Dear Cardinal Community,

I am including last week’s Head of School update in this week’s letter due to its importance. Thank you for taking the time to complete the Parent Satisfaction Survey if you have not already done so.

At Bishop Diego, we strive for excellence in all facets of school life. We are constantly looking at how we can improve and how we can provide students with a learning environment that will best prepare them for college and life. A component that is critical to continuous growth and school improvement is feedback from all BDHS constituencies and stakeholders. As parents, you have the ability to provide us with constructive feedback that can help us continue on our path to excellence.

I ask you to please take a few minutes to complete the attached Parent Satisfaction Survey. This survey will take about 15 minutes of your time. Please be thoughtful and specific in your answers as they provide invaluable feedback as plan for the future of Bishop Diego High School. The survey will be available until Friday, December 6th; thank you in advance for your time.

Click here to complete the survey: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BM7SR9R

Today we begin the season of Advent. Advent is a time of expectation and waiting in God’s presence. We wait for the coming of Christ. It is during Advent time that the Church traditionally has prepared for the coming of Christ in the past, in the present, and in the future. We celebrate Jesus’ past coming as an infant born in a Bethlehem stable; His presence coming into our lives as a Savior, Healer, and Friend; His future coming as King of Kings, the Messiah who will reign forever.
In order to prepare our hearts for Christ’s coming, all students will be participating in Advent penance services on Tuesday, December 3rd in their theology classes. To reinforce the lessons being taught here at Bishop, I encourage all families to read Luke 15: 11-32. Sometimes reconciliation between people who have hurt each other does not take place because the thought of saying and being sorry for something is closed out of an offender’s mind. Sometimes the person who has been offended is the one who is closed to being reconciled. This verse reinforces the love and openness that is needed to become forgiving people. What better gift can we give or receive during this season of waiting and preparation for Christ’s coming?

Yours in Christ,

Mrs. Karen Regan
Head of School

---

Blessing Bishop

As we head into the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons, many ask how they can bless Bishop Diego with a tax-deductible gift. Over the next four weeks, the Advancement Office is outlining the various ways that our generous donors can support those Bishop initiatives that matter most to them:

December 1 – December 7: Girls’ Athletics Initiative

Expanding the girls’ athletics programs at Bishop Diego is a top priority. Integrating highly successful and talented coaches into the school day as teachers and support staff rather than part-time, walk-on coaches provides a better experience for our girls and gives our female athletes a huge advantage. Donations in honor of your favorite coach or Lady Cardinal or even to remember your experience as a Bishop athlete will allow us to continue to build a stronger girls athletics program for today and for generations of Lady Cardinals to come.
December 8 – December 14: Performing Arts Collaborative

Big dreams need big support and Performing Arts at Bishop Diego are on the rise! To support current offerings and allow for upcoming growth, those with a passion for the arts are encouraged to help us build a bigger and better Performing Arts program for Bishop Diego's students.

December 15 – December 21: Technology Campaign

Ensuring that Bishop Diego’s students have access to cutting edge technology is essential to preparing them for the future. Whether it is maintaining and upgrading the Gherini Center for Multimedia Arts and Technology, supporting the 1:1 iPad program, providing state-of-the-art security systems, or integrating new alumni and donor software, Bishop Diego relies on the generous support of those who understand the importance of 21st century technology.

December 22 – December 31: Spirituality Campaign

Our Catholic faith is the primary factor that differentiates Bishop from any other high school in the area. The tremendous impact spirituality has on students prepares them to face life with hearts full of compassion. Retreats, Masses, Theology classes, and service opportunities infuse a Bishop Diego education with character formation that changes lives. Giving to this campaign will affirm your belief in the power of a Catholic education.

To give your year-end, tax-deductible gift to any of the above campaigns, please visit our Online Giving page at www.bishopdiego.org/online-giving and choose The Fund for Bishop Diego when donating. Your support changes lives!

Warmly,

Dr. Cristy McNay
Director of Admissions and Advancement
(805) 967-1266, ext. 118
cmcnay@bishopdiego.org
YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID is a certification class at Bishop for parents and staff on Saturday, January 11 from 8:00am-4:30pm. Lunch will be provided.

Participants will be charged a $10.00 fee; however, if this fee is cost prohibitive, please reach out to rcarpenter@bishopdiego.org for a fee waiver.

