Dear Parents

This Friday is National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence. To raise awareness of this issue and of our strong stand against bullying and violence at St Joseph’s, we will have a ‘free dress’ day this Friday during which children will be asked to wear something orange to school. Remember, if your child’s class has PE on Friday, they need to be able to take part in sporting activities. It is not a fundraiser but an awareness raiser. There is no fine or charge to wear orange clothing. During the day, teachers will focus briefly on our TWISTS strategies or reinforce our respect rules (Respect for Others) or remind children to report incidences of bullying or violence to the teachers.

What shall I wear?
- Orange T-Shirt (no singlets – sun smart clothing)
- Orange shorts (modest clothing - to the knee please - as in sports uniform)
- Orange ribbons – in hair or pinned to uniform
- Orange sand shoes (closed in shoes)
- Orange wrist bands
- Orange Hat

FEAST OF ST PATRICK
Parents and friends are most welcome to join parishioners at the parish St Patrick’s Day celebrations to be held in the Shelter Shed this Sunday 17 March from 10am – 2.00pm. Activities include: The World’s Greatest Shave, stalls, trivia quiz, raffles, BBQ and more fun than you can poke a shamrock at! The P & F would appreciate any assistance at the BBQ if you have some time to spare. Please see Angela Houghton or Dominic Barnes.

FEAST OF ST JOSEPH
The feast day of St Joseph takes place on Tuesday 19 March. We will focus on St Joseph at our prayer celebration this Thursday in the hall, led by Year 2C.

CONGRATULATIONS AT SWIMMING CARNIVAL

14 March, 2013
ANZAC DAY MASS & MARCH
ANZAC DAY is on Wednesday 25 April (Term 2, Week 2) and children from St Joseph’s Tobruk and Trinity College will march along with other local schools under their school banners to the ANZAC Memorial in James Street (outside the Beenleigh Library). As was the case last year, the children are asked to attend the Anzac Day Memorial Mass at St Patrick’s beginning at 9am. After Mass the children will then gather in the staff car park from about 10:15 and check off their names with Mrs Giebels and Mr Boulton. We then move from the car park to the March assembly area to take our place in the parade line-up. The March begins at 10:30am. This year parents are again asked to collect the children from the Anzac Memorial Area (directly in front of Beenleigh Library) immediately after the March, as it is no longer safe for us to care for the large number of students in a hot and crowded public area. The children are welcome to attend the public Memorial Service at 11 am in the care of their parents. Our Year 7 leaders will lay a wreath marking the respects of the St Joseph’s community. Mrs Giebels and Mr Boulton must be advised as students are collected from the Memorial Park.

Children must wear full FORMAL school uniform with green hat (Sports uniform for Preps only). Each child should also have a water bottle. Please make sure that the children are wearing sunscreen. A note will be sent home soon with the children. Could you please return the completed tear-off section to the office by Monday 22 April?

GOTCHA
This is a new Positive Behaviour Reward System that we are trialling in the school. Staff ‘catch’ children doing the right thing. The children receive a GOTCHA ticket which they fill out and place in the GOTCHA tin. Tickets are drawn out at assembly for a small prize each week. Teachers record the number of children who receive a GOTCHA ticket on a class chart. Classes that complete the GOTCHA chart are also rewarded (free time, ice-block etc).

PARENT PORTAL
The Parent Portal is a communication service soon to be made available at St Joseph’s. Parents will be issued with a log-in that can then be personalised at home. It will be sent to the preferred email address provided to the school by families through our records via the eMinerva database. The Parent Portal will display school newsletters, the school calendar, announcements, forms, photos, easy access to information regarding your child’s reports and attendance records, and more. Parents will be able to check their contact details and alert the school of any amendments necessary. It is more personalised than the broader public website. The portal will also facilitate two-way communication and surveys. Currently, we are working on the information to be loaded to the site before emailing families with log-in details. In the meantime, please ensure that your preferred email address has been given to Bron in the school office.

