God our Father, your Son Jesus gave up His life to free us from the power of sin and death.

He showed us that the greatest love is in giving up one's life for others.

Today we remember those who fought and died for our freedom. We ask you to bless and console them together with their families.

Help us to understand the sacrifices they made in leaving their loved ones to face the horrors of war. May we never forget their generosity.

May your Holy Spirit give us the courage to resist evil in all its forms and show us how to be peacemakers through prayer and action, lest we forget those who fought, suffered and died that we might have the freedom and peace we enjoy today.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.
November is the month where we remember those who have passed on from this life into eternal life where we will meet them again. We remember the impact they had on our lives and on the community in which they lived. Yesterday we remembered the soldiers who lost their lives fighting for Australia in wars past and present. On our recent trip to Europe Mark and I visited Tyne Cot War cemetery in Ypres in Belgium. There lay over 100000 Australian and allied soldiers in white graves in the middle of Belgium farmland. In the memorial there is a quote from King George V, May 1922 that says:
“I have many times asked myself whether there can be more potent advocates of peace upon earth through the years to come, than this massed multitude of silent witnesses to the desolation of war.”

It was a very sombre experience seeing so many graves silently standing to attention while the tractors in the surrounding fields went about their daily business.

So many young lives given up to fight to maintain freedom and peace in our great country. We owe it to these brave soldiers who had their lives cut so short to remember them and to continue to work for peace in our country and our world.

There is an old hymn that starts “Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me…” We try to live this out at school as we teach the students the importance of getting along with others, of treating others with justice and love. We try to teach the students to work out their differences of opinion with their words, not their fists and we always look for opportunities to teach the students to play games that foster cooperation and tolerance.
Our prayers and thoughts are with Mr Lannen on the death of his mother last week. Mrs Lannen’s funeral was held today.

Eternal rest grant unto her o Lord and let perpetual Light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen.

Welcome and thank you to Miss Hansen who is taking the 3/4 class in Mr Lannen’s absence. Welcome Miss Laura Dickenson who is completing a prac teaching experience in the Kindergarten class.

Congratulations to our St Joseph’s ex-students who have just completed the HSC. We are proud of your efforts and look forward to seeing the difference you make in the world as you continue life’s journey post school.

Coming events:
Professional Development for staff:
- Helen Whale and Sally Gilbey will complete a Google Chrome Webinar on IT in education.
- Mark Morris, John Lannen and Helen Whale will complete the final training day for Focus on Reading.
- Helen Whale will travel to Sydney for a programming conference focusing on the new English syllabus to be implemented in 2014.

Excursions:
- Year 5/6 students participated in the Merriwa Remembrance ceremony.
- K-6 students held a special Remembrance ceremony and assembly at school.
- K-2 students will travel to Newcastle for a Transport excursion this Thursday. The students will be exploring bus, ferry, train and air travel.

Mrs Gilbey is continuing to hold the Central Books Fair this week. There is a great number of quality books for sale at very reasonable prices. Thank you to Mrs Gilbey for the great effort you put into providing us with book fair opportunities each year and to Mrs Victoria Shannon for your assistance also.

Kind regards
Helen Whale

AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who received awards in weeks 4 & 5

Kinder
- Braeden Halse – for his fabulous knowledge of volume and capacity
- Ella Beaven – for her contributions to our Religion lessons
- Annalyse Blyton – for her involvement and contribution in Literacy Groups
- Phoenix Dening – for recognising two digit numbers up to 100

1/2
- Jack Shannon – for trying hard with his letter formations
- Amy Redgate – for always being a willing, independent helper

3/4
- Caitlin Porter – for putting a wonderful effort into all her school work

5/6
- Ty Riley – for taking care to neatly draw and label 2D shapes
- Tamasyn McNaught – for writing a great review of the Canberra excursion
- Oliver Towell – for writing a terrific conclusion for a Science experiment
- Eliza Peebles – for always listening to instructions and putting in a huge effort in all areas of school life

Principal Awards:
- John Magner – for very graciously taking on extra responsibilities around the school
- Rhys Turner – for displaying beautiful manners to members of the school community
- Clancy Moore – for modelling great anti-bullying techniques

Playground Champion
- Patrick McLaren – for being helpful packing up the tags at end of play time
- Amy Redgate – for being friendly and caring on the playground
During November we continue to encourage students to place a special something in our remembrance box for any family members or friends who have died. This box is used at each Monday liturgy. This item can take any form (eg piece of paper with a tribute, a special something that reminds you of that person). All things will be returned at the end of November.

