Dear Parents

Welcome to Term 3, Week 8 at St Joseph’s Tobruk! I can’t believe how quickly the term is flying past! There are only four weeks to go before the September holidays.

We continue to keep the Cleeeland family in our thoughts and prayers after the recent death of Mike Cleeeland in a car accident. Mike’s funeral was held at Mt Cotton last Tuesday.

**PRAYER – YEAR OF GRACE**
Gracious God,
You gift us with abundant and unbounded love.
Open our eyes
to the moments and movements of your grace in our lives,
and open our hearts
to know the wellspring of gratitude that arises within us.
We make this prayer through Jesus, your gift of grace.
Amen.

This week in brief:
Bon voyage to our Finance Secretary who is heading off overseas next weekend. Ros Mendo will be away from Monday 27 August to Friday 21 September. Have a great time Ros! Taking Ros’ place in the finance office will be Chris Hanrahan. Chris is no stranger to Joey’s as she comes in weekly to assist school administration so many families will know Chris already.

**ARTWORX2012**
An event not to be missed!

Opening night: Friday 19 October, 2012 starting 6pm.
$10 Tickets will be presold. Tickets price include entry, drinks and nibbles.
The Artworx exhibition continues until Friday 26 October, 2012 showcasing the many talents of our creative students & much more!
Highlights include:
Auction on opening night of art works from notable artists
Artworks for sale
Book Fair continues in the school library on Monday and finishes Tuesday morning.

Peter Lovegrove attends the Primary Senior Leaders Conference on the Gold Coast on Tuesday and Wednesday.

On Wednesday 29 August, Year 2 children attend an ARL Rugby League Gala Day at Mudgeeraba. The Father’s Day Stall also takes place on Wednesday. Don’t forget, **Father’s Day is on Sunday 2 September**.

AUSDANCE continues on Thursday 30 August. There is an instrumental concert in the hall after Snack. Children from St Joseph’s at Tara stay in the hall overnight.

On Friday 31 August, the next interschool Gala Day takes place at various venues. As well, the Catholic Schools Zone Track and Field will be held at QEII stadium at Nathan. Year 1 classes go to the Lego Centre at South Brisbane to cap off another busy week at St Joseph’s!

**MAVERICK NIGHT**

Although the number of people attending isn’t as many as expected, it promises to be a great time. Many thanks to all involved in making the evening such a fun time. If I start to name names I will surely forget someone. So thanks to those who donated prizes or spent hours contacting companies and businesses for donations, who gave of their time to work on gaming tables or who are catering or cooking or serving food. Thanks to those who will set up and clean up afterwards, who sell or serve drinks, who give out tickets, who wrote names tags, who collected and counted money, who made such an effort with their costumes to enter into the spirit of the evening. Well done and thank you for being part of the team!

**Updated Sponsors list for the Maverick Night:**

**Please support these Companies when out and about.**

**BOOK FAIR & BOOK WEEK**

Congratulations and thank you to Lyn Giebels and Karen Cole for your organisation of Book Week and Book Fair. I love picture books and bought several for Christmas and birthday gifts for nieces, nephews and the grandchild! Thank you also to the classes for their displays in the library.

**FATHER’S DAY STALL**

Sincere thanks to David and Priscilla Fitzgerald for their organisation of the Father’s Day Stall, and to all who donated gifts or who helped out during the day. The children really appreciate the opportunity to purchase well priced items for their dad. They like the variety and being able to buy more than one item with their money. Well done everyone!

**ST JOSEPH’S TARA – SCHOOL VISIT**

Approx 16 students from St Joseph’s Tara are camping in the hall on Thursday evening 30 August. Tara is a town in the Western Darling Downs region. They are going to the Eureka Excursion Centre on Friday.

**SCHOOL FUNDING**

The Australian government is currently reviewing funding for all schools and it is likely that the government will soon propose new funding arrangements that will be debated in the Federal Parliament later this year. These new arrangements could have significant consequences for the funding received by our school. I believe it is vital that you are aware of the facts about school funding and are able to actively defend the right of our school to the funding it needs to continue to offer a quality education, while keeping our fees as low as possible. There has already been a lot of misinformation about school funding in the media. In particular, claims have been made that Catholic and other non-government schools receive more funding than State schools. These claims are simply wrong. Students in Catholic schools on average receive only about 80% of the government funding provided to students in government schools.

I encourage you to view the video Catholic school funding in Australia prepared by the Queensland Catholic Education Commission. Video link: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V33EqyuWjkE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V33EqyuWjkE)

Over the coming weeks, I will also provide you with more detailed information about funding in our school newsletter. I encourage you to take an active interest in this information and be ready to participate in this funding debate.

More information about Catholic school funding can be found at: [www.fundinginfo.catholic.edu.au](http://www.fundinginfo.catholic.edu.au)

**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. As a school administration, we have committed 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. Lauren Mitchell (2F) and Nicolle Ford (3F) travelled south on Wednesday to the Mackillop Centre in North Sydney for the August Colloquium. We hope they found it an enriching and enjoyable experience.
TRINITY ENROLMENTS
It is important for families wanting their children to go to Trinity College in Year 8 to complete and submit an application form in Year 5. Don’t leave it to Year 6 or you will risk missing out on a place.

COMPULSORY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE
If a child is going to be absent from school for more than 10 consecutive school days, the parents must have permission from the Non State School Accreditation Board. This permission must be in writing and will be in response to an application for exemption from compulsory schooling for the period of absence. The absence could be due to illness (in which case doctor’s certificates would be required) or family holidays or sporting/cultural representation/commitments. Bron has the application form which she can print off or email.

