Dear Parents

Welcome to Week 7 at St Joseph’s Tobruk! This coming week is another busy one at Joey’s. MI Smarts continues this week on Wednesday afternoon. Our Cross Country squad take part in the Catholic Schools Cross Country at Daisy Hill this coming Thursday. We wish them well. We have our first ‘tuckshop day’ which will be a hot dog and Popper day on Friday 01 June (See note sent home Wednesday 23 May). Have a great week!

FEAST OF OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

Yesterday (24 May) was the feast day of Our Lady Help of Christians – Patroness of Australia. Perhaps this week families could pray through the intercession of Mary for Christian Unity, for true Reconciliation with our indigenous brothers and sisters, for courage and resilience for those affected by illness or financial setbacks, for peace in our world, and for a closer relationship with our God.

PENTECOST SUNDAY – 27 MAY

This Sunday the Church celebrates its birthday on the feast of Pentecost. This feast day recalls the time after the death of Jesus when the disciples were gathered and locked away in a room, afraid of being put to death for being followers of Jesus who had been crucified. In no way were they ready to spread the good news about the life and message of Jesus. However, while they were gathered, the Holy Spirit came and rested on them through wind and fire. These are symbols in the scripture of God’s powerful presence, everywhere. After they had received the Holy Spirit into their hearts, the disciples had the courage to leave the room and to preach the good news to people all over their country and beyond. This is seen as the birthday of the church for this is the mission of the church – to be the good news and to spread the message of Jesus everywhere.

TRINITY SUNDAY – 03 JUNE

Catholics believe that there is one God but that our God is triune, that is, three persons in the one God. St Patrick used the shamrock to try to explain this mystery of the church. The shamrock leaf is one yet there are three distinct ‘faces’ in the one leaf. I can certainly say that I do experience God in many different ways. I do know the presence of the Holy Spirit in my life and this is different from my experience of Jesus Christ. I also know of the presence of God who is mother and father. I know of God’s presence in people, in events, in my reading of sacred scripture, and in the beauty of the environment. We celebrate and affirm our belief in this mystery on Trinity Sunday.

CONFIRMATION AND FIRST EUCHARIST – 10 June

The parish will be in contact with families regarding discernment interviews which will take place on 06 & 07 June regarding the celebration of the sacraments of Confirmation and First Eucharist.

On Sunday 10 June at St Patrick’s Church, children from St Joseph’s will be confirmed and receive Eucharist for the first time. Fr Tony Girvan – our parish priest – will be the celebrant at this special celebration which begins at 10.30am. This year, due to the large number of children making their Confirmation and First Eucharist, this celebration will take place in the school hall. Congratulations to all of these children, to their families and to everyone who had a hand in preparing the children for these sacraments. We pray that the Holy Spirit will be constantly active in their lives and that the children will deepen their relationship with Jesus through their regular celebration of the Eucharist throughout their lives.
Those who prevent him from getting out of the garage to move their car. Thank you to the vast majority of families. Tony has a very busy schedule and is required to keep appointments. He cannot be wasting time waiting for park there at any time!

Fr Tony’s garage is located next on the church side of St Vincent de Paul House. The door to the garage is always down/closed for security reasons. There is a sign painted on the door NO PARKING IN FRONT OF FR TONY’S GARAGE!!

Parish Funerals – Parking Arrangements
Quite regularly there are funerals held in the parish church. Some funerals are very private, whilst others can be supported by hundreds. When a funeral is taking place, the parish notifies the school well beforehand. Our maintenance staff put out markers to secure parking spaces for those who need parking at the funeral. When you see the markers outside the church, it will remind you not to park in the church car-park because there is funeral on that day. For large funerals, we open up the school netball court/car-park for visitors.

Adventure Playground
Children are only allowed to use the adventure playground in the Mango Tree area (P-2 Playground) under the direct supervision of staff. St Joseph’s children are not permitted to ‘supervise’ younger siblings before or after school. Teachers on duty after school are not supervising the adventure playground – they are there to look after the Joey’s children waiting to be picked up after school. It is a concern that young children (presumably younger siblings) are playing unsupervised by their parents on the playground equipment. Teachers will not order children who should be supervised by parents away from the equipment. They will intervene when Joey’s children are there. Parents, please supervise your children if they are on the equipment.

