Dear Parents

Easter is a time when we celebrate new life. Monica Brown is a singer and author who writes, ‘Celebrate the Spirit of Jesus alive in our hearts.’ The disciples of Jesus went through a really difficult time during Jesus’ journey to the cross. They let him down, consumed as they were by fear and human weakness. The scriptures include stories after the resurrection of Jesus on encounters between Jesus and his disciples. In these encounters, the disciples don’t recognise Jesus at first but are awoken to His presence at some point. On the road to Emmaus, the disciples recognise Jesus in the breaking of the bread and reflect on how their hearts burned within them when Jesus explained the scriptures to them as they walked along the road. In another story the disciples are fishing, not catching anything, until Jesus draws near on the shore and tells them where to cast their nets. When their nets are filled with fish, they recognise Jesus and Peter scrambles to get ashore first. They join in a meal of bread and fish on the beach.

We won’t see Jesus wandering around St Joseph’s or in our homes or in the parish in 2013. But through the eyes of faith, we can learn to recognise the presence of Jesus all around us. When the Spirit of Jesus is alive in our hearts, our community is enlivened. We as a community come alive and show that we care for one another and for those in the wider community. We forgive one another, show patience and kindness, see a need and try to do something about it, and support one another – especially those who are going through difficult times.

Let us pray that the Spirit of Jesus is alive in our hearts and embodied in our community during this Easter season.

TRUST AND FAITH IN GOD

Sometimes life can be overwhelming. Your head aches, your body is wracked with tiredness – drained by anxiety, personal expectations, demands from work and family. In the midst of this, there are times when something ‘big’ happens – confrontations with angry people, death in the family, sickness, friends with cancer, separation/divorce, house moving, school fires. When life gets too overwhelming, trusting God and handing things over – even just for a while – gives the overwhelmed person the space to recover, to draw strength and courage.

John Lennon wrote, “Life is what happens to you while you are busy making other plans.” Sometimes life takes you totally by surprise, bringing to you a whole new set of experiences and challenges. Trust in God. I had a coffee cup once with a kid cartooned onto it. The cartoon caption read, “Dear God, there’s nothing that can happen today that you and I together can’t handle.” It is a wonderful summary of our core value!

On Mary MacKillop’s tombstone, these key words are indelibly chiseled into the stone: “Trust in God”. It is by no accident that this is another of our
“All depends on prayer. Begin with it and end with it.” 14.12.1890
“Everything God blessed will prosper.” 14.12.1890
“God helps us to walk upon the water like St Peter until he began to fear.” 14.12.1890
“God kept my heart full of trust to make all come right.” 30.10.1874
“How truly wonderful are God’s ways and how little we understand them.. 6.6.1874
‘Only think a little, pray a little and try to remember that God will bring about what He sees best, in His own
time, and that His ways are not our ways.” 2.9.1882
“God knows what is best for us all.” 12.7.1898
‘Do not let your troubles disturb your trust in God.” 19.2.1885
“Pray to be ever ready for God’s will even when it takes you by surprise.” 25.5.1880

JOSEPHITE COLLOQUIUM
The Josephite Colloquium is an opportunity for people to gather to explore the mission and charism of Mary
MacKillop and Julian Tenison Woods, and to share their experiences during a time of prayer and reflection. It is
our intention as a school administration to send at least two members of staff to the Colloquium each year so that
we may continue to invigorate the spirit of Mary MacKillop within our school community and revitalise our school
mission. Ellen Anderson and Amber Dair will be travelling south to the Mackillop Centre in North Sydney for the
Colloquium in May. Later in the year, Peter Lovegrove and Bron Moorton will attend.

DISTRICT CROSS COUNTRY TRIALS
Children from St Joseph’s will take part in the District Cross Country Championships to be held at Canterbury Col-
lege on 09 May. Information regarding these trials has already been distributed to the children at our own school
cross country. The permission booklet for students wishing to attend District or Regional events must be complet-
ed by families and signed off at school by the principal. No booklet – no carnival. A school permission slip will go
home on Monday.

YEAR 5 EXCURSION
Children from Yr 5 will travel to St Helena Island for an excursion on Thursday 02 May. Please ensure that you
have paid for this excursion before the day. Though the cost of the excursion is added to the school fee ac-
count, it is expected that parents will come in and pay personally or through a transfer of funds explicitly
for the excursion even if the family has a direct debit system going so that the school can pay the bus company
and the group organising it. It is extremely difficult for the school to meet its financial commitments on a day to
day basis when we have to also cover the cost of camps or excursions that families have not paid for. Sincere
thanks to families who always ensure that camps and excursion costs are addressed prior to the event.

