opportunities to explore the best way for them to keep track of what's due and when it's due. Sometimes it's a struggle. Some students require more help than others. If we keep plugging away, however, we're confident they will get there. Academy students are asked to be self responsible to a degree in their academic pursuits. That's part of the program. They are bright, capable young people and with the right kind of support and accountability, we won't have Academy students going off to college without knowing the basics about what is expected of a college student. There is enough pressure for a brand new college student to deal with apart from the consequences of trying to learn to manage long-term assignments and how to keep up with deadlines.

I guess the bottom line here is, it's hard sometimes to insist our students do things they don't always like; but I do believe the pay-off will come when JFWA students shine in their college classes. Starting college should be a joyous time in their lives, not a time of confusion and feeling lost and behind. That's what our mission says we want to do at the J. Frank White Academy: provide a college prep experience for our students. We want them to be ready, to be confident and to be the best they can be.

Thank you to our parents for being so supportive and for your continued encouragement. It means a lot.