Dear Parents

Welcome to Term 3, Week 10 at St Joseph’s Tobruk! We move into the penultimate week of Term 3. This week Year 6 children attend their camp at Emu Gully near Helidon from Wednesday to Friday. Once again we thank the staff for their enthusiasm and generosity in going to camp with the children. They do this, often sacrificing family time and sleep, so that the children can enjoy experiences with one another away from their usual school context.

Emu Gully offers participants an insight into the courage, sacrifice, persistence and mateship of our armed forces. Activities are based on the lived experiences of soldiers at war so the children wade through waist-deep mud (Kokoda Trail) or crawl through metres of tunnels (Tobruk) helping one another to overcome anxieties and forging deeper friendships.

Year 5 children thoroughly enjoyed their camp at Lake Ainsworth. I must admit it is one of my favourite places to go and being with the wonderful people from Year 5 just made the experience even better. Mr Lovegrove and I each had the opportunity to get to know the children and staff better in this fabulous camp site. Well done Year 5’s. It was an absolute pleasure to share the time with you.

On Wednesday the Year 4’s have their history expo during the day for classes and in the evening for parents. Ausdance continues on Thursday.

On Friday, the Wakakirri team perform in the finals at the Logan Entertainment Centre. Good luck! We know you will do your best and do well. Because our Year 6’s will be at camp, Gala Day has been cancelled for this week.

PRAYER FOR PEACE IN SYRIA

Pope Benedict XVI has asked us to pray for a resolution to the conflict in Syria. Please pray this prayer at home.

God of Compassion,
Hear the cries of the people of Syria,
Bring healing to those suffering from the violence, Bring comfort to those mourning the dead,
Strengthen Syria’s neighbours in their care and welcome for refugees,
Convert the hearts of those who have taken up arms,
And protect those committed to peace.

God of Hope,
Inspire leaders to choose peace over violence and to seek reconciliation with enemies,
Inspire the Church around the world with compassion for the people of Syria,
And give us hope for a future of peace built on justice for all.
We ask this through Jesus Christ,
Prince of Peace and Light of the World,
Amen.
SCHOOL FEES ACCOUNTS
Just a reminder that payments for camps must be received **before** the children go to camp. The school carries a serious debt when families do not pay camp costs or school fees. We appreciate the effort that families make particularly during difficult times financially. It is also appreciated when families respond to phone calls made and letters sent by the school regarding the payment of accounts.

It is vitally important that regular payments are made towards school fees accounts. Paying regularly builds trust with the school. This practice helps to keep the level of debt down. When regular payments are not made, the amount owing grows and families can become overwhelmed by the growing debt and anxious about how to get it under control.

Currently we are emailing 96 accounts and posting 118. As posting is costing us a minimum of $70 per mailing along with the cost of mailing reminder letters, could you please consider allowing us the email option if you have not already given the required details and permission to do so. Ultimately this cost will be passed on to families so it is in everyone’s best interest to go with the email option.

PROTECTED ACTION
You may have seen in the media reports about Catholic school teachers going on strike next Tuesday 11 September 2012. Our school is not going to be affected by this action.

COMPUTER USE AGREEMENT
During the week just closing, a number of documents stapled together to form the *Computer Use Agreement* for St Joseph’s Tobruk Memorial School were sent home for your signature. These documents are standard throughout BCE schools.

Please complete and sign each section and return the package to Bronwyn Moorton in the school office by Monday 10 September. Please ensure that a *Computer Use Agreement* package is provided and signed for each child including 2013 prep students.

The signed copy will be held in each child’s file in the office. All new families will also be required to complete and sign the documents for each child during the enrolment procedure. Thank you for your co-operation.

STUDENT PROTECTION THEMES
It is important to reiterate at home the main Student Protection themes that are taught at school in the classroom.

- I have a right to feel safe at all times.
- My body tells me if I’m not feeling safe.
- Nothing is so awful that I can’t talk about it with someone.
- Keep talking until you feel safe.
- Good secrets can be kept. Bad secrets should not be kept.
- I am the boss of my body.
- Yes and no feelings - good and bad touches.
- Who are the people who keep me safe? Who can I talk to?

Please also reinforce cybersafety as part of your discussions at home.

