Dear Parents,

As we move through Advent, our journey to the birth of our Lord, it is worthwhile considering the words of our Holy Father delivered before the praying of the Angelus at the very beginning of Advent. He spoke of this journey and asked us to “rediscover the beauty of being together along the way: the Church, with her vocation and mission, and the whole of humanity, the people, the civilizations, the cultures, all together on the paths of time.” He advised us that the “journey is never finished……..just as in each of our own lives there is always a need to restart, to rise again, to recover a sense of the goal of one’s own existence.” This wonderful time is a period for us to reflect while preparing ourselves to celebrate the anniversary of the Lord's coming into the world as the incarnation of God’s love.

We hope that this period of preparation is for you, and your family, a time of peace and an acceptance of the gifts we have already received. May the holidays that are approaching be a shared experience of love and joy. If there are tensions and trials we hope that the celebration of Christmas is a mercy in itself for all concerned. Best wishes and every blessing from us all here at Bede.

Thanks so much for all your support throughout 2013.

God Bless

Kevin Jones

Merry Christmas from all the Staff at Bede Polding College.
Have a Holy & Safe Christmas Break
Post School Options Team... Seeking Mentors

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 setting eg Bunnings.

Please consider this call for assistance so that the program can continue to supply a valuable service to students in our Catholic communities.

Bede Polding College has participated in this worthwhile program offering our students a unique opportunity to obtain work experience under the guidance of a mentor. I am appealing to the Bede Polding College community to become involved in this worthwhile program. You may not be monitoring a Bede Polding College student, but you will be providing a fantastic opportunity to a young person from our area.

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

Brett Collimore
Careers Adviser (BPC)
4577 6455

YEAR 10 GRADUATION MASS & PRESENTATION 2013
On the 25/11/13 Bede Polding’s Berg Shield team took on St Paul’s from Greystanes. Bede Polding won the toss and chose to have a bowl. It started off great with an early wicket but then T Raftopoulos started to make runs for St Paul’s. In the end St Paul’s finished on 7 for 113 from their 30 overs. The bowlers for Bede Polding did well with the best figures coming from Tim Everingham with 2 for 19. Bede Polding needed to get off to a great start but it did not happen with Jed Gordon out for a golden duck. But luckily our saviours Reece Lipowicz starring with a solid 59* and young gun Mitch Lemon smashing a 26* got the Bede Polding team over the line, with 3 overs to spare, 5 wickets down.

In Round 2 Bede Polding’s Berg Shield team set off on another adventure to Bounty Reserve on the 3/12/13. We arrived at the ground to take on the mighty De La Salle College, Revesby. De La Salle won the toss and elected to bat. It proved to be the right decision as De La Salle got off to a great start scoring 23 runs off the first 6 overs. The superstar bowling of Bailey Thompson (2 for 34) got the breakthrough that Bede Polding needed. But De La Salle recovered to post an imposing total off 4 for 161 after the 30 overs. After the lunch break the Bede Polding team knew they had a massive task ahead of them. Reece Lipowicz got us off to a great start but then their opening bowler had it over our batsman. Bede Polding looked down and out until Mark Adam (46) had a massive innings hitting 5 sixes and 2 fours which made Bede Polding’s heads rise. Reece Lipowicz also did well again with 24. But a couple of silly decisions from our batsmen made the game go into De La Salle’s hands. Luckily we had a secret weapon up our sleeves with the Harkins brothers having a decent 10th wicket partnership, which then gave Bede Polding’s team hope, but it proved not to be enough. All out 140 in the 28th over.

That brings to a close our Berg Shield campaign for this season but with most players eligible for next season, hopes are high for further progression.

Billy & Mark Harkins

Thanks to the following boys for their efforts and enthusiasm for this season’s campaign

BERG SHIELD TEAM FOR 2013

M Adam (Captain)
N Bruzzese (Vice Captain)
R Lipowicz (Vice Captain)
B Harkins
T Everingham
J Gordon
C Everard
C Kwok
M Harkins
B Thompson
M Lemon
R Seal
K Chapman
Bishop's Office

Inside Catholic Outlook’s combined Dec/Jan issue
* 10th anniversary of the dedication of St Patrick’s Cathedral
* Papal honours and Diocesan Medal of Honour presented
* Catholic Church makes abuse commitment statement
* Shrine of the Holy Innocents at Kellyville aims to promote a culture of life
• News from our Catholic schools

Invitation to participate in Vatican questionnaire
Family life will be the focus of an extraordinary general session of the Synod of Bishops that will meet at the Vatican from 5-19 October 2014. Around 150 Synod fathers will take part in the meeting to discuss the "pastoral challenges of the family in the context of evangelisation". To help the bishops prepare for the Synod you are invited to give your feedback through a Vatican questionnaire. A copy can be obtained from your parish or you can respond to the questionnaire online at: www.parra.catholic.org.au

St Pauls Books & Gifts Centre in Parramatta
Find all your Christmas gifts in the heart of Parramatta at the St Pauls Books & Gifts Centre, which stocks a wide range of devotional items, including books and DVDs, medals, prayer cards and statuary. A display case features our diocesan patron, St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, with devotional items and prayer books. On the first floor above the Books and Gifts Centre is the Chapel of St Mary MacKillop where Mass is celebrated on weekdays at 1pm.
Location: St Pauls Books & Gifts Centre, 238 Church Street, Parramatta, a short walk from the station.
Opening hours: Monday to Friday – 9.30am to 5pm; Saturday – 10am to 2pm.
• Tel: (02) 9126 8912. Email: bookcentreparra@stpauls.com.au Order online: http://www.stpauls.com.au/

Diocese of Parramatta Bushfire Appeal
The Diocese has launched an emergency appeal to assist people who have been affected by the NSW bushfires. St Thomas Aquinas Parish at Springwood is one of the areas hardest hit. The impact of the fires will be felt for months and years ahead. Donations of $2 or more are tax deductible and can be made through CatholicCare Social Services Parramatta: www.ccss.org.au
If making a donation by cheque, please make your cheque payable to CatholicCare Social Services – Bushfire Appeal and post to: Bushfire Appeal, PO Box 2023, North Parramatta, NSW, 1750.

