

The Alemany Monthly

Bulletin for October, 2018

Principal's Message



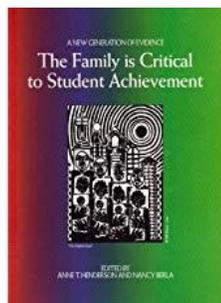
Dear Alemany Community,

A very special thank you to all of our parents who attended our first "Coffee With the Principal." I had the pleasure of meeting quite a few of our parents who discussed the topic of "Student Safety." Mrs. Lori Brown (Safety Coordinator), Raul Melendez (Facilities Director), and Lizabeth Cadwalader (Admissions/Marketing Director) joined me to help answer questions. Our parents are a rich resource of ideas. I learned things I did not know and was able to bring a lot of our plans to light during this very productive and helpful meeting. I'm looking forward to our next "Coffee" in the months ahead. I hope you can attend. I'll contact all of our parents once I have decided on a date.

In the meantime, I want to encourage you to attend our Parent Association meetings. Our next one is Monday, October 1st. We meet every month on the first Monday of the month in Alumni Hall. Mrs. Jen Taylor is our Parent Association President. I would really like to increase attendance at those meetings because there is so much we can accomplish with parents who would like to be a regular part of Alemany's future. All you have to do is show up. We'll have refreshments and great company. Plus, you'll be helping your child while receiving Parent Hours.

In ***A New Generation of Evidence: The Family is Critical to Student Achievement***, the authors researched the importance of parental involvement and found that getting involved makes a real difference in a child's life. Research over the last 30 years has found that children with involved parents:

- get better grades and score higher on tests.
- have better social skills.
- get their homework done.
- are more positive about school.
- are more likely to be accepted to the 4-year college of their choice.



By getting involved:

- you know what's happening at school.
- you are saying to your child, "Your education matters" and "You are important to me."

Here's some other tips that can help support your son or daughter:

1. Build a relationship with your child's teachers. Use Canvas, email, or even a hand-written note.
2. Talk to your son or daughter about their day at school. I know, sometimes they answer "nothing" when you ask what happened at school, but persist.
3. Be the homework coach. It's enough just to be aware of assignments which you can find on Canvas.

Our Counseling staff is always available to you should you have any academic concerns. Remember, we are here to help fulfill the dreams you have for your child's future. Thank you for your commitment to Bishop Alemany High School.

Dr. Chambers

Dates to Remember

| | |
|---|---|
| Monday, 1 st | Parent Association Meeting: 6:30 pm in Alumni Hall |
| Thursday, 4 th | Fall Play opens |
| Sunday, 7 th | Valley Catholic High Schools: College Fair @ Notre Dame |
| Monday, 8 th | Minimum Day: ends at 12:30 |
| Monday, 8 th - Friday, 12 th | Quarter Assessment Week |
| Wednesday, 10 th | PSAT for 9-10-11 th : ends at 12:30 Seniors – Day Off |
| Wednesday, 17 th | Quarter Report Cards mailed Raffle Tickets / Payment Due |
| Thursday, 25 th | Parent-Teacher Night: 5:30-7:30 pm |

Home Games

Home Games for the month are listed below.

You can find “away” games on our website calendar and at <https://alemanyathletics.org/>

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Friday, 5 th | Football v. Chaminade: Frosh @ 3:30pm / Varsity @ 7 pm |
| Wednesday, 10 th | Water Polo v. Crespi: JV - 3, Var - 4 |
| Thursday, 11 th | JV Football v. Serra @ 3:30pm |
| Friday, 19 th | Football v. Notre Dame: Frosh @ 3:30 / Varsity @ 7pm |
| Friday, 19 th | Water Polo v. Loyola: JV - 3, Var - 4 |
| Thursday, 25 th | JV Football v. Bishop Amat @ 3:30 |

Chaplain’s Corner

Culture is central to the development of any society. For example, the Arts express beautifully who we are as a society. Sculpture, painting and music can evoke from deep within ourselves the image of God and express powerfully who we are.

