Dear Parents

Welcome back to Joey’s for the last term of 2013. As always, this term is very busy and we describe it as a roller-coaster ride all the way to the end! There are many opportunities for families to join in the fun and excitement of Term 4 so please take advantage of these occasions. This month is the month of the Rosary as well as the month of World Catholic Missions. In the classrooms, children will be learning about the Rosary which is a meditative prayer reflecting on the life of Jesus. They will also learn that the Catholic Church supports people who are poor through missionary activity throughout the world.

I look forward to seeing you at our 50’s Rock ‘n’ Roll night on Saturday 19 October in the school hall! Don’t forget that our 60th anniversary celebrations continue with our mass on Friday 25 October.

PUPIL FREE DAY
Don’t forget that Monday 21 October is a Pupil Free Day set aside for staff Professional Development. Children do not go to school on this day.

60th ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE ITEMS FOR SALE
So that we do not end up with numerous unsold commemorative items, we are limiting these to just a few.

Already we have a stubby cooler which was produced for the fete this year ($8).

We are releasing two (2) different ‘Ladybird’ ports - standard port with our label for $8 a bottle and a premium quality port with our label at $22 a bottle. You will be able to purchase these ports through two methods. Firstly, they will be on sale on the night of our 50’s dance on 19 October. Secondly, they can be ordered for collection on a day yet to be announced in late November. Order forms will be available at the dance, at the office, through the newsletter and on Skoolbag.

We are giving each family a bumper sticker promoting our 60th anniversary as a school. Extra stickers can be purchased through a gold coin donation in the office.

Each child will also receive a simple but special memento at the mass celebrated on 25 October in the school hall.

Sincere thanks to Belinda Thompson, Marg Hatzis, the anniversary committee and the P & F for their hard work and generosity in designing and procuring these special items of commemoration. Thanks also to Rory McBride for his design of the port bottle labels. The label has a special story to tell!
FUNDRAISER – JDRF
Each year, one of our students who has Type 1 Diabetes, hosts a fundraiser in the school to support the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation in its search for a cure. Josie Hingst is in Year 7, her last year at Joey’s. She participates in the Walk for a Cure on Sunday 20 October. On Wednesday 16 October, we invite children to come to school in silly socks or with crazy hair (or a combination of both!). The fine for doing so is a gold coin which will contribute towards our donation to the JDRF. Josie will address the school community at assembly this Monday.

ICEBLOCKS
Each Friday this term the Student Council will be selling ice-blocks for $1 each. Proceeds from ice-block sales go towards the Student Council for charity donations and for a legacy item that the senior leaders donate to the school at the end of the school year.

GRANDPARENTS’ DAY
Grandparents’ Day takes place on Thursday 31 October here at St Joseph’s. This is an occasion at which we celebrate the contribution that those who are grandparents or those who act as grandparents in our families make to the wellbeing of children and their families. Directly and indirectly, grandparents impact positively on student learning. More details will be given next week.

PREP ORIENTATION MORNING
On Tuesday 12 November, Prep children from the 2014 cohort are invited to an orientation morning at the school from 9.00am to 10.00am.

The orientation morning allows the children to become just a little more familiar and comfortable with the routines of Prep, with the teachers and with one another. Parents accompany their child to the hall. The children are escorted by teachers and teacher assistants to the prep classrooms, while parents remain in the hall for a cuppa. A number of staff will address parents during this time.

A Prep Information Evening will be held at St Joseph’s Tobruk on Tuesday evening 19 November 2013 from 6.00pm to 7.30pm. The meeting will take place in the school hall. It is vitally important for parents of 2014 Prep children to attend this meeting. It completes the enrolment process and gives parents valuable information prior to children joining our school community. This is an opportunity also for parents to begin building relationships with other parents and to find out what you need to know as your child begins this exciting phase in their journey of life-long education. The information session is more effective if parents do not have children with them.

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2014
It may be very early for some, but we are working towards putting our calendar together for 2014 now! We hope to build upon what we have produced in 2013 and continue to improve our communication in this regard. 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.

STUDENT PROTECTION
Student Protection Contacts are teachers to whom children or parents or teachers can go to report or discuss issues pertaining to the safety or well-being of the children at St Joseph’s. Student Protection Contacts at St Joseph’s are David Boulton, Catherine Schloman, Peter Lovegrove, Sr Jenny and David Higgins.

SCHOOL FEES ACCOUNTS
We now have two billing months to go before the end of the school year (Oct & Nov). Please ensure that your accounts are settled before the end of November. As we do not have any income in December and January, we rely on the settlement of accounts in November to keep us afloat.

