New line marking has recently occurred to allow for safe and convenient pedestrian access of a morning in the thoroughfare between the staffroom and the hall. My thanks to Scott Edwards, our maintenance and groundsman, for his usual high standard of work.

Gala Sports recommence for students in Year 6 and 7 tomorrow. We trust that they continue where they left off last term, enjoying the healthy competition and being terrific ambassadors for St Joseph's Tobruk Memorial School.

Another reminder about claiming the dates of next Monday 5 May (Literacy Workshop for parents, relatives and friends of the school) and Wednesday 21 May (Bruce and Denise Morcombe visit). Please note that the school is currently seeking clarification on whether student attendance for the Morcombe visit can be extended to Year 2, as well as Year 3 - 7.

I thank the members of our P&F who have been busy with preparations for next week’s Mothers’ Day Stall on Wednesday, 7th and Thursday, 8th May. Further information can be found in a latter section of this newsletter.

It is most unfortunate that a clash of dates has occurred regarding next Thursday’s Year 6 Excursion to Brisbane’s Parliament House and Science Centre, and the District Cross Country Carnival, which has been very recently moved. I refer affected families to a related letter that should now have arrived home.

The Term 2 P&F Working Bee is scheduled for Saturday, 10 May, from 8.00am to 11.00am. Similar to the Term 1 event, tasks will be mainly of the gardening variety, therefore, related tools and equipment are requested. Please come along to assist if you are willing and able. Healthy camaraderie, refreshments and snacks will again be on offer.

Payment of Term 2 school fees and levies has been requested and I trust that families have made necessary budgeting arrangements to allow for payment to occur in a timely fashion. My thanks in anticipation for this occurrence.

Parents of children in Year 3, 5 and 7 are encouraged to visit www.naplan.edu.au if you haven’t already, in the lead up to NAPLAN on May 13 - 15. The Parent Carer Support section on this website is a highly recommended read.

This term it will be necessary to commence shaping plans to farewell Year 6 and 7 students at year’s end and, given this, I invite interested parents to a related planning meeting from 5.30pm on Tuesday 13 May, in the staffroom. This meeting will occur prior to the scheduled Maverick Night planning meeting (from 6.00pm) and the May P&F Meeting (from 7.00pm). It promises to be a productive string of meetings.

On the Feast of St Joseph the Worker, we acknowledge our school’s patron saint for his understanding of the value of work in our lives. Through his work, Joseph lived in dignity and honoured God, our Father. We pray for Joseph’s intercession in the lives of those known to us who unsuccessfully seek work. May they soon come to know the dignity and self-worth that work brings.

With Courage, Faith and Love
Stephen Johnson
OPEN YOUR EYES!

Just like last week’s gospel, the Scripture reading for this 3rd Sunday of Easter which comes from Luke’s gospel, begins with gloom and doom. Grief and perhaps disbelief in all that has happened has overwhelmed the disciples. As two of the disciples journey to Emmaus a stranger enters their life and seems interested in who they are and what they think. They have no idea of the identity of the stranger who has become a companion on their journey. I love this story because of the mysterious way Jesus is present and yet unrecognisable after His resurrection. It tells me that we can only walk beside Him if we are ready to receive Him into our hearts as committed Christians.

Jesus listens to their story, he does not interrupt. It seems he wants to hear their version first, to see how they interpret the events. Then he tells them his own version, which ends, not with failure but with glory. Both the day and the story are drawing to a close as they approach the village. The disciples invite Jesus to sit at table and share bread with them. It is during the meal that they recognise Jesus, not through what he looks like but through His words and His actions: He sits down to eat the evening meal, supper, with them. And he begins to act out a story that had become his trademark, his characteristic way of being with people all during his life. Whenever he taught the disciples and crowds, whenever he had spent hours and days with them, healing and supporting, encouraging and listening to the ills and pains of the people, he always fed them and wouldn’t think of letting them go home hungry. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognised him; and he vanished from their sight. The impact of recognition is immediate – their hearts burn within them and they are on fire!

REFLECTION
God of Life, empower us to be disciples and witnesses.
Set our hearts on fire with enthusiasm for spreading
Your word of love and compassion.
Amen! Alleluia!

