SUPER SPELLERS
Our school Spelling Bee Finals will be held next Monday, 31 March for Years 3 and 4 and Tuesday, 1 April for Years 5 and 6 at 11:20 a.m. Congratulations and good luck to these super spellers who have qualified for the school’s finals. The Years 3 and 4 finalists include Jennifer Ibe, Sophie Hassall, Skye Bui, Bradley Kilday, Olivia Ferguson, Jett Grimson, Mikey Raglus, Madison Hourigan, James Ferguson and Aliza Purvis, while the Years 5 and 6 contestants will be Emilie Hassall, Kate Gilmour, Lachlan Fairey, Alex Beveridge, Aiden Ryan, Georgia Horan, John Raglus, Liberty Barden, Noah Ryan and Harriet Beveridge. Well done to you all.

MATHS AND READING ASSESSMENTS
All students from Years 1 to 6 are presently completing tests in Maths and Reading. The Progression Achievement Test in Mathematics (PAT Maths) and the Progression Achievement Test in Comprehension (PAT Reading) are online tests that will give the teachers information regarding the level of achievement attained by the students in the skills and understanding of Mathematics and Comprehension. The software includes detailed descriptions on using the data to inform teaching and learning. The children will be retested in six months. The school hopes that these assessments will give teachers further evidence of what is being taught well and areas for improvement.

SCHOOL PHOTOS
School photos will be taken on Monday, 7 April. Each child has been given an envelope with full details regarding price and products available. Each child must return an envelope even if payment is made in the eldest child’s envelope. The photographers have an automated system for payments by credit card. You can go online to www.advancedlife.com.au for easy to understand payment instructions. You will receive a receipt number which MUST be written on the order envelope in the space provided. You can also make payments by cash, cheque or money order. ALL PHOTOS NEED TO BE PAID FOR PRIOR TO PHOTO DAY. The money for photos may be returned to school at any time. If you have more than one child at school and would like a family photo taken, special envelopes are available from the office.

CHAIR COVER WASHING
We need some volunteers to help wash the chair covers that we used at the Ball on Saturday night. There are 300 to wash and many hands make light work! So come and get a dozen or grab 100! It all helps.

NEW IN THE CLOTHING POOL
The P & F Association has decided to introduce girls shorts as part of the girls sports uniform and also to stock new maroon track pants. Therefore the girls may wear either skirts or shorts but shorts are not part of the girls sports uniform. Both the skirts and track pants have been ordered and will be arriving shortly. Also available from the clothing pool are girls fawn tights which can be worn with the tunics in winter.

SPREADGADH NA RINCE – “ENCOURAGE THE DANCE”
IRISH DANCE CLASSES
Irish dance classes will be commencing in Term 2 at the Presbyterian Church Hall on Monday evenings from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. The first lesson will be Monday, 5 May. The cost is $10.00 (ex GST) per lesson (invoices will be issued per family and a 10% discount is offered if paid within 7 days). A $40.00 enrolment fees is also required per student annually. For more information, please contact Kelly 0405448409.

KIDS FANCY DRESS DISCO
A fancy dress disco for children aged 12 years and under will be held on Saturday, 12 April at the Curban Community Hall at 5:30 p.m. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Admission is $5.00 p/p with sausage sandwich or hot dogs available for $3.00. Complimentary ice cream, cordial and lollies for the kids and supper with sausage sandwich or hot dogs available for $3.00. RSVP to Pat Coxedge by 5 April, phone 68485032 or 0457485032 or email coxedge@activ8.net.au.

MERIT AWARDS
Congratulations to the following students who received Merit Awards at Assembly on Monday: KINDER: Tia Allan for being a great class helper, Kimbalee Gilmour for great work with sight words, Ella Mudford for working hard with her sounds and Rachel Ryan for trying hard with her sight words.

CPR AND FIRST AID UPDATE
After school next Wednesday, 2 April, all staff will be completing CPR and First Aid training. We thank Barb Bignall and Geoff Kiehne for providing this essential training.

PUPIL FREE DAY
The first day back in Term 2, Monday, 28 April, will be a pupil free day. The focus of this day will be the implementation of the new Australian English Curriculum. Stage teachers will meet together to replace old outcomes with new outcomes, adjust terminology to match the new syllabus, examine term overviews, checking all outcomes are covered, write literature units to cover context and text requirements and assess resources needed.

