

### Brebeuf college school newsletter — november 2025



## WELCOME TO OUR NEW VICE-PRINCIPAL



Brebeuf College School welcomes **Mr. Andrew Muia** as our new Vice-Principal; we hope he will be very happy here as he helps to lead our community! He was previously Vice-Principal at St. John Henry Newman Catholic High School and Loretto Abbey. Below are his reflections after his first few months at our school.

"It is an honour to join the Brebeuf College community as your new Vice-Principal. From my very first day, I was struck by the sense of collaboration that defines this school. Brebeuf is a place where faith is lived daily through prayer, service, and the way people care for one another. The professionalism, dedication and compassion of our staff, along with the pride and spirit of our students, make this an inspiring environment to be a part of.

What stands out most is how deeply the four pillars, Faith, Fellowship, Excellence and Tradition are embodied in every corner of the school. These values are not just words on a wall; they are reflected in how our community learns, leads and supports one another. I am excited to build on this strong foundation and to work together to help every student grow in their mind, heart and spirit."

#### **STAFF RETIREMENTS & DEPARTURES**



Mr. Rob Sedran retired after many years of dedicated service to Brebeuf. As a teacher of both Computer Science and Physical Education, Mr. Sedran has been a dynamic presence in our school. His impact will be felt for years to

come as he leaves behind a legacy of kindness and humour.



Ms. Elda Pacitti, a valued Educational Assistant in our Special Education Department, also retired. In her time at Brebeuf, Ms. Pacitti has brought warmth, compassion, and unwavering support to our students in the ISP programme. Her gentle spirit and

commitment to student well-being have touched many lives, and she will be deeply missed.



Mr. Eamonn Jenkins, has taught English and religion at Brebeuf since 2004 and is now retired. His faith, friendly demeanour, and commitment to student welfare will be greatly missed.



We also extend our congratulations to **Ms. Jennifer Cicero**, our English Department Head, who has been promoted to Vice-Principal and will be joining the Father Henry Carr community. Ms. Cicero's leadership, commitment to academic excellence has made a lasting mark on Brebeuf.

We know she will continue to inspire in her new role.



Finally, we say farewell to Mr.

Andrew Peacock, our Vice-Principal, who has been appointed Principal of St. Mother Teresa Catholic
Secondary School. Mr. Peacock's guidance, wisdom, and care for the Brebeuf community have been

instrumental in fostering a culture of respect, faith, and excellence. We are proud to see him take this next step in leadership.





#### **IMPORTANT DATES**

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

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

# JESUIT CONNECTIONS

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.

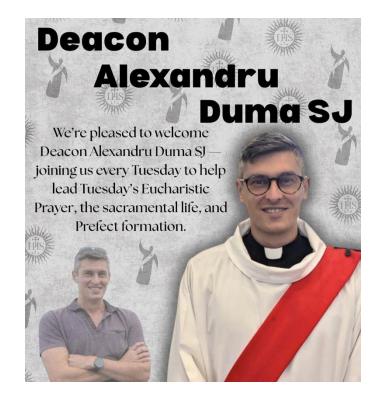




#### **FATHER MIKE**



Father Michel Boutilier, S.J. was a full-time Chaplain last year and has been assigned to Our Lady of Lourdes Parish downtown. He still comes in once a week for Mass and sacraments and helps us to maintain our Jesuit connection.



#### **SOCIAL JUSTICE**

On Monday, October 6, Juan Poveda from Canadian Jesuits International joined us for an engaging presentation on Social Justice.

Students interested in a Social Justice trip to Ottawa November 16-18 should see Mr. Breglia in Room 208. The theme is "Women at the Heart of Justice".

#### **DAILY MASS**



Father Andrew Taylor '11 celebrated Mass on Friday, October 24 in our Chapel.

Mass is held daily at 8 a.m. in the Chapel. All are welcome to attend and start their day with prayer, fellowship, and communion.

