brebeuf college school newsletter - march 2023



Ash Wednesday Liturgy

Brebeuf has celebrated three special school-wide Masses this year: Opening Mass for the Feast of St. Jean de Brebeuf in September; Advent/Christmas in December; and Ash Wednesday in February. These liturgies have brought together the entire student body and staff to worship together as a Catholic community in a special way. Student behaviour and participation has been exemplary. *Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam!*

The Relations is the official newsletter of

brebeuf college school

It is named for the letters that St. Jean de Brebeuf and his Jesuit colleagues sent home to France in the Seventeenth Century.

Its aim is to share much of our school's good news.

Michael Da Costa '92, Editor







IMPORTANT DATES

Please check the "My School Day" app for more information and updates to scheduled events.

March 3 First Friday Mass at 8 a.m.

Alumni Speaker Series

March 13-17 March Break (no classes)

March 24 Alumni Speaker Series

Epilepsy Awareness Day

March 25-31 ShareLife Week

March 30 Casual Day

April 3 Spring uniform begins

Alumni Speaker Series

April 6 Holy Thursday liturgy

April 7 Good Friday (no classes)

April 9 Easter Sunday

April 10 Easter Monday (no classes)

April 13 Spirit wear day

April 18 End of Term One

April 27 CSPC Meeting at 7 p.m.

Casual Day

May 4 Parent-Teacher Interviews

May 5 First Friday Mass at 8 a.m.

Feast of Bl. Edmund Rice

MEN FOR OTHERS

A.M.D.G.

The motto of both the Jesuits and Presentation Brothers is "Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam", which translated means "For the Greater Glory of God". The familiar abbreviated of A.M.D.G. is starting to pop up all over the school from classroom materials to whiteboards. Students are encouraged to write it on all schoolwork as a constant reminder of doing more for God in the spirit of our founding religious orders.





ST. FRANCIS TABLE



Each week, students and staff travel to Queen and Dufferin Streets to volunteer at the St. Francis Table. This is a restaurant run by Franciscan Friars that provides hot meals to clients in need. It is a tangible way of putting our "Men and Women for Others" ethos into action. Students can sign up with Mr. Guy in Room 224. Spaces are limited.

BREBEUF JESUIT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



(L-R) Rob Gregoris, Fr. Winston Rye, S.J., Eric Guy '82

Brebeuf has established a special committee to help give direction to the Jesuit and Ignatian character of the school. It consists of staff, students, Jesuits, parents, and alumni. The current board includes: Robert Gregoris, Eric Guy '82, Father Winston Rye, S.J., Michael Da Costa '92, James Tanchez, Cristina Martins, Jody Maillett, Ananth Satkunarajah, Peter Gillespie '85, George Longo '86, and Al Gene Gomez.

BROTHER MAHER FUND FOR AFRICA



A Presentation Brother delivering mathematics kits for one of their schools in Ghana thanks to donations from Brebeuf.

One of the tangible ways that Brebeuf keeps its connection to the Presentation Brothers, one of the religious orders associated with our school since 1984, is through the monthly collections for their missions and schools in Ghana and Nigeria. Each First Friday, students and staff donate change for this important work. The funds help to educate young Africans by providing books, uniforms, lunches, and supplies. The Fund is named for Brother Lawrence Maher, F.P.M., former Principal (1984-1996).



Bro. Maher

GRADE 12 RETREATS



As part of the religious retreat programme at Brebeuf, Grade 12 retreats have become more interactive and experiential. Students first travel downtown to Our Lady of Lourdes Church, the Jesuit parish in Toronto. Following Mass, students distribute sandwiches and drinks to homeless individuals near Allen Gardens. The students make the sandwiches themselves at the

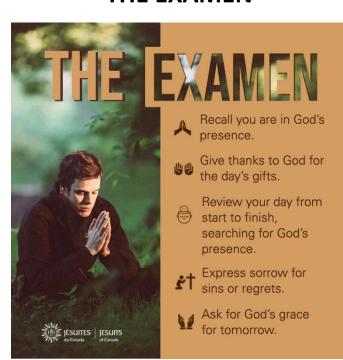
school. According to Mr. Gregoris, Chaplain, these changes were made "to reflect the Jesuit Universal Apostolic Preferences and the Grad at Grad expectations."