Space is limited. Please register at:
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/youth-mental-health-first-aid-training-registration-79743696543

Finals: As students gear up for finals, it is important to note that exams cover material from the entire first semester and count for up to 20% of the semester grade. Students must do well to keep their grade up or to improve the grade they have already earned. Please encourage your student to begin studying now and not to wait. Some students may want to check with their teachers soon to ensure they understand what is expected of them. Often freshmen find these first finals intimidating and wish they had put more effort into preparing. Should your child need help with study tips or test preparation, have him/her consult with Ms. Anderson.

As a reminder, we have free peer tutoring available to students during office hours. Students may sign up with Ms. Anderson in request of a peer tutor.

In January, with the start of second semester, we will be working on necessary schedule changes. Most courses are yearlong, so there will not be a lot of changes. Students who fail a class first semester may not be able to continue in that class; additionally, they may need to repeat that class in the summer before returning to Bishop. Universities will not accept D’s in college prep classes. So, it is suggested that these courses be re-taken in the summer as well.

See Ms. Anderson for more information about how to sign up for online or off campus courses, which will require an Academic Petition.
Parents of Sophomores and Juniors: On Monday, January 13, all 10th and 11th grade parents are invited to join us for the Scores Back event. At this event, we’ll have an expert from Tutors Across America on hand to help families interpret scores from the PSAT and the Mock ACT. This event will start at 5:00pm in the Library.

Following this event, in the Library we will have a presentation for all Parents of Juniors from 6:00pm-7:30pm. At this event, we’ll have guest speakers from UCSB, CSU Channel Islands and Westmont College. Together, we will review how to prepare for applying to the various systems of education.

Parents of Juniors:

USC is looking for 11th graders to apply to the Bovard Scholars program. Eligible juniors will have a 4.0 GPA or above, enrolled in Algebra 2 or above, demonstrate financial need, have taken an AP course. The program is FREE to students admitted. The deadline to apply is January 17. For more information, visit: https://bovardscholars.usc.edu/our-scholars/

MIT has a FREE program called the Minority Introduction to Engineering and Science (MITES).

This six-week program provides students with the opportunity to live on MIT's campus while they are taking five courses (physics, calculus, life science, humanities and a STEM elective), each with homework assignments and exams. During the program, students will also participate in social events and build a community with their peers.

This school also offers the MIT Online Science, Technology, and Engineering Community (MOSTEC) with an in-person summer conference at MIT.

This six-month program immerses students in an online STEM community comprising of two parts:

· Academic - students take academic courses online and present projects at a five-day conference on MIT’s campus
· Enrichment - students prepare for college and beyond by engaging with STEM professionals, MIT Admissions counselors and undergraduate mentors.
For a comprehensive list of other types of summer enrichment activities, please visit the Counseling webpage at in BD Classroom, under modules.

Parents of Seniors:

If your student has a LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION deadline of:

- January 1, the last day to request a letter of rec is December 3.
- January 15, the last day to request a letter of rec is January 1.

The deadline to complete Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is March 2nd, but some colleges and scholarship programs require earlier submission: www.fafsa.ed.gov.

The Scholarship Foundation of Santa Barbara awards more than $5 million in scholarships to local students. Forms should be completed online at http://www.sbscholarship.org. The deadline to apply is January 15. Letter of recommendation requests for this application must be submitted to teachers/counselors no later than January 1.

Rya Carpenter
Director of Counseling and Student Services
College Counselor
(805) 967-1266, ext. 104
rcarpenter@bishopdiego.org

Spiritual Life – Mrs. Jennifer Winnewisser

‘Tis the season of Advent...the liturgical journey of waiting. We will spend these holy days together in prayer, penance and hope for the coming of Christ our Savior.

Each morning in Advent we will reflect on and pray with a Bible verse from the Gospel of the day.

On Tuesday we will hold our annual Advent Penance Service. We are grateful for the priests in our neighborhood who support us on our spiritual journeys. They will be here throughout the day on Tuesday to hear the confessions of our Bishop community.
Next Thursday is the **Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe** and our **Advent Mass**. We welcome Msgr. Martini from St. Joseph Church in Carpinteria as our celebrant. Mass will begin at 12:15 followed by a Fiesta! Mexican foods, fresh churros, fun music and pinata-breaking! Always grateful to our Bishop parents for their support in making these fun events happen!

