

Principal's Message



Mr. Joseph Mercora Principal

December 15, 2023

Good Afternoon Bronxville Middle School Families,

I hope this message finds you well. It was wonderful seeing so many of you this past Thursday at our Winter Band Concert. Our students were amazing and performed beautifully. A special thank you to Ms. Uma Karkala for all of her efforts as well as our capable chaperones who did a great job assisting. We look forward to our upcoming Chorus Concerts this coming Tuesday and Wednesday. A quick reminder:

- Tuesday, December 19th, 7:00 P.M: 6th and 7th grade Choruses and Choristers
- Wednesday, December 20th, 7 pm: 8th grade Chorus and HS chorus

This past Wednesday we took some time to celebrate friendship in our school. Each student received a friendship bracelet as a gift from the school. They were encouraged to take the day to celebrate current friendships and were challenged to create new ones. It was also pop star Taylor Swifts birthday, hence the title of the day, Taylor Swift Day. Next Wednesday will be our traditional, Ugly Sweater Day.

Thank you to our seventh graders and their families for all of the donations for Graham Windham. The students took time during advisory to wrap those presents and get them ready for distribution. Thank you also to the P.T.A. for providing hot cocoa for the seventh grade. A big thanks to our seventh grade advisory team. Thank you also to the P.T.A. for hosting a wonderful Holiday Tea for our staff. It was greatly appreciated.

We have now reached the middle of the second marking period! This is an excellent time to review the parent portal to look at your child's grades and make a plan for the remainder of the marking period. Your children are aware of this as well.

We will ask you for a little help next week. We understand that this is a time where many of our families travel in advance of winter break. We wish you and your family safe travels. We do ask that if you plan on taking your children out of school early, please contact the main office in advance so we can account for your child's attendance appropriately. Simply email:

msattendance@bronxvilleschool.org. **A reminder that on FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22nd our school will dismiss at 1:30 p.m.**

I look forward to seeing you all at our upcoming concerts. Wishing all who are celebrating a Happy Chanukah. Thank you so much for the gift of working with your children. Please enjoy the weekend!

Sincerely,

Mr. Joseph Mercora
Principal

Dogs on Campus:

Please note dogs are not allowed on school property. We continue to see families at arrival and dismissal with dogs. While we love our furry friends they are not allowed on campus. We thank you for adhering to this policy.

Middle School Concert Dates

We look forward to our upcoming Winter Concerts!

Reminder: Concerts are for performers and their families ONLY.
Students who are NOT performing may only attend if they are accompanied by and sit with an adult.

Winter:

- **Tuesday, December 19th, 7:00 P.M: 6th and 7th grade Choruses and Choristers**
- **Wednesday, December 20th, 7 pm: 8th grade Chorus and HS chorus**

Spring Concert Date Change:

- **Tuesday, May 28th - Middle School Band Concert**

Clubs:

Please encourage your child to take part in a Middle School Club. Many are given during the school day.

- **M.S. French Club** - lunch in B204 on day 6.
- **M.S. Student Government**- Lunch on Day, 5 room B206.
- **M.S. Chamber Strings** meets during lunch.
- **M.S. Art Club** - Mondays in room B106 from 3-4pm.
- **M.S. Newspaper Club** - Day 2 during lunch.
- **Choristers** - Tuesdays 4:30-5:30 pm
- **M.S. Jazz Band** - Mondays 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.
- **M.S. Green Club** - Day 3 during lunch.
- **M.S. Play** - To be determined as the event gets closer.
- **M.S. Musical** - To be determined as the event gets closer.
- **M.S. Yearbook** - To be determined. Listen to morning announcements.
- **M.S. Science Olympiad** - 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday starting in 2 weeks until March.
- **M.S. Sign Language** - Day 4 during lunch unless otherwise changed.

Early Morning Assistance:

- **7:45 A.M. - 8:20 A.M. - WE ENCOURAGE EVERY STUDENT TO TAKE PART IN EARLY MORNING ASSISTANCE. NO APPOINTMENT IS NEEDED. SIMPLY MEET YOUR TEACHER IN THEIR CLASSROOM AND GET THE HELP YOU NEED!**

Attendance Procedures:

- Please email MSattendance@bronxvilleschool.org with any attendance needs such as when your child is out sick, arriving late or needs to be dismissed early. For other office matters you can email Kathleen Matthews at Kmatthews@bronxvilleschool.org or call the office at 914-395-0500 x3800.

Looking Ahead For 6th, 7th and 8th Graders!

Trips - Bronxville has a long tradition of wonderful day trips and special overnight trips for 7th and 8th graders. The trips are by no means mandatory but

we wanted everyone to mark their calendars in case your child is interested. Please mark your calendars for the following:

Upcoming 8th Grade Trip:

[8th Grade Trip to Bowlero-](#) January 28th, 2024. Registration due Monday, December 18th.

Upcoming 6th grade Trip:

[6th Grade Trip to Hades Town Broadway-](#) May 8th, 2024. Registration due Tuesday, December 19th.

- **8th Grade Trip** - Boston, Massachusetts - April 10th - 12th

Just a few reminders:

- Please remember that our students are often involved with many different forms of messaging outside of school. Students can communicate with each other through text message, video games, social media etc. **PLEASE BE AWARE OF YOUR CHILD'S COMMUNICATIONS and CHECK ON IT AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.** As your children get older they need you more than ever.