FIRST FRIDAY MASSES



One of Brebeuf's oldest traditions since 1963 is the celebration of monthly First Friday Masses in honour of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Following Mass, the Blessed Sacrament is exposed for students and staff to spend time with Our Lord.

THE EXAMEN



The Examen is a special prayer created by St. Ignatius of Loyola, Founder of the Jesuits. It is based on his Spiritual Exercises to bring people closer to God. The Brebeuf community prays it together every Monday and it is an important part of the prayer life of our Jesuit-inspired community.

CHRISTMAS BASKETS



The Beuf Box Committee ended up supporting seventeen families within our school community this past Christmas, which was the largest number yet.

Funds came from staff, parents, students, PC Grants, Johnvince Foods, and the McInerney Fund.

Staff also gave children's books, toys, gift boxes and decorations.

A special thank you goes to:

- Ms. Stephanie Savelli's marketing class, who did a great job of organizing and advertising the Beuf Boxes;
- Ms. Anna Morabito, for always auditing and organizing all of our monetary donations;
- Ms. Savina Cecatini, for providing us with the corporate donation and donation from the PC Grant;

- The Guidance Department, for helping us identify and organize the families;
- Ms. Rosanna Calabretta, who assembled the boxes so beautifully; and
- The McInerney Family.

CLOTHING DRIVE



Our clothing drive in late November and early December raised an amazing 1775 donations to support the less fortunate through the St. Vincent de Paul Society. As a House Challenge, Chanabel came in third, Jogues was second, and Lalement was first with an impressive 640 items donated! Special thanks to Ms. Maral Makasci for organizing the drive and the ISP classes for their help.



SCHOOL NEWS

AMAZING ROBOTICS RESULTS

Months of late nights and weekend practices paid off for our Robotics team, which ranked in the Top 8 in all of Ontario! Over the last weekend of February, the team of twelve students from all grades participated in the Provincial First FTC Robotics competition at Centennial College in Scarborough. The robot the team built – Breboty – did exceptionally well for a club that is three years old. They also won the 2nd place Motivate Award for connecting Brebeuf with almost 2000 elementary students at our STEAM Days and Hour of Code.

As Ms. Annetta, who co-coaches the team with Ms. Shannon, observed: "The thing I am most proud of is that we had a cohesive and genial team exercising gracious professionalism and commitment."

Brebeuf had five competing teams this year. Four were from STEAM classes and one was a club community team. This year, the team also won a total of twelve awards.

We look forward to continued success for this group of exceptional students in the years ahead!

DANCE



HOUSE POINTS

As of March 1, 2023



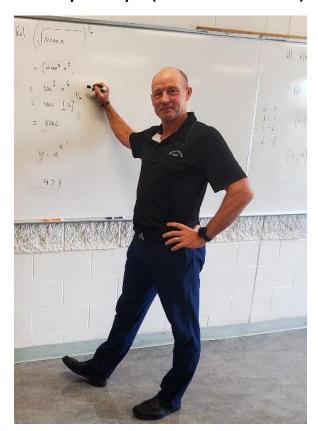
MS. McTERNAN DEPARTS



After serving at Brebeuf at Brebeuf for fourteen and a half years, Brebeuf bid farewell to Ms. Kristan McTernan upon her appointment as the new Vice-Principal of Cardinal Carter Academy. We will miss her leadership, energy, and commitment to students. Thank you for all you have done for Brebeuf!

MATH UPDATE

By Brad Ryan (Head of Mathematics)



This year, the Enriched STEAM Brebeuf Mathematics program is well on track toward helping over 110 boys excel at high level mathematics.

