Dear Community

Last Sunday was the first Sunday of Advent. The first candle of the Advent Wreath is lit signifying the beginning of the journey towards the birth of Jesus at Christmas. Advent is a time of waiting, preparation and reflection. It is important that in the busy lead up to Christmas we all take time to reflect on the first Christmas and too deepen our faith and understanding at this special time. Our parish mass is held each Saturday at 6:00pm. Currently a beautiful Advent Wreath is being used at mass to focus our attention on Jesus as we prepare for his birth.

Our next whole school gathering will be Thursday December 10, when we share morning tea together before commencing our Presentation Assembly at 11:30am. This is a celebration of your child’s learning throughout 2015 and I urge you all to attend. Those that have arrived late in the past have been unable to locate a seat, so please arrive early. Your child’s Semester Two Report will be come home addressed to parents on this day. After reading your child’s report, you may want to make a time to meet with your child’s teacher however I encourage you to make an appointment as soon as possible as students finish for the year on Wednesday December 16.

St Bede’s has many fine traditions and we hope to start a new tradition on the final Tuesday of the year when we hold a Thanksgiving Mass followed by the Thank You Morning Tea. The Thanksgiving Mass will commence at 10:00am at St Bede’s Church and will be celebrated by Fr. Peter. The Thank You Morning Tea will be held at 11:00am back at school for all those that have helped St. Bede’s School throughout 2015 in a wide variety of ways. Staff will provide the morning tea and is one way we can show our great appreciation to our helpers. I believe there are a few activities after this so I hope you can attend for part or all of the day?

Yours in Christ

Gerard

Mission Statement

“A School with Heart”
Where we are inspiring, challenging and nurturing one another to:
……live from the heart, love from the heart, learn from the heart

School concludes K-6 Wednesday December 16 2015

Kindergarten – Year 6 commence Thursday 28 January 2016

Moving Day

Monday 14 December is Moving Day from 9:30am. Helpers required please. Year 2 will move upstairs with Year 4 furniture moving downstairs. Year 6 will also reduce their furniture. This is the same day as the Swimming Fun Day that commences at 1:00pm. Kinder and Year 1 remain in the same rooms with Year 3 changing furniture only.

Is your child Leaving St Bede’s at the end of 2015? Please contact the school (not including Year 6)
Beginning next week on 8 December, the Pope has declared a Jubilee Year of Mercy. This is a time when we all as Catholics focus on the quality of mercy. A time when we pray and learn more about what it is to be a person of mercy, to be merciful. “Merciful like the Father” is the motto of the church year. The Pope has written a great deal about God our Father being a God of mercy, a God of forgiveness, a God who is merciful and kind. He challenges each one of us then to imitate the Father and to be people of mercy in our lives and our dealings with others. The newsletter has had many inserts from the Pope’s Bull of Indiction *Misericordiae Vultus* on the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy. Both the Parish and School will be sharing more on this special year throughout 2016.

### Library News

All borrowing has finished for the year, there are still a number of overdue books, please remind your child/children to return their books before the end of the year.

The class winning the Library prize for all their books returned so far is Year 3.

Come on all classes here’s a challenge “return your books!!!”

Don’t forget to keep reading in the holidays.

“The more you read the more things you know.
The more that you learn the more places you’ll go!!” — Dr Seuss

Happy reading!! Mrs McGrath

### Awards

#### Week 9

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kinder</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 4</th>
<th>Year 5/6</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clare Tooth</td>
<td>Chase Edwards</td>
<td>Bronte Edwards</td>
<td>Eva</td>
<td>Maddy Smyth</td>
<td>Mia Corey</td>
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<td>Rosalie Hazell</td>
<td>Jimi Magnus</td>
<td>Reggie D’Arcy</td>
<td>Pippi Cairns</td>
<td>Drue McAllister-Sells</td>
<td>Lachlan Hindmarsh</td>
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<td>Charlie Yewdall</td>
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<td>Claire Pettit</td>
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### Term 4 2015 Dates

