Dear Parents

Welcome to Term 4 Week 8 at St Joseph’s Tobruk! This is the penultimate week of the year. This weekend is the feast of Christ the King. It is the last Sunday of Ordinary Time and the weekend before the church season of Advent. Jesus envisaged a world, a kingdom on earth, in which compassion was the core value. This challenged the purity focus of his contemporary Jewish religious leaders. In the Good Samaritan story for example, Jesus stresses the importance of reaching out to others in need. For the religious leaders, staying away from anything that made them unclean or unfit for performing rituals or completing their daily religious tasks was the priority. Blood from the beaten stranger was ‘taboo’ for Jewish religious leaders and so when confronted with the injured man, they crossed over to the other side of the road so as to remain ‘pure’. The reign of God is now, here in our midst. It is something towards which we are challenged right here and now to contribute to fulfil our Christian baptismal obligations. So the feast of Christ the King (created by Pope Pius XI) is a day to celebrate and remember Christ’s kingship over all creation and of our human obligation to ‘submit’ to Christ’s rule. Put simply, Jesus’s vision for the reign of God in the world is a kingdom right here and now. Christ is the head of this kingdom. As Christians we are called to be compassionate, to see a need and do something about it if we can.

This week we look forward to the Christmas concert which takes place on Wednesday 28 November (see note below) and take this opportunity to thank our music teacher, Renuka Haran, and the children for the wonderful effort they have put into this year’s performance.

LOTE – ASIAN LANGUAGE
At our most recent parent forum the idea of teaching a language at Joey’s was raised. To put people in the picture, LOTE (Language Other Than English) was taught at Joey’s in the years prior to my principalship (2006). Japanese was the language taught. When the teacher left the school, attempts were made to find another good LOTE teacher but these were unsuccessful. So when I came to Joey’s LOTE had disappeared and was replaced by planning time for teachers.
In the new Australian Curriculum, our connection with Asia is a priority across all key learning areas. In the recently published White Paper, the Prime Minister emphasised the importance of our relationship with Asia into the future and argued for the teaching of an Asian language in all schools. The four languages recommended were Japanese, Mandarin, Hindi and Bahasa (Indonesian).

At my recent principals’ conference in Melbourne, the re-emergence of Asia as a powerful influence in our world was a key theme. Keynote speakers pointed to the successful educational performance outcomes of many Asian countries especially China, South Korea and Japan. To lose contact with a fast growing Asian influence would be to lose the opportunity to develop as a nation ourselves. To not make the effort to understand and appreciate Asian cultures and traditions would mean to risk alienation from our Asian neighbours.

For travel reasons, I guess I would personally choose a different language to learn – just for immediate, practical reasons. I would really like to learn Spanish as I would like to travel to Spain and South America in the future.

Though Trinity College teaches Japanese, it does not necessarily mean that St Joseph’s should also teach Japanese.

I believe that Indonesian Bahasa is the language that St Joseph’s should be teaching and learning. Along with the language itself it is an obligation to explore an Asian nation in many other ways. It would be important to investigate culture, food, the arts, geography, religion, history, economics – as many dimensions that engage our children and their teachers. Bahasa does not require the learning of a different script. Indonesia is a predominantly Muslim country, which means that Islam is the main religion. As a matter of urgency I believe that western nations need to learn about, understand, and appreciate Islam so that we can celebrate diversity in our world and not be fearful of difference. As informed citizens we can also challenge media reports about Muslims that are biased and sensationalised.

Mother Theresa Primary School will be teaching Bahasa next year. It would be great to develop ties between our two schools in many different ways – but this is one exciting prospect.

I will be exploring the possibilities further before the end of the year and hope to decide on a language then a teacher as we move into the new year.

**APRE NEWS**

Tony Barron has been appointed to the position of APA (Assistant Principal-Administration) at Marymount primary School in Burleigh Waters. The position of APRE at St Joseph’s was recently advertised. Applications closed last Sunday. Currently a shortlist is being compiled. Interviews are scheduled for Thursday this week. We should be in a position to announce the successful applicant in the last week of school.

