

THE RELATIONS

BREBEUF COLLEGE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER – FEBRUARY 2017

PRINCIPAL'S REFLECTIONS

Mr. Derek Chen



It has been a whirlwind of a semester! Numerous school events and activities, including liturgies, retreats, athletic activities, excursions, Student Council events, academic competitions, leadership events, and fundraisers, have taken place, many of which are highlighted in this newsletter. Most striking has been the generosity shown through the donations made at Christmas to the “Beuf Baskets campaign”, as well as to the Can-Aid charity campaign.

Coming up, we have many more activities and events. In addition to more retreats and athletic endeavours, we have listened to our students’ voices heard at our quarterly Town Halls, and look forward to offering some new and some returning events based on their requests: Winter Activity Day, Multicultural Week, a series of coffeehouses (in conjunction with St. Joseph Morrow Park), a new Culinary Club, a pep rally, and a

Career Day. In April, Brebeuf College hosts part of the TCDSB Secondary School Music Festival, and in May, we proudly host the TCDSB’s Asian Heritage Month, with the Toronto Police Services joining us this year. Finally, we look to re-launch intramurals, along with a few more mental health initiatives that will help to support the well-being of our students. We also endeavour to expand on the existing mentoring program at Brebeuf.

It has been a true pleasure getting to know so many students and parents. Much gratitude goes to our incredible Catholic School Parent Council (CSPC), which has been so dedicated to the school and has planned a number of events that will be taking place in the second half of the school year. I hope that many of you can participate and join us at our monthly CSPC meetings. A word of thanks to our trustee, Mr. Michael Del Grande, who continues to be a great supporter of our school.

As always, we welcome your feedback and look forward to meeting many more parents and community members. On behalf of the administrative team, I would like to thank you all for your on-going support. God Bless.



The Relations is the official newsletter of Brebeuf College School. It is named for the letters that St. Jean de Brebeuf and his Jesuit confreres sent home to France in the 17th Century. Its aim is to share much of the good news coming from the school.

Michael Da Costa '92, Editor
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UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb. 13-17	Mental Health Awareness Week
Feb. 14	Casual Day Late Start schedule
Feb. 16	Semi-Formal Dance
Feb. 17	P.A. Day (no classes)
Feb. 20	Family Day (no classes)
Feb. 21	Report Cards distributed Gr. 10 Course Selection presentation at 7:00 p.m.
Feb. 22	Photo retake day
Feb. 23	Casual Day
Feb. 24	Winter Activity Day
Feb. 24-26	Salesian Leadership Retreat
Feb. 28	Late Start schedule CSPC Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
March 1	Ash Wednesday
March 2	Club Brebeuf fundraiser
March 3	First Friday Mass at 8:00 a.m. Course Selection sheets due
March 7	Grade 8 Registration Night
March 13-17	March Break (no classes)
March 17	St. Patrick's Day
March 21	Late Start schedule
March 23	Casual Day
March 28	Sacrament of Confession
April 3-5	TCDSB Music Festival
April 4	Late start schedule
April 7-14	Rome Pilgrimage
April 11	Last Day of Term One
April 12	Term Two begins
April 20	Holy Thursday
April 21	Good Friday (no classes)
April 24	Easter Monday (no classes)
April 25-28	Multicultural Week
April 25	Late Start schedule CSPC Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
April 27	Parent-Teacher Interviews
April 28	Late Start schedule

MEN FOR OTHERS

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Brebeuf hosted its thirteenth **Social Justice Symposium** on December 9 on the theme of "Awareness of Unfairness: Human Trafficking". The event, which was organized by Brebeuf's Social Justice Club, took place at the University of St. Michael's College at the University of Toronto. Over 275 students and staff from twenty Catholic high schools attended.

The day began with a Mass for Social Justice in historic St. Basil's Church. Then students heard from Simone Bell, who spoke of her experience being a victim of human trafficking in Ontario. It was a moving and informative presentation. After lunch, students attended workshops run by various social justice groups. It was an inspirational day for all involved.



