



CHRISTIAN BROTHERS ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER, 2007



Christian Brothers Academy Parent News From the Principal...

Dear Parents and Friends of CBA,

In the two months that have rapidly passed since the start of classes in September, God has richly granted our school community with many blessings that have impacted every aspect of campus life. The daily accomplishments, large and small, underscore that CBA is indeed an exciting and vibrant place. Our seventh graders, who came to us from a wide array of elementary schools are transitioning relatively well. Their recent trip to Albany not only supplemented their studies but provided another opportunity to socialize. Along with fulfilling their daily academic requirements, the seniors are actively visiting colleges, completing applications, and fulfilling service hours. Both classes provide vivid contrasts.

One of our projects last summer was the creation of a reflection garden in the courtyard that was formed by the classroom wing adjacent to the Callahan Gym during the last building expansion. Dedicated to St. Francis of Assisi, the visually appealing space recognizes the Sisters of St. Francis and the graduates of the Convent School, later called the Franciscan Academy, which closed in 1987. It was at that time that CBA made the fortuitous decision to admit female students. All of the students in CBA's first coed graduating class, the Class of 1988, enrolled from the Franciscan Academy. Mrs. MaryAnn Baichi and other alumnae are responsible for the special display that sits in the garden.

A few years ago, the Health and Physical Education Department offered presentations to our students on the potential dangers on energy drinks. Similar presentations will be offer to the junior high students shortly. Drinks like Red Bull, No Fear, and Monster typically contain large doses of caffeine and other stimulants. Compared to the 37 mg. of caffeine in a Mountain Dew, or the 23 mg. in a Coca-Cola Classic, many energy drinks contain as much as 182 mg of caffeine. Because the potential health risks have not been sufficiently determined, some foreign countries have banned these beverages. Students are not permitted to have such drinks at CBA.

The US Department of Education sponsors a website with information useful for teachers, parents, students, and administrators. Go to: <http://www.ed.gov/programs/pirc/index.html> to review this site.

Another good resource is the NYS Catholic Conference at: <http://www.nyscatholicconference.org/pages/home/home.asp>, which helps support the needs of private Catholic schools like CBA.

In light of the recent Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus, or MRSA outbreak, we have reviewed and revised some of our practices, especially in the locker and weight rooms. Students and staff have been reminded of the importance of washing their hands with the disinfectant soap provided in the bathrooms as often as possible. While a few schools locally have developed a few documented cases, we have had no outbreaks. We will continue to monitor this important health development and keep you advised.

Director of Campus Ministry, Mrs. Maureen Lasda, was named our Distinguished Lasallian Educator. The award honors educators in Christian Brothers' institutions who demonstrate a deep commitment to Gospel values, dedication to educational excellence, and zeal for the ministerial needs of young people. She will be formally recognized at our spring Honors Night.

As Thanksgiving approaches, let us be mindful of the blessings around us, especially the wonderful young people that are among us. *St. John Baptist de LaSalle, pray for us! Live Jesus in our hearts, forever!*

Br. Thomas Zoppo, FSC,
Principal

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ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Parent/Teacher conferences will be held on Thursday, November 8, 2007. Students will be dismissed at noon. Teachers will be available between 1-4pm and 5-7pm to meet with individual parents. This is a great opportunity to discuss your child's progress with the teachers—mark your calendars.

The midterm exams are scheduled for January 22- 25. Please plan ahead when scheduling appointments to avoid this week.

Don't forget to check the daily announcements on the website each day. They contain information on current activities and important dates.

ADMISSIONS

OPEN HOUSE

Thanks to the Parent Club and to all our wonderful students who helped at this year's Open House. Keep spreading the "good news" about CBA.



ATHLETICS

The CBA Athletic Department would like to thank all the parents and athletes who were involved in a fall sports program. Our varsity teams achieved unparalleled on field success. At the time of this writing, our girls' soccer team has clinched their league championship and is currently ranked eighth in the state in Class AA. The girl's tennis team finished their season as undefeated league champions and has advanced to the Sectional final.