SWIMMING
Weren’t we lucky that we got through the carnival last Friday without rain! It was a great day. O’Shea (Blue) was the victorious team with MacKillop (Green) coming second and Steele (Red) third. Several children were missing unfortunately which made it very difficult for us as judges, timekeepers, marshalls, and scorers. We will make adjustments to the way we do things for next year. My apologies to parents who came to assembly to see children receiving swimming awards. I’m not sure how this happened as we made no official announcement to say that age champions and place getters would be awarded at assembly. We usually present awards at an assembly advertised through school newsletter after checking through the results and making sure we have sufficient medals and certificates, particularly when there are draws for age champion. Anyway, there has obviously been a miscommunication there somewhere, and I apologise for the inconvenience it has caused.

NO PARKING AT TRINITY COLLEGE TRADE TRAINING CENTRE
It must look inviting to parents dropping children off or picking children up after school…several empty car-spaces right over the road from Joey’s….BUT!!!! This is a work space all day contracted out to private companies who work with Trinity College to provide training for students in hair-dressing and car mechanics. Authorised vehicles only are allowed to enter the area. Deliveries are constantly coming into the College to service the businesses there. The businesses are entitled to this space as they have paid the College for its use. Please do not park there.
An added issue is that parents are waiting there for their children who then run across Tobruk Street putting their lives at risk.

PREP 2014 ENROLMENT APPLICATIONS
I will begin the enrolment interview process for Prep 2014 in coming weeks. Families must submit an enrolment application for their prep-aged children even if they have siblings at St Joseph’s already. A number of families were ‘caught out’ during last year’s process as they had not submitted an enrolment application. The numbers are always fairly tight for next year’s intake so if you haven’t put in an application, please do so immediately. Applications are available at the office or online at our school website www.stjosephsbeenleigh.qld.edu.au
PARENT / TEACHER TERM 1 INTERVIEW
Interviews will take place over the last two weeks of Term 1 (Weeks 8 & 9). Your child’s class teacher will work out an appointment time with you in the weeks preceding. The Term 1 Interview allows both parents and teachers to communicate early in the year about any issues or concerns and to affirm good student work. The purpose of this ‘interview/report’ is to summarise trends in student academic achievement, effort and application, social skills and behaviour during the first term from both the teacher’s and parent’s perspectives. Teachers and parents meet together to discuss what is going well and where there might be room for improvement. It is not meant to be a comprehensive or detailed report. Rather, the occasion of the interview is an opportunity for purposeful discussion and to develop the partnership between home and school by providing an early, formal point of contact. Students also complete a self-reflection which contributes further to the discussion. Please note that for 4C (Cath Schloman and Sarah Taylor), interviews will be held early next term as Cath is overseas on Long Service Leave for the rest of this term.

BEST WISHES DI & BRANT KIBLE
On Tuesday afternoon, the staff held a Baby Blessing and afternoon tea for Dianne and Brant Kibble, wishing them well for the exciting journey ahead into parenthood. Dianne takes her maternity leave next term for the rest of 2013. An announcement will soon be made as to her replacement.

LOTE
We are getting closer to appointing a LOTE (Indonesian) teacher at St Joseph’s to begin lessons next term. There are some final pieces of paper work to complete and approvals sought before an announcement can be made.

DANGER! CROSS ROADS AT PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS
If you are leaving the school grounds on foot, please use the pedestrian crossings. Both Kokoda and Tobruk Streets are very busy and children’s lives are put in danger when they are encouraged by parents to cross the road to get to cars without using pedestrian crossings.

SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY
Our school cross country will be held on Tuesday 26 March. Training to help prepare children for this event will take place before school on Wednesdays and Fridays starting at 7.45am. Children wishing to take part in the training need to come to school dressed in their training gear and running shoes. They therefore need to bring with them their school uniform and regular black joggers to change into when training finishes. Anyone who wants to join in can get a permission from from the front counter at the office.