Brendan Lobo (Gr. 10) welcomes all to St. Basil's Church

SCHOOL NEWS

WINTER ACTIVITY DAY

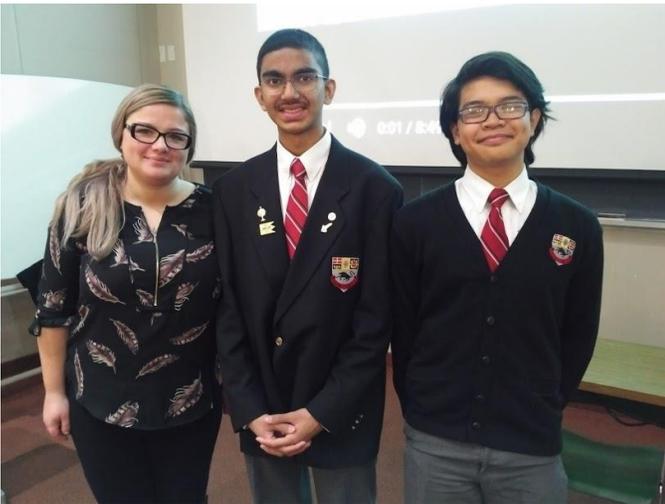
Brebeuf is pleased to be resurrecting its annual Winter Activity Day on Friday, February 24. Instead of classes, students and staff will participate in a variety of activities at the school and in the community to chase away the winter blues and create bonds of brotherhood.

Activities for which students can register include:

- (1) Bowling
- (2) Hockey
- (3) Movies at School
- (4) Dave and Buster's
- (5) Skating
- (6) Table-tennis
- (7) Hockey Hall of Fame
- (8) Basketball
- (9) Auto Show
- (10) Movies at Fairview
- (11) University of Toronto campus tour
- (12) Ryerson University campus tour
- (13) True North Indoor Rock Climbing
- (14) Sandwich Patrol
- (15) Royal Ontario Museum (ROM)
- (16) Ripley's Aquarium
- (17) Writing University Essays seminar
- (18) Seneca College Tour (Newnham Campus)
- (19) George Brown College Tour (Downtown)
- (20) Beginning Martial Arts
- (21) Advanced Martial Arts
- (22) Skiing

Students received complete information packages on February 7. Please encourage your son to attend.

All details are on the school website under "What's New" – brebeufcollege.tcdsb.org.



(L-R) Simone Bell (Guest Speaker), Brendan Lobo, Alfred Limbo (Co-Presidents of the Brebeuf Social Justice Club)

CAN-AID

Brebeufians raised thousands of cans of food for the Good Shepherd Refuge on Queen Street as part of the annual Can-Aid food drive in December. This endeavour is one of Brebeuf's signature charity drives and oldest traditions.

CHRISTMAS BOXES

Twelve families in the community benefited from the generosity of the students and staff of the school and received Christmas baskets before the holidays. It was the "Men for Others" philosophy in action.

CHRISTMAS ARTSFEST

Brebeuf's artists, musicians, and actors showed off their talents at the annual Christmas Artsfest on December 15. Hundreds of people braved the snowy evening to enjoy the displays and concerts.



GRADUATION

Brebeuf's annual Graduation Mass, Breakfast, and Rehearsal will take place at the school on Wednesday, June 28. The Graduation Exercises will take place at Brighton Convention Centre on Thursday, June 29. The Guest Speaker will be Marc Kielburger '95. Information packages will be distributed in early March.

