



17 March 2011

Greetings from St Bede's,

Someone far more erudite than me said "we live in extraordinary times". It is almost four weeks since the earthquake which has changed all our lives. We continue to pray for those in our Bedean community who have lost loved ones – the Chambers, Pohio, Willems and Bell families.

The needs of our students remain paramount, and we are committed to providing our boys a full academic year. We have worked hard to ensure that certain events in our calendar have been postponed or cancelled to ensure we have the time to do this. So the Centenary, CanTeen and the rugby tour to Japan will not happen this year. As well we have made provision for a homework centre to run in the afternoon. The homework centre will be available for use between 1.30pm- 2:30pm each school day. Staff will provide supervision and assistance during this period but parents must understand that attendance is optional and not compulsory. A register of those boys attending the homework centre will be kept each day for safety purposes but parents need to make arrangements for their sons to travel home when the school day finishes at 1.00pm if they are not intending to use this facility.

Our reasoning to offer the use of our campus has further challenged us in these last weeks. The reasons behind the decision I share below, but both schools have worked well together to make it possible for Marian College to begin on Monday.

We trialled the new timetable this week and the boys (with your backing) responded very well – thanks to both you and the boys for this.

On the boys return we handed out survey sheets to determine how individual boys and their families were affected by the earthquake. Lindsay Thorn, our counsellor backed by a team from the Ministry of Education are working well and are available to help and we encourage parents to contact him if you are worried that your son may be struggling in any way (extension 849).

The following is my address to the boys which endeavours to put the events of the last few weeks into perspective.

Men, as I said yesterday – welcome back to our newly begun year. It's now a year where all of us have to reappraise what our goals are – staff and students. For some – hopes and aspirations I know have been dashed and taken away. Many people have to deal with this not just this year but into the future. Looking at the images from Japan makes you realise they have so much to overcome - there is always someone worse off!

In times like this it prompts people to ask where the heck God is in all this. No one has the complete answer to that question but could I share this as I begin my thoughts with you today.

While we believe that God is the creator of nature he is not the grand puppeteer using nature for his own entertainment so that at his own leisure he decides to 'zap' Christchurch or 'zap' Sendai. He isn't the grand puller of strings.

Nature is nature and God didn't have a pre-destined plan for Christchurch or Sendai or any other natural disaster that has occurred.

Rather, God speaks to us through the people and the events of our lives and this is a big event. And it is how we respond as to where God is. God was somewhere close when 11,000 young people including many of you went out to the eastern suburbs and helped clean up.

God is somewhere close in inspiring search and rescue teams to work double shifts in the small hope of finding others alive in the rubble of the first week; or somewhere close in giving courage to those Japanese workers trying to prevent that nuclear fallout and risking their own lives in the process.

God has given us free will, and indeed man has found ways to respond to some forces of nature – man has used the forces of nature, wind and water, to create electricity.

God is somewhere near in the small acts of charity – strangers helping strangers, neighbours offering shelter, food or accommodation.

We can't control nature but 100% we can control our response individually and collectively.

*That of course has led to our decision to offer Marian College to share our site. People have told me that it must have been a difficult decision. Yes and no. It was forced on us by nature so in some ways it was an easy decision – there weren't many choices. A Catholic College, our sister College was in trouble – we responded the way we did because it was a call that rested at the very heart of our values. It is central to the Gospel that we act on our principles and our motto – *fide et opere* – by faith and work. We are not going to pass by on the other side of the road, but we're going to walk the path of the Samaritan, i.e. to offer help to our neighbour.*

So in that way if we are being true to ourselves, this was an easy decision. The hard part is now

- Getting up early and going to school in the dark*
- Teachers and students rearranging programmes to make sure academic opportunities are not missed.*
- More homework for teachers to set and you to do, and properly*
- The postponement of the Centennial, Canteen and the rugby trip to Japan – all difficult but obvious decisions to make.*
- Sharing a campus so both schools can run and all the organisation that entails.*
- More give and take on a whole lot of levels.*

It's difficult, but I am already seeing in both staff and you boys that in tough times we find reserves in us perhaps we didn't know we had before.

