Dear Parents,

FEAST DAY OF ST MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP

Today is the feast day of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop (1842-1909). St Mary MacKillop is Australia’s first saint. She was the co-founder of the Sisters of St Joseph. She was a compassionate leader with a deep concern for those in need. Her vision was to teach children from poor families who otherwise wouldn’t get an education. Mary saw a need and tried to do something about it. Mary believed and trusted in God. She faced life’s challenges with courage knowing that God was always there to help her.

MacKillop House is the Green Team at St Joseph’s Tobruk. Today we wish the Sisters of St Joseph a very happy feast day, especially Sr Jenny here at Joeys, and we thank them for their dedication and compassionate service to many and varied communities.

In the hall today we celebrated a special feast day mass with Fr Tony. Sincere thanks to Peter Lovegrove, Marg Hatzis and all who contributed towards the organisation of the liturgy.

DON’T FORGET THAT MONDAY 12 AUGUST IS A SHOW HOLIDAY FOR CHILDREN AND STAFF – NO SCHOOL ON MONDAY!
WAKAKIRRI NEWS
Congratulations to our fabulous Wakakirri team who once again have made it through to the next round. Their next performance date is therefore Friday 13 September. We wish them well as they prepare for this challenge!

CLASH OF DATES
Unfortunately, like last year, there is a clash of dates with the Year 6 camp and Wakakirri finals held on the same day – Friday 13 September. Last year, Yr 6 parents organised transport from the camp back to the Logan Entertainment Centre for the children involved. If you can assist with the transportation of six (6) children back from camp for Wakakirri, please see Amber Dair or Pip Haley.

SALE OF ICE-BLOCKS IN AID OF THE QUEENSLAND CANCER COUNCIL
Jackson Babin from 5F is supporting his older sister from Trinity College in raising funds for the Queensland Cancer Council through the sale of ice-blocks here at school. Ice-blocks will be on sale Thursday and Friday. If we need to keep selling next week, we will again let the children know.

CHEERLEADING AT LUNCH TIME
A number of Yr 7 children inquired about whether it was possible for a cheerleading class to be held in the hall at lunch time during the school week. I have been in contact with Linda Soutter who is the owner of the Logan East Fitness and Dance Studios. Linda is willing to take the class if there is enough interest. There will be a cost involved of approximately $3 per lesson depending on the numbers of students. The class will be held on a Thursday in the hall at lunch-time if we can secure enough interested students from years 5, 6 & 7. Linda will send a brochure home with interested students soon to get the ball rolling.

DISTRICT ATHLETICS
Congratulations to our District Athletics Team who competed on Tuesday 06 August and who won the overall trophy for our division. Thank you to the parents who supported the event and to Peter Lovegrove and Sam Vickery who were officials on the day. Thanks also to Peter Lovegrove and Matt Armstrong for their work with the Runners’ Club and training for particular field events held outside of school time.

PEER MEDIATION TRAINING
Children from Years 5 & 6 will attend a peer mediation training day next Thursday here at school. This prepares the children from those year levels for the leadership role of peer mediator in the playground at break times beginning at the end of this year. As our school student leadership will be formed from these three classes for next year, this is an opportunity for the group to get to know one another and to work with one another for the first time. Sincere thanks to Dianne Pennings and David Higgins for their preparation of the day and to all who will be involved in presenting and facilitating learning on the day.

STAFF INSERVICE – OLD TESTAMENT AND JUDAISM
Last night the teachers attended a professional development twilight inservice at school presented by Professor Peta Goldburg from the Australian Catholic University. This is the second inservice we have had with Peta this year. Our first presentation focussed on Jesus, the Jew, while we concentrated on Judaism and Jewish Rituals in last night’s workshop. Both of these areas – Judaism and Old Testament – feature strongly in the new Religion Syllabus that we are implementing throughout BCE schools this year and beyond.