Our girls swim team is currently ranked first in the state in Class C and has clinched their league championship. They, too, are looking to capture another Sectional Championship when they compete early in November. The boys' soccer team will contend for a sectional title. The boys and girls cross country teams both finished near the top of their respective leagues. The girls' and the boys' varsity golf teams finished the season in second place in their league. Our young football team has continued to improve as the season moved on and the cheerleaders continue to impress and amaze spectators with their athleticism and entertaining routines. But what we feel is most important and equally as impressive is that over 425 students participated on one of our fall sports teams.

All winter sports schedules are available online at www.cbasyracuse.org. To hear a list of the contests scheduled each day, call 446-5960 x 82. Sometimes there are last minute changes that occur in the time or site of events. We try to have all cancellations and modifications to the schedule available on that line by 2:00 PM each day. We encourage you to check this line every day to confirm the time and site of your child's athletic contests.

CBA BOOSTER CLUB

The CBA Booster Club provides great support to our athletic programs. Not only do they raise funds to help supplement the athletic budget, but members help selling tickets, working concession stands, etc. at all home events. If you are not currently a member and would like more information about the Club and its activities, please call the athletic office at 446-5960 x 1123.

WINTER SPORTS TRYOUTS

Tryouts for our winter sports teams:

Girls Junior High Volleyball – October 23rd
Boys 7th, 8th and 9th grade basketball – November 1st
All JV and Varsity sports begin on November 9th
Girls Junior High basketball will begin on January 3rd.

Times and location will be posted on the athletic department bulletin board next week.

In order to be allowed to try out for a team, your child must have a valid physical (within one calendar year) on file in the health office and a completed Interval Health Form. Forms can be downloaded from our website at www.cbasyracuse.org.

YOUR CHILD WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO TRY OUT UNLESS HE OR SHE HAS A VALID PHYSICAL AND SIGNED INTERVAL HEALTH FORM ON FILE!

CAMPUS MINISTRY

JOIN US THE FIRST FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH AS WE CELEBRATE THE EUCHARIST

The Parent's Club and Campus Ministry sponsors morning Mass open to students, parents and faculty on the First Friday of each month. Join us at 7:30 am in the school chapel and share in this ancient tradition of the Church. Each month, we are inviting specific teams, clubs or grades to join us. Grades 7 and 12 will gather together on November 2nd, the feast of All Souls. The 8th grade will join together for December 7th.

JUNIOR/SENIOR GIRLS OVERNIGHT RETREAT

The junior and senior girls overnight retreat will be held on Monday and Tuesday, November 19 and 20, at White Eagle Conference Center on Lake Moraine, north of Hamilton, NY. This timing will allow both fall and winter athletes to attend because all fall post-season play will be over and winter games will not begin until after Thanksgiving. This is a milestone event in the lives of these young women. Reservations are due November 2nd.

EIGHTH GRADE RETREATS will be held November 6th and 7th at Christ the King Retreat House. A letter with registration information was sent home in late October.

SENIOR SERVICE: Our first Service Retreat was held October 17. Eighteen seniors served at three different locations in Syracuse, and all reported a positive day. Mrs. Finlay has information about many opportunities for individuals and groups who would like to volunteer.

On Wednesday, Oct. 3, members of Junior High Lasallian were accompanied by Mrs. Finlay and Mr. Mullaney on an apple-picking trip to Beak and Skiff. The apples were used by the group to bake pies and bread on October 16. The baked goods were delivered by some CBA Peer Ministers to the Samaritan Center on Thursday, Oct. 18 as part of CBA's Community Outreach program.

THE LASALLIAN SENIOR HIGH YOUTH conducted a drive in October for toiletries to supplement St. Lucy's food pantry. The group is also giving a Halloween party for pre-school children in the city. Members of the group are also working on events for Open House as well as helping the Lasallian Junior High with their baking project. Students may join Lasallian at any time.

TOILETRY DRIVE FOR ST. LUCY'S CHRISTMAS GIFT DAY- OCT. 29-NOVEMBER 9.

