Brebeuf college school newsletter - volume 7, issue 1 - november, 2009

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



With another academic year underway, the Brebeuf staff continues to work hard to provide students with rich opportunities to experience growth of mind, body and soul. Highlights from the first term have been

captured for you in this newsletter.

This year our school improvement learning plan focuses on improving student achievement in four ways. Strategies will be implemented to support the development of a strong, caring Catholic community. More work will also be done to extend our literacy strategies to specifically target support for English Language Learners. A third focus introduces more ways to support the development of numeracy skills for Grade 9 students who previously struggled with mathematics. Finally, to better meet the needs of all our students, new experiential learning opportunities are being planned to promote a better understanding of career options available through college and the workplace. Our school learning improvement plan can be found by following the Brebeuf College School link on the TCDSB web site (www.tcdsb.org).

Please be sure to visit our school web site (www.brebeufcollege.ca) for current information, such as the posting of upcoming events and newsletters that are sent home with students. We also regularly update our events line that you can access through our telephone answering system.

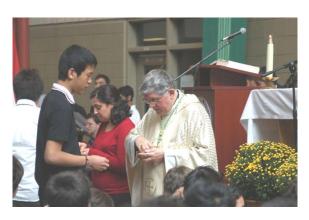
Thank you for your continued support of Brebeuf College School. As we approach the Advent Season, let us pray that our school community be exemplary in making this preparation time for Christmas a time that is hopeful, holy and helpful. God bless.

-- Mr. A. Azzopardi

Our newsletter is named after the *Jesuit Relations*, letters that St. Jean de Brebeuf S.J. and his Jesuit colleagues sent home to their superiors in France in the 17th century. May our *Relations* also be a message of faith, hope, and good news, "for the greater glory of God."

Michael Da Costa '92, Editor

ARCHBISHOP MAKES HISTORIC VISIT



The Brebeuf school year began with an historic start as His Grace, Archbishop Thomas C. Collins, presided over the opening Masses on October 2.

The Archbishop began by explaining the importance of many Catholic symbols found in the Mass. His genuine faith and stirring homily were inspirations to students and staff alike.

After Mass, His Grace met with students involved in Youth Ministry in the Presentation Brothers' Chaplaincy Centre and answered their questions.

The Archbishop was presented with a statue of St. Jean de Brebeuf and a Brebeuf scarf as tokens of the school's appreciation and friendship.

MUSKOKA WOODS



Brebeuf's Grade 9's were welcomed into the community at the annual Orientation Camp at Muskoka Woods in

September. The three day event, led by enthusiastic senior students, introduced our youngest students to the traditions, spirituality, and life of the school, inspired by the theme "Let Your Light Shine".

Special thanks to Mr. J. MacDonald and Ms. T. Walsh for their organization of this important event.

WHAT'S ON!

Nov. 11	Remembrance Day / Gr. 8 Open House
Nov. 11-13	+ Kairos Retreat 1
Nov. 19	Parent-Teacher Interviews
Nov.20	PA Day / Elementary Gifted Debate
Nov. 21	+ Feast of Our Lady of the Presentation
Nov. 24	CSAC Meeting @ 7 p.m.
Dec. 1	+ Confessions
Dec. 3	+ Advent Mass
Dec. 4	+ First Friday Mass
Dec. 10	Christmas Concert
Dec. 11	Brebeuf Social Justice Symposium
Dec. 18	Christmas Break Begins
Jan. 4	Classes Resume
Jan. 19	CSAC Meeting @ 7 p.m.
Feb. 4	Report Cards Distributed
Feb. 5	+ First Friday Mass

WORKING FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE



Brebeuf's Social Justice Club is busy promoting social justice in our school and beyond.

On December 11, the group will host the annual Brebeuf Social Justice Symposium for high school students at St.

Michael's College. This year's theme is "Awareness of Unfairness: Helping the Homeless".

Following a visit by Bro. Dennis Claivaz F.P.M. of Edmund Rice International, the group has been active writing letters to pharmaceutical companies to provide drugs to AIDS victims in Africa.

The group also has adopted a child in the Philippines, through Chalice, a Catholic child sponsorship agency.

