



# Calendar

## November 2008



# Matignon High School

*“Expect Excellence”*

## The Buzz...

### *Principal’s Message*

**Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat**

						1 All Saints Day
2 Day Light Savings Time Ends	3	4 Election Day Winter Sports Candidates’ Mtg. 2 pm	5 Open House 6:30-8:30 p.m.	6	7 Report Cards Mailed	8
9	10 No School	11 Veterans Day No School	12	13 Parents Group 6:30 pm	14	15 High School Placement Test 8 a.m.
16	17	18	19	20 Parent-Teacher Conferences	21	22 Acadec Competition
23 / 30	24 Calendar Drive Begins	25 “Local Heroes” Assembly	26 Mass Rally Powder Puff Game Half Day	27 Thanks-giving Day No School	28 No School	29

***“A thankful heart is not only the greatest virtue, but the parent of all other virtues.”*** *--Cicero*

Visit our website: [www.matignon-hs.org](http://www.matignon-hs.org)

**For your planning:**

Dec. 2 Tree Lighting Ceremony 6:15 p.m.  
 Dec. 2 Financial Aid Night 7:00 p.m.  
 Dec. 5 Q2 Interim Reports  
 Christmas Vacation begins @ dismissal Dec. 23

November, 2008

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students:

This letter comes after a traditionally busy September and October. It is my hope that your son or daughter has finally settled into the more structured routine at school after a more flexible and unpredictable summer schedule.

The high point in September was the Awards Night for last year’s underclassmen, on Thursday, September 25<sup>th</sup>. The administration moved the event to that evening to allow more parents/guardians the opportunity to be present. Our largest group in recent years filled the auditorium for this wonderful ceremony. It truly was a magnificent night that made the entire Matignon High School family proud.

October brought many activities to our school such as the magazine drive, SATs at Matignon, the freshmen retreat, Homecoming Weekend, and the first activity by the newly formed club, S.A.N.E. (Safe Alternative Night Events). Highlighting the month was the first Open House for prospective 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and an outstanding concert with Broadway star, Natalie Toro, who performed for our alumni, students and their families.

November brings another Open House and SATs along with All Saints Day, Parent-Teacher Conferences, the Calendar Drive, a Local Heroes Assembly, the Academic Decathlon competition, and all the festivities linked with Thanksgiving.

As we all know, the administration, faculty, and parents/guardians must work together as a team to provide and to develop the best possible opportunities for our students to grow and mature educationally, socially, and physically. Therefore, I challenge all parents/guardians to be active stakeholders in their children’s education.

According to Henry Ford, American industrialist (Ford Motor Company), and pioneer of the assembly line production method: “If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself.”

Sincerely,

Joseph A. DiSarcina  
Principal

The thoughts and prayers of the Matignon Family are with Sister Virginia O’Connell, C.S.J., who will have knee replacement surgery on November 6th.

## Athletic Corner

As the fall season comes to an end, we want to say congratulations on a good season and good luck to all those teams that qualified for the State Tournaments.

We would like to ask the Matignon community to come out and show your support on Thanksgiving Day when the football team takes on Somerville High School at Dilboy Stadium at 10 a.m.

There will be a meeting for all students interested in playing a winter sport on Tues., Nov. 4, in the auditorium at 2 p.m.

## Guidance

**Seniors:** Now that first quarter has ended, seniors should have begun the college application process.

Once a senior has decided to which college(s) he/she will be applying, a trip to the Guidance Office should follow to pick up the college application(s). It is extremely important and urgent for any senior who has questions regarding the college application procedure to go to the Guidance Office for directions. All seniors were given a *Senior Recommendation Input Sheet* in September. This form should have been filled in and returned to the Guidance Office. The purpose of this *Input Sheet* is to provide teachers and counselors with information to help with writing letters of recommendation. There are still seniors who have failed to complete and return these forms to the Guidance Office. If a senior has lost the original form, there are duplicates available in the Guidance Office.

Matignon High School will host a Financial Aid Workshop for parents of seniors on Tues., Dec. 2, at 7 p.m. The federal financial aid form (FAFSA) will be distributed to parents during this workshop. This form must be completed in order to receive any financial aid from a college. If a parent is unable to attend this Financial Aid Workshop, materials will be available in the Guidance Office. This is a great opportunity for parents to hear how to meet college costs and learn about the financial aid process.

— Guidance cont'd page 5



## Director of Admissions Marries on 8/8/08

In August Melissa Joy Foley, the MHS Admissions Director, celebrated her wedding to Scott Allan Procko, a special needs educator in Belmont. The 8-8-08 wedding was attended by Mr. and Mrs. DiSarcina, Mr. and Mrs. Galligani, Mr. and Mrs. D'Angelo, Mr. and Mrs. Lemos, Ms. Sarah Hewitt, Ms. Melissa Barry, Ms. Andrea Lemos, and cousin of the bride, senior, Joseph Farina. Congratulations to this special couple! We all wish you a lifetime of love, happiness and laughter together.

## From the Nurse

Since winter sports are right around the corner, this is a reminder for both parents/guardians and students that an up-to-date physical must be on file. If you have any questions, please contact the Nurse, Mrs. Fitzgerald, at 617-876-1212, ext. 23.

Also, a reminder that a phone call from a parent/guardian is necessary when a student is going to be absent. For an absence to be considered excused, a note from a doctor is necessary. The parent/guardian phone call reports a student absent but does not excuse the absence. This is particularly important at the end of the quarter when excessive absences can cause a failure within the academic courses. Please refer to page 13 in the Student Handbook for details.