CYBER SAFETY
Students are using available technologies with greater regularity than ever before. While this is fantastic for their learning, access to the internet in particular, brings with it some dangers that parents and children need to be aware of and prepared for. While our BCE web filters block many unwanted materials, we are still prone to SPAM and predators. Parents, please monitor what your children are viewing and using on the internet. Do not open emails from addresses/people you do not know. Delete these emails immediately. Do not give any information to sites promising prizes or requesting banking details. Be prepared to discuss with your children what they are exposed to. Some of this may be sexually explicit visually or verbally. Don’t allow children to be on the computer ALL THE TIME. Build into their daily routines, exercise and face-to-face social interaction. Report to the police any harassment or bullying on chat sites or social media. Keep a copy of what is published as evidence. Children are obliged through our school computer use agreement to report anything inappropriate to their teachers. Let us work together to keep our kids safe!

UNIFORM STANDARDS
At St Joseph’s we ask children to have tidy hair and hair styles that do not draw undue attention. Therefore undercuts, hair shaping (engraving) and hair dyes are not permitted. This not aimed at discouraging individuality, but rather at preventing children from competing with one another (who can have the craziest hairstyle or the most different dye combinations). There can be significant pressure placed on families when children want to outdo their mates with particular styles.

Please note also that body piercing (other than the ear lobe) cannot be visible. For example, I realise that some children might have their belly-button pierced. This should not be visible at school or during school activities such as camps and swimming.

We seem to be getting a growing number of children who are wearing running shoes to school instead of the all black school joggers. Please ensure that the children are wearing the correct school shoes.
JEWELLERY
The school’s policy on the wearing of jewellery takes into consideration the safety of children, temptation for theft, and the prevention of loss of precious / sentimental items. In brief, St Joseph’s children are not to wear any jewellery to school. In other words, there should be no bracelets, bangles, rings, necklaces, chains, or fashion earrings. However there are some exceptions to this general rule of thumb. Boys and girls with pierced ears must wear studs or the smallest sleepers in both ears. These are to be plain gold or silver. Religious medals and scapulars may be worn around the neck however they should not be visible under clothing. Watches are allowed to be worn, however, children are responsible for looking after their watches at all times. During school sport, children must remove their watches and earrings for safety reasons.

If children are wearing inappropriate or dangerous jewellery or jewellery that does not meet our guidelines, they will be asked to remove it. It will be placed in an envelope and sent to the school office for collection later that day.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION URGENTLY NEEDS FUNDING CERTAINTY
The National Catholic Education Commission (NCEC) Chair, Therese Temby, says the Catholic sector is disappointed by the lack of detail around the Government’s plans, announced today by the Prime Minister, for a future school funding model.

“The Prime Minister’s statement indicates the broad direction the Government intends to take in its proposed National Plan for School Improvement, including the Gonski funding recommendations”, said Mrs Temby.

“NCEC acknowledges the Prime Minister’s announcement that her government would provide additional funding for all schools, but is frustrated that there is still no detail about the Government’s position on many of the settings of the funding model.”

“It has been impossible for NCEC to develop a clear understanding of the impact of the Government’s own modelling.

“We hope that today’s ‘commencing negotiations’ announced by the Prime Minister will clear the way for NCEC to receive a detailed briefing on the Government’s position,” she said.

“Catholic schools urgently need funding certainty.”

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

PC: Jack Byron, Stephany Fix
1F: Riley Millmann, Caydence Stevens
2F: Ronan Dougherty, Joseph Rose, Tayla Eichmann, Jamie Fitzgerald
3C: Jack Bevan
4C: Evie Classen, Bianca Buttigieg
56L: Connor Regan, Georgia Kelly
7F: Holly Le Masurier

FROM THE GREEN ROOM-SUZANNE HALL

MATHLETICS is the online e-learning program that all students can access at St Joseph’s. It is an Australian program that provides mathematical tasks for our students from Prep to Year 7. Your child has access 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by logging in using their unique username and password. If your child has misplaced their password, write a note to your child’s teacher. As a parent, you can get the greatest understanding of how Mathletics benefits your child by sitting with them as they work on Mathletics tasks. You also can register your interest in receiving weekly reports on how your child is going with Mathletics and have access to your own Parent Console. To register, go to www.mathletics.com/parent

Some parents think that Mathletics is just playing games and wasting time! Be assured it is a valuable tool and an integral part of your child’s math learning that they should be using to support their mathematical skill development. If you would like to have Mathletics demonstrated to you, please email me on sehall@bne.catholic.edu.au and I can arrange a suitable time.

