Our Story continues……

In 1937, Archbishop Duhig decided to establish a school at Bardon. Mother Agnella recalls in her book, “Our Order’s first official visit to Bardon occurred on Sunday, January 16th, 1938. Sister M Jarlath, Sr M Macartan and I went to Mass at St Mary Magdalene’s Church, and were welcomed by Dr O’Donoghue. After Mass we were introduced to the parishioners. The people were overjoyed that they were to have their own sisters and a school”. (McFadden and Murphy, 1994)

Archbishop Duhig came to see the Sisters and inspect the work already begun toward housing the school children. A verandah was being built at the side of the convent which was to be a classroom. The late Mr E Hanlon, the parliamentary representative for the district, had given a sum of money late in 1937 toward the verandah and new desks.

On January 24th the school opened. Many of the Bardon children were going to Convent schools in other parishes, as transport to Bardon was a problem. Even though there was no real school building there was an official opening on 6th February 1938. After much campaigning an anonymous benefactor had given One Thousand Pounds on 11 October and the new school building began almost immediately. The school continued to grow and in the 1940s there were months of air-raid shelters, slit trenches, black-outs and rationing. School hours were staggered to prevent a large group of children being in school at any particular time.

All schools in 1942 had slit trenches dug in their playgrounds for use in air raids. At Bardon they did not bother. They employed the usually dry watercourse that wound through the bush behind the school and prayed that the bombs would not fall on rainy days. Once a week there was a practice ‘alert’ and children would head down to the creek and take up positions.
The celebrations planned for our 75th celebrations this year are:

- St Joseph’s Feast Day – Tuesday 19 March, 2013…….celebration for the students
- Ball in the Hall – Saturday evening 11 May …..past and present parents and friends celebrations
- Parish Mass – Sunday 12 May….family Eucharistic celebration
- Birthday Fun Day – Sunday 21 July….community celebration

**ABOUT ST JOSEPH’S DAY TUESDAY 19TH MARCH**
Children are to come to school dressed in olden day clothes (eg boys: - long shorts, long socks, shirt braces, cap and shoes and girls long shirts, blouses, bonnets and shoes or old school uniforms). We ask that you don’t go to too much trouble or expense for this event……please use whatever you might have at home. If it is too much trouble our current sport uniform will be acceptable.

9:00 am School Mass celebrating the Feast of St Joseph and our 75th birthday
10-10:45 Class work exploring the school history
10:45-11:30 LUNCHTIME (with some old games for children to play).

Sausage sizzle and ice block supplied for all children by P&F
11:-30-1:30 Pastoral Care Groups which will involve some of the following activities

Video clips of educations in the past, grandparents and past staff members speaking to the children about school many years ago, viewing of some old desks, slates and purchasing memorabilia, some old school activities.

1:30-1:50 AFTERNOON TEA (maybe pack something that children ate for lunch back in the 30’s, 40’s-)
1:50-2:50 Year level rotation games

(could include hopscotch, jack, Knuckles, bocce, checkers, marbles, board games). If families have any of these that we could borrow on the day please send them into the office. Do remember that with all the kids playing these they may not be in the same state that you sent them in…so if they are precious please keep them at home.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO CELEBRATING ON THIS DAY 75 YEARS OF EDUCATION AT ST JOSEPH'S

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**Games Now Required!**
As part of our celebrations the children will be participating in popular games from the 1930’s.

We are looking to borrow the following items or for them to be donated:

- Monopoly, scrabble, checkers and chess games
- Yo-yos
- Pickup sticks

*If you own any of the above and are happy to lend them to the school please start bringing them in to Anne Gole (Year 2G) agole@bne.catholic.edu.au.*

If you are lending a game to the school please be aware that the game will be played by a number of different classes and there could be some wear and tear.
You Can Purchase 75th Anniversary Memorabilia!

To celebrate being part of the St Joseph’s school community, you can purchase a range of 75th Anniversary memorabilia.

Golf umbrellas, great for any school event or carnival (!), emblazoned with the new school crest will be available for pre-order at the terrific price of $30.

Pens, bag tags/key rings for the kids, along with tea towels & St Joseph’s Celebration wine, for the grownups, will be available for sale at all 75th Anniversary events throughout the year.

Keep an eye on the newsletter for details….

To pre-order your fabulous St Joseph’s golf umbrella, return this form with cash in an envelope to the office.

Family Name ________________________________

Eldest Student _______________ Class _________________

Quantity of umbrellas _____________

($30 per umbrella)

To assist with the speedy delivery of the umbrellas, could you please return your order form by the end of February.