29 January, 2015

What’s happening this week?

A warm welcome to the 2015 school year, especially to those families who are new to the St Joseph’s Tobruk Memorial School community. We trust that your time with us is everything that you hope for and richly rewarding.

Congratulations and thank you to parents for presenting your children so beautifully in their school uniforms, yesterday. Individually and collectively, they were a picture.

My thanks to Sister Jenny for providing a welcome cuppa yesterday morning. It was wonderful to see so many parents, relatives and friends of the school drop in and then stay for the brief welcome assembly.

‘Speaking’ of welcome, it was my pleasure on assembly yesterday morning to welcome new staff member, Mrs Carmen Rees, to our school community. Mrs Rees will be teaching Year 6F with Mr Armstrong. On assembly we also welcomed back Mrs Rattansay and Mrs Kibble, who will be teaching 5C together. Mrs Kibble returns from her 12 months of Maternity Leave. Also, Mrs Burgess, Mrs Wynn and Mrs Hall return from periods of leave late last year, and Mrs Pangbourne has fully recovered her health after a serious 2014 injury. Please note also, that Ms Haley has reverted back to her maiden name of Burns. We welcome Ms Burns!

In other staff news, I’m delighted to inform you that Year 4 teacher, Miss Ford, became engaged in the recent holidays and is very much looking forward to her upcoming wedding in August. The congratulations of our school community is extended to both Miss Ford and her fiancé, Trevor.

The recent holidays provided the usual opportunity to have upkeep tasks completed in and around the school, and my thanks go to cleaning and grounds/maintenance staff members, Jacky McBain and Scott Edwards, for leading and overseeing this work. Please note the fresh new look that our school buildings have after their wash down and paint job.

This Saturday, 31 January, the Term 1 Working Bee is being held from 8.00am to 11.00am. Tasks will be mainly garden related. Please consider coming along to assist in enhancing school aesthetics.

OFFICE HOURS
Mon, Wed Thur: 8.15am – 3.45pm
Tues: 8.35am – 3.45pm
Fri: 8.35am – 3.15pm

SPORT UNIFORM DAYS
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With Courage, Faith and Love
Stephen Johnson
Research shows that the importance you place on reading will be reflected in your child’s attitude and response to the written word. Are you reading to your child and does your child see you reading books, newspapers and/or magazines? Like everything else in a child’s life, they will reflect your behaviour!

This year the library is currently cataloguing class sets of dictionaries, atlases, thesauruses and bibles. Consequently, we have a desperate need for coverers! If you can spare a few minutes at some time, or are willing to take some home to do, please come and see us in the library. If you are new to contacting books, we will show you how to do it like a professional! We also welcome anyone who would like to get involved in our library, either shelving or just generally helping with tasks as they come to hand. Volunteering in the library is a great way to show your child that you think that reading is an important part of their school life and development.

NRL - MATTHEW ARMSTRONG

St Joseph’s School has been chosen by NRL Development to be one of very few visited by players from the NRL and Indigenous All Stars teams in the lead up to their match at Cbus Super Stadium on Friday, February 13. The players and NRL Development staff will be promoting the game, but also delivering the NRL One Community Mental Wellness program to students. These players and NRL Development staff will be visiting the school on Tuesday 10th February from 1:45pm. On this day we will make some slight changes to our snack timetable to enable students to attend the presentation and visit from the NRL and Indigenous All Stars players.

THE BRAVE PROGRAM - SR JENNY

If your child or teen has difficulties with anxiety or just seems to have too many worries, we would like to introduce you to BRAVE Self-Help – an interactive, online program for the prevention and treatment of childhood and adolescent anxiety. It was developed by a group of researchers from the University of Queensland and now, with the support of beyondblue, this program is now freely available to all young people aged 8 -17 years old who are living in Australia. BRAVE Self-Help provides strategies for children and teenagers to better cope with their worries. There are 4 programs available, one for children aged 8-12 years, one for teenagers aged 12-17 years and one for parents of children at these ages respectively. The program can be accessed as often as you like, from the comfort of your own home. For more information, or to register for the program, please visit www.brave4you.psy.uq.edu.au.
The newsletter is published on Thursday afternoons. The newsletter is available for you to access on the school website www.stjosephsbeenleigh.qld.edu.au, skoolbag app and emailed (when possible) to you. Please let the office know to place your name on the list for a printed copy if you do not have access to internet. The first and last newsletter of the year are printed for families.