**Project Santa** is underway! The spirit of giving is ever-present on the Bishop campus. Each class has a Project Santa "tree" with specific gift wish tags to pull for local families in need of some extra love this Christmas. Be sure to speak to your students about pulling a tag or two, wrapping the gift and bringing the gift back to school with the tag attached. Delivery Day is on Saturday, December 14th and gifts should be brought in right away. See the attached information for more details. THANK YOU Bishop High School for your love and generosity!

Jennifer Winnewisser  
Director of Campus Ministry & Spiritual Life  
(805) 967-1266, ext. 123  
jwinnewisser@bishopdiego.org

---

**Athletics – Mr. Mike Cano**

Winter Sport Athletes you must have a sports packet and physical before participating in a contest. Please create an account at [https://www.athleticclearance.com](https://www.athleticclearance.com) and complete before returning from break. Thank You

Reminder for Fall Banquet on December 8

**BISHOP DIEGO FALL SPORTS BANQUET**

The Bishop Fall Sports Banquet is scheduled for Sunday December 8th at 5pm. Bishop
has had a good Fall Sports season and we are excited to celebrate the student/athletes successes. The banquet will take place in the main gym and the details are as follows:

Sunday, December 8th, 2019
5:00 p.m.
Main Gym

DINNER IS PROVIDED FOR ALL STUDENT ATHLETES, COACHES AND ONE GUEST PER COACH!

Dinner costs $15 per person for non-student athletes if they RSVP by the deadline. Deadline is 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, DECEMBER 4, 2019!

Please RSVP to front desk. Checks should be made out to Bishop Diego High School.

Cost at the door will be $25, so please get your checks in now!

MASS DRESS IS MANDATORY! Mass dress is required for athletes to be recognized. This basically means dress shirt and tie for boys, appropriate dress, skirt or dress pants for girls. If you have any questions about Mass Dress, consult the Parent-Student Handbook found on the school website.

Girls Volleyball teams are responsible for set-up before the banquet. Please have your team at the gym by 4pm for setup.

Football teams are responsible for break down and clean up after the banquet.

**Athletic Contests Week of December 1-7**

**Monday December 2**
Boys Soccer Home vs Orcutt Academy 3:15pm **EARLY RELEASE 2:14pm**

**Tuesday December 3**
Girls Soccer Home vs St. Bonaventure 3:15pm **EARLY RELEASE 2:14pm**
Boys Varsity Basketball @ Nordhoff Tournament 7:00pm **NO EARLY RELEASE**

**Wednesday December 4**
Boys Basketball @ Carpinteria JV 5:30pm, Varsity 7:00pm **NO EARLY RELEASE**
Girls Varsity Basketball Home vs Carpinteria Bird Cage Classic Tournament 7:00pm **NO EARLY RELEASE**
Thursday December 5
Boys Soccer Home vs Thacher 3:15pm NO EARLY RELEASE/BLOCK SCHEDULE
Boys Varsity Basketball @ Nordhoff Tournament vs Pacifica 4:30pm NO EARLY RELEASE/BLOCK SCHEDULE
Girls Soccer @ Carpinteria 5:00pm NO EARLY RELEASE/BLOCK SCHEDULE
Girls Varsity Basketball Home vs Thacher Bird Cage Classic Tournament 7:00pm NO EARLY RELEASE/BLOCK SCHEDULE

Friday December 6
Boys Varsity Basketball @ Nordhoff Tournament vs Cabrillo 3:00pm EARLY RELEASE 12:53pm
Boys JV and Frosh/Soph Basketball @ Cate Frosh/Soph 4:00pm, JV 5:30pm EARLY RELEASE 2:14PM FOR FROSH/SOPH

Saturday December 7
Girls Varsity Basketball Home vs Coastal Christian Bird Cage Classic Tournament 11:00am
Girls Varsity Basketball Home vs Coast Union Bird Cage Classic Tournament 4:00pm
Girls Soccer Home vs Orcutt Academy 11:00am
Boys Soccer @ St. Bonaventure 11:00am
Boys Varsity Basketball @ Nordhoff Tournament TBD

Mike Cano
Director of Athletics
(805) 967-1266, ext. 107
mcano@bishopdiego.org

What to know about FINALS……

December will be a short month, especially with finals. Please be sure to review the school calendar for dates and times of finals and other holiday school functions. Details to be posted in Mr. Flanagan’s newsletter, the calendar, website and the BD Classroom.

