



NEWSLETTER NUMBER 13 — SEPTEMBER 2017

Welcome to Newsletter Number 13—the last for Term 3. Included in this newsletter are details of another one of our incoming Coordinators, the continuation of the explanation of our sacred space, an outline of our recent Parent Information sessions, a continuation of our student profiles, a report on the awards received by our builders, and some community news.

STUDENT REFLECTION DAY

A reminder that our Student Reflection will take place next Tuesday 19 September at the Pat Hughes Community Centre Thornton. Bus transport has been arranged to pick up the students from the two feeder schools for all enrolled students. Students from the non-feeder school are to be dropped off at 8.30am at our current Office at 39 Heritage Drive Chisholm and be collected at around 3.00pm.

The Reflection Day will be an opportunity for students from both feeder and non-feeder schools to gain to get to know each other more and also to engage in a fun spiritual reflection day. A lot of the day will be run by Mr. Brian Lacey, Head of Religious Education & Spirituality Services at the Catholic Schools Office and our incoming Religious Studies Coordinator, Fiona Duque. Permission letters have already been sent and should be returned by the requested date. Please contact the Office if you require another copy.

The Term 4 Student Orientation Day on Tuesday 14 November will focus on the procedural preparation for the start of 2018 and will be run by our Term 4 staff which will include our incoming Assistant Principal, Learning Support Coordinator, Student Coordinator and myself.

Attendance at these Student Days are important in minimising the stress of students commencing secondary school and will assist in their transition to St Bede's.



John Murphy
Principal

MEET OUR ENGLISH/HUMANITIES (HSIE)/ CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS

Andrew will officially start at St Bede's at the start of next year but as the driver of our computer tendering process is already making a substantial contribution to our community. Andrew has extensive school leadership experience in a range of roles and is committed to life-long learning as demonstrated by having two Masters degrees. Currently, Andrew is an Educational Officer at the Maitland Newcastle Catholic Schools Office with a focus on Learning Technology. With St Bede's to have a cross-curricular student learning approach with digital technology being an important learning tool, Andrew will bring experience, expertise and a genuine desire to make St Bede's a great school. As a local, Andrew appreciates the gifts of the people who will form the community of St Bede's and will become an important member of our staff. Please read Andrew's profile and on behalf of the St Bede's community we congratulate Andrew on his prestigious educational award as reported on the following page .

	<p>Teaching qualifications: Bachelor of Education – University of Sydney Graduate Certificate in Careers Education – RMIT Master of Religious Education – ACU Master of Educational Leadership – ACU Highly Accomplished Teacher</p>
	<p>Teaching experience: 2003-2006 – Teacher, All Saints College 2006-2008 – VET and Careers Coordinator, St Francis Xavier's Hamilton 2009-2012 – Student Coordinator, St Joseph's Lochinvar 2013-2014 – Religious Studies Coordinator, St Mary's Maitland 2014-current – Education Officer (Learning Technology), Catholic Schools Office Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle</p>
	<p>Personal Interests/Passions: The centre of my world is my family, with my wife Corinne and children Grace, Tom, and Abigail. We all love sport, and especially football where my love far outweighs my ability. We also love to travel, and meet new people and explore new places. I am also a little bit nerdy and like to work with technology and play computer games.</p>
<p>My hopes and dreams in coming to St Bede's: I am very excited to join St Bede's in its foundation year. This will be an exciting period for the community, and I look forward to working with parents, students, and staff to make it a success. I am particularly excited about the opportunity to help shape our foundation year students and watch them grow and become confident, resilient, and reflective learners.</p>	<p>Advice to the incoming Foundation Students: My advice is simple – get involved! This is an exciting adventure and everyone – teachers, students, and parents – will get as much out of it as they put in. We will have to work hard to get our school started, and we will need your help to do that. I look forward to us working together to build a community of learners.</p>



The ACEL New Voice Scholarships are awarded to education leaders whose work has made a significant impact in their field.

The scholarship recognises forward thinking, contextually relevant and responsive educational leaders whose work has had an impact above and beyond their immediate context.

