



ABOUT

St Joseph's School Gilgandra

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Term 4 Week 7

26 November 2020

Thought for the Week

Speak in such a way that others love to listen to you.
Listen in such a way that others love to speak to you.

ST JOSEPH'S P&F DEBUTANTE BALL

Tomorrow, Friday, 30 November

Our Debutante Ball will be held at the Gilgandra Shire Hall tomorrow, Friday, 30 November. The ball was to be held in March but needed to be postponed due to COVID-19. We thank our hard working committee for going ahead with the ball so that the debutantes, their partners and their families didn't miss out. Attendance is by invitation only and it is not a fundraising activity. Just another example of the Joey's community going above and beyond. Go Joey's!

EXCURSION SNIPPET

Tree Climb (Jessie R, Rani D, Taylor H, Dakotah G)

Ready! Pull! Climb! Strapped into the harness, everyone urged you to climb and you try not to let your feet slip on the foot pegs. There were three different trees for us to climb at Kincumber and the view at the top was amazing. We could then slowly let go of the rope and everyone lets you down gently and safely to the ground!

FINAL KINDER TRANSITION DAY

Yesterday was the last day of our three Kinder Transition Days. It has been wonderful having our next year's Kinder students coming along to school for the day and getting a real taste of 'big school'. We hope both parents and students have found it beneficial. We can't wait to officially welcome the new Kinder class into our Joey's family next year.

YEAR 4 CAVES AND DAM EXCURSION

The Year 4 students and teachers left for their Wellington Caves/Burrendong Dam excursion this morning. Today they visited the the Royal Flying Doctor Visitor Experience, Wellington Caves, Japanese Gardens, Bottle House and Caves Shop. This evening they will book into their accommodation at the Wellington Caves, have a swim, tea and games. Tomorrow sees the travellers explore the Giant Chimes, Fern Gully, Dam Wall and Spillway and the Dubbo Aquatic Centre.

END OF YEAR MASS AND PRESENTATIONS

A note was sent home last week with each child with regards to the arrangements we have made for this year's End of Year Presentations and the Year 6 Graduation Mass and Presentations which will all be held at the **Gilgandra Shire Hall** this year. The presentations will be held in **class groups** at the following times:-

Tuesday, 8 December – Kinder to Year 5 End of Year Presentations

Kinder	9:30 – 10:00
Year 1	10:30 – 11:00
Year 2	11:30 – 12:00
Year 3	12:30 – 1:00
Year 4	1:30 – 2:00
Year 5	2:30 – 3:00

Monday, 14 December – Year 6 Graduation Mass and Presentations

Year 6 1:00 p.m.

If you have not already done so, would you please complete and return the tear-off slip attached to the note by tomorrow, **Friday, 27 November** so that we have an idea of the number of people attending each timeslot. A separate note is required for each child's class.

EXCURSION SNIPPET

Giant Swing (Mitch F, Brody H, Tom S, Darron M)

We were strapped into a harness on a giant bar. Then our team mates heaved us into the air by pulling a giant rope. One of the people that were on the swing had to pull an orange cord and then you flew through the air like a plane!

WELCOME BACK ALIZA

We welcomed ex-student Aliza Purvis on Monday as she is completing two week's work experience. We hope Aliza enjoys her time back at St Joseph's. 'Once A Joey Always A Joey!'

SCHOOL SURVEY

Just a reminder that the parent survey that was sent home with last week's About is due tomorrow, Friday, 27 November. We are required each year to complete an Annual Report that is submitted to the Commonwealth Government and published to the community. One of the requirements of this report is to have surveyed the school parents to ascertain levels of satisfaction with various aspects of the school. The survey is a simple one that requires only four ticks, one for each element. Your cooperation in completing this survey and returning it to school by tomorrow is appreciated.

YEAR 1 POLICE STATION VISIT

Our Year 1 students are looking forward to their visit to the Police Station next Tuesday, 1 December. This excursion is part of the Year 1 Geography unit 'People and Places'. We thank Sergeant Nick Campbell for organising this visit.