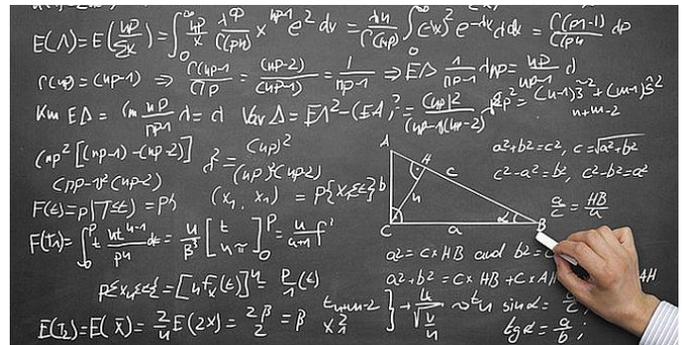
COMPUTERS

Did you know that all TCDSB students are entitled to free licences for Microsoft Windows 10 Edu and Microsoft Office 365. Visit The TCDSB Digital Store @ www.tcdsb.org/digitalstore. Other discount offers are also available.

Did you know that all TCDSB students have a Google email address and unlimited storage on Google Drive? They just have to go to google.tcdsb.ca on a Google Chrome browser and log in with their board userid@tcdsb.ca and use their regular board password that they use to log onto computers at their school.

MATHEMATICS UPDATE

By Brad Ryan, Head of Mathematics



The Grade 12 Enriched Calculus students of Semester One have reached a milestone, not attained by any past class. This class successfully completed all work for first year University Calculus #1 and Calculus #2 and almost all work from second year Calculus #3. They then had some time to begin second year Differential Equations (one of the most difficult courses in second year mathematics at the university level). I wish to congratulate a hard working group of men who have

impressed me with their understanding of difficult concepts and have been with me for five straight mathematics courses at Brebeuf College. I expect to hear great things about these men and wish them all of the best in their future endeavours.

In Semester Two there will be a fresh set of students taking grade 9 and 10 Enriched Mathematics and a grade 12 Advanced Functions class that will be working on Calculus #1 and Calculus #2 so that they can write the Advanced Placement Mathematics exam in May. I look forward to working with these new and existing students and continue to expect excellence from them.

TUTORING

Tutoring in all subjects is available to students during lunches on Tuesdays and Thursdays in Room 222.

GAY STRAIGHT ALLIANCE

Our Brebeuf Gay Straight Alliance will be holding a symposium in the spring about current issues affecting the LGBTQ community. Facilitators include Mrs. Douglas, Mr. Wright, Ms. Franco, and Mr. Guy. Stay tuned!

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

This year, Brebeuf College offers an after-school Orientation Course led by Ms. A. Chung and Ms. A. M. Lo Bianco. International students attending Brebeuf meet twice a week to talk about various challenges they may be facing away from home, strategies for success both at school and outside of school, and for an opportunity to socialize.

Recently, the group went skating at Nathan Phillips Square. For the majority of these international students, it was their first time on the ice! They picked up this quintessential Canadian skill quite quickly under the tutelage of their fellow Brebeuf hockey players. Brebeufians prove to be Men for Others, both on and off the ice!



International students at Toronto City Hall

ALUMNI IN THE NEWS



Raphael Loh '03, an alumnus and former Brebeuf teacher, passed away suddenly on January 14. He was a loyal Brebeufian and dedicated teacher, missed by the Brebeuf and Pope John Paul II Catholic Secondary School communities.

CHRISTMAS ASSEMBLY



The men of Student Council strut their stuff at the Christmas Assembly.



The staff get into the Christmas spirit!

SOCIAL MEDIA AWARENESS NIGHT

The St. Joseph Morrow Park Catholic School Parent Council (CSPC) is happy to have guest speaker STEVE CHAPELLE join us for an evening to discuss the very important topic: Social Media in the Family. Examples of social media usage by family members that create unnecessary risks are examined. Areas of focus are motivations & deterrents, account security, parental controls and preparing for adulthood. An action worksheet summarizing the key takeaways for attendees is provided. The presentation, for parents and caregivers only, is 60 minutes plus time for questions. We are happy to offer a hot dinner prior to the presentation, as well as childcare for those families with younger children who want to attend.

