



Principal's Newsletter

- January 2019-

Happy New Year and welcome back! January is a fast-paced month as we move towards the end of the 1st Semester and Midterm Exams. With only a couple of weeks left before midterms, this is an ideal time for students to start reading over past notes, looking at prior tests and using extra help to ensure that the concepts and skills that have been taught up to this point are truly understood and practiced.

Midterms will be administered on January 22, 23, 24 and a testing calendar will be posted separately with specific tests, locations, and times. Please be aware that the last day of the 2nd Quarter, (1st Semester) is Friday, January 25 and students will have a combined A/B Day Schedule. This will allow students to see every class before the close of the quarter and give teachers time to touch base with their students after midterm exams.

Even though we are in the midst of the winter athletic season, we received word before vacation that the following fall athletic teams were named New York State Scholar Athlete Teams: Varsity Boys and Girls Soccer, Varsity Football, Varsity Boys and Girls Cross Country, Varsity Girls Swimming, Varsity Girls Volleyball. This is an impressive accomplishment and one that continues to demonstrate our students' commitment to their academics as well as their sport.

This month we also get to recognize and celebrate five students who have been named Student of the Month by our local chapter of the Lions Club. Please join me in congratulating: September - Cynthia Briggs, October - Faith Summers, November - Amanda Rubeo, December - Richard Petrillo, January - Bryan Mesquita. They will be honored at the Lions Club Dinner on January 10.

Another impressive event that occurs traditionally in January is the honoring of new inductees into the prestigious National Honor Society. This year Westlake High School will be inducting 65 new members to the National Honor Society. In our ceremony, scheduled for Tuesday, January 8, we will recognize the accomplishments of these impressive young adults in the area of scholarship, leadership, character, and service. Each of these students truly exemplify what Westlake strives to instill in every young adult.

Scheduling season is almost upon us. January is a good time to start thinking about courses and areas of interest for next year. Scheduling for the 2019-20 school year will begin in February and continue through March. You will receive a separate notification from your Guidance Counselor regarding scheduling meetings later in the month. In preparation for that meeting, please take some time to review the course selection guide, which will be accessible online by the close of January, and discuss course choices with your child. This will help the scheduling process run more smoothly.

Senior Experience Program packets with all permissions are **due no later than January 31**. Any student that needs some assistance on internship selection is encouraged to speak with Mr. Novak or me for help.

Reminder:

As seniors begin to commit to the colleges of their choice, please remember to bring in a college pennant to hang in our front lobby. This is a wonderful tradition that has allowed us to honor the hard work of our seniors and celebrate their next steps after graduation from Westlake High School.

The Spring Driver Education Program applications are available on our website and in the Main Office. The program's organizational meeting will be on February 6 with instruction beginning the week of February 11.

As we usher in 2019, I want to take a moment to wish everyone a year filled with excitement, new experiences, good health, and good fortune. I hope to see you at one of our upcoming events!

WHS JANUARY EVENTS	
Tuesday, January 8	National Honor Society Induction – 7:00 pm – WHS
Monday, January 21	Schools Closed
Tuesday, January 22 – Thursday, January 24	Midterm Testing – students are only required to attend school if they have a scheduled exam
Friday, January 25	Combined A/B Full Day Schedule of Regular Classes – End of Semester 2
Monday, January 28	Start of Quarter 3 – Check schedules for any new Quarter 3-4 courses