A passing comment from Mr Hogg yesterday gave me a sign of your response on the first day of the new timetable – he said he felt there were fewer late yesterday than for a long time! Now I know its early days but to me that's a sign of your individual response to the times we now live in.

For SBC – in its 100th year – arguably it hasn't faced a drama like this in its whole history and arguably the biggest and most difficult challenge the College has had and the challenge I am giving to you both staff and students is this – what will the history books write about St Bede's in its 100th year and most importantly how did we respond to St Bede's' biggest challenge? Let's begin to write a glorious chapter in that history.

While the official centennial celebrations are postponed until next year, no one can take away from us all that this is still the 100th year of our history and while this is a sad time we can't mourn all year. So there will be spiritual, academic, sporting, and cultural events that we will participate in, compete and then celebrate.

You are the men of the 100th year nothing can change that – let this chapter in our history reflect what the Bedean spirit really is in this extraordinary time.

Weekly notes for this week will be emailed home on Monday.

Until next week,



J G Boyle
Rector

Mr Gerry Davidson **Deputy Rector - Pastoral**

Homework Centre

Repeating what Mr Boyle has already said - The homework centre will be available for use between 1.30pm- 2:30pm each school day. Staff will provide supervision and assistance during this period but parents must understand that attendance is optional and not compulsory. A register of those boys attending the homework centre will be kept each day for safety purposes but parents need to make arrangements for their sons to travel home when the school day finishes at 1.00pm if they are not intending to use this facility.

Further to this it is envisaged that seniors who have sports practices will study in this time slot before their practices at 2.30pm; any boy whose dwelling is affected is also encouraged to attend; boys younger than 14 years are encouraged to attend if they haven't got a sports practice.

Year 9 Parents Evening – 22 March 2011 – 6.00pm to 7.30pm

All parents of Year 9 students are invited to a social evening to meet their son's House Tutor and Form Tutor. There will also be an opportunity to meet the Rector, members of the Senior Management Team and learn more about the pastoral system, the role of the counsellor, sporting opportunities, our restorative justice initiatives and ask questions of those directly involved. Light refreshments and snacks will be served. We look forward to seeing you there.

A reminder please: It is very important that parents **DO NOT** drive in the main gates to drop off or pick up their sons. Please use Momorangi Crescent for dropping off or alternatively Grimseys Rd. As there is no bus lane on the east side of Main North Rd at school end that is available for pick up.

Mrs Nola Kilpatrick **Deputy Rector - Curriculum**

Impact of Christchurch Earthquake on Reviews and Reconsiderations

NZQA have advised that some NCEA examination answer reviews and reconsiderations were sent to Christchurch-based markers and processing of these may be affected as a result of the earthquake. NZQA is managing this issue, but it may take some time to resolve.

As a result, some students' examination papers may be late in being returned to students outside of Christchurch. Some other papers may have been damaged or destroyed and will be unable to be returned. Any affected students will be contacted by NZQA. In addition, applicants from Christchurch may no longer be living at the return address listed on their Review or Reconsideration form. Please note that any papers with a Christchurch address will be sent to NZQA in the interim and a notice will be put on the NZQA website asking affected candidates to reconfirm their delivery address.

St Bede's internal assessment clarification

Last week the new daily timetable was emailed to parents and referred to the booking of internal assessments. Please note that the plan is for some internal assessments to be run in an afternoon slot. Times would be booked by faculties and students will be advised in advance. This will provide more teaching and learning time in classes and allow practical subjects a more manageable length time to run assessments.

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Upcoming events

Mon 21	BOT Meeting - 5.30pm
Tues 22	Year 9 Parent evening 6 – 7.30pm, Chanel Hall
Wed 23	PTA AGM 7.30pm Staffroom – All welcome
Sat 26	Maadi Cup, Lake Karapiro - to 3 April
Tues 29	Class photographs
Thurs 31	Academic Assembly
April	
Sat 2 & Sun 3	SISS Athletics Championships in Timaru
Wed 6	National Bank Junior Maths Competition
Thurs 7	Summer Sports Awards Assembly
Tues 12	SBC Cross Country Champs
	Yr 9 & 10 Parent Interviews 1.30-5pm
Thurs 14	Yr 9 & 10 Parent Interviews 4-7pm
Fri 15	Easter Liturgy

Mrs Jill Falloon

College Shop Manager

Due to the change of the College timetable to accommodate Marian College, the College Shop will be open the following hours from Monday 21st March 2010:

- Monday, Wednesday and Fridays 10.00am -1.30pm.