EXCURSION SNIPPET

Leap of Faith (Eva B, Beatie D, Jordan N)

Ba-boom! Ba-boom! Our hearts hammered against our ribs. The 10m high pole loomed in front of us and we plucked up the courage to begin the ascent. Finally we reached the platform and the countdown began: "3, 2, 1 and JUMP!" Phew! We caught the swinging trapeze bar and the ground looked so far away. We had to let go because there is no other way down and we were so glad our belay team was holding our ropes. Then like little human angels we were lowered down to the ground. It really was a leap of faith!

YEAR 5 MASS

Year 5 will celebrate a class Mass next **Thursday, 3 December** at 10:30 a.m. Unfortunately adults are not allowed to attend the Mass due to COVID restrictions and as such there will be no morning tea afterwards.

LEAVING FAMILIES DINNER

Those families leaving St Joseph's this year are invited to our Leaving Families Dinner to be held next **Thursday, 3 December** at 6:00 for 6:30 p.m. at Gilgandra Sporties Club. This is our way of saying thank you to those families for their involvement with the school over the years. If you haven't already done so, please RSVP to the school on 6847 2828 by tomorrow, Friday, 27 November.

EXCURSION SNIPPET

Commando (Emma M, Kaycee B, Hope JC, Clodagh L)

We snuck into the woods to find the hostages for the game Commando. Our feet were stumbling over rugged roots in the ground. Our hearts were pounding as we were running and hiding in the bushes. All of a sudden the light of a flashlight shined on us and we realised we had just been caught by our teachers! Over the top of the laughing, yelling and screaming we heard kids cry "GAME OVER!". Sadly the teachers won the game.

INFANTS SWMSAFE PROGRAM

Our school based infants swmsafe program began this week and runs for nine days on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, concluding on Wednesday, 9 December. Those children enrolled in the program will need to bring their swimmers, towel and entry fee of \$1.00 (for those who don't have a season ticket) on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday each week. The children will be transported to and from the pool each day by bus, saving valuable time and energy. **The infants students will not be swimming for sport on Thursdays during the three weeks of the swmsafe program.**

EXCURSION SNIPPET

Abseiling (Charlotte F, Lilla O, Brooke W, Alex G, Tia A)

As we leaned back over the edge of the twelve metre tower at Kincumber, our lives rested in the hands of our guides. Our minds raced as we looked

down at the ground, seeing how high we actually were. Tiny step after tiny step, we made our way down the wooden tower slowly letting the rope slide through our hands until we finally reached solid ground. What an exhilarating feeling!

EAR BUS

Representatives from the Hear Our Heart Ear Bus will be visiting our school next Friday, 4 December to test children's hearing. If you have any particular concerns regarding your child's hearing, please let us know.

EXCURSION SNIPPET

Lost Island (Emily S, Lauren T, Maddi P, Stella V)

The Lost Island, A.K.A. the mud run, had obstacles to try and test your ability, strength and weakness through a pit of mud. Courageous, excited and muddy is how we felt when we went through the challenging obstacle course. They say that you need to get messy to have fun, but we didn't know how messy we would get!!

COVID-19 UPDATE

- Anyone who is unwell, child or adult, should not come to school.
- Non-essential adults are still not permitted at school events or on school grounds.
- If your child arrives late, please drop off at the office.
- If you are picking up your child before 3:00 p.m., do so via the office.
- Wash hands regularly.
- No sharing drinks or food.
- Cough or sneeze into your elbow, or a tissue which should be discarded immediately.
- Fill water bottles from bubblers rather than using the bubbler directly.
- Interscholar activities may recommence.
- External providers to support the delivery of curriculum are allowed.

MERIT AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who received Merit Awards at Assembly on Tuesday:

KINDER: **Katie Colwell** for painting a beautiful butterfly for our 'Creation' Liturgy, **Lleyton Lummis** for great work in Geography, **William Luckie** for super results in our Religion quiz about creation and **Hugo Campbell** for trying hard to write neatly and form his letters correctly.

