28 August, 2014

From the Principal

At the time of this newsletter being published, Year 4 teacher, Miss Fletcher and I will be fully immersed in our Mary Mackillop Colloquium (live-in retreat) experience in North Sydney. I look forward to returning to St Joseph’s next week and sharing the highlights.

Book Week has just passed and our school community thoroughly enjoyed the associated activities, especially last Friday’s Book Character Parade. Thank you to parents for making such an effort with the character costumes on this day and for book purchases that supported the Book Fair in the library.

Last Sunday’s Multi-cultural Mass and gathering that followed in the school hall, provided a true picture of who we are as a Catholic school and parish. There were many outstanding aspects to the morning, with none better than the diversity of languages used during Mass, the variety of food on offer and the entertainment, which involved a large number of students from our parish primary schools, i.e. Mother Teresa School, Ormeau, and ourselves. Again, we thank Indonesian teacher, Mrs Andriani, for her preparation and organisation of performing students.

This is National Literacy and Numeracy Week and, as mentioned in last week’s newsletter, these critical general capabilities for students will be highlighted and related successes celebrated across the school. It is timely also that 2014 NAPLAN Student Reports are being sent home to relevant families today.

The 2014 MI SMARTS Program concluded yesterday and it is clear that students and staff both enjoyed their engagement with Multiple Intelligence (MI). Congratulations to our MI SMARTS Rugby League students who represented our school so capably at a Rugby League carnival as their program finale. Thank you to PE teacher, Mr Armstrong, for his organisation and management.

Mr Armstrong’s proficient organisation and management skills will extend to tomorrow’s Catholic Zone 2 Athletics Carnival, at which 42 students will represent our school. Best wishes to all competitors.

I am very much looking forward to my rescheduled meeting next Tuesday 2 September with Logan City Council delegates regarding arrangements for our new morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up of students by motorists.

Fathers’ Day approaches and the related stall, enabling student purchases, will operate next Tuesday 2 September for Year 5 (due to their camp later in the week) and next Wednesday 3rd and Thursday 4th for all other students. My thanks to the P&F for their organisation of this provision for students and to families who have so generously donated items for stall sale.

Next Wednesday 3 September, teaching staff will engage in their 3 hour Term 3 Twilight Professional Learning Workshop until 6.30pm, in preparation for important student work sample moderation that is undertaken annually in Term 4.

As per a recent newsletter, auditory screening occurs for select students next Thursday 4 September. Again, the school is most proud of this ‘no cost’ provision for relevant families.

‘Kindness to Others’ is occurring and being recognised more formally at St Joseph’s, thanks to our yellow slip and yellow teapot initiative. Parents are asked to note their welcome inclusion in this initiative and that the slips and teapot can be accessed in the front office.

Please pray for the Clark and Wright families as they deal with the recent passing of loved ones:

Eternal rest grant unto Bert and Patrick, O Lord.
May perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace.

With Courage, Faith and Love
Stephen Johnson
HOMEWORK SURVEY

Earlier in the year a discussion took place at a P&F parent forum about homework. Some information was presented in newsletters following this and the I have been reading and researching practices at other schools and in other systems across the world.

As mentioned previously the homework debate has been going on for many years and there are many differing viewpoints on the value, the structure and even the philosophy of homework. To allow us to be better informed at a local level we are seeking your assistance to complete a survey of your views on homework here at St Joseph’s. We would appreciate as many responses as possible so that we might make the best decisions relating to homework here at our school.

I have sent the link via the Skoolbag app and on the St Joey’s Mums’ and Dads’ Facebook page. I will put it on the school website and list it below for you to visit. It shouldn’t take more than about 10 minutes to complete and we really do appreciate you taking the time to assist us. It will be available for you to respond until the end of term and then the results published early next term.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/133MFe5-MEeDBt-eDWOI8lRziqQyG7uBdIPAGORIrY/viewform?c=0&w=1

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

| PC: Dominik Serek | PF: Gabriella Pires-Dofter |
| 1F: Amy Hall       | 2C: Emma Cook              |
| 3C: Summer Lahrs   | 3F: India Seeto            |
| 4F: Jayde Schubert | 5C: Joe Jreige             |
| 6F: Jasintah Keo   | Golden Gnome: 1st–2C, 2nd–1F, 3rd–4F. |

MI SMARTS

MI SMARTS is an initiative at St Joseph’s that our students and teachers look forward to each year. It is a few weeks of the year when our teachers and students from year 3 to 7 get to choose a different activity to participate in on a Wednesday afternoon.

