Welcome to Term 2. I trust that the recent holidays were all that your family hoped for and that the joy of Easter was truly acknowledged and celebrated as it was at this morning’s Easter liturgy in the hall. A warm welcome back to Mr Armstrong after his paternity leave. I am pleased to report that he looks remarkably fresh!

I congratulate our senior students on their wonderful efforts in staging the three House Days in the final week of Term 1. I thank families who supported this initiative and assisted in raising $1,993.90 for Caritas. A remarkable fundraising result and a terrific complement to other school community events in that week, such as Cross Country and Tuckshop.

The P&F meeting for the month of April was scheduled on Tuesday night and a modest number attended. Please be aware that, as an authentic family school, children of all ages are welcome to accompany parents to any school meetings or gatherings. The next P&F meeting occurs on 13 May (6.30pm – staffroom).

A reminder that 2015 Prep interviews for existing families at the school will be held over coming weeks. Please contact the office if you are still waiting for an interview to be arranged.

Now that 2014 student enrolments and related staffing allocations have settled, important targeted reading intervention has been able to be organised across all year levels. This work will be led by Miss Mitchell each Monday, for the remainder of the year. Children who have been nominated for involvement will receive an excellent literacy boost and this should be celebrated by their parents.

A reminder to claim the dates of 5 May (Literacy Workshop for Parents) and 21 May (Bruce and Denise Morcombe visit). Specific times can be found in the adjacent column.

Best wishes to our Year 7 students for their involvement in the annual Gold Coast Catholic Primary Schools Leadership Day, next Wednesday 30 April. Year 6 will have their corresponding day on Wednesday 28 May.

NAPLAN is only weeks away (May 13 – 15) and the level of preparedness of students in Year 3, 5 and 7 is most pleasing. Related information can be gained at www.naplan.edu.au

Wakakirri students have made an excellent start to their work with Ms Haley and Mrs Dair. Commitment to attending practices on Tuesday afternoons has been outstanding. Congratulations and keep it up.

Please pray for Mr Higgins, and family, after the recent passing of his mother, Patricia. May she rest in God’s eternal peace. Mrs Pangbourne is also in need of our prayers after a mishap in the recent holidays. She is hoping to return to her Year 4 classroom next week.

With ANZAC Day tomorrow, we remember the men and women who have sacrificed so much in conflicts throughout time, throughout the world, especially the Rats of Tobruk. We will remember them. Lest we forget.

With Courage, Faith and Love
Stephen Johnson
ALLELUIAH! HE IS RISEN!
Today the whole school will join with Year 2F to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus in our weekly liturgy. This will complete our Holy Week reflections and asks us to remember the beginnings of Christianity and the significance of what God has done for us. Jesus’s resurrection from the grave is at the heart of our faith.
Paul wrote, “If the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.” (1 Corinthians 15:16–19)
This passage teaches us that we, the followers of Christ, how crucial the resurrection is to our salvation. Christ rose from the grave because he was the perfect Son of God. The grave could not hold him. He conquered sin and death. Not only that, his resurrection assures our own future bodily resurrection.

ANZAC DAY
This Friday, as a Nation we commemorate the landing of Australian and New Zealand troops on the Gallipoli Peninsula on 25 April 1915. Those who served on the Gallipoli campaign became legendary, and their mateship, courage and determination forged the beginnings of what is now referred to as the Anzac Spirit.
The dawn service held in each community across Australia recalls the time of the first landing on Gallipoli Cove, 4.29am. The symbol of wearing sprigs of rosemary began in early Greece, where it was believed to improve the memory. Rosemary is found growing wild on the Gallipoli Peninsula. Wearing red poppies is symbolic too. It represents new life, regeneration and hope for the future, and it was the first flower to emerge from the battle fields of northern France and Belgium after WW1. The Anzac biscuit was intended as a replacement for bread, for soldiers at war and was made to last a long time. The original Anzac biscuits were so hard that they were often called ‘bullet-proof biscuits’. This year, we will join with the Beenleigh community to march as a sign of respect for the fallen and the serving of our defence forces. We begin our commemoration of the day with Mass in the church at 9am and then we will parade with other community groups to the ANZAC Day service in Beenleigh. This year we march behind a new banner designed to reconnect our school to the spirit of ANZAC and the Rats of Tobruk.
You and your child are invited to join us for this chance to honour the men and women who have served our country. Lest we forget.

