Dear Parents

Welcome to Term 3, Week 3 at St Joseph’s Tobruk! As I prepare this newsletter (Wednesday) Lesley Solar is counting Chocolate Drive money in the Tobruk Room next door to my office. Lesley thank you for your enthusiastic support, the time you have freely given, and for your expert organisation of this fundraiser. Thanks also to those who assisted Lesley in any way and to all of the families who have been busily selling (or consuming) chocolates! We look forward to purchasing the Lego robotics that will inspire children as a result of this fundraiser. On Tuesday evening next week children from Year 5 will enjoy an astronomy night school organised by their teachers. Thank you to P & F President Dominic Barnes for his enthusiastic assistance and to Frank Holland for lending us his wonderful new telescope. We appreciate the work put into this special event by Marg Hatzis and Josh O’Keeffe. Congratulations and thank you to all involved! Congratulations to our choir who participated in the Beenleigh Quota Eisteddfod on Thursday 19 July. Thank you to Renuka Haran for her sensational work with the choir.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK (CEW)

Catholic Education Week will be celebrated across Queensland from 22-28 July this year. This annual event is held to promote the special ethos of Catholic schools and to highlight the great things that take place in Catholic schools every day.

The theme for Catholic Education Week 2012 is: Celebrating Community – Family Parish School.

‘Celebrating Community’ in Catholic Education Week 2012 invites Catholic schools and education agencies to highlight and celebrate the value of ‘community’ and affirm its presence as a central aspect of the life and strength of the Catholic Christian tradition.

‘Community’ is at the heart of the Catholic tradition. For two thousand years people have come together in community to share the story of Jesus, to nurture and strengthen each other, and to commit themselves to continuing his mission.

Our Catholic school philosophy embraces this sense of community, evidenced by the positive relationships which exist between families, parishes and schools.

There are 292 Catholic schools in Queensland that educate 138,000 students and employ more than 17,000 teachers and staff and most will celebrate Catholic Education Week in some way.

Our school is planning a number of activities during the week and we hope you are able to join in the celebrations with us.

I thank you for your ongoing support and look forward to seeing you during Catholic Education Week 2012.
Staff and students have been busy rehearsing and preparing for this years entry in the interschool competition. They will perform the dress rehearsal of their dance 'Trouble in the Wild Wild West' to the school and community on 31 July. Students will attend a 1pm concert and parents and community members are invited to attend at 2.15pm. A gold coin donation is requested at both performances to support the students in fundraising.

**GENERAL PETER COSGROVE – CEW AMBASSADOR 2012**

General Peter Cosgrove is the CEW Ambassador for 2012. He has a packed program that will see him visit all five Dioceses between 22-25 July. General Cosgrove is currently the Chancellor of the Australian Catholic University and his strong Catholic faith, outstanding career, and in particular his well-known peace keeping work in East Timor and community rebuilding in Innisfail following Cyclone Larry, make him an ideal ambassador to 'Celebrate Community - Family Parish School’ with staff and students across the state.

General Cosgrove’s program can be viewed on the [Catholic Education Week website](http://www.catholiceducation.qld.edu.au).  

**TIFFANY PATTERSON 2012 CREW AMBASSADOR**

Tiffany Patterson is the CEW Crew Ambassador for 2012. Tiffany has been invited to visit and present at all five Diocesan Family Parish Schools. She is a strong Catholic woman, who is passionate about the CEW message and its concepts. Tiffany is known as a successful and self-possessed woman whose achievements have been driven by her strong faith. Tiffany will present a program to students which provides an outline of her career to date, as well as outlining the future possibilities of her career. She will address key issues such as career directions and responsibilities. Tiffany will also address the concept of ‘Celebrate Community – Family Parish School’ with staff and students across the state.

Tiffany Patterson’s program can be viewed on the [Catholic Education Week website](http://www.catholiceducation.qld.edu.au).  

**NEW WEBSITE PROGRESS**

My apologies for the delay in switching from our older website to the new one! I am aware that currently those who are trying to access the new site have been diverted back to the previous one. This has now been rectified. The new site is much easier for us to use and we are glad to have it up and running! [www.stjosephsbeenleigh.qld.edu.au](http://www.stjosephsbeenleigh.qld.edu.au).

**ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL**

Being late to school or missing school frequently can cause severe learning difficulties and emotional stress for children. When children are late or absent, they do miss significant amounts of teaching and learning time. The content/skills that they miss are often needed for the next step in their learning. If they haven’t caught up on those skills and the content, they then become stressed because they can’t do the work. If they are constantly trying to catch up, they are consistently stressed and anxious. Sometimes the cycle deepens because children who are stressed want to avoid coming to school. If parents keep them at home, the absences build up over time and the pressure intensifies. The picture gets worse when children who miss school frequently find themselves outside or on the fringe of friendship groups they were once a part of. Please consider this if you are keeping children at home, especially if they are not sick. It should also encourage families to ensure that their children are at school on time each day.

**SCHOOL DISCO**

We will be hosting another school disco on Thursday 02 August in the hall. The arrangements for this event will be similar to our previous disco.