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 Dec. 2015</td>
<td>Year 6—Jamberoo</td>
<td>6:30 am leave</td>
<td>Jamberoo</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 Dec. 2015</td>
<td>Presentation Day</td>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>School</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 Dec. 2015</td>
<td>Swimming Fun Day</td>
<td>1:00 pm</td>
<td>Pool</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 Dec. 2015</td>
<td>Thank you Morning Tea</td>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>School</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 Dec. 2015</td>
<td>Farewell to Mr Galvin—BBQ + Sports afternoon</td>
<td>11:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 Dec. 2015</td>
<td>Students last day of school</td>
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<tr>
<td>28 January 2016</td>
<td>Students return for Term 1 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 February 2016</td>
<td>1st full day for Kindergarten class</td>
<td>8.55</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 February 2016</td>
<td>Parent information evening</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>School</td>
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<tr>
<td>18 February 2016</td>
<td>Welcome BBQ</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Undercover area</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 March 2016</td>
<td>Parent Information session—Cyber Safety</td>
<td>6 pm</td>
<td>Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 Sept. 2015</td>
<td>Sacrament of Confirmation</td>
<td>6 pm</td>
<td>St Bede’s Church</td>
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**In this Year of Mercy, decreed by Pope Francis, this is our prayer.**

God of Mercy, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures.

You embrace with your tenderness all that exists. Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty. Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes. Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.

Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth.

Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light.

We thank you for being with us each day. Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace.

**Amen**

As we approach the end of the school year, it’s a time to reflect on the year that has been and the blessings our God has bestowed on us. This will be theme of our school mass on Tuesday, 15th December. Each class will contemplate their year and decide on one specific aspect for which they are thankful. These will form an integral part of the Mass.

Of course, our school will take this opportunity to thank God for the gift of Mr Galvin as our principal for the last six years. All parents and the wider St Bede’s community are invited to join us at St Bede’s Parish Church at 10am.

Continuing our theme of Thanksgiving, following the Mass, our school staff will thank the many parent and grandparent helpers who volunteer their time to aid our school. This thank you will take the form of a morning tea, with sweet treats provided by the school staff.

Finally on this day, our school will gather to farewell Mr Galvin with speeches and a shared lunch. All are welcome and encouraged to join us and offer Mr Galvin their good wishes.

In our parish our Christmas Celebration will be on Thursday evening (Christmas eve) at 6pm. It will be an outdoor Mass on the lawns of the church. Children are invited to dress as angels, shepherds or kings. Families are invited to bring a blanket or camping chairs and join us for this most holy of celebrations.

**May Peace be in your homes**

Ann
Water Awareness continues next week on Monday and Wednesday only. Students are asked to bring a set of plain clothes in for the Wednesday water safety lesson. An extra T-Shirt, shorts, track pants etc will be fine. Please remember to always send your child with a pair of thongs, crocs or similar to walk to and from the pool. There is a growing number wearing school shoes and socks which does slow the group down at change times. There is no lesson next Thursday due to the Presentation Assembly.

Thank you to the small army of helpers who have assisted with Water Awareness this week. This is particularly important for the younger classes when changing in and out of uniforms but also helping in and around the pool. Your support has been invaluable.

The K-6 Water Fun Day is on the final Monday of the year. Years 4-6 will walk to the pool at 1:00pm for a water safety session before the rest of the school joins them at 1:30pm. Students will return to school in time to change and leave as normal. Parents may take their child from the pool however please see your class teacher first. Parents will not be permitted to take other children unless the school has been contacted beforehand. Parent helpers to act as extra sets of eyes at the pool are always welcome!!

Kinder – Year 6 participated in Rugby Union clinics conducted by the Brumbies last Friday. It was wonderful to see the boys and girls all enjoying the game they play in Heaven. Angus and Matt had also heard about the famous Junior Redbacks and hope to attend some trainings next year.

Year 6—Jamberoo

Year 6 will enjoy their Big Day Out at Jamberoo Water Park next Tuesday. We will be leaving @ 6:30 am and returning to Braidwood @ 6:00pm.

Thank you to parents for driving and assisting with the supervision. Mrs Tetley is looking forward to the Taipan!

Will your child have a sibling attending an archdiocesan secondary College in 2016?

If so you may be eligible for a discount on the CE Tuition fee, please speak with Lara. Application forms are available at the office.

Dear Parents and Children,

Please mark Tuesday the 15th of December to attend the Thank You Morning Tea followed by a ‘Big Bonza Barbeque’ to farewell Mr Galvin in true Braidwood style.

There will be a sausage sandwich provided for all the children and a BBQ and salad for the grown ups. We are asking families to provide something to share. K-2 families are asked to bring a slice/cake and classes 3-6 a salad if attending. Steak, bread and sausages will be provided.