Welcome to term 2 in music. Our biggest excitement this term will be for the preparation and rehearsals for the school Talent Extravaganza at the end of this term.

TALENT EXTRAVAGANZA 2014
All entry forms to participate in this event are due next Tuesday 6th May. Forms are available at the office and music room.
All participants must submit a form including the names of all students participating in the act. Students can partake in up to 3 events. They will have to organise their own act, music, props, performers and rehearsal times.
Auditions will be held in week 6 with the finals on Wednesday 25th June.

CHOIR
The choir is busy rehearsing for the Beenleigh Eisteddfod at the beginning of Term 3. The school band will be performing at our 1st instrumental concert on Thursday 26th June.
We look forward to seeing you at all these musical happenings in term 2.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

PC: Nate Moskwa  PF: Hudson Morris  1C: Mahlee Atutolu  1F: Ava McErlean
2C: Cruz Sula-Siosaí  2F: Laird Mairhofer  3C: Jennifer Witham  3F: Abbey Shaw
4C: Natasha Souvannasing  4F: Jamie Fitzgerald  5F: Jack Bevan  6F: Chelsea Stevens
7C: Cindy Porras  Golden Gnome: 1st–4F. 2nd–1F. 3rd–7C.
This week grades one, two and three looked at the book ‘The Gruffulo’ and the work of the illustrator, Axel Scheffler. The children enjoyed creating their own monster heads on paper. Monster making is a great favourite in the art room. Axel Scheffler has been illustrating children’s books for 30 years. Scheffler was commissioned by Faber and Faber to provide new illustrations for a new edition of Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats that commemorated the 70th anniversary of the book and the 80th anniversary of Faber and Faber.

The younger children are now ‘licensed’ to use colour and they were very excited to use the coloured textas! Over the next few weeks, we will look at the use of colour. Colour theory encompasses a multitude of definitions, concepts and design applications. There are three basic categories of colour theory that are logical and useful - the colour wheel, colour harmony, and the context of how colours are used.

Grade 7 students begin their painting unit this week. The subject is the poppy. The poppy is the symbol being used this year to mark the centenary of WW1. Some of the bloodiest fighting of the First World War took place in the Flanders and Picardy regions of Belgium and Northern France. The poppy is considered an important symbol of the conflict because it was the only thing which grew in the aftermath of the complete devastation. Poppies were first suggested as a symbol of Remembrance in 1918 and were adopted by the American Legion in 1920. In 1921 the British Legion adopted it and the first Poppy Appeal was born. Poppies are being sown all over England this year in honour of the centenary and will bloom in August.

Grade 6 students are beginning a collage unit involving animal heads which should prove extremely interesting based on the work of American artist, Peter Clarke. Grade 5s will begin their backgrounds for their 3D sculptures and grade 4 students will delve in clay this week.

Mrs Jan is enjoying being back in the art room but is taking it very easy at the moment while her leg is healing. We have even had Mrs Jan’s better half, Mr Hugh, helping out in the art room. He has been preparing the backdrops for WakkaKiriRi so that I can paint them and also has been applying gesso to grade seven canvases in readiness for their poppy painting. Thank you, Mr Hugh. You are a gem.

P.S. I have a collection of reptile keeping magazines in the art room. It is a shame to cut them up for collage when I know that they are valuable to reptile hobbyists. So if there are any hobbyists out there please come and see me if you are interested.

GARDEN GUARDIANS - MRS HALL

I was most fortunate to represent St Joseph's at the QUOTA Beenleigh yearly celebration dinner and receive a donation of $1000 to support our Garden Guardians initiative. Our Mrs Schloman has been organising and guiding our students in the Garden Project for some years now with students spending 2 lunch times each week tending to the gardens and establishing new ones. The indigenous garden in front of the Tobruk block has been established and maintained by this group of dedicated gardeners. We are grateful to QUOTA for this grant money that will be used for some new garden tools as well as a shade house where our Garden Guardians can begin to grow and nurture their own seedlings and cuttings.