It’s hard to believe the shops already have an abundance of Christmas decorations out (and have had for some time). Class are beginning to talk about a special time called ADVENT - this is a waiting time, a time to prepare for Christmas and remember that the true meaning of Christmas is not about Santa but about Jesus’ birthday. Santa is one way that we are able to spread the message of Jesus to others. Students have discussed how hard it is to wait for things ie. a new baby, a special birthday, a holiday, seeds to grow - but we have to get ready and be prepared.

Advent begins four Sundays before Christmas so will this year begin on Sunday 1st December.

Anne Marie Peebles
REC

St Joseph’s Mums, Dads, Grandparents, Friends,
Let’s escape and give ourselves an an hour off.....

“Please come and share afternoon tea”

At: Merriwa Bakery
When: 2pm - Tuesday 19th November 2013
Why: To relax and have a chat... no work involved!
More Info: Megan Moore - 0400 653446
**Pause, Prompt… Praise**

At a glance you may have already heard of Pause, Prompt, Praise or the 3Ps as it is sometimes called. These three catchy words, Pause, Prompt Praise describe a simple technique that, used well, will support your child to practise his/her reading and to develop more reading confidence. The principle of Pausing – then Prompting – and then Praising is very useful to remember and apply anytime your child is reading aloud to you. Teachers and trained tutors often use a more structured version of this principle but the following tips can help you to try out it when reading with your child at home. The 3Ps technique is best used when your child is reading and ‘gets stuck’ on words that they can’t read or are new to them. When your child encounters words that are difficult for them to read, the 3Ps technique will allow him/her the opportunity to have another go, self-correct, or if needed, find out (be told) what the problem word is.

**Introduction**

Two important things to remember from the outset when using the 3Ps:

- The goal of reading is to understand (make sense) of what is read, so always keep this in mind when you are prompting and praising your child.
- Try to ensure that you are relaxed, interested and supportive, which in turn, will help your child feel OK when they make mistakes or just can’t work out a word and need to be told what it is. At home this technique will work best when your child is reading a text that is well-matched to their reading level, that is, where your child can easily read most of the words in the text and only falters on occasional words. Before reading, make sure that you are both comfortable and can clearly see the text your child is reading.

**Pause…**

Once your child starts reading aloud carefully follow the text as they read. If (or when) your child comes to a word they don’t know try not to jump in straight away and supply the correct word. Wait and give your child time to work out the word. In the first instance ‘pausing’ creates an opportunity for your child to try and self-correct or work out the word for him/herself.

**Prompt…**

If your child successfully supplies the word they have stumbled over it’s a good idea to suggest that he/she goes back to the beginning of the sentence and re-reads the whole sentence again (to recap meaning) before reading on. If your child has not independently worked out the problem word, at this point you may intervene and prompt them with some quick, low-key suggestions about what they could do. Say things like: – Try reading on for a sentence or two, miss out the difficult word and see if that helps you to work it out what it is. – Look at the sound the word begins with, use that clue and think about what might make sense here. Look at the pictures and see if they give you a clue to what the word might be. – Go back to the beginning of the sentence, re-read it and have another go at working it out. If prompts like these are not working, this is the point at which you simply tell your child the correct word. After a short time ‘prompting’ say: – Would you like me to help you? or How about I tell you the word? You may even briefly explain the meaning of the word but then quickly prompt your child to continue reading. Try not to spend too much time prompting as your child will find it difficult to maintain the overall meaning of what they are reading.

**Praise…**

This is the easiest part of the process for any parent because it’s something that comes naturally. Praise your child’s reading efforts and successes whenever you think it is appropriate during the reading process. As well as praising their effort it is often good to tell them why. For example you might say: – Well done, I thought it was brilliant the way that you went back, re-read the sentence from the beginning and worked out that word you were having trouble with. – That was great reading tonight, I know I had to tell you a few words but you also worked out some pretty tricky ones for yourself. Well done.

Happy reading!

*Tanya Ninness*

*Learning Support Teacher*
Next P&F meeting
2nd December 2013
at 4.30pm
Please come along and have a say in your children’s school life. Babysitting by a teacher in the classroom at school is available on the nights of meetings.

Thank you . . .
to the Lawler & Taaffe families who have given up some of their valuable time to clean the Aberdeen Bus in recent weeks.

Thank you
A sincere thank you to all the people who patronised by purchasing goods and also by donating goods to sell on our stall on Friday 1 November.

My thanks to Bronwyn Redgate & Jennifer Partridge for their wonderful help in operating the stall.

Our raffle continues and will be drawn before the end of term.

I have some 100 club numbers still available if anyone would like some. Give me a call on 0400 653446.

Thank you again.

Megan Moore
St Joseph’s P&F