



ABOUT

St Joseph's School Gilgandra

Term 1 Week 1

2 February, 2017

www.stjosephsgilgandra.nsw.edu.au

Email: stjoeysgil@bth.catholic.edu.au

Thought for the Week

A NEW YEAR AT SCHOOL:

Get ready to learn, see, do, read, explore, listen, pray, question, laugh, grow, try, improve, talk, smile, share, imagine, connect and GIVE OF YOUR VERY BEST!

WELCOME BACK

A very big welcome back to a brand new school year. We hope everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday and look forward to a prosperous year. A special welcome to our new Kinder class and new students in other classes. We hope all the new members of our school family find their time at our school enjoyable and rewarding.

STAFF FOR 2017

Kinder	-	Miss Phillipa Smith/Mrs Sue Alchin
Year 1	-	Mrs Alison Newstead
Year 2	-	Miss Lisa Harvey
Year 3	-	Mrs Meichelle Schier/Miss Belinda Bourke/ Mrs Melinda Morris
Year 4	-	Mr Tim Keady
Year 5	-	Mrs Dominica Banks/Mrs Nikkola Thomas
Year 6	-	Mr Damien Soares
Parish Priest	-	Fr Martin O'Mahony
Principal	-	Mr Tony Musgrave
Assistant Principal	-	Mrs Dominica Banks
Religious Education Coordinator	-	Mrs Dominica Banks
Support Teacher	-	Mrs Sheree Spora
RFF	-	Mrs Donna Colwell
Literacy/Numeracy Assistants	-	Mrs Cheryl Batten, Mrs Margie Stewart
Aboriginal Education Worker	-	Mrs Margaret Pearce
Librarian	-	Mrs Jenny Kilby
Secretary	-	Mrs Heather Hodge
Cleaner	-	Mrs Dawn Cooper

KINDER/YEAR 6 BUDDIES

It was an exciting time on Monday when the Year 6 students were introduced to their Kinder buddies. The Year 6 students now have a big job in front of them making sure our new Kinders settle in well at St Joseph's. The Year 6 students and Kinder children will do things like visit the church together, have lunch together and be there for one another. A full list of the buddies is included in today's newsletter.

STUDENT LEADERS' INVESTITURE MASS

It was a wonderful celebration at Mass this morning when we joined with our Year 6 leaders as they received their leaders' badges. We thank ex-students and the 2017 Gilgandra High School School Captains – Tom Alchin and Courtney Gale and Vice Captains – Ken Johnson and Clementine McIntosh, who attended the Mass and gave a wonderful address regarding the attributes of successful leaders. Congratulations to our Year 6 class and we all look forward to working with them as they lead us through 2017.

School Captains: **Zac Ferguson** and **Ella Wykes**

Vice Captains: **Harrison King** and **Kelsey Hutchison**

Minister for the Environment: **Rhys O'Neill**

Minister for Communications: **Tylah Anforth**

Minister for Health: **Patrick Spora**

Minister for Catering: **Rani Diggs**

Student Leaders: **Anton Davis, Marshall Fairey, Laura Farragher, Mason Fryers, William Fuller, William Gaff, Bradley Gibson, Isaiah Gleadhill, Jinda Green, Jennifer Ibe, Bradley Kildey, Finn Marchant, Olivia McClelland, Tayarna McKenzie, Samantha Miller, Jack Purvis, Joshua Purivs, Olivia Schier, Jessica Scholte, Laura Younghusband.**

ST JOSEPH'S P & F DEBUTANTE BALL

Saturday, 25 March, 2017

The P & F Debutante Ball will be held at the Shire Hall on Saturday, 25 March. This is a wonderful evening and raises funds for our P & F Association which in turn is then spent on much needed and very worthwhile resources for our school. There are lots of jobs in the lead up to the ball with working bees to be held at school each Saturday morning commencing next Saturday, 11 February at 9:00 a.m. Even if you can only spare an hour or so it would be greatly appreciated. The Committee is also looking for someone to help out at deb practice which will be held at the Shire Hall each Tuesday evening from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. If you can help please phone Marilyn King on 0478091077. Our current Ball Secretary is looking to hang up her hat next year, so please give some thought to taking on this position. If you are interested, now would be a good time to learn the ropes! So everyone, we look forward to your help with this wonderful fundraiser.