**PREP 2013 PARENT ORIENTATION EVENING**

Thank you to our prep teachers, Ellen Anderson and Phillippa Haley, for their preparation of this orientation evening for parents of prep children 2013. The event was well attended and provided important information about routines and procedures in prep. Thank you to all who attended.

**NIGHT OF THE NOTABLES**

Congratulations to our Year 5 children on their great work which was presented at the Night of the Notables on Thursday evening. Thank you also to their teachers, Josh O’Keeffe and Marg Hatzis for their preparation and organisation of this event. Thank you also to staff, families and friends who supported the occasion with their attendance and participation.

**YEAR 2 CELEBRATION OF LEARNING**

Year 2 classes held a celebration of their learning today in their classrooms. Thank you to their teachers, Isabelle Vargas-Malby and Lauren Mitchell, for their preparation and organisation. Congratulations to the children for their hard work throughout the term. Thank you to the parents and friends who came along to take part in this celebration of learning.

**SIGNING SHIRTS**

It is okay for children leaving St Joseph’s to bring a shirt to be signed by others provided that they have enough shirts to wear throughout the week. Signed shirts are not to be worn at school or to and from school. It is expected that all children will wear the correct school uniform.

**WHAT IS OUR FUN DAY?**

The School Fun Day takes place every year on the Thursday before the last day of school. This year, the Fun Day will occur on Thursday 06 December. Children come to school in sun smart free dress. This means a shirt (no tank tops, singlets, string straps etc), sunscreen (to be reapplied during the day), hat, closed-in shoes (joggers not thongs or sandals) and a water bottle. Classes are rostered to play on hired rides/equipment such as the super slide, circus fun house (jumping castle), chair-o-plane, animal farm, ball crawl and mini golf. The P & F provide the children with a treat. Last year this consisted of a sausage on bread and a popper. Families should still provide lunch and morning tea. Class teachers will take children out of the classroom for games when the children are not on the rides. There will be a variety of indoor activities as well such as DVD’s and board-games that the children may take part in as part of their fun day.
PREP 2014
At St Joseph’s, the process for enrolments and conducting interviews for 2014 Prep children will be taking place in Term 1 next year. If you have a child who will be turning five (5) before 30 June 2014, you need to get your application in. So far we already have 32 applications for Prep 2014. This year 36 out of 56 places were filled by siblings, that is, brothers or sisters of children who are already enrolled at St Joseph’s. Please don’t leave it to the last moment! Please get your applications in BEFORE the end of this year.

SCHOOL LEADERS 2013
This Monday is the last occasion for speeches from prospective school leaders for 2013. Voting for our school leaders 2013 will take place after this. We announce the school leaders to the community at assembly in the last week of school (Monday 03 December). We do not tell families before announcing our leaders so it will be a surprise to all of the children. The 2013 leaders are commissioned at our school mass at the beginning of next year.

LAST WEEK OF SCHOOL
Monday       * 9.00am Assembly: School Leaders 2013 announced
             * Yr 7’s at Trinity Orientation
Tuesday      * Year 5/6 (Marg Hatzis & Josh O’Keeffe) at Paradise Point
             * Year 7’s at Wet ‘n Wild
Wednesday    *Moving Day (classes that need to move do so on that day)
Thursday     *Fun Day
Friday 8.40am: * Children go to classrooms for celebrations, farewells, pack up & clean up
              * P & F Presentation to Year 7’s
              10.00am: * Lunch
              10.30am: * Emu Parade
              10.45am: * Mass, Presentation of Awards, Thank you to P & F Executive
              12.00 noon: * Dismissal (Please ensure that you have made arrangements to pick children up at this time)

