



# St Bede's College Boarder's Weekly Newsletter



## Greetings from the Boarding School

The summer holidays have come and gone and the very special year for the college of 2012 has started. We welcome back all our existing boarders and welcome all the new boarders and families to our community.

### First Monday of the term

Thanks very much too all the students and parents that attended our first gathering in the PAC. This being the first opportunity to welcome you and to secondly outline what had happened about the college.

### Week 1 & 2

We gave all the boys the opportunity to settle into the boarding school and or back into routines. We have stepped things up this week and the boy's performance has been very encouraging.

I would like to give some detail of the Boarding School in 2012.

St Bede's College is a Catholic Boys Boarding School. During term time a place that a boarder should be very proud to call home.

In 2012 we have 31 Year 9, 28 Year 10, 20 Year 11, 25 Year 12 and 17 Year 13.

We have 2 Boarding Assistants, 5 Dorm Masters, and a Catering Staff of 8. A medical staff of 2. A Counsellor. We have a cleaning and laundry staff of 6 and ground staff and maintenance team of 5.

Every boy has the right to a happy and safe time in the Boarding School.

The day to day living is very different from what many boys starting are used to. There are significant sacrifices and changes that need to be made. Decisions by boys, parents and staff can have a significant impact on others.

The Boarding School is exactly this. It is a large community. Decisions are made relative to the circumstances and often parents are not fully aware of these where communication is only from your son. Please make contact so that you can be fully informed.

### **Staff**

Living in Jarrow South is old boy and returning for his third year Andrew Toneycliffe about to commence nursing studies. Jarrow East has old boy Chris Houghton studying the Art's at Canterbury University along with old boy Matt Davidson studying Law at Canterbury University. Looking after Durham is a St Kevin's old boy in Chris Gourley who is completing a teaching qualification at Grad School and an engineering degree. In Weremouth looking after the year 13 is Gerard Trolove old boy and just commencing a building apprenticeship.

### **Leave**

This can be obtained via the phone or the email. A phone call or contact after the fact **will not suffice**.

### **Year 9**

I think we are aware of how the boys are travelling. For many boys new to boarding having small goals can be important. Getting through the week and looking forward to home is important. We keep an eye out for all. We are comfortable that we do not need to make it compulsory for boys to stay in in the first few weeks. Everyone is different speak to me if you have any thoughts.

### **Sickness/Illness**

Boys unwell may only go home after their parents have been contacted by in the first instance the Nurse Mrs. Templeton or me.

### **Mass**

All boarders must attend Mass on Sunday. Permission to not attend must be received. It is simply not good enough to say "Johnny will be late back" on the answer phone. A full record of Mass attendance will be kept.

### **Meals**

The kitchen caters for all dietary needs. Feel free to discuss food requirements with our catering manager Mrs Iris McGrath. Please be aware if your needs are over and above our costs to provide meals that this cost will be passed on. This is run to a very tight budget.

### **Phones**

All phones in the junior dorm will be collected at 9.20 pm and returned to boys the following morning. All phone contact to be made prior to this time.

### **Supervision**

Each Dorm has a Dorm Master. Each week day there is always a Dorm Master on duty from 3.00 pm until 8.00 am the following day. This is recorded by way of a Weekly Roster of duties posted in my office window and secondly a daily record of duties handwritten on my office door.

During the weekend there is someone on duty 24 hours a day.

In the evening there is always at least one Dorm Master in the respective dorms, often 2 and they are easily accessible to the boys. I am generally available.

I will advise in the weekly newsletter from the Boarding School who is on duty and the contact number.

### **Communication**

We will keep a detailed record of your son's performance. We will manage the situation. We do not always contact home for low level misdemeanours but we will certainly keep you informed where the situation may persist or become worse.

Contact can be by way of e mail, phone calls and or letters.

## Facilities

We do our best to provide a facility that is functional, generally able to take a fair amount of day to day operations.

Boys are accountable for their treatment of property the damage and the lack of care and attention. Where necessary accounts are sent home.

## Fees

We are fully aware that this can be a problem for some. Can I respectfully ask where the payment of fees may be a problem that contact is made. We will endeavour to help with payment options.

## Bursaries and Financial Assistance to Boarders

Please contact directly Mrs. Karen Van Koeverden in the Office.

## Motor Vehicles

Year 13 privilege only. I will explain fully the rules for 2012 to the respective people having vehicles at school.

## Sports and Extra Curricular

The Sports Coordinator has held meetings for boys to enrol in a summer sport, particularly on a Wednesday afternoon. When talking with your young man just check to see that he is getting involved.

## Dorms

The boys have started in good fashion. Showering in the morning, making their beds and presenting their areas to a good standard. We will continue to monitor and make sure that this is maintained.

## Weekly Notes

The first Weekly Notes in the day school come out this week. They are emailed to you from the day school. If you are having a problem receiving these please contact [brusbridge@stbedes.school.nz](mailto:brusbridge@stbedes.school.nz) so that you can be loaded onto the system. Below is a summary of what the weekly note is:

Attitude & Effort

Homework

Organisation

Participation

Proper Equipment

Punctuality

**1** = Negative, Disruptive, Consistently Late, Disorganised, Unprepared, Uncooperative

**2** = Inconsistent, Late, Unmotivated, Erratic, Often Unprepared

**3** = Generally on Time, Makes Ordinary Effort, Meets Basic Requirements

**4** = Punctual, Participates, Positive, Prepared, Organised

**5** = Enthusiastic, Punctual, Participates Willingly, Well Organised, Cooperative

We will also be doing the Boarding Weekly Note from this week. Below are details for this.

### 1. Managing self and dorm area

#### Self

- Personal Hygiene
- Personal appearance
- Wears uniform correctly

#### Dorm

- Makes bed and keeps area/room tidy at all times
- Has respect for others in dorm
- Completes requests from Dorm Master

- Leaves Dorm for Day school on time
- In bed/room at appropriate time at night

**2. Application and effort in study**

- Shows up on time
- Applies himself in general and follows instruction
- Completes homework and uses diary correctly
- Occupies himself at the completion of his study

**3. Follows protocols and rules set out in the Boarding School Handbook**

- Sign outs correctly
- Arrives on time to meals
- Communicates intentions accurately throughout the week to Dorm Masters and Director of Boarding.

## Key Indicators

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Your son will receive a weekly note for each of the three areas listed above.

- 1 - Unsatisfactory
- 2 - Needs to work harder
- 3 - Satisfactory
- 4 - Above average
- 5 - Excellent

### Weekend Activity

From midday on Sunday Mr Ven has organised Paintballing for the boys.

### Duty for the Weekend

Each week a Dorm Master is on duty from 9 am Saturday through until 9 pm Sunday. This week it is Chris Gourley and he can be contacted on the duty phone on **021 725 412**. I can also be contacted and we will monitor how this works.

Have a great weekend.

Mobile: 021 725 412. E-mail [mvincent@stbedes.school.nz](mailto:mvincent@stbedes.school.nz)

Kind Wishes to all

Mark