

St. Bruno Catholic School
Jr. Academic Decathlon
2013 – 2014

What is the Decathlon? The Academic Junior High Decathlon is a competition for students in grades 6-8 throughout the Los Angeles Archdiocese. The grand competition takes place in March. Approximately 100 catholic schools participate in the competition every year! There are ten events. Two are collaborative team efforts – a **logic quiz** with 20 rigorous thinking problems, and a **super quiz** with 50 multiple choice questions on five broad academic themes. The remaining eight events test individual knowledge of the Roman Catholic doctrine, English, Literature, Science, Mathematics, Current Events, Social Studies, and Fine Arts (Art and Music). Awards are given for individual and team performance. The winning school team from each geographic diocese competes in a state championship the first Saturday of May each year.

The California Catholic Schools Academic Junior High Decathlon (or AJHD) strives to bring forth students' academic talents and celebrate them in the context of spirit-filled competition. The five goals of the Decathlon are:

- to promote academic excellence
- to promote collaborative spirit and cooperative learning skills
- to promote logical and higher order thinking
- to recognize the contributions of parents, teachers, school administrators, and business and community members in supporting high standards for all students; and
- to celebrate the diversity, excellence, and tradition of Catholic schools

The Definition of a St. Bruno School Academic Decathlete:

A middle school student of exceptional character, who maintains high marks in all classes, lives by a strict code of honor, demonstrates a willingness to sacrifice personal desires for the betterment of the team, exhibits strong school spirit, and exemplifies a profound thirst for knowledge and intense respect for education and academic achievement.

Students in grades 6, 7, & 8 who meet stringent criteria are invited to participate and train for the Academic Decathlon Team. Students are evaluated on their academic performance, behavior, work habits, attendance history, standardized test scores, and teacher recommendation. Representing St. Bruno School at the March event is a privilege and an immense time commitment. Study sessions will begin in mid-June. Summer schedule will be determined once the team is formed. Once school resumes in September, team meetings will take place after school and on Saturdays of each week as determined by coaches.

Each student is required to pay a \$50.00 non-refundable fee and participate in team fundraising to cover training materials, decathlon polo and competition entry fees and transportation. The parents and students must sign commitment contracts.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Decathlon coaches:

Leticia Hernandez (email: LHernandez2@semprautilities.com)

Lorena Natera (email: flonatera@msn.com)

**Please complete the following and return to the school office by Friday, 6/7/13.
Selected students will be notified by the following Friday, 6/14/13.**

Thank you for your interest!

STUDENT NAME: _____

Grade (in the fall): _____

Email: _____

Please list your strongest subject areas:

Why do you believe that you would make an ideal St. Bruno Academic Decathlete? (This is your opportunity to sell yourself.)