FIRST WEEK BACK 2013
Mon 21 Jan       * School Office re-opens.
Tues 22 Jan      * Class lists displayed on the door to the uniform shop entrance and the School Office Door.
                 PLEASE NOTE: Class list information will not be given out over the phone.
Mon 28 Jan       * Australia Day Public Holiday
Tues 29 Jan      * Pupil Free Day (Staff Professional Development)
Wed 30 Jan       * 1st Day Children attending

VOLUNTEERS’ MORNING TEA
Inviting all volunteers at St Joseph’s School to an end of year morning tea.
WHEN: Friday 30 November
WHERE: Herb Garden area at back of hall
Sincere thanks to all parents who have given generously of their time in many and varied ways during the school year. We appreciate your hard work and wish to say thanks at our special Volunteers Morning Tea.

CONSUMABLES LEVY 2013
Prep 2013: $125
Year 2 2013: $85
Year 4 2013: $70
Year 6 2013: $70
(2012 was $110)  (2012 was $85)  (2012 was $65)

SCHOOL FEES 2013
(Prep-Year 7)
One child – primary from $1200 to $1250.00
Two children – primary from $1620 to $1680.00
Three children – primary from $1830 to $1900.00
(2012 was $100)  (2012 was $80)  (2012 was $65)

For larger families, please consult the principal.

Additional Charges – ALL FAMILIES:
*P&F Levy-$80.00 per family (no increase – no rebate)
*Art Levy-$45.00 per child (up $5)
*Technology Levy-$100.00 per child (no increase)
*Capital Levy-$400.00 per family (no increase)

Cost of excursions and camps is extra and must be paid before the camp or excursion occurs.
Cost of the following programmes is extra. *Swimming – Term 1 (Year 1 - Term 4)  *Ausdance – Term 2 or 3
Outside specialist teachers conduct the programmes in the school. These programmes are compulsory.
Cost of excursions and camps is extra and must be paid before the camp or excursion occurs.
Cost of the following programmes is extra. *Swimming – Term 1 (Year 1 - Term 4)  *Ausdance – Term 2 or 3
Outside specialist teachers conduct the programmes in the school. These programmes are compulsory.

SCHOOL FEE REMINDER
The final school fees for the year were sent out in the first week of November. All outstanding fees and levies must be paid by Friday 30 November 2012. Please contact Roslyn in the office if you are experiencing difficulties and cannot finalise your account by this date. We do not have money coming in during December and January when accounts are not sent out to families. We do however continue to have bills coming in including substantial monthly loan repayments. It can be a scary time for us as we watch our account balances reduce until school fee accounts are sent out in February of the following year. Please make a supreme effort to ensure that your account is finalised before the end of the year. This will keep us afloat and stress free during the holiday period!
SKOOLBAG APP
Skoolbag is a school to parent communication tool. School newsletters, notices, alerts, permission notes and other documents are communicated directly to parents’ smartphones via the Skoolbag Web App. You need to download the App from the App store. Search for St Joseph’s Tobruk. There are a number of schools with the new App. It is free.
Peter Lovegrove has been busily updating the information on the Skoolbag app for St Joseph’s. Please make use of this convenient communication tool.

YEAR 7 GRADUATION
The graduation celebration takes place in St Patrick’s church on Wednesday 05 December at 6.00pm. After mass there will be a presentation of certificates in the church. The children and their families then move to the Beenleigh Bowls Club for light refreshments and more formalities from 7.30pm. The Year 7 students are required to wear their Senior shirt with their sports uniform for this special occasion. Further information will be sent home with the Year 7 children during term 4.

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2013
If you are part of a committee and have dates for next year already, please forward them to the school for inclusion on the school calendar.

2013 YEAR 7 CAMP
Next years camp to Lake Ainsworth has been booked for 4-6 March. To assist with payment of this camp you may take advantage by setting up a separate direct debit request so that the payment for this camp is completed before the 28 February. Medical forms will be sent home soon.

2013 YEAR 8 ORIENTATION
St Joseph students, moving to Trinity for year 8 next year, will be walked over and returned by teachers.

