

FALCON FAMILY NEWS

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

DEAR CB FAMILIES:

Happy New Year! As I write this letter and reflect upon these past six months at Christian Brothers High School, I am reminded of one of my favorite St. John Baptist de La Salle quotes, *"To be entrusted with the teaching of the young is a great gift and grace of God."* In just this short time, I have experienced so many great gifts and witnessed countless graces as part of daily life at CB. Whether in a classroom observing our innovative and dedicated teachers or two doors down at Oak Ridge Elementary School watching our students serve as tutors and mentors, I am still awed by this incredible, faith-filled community.

As a parent, I knew my son Nico '17 was challenged academically, encouraged to think beyond himself, and inspired to explore and experience his faith. What a blessing it is to see firsthand how intentional this is on the part of the Christian Brothers, our faculty and staff and how it permeates all that we do from the front office to the classroom, stage, pool, field and court.

In just six months, I have seen Capital Athletic League and CIF Sac-Joaquin Section Championship winning teams competing at the top of their game. Our incredible student-artists showcased their talents in *Hamlet*, at the choral and instrumental concerts, in an art gallery and broadcasting from KBFT. Members of the Class of 2018 have been offered early admission to Barnard College, Columbia University, Duke University and Georgetown University, just to name a few. I watched our students enthusiastically share their love of the school at our largest-ever Open House and graciously welcome a record number of eighth grade students for Shadow Day visits this fall. They have prayed together, served together, shared Kairos and class retreats and rallied together in support of classmates and friends.

I was honored to attend the annual Ambassadors' Club Dinner where I had the opportunity to meet many of the benefactors whose generosity ensures that CB leads the region in need-based tuition assistance, providing \$2.7 million to 423 deserving young men and women. Witnessing the exciting announcement of the "Securing the Future" capital campaign affirmed for me the school's commitment to our mission and unyielding insistence on providing students with facilities and programs essential to finding and fostering their God-given gifts. It is a privilege to work with leaders who see the importance of securing the future of Lasallian Catholic education in Sacramento.

Please know I am ever mindful that serving as Principal of Christian Brothers High School is a great gift and grace of God and I am grateful for the warm welcome and support. Thank you for entrusting us with the sacred responsibility of educating your sons and daughters and we look forward to a phenomenal 2018!

Live Jesus in our hearts!



Chris Orr
Principal

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Counseling and Guidance
- Campus Ministry
- Christian Service
- Student Activities
- Auction 2018
- Athletics
- Media Visual & Performing Arts
- Vocations

Parents, if your student has Ds or Fs on their semester report card, **PLEASE READ THIS!**

As page 13 of the [Parent/Student Handbook](#) emphasizes, semester Ds and Fs are bad news on report cards! It is important for you and your student to understand that neither Ds nor Fs are acceptable. "F" grades must be repeated for credit to graduate from Christian Brothers High School. "D" grades, though worth 5 credits toward graduation, are **NOT** accepted by four-year colleges and universities. **All California State University campuses, University of California campuses and most private institutions require a "C" or better in all core courses** (view the chart to the right for the "a-g" list of approved courses). If students have Ds on their transcript in any "a-g" courses and do not remediate them, they are **not eligible** to apply for admission to CSU and UC schools, and therefore are seriously limiting their choices for college.

If your student would like to keep his/her options open and remain *eligible* to apply to a four-year college, the Counseling Department highly recommends that he/she remediate (repeat for credit) any "D" grades earned in "a-g" approved courses. **Students may enroll in a variety of classes during the 2018 CB Summer School session to remediate a grade.** While previous grades are never removed from a student's transcript, if a student completes the course in summer school with a "C" or above, his/her transcript will reflect the new credits and the new grade will be used when calculating the grade point average.

For example, if your student is currently enrolled in biology and received a "D" the first semester, he/she should consider repeating biology this summer. If he/she is currently enrolled in a math course or foreign language course and received a low grade the first semester ("D" or "F"), it is important to receive a "C" or above at the end of the spring semester. CSU and UC will **"validate"** (count as successful) the whole year of a math course or a foreign language course if the student shows marked improvement the second semester (i.e., goes from a "D" to a "C", "B", or "A"). Therefore, students have a choice: work very hard this semester and bring the grade up, or repeat it in summer school or next school year to raise the grade. Since four years of English is a basic requirement for eligibility to a four-year college, any Ds in English should be remediated in the summer. One year of world history is the minimum requirement for eligibility, so students should be sure to have a "C" or above for at least two of the four semesters of Frosh/Soph World History. Any U.S. history Ds should also be remediated.