STUDENT INFORMATION FORMS
Student Information Forms have been sent home to Prep-Year 7 students. Please return all forms as soon as possible to the school office.

FROM THE APRE-PETER LOVEGROVE

Fasting during Lent – Can I eat meat? Do I have to give up chocolate?

One of the ways we observe Lent is to fast. This means to “go without” and it usually refers to food or drink. The word breakfast literally means to “break the fast”. I’m not sure how we came to break a fast which may have only lasted 12 hours but it is an interesting thought.

These days some health experts are suggesting that a period of fasting is good for us. It seems to place our bodies into a more natural rhythm of digestion and stabilises our metabolism. Fasting has been a part of many faith traditions as a symbolic and practical ritual over thousands of years.

Recently, questions have been raised at school over the observance of fasting as it relates to eating meat during lent as part of the Catholic tradition. Below is some information which outlines the rules governed by Canon Law. Basically, kids of primary school age (under 14) are not restricted during Lent. It would be nice for them to make some kind of fasting sacrifice during Lent to remind them of the significance – “giving up lollies or chocolate might be an example.

The rules for fasting and abstinence in the Catholic Church are set forth in the Code of Canon Law for the Roman Catholic Church. The Code of Canon Law prescribes (Canons 1250-1252):

Can. 1250: The penitential days and times in the universal Church are every Friday of the whole year and the season of Lent.

Can. 1251: Abstinence from meat, or from some other food as determined by the Episcopal Conference, is to be observed on all Fridays, unless a solemnity should fall on a Friday. Abstinence and fasting are to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Can. 1252: The law of abstinence binds those who have completed their fourteenth year. The law of fasting binds those who have attained their majority, until the beginning of their sixtieth year. Pastors of souls and parents are to ensure that even those who by reason of their age are not bound by the law of fasting and abstinence, are taught the true meaning of penance.
Here is some interesting research for you… Long-term studies show that the greatest predictors of success at University level are: 1) the quantity and quality of the discussion in the child's home before entering school; 2) the amount of independent reading regardless of subject matter which the child did for itself; 3) the clarity of value systems as understood and practised; 4) strong positive peer group pressure; and 5) the primary school. Still further down the list is the secondary school. Formal schooling is only part of what fires up the inquisitiveness in a child's mind.

Well, you have picked a great primary school, but much of the rest seems to be up to you! Your school library is doing its best to keep abreast of the latest and best in quality literature, now including audio and e-books for your child. Please, do your bit and make sure that your child returns their books each week, so that they can borrow more. Some books from last year are still outstanding, therefore these children cannot borrow. Please come and see us about them, as we want nothing more than to see all children borrowing.

We currently are experiencing a backlog of books that require covering. If you would like to come and learn to cover (or teach us a thing or two about it!) we are having a covering morning, Tuesday 26th at 9:00am. Tea, coffee and small delicious things will be available for one and all. Hope to see lots of you there.

Fun and Games for everyone!! Wednesday 27th March

Hosted by Year 5—Raising money for Project Compassion

Cost: Tickets 50c each. The more you purchase the more you can do. 1-2 Tickets needed per activity.

Face painting..RDH ..Obstacle course..Nerf target shoot..Hoop a prize..Fix it Felix

Due to an increase in demand homework help will now be held in the library each Tuesday and Wednesday from 8am - 8:30am. This will ensure that all students using this service will have access to a computer.

**Match Up Math** ($1.99)

**Description:** Improve your math skills by pairing together tiles that equal the same numerical value to clear the board. Kids love this app to practise their skills while playing a game.

**Teacher Review:** “My Grade 6 class use Match Up Math in our Math Rotations. The game is similar to the Chinese tile game Mahjong whereby some tiles are available and others are covered. Students have to use a variety of strategies to get to the uncovered ones by matching up equivalent sums and/or answers. This is great for students who need to remember that an equals sign doesn’t always mean ‘here comes the answer’ as in ‘Match Up’ matching tiles can also be equivalent sums e.g. 13 + 1 = 12 + 2

**Suitable for:** All ages. Starting with the Match Up Math you start with addition and subtraction and move on to multiplication and division as the student progresses.