PLEASE - NO CANDY, CHOCOLATES OR LOLLIES
Already the shops are selling candy canes, chocolate Santas and lollies for the Christmas Season. In keeping with our Healthy Living section of the School Mission, we are asking families and children not to bring these to school either to eat themselves or to give to others as gifts in a card. Children do not need the sugar, artificial colours and preservatives and staff do not need to endure the effects caused by these! Some children could be allergic to the ingredients as well and parents should be able to rest easy that their children are not eating foods that they would not want their children to have. We suggest that if children are going to bring gifts at all, that they consider ornaments for the Christmas tree or stickers or cards only or handmade felt Christmas Trees....

FROM THE APRE-PETER LOVEGROVE
On Wednesday I had the great honour of helping to present the awards for Mary’s Mates. The students who received these awards should be very proud. Their behaviour in class and around the school has been good enough for their teachers to notice and for them to be singled out. There were two families which had two students honoured.

Everyone who attended the disco on Friday night had a great time. Many thanks to the student council who helped to organise the night and all the helpful parents for contributing to making it a success. The funds raised will go towards a gift for the school.

I would also like to offer grateful thanks to the families who attended the school Mass at the church on Sunday. There were so many helpers I wasn’t able to give them all a job. Hopefully, next time we can give those keen kids a role.

Year 7 Fair Day
Friday 30th of November
Lots of Games and Prizes
Prices 20c to $1.50
Please bring in your spare change and help these great causes!
All proceeds will be donated to Charities Chosen by the Year 7 Students
STUDENT OF THE WEEK

PC: Trent Horsnell, Lucinda Phelan, Declan Vickery  1F: Jade Regeling, Joseph Johnson
1C: Tahlia Caruana, Zoe Allison, Jared Beazley, Ryan Kennedy
2C: Ethan Creamer, Mackenzie Robson, Sasha Whitby
2F: Corey Hawkins, Ryan Garske, Lucy McCallum, Megan Plucknett
3C: Ti Arna Curley  3F: James Hall
56D: Decklan Solar-Young  56L: Saige Kennedy, Leilane Basis
6C: Filoreta Shala  6F: Andrea McLean, Tayla Phillips
7F: Shannon Guilford

CHRISTMAS CONCERT – RENUKA HARAN

DATE: Wednesday 28 November  TIME: 1.30 & 6pm  VENUE: School Hall

We look forward to staging our Christmas Concert in the school hall this year. As was the case last year, we are holding two Christmas concert sessions to ensure that families have a clear view of the concert when audience numbers are spread. It is important that as many families that are able to go to the matinee session at 1.30pm during the day do so to reduce the crowds at the evening concert starting at 6pm.

It is vitally important that all children are at both concerts.

It would be disappointing if families who attended the day time performance failed to bring their children to the evening performance because they had seen the concert already during the day. This Christmas musical will only be successful if all students are present at both performances. We are offering the two performances so that everyone in our wonderful community can see the concert comfortably. The concert goes for just over an hour so we assure families that it won’t be a late night.

COSTUMES:
Matinee: Costumes, in a named bag, must be sent in NOW so that children will have them ready for the performance.
Night: All students must be dressed in costume and are to meet their class teachers at 5.30pm in the classroom.

REHEARSAL:
A full (not dress) rehearsal will be held on Tuesday 28 November. All instrumental students performing at the concert must bring their instruments on both Tuesday and Wednesday of next week.

We look forward to seeing you at one of the performances.

THANK YOU AGAIN TO OUR P&F

At Monday’s assembly, the students were very excited to see the Lego Mindstorm sets and the 17 new iPads on show; all thanks to the efforts of our great P&F committee. Every time our parents sold chocolates, ordered their child’s lunch on Tuck Shop day, attended the gambling night, encouraged their child to buy them something wonderful from the Mother’s and Father’s Day stall or supported any other activity this year organised by our P&F, you have been raising funds for these educational tools. Lego Mindstorms is not merely about playing with pieces of Lego. It is about our students designing, building and programming while being engaged in exploring the principles of engineering. We thank Dan Houghton from Trinity College who so generously gave of his time and expertise to build a working robot that enthralled all. Our new iPads have given us a total of 30 funded directly through the P&F. The 30 are out in classrooms already and are being well used as an educational tool to engage your children in their learning in a variety of ways.