WE WELCOME THE BREBEUF COMMUNITY TO ATTEND THIS PRESENTATION on Tuesday, February 21st, 2017 in the St. Joseph's Morrow Park gymnasium. Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. and the presentation will start at 7:00 p.m. As we are providing food and childcare PLEASE COMPLETE THE RSVP BELOW and return the form to the main office as soon as possible. We hope you will take the time to come out and participate in this invaluable presentation that affects all of our children

SJMP RSVP FORM FOR SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENTATION

Name: _____ Grade: _____

We will ATTEND the presentation. Number of Persons: _____.

METANOIA

Students in Brebeuf's Gifted and Enrichment programme are participating in a four day social justice conference entitled "Metanoia" (Transformation). The aim is to inspire students to work for positive change in our world. The programme is hosted by the Mary Ward Centre at University of Toronto.

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES 2016-2017

Wards

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| 1. Joseph Martino | 416-512-3401 |
| 2. Ann Andrachuk | 416-512-3402 |
| 3. Sal Piccininni | 416-512-3403 |
| 4. Patrizia Bottoni | 416-512-3404 |
| 5. Maria Rizzo | 416-512-3405 |
| 6. Frank D'Amico,
Vice-Chair | 416-512-3406 |
| 7. Michael Del Grande | 416-512-3407 |
| 8. Garry Tanuan | 416-512-3408 |
| 9. Jo-Ann Davis | 416-512-3409 |
| 10. Barbara Poplawski | 416-512-3410 |
| 11. Angela Kennedy, Chair | 416-512-3411 |
| 12. Nancy Crawford | 416-512-3412 |
| Karina Dubrovskaya,
Student Trustee | 416-512-3417 |
| Rhea Carlisle,
Student Trustee | 416-512-3413 |

SPORTS

Brebeuf College Athletics



By Brad Chin You '97

Brebeuf athletics has had a very successful 2016-17 winter season. Many thanks to all of our dedicated Community and Teacher Coaches for their commitment and leadership with our student-athletes.

Brebeuf's Basketball Program continues to be one of the most successful in Toronto. The **Senior Basketball** team, led by coaches Chris Mikes and Ms. Pulla, is heading into the playoffs tied for first place with only one regular season loss. In addition to TDCAA league success, the team also earned a championship at the Earl Haig Invitational Tournament.



Junior Basketball Team

The **Junior Basketball** team also finished first in their division with a single blemish to their record, earning an almost perfect 10-1 season. Coaches Scott Waithe and

Mr. Wright have worked tirelessly on and off the court to ensure the success of the team and the academic achievement of the individuals. The Juniors brought home a tournament championship of their own, winning the University of Toronto Schools Invitational Tournament in December. We eagerly await the Senior and Junior Basketball playoffs throughout February and March. As coach Waithe has ingrained in his players: "Impossible is Nothing. Attitude is Everything."



Varsity Hockey Team

The **Varsity Non-Contact Hockey** Team had a dramatic turnaround in their season, going from last place in November to finishing second place in the TDCAA Tier 1 Division. Coaches Mr. Chin You, Mr. D'Addario, and Mr. Debicki are proud with the progress the team has made, and are confident that the team will be ready to compete for a championship as the playoffs begin in the coming weeks.

The **Varsity Indoor Soccer** Team led by Mr. A. Sabatini, Mr. Aquino, and Mr. Debicki have been preparing for tournaments in February and March, and are also gearing up for the Senior Soccer season in the spring.

Ms. Shannon and Mrs. McTernan have been training the **Varsity Swimming** Team in preparation for the TDCAA Meet on February 16.

In the upcoming Spring Season, Brebeuf will be preparing to compete in **Badminton, Table Tennis, Baseball, Track and Field, Rugby 15s, and Sr. Soccer**. Athletics is vital part of our school community. Through competition we forge character, responsibility, discipline, sportsmanship, and memories that our students will cherish for a lifetime. Thank you to all of the community volunteers, teachers, administration, parents, and students who invest in our Athletic programs, which bring so much to Brebeuf College.