3.30pm: P-3  4.30pm: Changeover / Sausage Sizzle  5.00pm: 4-7  6.30pm: Finish

The student council will be meeting Mr Lovegrove to determine a theme for the disco. This will be announced at assembly and in the newsletter next week.

**EKKA HOLIDAY 2102**

Late last year the Queensland Government made changes to existing holidays in Queensland. As you know, we were able to have a two week break at Easter time as part of this new arrangement. However, also because of the new system, there have been changes to other holidays.

All schools are now entitled to only one show holiday which is based on the show in their particular region. For example, for us in Logan City, we have one show holiday which is on Monday 13 August. There is no traditional public holiday on Wednesday 15 August. In other words, the staff and children have a holiday on Monday 13 August and are at school on Wednesday 15 August.

For schools in the Gold Coast region, there are no Brisbane show holidays at all. Their show holiday is associated with the Gold Coast Show held in late August (31 August). There will be no OSHC on Monday 13 August because this day is a public holiday for people in Logan City. Families with work commitments will need to make other arrangements.

**PROPOSED BIOMAS POWER STATION AT YATALA**

Included in this newsletter is a submission by one of our parents, Sharon Kennedy, who is a Yatala resident. The information that Sharon provides is designed to fill you in on what is happening and the possible health ramifications of the proposal for Phoenix Power Recyclers to build a Biomass Power Generation Plant in Yatala. The plant will burn green waste as fuel for a 7.5 Mega Watt Power Station. The Biomass Plant will operate continually, 24hrs a day, 7 days a week!

As this is the first we have heard of the proposed development, there appears certainly to be a lack of community consultation by those involved, including the local city councils. I urge you to read Sharon’s submission and to visit the website provided so that you can make an informed decision. Sharon is putting together a petition for your consideration. Please examine the issue and make your judgement. Should you wish to sign the petition, Sharon will be available in the mango tree area before/after school as stated in her submission. The petition will also be available in the school office.
Brochures advertising after school lessons in our school hall have gone home to families. We are pleased that agencies outside the school are hiring the hall, which brings us an income to offset our hall expenses (electricity, cleaning, kitchen utensils etc).

FROM SCHOOL OF APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY, MT GRAVATT CAMPUS

FREE PARENTING POST SEPARATION PROGRAM

Are you concerned about your child’s adjustment post parental separation?
Is your child struggling at school or withdrawing at home?
Do you feel like some days are just too hard to cope?
Is your child 8 to 17 years and living with you most days?

If you answered yes to the above questions, then we may be able to assist you at Griffith University (Mt Gravatt)

We are offering a * FREE * BRIEF * ONLINE * Parenting Post Separation Program (PPS Program)

Parent / Child Assessment and Summary Report -
The PPS Program's primary aim is to improve child adjustment in the early stages of parental separation. The PPS Program was designed taking into consideration the competing demands placed on residential parents and their children post separation and divorce. With this in mind, the PPS Program provides residential parents with the opportunity to receive feedback, engage in goal setting, increase skills and improve confidence in handling future challenges all within the privacy of their own home.

To find out more please call Psychologist, Jodie Housman on: Mobile 0430 305 413 or Email: jodie.housman@griffithuni.edu.au.

Alternatively, you make wish to determine your eligiblity at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ParentEligibility

I would like to offer a big thank-you to all the parents, kids and staff who have made my move to Beenleigh a pleasant and rewarding experience. The students here at Joey’s are a wonderful group who love coming to school and enjoy their learning.

After 25 years of teaching this is the first Josephite school I have been professionally associated with. St Mary of the Cross Mackillop pioneered Catholic education in Australia and we owe the spirit found in this school, and indeed, all Catholic schools directly to her. I have arrived at the school in time to celebrate two special events directly related to her.

ST JOSEPH’S CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK CELEBRATIONS (22-28 July)

Firstly, the theme for Catholic Education Week (CEW) this year is “Celebrating Community”. This year’s theme links nicely to St Mary MacKillop’s vision for Catholic education because Catholic schools are communities which have the students and staff at the core and have the parish and the families as the primary support to the educational and spiritual growth of the children in their care. We begin our activities for Catholic Education Week a little early with Yr 2 and 7 having participated in a shared liturgy in the church alongside students from Mother Teresa’s School, Ormeau yesterday. This Monday, 23 July, the school assembly will be hosted by 6C. A CEW Mass will be hosted by 7F on Thursday at 9am in the church. All children have been invited to design something using the CEW symbol. We will use the children’s work to decorate the school. Hopefully, any trips to the office that week will be rewarded with a viewing of the children’s wonderful creations.