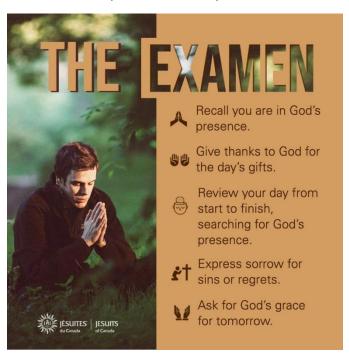
## WHEN FAITH MEETS PEDAGOGY CONFERENCE



Brebeuf students and staff joined 1400 people from across Ontario for the annual When Faith Meets Pedagogy Youth Leadership Conference at the Delta Marriott Hotel in Etobicoke. The theme was "Stewards of Hope" and included many inspirational guest speakers, including the keynote address by Danielle Campo McLeod, a former Paralympian. The event was organized in part by Greg Rogers '72.

#### THE EXAMEN

The Examen is a special prayer created by St. Ignatius of Loyola, Founder of the Jesuits. The Brebeuf community prays it together every Monday and it is an important part of the faith life of our Jesuit-inspired community.



#### **MIDLAND**



Students at Ste.-Marie-among-the-Hurons

Our Grade 10 Religion students recently went back to our roots and visited Midland, Ontario. They had a chance to learn more about St. Jean de Brebeuf and the Jesuit mission to the Wendat peoples and Indigenous culture. The visit included the reconstructed Jesuit village of Ste. Marie and the Martyrs' Shrine.



The original site of St. Jean de Brebeuf's grave.

#### **KAIROS 20**



A powerful Jesuit tradition at Brebeuf College is the Kairos Retreat programme. Led by past student retreatants, it offers Grade 11 students the chance to appreciate their relationships with God, family, and each other. Students participated in our 20th Kairos retreat at Manresa Jesuit Retreat Centre in Pickering from October 8-10. Special thanks to our staff chaplains, Mr. Gregoris and Mr. Guy, and all the staff, including Mr. Rebello, for their commitment to running these retreats. AMDG!



# MEN AND WOMEN FOR OTHERS

## PRESENTATION BROTHERS' SCHOOLS IN GHANA



With the support of its Alumni Association, Brebeuf College School is helping the Presentation Brothers to raise \$75,000 to build a new elementary school in Navrongo, Ghana in West Africa. So far, over \$9000 has been raised. The new school will be named after our patron, St. Jean de Brebeuf.

Quality education is key to lifting students out of poverty and giving hope for their futures, and the Brothers have been providing this to the people of northern Ghana since 1968.

Collections for change will happen in homerooms on the First Friday of each month. Students can also donate via bank/credit card on a point-of-sale machine.

We are so grateful to our students, staff, parents, and alumni whose generosity will make this possible. We acknowledge and thank all past donors as part of regular contributions to the Brother Lawrence Maher Fund for Africa.

See <u>www.brebeufalumni.org</u> and the Ghana tab for more information on more ways to donate.

#### **TERRY FOX RUN**



On September 29, the Brebeuf student body and staff participated in a run or walk for the Terry Fox Foundation. **\$5100** was raised to support cancer research. This is an amazing achievement and \$500 over our goal! The theme of the day was "Let's FINISH IT!"

Mr. D'Angelo's Gr. 11 Leadership class ran many lunchtime activities that raised funds and gave students and staff a chance

to have fun. These included: tug of war, cotton candy, table tennis, "barbershop", and teacher v student dodgeball. The student council also hosted a BBQ following the run. It's not too late to donate at <a href="https://schools.terryfox.ca/111286">https://schools.terryfox.ca/111286</a>

## NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION



On September 30, Brebeuf students and staff marked the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation, also known as "Orange Shirt Day". This day honours the voices of Residential School survivors, those who did not survive, and their descendants.

### **SCHOOL NEWS**

#### **CO-CURRICULARS**

Brebeuf College School believes in the development of the whole person and offers a wide variety of spiritual, academic, athletic and social co-curricular activities. From debating to hockey, from games and hobbies to intramural sports, there is something for everyone. See <a href="https://www.brebeufcollege.com">www.brebeufcollege.com</a> for a full list of co-curriculars and the names of the staff moderators (or email michael.dacosta@tcdsb.org).

#### S.T.E.M. DAYS



Brebeuf College proudly hosted STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) Days, exciting events facilitated by our STEM and Brebotics (Brebeuf Robotics) teams, showcasing the creativity and leadership of our **IT AP STEM** student leaders. Over 300 visiting students from St. Agnes, St. Antoine Daniel, St. Paschal Baylon, and St. Cyril participated in a full day of innovation and hands-on learning on October 2 and October 9.

