Dear Parents

Last Sunday the Gospel reading at mass told the story of Martha and Mary who were great friends of Jesus. Jesus came to visit them at their house and Martha in particular was very busy preparing food and getting things ready. When Jesus arrived, Mary sat with him and spent the time at his feet. Martha complained because she had done all the work, yet Mary got to spend all the time with him.

In biblical stories, often the house or home is a symbol of one’s self. Jesus, our Lord, is invited into our lives—into one’s inner self. When Jesus arrives, are we receptive? Do we make the time just simply to be in his presence? Will Jesus find us distracted by the concerns and challenges of everyday life? Would we be attentive to his message? This Gospel story reminds us to make a place in our hearts for God. Prayer does not have to be constant talk. Often we simply need the space to be with God in quiet and in peace.

Camps
School camps are coming up for Years 5 and 6. These camps are compulsory school events. Children are expected to attend therefore, if 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.

Brisbane Roar
About 40 children from various year levels welcomed The Brisbane Roar to St Joseph’s last Thursday. The Roar brought an inflatable soccer field to the school and the children played games within and outside the field, learning new soccer related skills and having loads of fun. Even the parents who came along enjoyed watching their children play, cheering and relishing the atmosphere. Thanks to all who supported this event. There could be more to follow!

New Storage Sheds
Yesterday 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 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.

Please Note: Weekly events are only published in the first week.

Monday 29 July
Assembly: 7L
Energex working in Tobruk Street

Tuesday 30 July
8-8.30am: Homework help
8.15-9.15am: Uniform Shop
3-4.30pm: Wakakirri Practice

Wednesday 31 July
7.30am: No Band Practice
7.45am: St Joey's Running Club
8-8.30am: Homework help
Wakakirri Competition: Logan Entertainment Centre
2.05pm: Choir

Thursday 1 August
Mass Readings: 3F
Yr 2: Science Centre Excursion
2.15-3.15pm: Uniform shop

Friday 2 August
7.45am: St Joey's Running Club
8.40: Sr Jenny Cuppa. Back of hall
Banking
Yr 6: History Excursion
Prep- Yr 7: School Disco. 5.30-7.30pm

Monday 5 August
Assembly: 7F

Tuesday 6 August
Rescheduled District Athletics

Wednesday 7 August

Thursday 8 August
Mass: Feast of Mary MacKillop
Yr 6-7: Gala Day

Friday 9 August

DATE CLAIMERS
Monday 12 August
St Joseph’s Exhibition Show Holiday

Wednesday 14 August
Mary’s Mates

Friday 16 August
Bookclub orders due by today

Friday 8 November
Pink Ribbon Cuppa.
Please note this date has been changed

Uniform Shop
Kerry Fenner    mob 0432828467
or 32872798 in uniform shop hours.

Please note this date has been changed

24 July, 2013
THURSDAY BASKETBALL
A small group of about 8 children attended the Aussie Hoops session held last Thursday in the shelter shed. It is good to see our kids getting involved in physical activities after school.

SIGNAGE FOR OUR HALL
Yesterday 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 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.

PAYMENT OF SCHOOL FEES AT THE OFFICE
When paying school fees at the office, or when sending a payment of fees to school via children, please ensure that the remittance slip accompanies the payment. The remittance slip will have your name on it and the amount owing. Please ensure that the remittance slip and the payment are enclosed in a clearly marked envelope (School Fees – Smith family: per Jeremy 4C) when you are sending payments through children to the class teacher.

EXCURSIONS
Excursions need to be paid for in full prior to the event. Teachers will send home to families a letter which has details about the excursion or other event. This letter will have a parent permission form which needs to be completed. Attached to the letter also will be the account for the excursion/event. The permission form, remittance slip and payment need to be returned together in a clearly marked envelope to the class teacher/office. If the permission form is returned without the remittance slip and payment, the form will be returned home with the child. Please send the permission form together with the remittance slip and payment.