This is the third year ACEL has awarded the *New Voice scholarships*, with 55 talented educators across all states and territories recognised and rewarded for their work.

After speaking with a colleague, who recommended he apply, Andrew completed a short essay, attached his CV with two referee statements and was selected, along with four others, out of over 100 applicants.

The scholarship is combined of four main components. Firstly, the opportunity to attend and be a part of the Australian College of Education Leaders (ACEL) National Conference being held in Sydney 4-6 October. The second component is membership into ACEL and access to ACEL resources. The third component involves presenting at the conference and being given the opportunity to write an article for ACEL's Perspectives publication. The fourth and most important part is the opportunity to be connected with ACEL Branch (Principal Suzanne Fern of St Aloysius Primary School, Chisholm, is a member of the NSW Executive, newly appointed for 2017-2020).

“It is this latter component that is the most exciting, as it will provide opportunities to work collaboratively and alongside expert educators throughout NSW and nationally,” said Mr Cornwall.

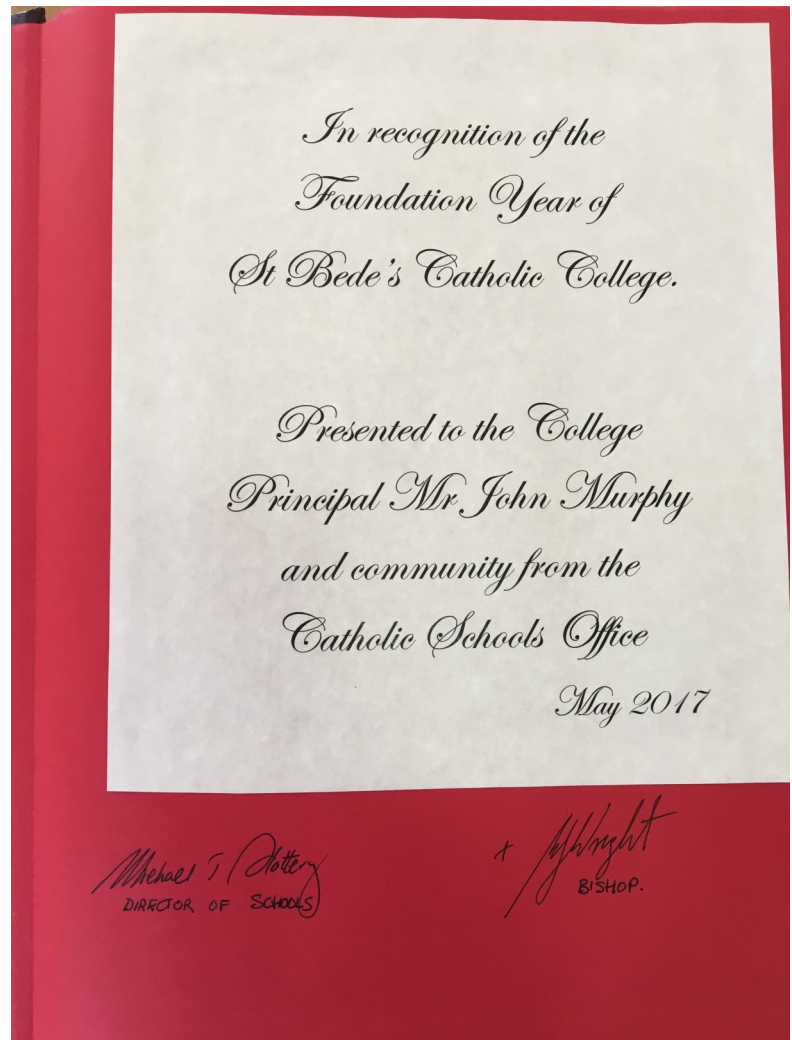
“In my application I focused on my work in the area of technology for teaching, learning, and school operation. I am particularly proud of the work that the Learning Technology and ICT team have done in getting MNConnect rolled out in the diocese.

“ACEL is an organisation that seeks to ‘inspire, support, recognise, and advocate for excellence in educational leadership.