Students explored science through interactive innovation activities, coded microbits, and competed in robotics challenges using Brebeuf's robotics technology. They also experienced our

SHSM ICT program, creating DJ mixes with music technology and even driving large robots.

The day highlighted Brebeuf's commitment to innovation, collaboration, and future-focused learning, inspiring the next generation of problem solvers and creators.



## ADVANCED PLACEMENT COMPUTER SCIENCE



We are proud to celebrate the outstanding achievements of last year's Grade 11 students who completed the Advanced Placement (AP) Computer Science A exam. Demonstrating advanced knowledge and skill in Java programming, the class achieved exceptional results.

The group earned an impressive 86% pass rate, with 25 out of 29 students achieving a qualifying score. Notably, 14 students reached the highest performance levels:

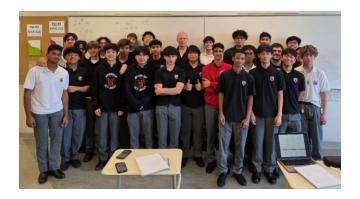
- 6 students earned a Level 5
- 8 students earned a Level 4

In addition, two students also wrote and passed the AP Computer Science Principles exam, earning

two AP credits in Computer Science while still in Grade 11. These same students further distinguished themselves by successfully obtaining their AP Calculus credit—a remarkable academic accomplishment.

Earning multiple AP credits in Grade 11 gives these students a strong advantage as they apply to post-secondary programs this fall, highlighting their dedication, advanced skills, and academic excellence.

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT CALCULUS



In May 2025, Mr. Ryan's Grade 11 Mathematics class at Brebeuf College wrote the Advanced Placement (AP) Calculus exam. This rigorous, first-year university—level exam is typically taken by graduating Grade 12 students preparing for admission into competitive university programmes.

Of the 28 students who wrote the exam, the results were outstanding:

- 10 students achieved a score of 5 (First Class Standing)
- 9 students achieved a score of 4 (Second Class Standing)
- 9 students scored between 1 and 3

This is a remarkable accomplishment for a Grade 11 class. Mr. Ryan expressed his pride in his students' dedication and hard work. Looking ahead, they will continue into Grade 12, where they will study second-year university calculus and differential equations.

#### **NUTRITION PROGRAMME**



Thanks to The Angel Foundation, Brebeuf offers a daily nutritious breakfast and snacks to all students. Thanks to Ms. Greco for coordinating this initiative.

#### **N.T.S. FESTIVAL**

Brebeuf will be hosting the National Theatre School Festival (formerly the Sears Festival) on Thursday, March 5, 2026. A team of creative Drama students are writing and collaborating on their own original murder-mystery!



#### **CLUBS FAIR**

Over 20 clubs, teams, departments, and houses were present for this year's Clubs Fair, giving students an opportunity to learn more about our co-curricular offerings. Students were able to ask questions and sign up for activities of interest.







#### STUDENT COUNCIL 2025-2026



President - Niccolo Di Maria
Vice President - Elijah Go
Secretary - Mark Lopez & Kevork DerMardirossian
Social Justice & Equity Rep - Andrew Coletta
CSLIT Rep - Chris Williams
Social Media Reps - Jeremiah Paculan-Crisostomo,
Luke Anquilliano, & Alrey Lim
Grade 12 Rep - Lance Colinares
Grade 11 Rep - Gabriel Aprile
Grade 10 Rep - Adrian Engracia
Grade 9 Rep - Isaac Sadikian
Moderators - Ms. Zeppieri, Mr. Joachim, Ms.

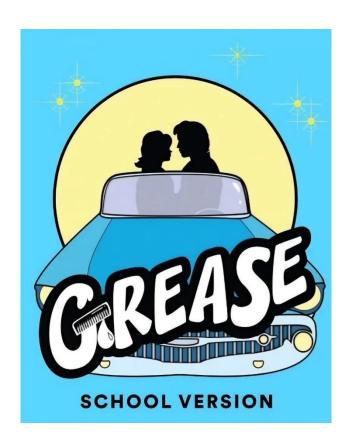
**CAMP ROBIN HOOD** 

Walsh



Our Grade 9 students attended Camp Robin Hood on Monday, September 22 for a day of fun, fellowship, and friendly competition! This annual student-led event, run by the Prefects, had everything from archery to rock climbing. Congratulations to Garnier House for winning the most points over the course of the day. Special thanks to Ms. Walsh and Mr. Chin You and all staff who made the day possible.

