Dear Parents

In the weekend’s Gospel reading, Jesus teaches his disciples what we have come to know as the Lord’s Prayer or the Our Father (Luke 11:1-4). Jesus had a very intimate relationship with his God, whom he called Abba (dad). We are called into such a loving relationship with our God through prayer. Below is a reflective version of the Our Father which you might like to share with your family.

Our Father
Creator God, you are like a loving parent to us.

Who art in heaven
You speak and your word creates the world anew. You are present to us in pondering and letting be, in silence and celebration, in the imagination and circumstances of people, throughout your wondrous gift of creation, in the scriptures, in our thoughts and feelings, and in the gift of one another.

Hallowed be thy name
You are holy and you call us to holiness. Because you are holy, all of your creation is sacred.

Thy kingdom come
Your reign, the dream of Jesus, is already here. Help us to complete this transformation in our world.

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven
You call us to follow the example of Jesus in our everyday lives.

Give us this day our daily bread
Remind us that you are the source of life and that we need to spend time with you every day in prayer.

And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us
Forgive us when we do not do your will. Help us to forgive ourselves and to be compassionate and forgiving towards others.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil
Grant to us the trust and faith in you that we need to be strong in character. Help us to make the right choices in our lives, guided by your Spirit and the example of Jesus.

Amen.

1 August, 2013

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CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK – MAKING A DIFFERENCE
I received a complimentary email from Mother Theresa Catholic Primary School at Ormeau after our special cele-
bration last Thursday. The APRE, Kathleen Crawford, was impressed with how our children warmly invited them
into their games and how quickly new friendships occurred. Thank you to our wonderful parents who organised a
sensational sausage sizzle for over 500 children, staff and other guests so efficiently. Sincere thanks to Peter
Lovegrove and Margaret Hatzis for their organisation of the liturgy and music ministry, and to all who assisted in
making the celebration such a joy-filled experience. As Fr Tony explained, we can make a difference in our
world if we start small and do things with much love.

FUNDING FACTS AND FICTION
Reports appeared in the media last week that Catholic schools ‘signed up’ to the Better Schools funding reforms.
The information below is adapted from the media release that the Queensland Catholic Education Commission re-
leased last week following the conclusion of negotiations between the National Catholic Education Commission and
the Australian Government with regards to future funding for our schools.

The Queensland Catholic Education Commission, along with all other state and territory Catholic Education Com-
missions, last week acknowledged that negotiations have concluded with the Australian Government in relation to
future funding arrangements for Catholic schools.

The ‘Better Schools Plan’ funding arrangements have been established by the passage through Parliament at the
end of June 2013 of the Australian Education Act 2013. The Act provides for Australian Government funding for
Catholic schools to be delivered under the ‘Better Schools Plan’.
The National Catholic Education Commission has been in discussion with the Australian Government as to how the
funding, administrative and regulatory aspects of the ‘Better Schools Plan’ will apply to Catholic schools.

Mike Byrne says that “the ‘Better Schools Plan’ is expected to deliver modest funding increases to Catholic schools
in its initial stages.”
"Under the ‘Better Schools Plan’, Catholic Education will continue to direct funds to areas of identified need to con-
tribute to positive educational outcomes for young people in Queensland.”

On 27 July 2013 Mike Byrne, Executive Director, was interviewed on ABC Radio. This interview provides a clear
explanation of the outcomes of the negotiations with the Australian Government.

Click here to listen to an ABC Radio interview with Mike Byrne. We are grateful to the National Catholic Education
Commission for their advocacy for Catholic schools during these negotiations and in the lead up to the federal
election.

WAKAKIRRI PERFORMANCE
As I write this newsletter, the Wakakirri Team are in the hall putting on make-up and getting ready for one last
run through in front of the Preps and Year 1 classes. They will then travel to the Logan Entertainment Centre
where they will prepare for their evening performance.
In advance I congratulate them on another fantastic effort and whether or not they get through to the next round,
they have already succeeded and excelled. Sincere thanks to Pip Haley and Amber Dair and to all who have lent a
hand along the way (and there are many!). A big thank you also to our parents who have supported the children
and the school through many after school rehearsals and beyond.

CAMPS
School camps are coming up for Years 5 and 6. These camps are compulsory school events. Children are ex-
pected to attend therefore, if a payment plan is needed, please contact the school and see Ros Mendo, our fi-
nance secretary, who can assist families with inquiries about payment plans. It is expected that the camp will be
paid for before the day of departure.
The cost of the camp is shared across the number of children in the year level. Should a child have a medical rea-
son for not attending, a medical certificate is required. It is also important to point out that the cost of the bus
still needs to be paid, even if a child does not attend camp for medical reasons. This is because we calculate the
cost of the bus by dividing the quote by the number of children. This makes it cheaper for families.

NEW STORAGE SHEDS
Recently I met with Roger from Total Span. Soon, the company will be installing our new storage sheds. One will
be located behind the sandpit in the P-2 play area. The second will stand beside the sports shed which is posi-
tioned on the bank to the oval, in the shelter shed. Funding for these sheds was obtained by the P & F through the
Gambling Community Benefits Fund.

SIGNAGE FOR OUR HALL
Recently Mary McBride and I met with Ben from A+ Digital regarding the production of our signage to the hall.
We will be installing 16 panels on concrete pillars. These panels will contain representations of our school found-
ers, sayings of St Mary MacKillop, our school respect rules, our 7 core values and a then and now historical repre-
sentation. These panels will add colour and meaning to our hall and we look forward to their installation – hope-
fully before the end of term.
EKKA HOLIDAY 2013
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 12 August. For St Joseph’s, there is no traditional public holiday on Wednesday 14 August. In other words, the staff and children have a holiday on Monday 12 August and are at school on Wednesday 14 August.