“I am always looking for ways to improve my own capacity, and as I continue in my role in system and school leadership, I am excited to have that opportunity to continue to grow within a network specifically focused on developing educational leadership.

“I am also keen to use this opportunity to continue discussion of the importance of re-imagining technology for education, and the role of teachers, learners and technology in a rapidly changing world,” said Mr Cornwall.

SAINT BEDE'S SACRED SPACE




As outlined in one of our earlier newsletters, you will notice a sacred space at the entrance to the foyer of our Office at 39 Heritage Drive Chisholm. Sacred spaces in our Catholic schools are important as they give a visual expression of our faith in Jesus Christ as our saviour. The brief outline on the significance of the Book of the Gospels that is pictured above is the second explanation of how the items on this space are all intertwined.


This beautiful gift from Bishop Bill and the Catholic Schools Office is strategically placed in centre of our sacred Space as it underpins all that we do as a Catholic school. The Book of the Gospels is used for the order of our Holy Masses and will therefore be proudly displayed and used at our liturgical celebrations.

The Gospel readings is the finale to the readings that we hear each Sunday. The readings before this come from both the Old and New Testaments which are structured in such a way that thematic links between the Jewish scriptures are connected to the scriptures based on Jesus Christ and his followers. The Gospel readings from Matthew, Mark, Luke and John are centred around the life, actions, stories and messages of Jesus Christ which in turn provides a pathway for how we should live our lives and the hope of eternal life after death. The four Gospel values of love, truth, compassion and justice chosen as the basis for our St Bede's Foundation Plan. How we live by these and some of the other values from the Gospel will determine how successful we are in building a truly authentic Catholic community. Only some of the values that are found within the Gospels.

PARENT INFORMATION SESSION



Item	Presenter	Time	Time Slot
Prayer, Acknowledgement of Country	John Murphy	5 minutes	6.35 – 6.40pm
Building Report	Elizabeth Brown	10 minutes	6.40 – 6.50pm
Foundation Plan, Why St Bede's, Staffing	John Murphy	10 minutes	6.50 – 7.00pm
Assistant Principal	Brett Donohoe	4 minutes	7.00 – 7.04pm
Student Coordinator	Jasmine Hutchinson	4 minutes	7.04 – 7.08pm
Learning Support Coordinator	Amy Stoddart	4 minutes	7.08 – 7.12pm
Break		5 minutes	7.12 – 7.17pm
Web-site, Student Device Program	John Murphy	5 minutes	7.17 – 7.22pm
Uniform	Rachel Quirk	10 minutes	7.22 – 7.32pm
Buses, Camp, Next Steps	John Murphy	10 minutes	7.32 – 7.40pm
General Information & Questions/Answers	John Murphy	18 minutes	7.42 – 8.00pm



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Thank you to all those parents who attended the morning or evening Parent Information Session at the Easts Club on Monday 4 September. This was the third such meeting and continues our commitment to meeting with parents each term to keep everyone up-to-date on the exciting developments. Well attended with a real positive sense of support and excitement, the sessions were a great opportunity to meet some of our new staff that will join our staff team at the start of next term. Brett Donohoe (our incoming Assistant Principal), Jasmine Hutchinson (our incoming Student Coordinator), Amy Stoddart (our incoming Learning Support Coordinator), Elizabeth Brown (our architect), and Rachel Quirk (our Office Manager) all gave informative and easy to listen to presentations. It was also an opportunity for me to give an up-date on the many developments, including staffing and resourcing.

Amongst the information shared was an up-date on the building project and on our 'Flexible Learning Village' which will be our temporary school site for Term 1. With the Catholic Schools Office electing to invest a significant amount of money in this part of our school site, we can now be confident that students will commence in a suitable and air conditioned learning environment before moving into the first of four buildings in Term 2. The 'Flexible Learning Village' will also provide additional options for our use and a buffer should any of the other buildings have any unexpected delays.