S.A.D.D. News—During November each homeroom will be collecting items to send to the men and women serving in the military through the “Local Heroes” organization. Please be generous. At an all-school assembly to be held Tues., Nov. 25, the Matignon donations will be presented to representatives of “Local Heroes.” In addition, we ask that each student writes an upbeat note to a serviceperson — the salutation can be “Dear Soldier” — include home sports information, school sports/events/assignments/activities, weather information, etc. Keep it HAPPY and FUN.

— Nurse cont'd page 5

## Admissions

Administrators, faculty, staff, parents, students, club moderators, and coaches were available during the first Open House held Sunday, Oct. 19, which was attended by hundreds of interested and enthusiastic prospective students and family members. A second Open House is scheduled to be held on Wed., Nov. 5, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Come see what Matignon High School has to offer you!

Students interested in helping at the Open House on Wed., Nov. 5, should sign up in front of the Admissions Office.

The High School Placement Test is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 15 at 8 a.m. Parents are invited to coffee and pastries from 8-10 a.m. Administrators and students will be available to answer questions and to provide tours.

## Mole Day

The Science Club celebrated “National Mole Day” on Oct. 23. Students made cookies and cards to distribute to faculty. It was a fun day.

## Christmas Sale

During PTA on Nov. 20th, the French Dept. will hold a Christmas sale and raffle to benefit our student exchange to Meaux, France, in March. Please visit our table outside of the main office to get a head start on your shopping. We have an excellent selection of inexpensive craft items, as well as cards and gift bags. The department will also host a “Haiti Projects” table which will offer hand-made linens and knitted children’s sweaters and hats. These are made by the Women’s Cooperative in the town of Fond-des-Blancs in Haiti. Funds raised by “Haiti Projects” go directly back to the women to enable them to provide tuition and health care for their children.

## Headmaster Plans Trip to Broadway

On Wednesday, December 10, Mr. Thomas Galligani will travel with students and faculty to New York City to see *A Tale of Two Cities* starring Natalie Toro. Buses will leave Matignon at 7 a.m. and return about 10 p.m. The cost of transportation and ticket is \$85. Those interested should see Mrs. Gaffey. There will be a late start on Thursday for those attending the show. Imagine New York City decorated for the holidays and a Broadway show before Christmas!

## MBTA Passes

Students must sign up and pay for monthly passes in the Business Office by the 28th of each month for the next month’s pass. Students may pay \$20 for one month at a time or pay in advance for as many months as desired.

## Literary Magazine

Submit original poems, stories, artwork, and photographs for the MHS Literary Magazine. Submissions can be given to Mrs. Foley-Procko or left in her mailbox in the main office.

## Student-of-the-Month

The Foreign Language department is pleased to announce that our Student-of-the-Month for November is Jozamael Cantave. Jozy is a senior in French IV and has maintained an A+ average for the past three years. She has participated every year in the National French exam. Last May, Jozy was inducted into Matignon’s St. Bernadette of Lourdes chapter of the Societe Honoraire de Francais, in recognition of her excellent effort and commitment to the study of French language and culture.

## Student Exchange

In March, a group of French students from MHS will spend a week with host families in Meaux, France, just outside of Paris. They will attend the Lycee Bossuet, the local Catholic high school. They will also tour Paris and Normandy with the French students who are hosting them. When we return, the French students will accompany us and will be hosted for a week by our MHS families. Mr. and Mrs. Galligani and Mr. and Mrs. Gaffey will travel to France with the group.

## Guidance (cont'd from page 2)

Matignon CEEB No. 220-515  
Matignon Test Center No. 22260  
Dec. 6 SAT—Registration deadline is Nov. 5th—\$45.00—MHS is a Test Center  
Dec. 6 SAT—Late Registration deadline is Nov. 18th—\$68.00  
Dec. 6 SAT—Standby Registration is \$68 plus additional \$38.00  
Jan. 24 SAT—Registration deadline is Dec. 28th—\$45.00—MHS is not a test center  
Jan. 24 SAT—Late Registration deadline is Jan. 8th—\$68.00  
Jan. 24 SAT—Standby Registration is \$68 plus additional \$38.00  
SUBJECT TESTS (SAT II) Basic Fee is \$20.00  
All other subject tests are \$9.00

## Nurse (cont'd from page 2)

A student/faculty basketball game is planned for Fri., Nov. 14, after school in the gymnasium. Faculty need a few good men and women to play (and WIN!). If you don’t play basketball, cheerleaders are also needed—so there is no excuse! Sign up with the Nurse and let her know how you plan to contribute!!!

## Science Club

Science Club members worked on the Periodic Wall Project now displayed outside of the Chemistry Lab. A very informative “Today in Science” project is ongoing and will continue through June.



## Broadway Star, Natalie Toro, Performs To A Packed Auditorium

On October 20th Matignon High School hosted a spectacular benefit concert featuring Broadway singer, Natalie Toro. An audience of nearly 600 welcomed the Ms. Toro in the auditorium. Headmaster Galligani opened the event by briefly recapping the transformation of Matignon High School during the past three years. When he acknowledged Mr. Howard “Hap” Redgate, president of the Board of Trustees, for spearheading the turnaround, Mr. Redgate received a standing ovation from a grateful Matignon community.

Ms. Toro opened the show with a beautiful rendition of “Here I Am” from *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* and proceeded to delight the audience with a power-packed, two hour performance of songs and stories about her rise to stardom. Currently starring as Madame DeFarge in *A Tale of Two Cities* on Broadway, Toro gave the crowd at Matignon a mesmerizing performance, the proceeds from which will be used for scholarship funds for Matignon students.

