

223 Graham Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11206

PHONE:
718-782-0918
FAX: 718-782-5283

E-MAIL: lyons@
lyonscommunityschool.
org

WEBSITE:
www.lyonscommunityschool.org

Online Grading Site:
www.teacherease.org
(get your password by
sending an email to
jessecg@lyonscommunityschool.org)

SAVE THE DATES:

PTA meeting/Math
Curriculum Night
Tuesday
October 27th
6:00 to 7:30

Family-Advisor conferences

Thursday, Oct. 29th,
5:30 to 8:00
Friday, Oct. 30th,
12:00 to 3:00
Make an
appointment with
your child's advisor

**Important
Announcements:**
October 30th, half day
for students

Sophomores Prep for College in Research 101

This year at Lyons, we are offering a new course for sophomores, Research 101. The course is the first of a series of research courses students will take in the upper grades at Lyons. Each course is designed to help students build research and writing skills that they need to be successful in college. Students can select which research class to sign up for – this quarter two offerings are Food Studies and Race Studies.

Many students signed up for Food Studies as an excuse to eat in class, but this is more than your old-fashioned home economics class. Food Studies, a favorite from the 2008-2009 school year, explores the historical, cultural, and economic aspects of a different food each week. Through articles, films, and hands-on preparation students experience new cuisines, or gain new perspectives on familiar foods. Some of the foods that students have studied are Chinese dumplings, chocolate, tea, cheese, and even sushi. After visiting a local tea shop with dozens of loose-tea options, one student commented, "that really expanded my

experience. I thought all tea came in bags!" After thoroughly studying a food, and preparing it, students write food reviews, which incorporate the history of the food and detailed descriptive writing. Nutrition has also been a focus. Students recently researched and gave presentations on the causes and solutions for teen obesity.

In Race Studies, a new addition to the Research 101 roster, students have examined and unpacked the racial stereotypes that still exist, and the ongoing effects of racism in the United States. Students have researched the history of where racial stereotypes began.



Students making sushi in Food Studies

Student-Family-Advisor Conferences

Dear reflective Lyons families,

On either October 29th or 30th we expect to see every family at student-family-advisor conferences. It is one of the important ways to be connected to our school, our staff, and your child's school experience and development.

At the conference your child will start by describing how she or he has been doing in school. Then you and his or her advisor will add your observations about your child to the discussion. A conversation about both short and long terms goals follows, along with ideas and suggestions for reaching those goals, as well as possible supports for your child.

We believe it is important that everyone be present at this meeting. Only with everyone working together are our

children going to be able to reach their fullest potential. You are crucial to your child's success in school.

At Lyons we also believe that our work with students should start with their strengths. Sometimes there is a tendency to focus on the problems and weaknesses a person has instead of strengths. While it is important to know what the student needs to work on, and what their vulnerabilities are, most people are best able to overcome their weaknesses by starting with what they are good at.

Help your child think about what things they are good at, and how they can use these skills and talents to work on their goals.

See you next week.

With love, taeko

Important Reminders:

DRESSING FOR THE WEATHER: COME PREPARED

Every day, Lyons students are working and playing outside of our school building, for Physical Wellness, Recess or Field Studies. As Fall and Winter approach, it is required that students come to school with clothing – hats, coats and (where necessary) umbrellas – that allows them to go outside during the school day, in all types of weather.

Field Studies our most important academic subject. At our school we believe students must get out of the classroom and move around this great city in order to experience learning first-hand.

Just as important, a Lyons education is about leading a physically healthy life. Research shows that kids who don't get physical exercise – even in cold weather – are more likely to get sick, and have more difficulty concentrating on academic tasks.

Thank you for making sure your child leaves the house prepared for a full Lyons school day!

Upcoming Dates:

Tuesday, October 27th – Quit Smoking workshop!! 5:00 – 6:00. Trying to kick the habit? Join staff from Woodhull Hospital as they give suggestions on how to quit.

Tuesday, October 27th – **PTA Meeting** and **Math Curriculum Night** – Meet the math teachers and learn about the Lyons mathematics curriculum, 6:00 to 7:30. There will also be an **asthma presentation** from the folks at Woodhull.

Thursday, Oct. 29th evening and **Friday, Oct. 30th afternoon** – Student-Family-Advisor Conferences. Call your child's advisor to make an appointment.

Tuesday, November 3rd – School Closed for Election Day

Wednesday, November 11th – School Closed for Veterans Day

Friday, November 13th – End of first quarter

Tuesday, November 17th – 6:00 Second Woodhull asthma presentation.

Tuesday, November 24th – School-wide family potluck and PTA meeting, 6:00 to 8:00

Wednesday, November 25th – Student-Faculty Basketball Game, 2:00 to 3:00

Thursday, November 26th and Friday November 27th – No School – Thanksgiving Break

Friday, December 18th – Talent Sharing, 4:30 to 6:30



223 Graham Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11206