 Prayer of Remembrance
Today we remember with thanksgiving those who made the supreme sacrifice for us in time of war. We pray that the offering of their lives may not have been in vain. Today we dedicate ourselves to the cause of justice, freedom and peace; and for the wisdom and strength to build a better world.
Amen.
Welcome to Term 2. The glazing and firing of the crosses were completed over the holidays. The crosses look beautiful and there were no breakages. We have embellishments to add to some crosses but otherwise they are finished. It is very satisfying to see such a personal and meaningful process take shape and then worked through so meticulously. It is exciting to open the kiln up at the end and see what has been produced. The proof is in the pudding.

This week grade 5’s should finish their 3D shape sculpture which will become part of a collaborative interactive installation to be viewed and played with this term in the multipurpose room next door to the art room. It is terrific to have this area to showcase some of our work. This term should also see the background work completed.

Grade 1’s will receive their colour licenses next week. They are very excited about this as they have worked first term without colour just concentrating on mark making. We use the important process of mark making as a tool to understand and describe the world around us as well as the world within us. We progress very carefully in term one and try not to complicate things by having to think about how colour works too.

If anyone has time to do some very simple glazing we would be extremely grateful. Thank you to those parents who have been taking glazing home.

Good news! We are happy to announce that Mrs Jan is back. We are going to make sure that she takes it very easy this term.

Mary Mcbride

St Joseph’s Beenleigh
PARENT INFO SESSION—LITERACY

We invite all parents, grandparents and friends to an information session where we will be sharing practical and effective ways of supporting children in the early years on their road to reading. We will be looking at the importance of phonics, Wonder Words and reading for meaning. This session is suitable for Early Years parents – P to 2 as well as other year level parents.

We encourage you to take this opportunity to find out how you can make a real difference to your child’s reading success.

Join us for this relaxed, fun and insightful session on

**Monday 5 May at 2.00pm to 2.55 pm**
in the MultiPurpose Room [right next door to the Art Room]

So that we have enough resources for those who attend, please complete the form below and return it to school:

We are looking forward to working with you,

Lauren Mitchell, Yr 2 Class Teacher, Literacy Support Teacher
Isabelle Vargas-Malby, Support Teacher-Inclusive Education
Sue Hall, Support Teacher-Inclusive Education & ESL Teacher

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**Attn to Isabelle Vargas-Malby or email Isabelle on ivargas@bne.catholic.edu.au**

I will be attending this workshop on Monday 5 May at 2.15 pm to 3 pm

Child’s Name……………………………………..Child’s Class…………………………...

Your name……………………………………….Your email………………………………

**Dear Parents……………………about your Leonardo continued- MARY MCBRIDE**

Don’t forget that the GOMA ‘Falling back to earth’ exhibition by chinese artist, Cai Guo Qiang, closes soon. If you haven’t already viewed it, take the opportunity to have a look. It is quite amazing and very child friendly.

The first of two new works, Heritage, features 99 animals from five continents gathered at a serene waterhole, inspired by Cai’s visit to Stradbroke Island’s lakes in 2011. I spent some time on Straddie over the holidays and was reminded what a gem the place is. Cai couldn’t believe that such a pristine place existed so close to Brisbane.

‘Heritage’ has been acquired for the Gallery’s Collection with the generous support of the Josephine Ulrick and Win Schubert Diversity Foundation through and with the assistance of the Queensland Art Gallery / Gallery of Modern Art Foundation.

The second work, Eucalyptus, is a 31-metre long tree that was removed as part of urban development near Springfield. Visitors are encouraged to reflect and leave messages about the tree's past, present and future. Every time I go I sit and draw a different part of the tree. I love it.

The third installation features 99 wolves hurling themselves through the air at a glass wall, a metaphor for humanity's willingness to repeat its own mistakes.