Thankyou to the energetic volunteers of the Beenleigh QUOTA Club for the work they do in our area, particularly in the area of disadvantaged women and children, healthy hearing, literacy and mentoring children through programs such as QuoCKa Reading, the Annual Eisteddfod and Gift of Giving. These inspiring women make a difference in our community, living out their founder's words, "The basis of happiness is the love of something outside of self and rises superior to all conditions."

QUOTA changes lives. Thankyou.
THANK YOU

Raymond McErlean was St Joseph’s School Captain in 1994. On Friday, the now Lieutenant Raymond McErlean RM RAN, especially wore his white uniform to march with our school at the ANZAC DAY March.

Madeline and Ava McErlean in Year 3 and Year 1, also marched with their uncle.

Lieutenant McErlean and Mr McBride (our Year 7 teacher) were in the same grade at St Joseph’s for seven years. They are still good friends to this day.

MOTHERS’ DAY STALL - P&F

Our annual Mother’s day stall will be held on Wednesday and Thursday 7 and 8 May. Prices will range from 50c to $10. Children are asked to bring a shopping bag to carry their goods home. Each class will visit during an allotted time and all students will be able to come for 2nd round purchases on Friday 9 May at 1st break. If any parent or carer is free to help anytime over the Wednesday or Thursday could you please contact Angela on 0403 834 112.

Further information regarding class times will be sent home Friday.

WORKING BEE - P&F

Saturday 10 May 8am-11am.

- Bring your tools and gloves
- Kids are welcome to help
- Babysitting available

We will finish the morning with lunch together.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Rewired IT is an e-waste recycling business, specialising in computer refurbishment. The refurbished computers are sold at very affordable rates to students and low income earners. Rewired IT can provide computers to students from as little as $99. We are also happy to collect any disused computer equipment that you no longer have need for and we conduct repairs at $40 an hour. 3287 1290 or 0400 780 294.
WHO IS MAKING A DIFFERENCE AT ST JOSEPH’S?

We invite all parents, grandparents and friends to an information session where we will be sharing practical and effective ways of supporting children in the early years on their road to reading. We will be looking at the importance of phonics, Wonder Words and reading for meaning. This session is suitable for Early Years parents – P to 2 as well as other year level parents.

We encourage you to take this opportunity to find out how you can make a real difference to your child’s reading success.

Join us for this relaxed, fun and insightful session on

| Monday 5 May at 2.00pm to 2.55 pm |
| in the MultiPurpose Room [right next door to the Art Room] |

So that we have enough resources for those who attend, please complete the form below and return it to school:

We are looking forward to working with you,

Lauren Mitchell,                  Yr 2 Class Teacher, Literacy Support Teacher
Isabelle Vargas-Malby, Support Teacher-Inclusive Education
Sue Hall, Support Teacher-Inclusive Education & ESL Teacher

Contact: Isabelle Vargas-Malby or email Isabelle on ivargas@bne.catholic.edu.au

Join us for this relaxed, fun and insightful session on

| Monday 5 May at 2.15 pm to 3 pm |
| in the MultiPurpose Room [right next door to the Art Room] |

COMMUNITY NEWS

STUDENT TRAVEL REBATES
Semester 1, 2014

Bus Fare Assistance
Does your child attend a school outside the Brisbane City Council boundary?
Does your family spend more than $25/ week* on fares to and from school
(* $20/week if you hold a concession card)?
Does your child travel on a publicly available bus not owned or associated with the school?

Students with Disabilities
Does your child have a verified disability that requires transport assistance to and from school?
Has your school’s learning support teacher assessed your child’s travel capability rating as ‘semi-independent’ or more dependent?

Visit our website to see if you qualify for financial assistance to help with the cost of transport and apply at www.schooltransport.com.au by 31 May 2014.

Late applications cannot be accepted.

TRANSDEV Queensland (TDQ) will be making a number of minor school service changes, which will commence 5th May 2014. Changes to school services were based on TDQ’s annual school services review following the commencement of the new school year. We strongly encourage all students and parents to revise their route prior to implementation of the amended services. You can find all updated school route and timetable information at http://www.transdevqld.com.au from 24 April 2014.