Dear Parents

The gospel reading last weekend challenges us to understand the demands of discipleship. Being a disciple of Jesus means placing God at our centre. It means following in the footsteps of Jesus. It calls us to rid ourselves of distractions or anything that would prevent us from drawing closer to our loving God. Discipleship is a call to bring about the vision of Jesus which is the reign of God in our world, in our everyday lives. When we reach out in love, see a need and do something positive about it, or help those who are poor or lonely or sick, we are living this vision and making a real difference in our world.

Discipleship is a radical choice and commitment. It can put us at odds with others who don’t have the same vision, even our family. But called we are to this common Christian vision of Jesus. The sign of true discipleship is always love. Love is always forgiving, generous, self-effacing, and kind. Let us be true disciples of Jesus and transform our community here at St Joseph’s into what Jesus imagined.

WAKAKIRRI

Our team has been practising hard since they won through to the finals to be held on this Friday 13 September. Good luck!!! Thank you once again to Amber Dair, Phillippa Haley and all who have combined to make this possible again this year. Thank you also to our wonderful parents for their support, particularly when you are collecting children after practices after school and attending performances.

I also thank the Evans family for lending their people mover to the school. I will be travelling back to Yr 6 camp on Friday to collect the children involved in Wakakirri so that they can be back at school by midday.

SAFETY IN THE PLAYGROUND

With a number of children participating in cheerleading either here at school or privately, it can be tempting for the children to practise gymnastic-like moves at break times in the playground. Although they might have the skills to do this, they are not permitted to do hand stands or cart-wheels or construct human pyramids or do tumbles or flips or the like. We don’t want them to hurt themselves or others in the process. As well, other children see them doing these things and they try to copy the manoeuvres without any training at all by qualified coaches. We certainly don’t want children breaking bones or straining muscles!
DEEPEST SYMPATHIES
It has been a difficult time recently for families within our community. Our continued thoughts, prayers and best wishes are with those who have lost loved ones - especially the Solar family, the Fitzgerald family and the Shore family.

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.

SHED UPDATE
Our new sheds are almost completed. Thank you to Dominic Barnes, our P & F President, for his hard work in coordinating this project.

SCHOOL FUN DAY
The end of year fun day is an event to celebrate the school year which has passed. The $10 charged for students is based on full attendance at school that day and is not refundable. As it is a normal school day students are expected to be at school and the event is budgeted on that basis.

MORNING SUPERVISION
All parents and carers are reminded that the staff supervision on children begins at 8:20. By bringing your child to school before this time you are placing them at risk. After 8:20 they are expected to be seated between the administration building and the hall. School begins at 8:35. If you arrive after that then you will need to sign your child in as late a late arrival at the school office.

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.

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 of 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.

TRINITY ENROLMENTS
It is important for families wanting their children to go to Trinity College in Year 8 2014 to have already submitted an application form in Year 5. When Year 7 moves to secondary in 2015, it will be necessary for families to submit an enrolment application in Year 4. If you leave it till later you will risk missing out on a place.

ANIMAL ETHICS
We have had a few enquires recently about pets/animals coming into the school for show and share. Before an animal is brought to school, a risk assessment has to be completed beforehand by the class teacher in conjunction with the family, even if no child will be touching the animal. Allergies can be triggered by particular animals, so it is important that other families are informed before a visit.

There are strict guidelines that have to be followed so please ensure that you contact the class teacher before bringing an animal to school for show and share.

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.

CHEERLEADING AT LUNCH TIME
Linda Soutter from Logan East Fitness and Dance Studios will be taking the class(es) at lunch times on Thursdays. The cost of each lesson is $3.50. Linda handed out a form for children to take home and for parents to complete regarding contact and payment details. Children do not bring money to the school office. You need to make arrangements for payment directly with Linda.

OSHC
St Patrick’s OSHC’s program for the school holidays has been uploaded to the school website.
STUDENT OF THE WEEK

PF: Hayley Parker, Tate Toovey
1C: Jazmyn Brady, Joshua Witham
1F: Montana Ruhland, Jack Byron
3C: Dylan Schipplock
4C: Alex Cleeland
4F: Brittany Honey
5C: Maya Wilson, Katarina Shala
5F: Taylah Russell, Liam Johns
7L: Anton Maxwell-Jnes, Grace Billington
Golden Gnome: 1st: 2C, 2F, 7F. 2nd: 3P. 3rd: 7C, 7L.
Golden Banking Award: Phillipa Haley

A MUSICAL NOTE– RENUKA HARAN

The end of term instrumental concert will be held on Wednesday, 18 September at 2.10 pm in the hall. The school band and some instrumental students will be performing. Instrumental teachers will notify the students who are performing.
We invite all parents to come and hear the xylophone, that was generously purchased for us by the P&F. This will be the final musical performance for this term.

CUPCAKE & ICEBLOCK FUNDRAISER– WEDNESDAY 18 SEPTEMBER

There will also be $1 water ice blocks at lunch next.
To financially support Maddison Payne (Grade 5) and Andrea McLean (Grade 7) who have been selected to represent Queensland at the National Artistic Roller Skating Championships to be held in Perth in the September/October school holidays, you will be able to pre-order vanilla cupcakes which will be distributed to the children in Wednesday 18 September. Order forms have been sent home with students. Please see class teacher with ingredients list or further information.

TUCKSHOP DAY– THURSDAY 19 SEPTEMBER

COST: $5.00 for a CHEESE BURGER, PACKET OF CHIPS AND POPPER
Our last Tuckshop Day for term 3 will be on Thursday 19th September. Students are being offered a cheeseburger, packet of chips and a popper for $5. Order forms have been sent home (extras are available from the office). Please ensure all orders are returned by Tuesday 17th September. Any parent available to help on the day, approximately from 9am to 11:30am, please contact Angela Houghton on 0403 834112.

2014 PREP STUDENTS– ANGELA HOUGHTON

Playdates In The Park – Prep 2014
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 J For further inquiries please phone Angela Houghton on 0403 834112.

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. We look forward to seeing you there.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

St Vinnies are seeking donations of Christmas wrapping paper to assist with the wrapping of children’s gifts for this year’s Christmas Hampers. Every year the St. Vincent de Paul Society provides many families who would otherwise struggle to share in the joy of Christmas with food and gift hampers. Any donations of wrapping paper can be left at the school front office. Thankyou.
OUR WONDERFUL P&F

A couple of mums snuck in to the staff room last week to surprise the staff on behalf of the P&F. A delicious morning tea was organised for us to enjoy. The message on the card read:

“We all have times of great happiness and times of great sadness. But this year has been especially challenging at St Joey’s. We have through these times bonded together and our spirit of community and family has helped us through.

Our school community would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for all you, our staff have done, in particular over these last few weeks, to keep our community together. You have been taking care of us and our children, we would like now to show our appreciation and do something to take care of you. Enjoy, Parents and Friends of St Joey’s.”

We really did enjoy the surprise and were very touched by the thoughtfulness of the card and the work and time of those preparing the morning tea. The card is presently in pride of place and on display in the office. Thank you to you, our community.