Here at Bishop Alemany High School we are cognizant of the fact that all of our cultural expressions originate in a God who loves us deeply and personally. Our Christian culture is developed with a keen aware of knowing that we are made in the image of God and that God, as the potter, has molded us in that special vessel to contain his love (Isaiah 64:8). Our Christian culture is unique in the sense that everything we do here at Bishop Alemany is imbued with the knowledge that God is central to our lives.

Allow me give you two examples that demonstrate how we as a school community strive to create a Christian culture. During the first week of October we celebrate the life St. Francis of Assisi with our annual Peace festival. This week-long celebration reminds us of the peace-filled life of St. Francis as well as the Christian culture we wish to create not only at school, but hopefully in our city, nation and world. Next month as we enter November we will remember our family and friends who have died (November 2nd—All Souls day). This too is part of our Christian culture, we remember those loved ones who made an impact in our lives and the contributions they made to creating a Christian culture.

As we move forward let us pray that all our words and actions may contribute to the development of a culture that promotes the good of all.

Father Mike

Academic News

College application season is officially underway and the counselors have been busy meeting with all the seniors to help update their Naviance accounts and work on their applications. Senior students should make sure that they complete their brag sheets, ask teachers for letters of recommendation (if their college choices require letters), sign up for the October or November SAT or ACT, and stay on top of their deadlines. We know that this can be a stressful process for students and parents, and it’s truly our goal to offer as much help and support as possible!

Upcoming College Deadlines:

October 5: Sign up deadline for the November 3rd SAT

October 14: Late registration for the October 27th ACT

November 1 & 15: Most Early Action/Early Decision application deadlines

November 30: CSU/UC Application Deadline

In addition to these important deadlines, this year’s **College Fair** will be held on October 7th at Notre Dame High School from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Bishop Alemany is co-hosting this event with 7 other Catholic schools and there will be more than 100 college representatives in attendance. This event is open to all students and parents, but seniors have exclusive access for the first hour of the event. It’s a great time to learn about colleges from all across the country and to meet the college representatives who actually read your student’s applications.

In other news, **Quarter Assessment Week** and **PSAT** testing are also upon us. For the week of October 8-12, students will have quarter assessments where teachers will have tests, projects, presentations, discussions, and a variety of assessments to help close out the quarter. It will serve as a more varied form of the traditional midterm week. Also during that week, on October 10th, all freshman, sophomore, and junior students will be taking the PSAT. It is one of the best ways to measure readiness for the actual SAT and to get feedback on strengths and areas for improvement. There are no make-up dates for this test, so please make sure your student is here with #2 pencils and a calculator.

We are looking forward to working with you and your students through all of these upcoming events and throughout the year!

Ms. Arnold – Assistant Principal of Academics

Ms. White – Director of Counseling

College Finances

Along with college applications comes applications for financial assistance. In order to qualify for most financial assistance, you and your 12th grade student must submit information online using **FAFSA** (Free Application for Federal Student Aid).

Beginning October 1st, you can submit your information at <https://fafsa.ed.gov/>.



Most colleges will not require this information until they make their admission decision, but there is no harm in submitting as early as possible. However, you must file no later than March 2nd in order to be eligible for Cal Grant consideration. This is awarded by the state of California.

If your student is applying Early Action or Early Decision, you must file the FAFSA according to the college's deadline, which is likely to be in November. Please check the college's own website for exact deadline information.

For many private colleges, you must also file the **CSS Profile**. This is a separate application for financial assistance which, although similar to the FAFSA, asks for additional information.



This is also open beginning on October 1st and can be found at <https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org/>

Special Performance

Thanks to the efforts of our new Band & Orchestra director, Mrs. Shaniece Kennedy, the CSUN Wind Symphony will be giving a special performance for our entire student body during the regular class day on Monday, October 15.

In addition, the group will be holding a band clinic for our students in band and orchestra classes.



Theatre News

It's that time again to tread the boards and enjoy the antics of our talented and versatile students. The Fall Production is upon us: This year our intrepid Theatre group is presenting William Shakespeare's **MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING**. Our students have been hard at work to ensure you an evening of laughter, tears, and some dancing too.