Important: For Mathletics to work, please ensure that pop-ups and Java are enabled for this site, www.mathletics.com, and that you have the latest version of Adobe Flash Player installed.
Both Grade 4 classes are looking to establish an indigenous garden in the school grounds. To raise funds for purchasing the necessary plants we will be selling $2.00 scoops of Baskin and Robbins ice cream on Thursday the 20th September. Flavours available

Available flavours will be the following:

Hokey Pokey: Vanilla ice cream with caramel swirls, it contains dairy, no eggs or nuts.
Cotton Candy: Pink and purple cotton candy flavoured ice cream it contains dairy, no eggs or nuts.
Mint Chocolate: Mint ice cream with chocolate chips which contains dairy, caffeine, soy but no eggs or nuts.
Rainbow Sherbet: A trio of orange, raspberry and pineapple sherbet which contains dairy, no eggs or nuts.
Pink Lemonade: Lemonade flavoured ice which contains no dairy, eggs or nuts.

TITANS EARLY YEARS GALA DAY – LAUREN MITCHELL

Last Wednesday 29 August, the Year Two students travelled down to Firth Park at Mudgeeraba to participate in the Gold Coast Titans first ever Early Years Gala Day. The day included learning the rules of Rugby League, literacy and maths activities, face painting, a jumping castle and a question and answer session with some of the Titans players. We all had a great day and would like to say a big thank you to the organisers from the Gold Coast Titans, players from the Titans, St Joseph's staff who attended, Year Two students and their parents.

LITERACY PLANET-MELISSA BURGESS

10-20 minutes a day is all that is needed.

CLASS LEADERS from 27th August – 2nd September

PC – Keegan Rorke PF – Jazmyn Brady 1C – Matt Eley 1F – Jade Regeling
2C – Natalie Fenwick 2F – Goldie Martin 3C – Kynan Charlton 3F – Maurice Rosales
4C – Sasha Clark 4F – Matthew Hoolahan 56L – Tamika Buttigieg 56D – Erin Bowers
6C – Rhain Norton 6F – Amelia Buttigieg 7C – Bianca Chua 7F – Holly LeMasurier

What a great achievement by the whole school. Well Done

THANK YOU TO FINLAY & FEKETE FAMILIES– PHILLIPPA HALEY

Thank you to the Finlay, Fekete and Golinski families who very kindly donated their time and resources to help the Preps start their new garden. We are going to learn so many new things and have a lot of fun!
Tuck Shop Day - Last Day of Term 3
On the last day of school this term the P&F will put on another tuck shop day. Order forms will be coming home over the next week.

Chocolate Drive
Congratulations to all Joey's families for putting in a wonderful effort with the chocolate drive. You have raised $3,700 for your school. This money will go directly to buying Lego Mindstorm Kits that will be used in class rooms and for MySmarts. We will let you know when these kits have been purchased. Unfortunately there is some money still outstanding, could you please return this as soon as possible. Reminder letters will be going home this week to families with funds outstanding.

$1 ICEBLOCKS FOR SANTOS GARAY-Next Monday 10 SEPTEMBER
Congratulations to Santos Garay. He placed 3rd for the South Coast Team in the discus throw. He threw 32.5 metres. He will now compete at the State Championships in October in Cairns.
Please help to support Santos (7F) to get to the Championships. $1 ice blocks will be on sale next Monday at the first lunch break in the tuckshop area.

VACATION CARE
St Patrick’s Vacation Care is open Monday - Friday 7.30am - 5.30pm in the September holidays. They will be closed on the 1st October 2012 for the Public Holiday. All forms for holidays are available on the school web site under OSHC.

SCHOOL PHOTOS ORDERS EXTENDED TO MONDAY 10 SEPTEMBER
School photos have been sent home. Please check you have received all of your orders. BAND, CHOIR, STUDENT COUNCIL and CAPTAINS photos are now on display in the office. Envelopes for ordering are in the office. Orders and payments are to be returned by the 10 September.