**Compatible with:** All Apple devices. Not on Android. Look at [www.applepieces.com](http://www.applepieces.com) for more educational apps.

**EASTER RAFFLE**

The P & F are again holding their annual Easter Raffle. Donations of Easter Goodies (not only eggs) are now being accepted at the office or can be sent to class with your child. Each class will hold their own raffle and depending on donations we try to offer 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes. Ticket books have now been sent home (additional books available at the office). Could you please return the tickets at your earliest convenience. We are greatly appreciative of the generous support given to this event each year and look forward to a successful raffle again this year. Thankyou.
DATE CLAIMER: Saturday 1 JUNE.
11.30am Start
5.30pm for Firework Finale

TOY STALL– ERIN HOLMAN AND SUE HALL
WHATEVER YOU DO, DO NOT THROW OUT ANY UNWANTED TOYS OR BOOKS!
WE NEED THEM FOR - Our TOYWORLD stall on fete day on Saturday June 1.
Only toys and books in good condition are required. No broken toys or scribbled on books!
Please do not deliver any goods to school yet. Maybe your children could have a clean out of their bedrooms over the holidays and have any unwanted toys, washed cuddly creatures and books ready and sparkly clean for delivery to school AFTER THE HOLIDAYS. Thanks in anticipation

TOUGH MUDDER– DOMINIC BARNES
Here at St Joseph’s we are putting a team together for TOUGH MUDDER on the Sunshine Coast in August!!! We have 7 people signed up including Mr O’Keefe and Mr Lovegrove and we have two Joey’s Mum’s on the team! Our team is for both WOMEN and MEN (minimum age 18). Our team’s plan is for everyone to stick together and help each other finish. Tough Mudder is not a race, it’s about finishing and helping your team mates. You just need a bit of fitness under your belt, and you want to take on a challenge too big to chew! Most of all we are doing it for “fun”. So what is TOUGH MUDDER? It’s a 20km obstacle course (with 25 obstacles in total). For more info or to join our team go to toughmudder.com. Be quick as the price increases each month!
When: Sunday August 18 starting at 9am
Where: TBA, somewhere on the Sunshine Coast. For more info please contact Dominic

SWIMMING CARNIVAL– WELL DONE O’SHEA
SCHOOL DISCO - PREP to YEAR 7

**St Patrick’s Day**
Come celebrate with us! On Sunday, March 17th come down to the Shelter Shed from 10am till 2pm for a day of family fun hosted by St Patrick’s Youth.
The main event happens at 11am, when *Paddy’s Saints* are taking part in the World’s Greatest Shave to support the Leukaemia Foundation.
There will also be a barbecue, games, stalls, raffles, trivia quiz and a good old Irish Sing-along.
All the proceeds of the day are going to charity.
If you would like to ‘shave or colour for a cure’, please contact Cathy Korzeniewski on 0400 494 943.

**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND**
For married couples 24 – 26 May 2013
Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, Ormiston (QLD)
For bookings/details: Tamara and Scott Menteith, P: 07 4634 3559  E: stjmen@aapt.net.au  W: www.wwme.org.au

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

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**PARISH NEWS**

**MOUNT WARREN PARK GOLF CLUB**
Junior Try Day- Come and try your hand at golf, free of charge. All equipment supplied
Conducted by AAA PGA Teaching Professional Jared Love & PGA Teaching Professional Anton Booy
9am to 11.30am Wednesday 3rd April & 10th April. Accepting 24 kids each day, ages 5 to 16 welcome

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**SCHOOL TERM DATES**

Term 1: 30 Jan-28 March  
Term 2: 15 April– 21 June
Term 3: 8 July-20 Sept  
Term 4: 8 Oct-6Dec