LIBRARY NEWS
Phil Kettle is coming to St Joseph’s!
The very popular author of the “Toocool”, “Boyz Rule” and “Get Real” series of books will be visiting us on Tuesday, 8 April. Phil is one of the most popular Australian author’s in our school library so this is a fantastic opportunity for the children to meet him. As a special treat we are inviting the children to come to school that day dressed as one of the “Toocool” characters. His books are on display in the library and outside the hall so the children can choose a character that they like. It will be a lot of fun! To offset the cost of this visit, the children are asked to bring in $2.00 each on the day.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK
God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks to us in our conscience and shouts to us in our pains: it is His microphone to rouse us when we aren’t listening.
YEAR 1: Chelsea Brand for wonderful improvement in her reading. Fletcher Jackson for great sounding out when reading and spelling. William Spora for enthusiasm towards all tasks, Billie Allan for writing a detailed description of her nana and Alana Elsom for writing a detailed description of her nanny.

YEAR 2: Breanna Foster for an impressive effort in handwriting. Hayley Statham for great elaborations in writing. Layney Gober for a beautiful painting of her family, Oscar Spora for fantastic work in Maths and Rhys Bonnington for a wonderful news presentation on birds.

YEAR 3: Jessica Scholte for being a kind and considerate member of Year 3, Zac Ferguson for using expression while reading. Olivia McClelland for taking pride in all workbook, Bradley Gibson for trying hard in Problem A Day and Jack Purvis for trying hard to locate answers in Comprehension.

YEAR 4: Ella McAnally-Elwin for excellent results in Maths and great problem solving. Tom Eason for trying hard in Problem A Day and Operations, Mary Westwood for thoughtful contributions in Gospel discussions, Madison Hourigan for thoughtfulness and kindness towards others and Emily Skinner for giving 100% effort in Maths tasks.

YEAR 5: Julia Cusack for her reverence and beautiful singing during the St Joseph’s Day Mass, William Sandford for writing a fantastic exposition on coming games not being in our state of time and Smead Sutton for always being a conscientious worker.

YEAR 6: Montana McGrath for excellent Power Writing, James O’Neill for contributing to discussions in HSIE, Noah Ryan for great style and groovy moves in synchronised swimming and John Spora for asking excellent questions in Maths.

WHAT’S ON

WEEK 10 - Year 3 Reconciliation

Monday, 31 March - Spelling Bee Finals – Yrs 3/4
Tuesday, 1 April - Spelling Bee Finals – Yrs 5/6
Wednesday, 2 April - Junior Joey’s visit Coose Lodge
Friday, 4 April - Staff CPR Training 3:30 p.m.
Sunday, 6 April - Years 1 and 4 Sunday Mass – 9:45 a.m.

WEEK 11

Monday, 7 April - School Photos
Tuesday, 8 April - Phil Kettle Visit
Thursday, 10 April - School Cross Country Trials
Friday, 11 April - Last day Term 1
Sunday, 13 April - Palm Sunday
Friday, 18 April - Good Friday
Sunday, 20 April - Easter Sunday
Friday, 25 April - ANZAC Day

TERM 2 - WEEK 1

Monday, 28 April - Pupil Free Day
Tuesday, 29 April - First day Term 2 for students

AROUND THE CLASSROOMS

KINDER has enjoyed a busy week. We really enjoyed learning about how to make a worm farm and can’t wait to try it in our classroom. We celebrated a beautiful Annunciation Mass prepared by our Year 3 friends on Tuesday and learned how Mary said “Yes!” to being the mother of Jesus. “Little Miss Muffet” has been our big book this week and we had lots of fun trying to find rhyming words and sight words in the text. In Maths we have been making groups of 6, comparing heavy and light objects and adding on. We drew a picture of ourselves in Science wearing summer clothes and in HSIE we recalled all the things we do for each day of the week. We painted some great dogs in art for ‘Dd’ week. Our sound next week is ‘Rr’. Have a great weekend. Miss Bourke & Mrs Newstead