We are asking junior high to bring in toothpaste and toothbrushes (all sizes) 9th and 10th grades to bring in combs, brushes and toothbrushes 11th and 12th grades to bring in disposable razors.

MOTHER-SON COMMUNION BREAKFAST

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2007 @ 9:30 AM

Enjoy a special Advent Mass with your son then a delicious catered breakfast followed by an inspirational talk. It's a great way to prepare your heart for Advent.

Please join us at the next Parent Club Meeting Wednesday, December 12, 2007 at 7:15 pm

DEVELOPMENT

RAFFLE:

The Classic Corvette Raffle has arrived!! Tickets were distributed on October 4 & 5 to the youngest child of each family. If you did not receive your tickets, please contact the Development Office at ext. 1293.

Thank you to all the grade captains who have been scheduling volunteers to sell tickets at the mall for the next few months. We greatly appreciate all their hard work, as well as the dedication shown by our parents who volunteer at the mall. You may have already been contacted by your captain(s), but if you need to contact them, their information is as follows:

CONTACT INFO FOR GRADES:

October 28th through November 10th: **Sophomore Class**
Contact Daisy Bongiovanni: daisyb@twcnny.rr.com

November 11th through November 24th: **Freshman Class**
Contact Dottie Anderson: randers2@twcnny.rr.com

November 25th through December 8th: **Eighth Grade**
Contact Maureen Dessen: mdessein@twcnny.rr.com

December 9th through December 22nd: **Senior Class**
Contact Julie Hannan: 492-3028

December 30th through January 12th: **Seventh Grade**
Contact Claire Downey: cdowney7@twcnny.rr.com

DEVELOPMENT (CONTINUED)

Shifts run: **Monday through Saturday:**
10AM- 1PM/ 1PM- 3:30PM/
3:30PM-6PM/ 6PM-8:30PM
Sundays: Noon-3PM and 3PM-6PM

AUCTION:

Mark your calendars- the 19th Annual Lasallian Dinner and Auction will be held on Saturday, March 29, 2008 at 6 pm. The committee is proud to announce this year's theme will be "Syracuse City Lights." We are always looking for new members to join this fun, hard-working committee. If you are interested, please contact Brian Hayes at 446-5960 ext. 1293 or bhayes@cbasyracuse.org.

GUIDANCE

WATCH FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND MAILINGS FROM GUIDANCE!

SENIORS:

- In early December, seniors will be given a packet to bring home with all the current information about the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). Please read through everything before January 1, 2008. By now, you should have gone online at www.fafsa.ed.gov to get your pin numbers, one for the parent and one for the student.
- If your college requires the CSS Profile (College Scholarship Service) financial aid form, it should have been filed by going on the College Board website at www.collegeboard.com and clicking on the CSS tab. If you have not filed it yet, please do so immediately.
- All Early Action and Early Decision applications are due in our office NOW! If you have not turned yours in yet, please do so right away. Please complete all of your back up school applications as well so they can be turned into our office by December 3rd. We want to get everything out before the Christmas break.
- All SUNY part I's should have been sent by now. If not, please complete yours immediately so we can get your transcript sent. If you have already completed your SUNY part I, please make sure to finish your part II and turn it into our office so we can send out your recommendations to the specific campuses.

- As soon as you receive an acceptance letter, bring it in so we can celebrate! Also, bring in any letters that show you have earned a scholarship. We want to keep track of the scholarship total for the Class of 2008. It will probably be an awesome amount!

JUNIORS:

- PSAT results will be back in early December and we will give them back during class. We will hand out a full packet of information regarding upcoming SAT/ACT test dates, prep classes in the area, and a booklet that explains their PSAT results.
- In January, we will start setting up individual parent/student meetings to discuss the college planning process. You will receive a postcard in the mail listing the date and time for your appointment. If this does not work with your schedule, please call us right away so we can schedule a more convenient time.
- Princeton Review will be sending home information to all the juniors about upcoming SAT prep classes that will be held at CBA. These classes are for CBA students exclusively and you register directly through Princeton Review at 1-800-495-7737.