ST MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP’S FEAST DAY (8 August)

On Wednesday, 8 August, we will celebrate the feast of St Mary MacKillop with a liturgy in the hall, sausage sizzle lunch and a “Mary Mack Singalong”. These events are still being organised so more details will be made available as they come to hand.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

PC: Hayley Van De Langenberg, Blake Burgess, Rylee Jackson, Charlotte Nash
PF: Oliver Malcolm, Juliette Barreras, Archie Dougherty, Saxon Harris, Jazmyn Brady
1C: Ky Aphene 1F: Lachlan Buchbach, Makayla Lin  
2C: Taylah Vickery, Ruben Mazza 2F: Lachlan Rawlings, Natasha Souvannasing  
3C: Jasmine Le Billon 3F: Riley Chambers  
4C: Jarrod Eaton 4F: Kasey Leadbetter  
56D: Natalie Rosales, Jorjah Sulusi, Jacob Huth 56L: Decklan Solar-Young, Meghan Hutchinson  
6C: Tom Cohen, Grace Billington 6F: Lacey Hill, Andrea McLean  
7F: Meg Radburn  
Golden Gnome: 1st: 4F, 4C. 2nd: 2F, 5F. 3rd: 3C

SHOPPING VOUCHERS

WOOLWORTHS: Our total is now at 23,200. Last year our grand total was 13,000. Our target was 20,000. This is a fantastic response. We thanks everyone who has been able to support us.

COLES: Our box keeps over flowing. Thank you to all who have been able to help.
The Beenleigh District Athletics Carnival has been postponed due to saturated facilities. The new date for our students to participate will be Wednesday 8 August. The championship will be held on Friday 10 August. If there are any issues please do not hesitate to seek clarification.

**APP of the WEEK by ST J’s APPSTARS**

**Eggy Words App – Where Children Learn Sight Words**

By popular demand, Reading Eggs now has its first app, Eggy Words! This app will help your child recognise and learn the essential sight words that make up a large part of everyday reading. They will do this while playing a fun game that will keep them engaged for many hours. Eggy Words will work on ipads, iphones and android phones and tablets. There is a free version, Eggy 100 which contains the first 100 sight words or you can purchase the full version, Eggy 250 containing 250 sight words. Both apps are available to download on iTunes or Google Play.

**WHO IS MAKING A DIFFERENCE AT ST JOSEPH’S?**

It is Mrs Giebels, Mrs Fenner and Mrs Logan. Thankyou to these ladies who have been designing and cutting and stitching and trimming and ironing, long into their evenings. They are producing the most marvellous costumes for our Wakakirri cast to wear. These sewing ‘sisters’ are certainly making a difference at St Joseph’s.

**LITERACY PLANET-MELLISSA BURGESS**

Don’t forget there is a Literacy Planet App. The bugs seem to have been worked out. If you have any feedback on the Spelling App please email me on mkburgess@bne.catholic.edu.au. I’d love to hear from you about what you think.

**CLASS LEADERS from 1st – 8th July**

PC – Keegan Rorke  
PF – Oliver Malcom  
1C – Hayden Clark  
1F – Jacob Miller  
2C – Sophie Vickery  
2F – Goldie Martin  
3C – Carla Buttigieg  
3F – Keegan Bradley  
4C – Caitlin Rorke  
4F – Kent McMahon  
56D – Shaun Love  
56L – Tamika Buttigieg  
6C – Tom Cohen  
6F – Kobe Stephens  
7C – Jesse Caruana  
7F – Teresa Martin

**P&F NEWS-LESLEY SOLAR**

BOOKCLUB  
Orders due 10 August.  
MAVERICK NIGHT – 24 Aug  
Tickets come home Monday.  
CHOCOLATE DRIVE  
Money due by 3 August

**RESIDENTS UNITE AGAINST BIOMASS PLANT**

_I would like to bring to your attention an urgent community issue._ Phoenix Power Recyclers have applied to build a Biomass Power Generation Plant in Yatala. The plant will burn green waste as fuel for a 7.5 Mega Watt Power Station. **The Biomass Plant will operate continually, 24hrs a day, 7 days a week!**

The residents of Yatala and the surrounding areas are extremely concerned about the possible health issues arising from the proximity of such a plant to homes, schools and childcare centres. **All research on Biomass Plants to date contains disturbing information outlining a large range of serious health implications!**

We have communicated our concerns to the Gold Coast City Council, State and Federal MPs and the Premier of Queensland. We are currently organising a petition objecting to the location of the Biomass Plant. We are aiming for a minimum of 3,000 signatures!

**Please visit the website at [www.yatala.info](http://www.yatala.info) for more information.** If you would like to support the petition, I will be in the Mango Tree area every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday morning (8:20 – 8:50) and afternoon (2:40 to 3:10) this week. The petition will also be available for signing in the office. By Sharon Kennedy.

**BEENLEIGH HAWKS BASEBALL CLUB INVITES YOU TO OUR COME “N” TRY DAY Sign-On day**

**Where:** Hammel Street, Beenleigh  
**When:** Sat 28/ Sun 29 July 2012 and Sat 11/ Sun 12 Aug 2012  
**Time:** Between 10.00am & 2.00pm  
**Contact:** Sharon 0412 290 952 or go to our website: [www.beenleigh.baseball.com.au](http://www.beenleigh.baseball.com.au)