This is to incorporate the morning break and after school time. We will trial these hours and where necessary we will change them according to demand. The College Shop offers the following methods of payment – cash, cheque, eftpos and credit card transactions over the phone.

Phone: 375-0647 extn 884,

Email: collegeshop@stbedes.school.nz

ST BEDE'S COLLEGE SPORT

Mrs Clare Kissick

Director of Sport

Sports update:

All summer and Wednesday Sport has been cancelled.

Athletics: 3000m Track Championship will be held at 1.30pm on Tuesday 22nd on the Front Field SSS being held on Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd April in Timaru

Football: Mainland Football have put their start date back to the 30th April.
Football Club meeting Wednesday 7.30pm in the staffroom

Hockey: All players are asked to come to a hit out on Monday 21st 3.30 - 5.00pm at Marist Park.
Hockey AGM is being held on Tuesday 22nd April at 7.00pm in the staffroom all are very welcome.

Rugby: Trials dates as follows:
U14 Sunday April 3rd, 10th and Tuesday April 12th.
U13 boys can trial with U14 but we prefer they play U13. They will be contact separately.
U15 Sunday 3rd April, Wednesday 6th April and Sunday 10th April.
U16 Sunday March 27th, Sunday 3rd April and Sunday 10th April.
U18 Sunday 27th March, Sunday 3rd and 10th April.
All times will be advised.

Motor Cross: This will continue on Thursdays starting at 1.30pm

Winter Wednesday sport will be reassessed and this will be dependent on venues and we are looking at making up clusters of schools which would mean that we may only play schools in our surrounding area. We will pass on information as it comes to hand.

Results from South Island Secondary School Rowing Champs held in Twizel last weekend.

10 Medals 4 Gold, 1 Silver, 5 Bronze,

Gold

U17 Eight: T Soncin, J Brydon, J Barclay, T Wooding, C Houghton, B Meates, J Lilley, S Arscott, Cox W Hudson.

U15 Eight: J Tranter, H Soper, D Brydon, D Childs, T Cragg-Love, M Lilley, C Scott, A Scally, Cox W Hudson

U17 Four: T Soncin, T Wooding, J Barclay, J Lilley, Cox E Sullivan

U16 Double: N Flynn & B Meates

Silver U17 Quad: C Houghton, J Barclay, T Wooding, T Soncin Cox E Sullivan

Bronze

U18 Eight: T Soncin, J Brydon, J Barclay, T Wooding, C Houghton, B Meates, J Lilley, S Arscott, Cox W Hudson

U18 Pair L Van Bysterveldt + G Brand

U18 LW Four S O'neil, N Flynn, C Maher, N Fountian Cox E Sullivan

U17 Double T Wooding + J Barclay

U15 Four J Tranter, M Lilley, D Brydon, H Soper Cox Q Houghton

We wish all students well at Maadi Cup which is being held at Lake Karapiro in the end of March.

South Island Secondary Schools Triathlon Championships

Sam Elstob Year 11 won the U16 grade which was an outstanding achievement as Sam's training has been disrupted by the earthquake.

U19 Oceania Triathlon Championship.

Zac Barber finished in 29th place which is an excellent achievement as Zac has only just turned 16. The top three in this event automatically rank in the world top 15. He managed this result even after breaking his chain part way through the race.

BEDEAN COMMUNITY NEWS

Please remember in your prayers those in the Bedean community who have lost family members due to the earthquake of 22 February 2011:

Helen Chambers – mother of Will (Y10), Lisa Willems – wife of Ben Willems, member of the St Bede's College Foundation and Old Boy 1980 – 1984.

Also Mrs Joanne Davidson recently lost her sister and Jonathan Brown (Y10) his grandfather.

ST BEDE'S COLLEGE P.T.A.