The school then is required to keep documentation of this absence from school and the permission form from NSSAB. This is a compliance requirement for Catholic Schools to remain accredited (adherence to the requirements of the Education Act).

SCHOOL CAMPS
Camps for Years 5 and 6 are coming up very soon:
Year 5  Lake Ainsworth (Lennox Head)  5-7 September
Year 6  Emu Gully (Helidon)  12-14 September

We appreciate the commitment and effort of our staff who accompany children on camps. They give up family time and work over time without remuneration so that the children learn and have fun in a different context. Thank you staff!!

APRE—PETER LOVEGROVE

Restorative Practices
Since coming to St Joseph’s I have really enjoyed working with the staff and the students in various roles and one which takes up a lot of my time is dealing with problems from student misconduct and the breakdown of friendships and relationships with other students.

I have recently been reading some information about Restorative Practices. Restorative Practices deal with situations in which students experience wrongdoing by others and how they can restore a positive relationship. Traditionally, we ask the following when something happens:

What happened? Who’s to blame? What do they deserve?

The restorative approach is to ask:

What happened? Who’s been harmed? What needs to happen to repair some of that harm?

In this way, we are focussing on the harm and the obligation of the “wrongdoer” to right the wrong. This allows them to see the breadth and depth of the harm and to attempt to make amends. It becomes an education in relationships and changes the focus of behaviour management to the process of reconciliation rather than punishment. The person in the wrong becomes accountable for their actions and responsible for rebuilding the broken relationship.

Perhaps if you have difficulties with a child at home and you are frustrated with not getting through to them this approach may be worth a go.

Religion Curriculum
This week the teachers were involved in a professional development activity looking at the documents, resources and direction of the new Religion Curriculum which is currently being developed by Brisbane Catholic Education. The new curriculum will align and integrate somewhat with the Australian Curriculum and will be set out in a similar format. The school will be planning engaging inquiry religion units over the next months and classes will be learning religion from these plans later this year and into 2013. The official launch of the Religion Curriculum won’t be until later next year after drafts have been trialled and validated.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

PC – Keyana Drum, Khasydi Little
1C – Hayden Clark
2C – Mackenzie Robson Ethan Creamer
3F – Marten Nieling
4C – Caitlin Rorke, Bianca Buttigieg
56D – Kiwa King, All of 56D
6C – Brooke Cameron, Madison Shaw
7F – Jade Payne

PF – Angelina Gamble
1F – Mikayla Heagney, Fraser Leadbetter, Elias Garay, Jacob Miller
2F – Giuliana Rakic
4F – Azariah Bourdon, Nicholas Houghton, Whole of Year 4
56L – Georgia Brehmer, Matthew Hughes, Kacee Te Hau Carter Beam
7C – Ryan Perandis

Golden Gnomes: 1: 7 F 2: 4C 3: 4F, 7C
DATE CLAIMER
Thursday 30 August—Instrumental concert in the hall at 2.05pm. Students who are performing have been informed
by their instrumental teachers. The School band will be performing.
All parents and friends are welcome to attend his event.

CHOIR
The School choir members are still celebrating their Gold award received at the Catholic Schools and Colleges
Music Festival. Our next performance will be at the opening of ARTWORX - School Art Exhibition in Term 4.
Congratulations to Evie Classen on achieving Honours in her Grade 1 Piano Exam.

FROM THE GREEN ROOM
On average, a child in Australia, Britain or the US will see anywhere between 20,000 and 40,000 commercials a
year. They spend 60% more time watching television in a year than they spend in school.
TV as well as other ‘screen’ activities can get in the way of exploring, playing and talking which in turn interferes
with learning, social and physical development.
While we all love our apps, our games and our TV shows,
too much screen time equals
· less playing with friends,       · less reading,
· less being active              · less talking with someone
· less family time.
So let’s think before we turn on the TV, the iPhone, iPod, iPad.
Too much of anything is never a good thing.

LITERACY PLANET-MELLISSA BURGESS
CLASS LEADERS from 13th – 19th Aug 10- 20 minutes a day is all that is needed.
PC – Duncan Fekete                        PF – Riley McVicker
1C – Naomi Joelle Mataia                  1F – Jade Regeling (3rd School Leader)
2C – Amala Saju                           2F – Goldie Martin (2nd School Leader)
3C – Matheu Nieling                       3F – Luca McVicker
4C – Andrew Assaad                        4F – Matthew Hoolahan
56L – Tamika Buttigieg                    56D – Elliot Fekete
6C – Katelin Nieling                      6F – Tayla Phillips
7C – Jesse Caruana                        7F – Teresa Martin (1st School Leader)
AS OF 21th of August OUR SCHOOL IS IN 8TH POSITION IN AUSTRALIA
What a great achievement by the whole school. Well Done

SCHOOL/CLASS PHOTOS
School Photos were sent home on Wednesday. Please check your child’s bag if you haven’t received them yet.
BAND, CHOIR, SCHOOL CAPTAINS AND COUNCIL PHOTOS are displayed on the office door for the band,
choir, captains and council photos. Envelopes for ordering can be collected in school office. Orders and payment
need to be returned to the office by 7 September.

SHOPPING VOUCHERS
We have received, counted and sent off to Woolworths 52,990 stickers. This is a fantastic response. We thank all
families and friends for your support and Mrs Schloman for co-ordinating this contribution to our school.