## **Build bridges around you!**

Dear pupil,
Dear student,

This year, the Brothers of Christian Instruction, present in 26 countries on five continents, celebrate their 200 years of existence. We were founded in 1819 by Jean-Marie de la Mennais and Gabriel Deshayes. And today, we are a large family of more than 120,000 young people and 10,000 adults.

On this occasion, we want to thank you for what you are for us. We promise you to do everything to make you happy and safe in your school. We are committed to helping you develop the best of yourself.



We also want to encourage you to make your class a place where each of your classmates finds their place; where each one feels loved, considered, welcomed and accepted. In order to achieve this beautiful dream, with your teachers, your educators and other adults in your school, we suggest that:

Give each other hands so as to learn to move forward together. Love him or love her as your brother or your sister. Watch over him or over her.

Pay attention to the one who seems less friendly to you. Go to him or her and learn to listen to him. Value what you find positive in him or her. Share his or her moments of joy and of sorrow.

Learn to greet everyone you meet on your school compound. Always thank the person who is doing you a favour. Offer to help a comrade who has difficulties. Avoid making fun of the weak, the poor, the person with a disability. Encourage those who are discouraged. Console whoever is in pain.

Welcome the other as he or as she is, different from you. Learn to bond with him or her, regardless of his/her colour, his/her place of origin, his/her religion. Be kind to the one who does not think like you or who does not see things like you.

Learn to succeed with each other. Be supportive of one an other to do good and to build peace around yourself. Encourage the other by your presence, your participation and your collaboration.

Learn to sow fraternity! Let it flourish in your life: the more you share it, the happier you will be. That it may bear a lot of fruit in your life, in your family and in your school!

Learn to become more and more the friend of your elder brother named Jesus. He loves you and wants to make you happy. He wants to bless you, protect you and to help you grow. Keep this Friend as your real treasure. He will always be faithful to you.

Learn with passion!
Work with love!

Build bridges around you by learning to be close to your brother or sister!