The BBQ will follow on from the Morning Tea with proceedings beginning at 11.30 am and an early lunch from 12pm.

We look forward to seeing you there,

Julian

Santa hats can be worn weeks 10 and 11 (From December 7—16).

Normal school hats will also be required as well.
Bits and Pieces

Happy Birthday: Maddison, Pema, Robert & Mariah

Lost and Found
Found a ladies pearl earring. Please speak with Lara, if this maybe yours.
Lost 1 sports jacket - please check your child clothing.

Find your Music will be offering a range of individual and group lessons at St Bede’s in 2016, starting Thursday February 4. There will be 2 x 30 minute singing groups on offer—for Kinder—Year 2 and Year 3—Year 6.
Individual lessons will also be offered in beginning music for younger or beginning students. There will also be sessions offered in Ukulele, singing and song writing. The children would be working toward a performance each term.
For more information please contact Merrilyn at Find Your Music on 0419 556 169 email merrilyn@findyourmusic.com.au or visit the website www.findyourmusic.com.au

You’re invited to the launch of Robyn Goodwin’s new book— Bella Blue Heelers Wacky Dream—Sunday 6 December from 4–6 pm @ the Tussock Café. RSVP to Robyn 48422704

Come and join Scouts
If you have kids between 7 and 14 and want some new fun and adventure for them and yourself, then put in your calendar the Thursday 4th February 2016.
Meet at the Scout Hall in Coghill Street at 6.30pm for a sausage sizzle and water bomb catapult building exercise. We will also be doing registrations and information. Of course we will still need your support to make this happen and we have 4 new leaders.
For more information, contact Laurie Joyce, Group Leader - 4842 8144

Catholic School Parents
Archdiocese of Canberra & Goulburn
for more information visit our page at
www.cg.catholic.edu.au/parents/

What’s on during the school holidays

♦ Summer Activity Program 12—21 January 2016—for information go to www.bragart.com.au
♦ Tennis clinic—contact Richard Sellick 0414 753 941
♦ Dept of sport and Recreation Swimming

Merry Christmas
Gundillian Community Hall Christmas Party

When: Saturday December 19
Time: Starts 1:30pm with Santa arriving @4:00 pm & BBQ from 5:00 pm—Please bring a plate (cakes, slices etc…)
Cost: $6.00 per person
Contact: Di Izzard on 48475095 with name of children 10 years and under by Monday 30 November.
Enquiries: Jason & Janine Hindmarsh 0428 471 160
          Chauntelle Hindmarsh 0427 637 492
Games for the children—raffle and competitions for young and old.

Reminder
On Fridays children still need something for morning tea and fruit break - canteen only operates at lunchtime!!

Community Council Happenings

Uniform Pool
Please call Narelle (0425 218 201) or Lisa (0424 243 194) for any uniform pool enquiries. We will gratefully accept any uniforms that your child may have out grown.

Canteen Roster—Term 4—2015

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Please consider placing your name on the roster.

The simplest way
...to make fruit & veg festive!

Who says the festive season can’t be fun and healthy?

With these super-cute strawberry Santas, you’ll be wowing the Christmas crowds and feeding them nutritious fare too.

To make: Hull and chop the top third off each strawberry; mix 100g cream cheese and 4 tsp of icing sugar, and pipe mix on for face filling and hat pompon; add raisins or mini choc bits for eyes. Easy!

Or try these eye-catching Christmas creations:

For more information visit www.eatittobeatit.com.au or join us at facebook.com/eatittobeatit

The simplest way
...to add veg to a barbecue.

The weather is warming up and so are the backyard barbecues. But it need not be an entirely meat affair. Here are some ideas for adding healthy veg to the barbie:

Kebabs - capsicum, zucchini, eggplant and mushrooms work well. Add to pork, chicken or lamb.

Chips - slice potato or sweet potato, and grill on the hotplate.

Salad – grab some green leaves and toss in tomato, cucumber, carrot, beans, capsicum or whatever takes your fancy!

Vegie sticks and dip – chop up carrot, cucumber, and celery sticks to dip in yummy hummus, or an eggplant or beetroot dip.

For more information visit www.eatittobeatit.com.au or join us at facebook.com/eatittobeatit

Nutrition Snippet

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