One of the other items discussed was an up-date on the school uniforms which included a show and tell presentation. As outlined at the evening session, all contract negotiations with Williamson has been concluded and is signed off. Garment prices will be published at the start of Term 4, along with details of fittings and ordering.

I welcome any feedback, questions or concerns that you may not have wanted to raise publicly but are happy to do so privately. I would rather hear these concerns directly rather than these being expressed to others without the opportunity to discuss these with you. Please email Rachel with these concerns or feedback.

Please note the date of Thursday 23 November at the Beresfield Bowling Club for the Term 4 Parent Information Session. We will again have a morning and evening session. In addition, we will be having a low-key late afternoon/early evening social gathering either on-site or next door at St Aloysius on Tuesday 12 December.



STUDENT INTRODUCTIONS



Talia Falconer is an exciting addition to the St Bede's community. She will bring to St Bede's a great variety of educational experiences which has included doing Distant Education this year. Talia enjoys challenging subjects and has a particular interest in STEM (Science Technology Engineering Mathematics) and is keen to integrate her strong enquiry based learning approach and passion for model making into some of the cross-curricular projects that we want to showcase next year. Talia is very interested in world affairs and is keen to become involved in any drama productions and to represent St Bede's in public speaking.



Naua is one of the 12 student leaders from Our Lady of Lourdes. Popular with his teachers and peers, Naua takes great pride in being a strong practicing Catholic and has had tremendous success in Religious Education. Noah also takes great pride in his perfect behavioural record at Our Lady of Lourdes and will be hoping to go through his entire school education with an unblemished record. He loves team sports, including basketball and Rugby League, and is looking forward to representing St Bede's in both these sports. Naua loves his school and in bringing this passion and love of people with him to St Bede's, he will no doubt make invaluable contributions to our school community.



Charlotte Brown is another very impressive student coming to us from Thornton Public School. She is the current Sports Vice-Captain and as such has a great love of the outdoors and sport. Charlotte, being a local girl to the estate, loves the parks and bike tracks in this area. Coming from a close and happy family, Charlotte enjoys going on outings, including the beach, with her family and friends. With a strong commitment to social justice and living by what she believes in, Charlotte will no doubt thrive on the many sporting and cultural opportunities that will be offered at St Bede's. We look forward to welcoming her at the up-coming Student Reflection Day at Thornton.

STUDENT INTRODUCTIONS



Annabelle Schmalenberg and her family will be moving to the area from Queensland. As a student, Annabelle really enjoys school and was attracted to St Bede's because of the emphasis that we'll place upon being a community where learning and relationships are both equally valued. Annabelle is very committed to social justice, as evidenced through her involvement in Mini Vinnies. She is equally passionate about sport which includes netball, soccer, and athletics. We look forward to welcoming Annabelle at the start of next year.



Alexander Currey from Our Lady of Lourdes comes to us with a particular passion and skill in the area of digital technology. Whereas he has many other talents and is strong in a range of subject areas, Alexander will be a great asset in supporting the many students who will need assistance in learning how to utilise their computers. Alexander has been on many camps with his family and scouts and is looking forward to the Year 7 Camp in February next year. He'll no doubt be able to help any students who may need some support if they haven't been on a camp before.



Maddy Bowe from Our Lady of Lourdes is a spirited and friendly girl who loves the outdoors, particularly surfing. She realises that secondary education is a step-up from primary school and is determined to make the most of her opportunities. Maddy plays a range of sports, including netball, dancing and soccer, and is keen to represent her College with distinction next year. We look forward to Maddy thriving next year and being one of our fun-loving foundation students.



Ciara Copper-Proctor has only recently moved from Singleton and is keen to make new friends which is why St Bede's will be such a good choice as we want to be known as a school where we look after each other. Moving into the Estate, Ciara has been excited about the recent rapid progress on the building site. Ciara has proven success in Cheerleading, as evidenced by her six large trophies. She will be another member of our powerful Cheerleading Squad that will be primed to take on the best. We can hardly wait to have Ciara joining our community, starting with the upcoming Student Reflection Day.



