Parents/Guardians

I would like to wish you and your family, on behalf of all our staff, the most wonderful Christmas, filled with the joy and the peace that is born of love and goodwill. We celebrate for a very particular reason. Sigrid Undset sums it up beautifully below:

"And when we give each other Christmas gifts in His name, let us remember that He has given us the sun and the moon and the stars, and the earth with its forests and mountains and oceans--and all that lives and move upon them. He has given us all green things and everything that blossoms and bears fruit and all that we quarrel about and all that we have misused--and to save us from our foolishness, from all our sins, He came down to earth and gave us Himself."

God Bless

Kevin Jones

Wishing You All a Holy Christmas & a Safe Holiday Break

From the Bede Polding Community
College Leadership Teams

~ Executive ~

Principal
Mr Kevin Jones

Assistant Principals
Mr Rodney Howard / Mr Harry Fernandez

Religious Education Coordinator
Mrs Mary McGuiness / Assistant: Francis O’Callaghan

Social Justice Coordinator
Mrs Janette Wick

Business Manager
Mr Paul Cruise

Administration Coordinator
Mrs Anita Meehan

Learning Technologies Coordinator
Mrs Jeanette Lans

~ Curriculum Forum & Assistants ~

Creative Arts
Miss Carol Muscat / Assistant: Angela Rando

English
Ms Marsha Edwards / Assistant: Mrs Jeanette Lans

Human Society & Its Environment
Mr Paul Sykes / Assistant: Mr Brett Windon

Languages
Mrs Felicity Mgaza

Mathematics
Mrs Nichole Padden

PDHPE
Mr Marc Sluiter

Careers
Mr Brett Collimore

Science
Mrs Jenelle Gavin / Assistant: Mr Steve Lans

Special Education
Mrs Jan Trefoni

Sports Coordinator
Mr Dean Bertenshaw

Technology & Applied Studies
Mr Edward Gruppetta / Mrs Lisa Cummins

Year Coordinators

Year 7  Mrs Dominique Bruce
Year 8  Ms Kristy Walsh
Year 9  Mr Nicholas Briffa
Year 10 Miss Hayley Lalor

Senior Coordinator
Mr Stephen Godfrey
Assistant: Miss Rhiannon Marsh

Home-School Liaison Coordinator
Miss Jenny Woods

Student Counsellor
Mrs Sally Wardley

Librarian
Mrs Kerrie Brownscombe

Extended Trading Hours of Uniform Shop

Saturday 13 December  9am - 1:00pm

2015:

Monday 19 January  9am - 3:00pm
Tuesday 20 January  9am - 3:00pm
Wednesday 21 January  9am - 3:00pm
Thursday 22 January  9am - 3:00pm
Friday 23rd January  9:00am - 3:00pm
Monday 26 January  Closed
Tuesday 27 January  8:00am - 2:00pm
Wednesday 28 January  8:00am - 2:00pm

Normal trading hours from Friday 30 January ie Tuesdays & Fridays 8:00am - 2:00pm

For Your Information from the Uniform Shop

Due to limited space in the Uniform Shop we are unable to accept, for the time being, items of clothing for the second hand clothing pool until at least March 2015.

Thank you for your understanding.

Jean Grundy - Uniform Shop
Outreach Week

Week 8 was the first student initiated Outreach Week. The College has a variety of Outreach groups that provide opportunities for students and staff to give to the community. This week has allowed for great awareness, fundraising and a great sausage sizzle. With the dedicated efforts of students and teachers combined, we raised approximately $900 to be split between the Outreach groups, which are:

Hawkesbury Community Kitchen, Thailand/Vietnam Group, St Vincent de Paul, Eco Group as well as each of the Year group charities.

With the incredible generosity of students we have collected the following items for St Vincent de Paul:

257 soap bars, 88 deodorants, 246 toothbrushes, 7 tubes of toothpaste, 2 packets of tissues, 113 hair ties, 17 cans of shaving cream, 12 combs, 4 brushes and 250 razors.

Thank you to everyone who offered their assistance and participation.

We will be organising the second annual Outreach in 2015.