In Semester One, a Grade 12 Enriched AP Calculus class has gone further than any class that I have ever taught. This class completely finished first year university Calculus #1 and Calculus #2, then finished second year university Calculus #3, and completed about one fifth of the differential equations course which is effectively Calculus #4. Congratulations to Chris Liu who achieved 100% in this course and Nayan Liscombe who achieved a 99%. The Grade 11 class easily finished the Grade 11 Functions course at midterm, completed the Grade 12 Advanced Functions course by the end of the course and then started AP Calculus. This class has started up with me again in Semester Two to continue with their AP calculus work. The class will have the chance to write the AP-AB Calculus exam in May and therefore we will need to work very

hard to prepare for it. I also taught a Grade 9 STEAM class of 26 in Semester One who were a great group of guys to work with and did very well with a final class average of 85%.

In Semester Two, I will continue to work with the Grade 11 class from Semester One and have two new STEAM classes that are Grade 9 and Grade 10. I have high expectations for these classes and will push them hard to get them ready for the Grade 11 class in the following years. The Semester One Grade 12 AP Calculus class will have the option of writing the AP-BC Calculus exam in May, and I would expect that most of them would be able to obtain near perfect on the exam if they choose to do so.

Brebeuf Enriched / AP / STEAM mathematics is on a good path to success and I have no doubt that it will thrive in the future.

REINDEER GAMES

The Brebeuf House System was at its best on December 22 with a series of competitions called Reindeer Games. Grade 9 students, led by the Prefects, competed in various fun activities to win house points! It was a day of healthy competition that helped to build bonds of fellowship and brotherhood.



ALUMNI SPEAKER SERIES



Brebeuf has started a new programme to facilitate mentorship between our students and alumni. The Alumni Lunchtime Speaker Series invites alumni from various careers and walks of life to speak to the students in the Library during their lunches. The first event on February 24 saw thirty students gather to hear Gabriel Tarzi '18 talk about his journey to medical school at University of Toronto and to answer questions about medicine.

They will take place approximately every two weeks and information on them will be emailed to parents and put on social media. We hope your sons will join us for some or all of these sessions!

WHY I LOVE BREBEUF

Kevork DerMardirossian (Gr. 9)

I enjoy attending Brebeuf because of my friends, faith, teachers, sports teams, and the cafeteria.

Everyday I go to school, I always see my friends waiting for me in the cafeteria. We sit, talk and have a good time before we head to class. Later, we head to lunch, laugh, and spend quality time together before we head to class.

Additionally, I go to Brebeuf for my faith. Brebeuf provides a physical space for religion, liturgical celebrations and prayer life. In addition, Brebeuf

helps me get closer to God and helps me learn to understand integrity, compassion and sensitivity.

Furthermore, at Brebeuf the teachers encourage me to my best ability in school. They make sure I understand the material that has been given so that I can grow mentally and physically. The teachers at Brebeuf are always kind and genuine as they always wave or welcome me in school, class or in the hallways.

Over and above that, Brebeuf provides many sports teams that I've been able to join and that was the Brebeuf soccer team. The soccer team put me in their starting position in which I enjoyed very much. Additionally, I made so many friends on that team and now they always talk to me in the hallways at lunch time. Overall, the soccer team gave me a space to have fun, exercise, and make new friends.

Last but not least: the cafeteria. In the mornings, the cafeteria sells delicious cookies which get my day going. Then at lunch, I usually have a slice of pizza and a spicy beef patty that fills me up until I get back home.

To conclude, Brebeuf provides me with an enjoyable space where I have my friends, faith, teachers, sports teams and the cafeteria.

WHAT MAKES BREBEUF A GREAT SCHOOL

By James Hyun (Gr. 11)

What comes to mind when you think of a great school? For me, I think of Brebeuf. Brebeuf offers a lot to its students such as the STEAM program and SHSM ICT. In addition, Brebeuf has a friendly community with a lot of faith and fellowship. Out of the many things that make Brebeuf a great school, there are three that stand out the most. These three things are the availability of the

robotics program, friendly staff, and the STEAM programs.

