Dear Parents

Last Sunday, the reading from Luke’s Gospel told the familiar story of Jesus healing ten lepers. All were cured, but only one came back to Jesus to thank him and to give praise and glory to God. The one who did come back to thank Jesus was a Samaritan. Samaritans were ostracised by the Jewish community and certainly not made to feel welcome! Lepers also were pushed to the outside of the community because those with the dreaded skin disease were seen to be sinners or paying for the past sins of their families through their affliction. Priests and those involved in temple rituals were not allowed to associate with lepers as this would make them ritually unclean. By associating with them, Jesus made himself an outcast. Jesus reached out to all within his community, especially those who had been ostracised because of their health or financial status. In Luke’s Gospel, the mission of Jesus was not confined to the Jewish community but stretched beyond to those who were not Jews (Gentiles) as the news about Jesus travelled throughout the Mediterranean and into Northern Africa. In this story about the healing of ten lepers, we see Jesus reaching out to the outcast within and beyond his own Jewish community. The twist in the story is that the Samaritan, the one ostracised by the Jewish community, was the one who showed gratitude and gave praise and glory to God. Perhaps the message in the story is directed to the Jewish/Christian community reminding them to be always thankful to God for all gifts and to share their abundance with others, particularly those less fortunate. It also challenged them to recognise that salvation was not just reserved for the Christian Jews, but open to everyone who embraced the good news about Jesus and God’s saving and healing presence in our world.

2014 PRINCIPAL

Mr Stephen Johnson will be visiting St Joseph’s on Monday 28 October. He will attend the before school staff briefing and the 9am student assembly. Steve will be available to meet parents over a cuppa after assembly.
LIBRARY BOOKS
Library books are a valuable resource at St Joseph’s Tobruk. If you have bought books recently for gifts or personal enjoyment, you would understand how expensive they are. The school invests thousands of dollars annually in new books through the school library for the children. It is vitally important that we look after this resource and ensure that whenever books are lost, they are replaced.

It is a requirement for children of every class that they borrow books from the library each week. When a child’s book/s are damaged or lost, the cost of the replacement will be added to the (child’s) school fees account.

FUNDRAISER – JDRF (JUNIOR DIABETES RESEARCH FOUNDATION)
Yesterday the children came to school in silly socks or with whacky hair styles to raise awareness about type 1 diabetes. The funds raised through this activity support Josie Hingst from Year 7 as she walks for a cure this coming Sunday. Josie addressed the school community at assembly on Monday. Good luck Josie!

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 (by an adult only) 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!

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.

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.

YEARS 6 & 7 2014
A leadership preparation and discernment process began with the children from Years 5 and 6 on Tuesday 14 October. Many thanks to Josh O’Keeffe and Marg Hatzis in particular for their significant contribution to this process. During the process the children learn what leadership is, particularly within the context of our school. They identify the qualities that good leaders demonstrate and through various activities they look for these qualities within themselves and in their peers. What was emphasised time and again throughout the day was that all of the children in these senior classes for 2014 will be asked to lead in many and varied ways throughout the year. After the day on Tuesday, the children are invited to apply for leadership at St Joseph’s with the support of their families.

ST MARY’S BEAUDESERT
Many thanks to all who assisted at the sausage sizzle this morning at St Mary’s Beaudesert and to the many who donated items for the staff morning tea. The children and staff from St Mary’s loved the prayer garden created by the children from Joey’s. It was a wonderful display of solidarity between the two schools who now have suffered through the devastation of fire.
ST JOSEPH’S TOBRUK MEMORIAL SCHOOL BEENLEIGH - FEES AND CHARGES 2014

In 2014, school fees will remain the same as in 2013. However, the Capital Levy will increase from $400 per family per year to $450 per family per year. There may be some increases in costs for programmes such as camps, swimming and Ausdance as these are run by groups outside of the school.

**SINGLE CHILD TUITION:**
- One child – primary (Prep-Year 7) $1250.00

**TWO CHILDREN TUITION:**
- Two children – primary $1680.00

**THREE CHILDREN TUITION:**
- Three children – primary $1900.00

A 5% discount off the yearly tuition is available if paid in full by the 28/2/2014

For larger families, please consult the principal.

