

Counselor's Newsletter

February 2017

Juniors!

SAT Prep Classes

The Assistance League of Glendale will be having their Workshops starting February 13. Classes are from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. We recommend these workshops for our juniors. The cost is only \$45. Get the form from Bro. Philip or go to www.alglendale.org or call (818) 247-4296

Financial Aid Time FAFSA

We would like to thank all of the parents who came to our Financial Aid Workshop. We hope that you found the presentation helpful. Now families should submit in their FAFSA form as soon as possible. Go online to www.fafsa.ed.gov. The trick is to submit it as soon as possible. The money is available on a "first come, first serve" basis. **DO NOT WAIT FOR YOUR TAX RETURNS**—especially if that will be a while. Use an estimate. You will then receive a form called SAR which will have all of the information processed that you sent in on your FAFSA form. If there are any changes (for example, a more exact figure for your tax returns) you make the changes at this time. Then you send the SAR back. It is the SAR that is sent to the college(s) of your choice. You may have it sent to six colleges free.

GPA Verification Form

Seniors do NOT have to do a GPA Verification form this year. Brother Philip will do it online for the entire senior class. This is used in conjunction with the

FAFSA form to determine Cal-Grant Eligibility. There are three types of Cal-Grants. Some are based on academic excellence and some are based on financial need.

Deadline for FAFSA is March 2!

SAT's For Juniors

Juniors who plan to enter a four-year college or university are encouraged to take the SAT in either May or June. The College Board also allows juniors to take the Subject Tests in May or June. Subject Tests (also called SAT II) are not required for the Cal-State campuses but strongly recommended by the University of California campuses and several of the private universities. Juniors may obtain an application for the SAT tests from Bro. Philip or go online at www.collegeboard.com. Fee waivers are available from Bro. Philip as well.

SAT For Sophomores

Since most sophomores are currently taking biology and World History, many sophomores choose to take the Subject Tests (formerly SAT II's) in biology and world history in May or June since the subjects are fresh in their minds.

Scholarships

Many scholarships are now available to our seniors. Announcements are made daily at homeroom about these scholarships. They are also posted on our website www.bell-jeff.net. Currently, there are scholarships available for students of Hispanic and

Italian origin. Students should see Brother Philip for further details. Some of these scholarships will depend upon financial need; others are based on academic excellent and others on community service. It is very important to watch the deadlines with these scholarships. A deadline is a deadline and they make no exceptions.

7th Semester Transcripts

Seniors must maintain good grades throughout the senior year since all college acceptances are conditional, based on the presumption that the senior grades will be of the same caliber as the grades of the previous years, if not better.

If a seventh semester transcript needs to be sent to a college, see Bro. Philip. The school needs at least a 48-hour notice to send out a transcript.

Semester Grades

The semester grades are extremely important for all of our students. These are the grades that go on a student's permanent record and the ones used for college admission. **Student class rank is determined by semester grades.**

Community Colleges

In late February and in March we will be registering seniors who are interested in attending a community college next year. Listen carefully for announcements. The college representatives will be coming to our campus.