COMMUNION BREAKFAST

Over 100 students, staff, alumni, and their families crowded into Brebeuf's Chapel on October 4th for the annual Communion Breakfast Mass. The celebrant was **Fr. Len Altilia S.J.**, who gave one of his signature inspirational homilies.

Following Mass, all were treated to a delicious breakfast in the Atrium provided by the school's caterer. It was a wonderful opportunity for families to celebrate together and to meet other members of the Brebeuf family.

NEW STAFF

Brebeuf welcomes five new teachers to our community: Ms. A. Comegna (French, Special Ed.); Mr. A. De Souza (Science, Religion); Mr. M. MacNeil (Special Education); Ms. I. Raju (English, Religion); & Mr. C. Vitullo (English, Religion, Law).

ACADEMIC AWARDS NIGHT



On September 30th, Brebeuf College recognized its top students at the annual Academic Awards Night. Over 500 students and parents were in attendance.

Students who were on the Honour Roll in 2008-2009 had averages of 80% or greater and were presented with pins and certificates. Those who had the highest marks in each course were also lauded. In addition, a number of special awards were presented, including:

Fr. Robert Meagher S.J. Award (Highest Average in Grade 9) **Nicholas Hung**

Fr. Clement Crusoe S.J. Award (Highest Average in Grade 10)

Shaun Rana

Fr. Kenneth Casey S.J. Award (Highest Average in Grade 11) **Christopher Dydula**

Dr. Bob Lato '68 Award (Most Improvement in Grade 10) Emmanuel Bisda & Daniel Komlodi

Ned Harrington Award (Most Outstanding Grade 9 Student) **Keith Rodrigues**

We are proud of the achievements of these students, who bear positive witness to our school's motto: *Studio Gradum Faciant*. We hope their example will influence their peers to aim high and work to their best potential.

RUGBY RESURGENCE



At the Neil McNeil Invitational Rugby Tournament in September, the Brebeuf Rugby Bulls placed FIRST out of ten teams! The 15's squad was also very competitive at the OFSAA provincial tournament.

BROTHER MARKS 25 YEARS AT BREBEUF

By Luc Rinaldi (The Catholic Register)



Twenty-five years ago, the Presentation Brothers came to Brebeuf, introducing the school to the most "Christ-like man it's ever seen."

Brother Henry Spencer is a great influence on the school's students and staff, said teacher Michael Da Costa of his former

teacher and now co-worker.

Spencer has been involved with the school since 1984, when Cardinal Carter invited the Brothers to continue the vocation the Jesuits had begun at Brebeuf in 1963. Although Spencer retired from teaching 12 years ago, he still volunteers, providing a daily religious presence.

"The Jesuits did great work at Brebeuf, and the Brothers continued that," said Spencer, recalling his entry into the school as a Latin, English and religion teacher. He eventually became the head of chaplaincy, and continues his role in the school voluntarily.

Since arriving, Spencer has been involved in service in and out of the school. He is an active volunteer in programmes such as Out of the Cold and Day of Service, efforts to help and feed the homeless, and serves as a pastoral representative with the School Advisory Council.

However, it is his work with students that has made him one of the most highly respected members of the Brebeuf community. He has always led Les Donnes, "The Givers," a group that helps its peers in spiritual life and reaches out to the elderly. He also prepares the daily liturgy in the chapel and leads the prayers over the P.A.

"If you ever want to talk to him about anything, you can," said Andrew Cichoki, a Gr. 12 student who knows Spencer well through his work with Les Donnes.

Spencer's calm nature and modesty reflect the three vows that Presentation Brothers take: chastity, poverty and obedience. He embodies the order's mission, "Forming Christ in the Young."

But Spencer humbly says about Brebeuf, "(It) is a great school with great students and teachers, and I am happy to contribute to the school community by being a witness to Christ and His Gospel."

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARDS

Over 30 students have taken up the Duke of Edinburgh Award challenge, one of the premiere award schemes in the Commonwealth. Each student makes a personal commitment to learn new skills, develop athletically, volunteer in the community, and undertake an adventurous journey. New students are always welcome to register and should see Mr. Da Costa for more information.

HOCKEY

The number of hockey players at Brebeuf seems to be growing exponentially, and this year Brebeuf has senior and junior teams, as well as a non-contact team.

