

# THE RELATIONS

BREBEUF COLLEGE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER – February, 2015

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## Calendar of Events

Feb. 2	Semester Two begins
Feb. 6	First Friday Mass at 8:00 a.m.
Feb. 11	Late Start Schedule
Feb. 12	Report cards distributed
Feb. 13	P.A. Day (no classes)
Feb. 14	St. Valentine's Day
Feb. 16	Family Day (no classes)
Feb. 20-22	Salesian Retreat
Feb. 21	Guitars for Grenada fundraiser
Feb. 26	Casual Day
Feb. 27	Course Selection Deadline
March 7-8	March for Life in Ottawa
March 11	Late Start Schedule
March 12	Social Network Safety Seminar
March 16-20	March Break (no classes)
March 24	Sacrament of Confession
March 26	Casual Day
April 2	Holy Thursday
April 3	Good Friday (no classes)
April 6	Easter Monday (no classes)
April 8	Late Start Schedule
April 10	Term One ends

## BREBEUF MATHEMATICS

By Mr. Brad Ryan

Recently, Brebeuf mathematics students participated in the Sun Life Mathematics competition for grade 12 students from around the world. Of the thousands of students who wrote the competition, Brebeuf's own Calvin Tan ranked as one of the best grade 11 students in Toronto to write the test. This is an excellent achievement by Calvin and we congratulate him for such a stellar accomplishment.

The enriched mathematics program at Brebeuf is showing strong signs of future success by our students as denoted by the interest shown for enrollment in next year's enriched mathematics courses that we offer at Brebeuf College. The current grade 11 enriched class is about to embark upon AP Calculus preparation and is one of the few classes in CANADA that is attempting to write the AP calculus exam while being enrolled in grade 11. Last year's AP calculus class had over half of the students who wrote the competition obtaining either a perfect 5 or a 4 in the test. This is equivalent to scoring an A in first year university calculus. This year's class looks even stronger and I am expecting more success than last year.

If you have any questions about enriched mathematics at Brebeuf College, please email me at [brad.ryan@tcdsb.org](mailto:brad.ryan@tcdsb.org) and I would be happy to discuss it with you.

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# MEN FOR OTHERS

## GUITARS FOR GRENADA



The school is hosting a fundraiser for the missions of the Presentation Brothers in Grenada on Saturday, February 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the

school. It will be a "Bands Night" for adults. There will be a cash bar. The entrance cost is \$20 including finger foods. Come out and see some great bands and support a worthy cause. Contact [Michael.rogers@tcdsb.org](mailto:Michael.rogers@tcdsb.org).

## SOCIAL JUSTICE SYMPOSIUM

Brebeuf hosted its 11<sup>th</sup> annual Social Justice Symposium for almost 200 students and teachers on December 11<sup>th</sup> at the University of St. Michael's College. The conference, organized by Brebeuf's Social Justice Club, highlighted the theme of the right to water. The main speakers were Brother Denis Claivaz F.P.M., a Presentation Brother, and Alex & Tyler Miffin, who host a popular show on TVO. Students also attended workshops run by various social justice groups.



## CLOTHING DRIVE SUCCESS

Almost 3000 articles of clothing were collected in November in support of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, which aids the poor. This result was a school record.

Homerooms challenged each other to donate the most clothing. These are the top results:

### Grade 9

1. Ms. Zeppieri
2. Ms. Noah
3. Mr. D'Angelo

### Grades 10-12

1. Mr. Chin You
2. Mr. De Thomas
3. Mr. Found

# SCHOOL NEWS

## ENRICHED COURSES AND

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT

Brebeuf offers Enriched courses for students who want a greater challenge than the regular Academic or University courses. These classes might move at a faster pace and/or include work with broader depth and enriching activities. Although some students worry that Enriched courses might mean more work or a lower mark, this is not the case. Most students will have an average of at least 80% to enrol in Enriched courses.

Brebeuf currently offers Enriched courses in English (10,11,12), Mathematics (9,10,11), Science (9,10) Calculus (12), Advanced Functions (12). English (9) and Biology (11) will be added in 2015-16.

Enriched courses help prepare students to write Advanced Placement examinations in Grade 12. These standardized exams are written by students all over the world. Success in them can mean students receive a university credit or advanced standing for work they have done in high school. Students can also use AP exams for elective credits in many cases.

