St Joseph’s has been alive with interviews over the last two weeks with parents and teachers meeting for their important Semester 1 conversations, and prospective 2015 Prep students and their families meeting with myself. My thanks to all involved and a reminder that 2015 Prep interviews for existing families will occur early in Term 2.

This week’s Caritas Fundraising House Days have been a great success and I congratulate Year 6, 7 students and their teachers on this initiative. To finish the week, and the term, tomorrow we look forward to our Annual Cross Country Carnival (approximate race commencement times in a latter section) and the provision of Tuckshop on the day. My thanks to all staff and parents involved.

It has been a highly productive term at St Joseph’s, with many highlights, and I continue to feel privileged to have been appointed as principal. Staff, students, parents, other relatives, and friends of the school have all contributed to our Term 1 successes and achievements across our school.

Parking, drop-off and pick-up at St Joseph’s causes concern for many in our school community. After observing current arrangements, speaking with staff and managing a number of related issues, the question of ‘Can we do it better?’ must be asked. Please note that this is on my radar for improvement.

A reminder that the St Patrick’s Outside School Hours are available on the school app, parent portal and website. I commend this service to you if work or other personal commitments will leave your child/children without a parent or carer for some period of the upcoming holidays.

Holiday cleaning and maintenance tasks are currently being planned by staff members, Jacky McBain and Scott Edwards, and I thank them in advance for the work they will undertake to keep St Joseph’s in good order. A reminder that Term 2 commences, Tuesday 22 April.

Looking ahead, I ask that you strive to claim the date of Wednesday 21 May when St Joseph’s will welcome Bruce and Denise Morcombe (parents of Daniel) for a visit from 9.00am to present to students in Year 3 to 7 on child safety.

Please note another date claimer (Monday 5 May) in a latter section of this newsletter regarding an upcoming Literacy Workshop for parents, that will be conducted by St Joseph’s staff. Don’t miss out on the opportunity to improve your ability to support the educational work of school staff.

When we return to school after Easter, a number of staff will be enjoying some well-earned leave. They include Mrs Haran (1/4 – 9/5), Mrs Hatzis (22/4 – 6/6) and Sister Jenny (22/4 – 27/6). As well, our parish priest, Father Joseph will be accessing holidays from 23 April to 27 May. We wish each of them well, for a time of true renewal and rejuvenation.

As a Catholic, Christian people, may we realise at Easter that, by His Cross and Resurrection, Jesus has set us free.

With Courage, Faith and Love

Stephen Johnson
I would like to dedicate this newsletter entry to sharing some exciting and interesting news. Recently, our P & F have been putting together a committee to apply for a grant to create a memorial to the soldiers who fought at the Siege of Tobruk in 1941 and to whom our school was dedicated 60 years ago by Monsignor Steele. In the process of developing our grant I attempted to get in touch with the Rats of Tobruk Association to enlist their support for our application. By doing so I have reconnected the school to the brave men of Tobruk. The secretary of the 2nd/15th Battalion Remembrance Club, Steve Rowan, was unaware of the school's connection to Tobruk. He was enthused by the idea of building a relationship between the club and the school. He is the son of a Rat who died on the battlefield on Steve's 4th birthday.

Steve introduced me (by phone) to Gordon Wallace, a Rat of Tobruk, who at 92 years old is one of the last men associated with the battle to be independent and still getting around. He is the current president of the Rats of Tobruk Association (Qld). It was a moving experience for me to have a conversation with an original Rat and to discuss the importance of keeping their legacy present and to ensure it is alive into the future. I am hopeful that he might be able to visit our school sometime in the near future. From these discussions it looks as though the association and club are more than willing to support our grant application and are keen to keep the Rats of Tobruk legacy alive through our school. They have offered to supply us with valuable historical items associated with the Rats and to allow us to be the “keepers of the flame”.

We will be looking at various options to house the memorabilia and to create a special place in our school dedicated to the men of Tobruk.

I will keep you updated as news comes to hand about this development in the history of the school.