The students are involved with all aspects of the show; from sound, lighting, set shift, make-up and costume, to acting on stage. This year's show opens on Thursday October 4th. That is a change from previous shows and will continue for two weekends. Come join the Alemany Theatre as they take on one of the Bard's most memorable comedies about love, loss, and the fine art of deception.

Please see our flyer at the end of this bulletin for more information.

Mrs. Gina Alkazian – Theatre Program Director

Community Service

Community Service is an integral part of the faith development and learning experience at Bishop Alemany. We offer a wide variety of opportunities for student service. Our next major project is Alemany Amigos on Saturday, October 13 from 9:30am to 1:30pm. Amigos is a day of sports, arts and crafts, science projects, dancing and bonding. We invite children ages 7 to 11 from disadvantaged areas in the San Fernando Valley to spend the day with Alemany students.

Themes and activities for Alemany Amigos are decided by students. Our last Amigos was a Polynesian theme with a simulated volcano science project, dancing, crafts and food based on Polynesian culture, etc. The Amigos event and planning meetings are included in the morning announcements to students. All Students are welcome.

Alemany's Key Club meets on Wednesdays during lunch in the Gym. Key Club is an international high school student leadership and service organization. For 2017-2018, Alemany student Savannah Pinedo was named Member of the Year for the 12 high schools in our area. An announcement is made to students about meetings during Alemany's morning announcements. All are welcome.

Bob Warren – Director of Community Service
rwarren@alemany.org

From the Main Office

Greetings from the Attendance Office!

We want to remind you that if your student is absent, please call (818) 837-5202 to report the absence. You will still receive a phone call from our telephone auto-dialer notification system, but you can disregard the call if you have already notified us of the absence.

Upon return to school, please make sure that your student brings in a handwritten note to the Main Office to obtain a Re-Admit Slip. If your student visits a doctor or dentist, please request a note from the provider so that we can excuse the absence. If your student is dismissed early from school, the same rules apply for obtaining a Re-Admit Slip upon return to school.

Thank you for your cooperation!

Mrs. Merkel, Mrs. Kaneshiro & Mrs. Myers

From the Parent Assoc.

Greetings from the Alemany Parent Association.

**Please join us at our meeting
on Monday, October 1st
at 6:30pm in Alumni Hall**

All are welcome!

Looking for an easy way to support the parent association?

Shoparoo and Escript are the way. Go to parents.alemany.org, click on the parent association tab, then on Shoparoo and/or Escript. Follow the instructions to download the app and register your shopping rewards cards. All monies raised go back to the parent association.

Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who helped at our Grandparents Mass and Brunch. It was a lovely morning for all who attended.

You can contact us at anytime at our email alemanyparentassociation@gmail.com.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you,

Jennifer Taylor

Parent Association President

Campus Ministry Corner

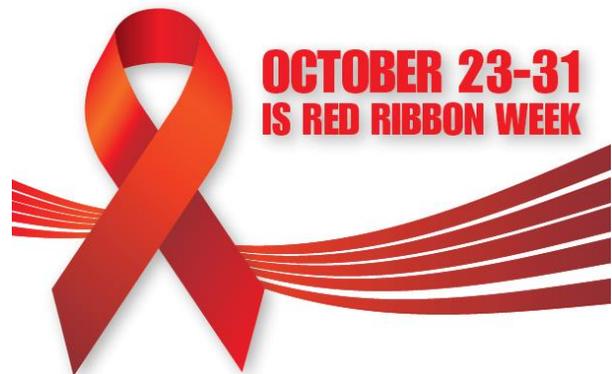
Campus Ministry will celebrate a number of events in October. The first week will be our annual St. Francis Peace Festival. There will be an exhibition in Alumni Hall featuring activities and student projects on the topic of peace. On Wednesday we will celebrate our St. Francis Mass which will begin with a production telling the story of the time when St. Francis met the Sultan during the fourth crusade to try and barter peace. On Thursday we will have a Peace Rally sponsored by our school's Pax Christi social justice club.

During the next week our Warriors for Life will present a number of activities from a program called "Start with Hello", intended to increase socialization on campus. There will be a Freshmen retreat on October 11, and a Kairos retreat for seniors and a Discipleship retreat for juniors. SADD will celebrate Red Ribbon Week with activities that encourage our students to be drug and alcohol free. At the end of the month we will have our 40th annual Exceptional Halloween Dance hosted by our students for the local community of individuals with developmental disabilities.

