

Good Morning Loyola Families,

Thank you for another great week! As we continue in teacher-led remote learning, we wanted to share a few reminders and updates with you.

Student Attendance:

During this period of remote learning, we continue to promote regular attendance, as it is important for students to remain engaged in their learning so they can stay on top of the curriculum and feel more connected to their peers while our school is closed.

As noted in [PPM 164: Requirements for Remote Learning](#), schools are required to take daily student attendance throughout the period of remote learning.

If your son or daughter is not able to attend or participate in remote learning on any given day, please report his or her absence, as you typically would during in-person learning through the SchoolMessenger Safe Arrival System: <https://www.hcdsb.org/parents/report-your-childs-absence/>.

We will be following our usual process of contacting parents and guardians when student absences are not reported.

Contacting Staff:

Most staff members are working remotely as directed by Public Health to curb the spread of COVID-19. If you need to speak with a staff member please send them an email. All staff email addresses can be found on our [school website](#).

If you have any questions about your child's course or progress, please reach out to their teacher first.

Virtual Academic Support (VAS):

Virtual Academic Support (VAS) is available to students on a daily basis from 12:30 - 1:45. Students have the opportunity to receive direct support from teachers in specific subject areas. Students can access the support through their D2L shell. This support is invaluable to students who are struggling and need to connect with a teacher for clarification.

Loyola D2L Chapel:

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

Loyola Spirit Wear:

Check out our [school website](#) for information regarding ordering Loyola spirit wear.

Accessing Library Resources:

Although the library is currently closed to students, you can still access library resources. Check out our [school website](#) for more info and connect with Mr. Scordino (scordinop@hcdsb.org) for support.

Virtual School Clubs:

Check out the [updated list](#) of virtual Loyola clubs and activities. New clubs and activities will be posted as they develop. Get involved Hawks!

Night School Registration:

Please note that the semester two deadline to register for night school (online) at Thomas Merton is February 11, 2021 at 4:00 PM. Please visit [Thomas Merton's website](#) for more details on courses offered and registration.

Virtual Yoga Session:

Loyola is offering a Free Yoga session from Power Yoga Canada on **January 20th, 2020 from 12:30 -1:30pm** on TEAMS for Loyola students and staff. In this class we will combine breathing exercises, gentle yoga poses that help to strengthen the body and reduce stress and calm the mind. Everybody is welcomed, no yoga experience required.

To ensure you can participate please complete the following forms and upload them to this folder by January 19th, 2021.

Upcoming Equity Speaker Series Presentation:

We look forward to our second speaker in our [Loyola Equity Speaker Series](#), Gen-Ling Chang from [ALPHA Education](#). The presentation will look at Anti-Asian Racism in Canada, Historic and Current Perspectives. The presentation will take place on February 3 from 1-2:30. A YouTube link will be sent out closer to the presentation date. It is the expectation that students attend the presentation to learn and grow as a school community. If your child is unable to attend the presentation, please ensure you call/enter their absence.

Upcoming Presentations:

Niagara College will be presenting to our students on Feb. 18th during VAS between 12:15-1:45. All grades are welcome to attend. It will focus on applying to OSAP for both college and university students. Come learn about about what you need to do next after you have been accepted to your college OR university program (supplementary requirements ie. HOAE/portfolios). Learn about OSAP, Scholarships and Bursaries and other financial options to help pay for school.

Link will be posted in the Student Services D2L classroom at a later date. If you need to reach out to your child's guidance counsellor, please book an appointment through the Student Services D2L page.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. Now, more than ever, ongoing communication between home and school is key to your child's success and well-being.

Sincere thanks,

Loyola Administration

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