Thanks to Miss Ford who led a group of enthusiastic students to make comics on the iPads, using technology to design and create texts to share.

Mrs Dair used board games and games of strategy to engage her group in building brain power while problem solving and critically thinking and having a lot of fun.

Thanks also to Mrs Sameera Rattansay and Mrs Wynn continue to take their group each week on a taste tour around the world. Last week was Italy and a good spaghetti bolognaise was enjoyed by all.
We thank Mrs Dianne Kibble who was our story reader last week. It was great to see her encourage the Koala Joey children to read along with her as she shared “The Magic Hat” by Mem Fox. This is a delightful story of a magic hat tumbling into town, wreaking havoc wherever it lands. The twists and turns in her rhyming text are complemented with lots of fun-filled illustrations. For more information about Mem Fox and her fantastic picture books, click here http://memfox.com/books/

INDONESIAN - DEWI ANDRIANI

On Sunday 24 August, students of St Joseph’s and Mother Teresa were collaborating to sing two Indonesian songs at the Parish Multicultural day. The students were singing "Disini Senang' which tells that wherever I go, I always will be happy and "Kepala, bahu, lutut, kaki" which is the Indonesian version of the song “Head, Shoulder, Knees and Toes”. I would like to say thank you to all students who participated on that day. A special big thank you to parents who brought the children to the event.

DATE CLAIMER

You are invited to our instrumental concert. The school band will be performing along with a few students who learn instruments at the school. We look forward to seeing you.

DATE: Wednesday 17 September   TIME: 2.15pm   VENUE: School hall

FREE HEARING CHECKS for OUR STUDENTS

Hearing difficulties can have a significant effect on a child’s ability to learn. Sometimes we don’t even know that our child is having difficulty with their hearing.

At St Joseph’s, we understand that the cost of having your child’s hearing can be expensive so we are implementing a hearing screening program with the University of Qld Audiology Clinic, AT NO COST TO OUR PARENTS.

We have 20 places left for this screening on Thursday Sept 4. If you are interested in having this free hearing check for your child, please email me on sehall@bne.catholic.edu.au before Monday lunchtime with your child/children’s name and class. I will then send home the form to be signed and returned to the main office.

2014 QLD PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE

All sheets for this reading challenge need to be completed and returned to your child’s teacher by the 5th of September in order to be eligible to receive a certificate from the Qld Government. Please ensure that your child’s name is written on the sheet, so their details can be updated correctly on the online forms.

To receive a certificate, Prep to Year 4 need to read 20 books and Years 5-7 need to read 15. So far we have 48 students who have completed the challenge. Some of these students have actually filled in multiple forms, so well done!
Yesterday St Joseph's students attending the u/10's NRL Development Fun Day at Coomera Cutters JRL. A fun day was had by all, with many students experiencing their first game of Rugby League. 12 schools across two age groups attended the day with St Josephs holding their own on the field and behaving exceptionally well off the field. These students have also been invited to attend the Titans v Bulldogs game on Fathers Day.

Photo: St Joseph’s Students with Titans NRL players (left; Maurice Blair, Steve Michaels and Brad Tighe)

FATHERS’ DAY STALL
Fathers’ Day is just around the corner and there are still lots of ways you can help. Thank you so much for your generous donations to date. Please keep sending these in with your child. These donations go a long way in helping to provide a variety of gifts for your child to choose from. Thankyou to everyone who has helped to prepare gifts. Your assistance is invaluable and greatly appreciated by all. The stall will run next week as follows:

- Tuesday after snack - for Year 5 (due to camp)
- Wednesday and Thursday - for the remainder of the school.

A letter will be sent home this week letting you know what day and time your child will be visiting the store. Parent helpers are also needed for all days. Volunteers will be asked to nominate days on a tear off slip on the bottom of the letter. For further information please contact Angela Houghton on 0403 834112

MAVERICK MONEY TREE
The Maverick Money Tree Raffle ($100 worth of scratchies) will be drawn on Mr Johnson’s return from Sydney on Monday. Tickets are available until the end of the week from Ros Mendo in the office at $1 each. Come on and treat yourself… you never know you luck.