NAPLAN TESTING 2013
NAPLAN tests for years 3, 5 & 7 take place on 14, 15 & 16 May this year. Children in these year levels will prac-
tise for these tests so that they are not overwhelmed on the actual testing days. Children must be at school on
these days so please do not make other appointments. Though we do gain some useful data about student learn-
ing from these tests, we do not make NAPLAN the curriculum! So though we do prepare the children for what
they might expect, we do not spend excessive amounts of time on NAPLAN.

ANZAC DAY
Tomorrow commemorates the 98th anniversary of the battle of Gallipoli and honours all Australians who fought in
wars past and present. It is a time to reflect on the sacrifices made and to show support for the people who fight
for peace around the world. Students have been learning about the significance of the ANZAC’s in class this week.
Thank you to the families who have returned the form indicating that their children will be attending the mass
and/or the march. Should you decide to join us tomorrow and haven’t yet returned the form, please bring it with
you and meet Mrs Giebels or me to have your child’s name added to the list.

Prayer of Remembrance
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. We dedicate ourselves to the cause of justice, freedom and
peace; and for the wisdom and strength to build a better world.

Ode of Remembrance
They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.
Lest we forget.

WHAT’S HAPPENING NEXT DOOR?
You may have noticed that there has been some activity on the adjacent block with all houses being demolished.
Soon, the nursing home will also be demolished to make way for a new hospital and aged care facility. Things will
eventually get rather busy around the precinct when construction gets under way. I have not been given a time-
line for construction but will let you know when I am informed.

DONATION OF GOTCHA PRIZES

St Joseph’s Beenleigh

Newsletter 25/26 April 2013
I know that there are constant calls upon your generosity as families and so I am just inviting those who are able to and willing to donate prizes for our weekly Gotcha Awards to consider doing so. The prizes are simple – stationery items for children, travel games, card games, educational games, puzzles, books, jigsaw puzzles etc. If you see something you think the children would enjoy for a dollar or two, and are happy to buy and donate the prize we would be very appreciative. Thank you for giving this request your consideration.

**ONE-WAY TRAFFIC THROUGH THE SCHOOL PLEASE**

Entry to the school grounds is via Kokoda Street. Traffic then flows one way through the school to Tobruk Street. Please do not enter the grounds through Tobruk Street.

**LOTE**

We welcome Mrs Dewi Andriani to St Joseph’s and congratulate her on her appointment. LOTE takes place on Mondays and Tuesdays with each class having a half hour lesson.

**PREP 2014 ENROLMENT APPLICATIONS**

I began interviewing families for Prep 2014 enrolments on Last week. Families must submit an enrolment application for their prepped-aged children even if they have siblings at St Joseph’s already. A number of families were ‘caught out’ during last year’s process as they had not submitted an enrolment application. The numbers are always fairly tight for the year’s intake so if you haven’t put in an application, please do so immediately. Applications are available at the office or online at our school website [www.stjosephsbeenleigh.qld.edu.au](http://www.stjosephsbeenleigh.qld.edu.au)

**Hallelujah!**

“What a joy it is for me to announce this message: Christ is risen! I would like it to go out to every house and every family, especially where the suffering is greatest” Jesus is risen, there is hope for you, you are no longer in the power of sin, of evil! Love has triumphed, mercy has been victorious! The mercy of God always triumphs!” These words come from the Pope’s Easter message.

At assembly on Monday I explained to the students the meaning of the word “Hallelujah” and the joy it expresses in the resurrection of Jesus. It acknowledges the words of the prophets and of Jesus himself that the Saviour would rise on the third day. This word of praise is sung during the Easter season to celebrate the beginning of Christianity and the new life Jesus’ teachings bring to the world.

These words are taken from the Pope’s Easter message and they are especially poignant given some of the tragic events which have occurred in recent days. These events put our faith to the test and often leave us asking, “Why?” In this Easter season we look to the messages of Jesus to give us strength and look forward to Pentecost and the coming of the Holy Spirit to strengthen us and to nurture our spirit.

**GOTCHA!**

The focus for our Gotcha awards at the moment is “Fair Play”. Teachers are looking for those kids who know how to have fun and play well with their friends at playtime and reward them with a Gotcha card. Other positive behaviours will be acknowledged with a card, too.