PTA Raffle

Thanks to all those who have returned their raffle books. The proceeds from the raffle will go towards the new school van, so this is a very practical way to support our school. Please note that the second prize will no longer be two tickets to the Rugby World Cup Quarterfinals but \$1000 Northlands vouchers instead. Please inform Mary Duggan (359 4727) if you have lost books as we need to account for them in the audit process. Replacements books are available from Mary.

ST BEDE'S COLLEGE OLD BOYS ASSOCIATION

The committee of the Association extends its sincere sympathy to old boys and their families who have lost loved family members in the recent earthquake.

2011 programme: The Association, in conjunction with the Centennial committee and the College intends to run a programme of events in 2011. While dates have yet to be finalised these will included the following

- ANZAC Memorial Mass
- Launch of the Centennial History
- Annual Old Boys Dinner
- Annual Old Boys Golf tournament
- Annual Old Boys Mass
- Seniors Lunch
- Life Members and former executive luncheon
- 1971 1st XV 40 year reunion
- Auckland & Wellington function

AGM: the date of the AGM will be advised shortly.

R.I.P.

Lindsay MacLeod	1950-1954
Dominic Bell	1978-1982 - as a result of the Christchurch earthquake
Jo Pohio	1984-1987 - as a result of the Christchurch earthquake
Kevin Cunniffe	1947-1948
Gerald Thoen	1970-1972



Helping people was second nature for **Joseph Pohio**, killed by falling rubble as he crouched to help an injured woman. The 40-year-old came to the aid of the woman in the Christchurch City Food Court in High St, when an aftershock sent debris crashing down on to his neck. Through their grief yesterday, parents Arnold and Joy Pohio said their son was a popular man, who "never lost a friend, only gathered more". A Civil Defence member for 20 years, helping people was second nature. Christchurch woman Lisa Raxworthy tried to help him. "She said we could consider Joe as a hero, but we don't know," Mrs Pohio said. Born with a hole in his heart, he had gone through several surgeries as a child. His neck was broken two months out from his

21st birthday when he was hit by a car in Wellington on his way to an AC/DC concert. "We nearly lost him four times," Mrs Pohio said.



Dr Dominic Bell was a GP at The Clinic in the CTV building and also worked at the Belfast Medical Centre. He had been at The Clinic for two years after previously working as a GP at the Picton Street Medical Centre, Howick, Auckland. Dr Bell, aged in his late 40s, had three children.



The man described as a "bridge between Maori and non-Maori" died in New Plymouth early yesterday morning (21st February 2011). **Lindsay MacLeod**, a respected Parihaka kaumatua, died aged 74 after an illness.

Mr MacLeod was well-known and respected in Taranaki and had worked for the New Plymouth District Council since 1999. He viewed his role as building meaningful, effective and enduring relationships between iwi and the council, and the wider community. Chief executive Barbara McKerrow said he had been uniquely suited to the role.

"He was an honest, humble man of great integrity who was able to walk in the two worlds of tikanga Maori and local government, and do so eloquently, with grace and good humour.

"Both Maori and non-Maori throughout the region would approach him for advice. He had a wonderfully calming influence and was able to speak to the heart of a matter, explaining issues very clearly."

Mr MacLeod had been a role model, adviser, teacher and guide and good friend to many, she said.

In 2009 Mr MacLeod was awarded the Queen's Service Medal for services to Maori.



210 Main North Road
PO Box 5380, Christchurch 8542
Telephone 03 375 0647
Facsimile 03 352 0345
Email centennial@stbedes.school.nz

ST BEDE'S COLLEGE CENTENNIAL

Important Announcement

In light of the earthquake of February 22, 2011, which has devastated so much of Christchurch with great loss of life, the Centennial Committee has decided, after careful consideration of the pros and cons, to POSTPONE the centenary celebration until 2012.

St Bede's College deserves a great celebration of the great college that it is.

This is not a time to celebrate but to offer support to those in the wider Christchurch community who have been affected by the earthquake, many of whom are Bedeans.

A further communication will follow just as soon as the full effect of this decision can be evaluated.

With regards to all

Dr Robin Mann
Chairman
St Bede's College Centennial Committee
4 March 2011