NAPLAN RESULTS
Individual NAPLAN results will be distributed to children this week (today or tomorrow). Please ensure that you receive your copy. Please keep it in a safe place as it will be required by most high schools.

PARKING INSPECTORS
Logan City Council Parking Inspectors are contacted by local residents when cars are illegally parked in the streets surrounding the school. This is especially frustrating for local residents when cars are illegally parked on the footpaths, or across driveways or in disabled parking zones or in bus zones or next to ‘no parking’ or ‘no standing’ signs. We suggest that if you don’t want to be booked, please obey all parking regulations. Where possible and when it is safe to do so, the school will open up the school car-park (playground) for parking during school events.

YEAR 7 GRADUATION
The graduation celebration takes place in St Patrick’s church on Wednesday 04 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 RSL located at Mt Warren 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.

ST MARY’S BEAUDESERT
We will be conducting a Sausage Sizzle and staff morning tea for the community of St Mary’s school at Beaudesert on Thursday 17 October. If you are able to assist us on the day, please let me know.
YEARS 6 & 7 2014
At staff and P & F level, the school considered the possibility of combining Years 6 & 7 into composite classes for next year, 2014. Potentially, we would have had three classes of 6/7’s which would have made student leadership a little easier to manage. However, with the new Australian curriculum, what is covered at each year level is vastly different and therefore not easily done. Therefore we decided to keep the classes in the traditional format. We will have one year 7 and two year 6 classes in 2014.

All children in Years 6 & 7 are considered to be the leaders of the school and will have many opportunities to demonstrate their leadership and initiative. Student representative leadership will come from the three classes. Senior shirts will be provided for both year levels.

At this stage, camps for both groups will be held at Emu Gully with the current Yr 6 group (next year’s Yr 7) doing a completely different program from this year’s camp.

A leadership preparation and discernment process will begin next week with children from current Year 5 and 6. Information about this will be sent home this week. As we thrash out more detail, I will let you know through the school newsletter and Skoolbag.

2014 CLASS LISTS
The long process of compiling class lists for 2014 has begun. Current staff are in the best position to make the calls on the composition of the classes throughout the school. We do take into consideration the balance of numbers of boys and girls, academic ability, behaviour concerns, clashes of personalities, and the particular needs of children when making decisions about placing children in classes, and with particular teachers.

Parents can contribute to this process. Should parents have strong educational reasons for us to consider in the placement of their child they must put these reasons in writing addressed to the principal. Ultimately the principal has the final say on the placement of children in classes. Parents are not able to choose teachers for their children. If this were so, we could have the situation develop for example where 50 parents wanted one Year 1 teacher! How would we then choose who gets the place for their child?

We are presently not able to say for certain who our staff will be and in what year level they will be located. There will be some changes in 2014. This information may not be finalised until mid to late November.

Parents will have the opportunity to put their concerns/issues in writing until the end of October. Any submissions after this time will not be considered. Prep classes need to be finalised before the Prep Orientation morning on Tuesday 12 November.

At St Joseph’s, we do not tell children who their teacher is and who their class mates are until the week prior to the start of school in the new year when class lists are posted on office windows.

ARE YOU LEAVING ST JOSEPH’S AT THE END OF 2013?
Please let Bron in the school office know if you are leaving the school at the end of this year. Thank you to the families who have let us know already – this really helps us in our planning.

NEW PRINCIPAL ANNOUNCED
Mr Stephen Johnson has been appointed to the position of principal of St Joseph’s Tobruk Memorial School, Beenleigh, from the start of the 2014 school year. Steve is currently the principal of St Brendan’s School, Moorooka. He has had extensive teaching and leadership experience in Sydney, Japan, and the Archdiocese of Brisbane. On behalf Fr Tony Girvan and the St Joseph’s school community, I welcome Steve to Joey’s, knowing that you will make him feel at home in 2014.

NEW GATE TO KOKODA STREET BUSES
Unfortunately our beautiful Norfolk Pines are playing havoc with the bitumen at the gate leading out to the buses on Kokoda Street. Soon we will be installing a new gate on the other side of the adventure playground fence line (about 3 metres west of the existing gate). The existing gate will then be padlocked closed.