**STUDENTS OF THE WEEK**

PC: Whole class
1C: Olivia Fitzgerald, Cruz Sula–Siaosi, Hayden Van de Langenberg, Coen Snelling
1F: Ryan Wey, Zac Utratny
2C: Ryan Kennedy, Josie-Lea Jeffrey
2F: Rhys Sula–Siaosia, Ella Thompson
4C: Kate Radburn, Jayden Schipplock
4F: Chay Drum, Maurice Rosales
5C: Bianca Buttigieg, Kasey Leadbetter
5F: Kassie Cole, Daniel Powell
6C: Cameron Cook
7F: Amelia Hasenkam
7L: Riley Bale, Georgia Brehmer
Golden Gnome: 1st: 2F, 3C, 4C. 2nd: 2C. 3rd: 7F

**A MUSICAL NOTE – RENUKA HARAN**

It is wonderful to see our dedicated musicians coming for rehearsals every Tuesday morning at 7.30am. Thank you to these students and the parents who ensure that they are here on time ready to play. We are sounding great and look forward to playing for you.

**DRUM LESSONS**

There will be no drum lessons on Thursday due to ANZAC day. Make up lessons will be given next Monday 29 April at the usual times.

**TALENT EXTRAVAGANZA**

All entrance forms must be submitted by Wednesday 1 May. I look forward to seeing many students involved in this year’s show.
IMPORTANT DATE FOR YOUR DIARY-LAUREN MITCHELL

Early Years Athletics Carnival (Prep, Year One and Year 2)
Thursday 20th June - 9am-12pm

OFFICEMAX SURVEY RESULTS-KATRINA GIEBELS

Thank you to the parents who responded to the OFFICEMAX Survey sent out last month. As a result of this survey we will continue to use OFFICEMAX for our Back to School orders.

P&F NEWS-DOMINIC BARNES

WHERE DO YOUR P&F FUNDS GO?
Over the Easter break security screens were installed on the all windows and doors on the library. Over the past few years the library has had a rough run of break-ins and these screens should now reduce that risk. The security screens cost the P&F $10,000. The P&F want to thank you, the parents, students and staff of St Joseph's for your continued support of P&F fundraising to make the purchase of items like the security screens possible. Together we are making a difference to our children's great school.

TUCKSHOP DAY - WEDNESDAY MAY 1ST
Our first Tuckshop Day for term 2 will be held on Wednesday 1st May. We will be having a Pizza and Popper Day. Students can choose from three variety of pizza. The pizzas will be from Eagle Boys and all students will receive a quarter of a pizza in individual boxes. Oder forms have now been sent home with every child. Extra order forms are available from the office.
Please ensure all order forms (one per student) are in an envelope clearly labelled TUCKSHOP DAY with your CHILD’S NAME and CLASS. This will assist the volunteers processing the orders to ensure all orders are recorded and correct. Due to the size of the order Eagle Boys require 2 days notice of final numbers therefore NO LATE ORDERS can be accepted. Orders due back, NO LATER THAN MONDAY 29TH OF APRIL THANK YOU!!!

MOTHERS DAY STALL - Thursday May 9th and Friday May 10th
Preparations for the Mother’s Day Stall are well underway and I thank all who have donated time and goodies so far. We are still seeking donations of small individual chocolates and lollies, candles, cotton balls, hand lotions, shampoo, conditioners, bath salts, bubble bath, bath/shower gels, bath mitts and any other bits that may be a treat for mum are all greatly appreciated. Donations of cello wrap or bags and curling ribbon are also requires to allow volunteers to add that little extra touch to your child’s gift.
Parents and helpers are also invited to join us in gift wrapping on Friday April 27th in the school hall following Sr. Jenny’s Cuppa. A note outlining further details of the stall and preparations will be sent home on Friday with your child. This note will also be calling on volunteers to help over the 2 days. For further information please contact Angela Houghton 0403 834 112.

CANE FESTIVAL
The P & F are looking for a flatbed truck to be decorated in this year’s Cane Festival to be held on Saturday 25th May 2013. The truck would need to be at the school on the Saturday morning of the Cane festival at approx. 8.00am. Then the owner/driver would need to be available between approx. 11.15am – 1.30pm approx. to drive it. The truck will then travel around the main streets of Beenleigh and finish at the Showgrounds.
As this is St Josephs 60th Anniversary this year and the theme for this year’s Festival is “back to the Sixties” it would be a great community event for all to be a part of.
Please contact Belinda Thompson 0412 47 8870 or bjt66@bigpond.com if you or someone you know, own a truck, and are able to help.

ST JOSEPH’S FAMILY CAMPING WEEKEND-JOSH O’KEEF & DOMINIC BARNES

Back by popular demand, don’t miss your chance to relax and unwind, share a story around the campfire and bushwalk with friends. St Joseph’s are going camping again! For those that came along last year you will know what a fantastic weekend it was. And for those who couldn’t make it, hopefully you heard many a story and are keen to join us this year. Swimming, bushwalking, fun and games are all on the agenda again, and it’s set to be a fantastic weekend. Past, present and future Joey’s community members are all welcome. No matter what your camping experience is.