Students can also choose to write AP exams in many other subjects, even if they are not offered at Brebeuf. Students study for these on their own or with the assistance of their teachers. These exams include: Art, Biology, Calculus, Chemistry, Chinese (Mandarin), Computer Science, English, Environment Science, European History, French, German, Government and Politics, Human Geography, Latin, Music Theory, Physics, Psychology, Spanish, Statistics, U.S History, World History.

Anyone with questions about Enriched courses or AP exams can contact Mr. Da Costa at [Michael.dacosta@tcdsb.org](mailto:Michael.dacosta@tcdsb.org).

## FILIPINO CLUB



## STUDENT COUNCIL

By Matthew Brooks

This first semester at Brebeuf was one that included many successful projects and events. First of all, our grade nine orientation at Muskoka Woods was a huge success, with many fantastic friendships formed and memories made that will last long past the grade nine year. Our Halloween Dance was a fun night filled with good music and great company. We were lucky enough to have welcome students from our sister schools, St. Joseph's Morrow Park and Loretto Abbey. Coming up in second semester, we have many exciting initiatives planned. We have our winter semi-formal scheduled for February 12 and Brebeuf Spirit Week from February 23-27. Spirit wear order forms will be available soon,

allowing students to purchase all kinds of Brebeuf apparel. Follow us on twitter @brebeufcouncil for updates. Thanks for a great first semester boys, and let's work to make this second one just as good.

## 3D PRINTER

Students in the school's Robotics Club recently won a three dimensional printer in a contest. It will be used to support the team and also the Communications Technology classes.

## BIOLOGY TRIP

By Declan De Gouveia and P.J. Kirwin



On Wednesday, December 3, Ms. Johnston's grade 12 Biology class went on a field trip to the Ontario Science Centre to perform an experiment and learn about "DNA fingerprinting". Arriving at the Science Centre in the morning and eager to begin, the students quickly outfitted themselves with lab coats, safety goggles and plastic gloves. With the help of Jen, an instructor from

the Science Centre, the students started off the process of exploring their DNA by swabbing the insides of their mouth for cheek cells. During this step, they learned about some of the basic steps that are required in all labs, such as holding containers at eye level to ensure correct measurement when pouring and how to use micropipettes. The process the students used is called Polymerase Chain Reaction (or PCR for short). PCR involves taking a small sample of cells, isolating the DNA using enzymes, replicating it using a different set of enzymes, placing the DNA into the gel and then colouring the DNA with a dye to identify it. The movement of the DNA through the gel is tracked in a process called electrophoresis, and consists of running an electric current through the gel for a period of time. The final product of these processes produces an image which is then used to profile and compare the DNA. The students examined their individual results, compared them with others, and determined how common their specific “fingerprinted” sequences were among the general population.

The entirety of the trip was not just based on the lab; students were able to explore the entire Science Centre while PCR cycling was taking place and while the gel was running. Whether it was in the rain forest, understanding how impacts during athletic activities can lead to concussions, playing with the various games and experiments or exploring the new Brain exhibit, students had the opportunity to completely immerse themselves in the world of science for a day. Back in the lab, as students were waiting for their individual results, they had the opportunity to re-create a 3D model of a DNA strand using K’Nex building blocks. Some groups were able to build rather large, free standing structures and everyone’s models were superbly crafted. The experience of going to the Ontario Science Centre and examining our DNA was a very special blessing.

## LITERACY TEST

Brebeuf College School is offering an After School Literacy Test Preparation program for all grade 10 and 11 students who will be writing the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) in March. There is no cost for this program. The program starts Tuesday, February 17. For more information, please visit our school website.

## G.S.A. CLUB

A Gay-Straight Alliance will be starting. It will be moderated by Ms. Douglas, Mr. Wright, and Ms. Dipaolo. Meeting dates and times will be announced soon.

## ALUMNI IN THE NEWS



Charles Foran '79, an author, writer, and professor, was recently named by the Governor-General as a Member of the Order of Canada, our country’s highest distinction.

## FROM THE ARCHIVES



Geography class, 1976

## CATHOLIC SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

By Rosanna Del Grosso (Chair)

I am writing at that time of year where our boys are buckling down for exams; term two will be starting shortly and the days are starting to get a bit longer. Thank God!