During finals, please note tardies are still tracked; its important students arrive on time for their exams. Dress attire remains the same during final exams. Even though students are at school for a shorter amount of time, Cardinal attire is still required. Students who choose to wear sweatpants, athletic shorts, slippers, leggings and other inappropriate school attire will be asked to
change. Please support our school policy by ensuring your son/daughter is dressed appropriately for final exams.

For students who complete their exam early or have only one exam and would like to be dismissed for the remaining school day, the school will need in writing, permission from the parent for the student to be released. A phone call is not acceptable; the school must have documentation stating the student may leave. Without documentation, the student will remain on campus until the end of the school day.

Remind your son/daughter to bring home any academic materials and clothing from their athletic locker since the school will be closed during the winter break. Even though school is out, there will be winter sports and other activities on campus, it’s important students secure and take home what they can during the two week holiday break.

**FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE**

**Wednesday, December 18th**
- Period 1 - 8:30 - 10:00
- Period 2 - 10:30 - 12:00
- Lunch 12:00 - 12:40
- Period 3 - 12:45 - 2:15

**Thursday, December 19th**
- Period 4 - 8:30 -10:00
- Period 5 - 10:30 - 12:00

**Friday, December 20th**
- Period 6 - 8:30-10:00
- Period 7 - 10:30 - 12:00

**Community Service….**

**Bishop TOTS** will be volunteering at **Habitat for Humanity's ReStore**, 6860 Cortona Drive A, Goleta, CA 93117 on **Saturday December 7th from 10:00am - 1:00pm**. We will be helping Rauiri the project manager and super fun guy, to organize, move, catalog & price items within the ReStore. This is a fun event. We will have lunch directly afterwards over at Camino Real Marketplace. If any BDHS students are interested contact President of TOTS; Thomas Coleman @ tcoleman@bishopdiego.org. Learn more about the ReStore and Habitat for Humanity Santa Barbara here: https://www.sbhabitat.org/restore/
Fall Semester Service Hours….

Last day to submit Community Service Hours for the FALL SEMESTER 2019 is **Friday, December 20th.**

*In Japan, when a piece of pottery breaks, some potters fill the cracks with gold. The potters, they see the repairs as something beautiful. They know that the unexpected happens. Change happens. They know that nobody gets through this world in one piece. That doesn't have to diminish us. The cracks are part of our history; they will always be with us. They made us better, they made us stronger, and they made us something new.*

Stacey L. Carr, M.Ed.
Dean of Students
(805) 967-1266, ext. 105
scarr@bishopdiego.org

---

**Upcoming Bishop Events Calendar**

12/1
Sunday Obligation 
Rotation 5

12/2
School Resumes 
7:45 am – STEAM Society Group Meeting

12/3
Advent Penance Service

12/4
**BISHOP PLUS 1,2,3,4**

12/5
**BISHOP PLUS 5,6,7**
Christmas Faire

12/7
8:00 am – Mock ACT Exam
Bishop Events Looking Ahead ...

12/8
Fall Sports Banquet

12/11
No Bishop Plus

12/12
Mass Bell - Advent Mass

12/14
Project Santa

12/18
Finals 1,2,3

12/19
Finals 4,5

12/20
Finals 6,7

12/23 - 1/5
Christmas Break

1/6
School Resumes
7:45 am – STEAM society Group Meeting

1/12
Poker Tournament

1/13
5:00 pm - PSAT and Mock ACT Scores Review Session
6:00 pm – Junior Parent College Information Night

1/14
5:30 pm – Admissions Information Night

1/17
Independent Scholarship Applications Due
1/20
No school – Martin Luther King Day

1/24
Chinese New Year Luncheon

1/26
Catholic School’s Week Begins

1/28
Catholic School’s Week Mass

1/29
Day of Service

1/31
Admission Application Close Date
FACTS Tuition Assistance Applications Due

2/3
FACTS Applications Due
7:45 am – STEAM Society Group Meeting

2/13
Senior Mother/Daughter Luncheon

2/14
No School – Presidents’ Day Weekend

2/17
Presidents’ Day

2/20
Senior Mother/Son Luncheon

2/26
Ash Wednesday

2/27
Senior Father Lunch

3/2
7:45 am – STEAM Society Group Meeting

3/5
Course Selection Day (During Cardinal Time)

3/6
Offers of Admission Sent