YEAR 1 has been busy this week. Our sound focus has been ‘ss’ and in Grammar we have been discussing exclamations and their use in writing. For text types we have read and discussed “The Gruffalo” to prepare ourselves for writing a description of the Gruffalo. In Maths we have been learning about our friends of 10, halves and chance. A big thank you to all those who returned notes about our Mass with Year 4 next Sunday and to those who are able to make it. Readings have been sent home for students to practice. Have a lovely weekend. Miss Smith

YEAR 2 We all thoroughly enjoyed the presentation about worm farms yesterday. The children enjoyed holding the worms and creating their own worm farm. We were also reminded about what things worms like to eat and what things should and shouldn’t go into our recycling bins. In class, we’ve continued reading ‘The Pirate Cruncher’ and have written some fabulous descriptions. The children brainstormed some excellent descriptive words to use in their writing. In Maths we’ve practised estimating, multiplication and counting by 2’s, 5’s and 10’s. We are all looking forward to our excursion to the Rural Museum next Friday 4 April. Please ensure permission notes are returned to school tomorrow. Mrs Schier & Mrs Morris

YEAR 3 What a wonderful week we have had! Congratulations Year 3 for preparing a lovely Annunciation Mass on Tuesday. Thank you to the family and friends who came to celebrate this Mass. This week we have continued to look at expositions. We wrote an exposition on ‘Why dancing is better than football’. In Maths we have looked at multiplication facts, addition strategies and picture graphs. In PDH we looked at the ‘Australian Guide to Healthy Eating’. We examined it and saw that we need to enjoy a wide variety of different foods from each of the five food groups each day. Our Science activity led us to examine and label the different parts of an ant. Congratulations to all the spelling bee finalists who will take part in the spelling bee finals next week, good luck!

YEAR 4 It’s Week 9 and we are feeling fine! Thanks to Year 3 for the lovely Annunciation Mass on Tuesday. We discussed the faith and love Mary had in God to become the mother of Jesus. In Maths we concentrated on reading timetables, learning how to convert analog time to digital time and understanding the difference between rectangles and parallelograms. Week 9 was revision week in Spelling as well as focusing on silent letter combinations (gnome, knife). We hope to see lots of Year 1 and Year 4 students on the 6th April for our special Sunday Mass. Everyone is getting excited about author Phil Kettle’s visit in the last week of the term – we all love dressing up! Have a great weekend. Miss Harvey

YEAR 5 It has been fantastic this week to see the Year 5 students showing great maturity and leadership potential in their new focus as Junior Joeys. In class we have been particularly busy writing some tremendous discussions. Its amazing to see how well our writing is developing with a surprise that we are nearly out of pages in our books! We were fortunate to attend the Annunciation Mass on Tuesday which was prepared magnificently by the Year 3 class- well done Year 3! We have also taken time out this week to attend Reconciliation with Fr Martin where Year 5 presented themselves with great reverence and maturity. The iPads have made an appearance in our classroom this week as we have been continuing with our weekly Operations challenge, however we were lucky enough to also use them for a comprehension activity that challenged our thinking even further. In Art we are starting to create our ‘light’ artwork that will hopefully be finished in a week and making our classroom look even more fabulous. With the term slowly drawing to a close it would be great to see if we can have all our homework done and handed in on Friday- the challenge is on! Have a great weekend. Mr Keady & Mrs Colwell

YEAR 6 It is fantastic to see everyone making good progress on their information report speeches this week. We are looking forward to hearing them from Monday 7th April. Our Maths focus has been writing remainders as decimals and fractions and converting mixed numerals to improper fractions. We have begun to write an exposition about mobile phones at school and there have been some very convincing arguments from both sides on this topic. Our Electronics Science unit with Mr Hassall has come to an end. We have enjoyed this unit immensely! It has certainly given us a good introduction to the programming of the electronic devices we use every day. We thank Mr Hassall very much for giving his time and expertise. In HSIE we worked in groups to revise our Democracy unit by writing questions to quiz each other. Next week we will see who is the winning group! Mrs Banks & Mrs Thomas

CANTEEN ROSTER
Friday, 28 March – Brenda Purvis & Deanna Ferguson
Monday, 31 March – Anna Peart & Elizabeth Cruickshank
Wednesday, 2 April – Michelle Woolfams & Jessica Whitehouse
Friday, 4 April – Lara Zell & Amy Spora

ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER
Sunday, 6 April – Harry Spora, Caitlin Spora, Olivia Newsdew, Montana McGrath