The robotics program at Brebeuf is offered to every student and is mandatory for all Grade Nine students in STEAM. At robotics, we learn a multitude of skills such as building and coding robots, outreach, 3D printing, and debugging. I was able to join this program in Grade Ten when the lockdown restrictions were lifted and we came back to school for in-class learning. So far, I have learned much about coding and using android studio. In the near future, I am planning on learning how to tune the robot using a tool called Road Runner.

The staff at Brebeuf is very friendly and helps you achieve your goals and aspirations. This amiable atmosphere helps me focus on study instead of stressing over other problems such as conflicts with teachers or staff. In addition, the teachers at this school are flexible with their schedules and due dates. Sometimes, things happen and it is hard to hand in the work on time. Most teachers are understanding and as long as you let them know prior to the due date, they give you extensions or assistance.

The STEAM program is offered to about thirty to fifty students in every grade who aspires to go into prestigious universities and want to further their learning. The students are given courses at higher standards and take Grade 12 courses in Grade 11 due to the fast pacing of the academic courses instead of other electives. STEAM has allowed me to finish a lot of my core Grade 12 courses such as Comp-sci and Math a lot earlier than my counterparts who are taking regular academic courses.

In conclusion, robotics, friendly staff, and the STEAM Program are just three of the many reasons why Brebeuf is a great school. I can't imagine what it would be like to attend school without all the things at Brebeuf that I take for granted. I believe that it is indubitably one of the finest schools the TCDSB can offer.

SPORTS



game to CHAT, but it was still an exciting first year back from Covid restrictions. Led by community coaches, Ferdinand General '03 and Brian Blas '03, the Senior basketball Bulls had many successes along the way. Highlights included a third-place finish in the James Cardinal Mcguigan Invitational, and Silver Medal in the St. Elizabeth Invitational. Special thanks to our teacher supervisors, Ms. Branska, Mr. MacDonald, and Mr. Wright for giving their time and guidance to the Sr. Basketball program.

SPORTS UPDATE

By Brad Chin You, Athletic Director

After an exciting fall season, Brebeuf Athletic teams continue to have a competitive winter season! Special thanks to all our dedicated Community and Teacher Coaches for their commitment and leadership to our student-athletes.



THE PARTY OF THE P

Congratulations to the Junior Basketball team, led by coaches Mr. Wright, and Alumnus, Robert Brohman '82. The team had worked hard and despite a tough season, with many Grade 9s, the team is set up for future success. Grade 10s going to Senior next year show great promise for our Basketball program. One major highlight of the season was winning the Constellation Championship in the James Cardinal Mcguigan Invitational.

The Senior Basketball team had a solid season, earning a spot in the playoffs in the TDCAA East Division. Ultimately, the squad lost a close playoff



Brebeuf's Varsity hockey team had a successful season, finishing 3rd place in a strong East Division. Although the team was ousted in the quarterfinal, the Bulls made great strides throughout the year, making coaches Mr. Chin You and Mr. Debicki very proud.



The Brebeuf College Indoor Soccer team had a promising start to their season as they went undefeated in their first TDCAA event. The team cruised to four consecutive wins defeating UTS 6 - 0, Cardinal Mcguigan 7-0, Charbonnel 3-0, and Crawford Academy by a 6-0 scoreline. In the following event, the Bulls went 2-0-1, and now stand 2 points out of 1st place in the TDCAA. Good luck to the team and coaches Mr. Sabatini and Aquino in the playoffs!



The Football season ended in early December, but training continues with community coach, Tim Hughes, and Mr. Bayley. The team has been getting stronger in the weight room, and is now preparing for Markham District's Flag Football tournament in March.



Congratulations to House Chabanel on their Intramural Basketball Championship in February. The team defeated House Lalande in a close final game by two points! Next up in Intramurals is Volleyball.