When? June 7th-10th JUNE LONG WEEKEND
Where? Flanagan’s Reserve Bush Camping, 1.5hrs from Beenleigh
Cost? Minimum 3 night stay (Due to Long Weekend)
$30 Adult, $15 Child, Under 3yrs are Free.

!!!Expressions of Interest!!!
Last year we had a great turn out. Please register your expression of interest by FRIDAY 26th APRIL (to get an idea of numbers and secure a booking) to Dominic Barnes or Josh O’Keefe – jokeeffe@bne.catholic.edu.au.
Come along for a fun filled social weekend and get to know the families of St Joseph’s! Please keep reading the newsletters in the coming weeks for more information.
ST JOSEPH’S 2013 FETE

RIDE PASSES NOW AVAILABLE

RIDES WILL INCLUDE:

- Hurricane
- Giant Slide
- Cup and Saucer
- Rock Wall
- Lost temple Castle
- Junior Jumping Castle

IF PURCHASED BEFORE 31ST MAY:
- SINGLE PASS - $30
- FAMILY PASS - $55

PURCHASED ON THE DAY:
- SINGLE PASS - $35

(NO FAMILY PASSES WILL BE SOLD ON FETE DAY)

DON’T FORGET FIREWORKS AT 5.30 PM
STUDENT OF THE WEEK

FETE STALLS

YR 7 TRASH AND TREASURE
Year 7 will be running a trash and treasure store at this year’s fete.
We are taking donations now!
Artwork  Bikes and trolleys  Gardening equipment
Homewares  Sports Equipment  Hardware and fixings
Tools  Anything else you have lying around
Good condition Clothing and Fabric
Please ensure all items are clean, useable and in a resalable condition.
Items can be delivered NOW to the Year 7 Teachers, and will be stored securely until the fete.

WINE STALL – DAVID BOULTON AND PETER LOVEGROVE
Peter and I will be conducting the Wine Stall at this year’s fete on 1 June. This involves gathering donations from families and the wider community and selling tickets for a chance at winning a bottle. The bottles are labelled with even numbered tickets and then the evens and odds are added to the draw bag. For $3, punters pull out a ticket from the bag and have a chance of winning a bottle of wine if they draw out an even number. If an odd number is drawn, you lose your money. As all wine is donated, the stall makes a profit and those who have a go can win some very good quality wines. The stall runs for as long as the donated wine lasts! Please kindly donate bottles of wine for this stall through the front office. Do not give wine to the children to bring to school! Staff also contribute to this stall through their wine donations.

TOY WORLD STALL– ERIN HOLMAN AND SUE HALL
DO NOT THROW OUT ANY UNWANTED TOYS OR BOOKS!
WE NEED THEM FOR THE TOY STALL
Only toys and books in good condition are required. No broken toys or scribbled-on books! Any sparkly clean unwanted toys, washed cuddly creatures and books can be now be delivered to the school office.

BOOK STALL– YEAR 6
This is the time to clean out your book shelf and make room for more.
Please send any unwanted books in good condition to the school office for year 6’s book stall.

JEWELLERY MAKING STALL-PREP
Prep is collecting donations of lollies that can be threaded for their stall. Eg. Life savers, fruit loops.
Please forward to the prep rooms or the school office.

TRIVIA NIGHT
Come and join in a great fun filled night to raise money for Sids and Kids
Carol, Wayne, Sandy & Belinda will trek over 2500km in “CAR 66”
$15.00 per person  Book your table now
Prize Money Raffles Games Lucky Door Prize
Where: St Josephs School, 53 Kokoda St, Beenleigh
When: Friday 3rd May 7.00pm (Doors open 6.30pm)
***BYO Alcohol & Nibblies***
Contact: Belinda Thompson  0412 478870   bit66@bigpond.com
Maximum 10 to a table

Join the “G.I. Joeys” for Tough Mudder!
We now have SEVEN on the G.I. Joey's team including Joey's parents Maria Rorke, Jeannine Phelan, Angela Houghton and Dominic Barnes and staff Peter Lovegrove and Josh O'Keefe and Scott Michael (friend of Mr O'Keefe's). We would really like to get to TEN on the team. If you are thinking it sounds fun but maybe not for you please consider joining up! Our team will be all working together to get everyone across the line. You don't need to be an elite athlete... Just give it a go!!! G.I. Joeys will start some group training sessions shortly, and you are welcome to come down a see how you might go. Details coming shortly. To join up, log onto toughmudder.com and use these details... Logon Details: Team Name: “G.I. Joeys” Team Password “Joeys”
When: 9am Sunday 18August .  Where: Caloundra.

COMMUNITY NEWS