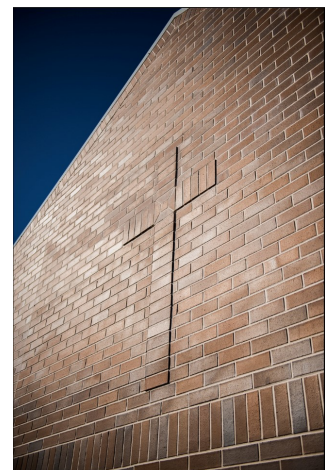
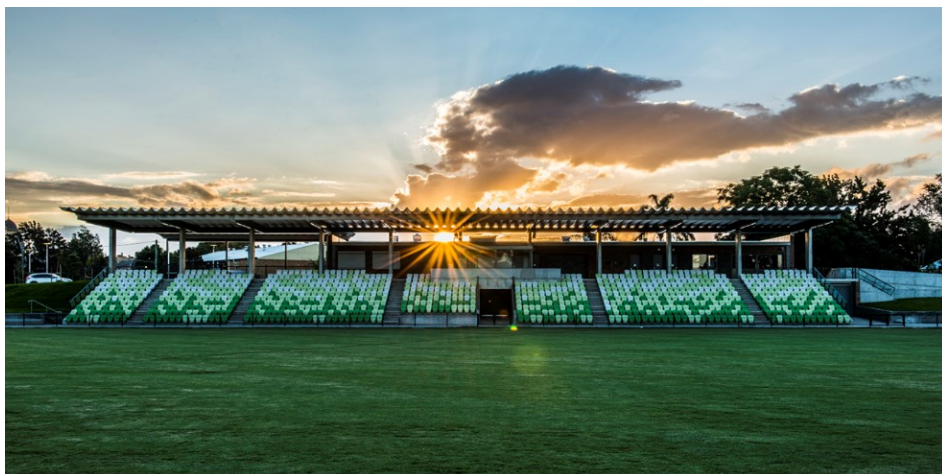
CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR BUILDERS ON THEIR AWARDS

The company appointed to do the first stage of the Building Project is North Construction. Since the completion of the early earth works program that went way beyond the scheduled time allocation, North Construction has taken control of the site and is fast reducing the amount of lost time. Even given the fine weather of recent months, North Construction's progress on site has been outstanding.

In confirming that the right choice was made with the appointment of North Construction as our builders, North Construction dominated the recent awards at this year's Master Builders Association Excellence in Building Awards – Newcastle. They were successful in the following categories

- Commercial Builder of the Year for the third time, having also won it in 2011 and 2016.
- Public Buildings in the \$6 Million - \$12 Million range for their building of the Maitland Sportsground, Maitland.
- Aged Care/Medium Density Developments for the building of Opal Aged Care at Hillside, Mount Hutton.
- Interior and Shop Fit outs over \$500, 000 for the building of Reliance Medical Practice, North Wyong
- Best Use of Bricks for the Housden Building, Bishop Tyrell Anglican College, Fletcher
- Commercial Apprentice of Year – Mitchell Earl.
- Women in Building Recognition Award – Nicole Redmond

On behalf of the College community, congratulations to our builders - North Construction.



CONGRATULATIONS TO SOME OF OUR INCOMING 2018 ST BEDE'S STUDENTS

Congratulations to some of our incoming students who in playing for the mighty Tenambit U'12's Sharks FC won their respective Football (Soccer) Grand Final. Included in this team were Hayley Colling and Daisy Hungerford, Charlee Jones and Ava Maeer.

Congratulations also to some of our incoming boys - Joshua Martinovic, Jack Surtees, Billy Bowen and Jett Lee who went down to the undefeated Greta Branxton in the Grand Final. To make the Grand Final in their first year of competition was a fantastic result.

The success of these students is only a snapshot of the successes being enjoyed by many of our incoming 2018 St Bede's students in a whole range of areas and illustrates the potential we have next year to make a real statement that 'St Bede's have arrived'. Congratulations again to our girls and boys on their great achievements and to all those other incoming students who are excelling in so many ways.