CHANGE OF DATE FOR THE P&F MEETING
The September meeting for P&F will be on Tuesday 16 September at 6.30pm. (Wakakirri finals are on the 9th our previously scheduled date). The P&F Executive invite all members of our school community to attend this meeting. Should you have matters for the Agenda please email them to stjosephspandfbeenleigh@gmail.com This email address can also be used should you have any concerns or issues, questions or queries that you want answered or clarified relating to all matters involving P&F.

ST JOEY’S MUMS’ & DADS’ FACEBOOK PAGE
This page continues to be used as a great way of communication and information sharing amongst our parents and now with our Leadership Team with “Peter and Steve” joining us online. I firstly thank parents for the way this page is being utilised and encourage all to invite other parents in our school community to join our group. If you are not a part of this group and are on Facebook please look us up at St Joey’s Mums & Dads.

5c DRIVE
Wow! What an amazing effort by all over the last 4 weeks. Together we have managed to scrap together $2621.60 in small change to help make a big difference in the lives of our children. Well done to all classes for your great effort. A special mention goes to our weekly winners Year 7 for weeks 1 & 4 and Prep Waterdragons for Weeks 2 & 3. The overall winners with an enormous effort goes to our outgoing Year 7 students and Mr McBride , who together as a group raised an amazing $344.85, FANTASTIC!!!The P&F greatly appreciates the ongoing support given to our activities by our school community and we are constantly reminded that no matter how little your contribution, together we can unite to make a big difference. Thankyou.

Our next ‘United’ Youth meeting will be this Friday, Sept 5th. Our guest speaker will be Seminarian Josh Whitehead. We start at 5.30pm; the younger group finish at 7.30pm, and the older group finish at 8.45pm. The night includes dinner (for which a small donation would be appreciated), and is held in St Joseph’s School Hall.

YOUTH MASSES: 6pm Sunday 7th Sept, with practice at 4pm; 9am Sunday 21st Sept, with practice at 8am.
Are you planning on going to the Ignite Conference this year? Check out igniteconference.com.au and let me know asap if you’d like to come with us.
If you would like to know more about youth ministry in our Parish, please contact me. Cathy 0400 494 943 youth.beenleigh@bne.catholic.net.au
COMMUNITY NEWS

INVITATION
The St William’s P&F invite you to attend an Information Session
‘7 Steps 2 Safety’
Presented by
In Safe Hands
Australia’s Leaders in Child Safety Education

We all use sunscreen every day to protect us against skin cancer, and now we can use Child Protection strategies every day to protect our children against child abuse. This course takes a fresh approach to Child Protection using practical strategies that everyone can learn to use to protect themselves and others from child abuse. You will learn the 7 Steps to Safety and appreciate the way they not only protect children, but transform your relationship with them.

Wednesday 3 September 2014
6.30 pm - 7.30 pm
St Mary Mackillop Centre
St William’s Primary School
Dawson Parade, Grovely

RSVP by Sunday 31 August (for catering)
stwilliamspandf@hotmail.com

Tea, coffee, cookies and cake.

Entry fee - gold coin donation.
Donations will be given to
“Timor Leste - St John de Brita”

Situated in a small impoverished town called Liquiça. Our Parish provides school supplies, education, buildings, etc. Two of our junior Parish members are currently there to help out.
Examples of how Child Care Rebate works

Nick and Kate
• Nick and Kate both work full time and meet all of the eligibility requirements for Child Care Benefit however their family income is too high to receive any Child Care Benefit.
• Their first child, Ben, is in Outside School Hours Care, which costs $200 per week, $4,000 over the year.
• Their second child, Sam, is in Long Day Care, which costs $310 per week, $14,800 over the year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Ben</th>
<th>Sam</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total care fees</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
<td>$14,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Care Benefit entitlement</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Out-of-pocket expenses</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
<td>$11,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Care Rebate&lt;br&gt;(50% of out of pocket expenses)</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$5,900</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This means that children’s care fees are reduced by $9,900 and Nick and Kate pay only $9,900 over the year.