**Additional Charges – ALL FAMILIES:**
- Confirmation Deposit $160 per family ($100 will be credited to the first invoice)
- P&F Levy $80.00 per family (no rebate) – under review
- Art Levy $45.00 per child
- Technology Levy $100.00 per child
- Capital Levy $450.00 per family (formerly compulsory Building Levy)
- Stationery Levy To be advertised through the newsletter
- Swimming: Yr 1 Term 4 $48 in 2013. Compulsory. Outside specialist teachers conduct the programmes.
- Swimming: Yr 2-7 Term 1 $48 in 2013. Compulsory. Outside specialist teachers conduct the programmes.
- Ausdance: Term 2 or 3 $30 estimate. Compulsory. Outside specialist teachers conduct the programmes
- Camps: Year 4-Term 4 Day Camp or Excursion. (approx. $40) Compulsory. To be paid before the event.
  - Year 5 & 6-Term 3 $300 estimate. Compulsory. To be paid before the event.
  - Year 7-Term 1 $300 estimate. Compulsory. To be paid before the event.
- Excursions To be advised. Compulsory. To be paid before the event.

**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.

**GRANDPARENTS’ DAY**

Our 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. This year’s theme will be ‘Make Your Grandparents’ Day’ through which we are challenged to do something special for our grandparents to make their day special.

**Program for the Day**

- 8.45am  Gathering Cuppa outside of Hall
- 9.00am  Liturgy in the Hall
- 9.30am  Concert - Choir / Band Performance
- 9.50am  All children return to class
- 10.15am invite Grandparents to classrooms

**COUNT US IN MUSIC CELEBRATION**

Students will be participating, by singing ‘Keep on’, in a national simultaneous song at 11.30am. Although not part of grandparents day visitors are most welcome to stay to watch.
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.

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.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK
PC: Ethan Unsworth, Loren Zajac
1F: Hayden Dent
2F: Samantha Thompson-Bacorro, Jacob Miller
3F: Whole Class
4F: Joe Irege, Chay Drum, John Walton
6C: Carter Beam
7L: Jessica Le Billon, Kacee Te Hau

Golden Gnome: 1st: 2C, 2F. 2nd: 7F. 3rd: PC, PF. Banking Award: 2C

APP of the WEEK—WORD MANIA
Description: Word Mania is a spelling challenge where you get to create as many words as possible in three minutes from a random set of 15 letters. Score different points for different letters and word lengths.

To compete in Word Mania Challenge simply play a series of games each week. There are three rounds starting on the 21st October and lasting a week each. Each round will have an individual and school winner and there will also be an overall winner for both. Your Word Mania username and password are the same as your Intrepica one.

No need to learn a new password.

I have had some great feedback from teachers that have signed up. Both teacher and students are finding the sign up to be quite simple and playing of Word Mania to be fun. The students are enjoying being able to challenge their friends after adding their ‘Moon Buddies’. Suitable for: Australian students aged between 6-12 years of age.

Compatible with: all iOS devices and Android. For more educational app ideas see: www.applepieces.com

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS HAMPER & WISH TREE APPEAL
Over the coming weeks, until Friday 29 November, Sr. Jenny with the help of year 7L and 6C, 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.

P&F 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 ORDERS BY WEDNESDAY 23 OCT
The team photos proofs are on display at the school office with the order envelopes.

BOOKCLUB ORDERS BY 9am 22 NOV
Book club orders are due back by 9am 1 Nov 2013. Delivery of the books should occur approximately 22 Nov.

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

PINK CUPPA
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 JOSEPH’S 60TH ANNIVERSARY MASS
As part of our 60th Anniversary celebrations a Mass of Thanksgiving will take place next Friday 25th October at 9am in the school hall. The Archbishop of Brisbane, Mark Coleridge, will be the celebrant at this special occasion. Please join with us as we honour the sixty years of Catholic education at St Joseph’s Tobruk Memorial School. Light refreshments will be served afterwards. Any donations of food for the morning tea would be appreciated.
Join in the fun and come as a spooky character!

Halloween Disco

Prep - Yr 7
1st November
5:30-7:30
Entry: $5.00

Food and drinks for sale
Dancing and games available
Glow products available
Did you hear?

Ladies Market Night is coming...

What: Market stalls featuring handmade cards, jewellery, cupcakes, shoes, toys, clothing, hair accessories, timber-ware, candles, home-wares, handbags, novelty cushions & lots more!

When: Friday 1 November @ 7pm

Where: Mother Teresa Primary School
169 Eggersdorf Rd, Ormeau

Cost: Entry is only $5 which includes a glass of Champagne or Juice to enjoy while you browse.

Pre-purchase your tickets now and receive a FREE ticket in the special draw.

PLUS Don’t miss out on our Cent Auction!

Come and enjoy a night of fun & friendship to help support this fabulous school.

Hosted by Mother Teresa P&F Committee
Ph 5549 5000