

Good Afternoon Loyola Families,

Thank you for another great week! As we look towards next week we wanted to share a few reminders and updates with you.

**Daily Self-Screening:**

Parents and guardians are reminded to monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 in your children and to complete the [COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool for Schools](#) each morning before sending your children to school.

**Loyola D2L Chapel:**

Don't forget to check out our Loyola D2L chapel for prayer services, resources, community service opportunities and more!

**Course Progress Questions:**

If you have any questions regarding your child's mark or course progress, please reach out to their classroom teacher. Staff contacts are available on our [Loyola website](#).

**Textbook Return:**

Teachers will be speaking to students next week about the process for returning any textbooks and resources they have borrowed for the quadmester.

A bin will be placed at the front door of the school for students in cohort C to return their books and materials. Please ensure the book is labelled with your child's name and teacher. Books can be dropped off next week between 12:00 and 3:30 PM.

**Quad 2 Cohorts:**

We are currently reviewing the survey data for cohort switches (online to in-person and vice versa). Cohort information for quadmester two will be available shortly in SIS. We will send out an email to our community when the information is available.

We will try as much as possible to keep students in their alpha cohort (A-K or L-Z). We are very limited in terms of class sizes and Public Health regulations. For that reason we cannot make cohort switches from A to B to accommodate transportation or other factors.

**Virtual 'Turnaround Day':**

The first quadmester will come to an end on Thursday, November 12. Quadmester 2, which was originally scheduled to begin on Friday November 13, will now start on Monday, November 16, 2020.

The turnaround day will allow us to transition more smoothly from Quadmester 1 to Quadmester 2. In particular, it will allow us to:

- Provide further assessment opportunities for students who may need additional support;
- Ensure virtual course shells for Quadmester 2 courses are set up and that classroom teacher technology is reallocated where necessary and ready for instruction;
- Extend the period between face-to-face cohort shift in support of our current public health guidelines.

**Students will not physically attend school on Friday, November 13th with the exception of students in the Life Skills Class.**

**Loyola Above & Beyond Awards:**

At St. Ignatius of Loyola Catholic Secondary School we are incredibly blessed to have a vibrant, diverse and talented student body. To recognize the talents, achievements and community contributions of our students we have created the **Loyola Above & Beyond Award**. This award will replace our honour roll certificates which solely focused on academic achievement.

To be awarded the Loyola Above & Beyond Award students must meet the following criteria:

- An overall average of 75% or above
- Completion of 10 hours of community service per year
- Participation in one team, club or school activity

Students in grades 10, 11 and 12 are required to self-nominate for the Loyola Above & Beyond Award using this Google form:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=fas3Jb0likmmQnwTV3nm0vEbkN4C2vNikq08L0tRZsNUNjRaV05MSVQ4Wiy1QTVSU0dMN0c2S1ROQS4u>

The information will be verified by Student Services and a list will be posted in our Loyola Student Services D2L classroom. At a later date, students will receive a certificate honouring their achievements. Students can apply for this award each year.

We recognize that the 2019-2020 school year was not typical and posed many challenges for students. If for any reason you are not able to meet one of the requirements above, please submit your application and detail the reason and why you feel you should be recognized as going above and beyond at Loyola. Staff will also have the opportunity to nominate students.

**Deadline extended to November 13 @ 2:30 PM.**

**Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT):**

The Ministry of Education has waived the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) graduation requirement for all students graduating in the 2020-2021 school year. This means that graduating students will not have to successfully complete their OSSLT in order to graduate.

The Ministry of Education is exploring an online version of the OSSLT which could allow the opportunity for non-graduating students to write the test and have successful attempts counted on their transcript. We will provide further updates as more information is shared by the Ministry.

## **Community Involvement Hours:**

Due to continued barriers in earning community involvement hours this year, the Ministry of Education has mandated that the community involvement requirement will be reduced to a minimum of 20 hours for students graduating in the 2020-2021 school year.

## **Poppies & Remembrance Day:**

Loyola will be remembering and honouring our veterans as a school community on Wednesday November 11, 2020. Our students and Chaplain have developed a beautiful prayer service and ceremony of remembrance. We will be viewing the service as a school-wide community on Wednesday. A link will also be posted on our school website.

As a visible symbol of remembrance and gratitude to support our veterans, Loyola will be selling poppies on Tuesday November 10 for cohort A and Wednesday November 11 for cohort B. There are two ways to purchase a poppy:

- Poppies and donation bins will be placed at each entrance on the mornings of November 10 and 11
- Students can donate through [School Cash Online](#) and pick up a poppy at the entrance in the morning

All donations will go directly to the [Royal Canadian Legion](#) to support their poppy campaign. As a school, our goal is to raise \$1000 to support this important campaign.

## **Student Services Updates & Info:**

Loyola is hosting a variety of virtual presentations to support educational and post-secondary planning. These presentations are open for all students and parents/guardians. Learn about the different pathways and opportunities available through one of the presentations listed below.

All links to attend each presentation virtually will be posted on the Loyola website. No pre-registration is required.

## **Loyola University Presentation During Virtual Academic Support:**

Loyola counsellors will be hosting a university presentation on Friday, November 13 from 12:30-1:45. A Teams link will be available on the Student Services D2L page midweek.

## **How to Pay for College & University?**

Discover the different and creative ways students can pay for their post-secondary education. This presentation will review the costs students will face when applying for post-secondary programs. Learn about scholarships, awards, bursaries, loans and OSAP (Ontario Student Assistance Program). Presentation will take place virtually on Thursday Nov. 19th at 6pm-7pm

## **Ontario College vs. University Overview:**

This is a great presentation for students who are starting their educational planning pathways and for students who don't know where to start. It is important for students to be aware of all their options and the advantages that both college and universities have to offer. Virtual presentation will take place on Tuesday Nov. 24th at 6pm-7pm.

**GTA Virtual Panel Sessions:**

6 of the GTA Colleges (Centennial, George Brown, Georgian, Humber, Seneca & Sheridan) will be providing an overview of their college, popular and growing programs, diploma and degree programs, and all the resources that are available for students. Presentation will wrap up with a brief Q & A period. Virtual presentation will take place on Thurs. Nov. 26th at 3:30pm-4:30.

**Google Read and Write:**

Google Read & Write Chrome is an extension that provides comprehensive reading and writing supports for Google Docs and the web as well as PDFs, ePubs, and KES files stored in Google Drive. All HCDSB staff and students have access to this versatile tool and can download it on their personal devices. Please use and share the following link to get started:

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1LRHCOTJ\\_ERsys3O\\_U-VwC0KVH4-3rN5F](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1LRHCOTJ_ERsys3O_U-VwC0KVH4-3rN5F)

Have a wonderful weekend Loyola!

Loyola Administration