#### THEATRE BREBEUF



#### **GREASE** is the Word!

Following the success of our sold-out run of Disney's *Descendants* last year, the Arts Department is joining with SJMP again this year to put on another mainstage musical! "Grease is the word!" Performances will be Thursday, April 16, 2026, Friday, April 17, 2026, at 7pm, and Saturday, April 18, 2026 at 1pm. Mark you calendars! Tickets will be on sale in February.

#### **PREFECTS**

Prefects are senior students who mentor younger ones and provide leadership through running House events among many other duties! They can be identified by their red sweaters.

Archer, Brandon Arellano Diaz, Abraham Armini, Dante Bagga, Ronak Bivol, Justin Chen, Tenney Cheong, Ian Corcoran, Rhys Davila. Matias De Guzman, Denver DerMardirossian, Kevork Durante, Jonah Forsu, Isaiah Gagalac, Sean Khalil, Adam Khan, Sajid Kwasniewski, Andrew Laranang, Aaron Kylle Lawal, Craig Lozano Duque, Alejandro Mayor. Angelo Milner, Eric Osumah, Emmanuel Post, Matthew Praljak, Kristian Radoc, Nigel Samathanam, Ronaldo Shetty, Nirek Varela, Alejandro Walker, Michael Williams, Chris

#### POST-SECONDARY PRESENTATION

On September 18, the guidance team held a postsecondary presentation for all Grade 12 students. This helped them to understand the process and requirements to apply to post-secondary schools. Students are encouraged to complete their research on post-secondary options and start the applications early. They can reach out to their counsellors for any additional questions.

Last name A - K: romina.zeppieri@tcdsb.org Last name L - Z: silvana.marino@tcdsb.org

### **ALUMNI**

#### FROM THE ARCHIVES...



**Brebeuf College School c. 1998** 

#### **ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT**

Information and Alumni newsletters can be found at <a href="https://www.brebeufalumni.org">www.brebeufalumni.org</a>

#### Nick Galatianos '00



Nick, an alumnus and former Brebeuf teacher and coach, was recently promoted to Superintendent of Education for the York Catholic District School

Board.

#### Josiah Morra '15



Josiah is a member of Canada's national men's rugby team! He started playing rugby at Brebeuf and has had incredible onfield success as a winger.

#### Viktor Sarudi '00



Viktor is a Media Relations Officer for the Toronto Police Service. You will often see him on the news speaking to reporters.

Rev. Mr. Victor Valdes '09



Victor was recently ordained a Transitional Deacon at St. Michael's Cathedral by Francis Cardinal Leo. He is a shining example of a man of faith and "Man for Others".

Vince Gasparro '97



In the most recent federal election, Vince was elected as the Member of Parliament for the riding of Eglinton-Lawrence. He is also the Parliamentary Secretary to the Secretary of State (Combatting

Crime). Coincidentally, his opponent in the election was a graduate of our sister school, SJMP!

#### **Imamu Tomlinson '92**



Imamu is a medical doctor, MBA graduate, and CEO of Vituity Medical Corporation in California. He is also an author, and his most recent book is called *Less than One Percent: How* 

Disruptors Defy the Odds.

#### **GRADUATION AWARDS 2025**



Governor-General of Canada Medal (Highest Average in Grades 11 and 12)
Neil Simmons

Jacob Comia

**Lieutenant Governor's Medal** Gavin Giron

**Brother Lawrence Maher, F.P.M. Award** Hrag Kazanjian

Catholic Student Award Angelo Di Maria Noah Viray

**Christopher Stanfield Award for Leadership** Angelo Di Maria

Fr. Winston Rye, S.J. Award Neil Simmons

Father St. Clair Monaghan, S.J. Scholarship Lucas Mark

**Grad at Grad Award** Binyam Bezawork

Michael Thompson '69 Award Matteo Sabatini

Michael Tomaszek '82 Music Award Angelo Di Maria Renz Felipe

Raphael Kum Ming Loh '03 Award for Most Improved Student

Daniel Ko

Raphael Kum Ming Loh '03 Award for Sports Leadership

Angelo Di Maria

Salutatorian

Gavin Giron

St. Charles Garnier Award

Binyam Bezawork

**Theatre Brebeuf Award** 

Lindo Junior Brown

Maxi O.