Please contact your child's grade-level counselor if you have questions about remediating grades. If you intend to register for summer school, dates and information will be made available in February on the CB website.



"A-G Core Course Requirements:

Subject	Requirement
a Social Science	2 years (1-year World History & 1-year US History or 1 semester US History/1 semester government)
b English	4 years including frequent writing
c Mathematics	3 years including Algebra II; 4 years recommended
d Laboratory Science	2 years; 3 years recommended (one must be a life science and one a physical science)
e Foreign Language	2 years (of the same language); 3 years recommended
f Visual & Performing Arts	1 year
g College Preparatory Electives	1 year More Recommended

ATTENTION PARENTS OF SENIOR STUDENTS:

Please remember to turn in copies of your admission decisions and scholarship letters to Cynthia Grajeda, Melissa McClellan, April Melarkey, or Blaire Moskat in the Counseling Center as you receive them. It is also very important that students update their "admission status" on [Family Connection](#).

STANDARDIZED TEST SCORES:

PSAT 8/9 (grade 9), PreACT (grade 10) and PSAT/NMSQT (grade 11) test results will be returned to students during classroom visits in January and February. Counselors will go over results with students by explaining and analyzing their scores. Please ask your son/daughter to see his/her exam results (you may also check the scores on [Family Connection](#)). Counselors will also be assisting students with **pre-registration for classes in the 2018-19 school year**. Look for a mailing in early February regarding pre-registration.

ON-CAMPUS SAT PREP:

An on-campus SAT prep course will be offered this spring to help juniors prepare for the SAT exam. Our Saturday morning classes (9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.), taught by Ms. Safford (Math) and Mr. Anderson '07 (English), will begin on February 3, leading up to the March 10 SAT exam. Dates for the classes are February 3, 17, 24 and March 3. There will be no class on February 10, as this is a national ACT test date and we want to give students an opportunity to take the test. Registration forms are available in the Counseling Center and the cost is \$200, which will include the text book and practice tests.

Please contact Melissa McClellan (733-3679) or Cynthia Grajeda (733-3680) with any questions.



Thoughts for the New Year!

A few weeks ago, Pope Francis celebrated his 81st birthday while addressing the crowd at St. Peter's Square. In his message on the third Sunday of Advent, Pope Francis said three simple attitudes can help prepare us to welcome Jesus Christ. "Saint Paul invites us to prepare for the coming of the Lord by assuming three attitudes: constant joy, persevering prayer and continual thanksgiving." He continued, "Joy, prayer and gratitude are three attitudes that prepare us to live Christmas in an authentic way. The joy of the Christian comes from faith and from the encounter with Jesus Christ, the reason for our happiness. The more we are rooted in Christ, the more we find inner serenity, even in the midst of everyday contradictions."

I'd like to suggest that the words of the Holy Father bring a message to us we can also carry into the New Year. May you be blessed with the gifts of joy, gratitude and prayer as the fullness of a new year of possibilities awaits.

-Jennifer Yearwood, Director of Campus Ministry

Retreats

- There is only **one remaining Kairos for seniors**, with less than 20 spots open. (March 20-23, 2018). [Email Jen Yearwood to sign up.](#)
- The Junior Overnight Retreat in December was a great success! Please speak with your Junior student about attending a retreat in 2018. The following dates still have spots open: January 29-30, February 26-27, and April 9-10, 2018. Please note: the January retreat only has 15 spots open and must be registered for no later than Friday, January 5.
- Information about all retreats, as well as links to register online, are available on the [Campus Ministry page of the website](#).
- **On Tuesday, January 9, the Class of 2020 will come together to further build and strengthen class bonds and unity, and reflect on the very important theme of Values and Choices.** Retreatants will begin their day together at 8:30 a.m. at the [CSUS Alumni Center](#) (on the back side of the Sacramento State University Campus). *Parents are responsible for bringing students to the retreat by 8:15 a.m. and picking them up from the retreat at 2:30 p.m.* **There is no transportation from Christian Brothers to the retreat.** Students are to bring a lunch (non-microwaveable) and a drink. Students should wear dress code pants and their purple class shirt. The retreat will be led by Ms. Yearwood and the members of the Senior Retreat Leadership Team (SRLT). An email with the retreat day information and directions to the retreat was sent out in mid-December to all sophomore families. If you did not receive this communication, please [contact Ms. Yearwood](#).