By Elyse Popplewell (11E5)
SEEKING MENTORS

Do you want to give something back to your community?

Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta’s Post School Options Team provides one on one mentoring for secondary students. We are seeking new mentors who would like to give something back to their community and join this valuable and worthwhile program.

The volunteer mentor hosts the student in the workplace for one day per week (May to September excluding school holidays). The mentor is both a personal and professional role model for the student. All mentors are offered free TAFE mentor training and receive a TAFE Certificate of Attainment ‘Mentoring in the Community’.

Mentors can be from any industry, an individual in any trade area – clerical, administration, hairdressing and beauty or a large company e.g Bunnings.

Please consider this call for assistance so that the program can continue to supply a valuable service to students in our Catholic communities. If you would be interested in becoming a mentor or finding out more information, please contact:

Leoni Jeavons-Fellows
Coordinator Post School Options
0424 750 583

Year 12 Graduation Mass & Presentation
This letter refers to the 2015 Diocesan Tuition Fees and Building Levy.

The School Based Fees are in addition to the amounts shown.

2015 Diocesan School Fees

Dear families,

As you may be aware, government funding of the school sector is still very much in the spotlight. There is still no proposed funding model from the Federal Government beyond 2017, which is causing uncertainty for schools and our system.

While we hope a new model will be developed soon, we can expect further pressure on government funding in the future. Educational inflation is at 5.1% adding further pressure on the costs of schooling.

This means we will need to pass on a 5% school fee increase next year to ensure we can maintain our current service levels (see over page).

We understand families are also facing greater financial strain, so we do not make this decision lightly.

We are committed to ensuring that no child will be refused enrolment due to a family’s financial situation and we have in place a range of discounts and programs to support families including:

- Sibling discounts for second and third child enrolled
- No diocesan tuition fees for the fourth and subsequent children enrolled
- The Bishop Manning Scholarship Fund
- Financial hardship relief
- The Byalla co-contribution scheme for Indigenous families

Our schools also keep school-based fees for technology, administration and excursions within a reasonable amount to ensure the costs of a Catholic education are as affordable as possible.

In terms of capital funding, there is increasing pressure on Catholic schools to pay for development costs and land for new schools. Additionally, new government funding for capital projects is very limited and interest subsidies have been abolished.

The Diocesan Building Levy enables us, through our capital works program, to meet the demand for new schools and new classes in high growth areas and to continue to maintain all schools to a high standard.

To ensure this continues we will be increasing the building levy by 5% or $33 per family per year (see over page).

We continue to make every effort to contain educational costs while increasing our services and value for money and are directing our limited resources into big initiatives like:

- Literacy and numeracy programs to improve learning outcomes (Focus160, Reading Recovery, EMU, EM4) and our support for students with disabilities and emotional and behavioural needs (Diversity is the Norm, post school options, etc)
- Pulling more teaching resources into classrooms for literacy intervention
- Providing greater opportunities for professional learning for leaders and teachers
- Increasing support for students with disabilities, behavioural and emotional needs
- Improving our technology and infrastructure
- Modernising learning spaces
This letter refers to the 2015 Diocesan Tuition Fees and Building Levy. The School Based Fees are in addition to the amounts shown.

Annual Diocesan Tuition Fees - 2015

Annual Diocesan Tuition Fees can be paid upfront at the start of the year or in three equal payments in Terms 1, 2 and 3. The fee is only charged for the first three (3) children currently enrolled in the diocese (in other words there is no additional Diocesan Tuition Fee for the fourth child attending a systemic school in the diocese or other participating Catholic schools - see "Sibling Discounts" below). To work out how much the fee is for each child, check the table below.

The 2015 Annual and Term Diocesan Tuition Fees are as follows:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>ANNUAL FEES</th>
<th>No charge for 4th+ children</th>
<th>1st Child</th>
<th>2nd Child</th>
<th>3rd Child</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary</td>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
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<td>Years 1 – 6</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Years 11 – 12</td>
<td>$2,658</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TERM FEES</th>
<th>Charged in Terms 1, 2 &amp; 3</th>
<th>1st Child</th>
<th>2nd Child</th>
<th>3rd Child</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary</td>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
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<td>$262</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Years 1 – 6</td>
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<td>Years 9 – 10</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Years 11 – 12</td>
<td>$886</td>
<td>$665</td>
<td>$443</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Annual Diocesan Building Levy - 2015

All families with one or more children in a Parramatta Diocesan school or at St Dominic’s College, Kingswood are required to pay the annual Diocese of Parramatta Diocesan Building Levy. The levy for 2015 is $702 per family, payable in three equal instalments of $234 payable in terms one, two and three.