SCHOOL UNIFORM
Please ensure that children are wearing the correct school uniform to school. The worst infringement currently would have to be where children are wearing shoes that are not entirely black. Please, if the shoes have white on them, paint them black!!! Hopefully we won’t have the huge number of lost items in the lost property cupboard during the warmer months when children aren’t wearing tracksuits or fleecies. Even so, please ensure that you label every item so that anything lost can be returned to the child.

MOBILE PHONES AND iPODS
If children are seen with mobile phones or iPods during the day after they should have been handed in through the pouch system to the office, these items will be confiscated. Parents then need to come to the school to retrieve the confiscated items from the office.
Four members of the St Joseph’s School Choir had a wonderful opportunity to perform at the opening ceremony of the new RE program. Jessica Platell, Josie Hingst, Jacqueline Falani and Georgia Kelly rehearsed at St Laurence school and will perform at the Mercure Hotel on Friday morning.

**A MUSICAL NOTE – RENUKA HARAN**

**P&F AGM NEWS – DOMINIC BARNES**

The AGM for the St Joseph’s Tobruk Parents and Friends Association will be held on Tuesday 12th November at 6:30pm in the Staffroom. Each year there are 5 committee positions that are opened up for nomination and election. These positions are President, 2 x Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary.

If you would like to nominate someone, please collect a nomination form from the office, complete and return by Friday 8th November. If there is no nomination for a position prior to the AGM, only then can nominations be taken from the floor on the night.

The nominated person/s must be at the AGM to accept nomination and the voting will occur if there is more than one nominee. To vote you must be present at the meeting, no postal voting is permitted.

**TEAM PHOTOS**

The athletic/ basketball/ choir/ cross country/ netball/ soccer/ swimming/ band/ boy’s touch/ girl’s touch/ cricket/ rugby league and softball team photos proofs are on display at the school office with the order envelopes. Orders need to be returned with payment to the school office by Wednesday 23 October.

**BOOK CLUB – LESLEY SOLAR**

The final 2014 Book club pamphlets will be sent out this week. Orders will be due back at the office by 9am 1 Nov 2013. Delivery of the books should occur approximately 22 November.

A unnamed and unclaimed order from the previous book club is being held at the office.

**ALL IN STITCHES (Craft group) – ANGELA HOUGHTON**

Come along and join us in creating a number of treasures - card making, mosaics, folk art, embroidery, paper craft and other treasures – there will be a little something for everyone. We will be creating gifts for the Mother’s Day and Father’s Day stalls and giving all the opportunity to share ideas, friendship and some laughs…maybe even finish off some of those everlasting projects!!! Donations of ribbons, felt, wool, buttons, fabric (big and small pieces), beads, card, glass jars, needles, threads, paints and brushes would be greatly appreciated. All In Stitches will meet every Wednesday starting October 9th in the hall from 9am to 11am. Contact Angela Houghton on 0403 834112.

**2014 PREP’S – ANGELA HOUGHTON**

All students starting prep in 2014 and their parents/carers are invited to “Playdates in the Park” starting week 1 of term 4. The group will meet at Doug Larsen Park (Duck Park) on Tuesday mornings from 9am to 11am. It is hoped that some of the anxieties of starting school will be alleviated by meeting and getting to know each other prior to the formal setting of school…the children will have a great time too!!! Please bring a hat, water bottle, a plate to share for morning tea and a big smile. For further inquiries please phone Angela Houghton on 0403 834112.

**PINK RIBBON**

This year our extra special cuppa will be held on Friday 8 November in the hall. We would LOVE any donations of craft or gift items that can be used for prizes and raffle items.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL**

ST VINCENT DE PAUL are seeking donations of Christmas wrapping paper to assist with the wrapping of children’s gifts for this year’s Christmas Hampers. Donations of wrapping paper can be left at the school front office.
St Joseph’s Rock'n'Roll Celebration Dance
19th October 7:00pm School Hall
Adults Only
Tickets $20pp
50’s Dress Optional

- Tables of 6 or 12 can now be booked for the dance.
- Get in early & Secure your booking at the school office.
St Joseph’s Rock n Roll Dinner Dance
School Hall
19th October
7:00pm

Ticket includes:
♦ Three course meal
♦ Rock n Roll Band
♦ Bar available
♦ Lucky door prizes

50’s dress optional. Come along and view the vintage cars on arrival. Enjoy catching up with past and present members of the St Joseph’s community.

I would like to purchase □ tickets @ $20ea.
☐ I have included $_______
☐ I would like to pay by credit card the total of $_______

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ST JOSEPH’S TOBRUK MEMORIAL SCHOOL
ROCK N ROLL CELEBRATION DANCE

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