A MUSICAL NOTE - RENUKA HARAN

Welcome to a busy term in music.
PRIVATE INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS will commence in week 3 (Monday 9 February). Children who wish to learn can get a form from myself or the school office. All application forms must be returned by Wednesday 4 February. Timetables will be organised at this time for lessons to commence the following week. Instruments offered are flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, violin, guitar, ukulele, keyboard and drums. Lessons are offered individually or in groups.
A WOODWIND, BRASS and STRINGS DEMONSTRATION will be held in the hall on Wednesday 4 February. Students will view how the instrument is played and how it sounds. Parents are welcome to attend.
CHOIR AUDITIONS will be held in week 2, Wednesday 4 February. A commitment to be in the choir for the whole school year is compulsory. Students will be expected to sing in tune (in pitch) and to be able to project their voices so they can be heard.
Please contact me if you have any queries. rharan@bne.catholic.edu.au

COMMUNITY NEWS

ST JOEY’S MUMS AND DADS BEENLEIGH - FACEBOOK GROUP
With the vision of improving communication amongst our parents we offer parents the security of a closed facebook group. This group is used to share information, promote school events and allows parents the opportunity to ask school related questions and invite feedback from other parents and some staff. To join this group on facebook simply search St Joey’s Mums & Dads Beenleigh and click Join Group. As this is a closed group and only for school families, membership and posts to this group are monitored and must be approved by an administrator. This serves to ensure privacy for families and to ensure the page operates within the spirit of our school community.

A conversation on constitutional recognition of ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE need to recognise and acknowledge the people who have lived in this land for 50,000 years before Federation was enacted.
We invite you to take this opportunity to explore perspectives on the proposed Referendum.
WHEN: Tuesday 17 February 9am to noon or 5.30 for 6pm to 8pm.
WHERE: RSL Kedron Wavell Community Centre. RSVP: 3368 5677 or info@sombris.org.au by 30 January.
Sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy, Brisbane Congregation.

COAT HANGERS
Over $1000 was raised in 2 garage sales and 1 flea market for Mel’s operation over the holidays. I am accepting all decluttering items (especially coat hangers at the moment) to keep the garage sales going. Thank you to all who have been able to support this fundraiser.
Bronwyn: 0416 165 340.

CONGRATULATIONS to Robert & Rebekah Zajac on the birth of their new son over the school holidays. Eva, Loren and Sara have another brother to delight in.
Please let the office know of new additions to your family so we can share the news.

St Joseph’s Beenleigh Newsletter 29 January 2015
School communiqué

While there is widespread and intense transmission of Ebola virus disease (EVD) in some West African countries, the risk of anyone contracting EVD in Australia is very low. There have been no cases of EVD in Australia. Only approximately five people per week enter Queensland from EVD affected countries, all of whom are screened at the border.

As an additional precaution Queensland Health monitors the health of all returning travellers from EVD affected countries throughout the period when they could develop symptoms, if they had been infected (the incubation period is 2-21 days). A person cannot spread the disease to others until they develop symptoms.

If Queensland Health determines someone has potentially been exposed to the Ebola virus then that person is requested to go into voluntary home restriction. The parents of these children may choose to keep them at home even though they are not technically in voluntary home restriction.

In both of these situations there is no risk to the school community and Queensland Health will contact the parent and the school principal to discuss the situation.

If you have any concerns regarding any of the children who attend your school, please contact your local public health unit. Contact details of public health units can be found at www.health.qld.gov.au/phu.

More information

Further information and resources on EVD, such as EVD status updates and a fact sheet, are available on Queensland Health’s website at www.health.qld.gov.au/evd.

If school staff, students and their families have any EVD related question, they can contact 13 HEALTH (13 43 26 54).

2014 Ebola outbreak in West Africa – Outbreak distribution map

For students, permission and health care card holders and not for profit organisations

Contact Reihealth: 0430 275 707
For business: 07 3221 7400
For school: 07 3403 6700
www.reihealth.com.au

Contact Wesley Mission:
For students: 07 3221 7400
For business: 07 3221 7400
For school: 07 3403 6700
www.wesley.com.au

Contact Mission Australia:
For students: 07 3221 7400
For business: 07 3221 7400
For school: 07 3403 6700
www.missionaustralia.com.au

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FIRST DAY PHOTOS