For more information contact Campus Ministry at 818-837-5264. Peace!

Mr. Don Levan

Director of Campus Ministry



Club Day is Coming

On Tuesday, October 9th, your students will be able to join clubs of their choice. Sign-ups will take place in the lunch area during lunchtime. Encourage your students to sign up with clubs that interest them; there will be many to choose from.

Studies indicate that high school students who become active in school are much more likely to earn higher grades and succeed in college!

Teacher's Corner



My name is Andrea Chavez and I've been an English teacher at Alemany since 2001. My time at Alemany, however, dates back much further. The first time I set foot on Alemany's campus, I was still

in 8th grade and looking forward to potentially becoming an Alemany Indian (Alemany's former mascot) the next school year. Although not yet an Alemany student, I could feel the incredible spirit of the school welcome me. I felt like this was my new home. Walking next to my mom, she told me she had that same feeling in 1970 when she became an Alemany freshman. She was so excited for me to experience the joy she felt during her time at Alemany.

As a student, there were countless teachers and staff members that made me feel that Alemany was so much more than a school. It's truly a family. I still remember so many lessons they taught that transcended the traditional curriculum. They taught me life lessons and the way to live life to its fullest while cultivating my faith and knowing my value. It was all enhanced on the retreats I attended where I felt all the lessons came together. The teachers taught me to be confident and to embrace my talents. They took a nervous and shy freshman and set me on a whole new trajectory. Their lessons resonate in my life today and I am who I am because of the time, love and care they gave me and all their students. I can honestly say that it was Alemany's teachers who planted all the seeds that would one day sprout in my life.

My younger siblings have also gone through Alemany and share my sentiments. Although their teachers were different,

their experience was the same. They felt safe, loved and supported. They made friends that are still close to them as adults. They went on to be successful in college and go on to careers they love. This leaves me no doubts when I say that Alemany truly cultivates the whole person – academically, spiritually, emotionally and intellectually. The dedication of the faculty and staff is unmatched and I'm so proud everyday of my life that I get to be a part of it.

While I'm no longer an Alemany freshman, I have the privilege to be a 9th grade teacher. I still get that same excited feeling when I drive onto campus and know I'm a part of the journey of your children. I am motivated when I think that my job is to give to them what so many of my former teachers gave to me. That blessing from God never escapes me and I'm truly humbled that I have been given the opportunity to plant seeds that were planted in me.

Although the original campus location has changed due to the Northridge earthquake and the mascot is different (GO WARRIORS!), the spirit and essence of Alemany remains and lives vividly everyday. I know investing in private school for your children is no easy feat and it can have its challenges but I can testify from first hand experience that it pays back dividends for the rest of a person's life. Thank you for all the ways you support the teachers, the school and Catholic education. You ought to be commended. Parenting isn't easy and your role is so crucial to the proper formation of the Alemany family. Thank you for being a part of our family!

Blessings,

Andrea Chavez
English Teacher

Some Future Dates this Semester

November 1

School Mass

November 18

Open House

November 21-23.

No School

December 12

School Mass

November 5

Parent Association Meeting

November 19

Progress Reports

November 30

UC & Cal State Deadline

December 17-19

Semester Exams

November 12

No School

November 20

Student Prayer Service

December 3

Parent Association Mtg.

Dec. 20 – Jan. 7

No School

Alemany Theatre Proudly Presents



William Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing*

Come join the Alemany Theatre as they take on one of the Bard's most memorable comedies about love, loss, and the fine art of deception!

OCTOBER DATES AND TIMES

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Thurs. 4th at 7:30 pm | Fri. 12th at 7:30 pm |
| Sat. 6th at 7:30 pm | Sat. 13th at 7:30 pm |
| Sun. 7th at 2:00 pm | Sun. 14th at 2:00 pm |

PRICES ARE AS FOLLOWS

| | |
|------------------|-----------|
| Adults: | \$10.00 |
| Senior/Child | \$5.00 |
| Alemany Students | FREE w/ID |
| -- without ID | \$5.00 |