Prep 2013
Prep 2013 interviews are now complete and first round offers now sent to families. I interviewed 63 families for 56 positions in Prep. 36 places have been offered to current families. Usually we have a few families from outside the school who decline the offer of a place at Joey’s so those who will miss out in the first round of offers may still have a chance later in the term.

Year of Grace
The Catholic Bishops of Australia have invited the whole Church on a spiritual journey known as the Year of Grace. It will begin this weekend at the feast of Pentecost, (May 27) and continue until Pentecost 2013 (and possibly through to Advent 2013). This Year of Grace, marking the 50th anniversary of the opening of Vatican II and following on from Sydney WYD08 and the canonisation of Mary MacKillop, seeks to build on the energy and spirit within the Australian Church. It seeks to be open to a new and deep grace to forge the future of our Church and nation. St Joseph’s will participate in this journey. More details will be published when we receive more information from BCE in coming weeks.

No Parking in Front of Fr Tony’s Garage!!
Fr Tony’s garage is located next on the church side of St Vincent de Paul House. The door to the garage is always down/closed for security reasons. There is a sign painted on the door – NO PARKING ANYTIME. Please do not park there at any time! Fr Tony is regularly inconvenienced by parents who park right in front of the garage. Fr Tony has a very busy schedule and is required to keep appointments. He cannot be wasting time waiting for those who prevent him from getting out of the garage to move their car. Thank you to the vast majority of families who always do the right thing. I realise that for situations like this I am addressing a small minority!
SCHOOL FEES REMINDER
School fees accounts are sent out at the beginning of each month (Feb to Nov). Accounts are due to be paid by the 21st of the month. Ros Mendo sends out reminder notices to families who have not paid their account after 3-4 days. If you are having difficulty with paying your school fees, please do not just ignore reminder notices or phone calls from the school. Get in contact with our finance secretary, Ros Mendo, and work out a payment plan. Regular payments, no matter how small, are always welcomed. It is better to regularly pay small amounts than to do nothing and let the amount grow to unmanageable proportions.

SEMESTER REPORTS
At the end of this term, parents will receive a report for your child’s progress during the first semester. It has been developed to include the new Australian Curriculum subjects and the five point scale is from A-E. When the reports are distributed, there is no compulsory interview. During term 3, teachers/parents may request an interview from Week 5.

COLDS AND FLU
As the weather gets colder we enter the season during which colds and flu seem to be commonplace. Please encourage children at home to practice sensible hygiene routines especially during the cold and flu season. When sneezing or coughing, use a tissue. Throw the tissue in the bin and wash your hands. Wash your hands regularly throughout the day even if you don’t have a cold. Avoid putting fingers in the mouth or eyes or nose.

WINTER UNIFORM
For Prep children (every day), and for other children in Years 1-7 (PE Day and Friday) the uniform is the school sports uniform. This consists of the school polo shirt, shorts/skort, school socks and black joggers. The school blue hat is to be worn. During winter, the children wear the school tracksuit with their sports uniform. Should children still be cold, they are allowed to wear appropriate clothing under their uniform such as spencers or thermals or leggings. Please ensure that leggings are the ‘school’ blue colour and that clothing worn underneath the polo is white, black or school blue. Please don’t send children to school in pink or other ‘non-school’ colours!

Please do not mix and match uniforms. The tracksuit is for the sports uniform (and Prep uniform). The green fleece jacket is for the formal uniform.

EARLY YEARS ATHLETICS CARNIVAL - FRIDAY 15TH JUNE 9AM-12PM
This year the Early Years are having their own Athletics Carnival at the St Joseph's School Oval, on Friday 15th of June from 9am-12pm. Students in Prep, Year One and Year Two will participate in modified athletics events including running races, high jump, long jump, shot put, ball games and some novelty events. Parents, grandparents, family and friends are welcome to attend to encourage and support the children's participation on the day.

CONGRATULATIONS
Megan Plucknett competed at the state interschool Hack Show on the weekend representing St Joseph's. She achieved:

Megan and her 3 ponies are now qualified for the interschool nationals which are to be held in the September Holidays.