The Junior Hockey Bulls got off to a great start to the season on November 9 with a 5-1 demolition of Neil McNeil. Isn't it time to build a hockey arena on campus?

BLOOD EVERYWHERE!

On October 6, Brebeuf hosted a blood donor clinic. Over 60 senior students and staff donated blood and in so doing helped to save lives. Thanks to Mr. DiMauro for once again co-ordinating this important event.

NEW STUDENTS

Welcome to the following students in Grades 10,11, and 12 who have transferred to our school. We hope they will be happy in the Brebeuf community:

Ian D'Silva, John Hur, Jong Hyun Yoo, Nadeem Jeries, Dong Hoon Ha, Sang Jung, Chang Soon Park, Woo Hyun Jeong, Chae Ho Shin, Garen Tirtiryan, Sammy Yatin, Hyeonsik Im, & Anthony Abed-el-Massih.

DEBATE UPDATE

On October 24th, the Debating Club participated in its first tournament of the year at Michael Power H.S. The resolution was "The NATO war in Afghanistan is unwinnable". The Senior team of **Francis Lau**, **Hooly Sim**, **Sam Presvelos**, & **David Goldstein** placed 4th out of 15 teams! David won an Honourable Mention.

PRESENTATION BROTHERS VISIT



On October 19th, the Superior General, **Brother Martin Kenneally F.P.M.**, toured the school as part of his visits to the Brothers' communities throughout the world.

He spoke to the Grade 9 students about the work of the Brothers and the charism of Edmund Rice, and also thanked the school for its fundraising for St. Charles School in Yendi, Ghana.

Brother Dennis Claivaz F.P.M., a Presentation Brother originally from Montreal, also visited the school and spoke to many classes about his work advocating for children's rights at the United Nations. He also talked about his many years working as a teacher with the poor in Quebec, Ghana and the Caribbean.

honour roll 2008-2009

GRADE IX

Ah-Sang, Justin Alberga, Stefano Argiropoulous, George Bacchus, Tyrone Bergeron, Gianluc Biancolin, Andrew Blanco, Alejandro Borja, Arvin Kyle Borrelli, Matthew Calce, Mario Canton, Justin Castaldo, Mathias Chiasson, Luc Chin, Dillon Chin, Hans Edward Chiu, Gabriel Cho, Steven D'Agostino, Michael Deforest, Matthew Del Gobbo, Alessio Emmanuel, Joshua Gagliese, Paul Gaoat, Al Jason Ghanain, Claudio Gross, Brandon Harjono, Ruben Herzog, David Houghton, Spencer Hsieh, Sean Hubbard, Wayne Hung, Nicholas Hyginus, Matthew Jang, John Janik, Michael Janohan, Kent Johnson-Skinner, Ethan Karuta, Carl Khachatrian, Haroutiun Kim, Matthew Kim, M.J. Kim, Nicholas Kudolo, Prince Lahura, Giancarlo Lampa, Exequiel Lampitoc, Timothy Lauro, Joseph Lawunahewage, W. Ledda, Melvyn Lee, Brian Lee, Joseph Liu, Leo Malana, Allen Reyel Manalo, Ernest Ralph Menezes, Melroy Miceli, Justin Nguyen, Joseph Rodrigues, Keith Rychlewski, Michael Savarimuthu, Devon Tonello, Matthew Urbanc, Simon Videka, Alexander Villary, Matthew

Zaw-Tun, Dominic

GRADE X

Abraha, Haben Abuce, Christian Jay Ahanchin, Shahab Aslani Amoli, Shervin Bonello, Jason Cai, William Caputo, Diego Chong, Johnathon Chow, Hei-Yin John Chua, Gregory Coelho, Jason Colquhoun, Matthew Comper, Reilly Corso, Kevin Craig, Alex Da Rocha, Scott Di Trani, Stephen Doudko, Andrei Dyakov, Boris Elsaad, Eric Fregillana, Andrew Fung, Kenny Gillett, Owen Goldstein, David Gomez-Ortega, Daniel Grosso, J.C. Ho, Eldon Ho Tak Shan, Jeffrey Hopici, Adrian James, Trevor Javier, Jan Jayakumar, Ansroy Jayaratnam, Stephan Kahnert, Thomas Khrystynych, Volodymyr Kim, Shawn Lau, Kenneth Lee, Jonathan Lemieux, Christian Li, Benjamin Liang, Kevin Liu, Joseph Liu, Scott Liu, Tony Marmeto, Michael Martirossian, Mark Marzan, Abby McQueen, Peter Meehan, Matthew Menzies, Shawn Mok, Canice Morra, Nicholas Ombico, Jerome Park, Paul Possamai, Stefano Rajakariar, Jude Rana, Shaun Ryan, Mark Sabatini, Michael Salwinski, David Seo, Matthew