* This example is based on 48 weeks of care.

James and Sally
• James works full time and his partner Sally is studying. Their family income means they receive some Child Care Benefit.
• Their first child, David, goes to Outside School Hours Care, which costs $85 per week, $2,800 for the year.
• Their second child, Bella, is in Family Day Care, which costs $200 per week, $6,000 for the year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>David</th>
<th>Bella</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total care fees</td>
<td>$3,650</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less Child Care Benefit entitlement</td>
<td>$450</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Out-of-pocket expenses</td>
<td>$2,200</td>
<td>$4,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Care Rebate&lt;br&gt;(50% of out of pocket expenses)</td>
<td>$1,100</td>
<td>$2,250</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This means that children’s care fees are reduced by $3,750 and James and Sally pay only $3,250 over the year.

* This example is based on 30 weeks of care.

For more information
Visit australia.gov.au/mychild or call 13 24 68.

Child Care Rebate
The Child Care Rebate is an additional payment to the Child Care Benefit which helps families cover the out-of-pocket costs of child care. It is not income tested and covers up to 50% of out of pocket child care costs, up to $7,500 per child, per year. Out of pocket child care costs are calculated after deducting any Child Care Benefit payments that are received.

Who is eligible for the Child Care Rebate?
• You and your partner (if applicable) must have had work, training, study related commitments or have an exemption at some time during a week.
• You must be using approved child care.
• You or your partner must be an Australian citizen, a permanent resident living in Australia or be exempted from the Australian Government’s residency requirements.
• Children under seven years of age must meet the Australian Government’s immunisation requirements or have an exemption.
• You must be the one responsible for your child care costs. If your employer contributes to your child care through salary sacrificing or packaging, you should discuss with them who is responsible for the cost.

Even if your family’s income is too high for you to receive the Child Care Benefit you may be eligible for the Child Care Rebate.
Seasonal influenza season has started with one third of all flu cases this year (as of 11 August 2014) reported in the last two weeks. Ongoing attention to prevention and control measures is essential to minimise the spread of this infection. Information regarding the flu is available at: www.health.qld.gov.au/flu

Influenza season has started in Queensland

One third of all flu cases and hospital admissions this year have been reported in the last two weeks (as of 11 August 2014).

Adults aged 30 – 49 years have been most affected by flu so far this year. School staff are reminded of the importance of annual flu vaccination.

The number of flu cases across all ages, including school aged children, can be expected to continue to rise over the coming weeks.

Protect staff and children

Schools, especially boarding schools are prone to experiencing rapid transmission of flu. Now is the time to review infection control practices and promote key flu prevention and control messages.

Resources to assist with promoting awareness of flu prevention and control are available at www.health.qld.gov.au/flu

Key actions to help prevent and control flu outbreaks

- It is not too late to vaccinate

Staff and children should be vaccinated for flu every year.

Remind and encourage seasonal influenza vaccination for any person aged six months or older.

- Staff, children and parents should always practice and promote good hand and respiratory hygiene.

Ensure your school has available and accessible facilities to support good hand and respiratory hygiene.

The importance of frequent hand washing with soap and water followed by thorough hand drying using a single-use towel should be reinforced and promoted. Alcohol based hand gel/wipes can also be used. However, these products are not as effective when hands are visibly dirty or greasy.

Ensure coughs and sneezes are covered, preferably with a disposable tissue. Having tissues and rubbish bins readily available can help.

- Keep classroom environments clean

Some organisms can remain viable for 24 hours after landing on hard surfaces. Increased environmental cleaning will help interrupt disease transmission.

Strict attention should be paid to cleaning—desks, chairs, doorknobs, taps, computers and equipment.

- Staff, visitors and children should stay home if sick.

Staff and children with flu-like symptoms—fever, dry cough, muscle and joint pain, tiredness, extreme exhaustion, headache, sore throat and stuffy nose—should stay at home.

Staff and children who present unwell with fever and other flu-like symptoms while at school should be sent home. Seek early medical advice if concerned.

If you have any questions please contact your local public health unit www.health.qld.gov.au/cdcg/contacts.asp

Authorised: Dr Sonya Bennett
Senior Director
Communicable Diseases Unit
Department of Health
12/08/2014 signed copy on file