Enter to Learn, Leave to Serve

Advent Almsgiving Gratitude

During Advent Almsgiving, Lasallian Youth collected new toys for students in the afterschool program at Oak Ridge Elementary School. Through the generosity of the Christian Brothers community, Lasallian Youth collected over 100 gifts for students in first through sixth grades. On December 11, members of Lasallian Youth dressed as Santa and his elves to personally deliver the toys to our beloved students at Oak Ridge. It was an event of great Christmas spirit reflecting our love of God, neighbor, and our sense of community within Oak Park.



Ven-a-Ver El Otro Lado

In January, students will be traveling to Tucson, Arizona and Nogales, Mexico to do service for those in need and to gain a better understanding about the issues of immigration. Please pray for the following students: Isa Carillo, Scott Yasuda, Emily O'Connor, Alexandria Angel, Taylor Hammond, Eva Anders, Annabella Roller, Jennifer Lee, Lizette Gonzalez-Gomez, and Thaddeus Nazzarino. Adults: Ms. Anna Fernandez and Mr. Rolf Schumann.

Happy New Year from Student Council!

CB is celebrating our commitment to Lasallian Core Principles in 2018 with Respect for All Persons Week, coinciding with De La Salle Week (April 30 - May 4, 2018).

To prepare our community, we will have a theme each month to give voice to our students' interpretation of diversity and inclusion. Our on-campus clubs will share exhibits and host activities showcasing diversity and inclusion relevant to the monthly theme during our all school lunch time.

The selected themes are: **Sports & Fitness (January), Literature (February), Equity & Justice (March), and Arts & Entertainment (April).**

Attention: Sophomores and Juniors

In January, Jostens will be sending home information regarding the purchase of class rings. Representatives will be available on campus January 23 to place ring orders. It has been requested that sophomores also have the option to buy class rings so they may wear them for a longer time. **Campus Ministry will hold a special ceremony for the blessing of the rings by the priest before school on April 19, 2018 which will replace the blessing previously done at the Junior Family Liturgy.**

The Sophomore Family Liturgy will be held in the George Cunningham '40 Performing Arts Center at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, January 7. Please join us for a continental breakfast in the cafeteria immediately following the liturgy.



On Thursday, January 25, students will have a rally in the gym at the end of the school day to celebrate our winter sports teams. It is also **BLUE OUT DAY!** Students are encouraged to come dressed in as much blue as possible to show their support for our teams. Jeans may be worn with a blue shirt.

For more information on the events in January, please follow the daily bulletin and [check the online school calendar](#).

CB FAMILY DANCE: GALAXY



**Saturday, January 20, 2018
7:00 p.m. at Christian Brothers**

With "Star Wars: The Last Jedi" now in theaters, the Junior Class Council believes it is time to "Alert all Commands" that R2-D2, Yoda, Skywalker, C-3PO, and the Storm Troopers are invading our campus.

Invite your family to the best dance of the school year! Galaxy-themed costumes are encouraged, but not required. DJ Hightop will be spinning the dancing tunes for you all night long. Delicious desserts will also be served. This year we **WILL** have a costume contest and a dance-off competition.

Tickets are \$30 per couple and \$10 for each additional family member. **[Tickets may be purchased online here](#)** or at the SAC Window beginning January 16.



SCHOOL SCHEDULE REMINDER

Be sure to keep track of Thursday start times and school closure days in January!

- January 1- 3: Christmas Break
- Thursday, January 11- 9:00 a.m. Start
- Monday, January 15- School Closed
- Thursday, January 18- 9:00 a.m. Start
- Wednesday, January 24- 9:00 a.m. Start
- Friday, January 26- No Classes, Offices Open

An Enchanted Emerald Evening

March 17 Saturday

Christian Brothers High School
2018 AUCTION

5:30pm • THE PUB
JACK WITRY FIELD HOUSE
Check In, Silent Auction, Hosted Cocktails & Appetizers

7:30pm • DINNER
RON LIMEBERGER '53 GYMNASIUM
Live Auction & Dinner

TICKETS

Table of 10: \$950

Tickets on or before February 17, 2018: \$100
Per person after February 17, 2018: \$125

RSVP online

<http://CBAuction.gesture.com>

Make sure to join us for
this magical evening!