TWILIGHT SWIMMING CARNIVAL

This year's twilight swimming carnival will be held next **WEDNESDAY, 8 FEBRUARY**. The following timetable for the carnival will be in operation:

1. Children come to school on Wednesday at the usual time for a normal day's school.
2. Children wear their sports uniform and bring their swimming gear to school with them.
3. End of school bell rings at 3:00 p.m. but the children **DO NOT GO HOME**.
4. The canteen is open and the children can buy an afternoon snack or bring it with them. (Cordial and watermelon will be provided).
5. If the children wish, they can change into clothing representing their house colour. This is optional. No crepe paper please.
6. At 3:25 p.m. the children will go to their Sports House Meetings to be held in the classrooms.
7. At 3:40 p.m. the staff and students walk down to the carnival together.
8. **The carnival begins at 4:15 p.m.**

9. A sausage sizzle tea will operate between 6:30 and 7:00 p.m. (cost \$2.00). The canteen at the pool will also be operating where you can purchase various items. It would be appreciated if food from the canteen could be ordered when you arrive at the pool – but this is not essential.

10. The infants' events will cease at 6:30 p.m. At this time the parents of the infants children can either take their child home, or keep them at the pool for the sausage sizzle and the remaining carnival under their own supervision.

11. The carnival will finish by 8:15 p.m.

Once again there will be a Staff, Ex-Student, Parent Relay and also a free swim at tea time for everyone, so bring along your swimmers. To help make this carnival a success we will need **YOUR HELP!** Attached to this newsletter is a tear-off slip asking for people to assist as judges and cooks. Also, to assist with catering, we would like to know how many sausages your family will require. *Please return these notes by Monday, 6 February. As we have such a short turn around this year, we will need to order the food and send home rosters next Tuesday.* The staff looks forward to seeing you for a family night out at the pool on Wednesday.

STAFF/PARENT/EX-STUDENTS RELAY

The staff team is again in solid training and we'd appreciate some opposition. So come on, get your team organised and get into the water. We encourage our kids to have a go at lots of different things, so let's lead by example. The teachers promise to go easy on you!

SWIMMING HEATS

Heats for the length of the pool races for children in Years 2-6 have commenced and will continue on Monday and Tuesday next week with different strokes being held on different days. **All children are timed during these heats and the fastest six will swim in the final at the swimming carnival. At the carnival the first race of each event will be the final. Those children who do not make a final will still be given the opportunity to swim in the length of the pool races.** Students will be advised which stroke we will be doing on a particular day. All students entering length of the pool races should bring their swimmers on these days. The Western Region Swimming Carnival will be held in Coonamble on Tuesday, 21 February.

PUPIL FREE DAY – Thursday, 9 February

The day after the Twilight Swimming Carnival next week, ie, Thursday, 9 February, will be a pupil free day. Mathematics is an online Mathematics programme which we plan to implement this year. During this day Kellie Baker from Mathematics will instruct the staff on how to design lesson plans, the use of differentiation, the analysis of data and how to integrate this resource into our school.

NEXT WEEK'S ABOUT

Next week's About will go home on Friday due to the Pupil Free Day on Thursday.

2017 SCHOOL FEES

The Term 1 School Fee Accounts will go home next Friday. The Fee Statements will be emailed to those people who have supplied us with an email address and those who don't have access to email will be given to the eldest child with the About.

GOOD LUCK RHYS

We wish Rhys O'Neill the best of luck as he represents the Diocese of Bathurst in the NSW Catholic Primary Schools Polding Basketball Championships to be held in Newcastle next week. It is a fantastic achievement to reach this level of competition. Well done Rhys!

P & F ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our P & F AGM will be held at school on Tuesday, 21 February at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is most welcome to attend.

SEVERE REACTION TO NUTS

As some of our students have a 'nut' allergy, we ask that you refrain from sending nuts and nut products as part of school snacks and lunches. We appreciate your help in this matter.