Over the past five months CSAC has been reviewing and assessing its financial state. And it's not good:

CSAC Funds as of December 2014 \$8,819.64

CSAC Expenditures as of January 2015  
\$1,271.85

Earmarked/Designed funds:

Electronic Sign on Steeles \$5,000.00

PRO Grant \$886.23

Total remaining budget  
\$1,661.56

Currently there are a number of requests from the various student programs. These requests are to help enhance and broaden students' practical experiences outside the classroom with the in-class theoretical training:

Special needs (Mini Olympics/MEDD)	\$1,100
Arts	\$5,000
Engineer/Science	\$1,700
Sports	\$1,200
Afterschool Nutritional Program	\$2,000
Religious Development	\$2,000

In addition to the above requests, CSAC has also been asked to support improvements which fall outside of the school's block budget:

Electronic Sign on Steeles Avenue sharing facts about the school \$15,000 - \$5,000 =  
\$10,000

Computer Trolley containing up-to-date-notebooks for an entire class \$27,000

The total request is \$50,000. CSAC will be reviewing each of these asks at our February and April meetings. In the meantime, we are seeking your support by considering a financial donation. This can be made through the CanadaHelp website ([www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/107694119RR0001-toronto-catholic-district-school-board/](http://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/107694119RR0001-toronto-catholic-district-school-board/)). Please ensure to designate your funds to Brebeuf College.

Or donations can be made by cheque to Brebeuf CSAC. Please note a specific area in the memo section as to where you would like your money assigned to. Cheques are to be dropped off at the school office. Tax receipts are available for donations over \$25 and more.

We welcome everyone's comments, suggestions and ideas. Please feel free to email [csac.brebeuf@tcdsb.org](mailto:csac.brebeuf@tcdsb.org) at any time.



# SPORTS



## Brebeuf College Athletics – Winter Brief

By Mr. A. Sabatini

- The junior basketball staff composed of Coach Waithe, Mr. Savelli, Mr. Modi, and Ms. Prendi is off to a great start with the junior basketball Bulls with an unblemished 8-0 record in the TDCAA East division. The Junior Bulls have attended a plethora of tournaments across the GTA and were recently crowned Bulldog Invitational Champions.
- Coach Mikes, Mr. Savelli and Ms. Prendi are back behind the bench in 2015 to lead our senior basketball team. The team now competes with the best in the GTA in the prestigious TDCAA Citywide league. The Bulls currently stand at a .500 record and are preparing for playoff action.
- This year's curling team is coached by Ms. Lee and Ms. Chung. The team recently participated in The Gore Invitational in preparation for the TDCAA Championship that is quickly approaching. With some returning veterans the team seems poised to compete with the best.
- This year's junior hockey team is coached once again by Mr. Marozzo, Mr. MacDonald, and Mr. Cook. The team has been competitive throughout the season and will look to catch full stride and make a playoff run.
- Mr. Chin You and Mr. Solarski once again return to coach our Senior hockey Bulls. The Bulls sit atop the TDCAA East Division with a 6-2-1 record. The Bulls have competed well the entire season and have recently had

some impressive victories over formidable opponents. Great work boys!

- This year's non-contact hockey team is coached once again by Coach K. MacDonald as well as Mr. Debicki. The team is off to its greatest start in history with a 5-2 record, good enough for top spot in the league! The team is poised to make a run for the Championship in 2015!
- Coach Shannon and Coach Visconti return to coach our swimming team in 2015. The team will be attending the Father Redmond Invitational in preparation for the TDCAA Championships.
- Ms. Shannon and Mr. Chin You return to the Table Tennis staff this year. Stay tuned for tryouts for this team!
- The badminton team is coached once again by Mr. Marinic, and legendary coach Mr. Margou. The Bulls have recently concluded their tryouts and are now preparing for the TDCAA league. Good luck gentlemen!
- Brebeuf will be fielding a Senior Indoor Soccer team in the inaugural TDCAA Indoor Soccer league. The team will be coached by Mr. Aquino, Mr. Sabatini, Mr. Savelli, and Mr. Debicki. This league will allow the senior Bulls to prepare for the upcoming outdoor league which takes place in the spring. The team will also attend the Humber College Soccer Showcase in February.
- The 2015 TDCAA Spring season is quickly approaching. Brebeuf College School will field teams in baseball, track and field, junior and senior rugby 15s, senior soccer, and junior volleyball. If you are interested in trying out for one of these teams please see the coaches list posted on Athletics bulletin board to identify who the coaches are. GO BULLS GO!