St Finbar's Christmas Concert: 15 December
Mark your diary for St Finbar’s annual spectacular Christmas Concert with massed choir, Penrith Symphony Brass, harp, handbells, children’s choir and solo artists. Join in congregational carols and experience the thrill of singing Handel’s Hallelujah Chorus with organ, choir, brass and timpani on this night of Christmas joy. Starts 7.30pm in St Finbar’s Church, 46 Levy St, Glenbrook. There will be a leaving collection – suggested donation: families $25, individuals $10. Inquiries tel 4754 1780.

Feast of the Holy Innocents: 28 December
The Conventual Franciscan Friars invite you to join Bishop Anthony Fisher OP for the annual Mass for the Feast of the Holy Innocents at Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, Kellyville. Bishop Anthony will be the Principal Celebrant for the Mass at 11am on Saturday 28 December at Our Lady of the Rosary Church, 8 Diana Ave, Kellyville. Mass will be followed by the rosary procession to the Shrine for the Unborn, Mount St Francis, 8 Greyfriar Place, Kellyville.

Campion College Summer Program: 12-17 January
Campion’s Summer Program gives interested students the opportunity to live College life at Campion for five days and nights before making any long-term tertiary decisions. Each morning, participants taste Campion subjects: Literature, History, Theology, Philosophy, Science, Maths and Latin. This is followed by various activities including a beach trip, sport, bush walking, trivia and ballroom dancing. The program also aims to train students in leadership, personal, spiritual and social development as well as encouraging a deeper appreciation of the Catholic faith.
Cost: $420 for five days and nights, food and accommodation. For further details contact Eileen Reyes (02) 9896 9301, e.reyes@campion.edu.au

Schoenstatt Girls’ Camp: 14-17 January 2014
Girls aged 16 & 17 are invited to a four-day camp at Mt Schoenstatt. We will explore topics such as human dignity, modesty and relationships. Program also includes prayer, craft and fun activities. Time: from 4pm on Tuesday 14 January to 4pm on Friday 17 January. Venue: Home of Light, Mt Schoenstatt, 230 Fairlight Rd, Mulgoa. Cost: $ 110 (includes food and accommodation). RSVP: 4 January 2014 (registration form and deposit required). Inquiries: Sr M Luka, sr.m.luka@bigpond.com
Bede Polding Eco Group

During Term 4 the Eco Group has accomplished many different tasks that have contributed to making our school and its environment healthier. Thanks to our leader Mr Lans, we have been able to extend our knowledge of the problems we are facing like climate change and how we can help prevent these problems.

This Term teachers, students and parents have donated all sorts of thing like seeds, pots and clothes. The clothes will be sold at our school and the funds raised will go to helping our gardens. Our wood work students have made garden beds in which we have planted the donated seeds. We have had lots of herbs and vegetables growing like corn, carrots, snow peas and parsley. The Eco Group have also been planting flowers to grow around the school.

We have two compost bins, one of which contains worms. We are collecting fruit and vegetable scraps which are being split between the compost bins and the pigs at the agriculture plot.

During this year we have had visits from Zhan Patterson and Irene Melaisis. Zhan and Irene work for UWS’ Alive Project and they have helped us in the garden giving us some handy tips. Our group presented our progress at the Alive! Conference in front of other schools at UWS earlier this year. We had UWS students make a film of our progress which was presented at the Conference, it was also put on the Alive! DVD.

We also had a visit from the Mayor, Kim Ford, where we showed off our gardens.

We are very happy with the outcome of our work and are happy that we can help the environment.

Xavier Brugman-Allen Year 7
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
Ms Megan Bertenshaw

Careers
Mr Brett Collimore

Science
Mrs Jenelle Gavin / Assistant: Mr Nicholas Briffa

Special Education
Mrs Jan Trefoni

Sports Coordinator
Mr Dean Bertenshaw

Technology & Applied Studies
Mr Edward Gruppetta / Mrs Lisa Cummins

Year Coordinators

Years 7
Mrs Dianne Santos

Years 8
Mr Stephen Godfrey

Years 9
Miss Hayley Lalor

Years 10
Miss Jenny Woods

Senior Coordinator
Mr Marc Sluiter
Assistant: Mrs Kylie Kennedy

Student Counsellors
Mrs Sally Wardley / Mrs Debbie Robinson

Librarian
Mrs Kerrie Brownscombe

Richmond Rotary Carols
by Candle Light

At Richmond Park
Sunday 15th December

Former student Caitlin Uren will be singing at the Carols this year. She is opening the show with three songs. Current Student Maddie Crismale, is also singing in the show. It is a great night and one of the best shows in Sydney.

It would be lovely to have a lot of Bede Polding students there supporting them. Put it in your diary now!

Uniform Shop Extended Trading Hours 2014:

Monday 20th January  9am - 3:00pm
Tuesday 21st January  9am - 3:00pm
Wednesday 22nd January  9am - 3:00pm
Thursday 23rd January  9am - 3:00pm
Friday 24th January  9am - 3:00pm
Monday 27th January  Closed
Tuesday 28th January  8:00am - 2:00pm
Wednesday 29th January  8:00am - 2:00pm

Normal trading hours from Friday 31st January ie Tuesday & Fridays 8:00am - 2:00pm