

Dear Marist Alumni,

On behalf of the current MBIS Board of Trustees, we would like to extend a warm, heartfelt New Years greeting to alumni and their families. AKEMASHITE OMEDETO GOZAIMASU. As you know, MBIS is celebrating its 60th anniversary this year and a number of events are planned to mark this auspicious milestone. We hope you all have a chance to participate and show your school spirit. GO BULLDOGS!

The Trustees are currently focusing their energies on strategic planning and have recently ratified a sustainability plan that will hopefully ensure the continued success of the school and keep the Saint Marcellin Champagnat spirit burning brightly in Kobe for another 60 years.

These strategic planning efforts will include a comprehensive fund raising drive, and we hope to work with the alumni to secure much-needed funding for the various infrastructure and beautification projects.

We continue to pay back the two loans for rebuilding projects after the Hanshin earthquake, but reserves are dangerously low. As mentioned in past correspondence, the current administration building, which also houses the library and the assembly hall/cafeteria, survived the earthquake but is in dire need of major repairs. We have had this building inspected and structurally it still seems to be in fair condition. However, there are some repairs that are urgently needed. The new administrative team of Marijana Munro (Head of School) and Motoko Suzuta (Business Manager) is working on prioritizing these repairs.

We are again appealing to you as a Marist Alumni to donate to the building fund that was started by Mr. Fritz Leonhardt and currently stands at roughly 2.6 million yen (approx. 600,000 yen of which was donated by the current PTA). As mentioned in previous announcements, donations to this fund are tax deductible in both Japan and the United States (instructions included below). Any amount you could spare for these endeavors would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you again for your continued support of our beloved school. We wish you a healthy, happy and prosperous Year of the Dragon.

Sincerely,
Brent Jones
Chairman, MBIS Board of Directors

Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation
Suma Branch
(Mitsui Sumitomo Ginko, Suma Shiten)

Savings A/C #: 3804146
(Futsu Yokin 3804146)
Swift Code: SMBCJPJT
A/C Name: MBIS Alumni Association Building Fund

(Japanese banks charge a very heavy fee for processing remittances in foreign currencies. Therefore, if ever possible, please make your donations in Yen.)

"TOKUZO"(Tokutei Koeki Zoshin Hojin) If you would like to have your donation treated as tax-deductible, please request Ms. Motoko Suzuta (suzutamotoko@marist.ac.jp) to send you a "TOKUZO" receipt.

The Marist Brothers is an IRS verified 501(c)(3) charity.
All donations must be made to the MARIST BROTHERS with a brief statement by the donor that the gift is intended to assist Marist Brothers International School in Kobe. Gifts are to be sent to:

Br. Hugh P. Turley,
FMS, CFRE, Co-Director

Marist Brothers
Provincial Development Office
4200 W. 115th Street
Chicago, IL 60655-4397

Upon receipt, the gift will be acknowledged in writing by the Development Office using IRS approved terminology. This letter of acknowledgement should be retained by the donor and is sufficient to claim a tax exemption for the gift. The gifts will be periodically transferred to Kobe.