



the Leaflet

Volume 17, Issue 13, December 7, 2007

Dear Sage School Families,

The holiday season is here; that means fun-filled snow days, steaming hot chocolate, brightly lit fireplaces, and...application essays! Surprised? The holidays mean different things to different people, though the cheery atmosphere and the spirit of giving is omnipresent. Some people celebrate by decorating trees or lighting menorahs, though for the Sage eighth graders, it is an entirely different story.

I always knew eighth grade would be a tough year; along with the challenging homework load; we also have to juggle interviews and applications. However, Sage definitely prepared us for the head-on collision with this secondary school process. By now, we are completely immersed in the application process. Writing thank-you cards for our interviewers consumes our time at home while conversations about the math programs, athletic requirements, and the “awesome cafeterias” of these schools have now permeated our hallway, lunch, and sleepover conversations. The application process essentially is a quest for **discovery** and **promise**; the discovery of the *right* high school, be it independent, public, or parochial, and the promise of intellectual and personal growth, a passion shared by us all.

The procedure began in the spring of our seventh grade year when Ms. Wheeler met with our parents to discuss possible school options for us. Soon, our calendars were inundated by Open Houses and interview visits scheduled at the schools we had short-listed. Then this fall, each student had a mock interview with Ms. Wheeler, also a time for us to ask any pending questions. Ms. Wheeler’s constructive and thoughtful feedback really boosted our confidence and prepared us for the real interview experience. Though daunting at first, these interviews soon become a fascinating avenue for us to highlight the confident and unique individuals that we have become.

Along with us, our teachers are busy too, filling out the innumerable recommendation forms; yet another way for the schools to learn more about us. We have formed the strongest bonds with our teachers who can provide keen insight into our academic, social, and emotional development. We are truly indebted to all our teachers for writing recommendations; we can only imagine all the time and hard work it must entail.

With interviews and recommendations under our belt, it is now time for filling out the actual applications. Amidst snowflakes and holiday music, we will be busy writing countless essays and answering questions about our passions and interests. Despite our incessant whining, I think I speak for my entire graduating class when I say that it is an exhilarating experience and we love every second of it. Thank you to all who have helped it happen, our parents, teachers, mentors, and well wishers!

Sincerely,
Supriya ‘08
Student Council President