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PARENT WORKSHOP – GUIDED READING AND COMPUTATION
Staff will present to parents in a workshop at school how we support children’s reading and comprehension through a guided reading process. We will also teach parents computation strategies that children are learning at various age appropriate levels throughout the school. I have yet to set a day for this workshop. It will be held either first up in the morning or prior to the afternoon dismissal. I will let you know the date in next week’s newsletter.

CAMPS
School camps are coming up for Years 5 and 6. These camps are compulsory school events. Children are expected to attend therefore. If a payment plan is needed, please contact the school and see Ros Mendo, our finance 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 reason 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
I have 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 positioned 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
Mary McBride and I have 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 founders, sayings of St Mary MacKillop, our school respect rules, our 7 core values and a then and now historical representation. These panels will add colour and meaning to our hall and we look forward to their installation – hopefully 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.

AUDANCE & 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: Hayley Searle, Justin Downs, Harry Sykes, Ava McErlane PF Madaline Matthews, Isaiah Talge
1C: Julian James, Charlotte Nash 1F: Trent Horsnell, Khanya Hughes
2C: Ryan Kennedy, India Seeto, Naomi-Joelle Mataia
2F: Rhys Sula-Siaosi, Lilly James, Ella Thompson, Tahlia Caruana
3C: Goldie Martin 3F: Tyron Bates, Tia Finlay
4C: Luca McVicker, Giuliana Rakic 4F: Kye Perandis, Allysa Boyd
5C: Kasey Leadbetter, Sasha Clark 5F: Ethan Nash, Jeremy Waters, Isabella McMillan
6C: Natalie Rosales, Shaun Love
7F: Rahni McInnes
Golden Gnome: 1st: 2C & 2F. 2nd: 7C, 7F. 3rd: 3C
Golden Banking Award: PC/PF

A MUSICAL NOTE– RENUKA HARAN
Choir
The St Joseph’s School Choir is once again competing in the Queensland Catholic School’s Music Festival at Villanova College at Coorparoo on Thursday 15 August. It was wonderful last year to have so many family members at the Festival supporting us. We would love to see you there again. The choir has been invited to perform at the St Patrick’s Multicultural Day on Sunday 25 August. Students are expected to meet me in the music room at 10.30am for an 11.00am performance. Families are also invited to attend the Mass at 9.00am and stay for the food festivities. Please send the permission slip ASAP.
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: http://www.ikidapps.com/2010/11/kid-safe-browsers-for-ipad-and-iphone.html

Regards
Lyn

A Winter Wonderland Ball
To support our Youth of St Patrick’s
‘United in faith and love, standing for justice and truth.’
On Saturday 31st August in St Joseph’s Hall, St Patrick’s Youth Group are having a gala fundraiser! For us to continue to provide for our growing youth group we are building a shed which will become the new ‘Youth Space.’ Our themed ‘Winter Wonderland’ Ball on Saturday 31st August will help to raise the necessary funds to be able to furnish and make it a fun and inviting place where the youth can come and make some new friends while creating memories in a safe environment. At our Winter Wonderland Ball you can enjoy a beautiful roast dinner and dessert, be entertained by some of our talented youth and dance along to the DJ music. You can purchase drinks at the bar, with tea and coffee free all night. There will also be auctions and raffles with lots of prizes up for grabs. Why not organise your friends; or come along and make some new ones on the night and enjoy a magical evening in our “Winter Wonderland”

Tickets are available from this link (Ticket-booth) here: http://getik.it/3767341?f
For more information on St Patrick’s Youth, Beenleigh and the Winter Wonderland Ball, you can find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/spygbeenleigh . Youtube Promo video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VjFOqc3ersk&feature=share

Logan Deanery Sports Day – Sat 10th Aug. Each parish is getting together a team of young, old and in-between, so come on St Pat’s!!

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?

Beenleigh Little Athletics Sign On, Friday 23rd August and Friday 30th August 5.30pm – 7.30pm
Oliver’s Sporting Complex – Logan St Eagleby. Our weekly club competition is held on Friday nights from 5.45pm, first night of competition is Friday 6th September.
For more information please visit our website www.beenleighla.org.au or phone Samantha on 0413 996 721