400% INCREASE IN WASTEWATER SERVICES CHARGE – LOGAN CITY COUNCIL
I have not heard back from Logan City Council after a meeting towards the end of last term regarding a massive increase to our Wastewater Services Charge. Council is proposing what equates to a 400% increase in this charge from $1 762 per quarter to $6 243.85 per quarter ($24 975.40 per year!!!!!). In fairness to the council at this stage I will not say anything further until I hear back from them and the picture becomes clearer. However, as a community we will need to rally against such a ridiculous increase should it eventuate.

AUSDANCE & ASSEMBLIES IN THE CHURCH FOR THIS TERM
AusDance will be taking place in the hall on Mondays from 9.15am. We will therefore be having assemblies in the church for this term. We will be having a “dancing through the decades” theme this year as part of our 60th anniversary as a school. Children will perform for families on the evening of Tuesday 17 September. This is designed to be a family celebration of our 60th anniversary as a school so please mark it into your calendars.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK
PC: Loren Zajac, Paige Burke, Zoe Elford, Brookelyn Toalima
PF: Milly McCallum, Thomas Houghton, Camryn Hinds, Sienna Classen
1C: Blaze Ayre, Elise Sulusi, Blake Burgess, Taliah D’Arcy
1F: Khasydi Little, Cara Bowe
3C: Lachlan Rawlings
3F: Henry Wright
4F: Benjamin Southam
5C: Jarrod Eaton, Matthew Hoolahan
5F: Georgia Marmol, Gabrielle Hingst
6C: Matthew Hughes
7C: Kobe Stephens
7F: Alex Elford
7L: Chloe Buttigieg, Rhys Towerton
Golden Gnome: 1st: 2F. 2nd: 7F. 3rd: 1C, 1F.  Golden Banking Award: PC

LIBRARIAN—LYN GIEBELS
Calling all volunteers…
Just a reminder again that Book Week this year will be held from Monday 19th to Friday the 23rd August. The theme this year is “Read Across the Universe”. Our book character parade will be on Tuesday 20th August. All children are invited to dress up as either their favourite book character or anything to do with a space theme. Our annual book fair will also be running in conjunction with Book Week and again, we are asking for some volunteers to help us in its running. As I am currently working part-time, we are desperate for volunteers. If you could give a few hours, especially before and after school, it would be most appreciated!
We still have quite a few overdue books. Unfortunately, this means that these children do not have full borrowing rights. If your child has overdue books and you have not paid, please come and see me on Monday, Thursday or Friday to discuss this issue.
Many parents are concerned for their children’s online safety on hand held devices. While computers have web filters, until recently there has been little available for Apple or Android devices. If you would like to find out more about these new apps, visit this blog:

The Additional Assistance Program operating through the Green Room is only one component of the Response to Intervention pyramid framework of instruction. This model based on sound research by the International Reading Association [2009] comprises learning and teaching at 3 increasing levels of intensity. This universal design model aims to support all students through exemplary teaching instruction using evidence based best practice at each level within the pyramid:

Level 1: whole class expert instruction by the class teacher
Level 2: more intensive, targeted small group work within the classroom, utilising teaching assistant.
Level 3: additional intensive and specifically targeted instruction tailored to the specific needs of the individual student on an individual or very small group basis.

As you can see, a child experiencing a learning difficulty does not necessarily need to physically come to the Green Room for additional assistance. In some cases, it is more appropriate for the support to happen within the classroom with the class teacher directing the support in collaboration with the Green Room team and in-class Teaching Assistant.

Erin Holman, Sue Hall & Pauline Carroll -The Green Room Team
Last night the St Joseph’s Wakakirri Team performed their story dance “A Peace Of Cake” at the Logan Entertainment Centre. They were great ambassadors for St Joseph’s with exemplary behaviour and an outstanding performance. We congratulate the Wakakirri Team who won the award for “Best Public Speaking” as well as the “Most Creative Reuse Of Materials”.

The original date of 25 Oct has had to be changed to Fri 8 Nov. Please mark in your calendar!

The class photos have been returned and were sent out last week. School Captains, Sport Captains and Student Council photos are now available for viewing and ordering at the office. Photos are $18 each and need to be ordered by Friday 9 August.

The Mary Mackillop room (where Children’s Liturgy is held) is the venue for our ‘United’ Youth meeting this Friday Aug 2nd, as St Joey’s are using their hall. The younger age group (10-14) kicks off at 5.30pm.

Youth Mass – Next Sunday Aug 4th at 6pm, with practice at 4pm.

40hr Famine – 16th-18th August. Our youth are once again going without food for 40 hours to help feed those who survive on almost no food all the time. If you’d like to participate, or donate, please let me know.

Parish Multicultural Celebration – Sun 25th Aug. Our young people are helping to serve, and the youth band is providing some entertainment at the function after Mass, and we’d love lots of people to be involved. Can you help?

Winter Wonderland Ball – Sat 31st Aug! Don’t miss this, it will be a night to be remembered! Contact Julia on 0447 121 896 for tickets.


If you are a young person or a parent of one, and you would like to know more about youth ministry in our Parish, please give me a call. God bless! Cathy 0400 494 943 youth.beenleigh@bne.catholic.net.au

SCHOOL DISCO– TOMORROW NIGHT

DiSCO
PREP–Year 7 2ND AUGUST
5:30–7:30
Food and fun dancing and games Glow products for sale