CATHOLIC DEVELOPMENT FUND

School banking will commence next Tuesday, 7 February. Mrs Lorraine Hutchison is the agent for the CDF. All Kinder students received an application to open an account with the CDF today. If anyone else would like to start banking with the CDF please let Mrs Hodge know and she will give you an application.

ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL SMARTPHONE APP

Thanks to the generosity of our P & F Association we have a school app to enable parents to receive school information instantly and directly to their smartphone. This app has newsletters, general school information, details of upcoming events and also has an absentee form which enables parents to let us know the reason for their child's absence. Simply search for School Stream from the App Store (iPhone/iPad) or Play Store (Android) and download the app to your phone. Make sure you agree to push notifications. Once School Stream has finished installing, open the app, type St Joseph's School Gilgandra into the search and select. If you have any problems, contact Mrs Hodge in the office. We strongly recommend this app to all our parents/caregivers.

UNEXPLAINED ABSENCES

Just a reminder that if your child is absent from school, it is important that you let us know either via our school app, by phone or by note to the child's teacher, the reason for the absence. We are required by law to report any child who has more than 10 unexplained absences. We would be grateful for your assistance in this matter.

FAMILY INFORMATION/PERMISSION NOTE

Every child received a Family Information/Permission Note on Monday. These forms need to be completed and returned to school as soon as possible. Please note, a separate form must be completed for each child.

BUS TRAVEL APPLICATIONS

Our school has partnered with Transport for NSW to use the new online process for parents to submit school travel applications. The previous blue bus forms are no longer available. Applications for 2017 bus travel are now open via www.transportnsw.info/school-students

SCHOOL DRIVE SUBSIDY

The old private vehicle conveyance subsidy has now changed to the new School Drive Subsidy. This subsidy is available for students who travel by private vehicle from home to the bus stop. It is paid twice a year. Applications may be made online at www.transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive or phone 131500 for assistance.

CANTEEN

Our school canteen operates on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. When your child is ordering his/her lunch, please include only the lunch order on the lunch bags. Any 'extras' eg chips, ice blocks etc can be purchased by the children after lunch. For the benefit of new parents to our school this year, when ordering lunches please include on the lunch order your child's name, class and the order. The lunch bag, together with money, is then placed in the basket in the classroom when the children arrive at school.

CANTEEN VOLUNTEERS

A note went home on Monday asking for helpers in the canteen this year. If we get enough helpers, it usually means helping only once a term from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. When we get all the notes back a roster will be prepared. If anyone can help out in the first couple of weeks, please let Mrs Hodge know.

NEW PRICE LIST

A new canteen menu and price list went home on Monday. There have been a couple of price changes, so please destroy all previous canteen lists.

CRUNCH & SIP PROGRAM

Our 'Crunch & Sip' Program will continue this year in each classroom at 10:00 a.m. every day. At this time students take a five minute break in their class to have a drink of water and to eat some fruit. This is a voluntary activity and the water and fruit is brought from home. All fruit must be cut into bite-size pieces. Acceptable foods include apple, grapes, banana, carrots, celery sticks, sultanas, dried fruit, strawberries, cherry tomatoes. The purpose of this activity is to encourage healthy eating and to give the children an energy boost in the morning.

LIBRARY

Library classes will commence next week and the timetable is as follows:

Tuesday: Kinder, Year 6, Year 5.

Wednesday: Year 4, Year 3, Year 2, Year 1.

Each child must have a library bag. School library bags may be purchased from the school for \$4.00 each. The children received their first Book Club brochure this week. Scholastic have put Lucky, Arrow and Star into the one brochure, which means that the children are able to purchase books from all the different age levels. Please ensure that they have their name, class and the correct money with the order. Thank you. *Mrs Kilby*

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

The school newsletter, the 'About', is sent home with the eldest child in each family every Thursday. Please make sure you ask for your 'About' each Thursday to enable you to keep informed about what's happening at the school. The newsletter is also available each week on the school app.

NO HAT, NO PLAY

If your child does not have a hat, he/she will not be permitted to play on the playground. Please dress your child in a maroon school hat. All classes have been distributed with sunscreen.