SOPHOMORES:

The PLAN test results will be sent home in December along with a booklet that explains the test results, the actual test booklet, and a letter from the counselors. This will be a large packet, so don't forget to open it when you are going through your holiday mail. There will also be information about the SAT II Subject tests in the enclosed letter. These tests are typically taken in June, but we want you to have the information now so you can start planning ahead.

CAREER FAIR

CBA hosted its annual Career Fair for the 8th and 9th graders on Wednesday, October 17th. The students had the opportunity to visit with and interview a number of professionals who represent a wide range of careers, each from our local community. They met with six speakers, for approximately twenty minutes each, in a small group format. They discussed a number of topics that included, but were not limited to: courses our students should consider at the high school level, college information, degrees required, and typical assignments on the job. The goal was for our students to obtain very specific career information from the individuals who can best supply it, in a hands-on, informal learning environment.

JR. HIGH ACTIVITIES

GETTYSBURG TRIP

The 8th grade class had a great experience in Gettysburg, PA on October 5 & 6. Many thanks to Mrs. Feldmeth and all the chaperones who accompanied the kids. This year's trip marked the 16th year that CBA's 8th grade social studies class has traveled to Gettysburg!

ALBANY TRIP

The 7th grade class traveled to Albany, NY on Oct. 17 to tour the state capitol. Senator DeFrancisco's office helped to coordinate the trip and arranged for a group photograph of the entire class taken on the steps of the capitol. A copy of the photo will be distributed to each student at a later date.

"ANIMAL STORY SERVICE LEARNING PROJECT"

Our current 7th graders are involved in a service learning project through English class that will culminate in a visit to LeMoyne Elementary School on Nov. 13. CBA's students have written creative stories suitable for a child in kindergarten or first grade. The stories are printed and attached to a stuffed animal. The 7th graders will read their stories to the young children and present the animals as gifts to the youngsters. This is our second year visiting LeMoyne Elementary as part of the "Animal Story Service Learning Project".

JUNIOR HIGH SENATE

Congratulations to the following 7th graders who were recently appointed to the junior high senate:

Brigid Corcoran	Andrew Gacek
Ashley Corasaniti	Matthew Dombroski
Christian Damico	Austin Higgins
Mathew Cupelo	Zeanna Otis
Ariana Marshal	Mark Peryer
Dalia McKenzie	Kali Wallenbeck
Maire-Kate McGlynn	Toni Winderl
Daliah Greenwald	Breanna Tarnowsky

LARGEST ATTENDANCE NUMBER FOR OUR WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL PARTY!!

Over 150 junior high students attending our first event of the year!! A great time was had by all from basketball to badminton, to chess to ping pong on our new ping pong tables, to the awesome inflatable obstacle course! Thanks to everyone who supported the event. A special thanks to Mrs. George for bringing in her popcorn machine so we could enjoy a special treat.

STUDENT AFFAIRS

BUSING:

On **Thursday, November 8th** there is **no early pickup** for students in the **Fabius, Jamesville-Dewitt and Tully** school districts.

On **Friday, November 9th** there is **no transportation** for **Solvay School District** students.

DROP-OFF AND PICK UP OF STUDENTS BY PARENTS.

In order to provide a safe environment for our students, parents need to respect these established procedures:

1. Before School and Dismissal Time – Driveway/circle in front of CBA is reserved for busses only!
2. When dropping off or picking up students before school and at dismissal time, please pull your vehicle as far forward into the "No Parking Zone" adjacent to the **practice fields** as possible. This is the **preferred area** as it provides lots of space and easy pull in/pull out.
3. There is a **limited drop off area** [No Parking Zone] on the right as you enter the main parking area – this area presents a real safety hazard if some drivers do not pull completely forward, release students while double parked, are careless when they pull away from the curb to re-enter traffic flow, or block cars waiting to enter from Randall Road by waiting at the end of this No Parking Zone area until a slot opens up. Please only use this area if your child is ready to immediately leave the car and time is not needed to gather belongings from the trunk or rear of the vehicle, give your child lunch money, or have a brief conversation with your child. If this area is full of cars please do NOT wait at the end of the line but pull forward and park next to the practice fields.
4. For after-hours events, parking is open to the public on a first come, first served basis. Handicap and no parking zones are clearly labeled and should be respected. The Town of Dewitt does not permit parking on Randall Road and the adjacent local streets.