St Joseph’s students participate in the Beenleigh Swimming Club finals recently. These children received age champion. Samantha Cole, Jessica Platell and Kassie Cole. Ben Southam and Khloe Brinkman were runner up age champions. Well done, to all of these children.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK
PC: Shanay Crang, Duncan Fekete
1C: Brianna Faint, Matt Eley
2C: Anabelle Watson, Ryan Fenech
3C: Alisha Souvannasing
4C: Hannah Evans, Elijah Thompson
56D: Nathan Burns, Cameron Whalan
6C: Ashleigh Fairbank, Connor Black
7C: Jasmine Smith
Golden Gnome: 1st: 7F, 2F. 2nd: 56L, 4C. 3rd: 3C.

GROCERY PROMOTIONS
WOOLWORTHS
Thank you to the families already sending in a sheet full of stickers. Empty sheets can be collected at the office.

COLES
Sports for school is back. Keep an eye out for their new promotion.
LITERACY PLANET NEWS-MELISSA BURGESS

Congratulations to 2 of our students that have reached the top 50 Leader board in Australia this week. Ryan Perandis – 23rd and Flynn Wickens – 36th. Great work boys

WELL DONE TO ALL WHO USE LITERACY PLANET EACH WEEK. We have remained in the top 10 at 8th place. Keep using it a little each night. It might be a set 10 minute time block or you could name how many trophies to complete. Either way it gets the child engaged and learning. Keep doing your tasks and free learning.

CLASS LEADERS AS OF 24th May
PC – Jake Ferrari
2C – Flynn Wickens
4C – Grace Fairbank
6C – Ryan Marsh
PF – Ella Marshall
2F – Nathan Andrews
4F – Kassie Cole
6F – Amelia Hasenkam
1C – Tahlia Caruana
3C – Mathieu Nieling
5D – Jorjah Sulusi
7C – Ryan Perandis
1F – Hayden Fanning
3F – Salia Shore
56D – Jorjah Sulusi
56L – Bethanny Morrissey
BIG NEWS – KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR THE LITERACY PLANET APP. AVAILABLE IN 4 DAYS

A MUSICAL NOTE–RENUKA HARAN

TALENT EXTRAVAGANZA
Auditions were held this week. I congratulate all our talented students who have organised and performed creative routines. Finalists who will perform to the whole school will be informed next week. Thank you to the staff who gave up their lunch times to help with the auditions.

DATE CLAIMER
11.30am Wednesday 20: Talent Extravaganza finals in the Hall.
2.10pm Thursday 21: Instrumental concert in the Hall. Performers will be advised by their teachers.

BOOK CLUB—LESLEY SOLAR
Thank you for the book club orders. They have been processed and submitted to Scholastic. Just a bit of book club info... When book club is issued, each class is given either 2 or 3 age appropriate clubs to browse through and purchase from. The due date is in the newsletter each week, from hand out up to the due date. This saves me stamping the due date on nearly 1000 order forms. If you would like to volunteer to come in and do this job, please leave your name at the office. Thanks

TUCKSHOP DAYS
The P & F are having 2 tuckshop days - Friday 1 and Friday 22 June. Order forms for 1 June "Hot Dog" deal went home to every child on Thursday. Orders and money due back by Wednesday 9 am please.

PARISH NEWS
Altar Servers: Have you ever thought about becoming an altar server? If you are over 10 years of age—girl or boy—when we would like to hear from you. A new program will be commencing shortly. If you are interested in this special ministry, please contact the Parish Office and leave your name and contact phone number.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER
A weekend away for married couples in peaceful, picturesque surroundings – away from the distractions of everyday living. Take time out of your busy schedule, to invest in your most precious asset... your Marriage! This is a unique opportunity to recharge your relationship batteries, refocus on each other and fall in love all over again!
Weekend date : 10th – 12th August,2012 Venue : Santa Teresa, Ormiston QLD
Bookings/details Terry and Rhonda Boyle T 3352 3328 or boyletj@powerup.com.au Website: www.wwme.org.au

