



CHRISTIAN BROTHERS ACADEMY

850 Newman Springs Road • Lincroft, NJ 07738-1698

Dear Class of 2026 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 **Freshmen Welcome Day/Heath Run** will be on **Friday, September 16, 2022**. The Freshmen Run has been a tradition at Christian Brothers Academy for more than fifty years. In addition to the run there will be some friendly class competition among the freshmen homerooms and lunch. Freshmen should wear their gym clothes and sneakers to school that day. Lunch will be provided for all freshmen on that day. Bookbags and computers should be left at home. Dismissal will be at the regular time.

Another important event is **Freshmen Oath Day** which will take place on **Wednesday, October 12, 2022**. Oath Day is an opportunity for our freshmen to learn more about the Academy Oath. The day includes a keynote speaker, discussions and an assembly at which the freshmen recite and sign their class copy of the oath. Students should wear the normal school dress code with a blazer.

The following are events for parents:

- **Freshman Parent Night/Back to School Night** is **Wednesday, September 21, 2022**. The evening will begin with a brief meeting at 6:30pm.
- **Freshmen Parent Guidance Night** which will be on Wednesday, October 5, 2022 at 6:30pm in Henderson Theater.

The Guidance Counselor for the Class of 2026 is Ms. Nicole Johnson. She will schedule meetings with each freshman early in the school year. Freshmen students and parents who have concerns about academics or the transition to high school can email her at njohnson@cbalincroftnj.org

The **Big Brother program** will continue this year to assist our freshmen as they navigate the transition to high school. Each freshman will be paired with a junior big brother who we hope will provide invaluable mentoring throughout the year and beyond. The first **Big Brother** social will be during the freshmen orientation day on September 8, 2022.

Other things to note as we return to school:

- Students are expected to follow Covid-19 protocols including not attending school if ill. Parents of students who have been exposed to covid-19 or who are exhibiting symptoms should contact me as soon as possible as I will be handling any necessary contact tracing.
- Included in this mailing is our 2022-2023 Calendar Handbook.
- Freshmen should arrive at school no later than 8:20 AM (but we prefer 8:15 AM to give time to find their way) on Thursday September 8, 2022 and report directly to Henderson Theater. Dismissal will be at 2:30pm. **Freshmen will not attend school on September 7, 2022.**
- All Freshmen will have their picture taken on Thursday, September 8. Please have you son wear his blazer for the picture. Enclosed in this mailing is the Normandy Studio photo form. Please bring the completed form to school on the 8th. Any student in violation of the Dress Code & Grooming requirements as stated in the handbook will not have his picture taken. Please refer to Mr. Polanco's letter on the CBA Class Page for more information.
- It is suggested that students bring an empty backpack as state loaned textbooks will be distributed.
- The school building will be open daily at 7:15 AM. Students arriving early should report to the library or if necessary the designated overflow areas. The library and if necessary designated overflow areas will be open until 5:00 PM each day.

- **The Pegasus Yearbook** is an award winning student publication that chronicles the many events of the school year. Yearbooks can be ordered online on the 2026 Class Page or by bringing cash or check (in an envelope with student's name) to the main office. Yearbook orders are due by November 11, 2022. The cost is \$40 if purchased by **November 11, 2022**. Yearbooks ordered after that will be \$50. No orders will be accepted after February 3, 2023. To avoid waste we will order only enough yearbooks to cover the orders so if you would like a yearbook please be sure to order one.

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. Clubs meet both before and after school and during the enrichment period to ensure that students have as many opportunities to participate as possible. On September 21, 2022 students will have the opportunity to explore clubs during the **Activities Club Fair**.

In keeping with our mission, CBA's extracurricular activities provide a unique opportunity to nourish the whole person--mind, body and spirit. Our many clubs and activities allow students to take their learning beyond the classroom and to nurture passions outside of 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 currently offers a myriad of unique clubs and activities that encompasses 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. It is our hope that students will be inspired to participate in the range of opportunities being offered to serve including several overnight service immersion trips.

In addition to service organizations, competitive clubs and cultural activities, CBA also offers a full range of performing arts activities including theater, the pipes and drums, jazz band and men's choir. All in all, I encourage each and every member of the Class of 2026 to be adventurous and to take a step outside of his comfort zone. Our wide range of activities will allow each student to expand his interests and develop lifelong hobbies and passions. Further, if students have an interest or hobby which is not currently covered by one of our many clubs; students are encouraged to start a new one!

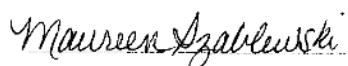
It is my hope that your son will immerse himself in the day to day life of the CBA community where we are more than just students and teachers but a community that grows and develops each and every day.

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 academy. If you have any concerns or questions about your son's transition to high school or his level of involvement in campus life please contact me. I am happy to assist your son as he adjusts to high school.

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,



Maureen Szablewski
Associate Principal for Student Affairs