Sim, Dooly

Siu, Adrian

Sng, Russell

Swann, James

Tam, Jonathan

Thellimi, Kristi

Trotter, Andrew

Tsui, Matthew

Tuliao, Benedict Wai, Alan Wlodarek, Lukasz Wong, Felix

GRADE XI

Au, Horace Awad, Matthew Berlin, Mark Boyden, Maximillian Cavdar, Matthew Che, Matthew Chen, Miles Cheung, Austin Cuison, Jordan Da Costa, Ajay Da Silva, Hernan Della Morra, Lucas Delos Reyes, Zygmon Diaz, Kathryx Jude Di Liddo, Daniel Dydula, Christopher Greco, Anthony Ho, Anthony H.H. Ho, Jonathon How, Steven Hur, Peter Iafrate, Paolo Izzo, Mario Kang, Hyeon Keslick, Timothy Kim, Jason Kim, Justin Kim, Lawrence Kim, Woon Sup Lai, Hodge Lee, Dong Hyun Peter Lepore, Matthew Leung, Stephen Li, Adam Li, Jeremy Mallette, Ryan Naccarato, Alfred Nashi, Rami Ng, Kelvin Ollivirrie, T.J. Presvelos, Sam Ramirez, Christian Razon, Adnan Rinaldi, Luc Sim, Hooly DongGeon Sutton, Sean Tsang, Calvin

GRADE XII

Zaw-Tun, Augustin

Velilla, Jomar

Wong, Jeffrey

Wong, Kevin

Avakian, Saro * Barounian, Hagop Bonello, Corey Bong, Rafael Calogero, Leonardo * Cerre, Will * Chan, Kenneth Chau, Derek Cheng, Carter * Chin, Brandon

* Chiu, Kevin

* Clancy, Kelly

* Clermont, Addison

* Craig, Adam

* D'Ambrosio, Renato

Dias, Griffith

Enero, Deo

Fabila, Royce

* Forster, Graham

George, Jordan Gredicak, Anthony

Han, Francis

Hartmann, Michael

* Hawkshaw, Kevin

Herzog, Daniel Ho, Kowan

* Hofmann, Adrian

Hung, Derrick

* Huynh, Huy

Iskandar, John

Izquierdo, Roman

Joven, Jackie

Kazar, Serj

Kilayko, Gene Gabriel

Kim, San

Kim, Yo Sup

* Kmiec, Janek

* Kontogiannis, C.

Krevs, Peter

Laski, Martin

* Lawrence, Zachary

* Lee, Dennis * Lee, Philip

Lee, Young Jin

* Lin, Christian

* Lui, Shu Pui

* MacDonald, Blair

* Mak, Victor

* Mardirossian, Daron

* McGuinness, Ryan McMahon, Connor

* Martin, Jeffrey

* Matoosian, Armen

* Miasko, Martin

Okrasa, Julian

* O'Neill, Elliott

Opiniano, Alfonso

* Pablo, Mark

* Palmucci, Simon

Park, John

* Park, Kevin

* Pereira, Douglas

* Perera, Stefan

Pontello, Giulio

Robichaud, Mathieu

Santos, Miguel P.

* Siu, Aaron

* Susanto, Steven

Tadros, Steven

* Whitfield, Matthew

* Wong, Jeffrey

* Wong, Raphael

Yang, Jason

* Yee, Steven

* Yeung, Jonathan

Yim, Jonathan

* Yip, Daniel

* Zhu, Benty

* Blessed Edmund Rice Society (Honour Roll for All Four Years of High School)