Valedictorian

John Dungog

**TSU Award** 

Joel Yohans

**STEM Award** 

**Neil Simmons** 

**E.J Barry Renaissance Award** 

**Kurt Raboy** 

Life Skills Achievement Scholarship

Dylan M.

Maxi O.

Josh L.

Reichman D.

Lou Puccini Scholarship

Ayaninch Jonathan & Lewis Jake Galvez

Man for Others Award

Simon Pires

O'Neil Gazeley Scholarship

Hrag Kazanjian

Smith and Long Health and Wellness SHSM Award

Victor Coste

Smith and Long Business SHSM Award

Elie Alassaf

**Smith and Long Arts and Culture SHSM Award** 

Maximiliano Villegas

**OYAP Learn to Work Bursary** 

Eamon Donnelly

Elie Alassaf

Kyle Duldulao

**OYAP Skilled Trades Bursary** 

Joshua Ghobrial

Jhayden Pagatpat

Mackenzie Perez

Karl Pascua

**Catholic Women's League Scholarship** 

**Accelerated OYAP** 

Karl Pascua

Mackenzie Perez

**Gerry Tanner Award** 

Angelo Di Maria

Joel Yohans

**Janath and Chapay Award** 

Binyam Bezawork

Martin Foy '82 Scholarship

Lucas Mark

**Marcus McInerney Scholarship** 

Noah Viray

Noah Karagossian

Peter Knopfel '81 Memorial Scholarship

Lucas Mark

Nicolas Gonazalez Padilla

### **ATHLETICS**



By Brad Chin You '98 (Athletic Director)

Brebeuf sports are back for the 2025 season! Thanks to all our dedicated Community and Teacher Coaches for their commitment and leadership with our student-athletes.

After an historic Championship season last year, Brebeuf **Football** continued to be strong this year, going 4-1 in the regular season. Unfortunately, the season came to a sudden end in the semifinal - losing the game with less than two minutes remaining.

Thank you to our coaches: Teachers - Mr. Bayley, Mr. Vittorio, Mr. Sbergio and Mr. Chin You; Community Coaches, Tim Hughes, Carlo Onorati, and Kyle Wilson; and Alumnus - Reigh Arcayos. Since the last week of August, all the players, managers, and coaches, practised daily to give all they had to Brebeuf - and they did not disappoint.



Brebeuf's Junior **Soccer** team had a dominating 5-1-2 record in the regular season and have advanced to the TDCAA semifinals. Led by Mr. D'Angelo and Mr. Marinic, the team also went undefeated at the James Cardinal McGuigan tournament, taking home Gold!



The Senior **Volleyball** team ended a solid season in Tier 1. The highlight of the year was when the team captured the Silver Championship at the Mary Ward Invitational. Thanks to Mr. Fanous and Mr. Chin You for all their time and efforts with the team.



Mr. Breglia and Mr. Giacolone have been running the Cross Country with great success. The team finished 4th in the Boardwalk Relays at Ashbridge's Bay and are sending two Grade 9 runners to OFSAA! Congrats and good luck!



#### **MONTREAL TRIP**



We are excited to announce an educational excursion to Montreal! The trip offers a unique opportunity for students to immerse themselves in French culture, practise their language skills in an authentic environment, and engage with the rich musical heritage of Montreal.

Dates: Wednesday April 29, 2026 - Saturday May 2, 2026 (4 days, 3 nights)

Eligibility: All students in Grades 10-12 (students currently enrolled in French and/or Music classes will be given priority)

Supervisors: Mr. Nerona (glen.nerona@tcdsb.org) and Mrs. Spina-Femia (claudia.spina-femia@tcdsb.org)

Cost: **\$970** (Includes everything except lunches. There will be fundraising initiatives throughout the year to lower the cost)

Due date to apply: ASAP

If interested, kindly pick up an information package from room 210.



### MISSION STATEMENT

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.

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.

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.