2013 UNIFORMS – KERRY FENNER

To minimise waiting times and ensure stock availability at the uniform shop, parents should now be pre ordering school uniform requirements for 2013. If you are having difficulty attending in uniform shop opening times, order forms can be collected and handed in through the office.
AS OF this week OUR SCHOOL IS IN 8th POSITION IN AUSTRALIA. Wow -Amazing effort
10-20 minutes a day is all that is needed.

CLASS LEADERS from 12th – 18th November
PC – Elise Sulusi   PF – Taliah D’Arcy  1C – Shannon Robinson  1F – Locky Buchbach
2C – Ryan Fench   2F – Dylan Schipplock  3C – Jenna Butler  3F – Maurice Rosales
6C – Connor Black  6F – Mikaylah Robinson  7C – Bianca Chua  7F – Josie Shala

SCHOOL LEADERS for this week: 1st – Josie Shala, 2nd – Maurice Rosales, 3rd – Locky Buchbach (15th)

WHO IS MAKING A DIFFERENCE AT ST JOSEPH’S?

It is Mrs Lesnewski. Over many years at St Joseph’s, Hetty Lesnewiski has been the visiting teacher who supports our ESL students and their teachers. Hetty is known to the children as Mrs L and some of her students shared their insights into Hetty when I asked them: “Why do you think Mrs L is a good teacher?”

She’s a good very good teacher and I love Mrs L. because she always helps me with my work, she makes it fun.

Sometimes in the classroom, I cannot understand but Mrs L helps me. She does not make me in trouble. Mrs L is kind, not ever cranky.

Hetty Lesnewski has been a very important part of our school community and we wish her well as she takes some well deserved leave in 2013. Mrs L, you have made a difference to St Joseph’s and we say thankyou.

LIBRARIAN—LYN GIEBELS

Calling all library books…..
Once again, it is that time of the year where all of our library books are due back. Please make sure that all school library books are returned next week, so we can get them cleaned, repaired and shelved already for the new year. Overdue notes will be sent out and lost books are expected to be paid for.

Don’t forget that any books lent to you by Sr Jenny or your child’s class teacher also need to be returned before the end of the year as these are either library books or the personal property of the teacher.

MARY MATES AWARDS—P&F

On Wednesday the P & F held its annual celebration called Mary’s Mates. This morning tea is for children nominated by their teachers, for displaying qualities of Mary MacKillop both in the classroom and the playground. The children celebrate with their parents/caregivers, at a small morning tea and receive a certificate from Sr Annie who loves being a part of this wonderful event. Congratulations to the following students and their families:

PC Joshua Witham  PF Ella Marshall  1C Megumi McMahon  1F Jeshurun Curley
2C Amala Saju  2F Emily Doyle  3C Hannah Marsh  3F Maddie Fowkes
4C Caitlin Rorke  4F Cooper Barnes  5/6D Kiwa King  5/6L Tamika Buttigieg
6C Asha Saju  6F Amelia Buttigieg  7C Joseph Se  7F Meg Radburn

Thank you to Sr Annie, Sr Jenny and Peter Lovegrove for attending and presenting at this celebration and for those who helped with the preparation and clean up. We thank the parents for coming and celebrating and we know everyone had a lovely time by the laughs and smiles we all shared. Parents who attended, if you would like a copy of the group or individual photo, could you please email the office at pbeenleigh@bne.catholic.edu.au
ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS HAMPER & WISH TREE APPEAL

Over the next couple weeks, until 9am Wednesday 5 December, Sr. Jenny with the help of year 6, is organising a St Vincent De Paul Christmas Hamper and Wish Tree Appeal.