ST JOSEPH’S FAMILY CAMPING WEEKEND-P&F
Ahoy all Campers and Glamper’s! This November we are putting on a Family Camping Weekend for families and staff at St Joseph’s. Our trip will be a one night stay with activities planned like bushwalks, campfire sing-a-longs, games and a group dinner and deserts on the Saturday night! There will also be plenty of time for parents to relax and chat and for the kids to play with their friends. You can bring your swag, tent, caravan or camper trailer.
When? Arrive Saturday November 3rd and depart Sunday 4th November. The trip will be a one night stay over the first weekend in November. Camping on the Friday night is optional.
Where? We will camp at a location within an hour and a half of Beenleigh – exact location to be announced soon.
Cost? The costs will be very minimal, approximately $5 per head.
Expressions of Interest: Please register your expression of interest with Dominic Barnes or Josh O’Keefe – jokeffe@bne.catholic.edu.au. Come along for a fun filled social weekend and celebrate St Joseph’s 2012! Please keep reading the newsletters in the coming weeks for more information.

PAULS COLLECT A CAPS
Each month we can send in a bag of caps between now and October, we will go into the draw to win a $1000 voucher for our school. Please keep sending them in.

COMMUNITY NEWS
BEENLEIGH CRICKET CLUB SIGN ON
Dauth Park- Cricket at Night Time! 7 September 5-7pm and 8 Sept 10am-2pm
Join the ‘Cricket Revolution’ today! Contact: Rob Van Manen: 0434 150 763

HOLIDAY CRICKET CLINICS The clinics are for kids between the ages of 5-13.
24-26 September 2012 at the Springwood Suns Cricket Club
1-3 October 2012 at the Wynnum Manly District Cricket Club
P: 0414 686 416 W: andreburgercricket.com
Our parish will host the annual Catholic Mission Appeal on the weekend of Sept 22/23. The readings for this weekend resonate strongly with the theme of this year’s Catholic Mission appeal, ‘I was hungry and you fed me’ (Matthew 25:35) Although they speak of a divinely-inspired future, they also remind us that this future can actually be experienced here, and now, especially if we choose to do those things that ensure all can experience “life in all its fullness”. In contributing to Catholic Mission, through the appeal, you will be affirming the reign of God as a reality, in the lives of all those who suffer. Those who will benefit are listed in the Responsorial Psalm as “the oppressed”, “the hungry”, “the blind”, “the bowed down”, “the prisoner”, and “the widow and the orphan”; they are depicted in the images on the appeal envelope and in our powerful poster image of Dawit. On behalf of him and other children in need, and the missionaries who serve such children, and the communities like theirs’, we encourage you to give generously when the appeal is held in your parish. Thanks, in anticipation. David McGovern, Director, Brisbane Archdiocese.

HAVE YOU HIGHLIGHTED YOUR CALENDAR
OPENING NIGHT- Friday 19 October 6pm: This special night is for adults only. $10 tickets will soon be available at the school office.
CHILDREN’S EXHIBITION- Saturday 20 October 10am-3pm: Come along with your children to view your child’s and the communities artwork. Free admission.
EXHIBITION CONTINUES- Monday 22 - Thursday 23 October. 8am-4pm. Free admission.
ARTWORX2012 includes regular features and showcases the brilliant works of our graduating Year 7’s plus much, much more.
Artworx will include the talented works of artist and jewellery maker, Leigh Wagner, Brisbane. Leigh’s work can be viewed via her gallery of designs by googling: Leigh Designs. Leigh is well known for her use of recycled laminex, acrylic products and sterling silver to make brooches and other jewellery pieces. Commissioned by the Qld Museum’s Shop was an FJ Holden, her most recent addition to her range of brooches.

Be sure not to miss this unique cultural event and highlight of the St. Joseph’s Community for 2012.

PARISH NEWS

Our parish will host the annual Catholic Mission Appeal on the weekend of Sept 22/23. The readings for this weekend resonate strongly with the theme of this year’s Catholic Mission appeal, ‘I was hungry and you fed me’ (Matthew 25:35) Although they speak of a divinely-inspired future, they also remind us that this future can actually be experienced here, and now, especially if we choose to do those things that ensure all can experience “life in all its fullness”. In contributing to Catholic Mission, through the appeal, you will be affirming the reign of God as a reality, in the lives of all those who suffer. Those who will benefit are listed in the Responsorial Psalm as “the oppressed”, “the hungry”, “the blind”, “the bowed down”, “the prisoner”, and “the widow and the orphan”; they are depicted in the images on the appeal envelope and in our powerful poster image of Dawit. On behalf of him and other children in need, and the missionaries who serve such children, and the communities like theirs’, we encourage you to give generously when the appeal is held in your parish. Thanks, in anticipation. David McGovern, Director, Brisbane Archdiocese.

YEAR 5 LAKE AINSWORTH CAMP PHOTOS

Driving Mr O’Keefe up the wall!