A reminder about previous tips regarding the potential sextortion of your child.

How to protect teens.....

Teens don't have to feel helpless if they become targets of sextortion. Here are things parents and teens can do:

- Advise your kids not to engage with anyone who asks for a nude photo or threatens to create fake nudes. Some bad actors coerce teens into sharing their social-media passwords. Make sure your child knows never to share account passwords. They should block anyone who starts requesting nudes or making threats, and flag any incidents to the social-media network.
- Protect their social-media accounts. Snapchat and Instagram have default settings that can make it hard for strangers to find and message accounts whose account holder's age is listed as under 18. Teens should keep their accounts private and only accept friend requests from people they know. Also, they should set up two-factor authentication on all social-media accounts.

- Keep an eye on their online friends. Snapchat, Instagram and Discord. This allows parents to see who their kids are communicating with and following—and who is following them.
- Supervise their payment apps. The criminals behind these extortions usually instruct teens to pay them via peer-to-peer payment apps. You can restrict whom your kids can send money to by creating sponsored accounts for teens on Cash App and Venmo. For teens who use Apple Cash, you can do what the Massachusetts mom did: Set up Apple Cash Family for money limits and transaction notifications.

Other items to consider....

- Cold, Flu, Virus and many other seasons are upon us. **A reminder to PLEASE keep your children home if they are showing symptoms of sickness.** The work they miss can always be made up and they will NEVER be penalized for being sick. Thank you for continuing to keep us all safe.
- **THANK YOU for all of YOUR efforts in helping us make our students more responsible for bringing their materials to school.** We understand parents need to drop off materials that students forget but it is not necessary to do so. We always have extra pieces of technology, books etc. for students to borrow. Part of learning responsibility is sometimes having to deal with forgetting materials. It will build positive habits and strategies for life that will lead to being better organized. These life skills are critical to long term success which is what we all want for your child.

Happy Holidays!

The Bronxville High School Earth club will be running a holiday light recycling drive from December 11-22 before break and then January 8-12 after break. Please bring any broken lights to one of the collection bins located at either the canopy, atrium, or flagpole entrance so we can properly recycle them!

Feel free to reach out to antoniote24@bronxvilleschool.org or juliap24@bronxvilleschool.org if you have any questions!

Regards,

The Bronxville High School Earth Club

Bronxville Union Free School District Food and Nutrition News

December 2023

Dinning in December 2023

While the temperatures drop outside, the Bronxville Dining Services team is turning up the heat! Fresh and delicious lunch options, a variety of beverages, and assortment of snacks are available for middle and high school students as well as faculty. Come warm up with a bowl of soup, rotating daily.



Want to save time and skip the line? Pre-order a customized salad, sandwich, or hot entrée on Nutrislice!

Elementary school students can pick up their individual lunch and snacks in the cafeteria. Please see the menu online at [Nutrislice](#) to order. See you in the café! Happy Holidays!

Catering Available:

Attention Bronxville District!

Need Catering? We have you covered!

We have a talented Chef and eager foodservice department able to meet your catering needs. Thank you to our many partners in the district who have utilized the catering program so far.

To place an order or for questions, please contact David DiNuzzo , Director of Food and Nutrition Services at David.DiNuzzo@compass-USA.com



David DiNuzzo
Director of Dining Services
(914) 395-0500 x1206
David.DiNuzzo@Compass-USA.com

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The Bronxville PTA Arts Council, in collaboration with the BHS Arts Society, is excited to announce an evening of lively discussion with professionals who have successful careers in the fine and performing arts!

Come hear the stories of their journey to college and beyond.

CAREERS IN THE ARTS!

**List of speakers
and registration
information
coming soon**

SAVE THE DATE

JANUARY 11, 2024

7PM

Bronxville Public Library
Yeager Room

THE EVENING WILL INCLUDE

- Insights on career paths in various creative professions
- Takeaway resource guide to help students to get started now on their way to a career in the arts
- Opportunities to connect with local art professionals
- Free raffle where students can win a special real world experience in an artistic field



You are cordially invited to

NewYork-Presbyterian Westchester Presents

WONKA **A Viewing Party** **for Pediatrics**

This opening-weekend screening of *Wonka*, starring Timothée Chalamet and Hugh Grant, will benefit the NewYork-Presbyterian Westchester Department of Pediatrics.

This movie is rated PG.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2023

9:00 a.m. Doors Open for Registration and Breakfast

10:00 a.m. Movie Screening

THE PICTURE HOUSE

84 Kraft Avenue | Bronxville, New York

Enjoy complimentary breakfast, popcorn, fun activities, and goody bags.

Kindly RSVP by Friday, December 8

Yes, I would like to attend.

No, I am unable to attend.

For more information or if you have accessibility needs,
please contact Lucia Falco-Sardana at 917.374.6604 or lsardana@nyp.org

Please share your photos!

#nypwestchester #amazingwestchester #WonkaMovie

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DO YOU HAVE A BUNCH OF **LEGOS**
YOU NO LONGER NEED?

DONATE THEM!

**STARTING JAN 15TH
THE PTA'S SUSTAINABILITY
COMMITTEE WILL COLLECT
LEGOS TO RECYCLE/DONATE**

MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW
AFTER BREAK



Mr. Joseph Mercora, Principal
Bronxville Middle School | [Website](#)