Spring sports are right around the corner: the Badminton, Junior Volleyball, Baseball, and Track and Field teams have already been practicing hard in preparation for their upcoming seasons. Stay tuned!

SOCCER

By A. Sabatini '93





The Brebeuf College Indoor Soccer team had a promising start to their season as they went undefeated in their first TDCAA event. The team cruised to four consecutive wins defeating UTS 6 -0, Cardinal Mcguigan 7-0, Charbonnel 3-0, and Crawford Academy by a 6-0 scoreline.

This year's roster consists of the following players:

2023 Brebeuf Bulls Soccer

- 1. Andrea Signorile
- 2. Reuben Soriano
- 3. Charlie Connolly
- 4. Gianluca Sabatini
- 5. Daniel Condarcuri
- 6. Johnathan Herrera
- 7. David Martins
- 8. Juan Galindo
- 9. Felipe De Paula
- 10. Brayden Levillard
- 11. James Arthur
- 12. Sui Lee
- 13. Mattias Low (GK)
- 14. Julian Sanchez (GK)

Coaches: Mr. A. Sabatini '93, Mr. M. Aquino '93

ALUMNI

FROM THE ARCHIVES



Brebeuf College c. 1998

ALUMNI IN THE NEWS

Aldo Di Felice '81, President of the Telelatino Network (TLN), recently received the Sierhey Kharma Ziniak Award by the Canadian Ethnic Media Association for his unwavering dedication to multiculturalism and its expression through media. Aldo recently made a donation to the school to produce twenty-eight large posters hung around the school to promote our Pillars of Excellence, Faith, Tradition and Fellowship and the Jesuit Grad at Grad Expectations.

Chinedu Ezemenari '00 has been recognized with a Black Designers of Canada Award of Excellence for work in his industry. Chinedu, a former receiver with the York University football program, graduated from York University in 2005 with a Bachelor of Arts and has since embarked on a successful career in men's fashion. He currently owns and operates C.E. CLOTHIER INC. – a luxury men's wear label specialising in custom tailoring for men's fashion items such as suits and overcoats. He founded the brand in 2014 and has found success working with a variety of clients.

Barry McInerney '81 recently retired as CEO of Mackenzie Investments after a lengthy career in the financial services industry. A double degree recipient of the University of Toronto, Barry received two prestigious awards in 2022 including the Alway Award from St. Michael's College, U of T given in recognition of alumni whose significant contributions to society bring esteem to them and to the College. Barry also received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Rotman School of Business in October 2022.

Chris Saunders '82 was recently elected as a Trustee on the Halton Catholic District School Board. A chartered accountant and tax specialist, Chris is a graduate of McMaster University and a senior manager with the Canada Revenue Agency. He and his wife Margaret and their family reside in Oakville.



Class of 1995 reunion

MISSION STATEMENT

BREBEUF COLLEGE SCHOOL is a community of faith following in the traditions of the Jesuit Fathers and the Presentation Brothers. Brebeuf integrates Christian principles and Catholic values with all living and learning experiences in an environment recognizing the spiritual dignity of each individual as a child of God.

BREBEUF COLLEGE SCHOOL is a family of students, teachers, staff, parents, and alumni working together to encourage excellence, integrity, responsibility, initiative, and respect for one another in the classroom, on the playing field, and in the larger community of parish, municipality, and country.

BREBEUF COLLEGE SCHOOL stands for an education that develops soundness in mind, body, and soul centred on academic and moral discipline. Brebeuf encourages the spirit to soar and the imagination to inquire. Brebeuf nurtures the sense of wonder in each boy's unique development. Brebeuf rewards hard work and eager application. Brebeuf expects all members of its family to realize the fullness of the potential given by God.

BREBEUF COLLEGE SCHOOL believes that the way, the truth, and the life, informed by the teachings of Jesus, lead one to success, to happiness, and to service as Men and Women for Others. Brebeuf's hallmarks are Faith, Excellence, Fellowship and Tradition.