I understand that for some families, school fee increases will be difficult to manage, and if this is the case, I urge you to confidentially contact your school principal to enquire about financial hardship.

Please know we will provide every assistance to families in serious financial need.

Please visit our website www.parra.catholic.edu.au for more information. If you have any concerns please contact your school principal.

Yours sincerely

Greg Whitby
Executive Director of Schools
**FREE**

**Bligh Park Community Services**

**BPCSI presents..**

**Community Xmas BBQ!**

*From 5.30 – 6.30pm on **Tuesday 23rd December**. All food, lollies and soft drinks provided. Members and families of all ages from the local community are invited to attend!*

**Games & Activities:**

“One Bounce” Basketball Game

**Timing Youth Centre** – Corner Rifle Range Road & Colonial Drive, Bligh Park. Please RSVP your families interest to mainoffice@blighpark.org.au or phone 02 4572 5898

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**“Hangout”**

**For:** Young People aged 10-18 years

**When:** Friday 16th & 23rd January 2015

**From:** 11.30am to 3.30pm

**Where:** Bligh Park Neighbourhood Centre & Bligh Park Community Precinct

(4 Sirius Road, Bligh Park – Behind IGA)

*Structured Team games of Soccer & Basketball*

**FREE Food & Drinks Provided**

- Hot Chips on 16th January
- Pre-Australia Day BBQ on 23rd January
Pre-Xmas Holiday Program 2014
FREE Programs @ Tiningi Youth Centre

Monday 22nd December
11.30am Arts & Crafts Designing Program Logo’s & Flyers
1.30pm Drop In
2.30pm “One Bounce” Basketball Game
3.30pm Kids Club
4.30pm Active Kids

Tuesday 23rd December
11.30am Arts & Crafts Creative Drawings
2.30pm “One Bounce” Basketball Game
4.30pm Dodgeball
5.30pm Bligh Park Community Services Xmas BBQ

Wednesday 24th December
Service is closed until Monday 12th January.

Please refer to our “Summer Holiday Program” for FREE programs being offered at Tiningi Youth Centre from Monday 12th January to Friday 23rd January 2015.

Thursday 25th December (Xmas Day)
Friday 26th December (Boxing Day)

Summer School Holiday Program 2015
FREE Programs @ Tiningi Youth Centre

Monday 12th Jan & Monday 19th Jan
10.30am Boxercise
12pm Drop In
2.30pm One Bounce - Basketball Game
3.15pm Kids Club
4.15pm Active Kids
6.30pm Boxercise

Tuesday 13th Jan & Tuesday 20th Jan
10.30am Boxercise
12pm Drop In
2.30pm Dodgeball
3.30pm Touch Footy
4.15pm Active Teens

Wednesday 14th Jan & Wednesday 21st Jan
10.30am Boxercise
12pm Drop In
2.30pm One Bounce - Basketball Game
3.30pm Touch Footy
4.15pm Active Teens

Thursday 15th Jan & Thursday 22nd Jan
10.30am Boxercise
12pm Drop In
2.30pm One Bounce - Basketball Game
3.30pm Touch Footy
4.15pm Active Teens

Friday 16th Jan & Friday 23rd Jan
11.30am – 3.30pm Hangout @ Neighbourhood Centre
4 Sirius Road, Bligh Park (Behind IGA)
- Soccer
- Basketball
- Drop In
- Lunch provided

Friday 23rd Jan – Australia Day BBQ
- Water Fight & other games

Tiningi Youth Centre is located at 139 Colonial Ave, Bligh Park. All programs are open to young people aged 12-18 years and include FREE light afternoon snacks and a drink of water.