YEAR 1: **Oscar Medd** for great improvement in reading fluency, **Neve Walker** for always contributing to class discussions, **Claney Larkin** for being a kind and caring class member and **Layla Walker** for an improved effort to write neatly in Sentence A Day.

YEAR 2: **Oli Chandler** for trying hard to publish his Christmas story in a timely manner, **Kellie Hutchison** for being a cooperative and respectful member of Year 2, **Ellie McArd** for a big effort with morning reading, **Ella Murphy** for thoughtful contributions to class discussions, **Isabelle Peart** for beautiful handwriting and **Harry Thurlow** for an improved effort in Maths groups.

YEAR 3: **Mia Mudford** for fabulous work identifying adverbs in sentences, **Ryder Larkin** for enthusiastically completing Spelling City activities and **Joe Staggs** for fantastic work researching the planet Mars.

YEAR 4: **Tilla Chandler** for excellent presentation of her bookwork, **Toby Davis** for his enthusiastic contribution to class discussions, **Xanthe Gale** for being a positive role model, **Layla Wykes** for her excellent poetry writing skills and **Jemima Harrison** for her very convincing persuasive writing task.

YEAR 5: **Mitchell Fuller** for a conscientious effort in Maths Online, **Clodagh Luckie** for applying great imagery to her writing, **Jonas Naden** for showing great care and consideration for the 2021 buddies and **Abi McArd** for improved achievement in Spelling.

YEAR 6: **Beatie Davis** for great results in whole numbers as well as multiplication and division in Essential Assessment testing, **Rani Diamond** for fabulous improvement in fractions and decimals in Essential Assessment testing, **Sam Dunn** for fantastic improvement in patterns and algebra in Essential Assessment testing, **Nick Kirsop** for fabulous improvement in area as well as volume and capacity in Essential Assessment testing, **Will Younghusband** for fabulous improvement in mass and area in Essential Assessment testing and **Charlie Zell** for fabulous improvement in data in Essential Assessment testing.

WHAT'S ON

WEEK 7

- Thursday, 26 November - Year 4 Wellington Caves/Burrendong Dam Excursion
 Friday, 27 November - Year 4 Wellington Caves/Burrendong Dam Excursion
 - Ball

WEEK 8

- Tuesday, 1 December - Year 1 Police Station Visit
 Thursday, 3 December - Year 5 Mass – 10:30 a.m.
 - Leaving Families Dinner – 6:00 for 6:30 p.m.
 Friday, 4 December - Ear Bus – 12:00 – 3:00 p.m.

WEEK 9

- Tuesday, 8 December - Kinder – Year 5 End of Year Presentations
 Wednesday, 9 December - Last day Infants Swimming
 - GHS Transition Day
 Friday, 11 December - Year 6 Picnic
 - Portfolios and Reports home

AROUND THE CLASSROOMS

KINDER Another busy week has flown by in Kinder. We celebrated our beautiful 'Creation' Liturgy today and enjoyed singing and doing the actions to our hymns. It was great to welcome our new Kinders yesterday for their final visit before they begin 'big school' next year. We have been working on our Geography and Religion portfolio tasks and trying hard to use full stops in our writing. During Maths we are revising strategies we need to add, subtract and make into groups. We are beginning our Christmas craft this week and can't believe it's nearly Christmas already! It's great that everyone is remembering their swimmers and money on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday for our swimming lessons. We are really enjoying our lessons with Alicia, Caitlin and Abbey. Have a lovely weekend. *Mrs Alison Newstead*

YEAR 1 has thoroughly enjoyed their swimming lessons this week! We've also been reading, "The Paper Bag Princess" and have completed a sequencing, alphabetical order and sentence scramble activity. We have completed our Maths homework for the year and have also finished our Diagnostic Review. We had great fun on the chrome books this week with the children typing an acrostic name poem, learning how to change the font colour and size. They then used the chrome book camera to take a selfie and insert it into their document. We printed them out and the children decorated them. In Geography we used Google Earth to locate Australia on the world map. We zoomed in to Australia and using the satellite map were able to view the changing landscape across our country before zooming in on our state and finally our town. Don't forget your swimmers on Monday. Have a lovely weekend! *Mrs Melinda Morris*

