



CHRISTIAN BROTHERS ACADEMY

850 Newman Springs Road • Lincroft, NJ 07738-1698

Dear CBA Family,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to our CBA community and to what I know will be an amazing school year! I hope that each of you has had a great summer filled with fun and relaxation. As the school year begins there are many activities to introduce your son to the traditions of CBA, as well as help him prepare for the start of his important journey.

The first of these events is the **Freshmen Introductory Retreat** which will run from 8:30AM until 1:00PM on Monday, August 28th; Tuesday, August 29th; Wednesday, August 30th; and Thursday, August 31st. Your son has been assigned **one of the four days** based alphabetically on his last name. Please look carefully below to determine which day your son is to attend retreat.

<u>Last Name</u>	<u>Retreat Day</u>
A --- D	Monday, August 28 th
E --- K	Tuesday, August 29 th
L --- P	Wednesday, August 30 th
Q --- Z	Thursday, August 31 st

Retreat groups generally coincide with the freshmen homeroom classes. The program consists of presentations about the unique LaSallian nature of CBA, meetings with GURU's (your son's senior peer mentor), a tour of the school, a prayer service, reflections, games and activities and a barbeque lunch. Spiritual development through the retreat program is an integral part of your son's CBA education and attendance and is, therefore, mandatory. The dress code for these retreats is causal but neat; shorts and t-shirts are acceptable as long as the writing and graphics on the shirt is appropriate. Students should definitely wear sneakers as they will be playing some games outside.

On Thursday, September 14th, your son will participate in the **Heath Run** and **Freshmen Welcome Day**. The Freshmen Heath Run has been a tradition at Christian Brothers Academy for more than fifty years. In recent years the run has been followed by a friendly competition among freshmen homerooms as well as a pizza lunch. Your son should wear his gym clothes and sneakers to school that day. Students will be dismissed at the regular time.

Finally, I would like to take the opportunity to encourage you to urge your son to get involved in the many extracurricular and co-curricular activities offered at CBA. Our many clubs and activities allow students to take their learning beyond the classroom and to nurture passions outside the realm of the academic curriculum. From competitive activities such as our science, math and academic teams, to spiritual activities such as our worship ministries, to cultural activities such as our world language and culture clubs, CBA's extracurricular activities provide a unique opportunity to nourish the whole person--mind, body and spirit.

CBA currently offers a myriad of unique clubs and activities that span across a wide range of academic fields and interest areas. Students will be able to provide service to CBA and the wider

community through organizations such as SADD and LaSallian Youth. We offer numerous opportunities to participate in competitive activities such the Chess Team, Model United Nations and Mock Trial. CBA also offers a full range of performing arts activities including theater, the pipes and drums, and the music program. Truly, CBA's extracurricular activities provide a chance for students to achieve excellence as evidenced by our national championship chess team and our award winning music program.

All in all, I encourage each and every student to be adventurous and to take a step outside of his comfort zone. Our wide range of activities will allow him to expand his interests and develop lifelong passions which will expand his horizons. Further, if your son has an interest or hobby which is not currently covered by one of our many clubs; he is encouraged to see me to start a new one!

It is my hope that your son will immerse himself in the day to day life of the CBA community where we are more than just students and teachers but a community that grows and develops each and every day.

However your son chooses to become involved, I ask that he remain committed to his chosen activities. Participation in the life of our community outside of the classroom helps to foster leadership skills and the confidence necessary for success in the modern world. More importantly, these out of classroom experiences develop lifelong bonds that are the true hallmark of the academy experience—bonds which will last long beyond his four short years at the academy.

Parental support of student involvement is a vital part of our success; a success which allows for a richer learning and developmental experience for all members of our community. If you have any interests or passions that you would like to share with our community I would love to hear from you. It is wonderful when parents can share their career experiences or other interests with our students.

I look forward to working with you and your son as he begins his journey at CBA and wish him much success!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maureen Szablewski".

Maureen Szablewski
Dean of Campus Life