PROCEDURE FOR EARLY DISMISSALS

In the case of an early dismissal, please provide a note stating the time, reason and who will be picking up your child. Ask your child to bring this note to the nurse's office **before homeroom** for a pass which will allow them to sign out and meet you in the main office. If a student has his or her own transportation to or from school, the note must say that he or she will be driving. Please do **not** phone in a request for early dismissal. If possible, please schedule appointments after dismissal.

STUDENT AFFAIRS (CONTINUED)

LUNCH NOTIFICATION

Sometimes students forget to bring their lunches, or lunch money, with them when they leave home for CBA. In this situation a parent may choose to bring the student's lunch and/or lunch money to the main office at CBA. Parents should instruct their child to stop in the office on their way to lunch to see if their parent has dropped off a lunch and/or money for their use. The office staff can not interrupt a class to tell a student to stop in the office for a lunch and/or lunch money. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

PURCHASING LUNCH VOUCHERS - FROM AMERICAN FOOD AND VENDING:

To make purchasing lunch more convenient meal coupons may be purchased during breakfast (vouchers can not be purchased during lunch). A pack of vouchers for one week's meals may be purchased for \$17.50. Personal checks (made out to American Food and Vending, not CBA) will be accepted for purchasing vouchers only. Only cash or a voucher will be accepted at the register during lunch.

HIGH SCHOOL DANCES/PROMS

Semi Formal Dance – 12/15 at CBA, 8-11pm. Students attending must be at dance by 8:30pm. Dress Code is CBA regular school dress code or better.

Junior Prom – 4/25 at Renaissance Hotel, **Dinner included**, 7-11pm. Students attending must be at dinner/dance by 7:30pm. Dress Code – appropriate Prom attire.

Senior Prom – 5/16 at Landmark Theatre, **No Dinner**, 8-11:30pm. Students attending must be at dance by 8:30pm. Dress Code – appropriate Prom attire.

To attend a dance, CBA students, must complete and return to Mr. Mitchell a Parent Permission/Information form -at least one week prior to the event.

Current CBA Students can request to bring a non CBA student guest by completing the appropriate form and returning to Mr. Mitchell at least one week prior to the event. Guests must be a current HS student and present a picture ID card when checking in at the dance. Guests must arrive at the dance with their CBA host student. CBA students are responsible for their guest's behavior at the dance.

Students/Guests are expected to remain at the dance/prom until the event concludes. Only current grade 9-12 students are eligible to attend a high school dance.

YEARBOOK

The yearbook staff thanks you for submitting so many great pictures to yearbook@cbasyracuse.org. Keep them coming! If you have pictures of your summer activities, please get them in as soon as possible. Thank you to everyone who volunteered to help take pictures, do captions and proofread. Every little bit helps!

ANNUAL WREATH & POINSETTIA SALE

The Parents Club will sell holiday wreaths and poinsettias again this year to benefit the CBA Post-Junior Prom Party. Balsam wreaths will be offered in two sizes; red, white, or pink poinsettias will be in 6-inch pots. Please watch for a future mailing with pricing and ordering details. Contact Ellen LaBerge—315.424.7041; ELaberge@aol.com—for additional information.

CBA'S MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Christmas Concert – Thursday, December 20 7:00 PM Main Gym featuring the Jr. High Chorus, Jr. High Band, Sr. High Chorus, Sr. High Band, Select Chorus and Jazz Ensemble

CBA Select Chorus is featured on the new Big Mike Christmastime in Syracuse CD available at area P & C's beginning around Thanksgiving. The singers recorded backup vocals on the song "*Celebrate Me Home*" which was recorded by Mr. Caraher's group *Prime Time*.