Easter – New Life and Renewal

Don’t forget the important celebrations for the season of Easter coming up in the holidays. Don’t forget the significance of the egg and not the chocolate as a symbol of new life and the beginning of Christianity.

If you are home it would be great if you could support your child’s religious and spiritual growth by taking them to any or all of the following:

Palm Sunday – Celebrating Jesus’ triumphant entry into Jerusalem

Holy Thursday – Celebrating the Last Supper and the First Eucharist

Good Friday – Commemorating the Passion of Jesus through the stations of the cross

Easter Saturday – Vigil Mass – Service of the Light and the initiation of adults into our Church

Easter Sunday – The celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ

Please check the parish bulletin or call the parish office for times and information.

On behalf of myself and my family I wish you a Happy and Holy Easter. Hoping you will have a restful, peaceful and prayerful time with your family and friends.

A MESSAGE FROM SR JENNY

Thank you for your messages of congratulations for my 40th Jubilee of Religious Life. I’ve been truly overwhelmed and humbled by your monetary generosity to help towards my 6 week trip which is a dream come true for my familial sister Carmel and myself. Mary MacKillop carried a providence bag with her in her travels around Australia. This bag contained food, lollies and a little money which Mary used to help others. You, the St Joseph’s Community, just like Mary MacKillop have dipped into your pockets and have provided enormously for my upcoming trip. Mary always said to trust in the providence of God and you, dear people of St Joseph’s School have been the generous faces of God to me. I feel so blessed and have much for which to be thankful.

You will be fondly remembered in my thoughts and prayers each day but especially in Rome at the Vatican. Might even get to wave to Pope Francis!

Wishing each one of you a blessed and restful Easter break. I look forward to catching up with you again in Term 3.

With grateful thanks.

Love

Sr Jenny

CONGRATULATIONS—SPORT REPRESENTATIVES

Eilish Mairhofer, Amy Radburn, and Georgia Kelly from Year 7 have been selected in the Beenleigh District Soccer Team to compete at the Regional Trial that will be held in Week 6 next term.

Harry Wooding (5F) has been selected in the Beenleigh District Boys Basketball Team.

Corey Hawkins awarded Champion Boy Rider in the Hacking Competition (Under 12’s) at the recent Toowoomba Show.

A MUSICAL NOTE—RENUKA HARAN

Thank you to all the 12 band members who come early on a Wednesday morning for rehearsal. I would also like to thank Mrs Chivers and Mrs Haley for sharing their talents with us.

There will be a rehearsal on Wednesday 23 April. As I will be away on long service leave, Mrs Chivers will be looking after rehearsals.

St Joseph’s Beenleigh

Newsletter 3 April 2014
DEAR PARENTS…………….About your Leonardo

It is hard to believe that it is week 10 and the last week of term. Year 6’s and 7’s are in the final stages of their cross under glazing and hopefully this week will see the job completed. I will try and get some firing done during the holidays which will make it a little easier next term.

Year 5’s has been working on a 3D shape sculpture which will become part of a collaborative interactive installation to be viewed and played with next term in the multi-purpose room next door to the art room. At the beginning of next term the students will create a drawing of a natural environment to be displayed as a background or setting for the shape sculpture. So watch this space.

Some parents have spoken to me about helping with glazing so if you are one of those people or someone who would like to help (this work can be taken home) please come and see me to organise getting the materials together.

This week we don’t have formal timetable lessons. There will be extra lessons for the upper year levels to complete work eg: cross under glazing. If anyone has time to spare to help clean brushes etc we certainly would appreciate it. Also a huge thank you to those people who have lent a hand this term. Hopefully Mrs Jan will be on board next term even if it is only for a few days each week. We all miss her.

Happy, holy and safe holidays to all and don’t forget to draw!

CONGRATULATIONS AND WELCOME

Congratulations to Madeline McErlean, Lilly James, Mikayla Lin, Josie-Lea Jeffrey and Emilia Zakrzewski who played the violin in the Beenleigh Community Orchestra last Saturday night. Well done!!

