

## *Guido de Brès Highlights, February, 2017*

Welcome to another edition of *The Highlights!* Have you missed a previous edition? Go to [www.guidodebres.org](http://www.guidodebres.org) and find the brand new 'School Communication' button on the Home Page. Click to find past issues of our quarterly magazine *The Guido Gazette*, the monthly parent newsletter *Guido Gab*, as well as this community post *The Guido de Brès Highlights*.

### **Good-bye and Bienvenue!**

Semester Two is here and with it, new beginnings and several changes. Farewell to teachers Mrs. Sharon Hofsink, Mrs. Robin Hummel and Madame Esther Vanmiddelkoop. Hello and/or welcome back to Mrs. Courtenay VanVeen, Mrs. Henriette Hofsink as well as Mesdames Teresa Boisvert and Petra Douma. We are especially thankful to the Lord that Mrs. Douma is feeling well enough to come back and teach! We also give thanks that the Lord has given new life to Madame Van Middelkoop and her husband. They have received a healthy baby boy whom they have named Jack Gregory. *Joyeux anniversaire Jack!*

### **Extra- Curricular**

There is never a dull moment at Guido de Brès. While Semester Two advances in full academic march and students begin to buckle down, there is still always time for fun and extra-curricular activities to help build school spirit and encourage fellowship. Such was the case at Michelangelo's in Hamilton on Friday, February 10th when the annual *Winter Banquet* was held. Using a 'travel theme' the Student Leadership Team did an excellent job hosting a fun evening. A good time was had by all! Check out the pictures on Facebook and Instagram to see for yourself or talk to one of the young members in your congregation who attended.

### **Beyond the Classroom**

The Guido Community Action Team is a new initiative at our school. This team is a group of students working to encourage all students to become more involved in political and community events. Last December the GCAT did some evening caroling in a Hamilton neighbourhood and in January they launched a *WeNeedALaw* project to encourage everyone to sign postcards for their MPP's protesting the censorship of information about abortion. Some of these students also hope to attend March for Life in the spring. May God bless their witness!

You may recall having heard about the startup of a Robotics Club at Guido last year. This year we have a large and active club. This past December, they faced some tough competition at a VEX tournament in St. Catharines; they are hoping to use this as a learning experience while testing out some new designs for their tournament this year. We can't wait to see what they will come up with together!

Once again we look forward to hosting Grade Nine and Ten students from Gomarus School in Groningen, the Netherlands. We anticipate their arrival March 30<sup>th</sup> for a two week visit and plans are being laid for their billeting and stay with us.

Like last year, our school was recently featured in *The Pulse* section of *The Hamilton Spectator*. Each Tuesday, the Spec presents a page of news from local schools. It's a page for students by students. A copy of the feature done on Guido this year should be posted in your church for you to view. Check it out!

*From your Regional Guido Promotion Committee*

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### **Keep in Touch**

We are always trying to find ways to improve our communication with our supporting community, helping them keep in touch with what goes on at Guido. If you'd like to stay informed, join almost 1900 others on our private Facebook group, and be kept up to date with pictures, videos, and other news or anecdotal tidbits about life at Guido! And we now have our own Instagram account as well. Search for our [guido\\_de\\_bres](#) account and begin following us! Also be sure to post your own pictures of Guido events using the hashtag #guidothrive.

### **Looking back**

The Class of '91 got together earlier this month to celebrate 25 years since graduation from Guido. From the initial feedback and posted pictures on social media, it appears to have been a wonderful event. Thanks to all who organized it! You may hear more about this event in a future publication.

### ***Truth Exposed: Identity, Sexuality, and Relationships***

Have you heard? Guido de Brès Christian High is hosting a *student conference* on Friday, March 24th with a parental / community preview presentation the evening before (Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>) at 7PM. Join us as we hear Mr. Brett Ullman speak biblically about the sensitive challenges our teens are facing!

Check out [www.guidodebres.org](http://www.guidodebres.org)

### **Supporting Our Students**

As we look forward to the first ever student conference at Guido we want to remind you of an important service available at the High School.

The Student Emotional Support program is at Guido to assist students who are facing an emotional/spiritual struggle or dealing with a difficult situation in their lives. This program is designed to assist parents and the school to enable change and uses a brief intervention model. If an issue requires more long term counselling then a referral to those services will be recommended.

A counsellor from the Christian Counselling Centre is available every Wednesday morning and uses a private space at Covenant Teachers College to counsel students to help maintain confidentiality.

Sessions can be booked ahead of time by the student or parents or they can also simply connect with the counsellor on Wednesday morning in the front hall by the office. The current counsellor is Keith Verburg and he can be contacted by email at [keith\\_verburg@bell.net](mailto:keith_verburg@bell.net)

### **Save the Date!**

The musical production *Annie* is in full rehearsal mode this semester and the cast can't wait to perform for you soon. Mark April 26 to 29<sup>th</sup> on your calendar and make sure you are first in line when tickets go on sale. You won't want to miss this!

Thank you to those who responded to our request for volunteers to assist with costuming and props. Involvement and support from our community also in these ways is very much appreciated.

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