YEAR 2 This week Year 2 has commenced the infants swim school. The students have enjoyed developing their skills in the pool and look forward to another two weeks of intensive swimming. Year 2 were also lucky enough to go on an excursion to the Rural Museum yesterday. It was a lot of fun and it was interesting to look at old machinery, telephones and tractors and see how much they've changed over time. In Writing the students have been constructing descriptions about a clown whilst in Science Year 2 completed their portfolio task with Mrs McIsaac on life cycles. English homework will finish tomorrow. Keep up the great home reading! Have a lovely weekend and stay cool. *Miss Lisa Harvey & Miss Prue Giffin*

YEAR 3 Wow! Week 7 already! The end of the year is fast approaching. It was lovely to meet Mrs Trimble and Mrs Kingham on Tuesday when they visited our school. This week saw Year 3 conclude their testing. We have completed a test in Science and also in Religion. We began our new unit in Religion on 'Advent to Christmas' as this Sunday is the beginning of Advent. We have looked at the Advent wreath and how the green wreath symbolises God's never ending love for us. We have shared with the class our interesting information on the planets in our solar system and we also studied the moon a little closer to find out how the moon is made up. In Digitech with Mrs Thomas we used the ozobots and our coding skills again which was a lot of fun, while in Maths we have been focusing on time and 3-digit multiplication in Operations. We hope Year 4 has a great time on their excursion. Have a lovely weekend! *Mrs Donna Colwell & Mrs Phillipa Haling*

YEAR 4 The countdown is over! Excursion day has finally arrived. We started our day with a fantastic tour of the Royal Flying Doctor Service visitor experience. Then it was off to Wellington where we went on a tour of the Cathedral Cave at the Wellington Caves, the Japanese Gardens and the Bottle House. Tonight we are all looking forward to pool time and soccer/cricket with Mr Musgrave. Tomorrow we will be touring Burrendong Dam and checking out the dam wall and spillway, followed by a nature walk through Fern Gully. What better way to finish our excursion than to go to the Dubbo Aquatic Centre for waterslides and pool time. A big thank you to Mr Musgrave, Mrs Spora and Mrs Ferguson for all of your assistance with the planning of our excursion. Many tired children means many happy memories have been created and I am thankful for the opportunity to share it with your children. Have a fantastic weekend everyone. *Mrs Jacquie Clark*

YEAR 5 After an intensive Mangahigh program we were all very proud to receive our Times Tables Licences this week. Congratulations everyone! Maths saw us using calculators to solve divisions with remainders and used dot grids to enlarge shapes. In Religion we continued to investigate the seven sacraments and have written wonderful recounts about our fabulous excursion to Kincumber. This week we have been very busy completing many assessments and created a lovely Advent wreath in preparation for our class Mass next week. Have a lovely weekend. *Mrs Meichelle Schier*

YEAR 6 has been hard at work and enjoying reminiscing about our excursion adventures last week. We have worked in groups to write short descriptions of the activities at Kincumber. It was great to put our 'sizzling starts' and 'show don't tell' skills to the test! In Maths we have been completing our post tests from Essential Assessment and many have been rewarded with an increase in their overall results. In Geography we have continued to focus on Antarctica and the impact that humans have on the environment. It is clear from the Literacy Pro testing data that everyone has been working hard on improving their reading and some people have increased their Lexile levels by hundreds of points! Congratulations Year 6!

Mrs Dominica Banks, Mrs Nikkola Thomas & Mrs Mia van der Walt

CANTEEN ROSTER

- Friday, 27 November - Amii Marchant & Rachel McMahon
 Monday, 30 November - Janine Ferguson & Toni Fuller
 Wednesday, 2 December - Gai-Maree Younghusband & Amanda Chandler
 Friday, 4 December - Lorraine Hutchison & Amii Marchant