ENERGEX
Energex will be doing maintenance work in Tobruk Street from 6.00am to 6.00pm on Monday 29 July directly outside the school in the bus zone. This may affect the safe travel of children to school. We won’t know what is involved until we arrive at school on that morning so please ensure the safety of the children by dropping them into the school car-park off Kokoda Street if possible.

AEROSOL CANS
Aerosol cans are not permitted at school or on school camps and excursions. The reason for the ban is because they constitute a health and safety risk. They contain flammable substances and the contents are stored under pressure. There is the danger that the flammable contents can be deliberately or accidentally ignited. If the container is pierced, there could be a resulting explosion. Most deodorants these days can be applied at home in the morning and will last the day even through exercise – especially for children at primary school.

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.

REDUCING WASTE – NUDE FOODS
We are encouraging children and families to reduce rubbish at school and at home through exploring a ‘nude foods’ approach. Fresh fruit and vegetables are nude foods if they come to school without packaging. Strawberries or carrot/celery sticks in a plastic lunch box would be nude foods. An apple or banana or orange or mandarin – these fruits do not need packaging. Don’t put them in a plastic bag! You can cut costs and reduce packaging by buying a product in bulk and putting it into smaller plastic containers in meal size portions. For example, sultanas are cheaper to buy by the kilo and are easily transferred to small plastic containers. Yoghurt can be bought much cheaper by the kilo than in smaller tubs or tubes. It can be transferred into smaller containers, frozen (in summer – to keep things fresh) and sent to school in the lunch box. Let’s reduce the waste at school and at home and save some money in the process!
MANAGING PACKAGING

When children come to school there are many challenges. Families are encouraged to rehearse with their little ones the opening and closing of zips, packing the school bag, doing up the Velcro on school shoes, getting dressed, toileting, and accessing lunches.

It is important not to send tinned food to school in the tin because children (and adults) have difficulty removing the ring-pull lid. Children can cut themselves quite seriously trying to remove the lid. Should the food you want your child to eat be contained in a tin, empty the contents into a plastic container so that it is safely accessed.

If children have difficulty opening packets (cheese sticks, yoghurt sticks) it is best if families remove the contents and put it in a container that they can access. By doing so you are reducing the rubbish at school in the same process.

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.

SECURITY ALERT

Last Monday, two teachers’ wallets were stolen from their classrooms. It is believed that this took place during assembly time in the church between 9.00am and 9.30am. Should anyone know anything about this or if anyone saw someone suspicious hanging around the Year 1 classrooms, please contact David Boulton in the school office. Whether this is co-incidental or not, a school key went missing from a totally different area of the school around the same time. Please let us know if you find a key hidden about the place!

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

PC: Owen Kilby-Love
1F: Archie Dougherty, Timothy Powell
3C: Nathan Andrews
3F: Joseph Fredericks
5C: Azariah Bourdon, Hannah Evans
6C: Saige Kennedy
7L: Chloe Buttiqieg, Asha Saju
Golden Gnome: 1st: 2C & F. 2nd: 3C. 3rd: 7F & L

Golden Banking Award: PC

A MUSICAL NOTE– RENUKA HARAN

The St Joseph’s School Choir performed 3 songs at the Beenleigh Eisteddfod in the championship section and came third. After a long one and a half hour wait at the venue, the children were thrilled to perform to a very supportive group of parents.

We were given a few pointers by the judge, which we will work on for our next competition on the 15 August.

Thank you to all the mums, dads and grandparents who were there and to Mr Boulton and Mrs South for accompanying us on the guitar and piano.

PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO BAND PRACTICE NEXT WED 31 JULY due to the Wakakirri performance.
**SCHOOL PHOTOS**

The class photos have been returned. We hope to have them sent out this week. Please keep a lookout for them. 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.

**PARISH NEWS – YOUTH**

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

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

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?

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