HOMEWORK HELP

Both students and parents have given a good report for Homework Help this term. We thank the students who have engaged in this opportunity so enthusiastically and who are motivated to get to school a little early each Tuesday and Wednesday morning. We look forward to working with students again in Term 2, recommencing week 2.

Your Homework Help Team - Isabelle Vargas-Malby, Pauline Carroll and Sue Hall

St Joseph’s Beenleigh
EASTER RAFFLE WINNERS !!

Prep C: 1st: Ryan Burgess  2nd: Nevaeh Rees  3rd: Eva Jago  4th: Charlyt Little
1C 1st: Cohan Pitts  2nd: Lola Tyrrell-Raddatz  3rd: Havina Eikenhout  4th: Coen Snelling
1F 1st: Danni Drescher  2nd: Emman Manchanayake  3rd: Loren Zajac  4th: Camryn Hinds
2C 1st: Jake Shaw  2nd: Lucinda Phelan  3rd: Trent Horsnell  4th: Macy Buttigieg
2F 1st: Gordon Golinski  c/- Chelsea  2nd: Olivia Fitzgerald  3rd: Juliette Barreras  4th: Melissa Cooper  c/- Chelsea Golinski
3C 1st: Eva Crouch  2nd: Jessica Robertson  3rd: Cruz Toева  4th: Fraser Leadbetter
3F 1st: Matt Eley  bnd: Josie-Lee Jeffrey  3rd: Tonisha Houghton  4th: Natalia Zakrzewski
4C 1st: Shirley Burgess  c/- Lachlan Moody  2nd: Colby Bale  3rd: Rowena c/- Mackenzie Moskwa  4th: Sasha Whitby
5C 1st: April Smith  2nd: Kate Murton  3rd: Hannah Marsh  4th: Jayden Schipplock
5F 1st: Lily Watson  2nd: Marten Nieling  3rd: Gail Tattam c/- Connor Ahpene  4th: Kate Radburn
6C 1st: Hannah Evans  2nd: Matthew Hoolahan  3rd: Kassie Cole  4th: Lauren Whitford
6F 1st: Tom Hooker  2nd: Connor O‘Toole  3rd: Alex Allison  4th: Keegan Rourke
7C 1st: Georgia Crouch  2nd: Cameron Cook  3rd: Maddison Scowscoft  4th: Jesse Finch

ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY RACE TIMES (APPROXIMATE)

9.00am—12/13 years, Prep
9.25am—11 years, Year 1
9.50am—Year 2, Year 3
10.15am—9 years (this includes students from Year 3 born 2005, turning 9 this year)
10.35am—10 years (this includes Year 4 & Year 5 students born 2004)

COMMUNITY NEWS

EASTER PASSION PLAY  The Iona Passion Play: 3 performances at 2 locations
Sunday April 6th at 7pm — St Eugene College Hall BURPENGARY
Good Friday Apr 18th & Sat Apr 19th at 7:30pm — Iona College BRISBANE (outdoors)
Tickets: Early Bird: $12-$15 At the Door: $15-$18 Children (under 15) $5 Children (5 & under) Free at Iona only
Group discounts available. Bookings: 3333 1993 or online at www.passionplay.org.au

SETON COLLEGE— The Principal and staff invite parents/students/teachers to an Information and Open School Morning
starting at 9.00am with an Information Session in the College Chapel followed by a tour of the school. The Open Morning is expected to finish at 10.30am. Date: Tuesday 6th May Address: 1148 Cavendish Road Mt Gravatt East Ph: 3291 5333
Webpage: http://www.seton.qld.edu.au

CURRUMBIN WILDLIFE SANCTUARY’S CREATIVE HOLIDAY PROGRAM is an affordable education based, fun and interactive
day for children aged between 12 and 17 years of age. This community course is presented by highly experienced professionals
in wildlife care at Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary and it is designed for those with a keen interest in seeking knowledge and understanding of wildlife. This Course is a real zoo experience and gives students exposure to working in the zoo environment.
Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary. Ph: 55340846. Email: education@cws.org.au