TRIPLE P PROGRAM
Building children’s resilience to bad weather. Are you a parent, teacher, guidance officer, school counsellor or other professional who works with children, adolescents and families? Dr Vanessa Cobham, Associate Professor Brett McDermott and Triple P founder Professor Matthew Sanders have developed a unique resource that fosters children’s resilience to floods and other extreme weather.
Take a look at this new program and have your say: http://psy.uq.edu.au/say
Your feedback helps us (them) to effectively support families. Questions? Comments? Please call (07) 3365 7307
MATER LITTLE MIRACLES 5KS
Mater Little Miracles 5ks is a fantastic family fun run/walk at Southbank Parklands on Sunday 3 June. Be a superhe-ro for sick kids and join with Green Lantern and Wonder Women, as well as Dora the Explorer and Scooby-Doo, for this super event!
You’ll enjoy a great morning of family fun, food and entertainment, with all funds raised going to support sick ba-bies and children in Mater Mothers' and Children's Hospitals. This year we are challenging even more Queens-landers to get involved to help us raise over $200,000 for research that will help children and babies have a healthy start to life.
Register online for $25 per family at www.materlittlemiracles5ks.org.au or call 1800 440 155 for more information.

AUSTRALIAN CHILDHOOD VISION IMPAIRMENT REGISTER
Do you have a child with vision impairment? You might like to join the Australian Childhood Vision Impairment Register. The Australian Childhood Vision Impairment Register is sponsored by the Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children, in partnership with families, teachers, health professionals and low vision agencies. The Register is the first of its kind in Australia, and collects data on Australian children with vision impairment. This data is used to improve services for children and by researchers who work in the area of eye disease and disorders of vision. Families are invited to register their children. The age range is 0-18 years, with any eye condition diagnosed by an eye doctor (ophthalmologist) that causes vision impairment in both eyes. Families can access our website to begin the registration process at: www.vifamilynetwork.org.au
The criteria for being included on the Register are available on this website, and if families are unsure, they can email (jill.watson@ridbc.org.au) or call the Register staff, who will help out (02 9872 0303). If families don’t have access to the internet they can call Register staff who will mail materials to join (02 9872 0303). This website also gives access to low vision events and useful resources. Registered families can join an online parent forum where they can meet, chat, and share ideas and experiences with other families.
If you have a child with vision impairment we hope that you will consider joining this important Register.

From: Sue Silveira, Research Fellow
Renwick Centre, Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children

EMBRACING FAMILIES IN 2012: Riding the Waves of Faith, Love and Life
A one day event for family and friends! Relax and move at your own pace through the exciting presentations on offer. Guest speaker Fr Chris Riley will speak on Pressures on the Family Today; - Melinda Tankard Reist will speak on the Sexualisation of Children and how we respond. Relax and enjoy the presentations of your choice with a stream of exciting workshops for children from Prep to Primary. Go to the website for full descriptions www.embracingfamilies.org.au and choose your favourites!
For hard copies of Registration book contact JPII Centre for Family 3366 2188 familycentre@bne.catholic.net.au
Where: St. Edward’s Catholic Primary School, 104 Chatswood Rd, Daisy Hill Date: Sat 7th July Only $10 per adult: Under 18 yrs free REGISTER NOW!

Get behind BOWEL CANCER AWARENESS WEEK© by putting your knowledge to the test!
June 3-9 is National Bowel Cancer Awareness Week, an initiative of Bowel Cancer Australia, which aims to raise awareness of a disease that takes the lives of 80 Australians every week.
The message for the Week is simple – saving lives through early detection – as bowel cancer is one of the most cura-ble types of cancer if found early.

To test your knowledge of bowel cancer and to go in the draw to win one of 10 Healthy Lifestyle packs, just com-plete the short 5 question quiz at www.health.qld.gov.au/bowelcancer.

To find out more information about bowel cancer and the Queensland Bowel Cancer Screening Program in general, please visit www.health.qld.gov.au/bowelcancer.
NATIONAL SIMULTANEOUS STORYTIME

“A book burrows into your life in a very profound way because the experience of reading is not passive.” Erica Jong

This week our P-3 took part in the National Simultaneous Storytime. By doing so, we joined 300,000 other children in libraries, public and school, across Australian to show our support of the importance and enjoyment of reading. The story chosen this year was “The Very Cranky Bear” and proved itself again to be an excellent read aloud story.

We have noticed an improvement in the number of children borrowing, but we still have a long way to go. Remember, this is an easy way you can improve your child’s literacy standard. All you have to do is to remind them to return their books each week and borrow some more!

Just a reminder, that if your child damages a book, e.g. tears a page, please do not attempt to repair them yourself. We have special repair tapes, long armed staplers and book glue for permanent repairs. If they are damaged beyond repair, they must be paid for.

Happy reading!