We are hoping that all students in the school will donate canned or packaged food which can be added to Christmas hampers for the less fortunate. (We are unable to accept fresh or frozen food.)

All classes have been divided into three groups with each group being responsible for certain items.

**Prep-Gr2**: tins of ham, beetroot, shortbread, juice, tinned corn

**Gr3-4/5**: pretzels, crackers, cordial, salad dressing, plum pudding

**Gr6/7**: jelly, bonbons, serviettes, chips, tinned fruit, fruit cake, soft drink

There will be a marked container in the office to place the food items in.

The wish tree will be displayed in the office. Similar to the tree the parish displays in the Church, we are asking families to come in, take a tag from the tree and buy a gift for those in need this Christmas.

BANKING

Last day 2012: Fri 30 Nov  
First day 2013: Fri 8 Feb (2nd week of term)

Win iPAD Mini’s for Christmas with School Banking!!

Simply making a deposit through School Banking will put you in the draw to win one of twelve iPAD Mini’s (2 per state) valued at $369 each for Christmas. Make a deposit into your CommBank Youthsaver account at school any time between November 19 – December 14 2012. Every student that makes a deposit during the competition period will go into a draw to win one of twelve iPAD Mini’s (16GB with wi-fi). For more information and terms and conditions visit www.commbank.com.au/schoolbanking

CONGRATULATIONS

Alexandra Allison competed in the Under 8 to Under 10 Little Dudes Nipper Carnival for Surf Life Saving on Sunday the 18 of November at North Kirra Beach. Alex made the final for the WADE event and finished in 2nd place. There was approximately 106 under 10 girls in her event. This was a fantastic achievement.

Alex also made the semi-finals in the board and surf swim race. Alex along with her cousin Ehla Little, who also competed at the carnival, was a part of the Kurrawa Stingrays "All Age Beach Relay Team" that made the final, unfortunately they didn’t secure a medal place but great effort all round.

PARISH NEWS

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

The Sacramental Program for Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation is beginning with a Launch at St Patrick’s Catholic Church on Wednesday 13th February, 2013 at 7.30pm. Parents and their children who wish to participate are required to attend the Launch. For further information please contact the St Patrick’s Parish Office on 3287 2282.

ST PATRICK’S TRASH AND TREASURE

A stall to assist orphans and lepers of India will be held after masses on Saturday 8 December and Sunday 9 December. Loads of Goodies to sell. Please come along.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Logan Vikings Swim Club Come Try Night.

Aqualogan, Sports Dve, Underwood. For further information contact Patti-Anne 0414 301 881 or visit our website at :- www.loganvikingsswimmingclub.com

TERM DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 4:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 8 October - Friday 7 December</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 1:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 30 January - Thursday 28 March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 2:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 15 April - Friday 21 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 3:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 8 July - Friday 20 September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 4:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 8 October - Friday 6 December</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Professional Development and Planning Days

3 days in January vacation, 3 days in April vacation, Monday 21 October
SR JENNY’S CUPPA
Last day 2012: Fri 30 Nov
First day 2013: Fri 1 Feb (1st week of term)

GREAT ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

This weekend bring the family along to the Beenleigh Theatre Group's Junior Entertainers' annual theatrical performance. Every year these shows just get better & better. This year the performance begins with an Adaptation of Disney's Mulan; followed by an abridged version of a Sondheim musical called 'Into The Woods' (based around favourites Little Red Riding Hood, Cinderella & Jack In The Beanstalk).
Session times are: Friday 30/11 7pm; Saturday 2pm matinee or 7pm.
All tickets: $15 available online beenleightheatregroup.com or Beenleigh Historical Village ticket box office.
Starring several students from St. Joseph's, Trinity College & neighbouring schools.

YEAR 5/6 NIGHT OF THE NOTABLES

YEAR 2 CELEBRATION OF LEARNING