**Members of the CBA Select Chorus with
SUNNY-102 DJ, Big Mike**

Pictured (L-R) are: Zach Goebel, Alex Horowitch,
Marcin Zak, Becky Scullin, Big Mike, Dan York,
Lindsay Dolak, Dan LaCombe, Amy Callahan and
Melissa Castellini

LUNCHEON MENU

NOVEMBER, 2007

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
			1 Chicken Parmesan with Side of Pasta and Tossed Salad	2 Meat Loaf with Scalloped Potatoes and green beans
5 Monte Cristo with Tater Tots and Sliced Peaches	6 Chicken Quesadillas with Corn and Black Bean Salad	7 Spaghetti & Meatballs with Dinner Roll and Italian Vegetables	8 EARLY DISMISSAL	9 Fried Fish with Potato Wedges and Coleslaw
12 VETERANS' DAY	13 Chicken Enchiladas With Refried Beans And Fresh Tomatoes	14 Grilled Cheese And Tomato Soup	15 Bacon Cheeseburger with Spiral Fries and Applesauce	16 Clam Boats With Potato Salad And Cheesy Broccoli
19 Macaroni and Cheese with Side of Chili And Vegetable Medley	20 Taco Salad	21 THANKSGIVING BREAK	22 THANKSGIVING BREAK	23 THANKSGIVING BREAK
26 Beef Stroganoff over Egg Noodles with Glazed Carrots	27 Chicken & Biscuits	28 Philly Cheese steak with Green Peppers & Onions, and Chips	29 Honey Mustard Chicken Sandwich with Lettuce & Tomato and Oven Potatoes	30 Cheese Ravioli with Garlic Bread and Zucchini

DECEMBER, 2007

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
3 Chicken Rice Casserole with Baby Carrots	4 Nachos Grande	5 Open Faced Turkey Sandwich with Mashed Potatoes and Buttered Corn	6 Stuffed Pizza Sticks With Marinara and Tossed Salad	7 Pizza Burger With Spiral Fries And Broccoli
10 Buffalo Chicken Sand- wich with Egg Noodles and Sliced Peaches	11 Beef & Cheese Burrito with Mexican Rice	12 Chicken and Broccoli Fettuccine Alfredo with Dinner Roll	13 Beef Cheddar Melt with Pasta Salad and Vegetable Medley	14 Chili Dog with Tater Tots and Apple Sauce
17 Chicken Patty Club Sandwich with Lettuce and Tomato and Potato Salad	18 Soft Chicken Tacos and Salsa	19 Lasagna with Garlic Bread and Italian Vegetables	20 Jambalaya	21 Roast Pork with Stuffing and Baked Apples
24 CHRISTMAS BREAK	25 CHRISTMAS BREAK	26 CHRISTMAS BREAK	27 CHRISTMAS BREAK	28 CHRISTMAS BREAK
31 CHRISTMAS BREAK				

Christian Brothers Academy
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Syracuse, NY 13214

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UPCOMING EVENTS

December, 2007

Sun.	2	Mother/Son Communion Breakfast
Mon.	3	Board of Trustees Meeting
Fri.	7	First Friday Mass (Optional) Jr. High Pizza & Movie Night
Mon.	10	Booster Club Meeting
Wed.	12	Parent Club Meeting 7:15 pm
Sat.	15	HS Winter Semi-Formal
Thurs.	20	Christmas Concert
Fri.	21	Advent Assembly and Concert
Mon.	24-	No Classes
Fri.	28	No Classes
Mon.	31	No Classes

January, 2008

Tues.	1	No Classes
Thurs.	3	Acceptance Letters Mailed
Fri.	4	First Friday Mass (Optional)
Mon.	7	Booster Club Meeting
Wed.	9	Parents' Club Meeting 7:15 pm
Sat.	19	Corvette Raffle Drawing 5:00 pm
Mon.	21	Martin Luther King Holiday
Mon.	21	New Students Reception
Tues. -	22	School Exams/Regents
Fri.	25	School Exams/Regents
Mon.	28	Catholic Schools Week Begins