Sponsorship

\$5,000 Diamond Sponsor

Table for 10 with preferred placement, full-page color auction catalog ad, 5 golden raffle tickets, membership in the Ambassadors' Club

\$2,500 Gold Sponsor

10 auction tickets, half-page ad in auction catalog, membership in the Ambassadors' Club

\$1,000 Silver Sponsor

4 auction tickets, quarter-page ad in the auction catalog

\$500 Bronze Sponsor

2 auction tickets, acknowledgement in the auction catalog

Contact the auction committee at 916-733-3643

All proceeds benefit the students and programs of Christian Brothers High School.

"Holy" Basketball Games Ahead

The Holy Hoops basketball games against St. Francis are scheduled for Saturday, January 27, at Christian Brothers High School. Game times are 2:00 p.m. (F), 3:30 p.m. (JV) and 5:00 p.m. (V). Tickets are \$7 each plus a \$1 service charge. Tickets must be shown at the door for scanning. Limit four tickets per person. **A passcode and ticket sales link will be sent to CB families and staff in the Weekly Update email on Friday, January 19.**

Mark your calendars for Holy Court basketball games against Jesuit. Games will be played at Jesuit High School on Saturday, February 3. Game times are 3:00 p.m. (F), 4:30 p.m. (JV) and 6:00 p.m. (V). Ticket information will be posted in the Daily Bulletin in January.



Free Live Streaming Provided by Christian Brothers

Home games at all levels for men's and women's basketball, as well as varsity men's and women's soccer, will be live streamed on the nfhsnetwork.com. The link is also available on the [CB athletics website](#). You must create a user name and password and all games are free, except playoffs games and matches.

The following soccer games will be live streamed from Hughes Stadium. All games begin at 7:00 p.m.

- Tuesday, January 16- Women's Soccer vs. Vista Del Lago
- Tuesday, January 23- Women's Soccer vs. Rio Americano
- Thursday, February 1- Men's Soccer vs. Vista Del Lago
- Thursday, February 8- Men's Soccer vs. Rio Americano



Make a Resolution to Explore the Arts!

The new year is here and it's time to try new things! Don't worry if you aren't signed up for an arts class, there are plenty of opportunities to get involved.

THEATRE auditions for the spring musical, "State Fair", are coming up in early February. Interested students should prepare a song, preferably in the style of Rogers and Hammerstein, and come ready to dance and read scenes.

OPEN MIC will hold auditions for their third show of the year in late February. Get a head start and prepare an act!

VISUAL ARTS offers several opportunities to get involved in the spring. Any student may submit artwork for the annual LaSalle Art Show. Contact Ms. Kerr with any questions.

Interested in helping the hungry in Sacramento? Mr. Boriskin is gearing up for another **Bowl-a-Thon** in March, in which students, parents and teachers decorate bowls for the annual Empty Bowls event, benefiting the River City Food Bank. Contact Mr. Boriskin if interested.



VOCATIONS

Lasallians Without Limits

For the 2017-2018 Liturgical Year, the international Lasallian theme is "Lasallians Without Limits." Below is an excerpt from [Lasallians Without Limits: Creation of Sustainable Communities](#), which reflects on the life of our Founder, St. John Baptist De La Salle, and our own vocational discernment process as Lasallians:

Like the Founder and the first Brothers who were deeply moved by the human and spiritual distress of the children of artisans and of the poor, we today need to effectively respond to the needs expressed in the metaphor of the "border."

This metaphor makes us feel uncomfortable and challenges us. How are we to respond? In Jesus we have the model of one who lets himself be challenged in order to discern. With the fierceness of her faith, the Syrophenician woman challenged the response-ability of Jesus [Mark 7:24-30]. It depended on the miracle of listening, abandoning prejudices and allowing himself to be transformed by the power of truth.

In the Gospels, this is the only case where we see a Jesus that changes his mind. John Baptist de La Salle likewise let himself be challenged for he, too, needed to discern.

Lasallian discernment broadly follows three steps: becoming aware of personal and local reality; shedding light on that reality by the Word of God through prayer and dialogue with prudent people;

and making decisions aware of the personal and community implications. Reflecting on John Baptist de La Salle's vocation, we could say that these steps were: he went "beyond his borders" to meet with [Adrien] Nyel and with the world of the education of the poor; he entered into dialogue with Nicolas Barré and Nicolas Roland with a view to bringing about the establishment of the first schools and the first society of teachers.

After more than three hundred years of Lasallian presence in the world, we are invited today to discern with responsibility and audacity and respond to the challenges of the educational mission in the different contexts, particular cultures, different religions and complex variety of social conditions. Today, more than ever, the Church and the world are calling us to go beyond the borders.