PICKING UP CHILDREN FROM SCHOOL

A SAFETY ISSUE

Just a reminder that when picking up children from school to use the Wrigley Street entrance and not the Dudley Street entrance. The Dudley Street entrance is for buses only in the afternoon and it is too dangerous for children to be ducking between buses to leave school.

BACK TO SCHOOL ROAD SAFETY TIPS

It has been six weeks since road users have had to remember to slow down and look out for children around schools and forgetfulness and complacency can affect us all after an extended break. Drivers and riders should allow for children who may act unpredictably on the road as uncertainty and excitement over the new school year overrides otherwise sensible behaviour. Please remember to abide by School Zone speed limited of 40 km/h from 8:00 to 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 and 4:00 p.m.

CONGRATULATIONS LACHLAN

Congratulations to Lachlan Riley who was named Gilgandra's Sportsman of the Year at the Australia Day Celebrations held in Hunter Park last Thursday. Lachlan received his award for his outstanding sporting achievements last year, particularly in athletics. Well done Lachlan and all the best in high school!

THE DANCE ACADEMY

The Dance Academy will hold an enrolment day on Saturday, 18 February at the Gilgandra Shire Hall from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Classes for ballet, tap and jazz for girls and boys aged 3-10 years are offered. Phone 68451998 or 0447230079 or email danceacademywellington@outlook.com for an information pack.

WHAT'S ON IN TERM 1 (so far!)

WEEK 1

Friday, 3 February - Swimming Heats
- House Meetings – 2:00 p.m.

WEEK 2 - Year 6 Reconciliation

Monday, 6 February - Swimming Heats
- House Meetings – 2:00 pm.
Tuesday, 7 February - Swimming Heats
- House Meetings – 2:00 p.m.
Wednesday, 8 February - Twilight Swimming Carnival
Thursday, 9 February - Pupil Free Day – Athletics
Friday, 10 February - Polding Summer Sports Trials – Rhys O'Neill

WEEK 3

Wednesday, 15 February - 'Let's Stamp Out Bullying'
Performance – 2:00 p.m.
Thursday, 16 February - Year 2 Liturgy – 10:30 a.m.
Friday, 17 February - Principals' Meeting

WEEK 4

Tuesday, 21 February - Western Region Swimming Carnival –
Coonamble – St Joey's to host
- P & F AGM
Sunday, 26 February - Years 1 & 4 Sunday Mass – 9:45 a.m.

WEEK 5 - Catholic Schools Week

- **Year 4 Reconciliation**
Tuesday, 28 February - Pancake Tuesday
Wednesday, 1 March - Ash Wednesday Mass (K-6) 10:30 a.m.
Thursday, 2 March - Kinder Welcome Liturgy – (K-6) –
10:30 a.m.
Friday, 3 March - Clean Up Australia Day

WEEK 6

Wednesday, 8 March - Diocesan Swimming Carnival
- Support Teachers Meeting
Thursday, 9 March - Grandparents Day
- Support Teachers Meeting

WEEK 7 - Year 5 Reconciliation

Monday, 13 March - Kidslit Quiz - Orange
Friday, 17 March - St Patrick's Day Mass – Year 5
(Years 3-6) – 10:30 a.m.
- Year 5 to Cooee Lodge
- Diocesan Winter Sports Trials

WEEK 8

Monday, 20 March - St Joseph's Day Celebrations – Mass (K-
6) – 12:00 p.m. followed by celebrations
at the pool
- Principals' Meeting
Tuesday, 21 March - Moorambilla Trials – 9:00 Boys,
10:00 a.m. Girls at Gil Public School
- Principals' Meeting
Wednesday, 22 March - NSW CPS Swimming
Friday, 24 March - Diocesan Winter Sports Trials back-up
date
Saturday, 25 March - St Joseph's P & F Debutante Ball

WEEK 9

Monday, 27 March - School Photos
Wednesday, 29 March - Junior Joey's to visit Cooee Lodge
Thursday, 30 March - Year 3 Liturgy – 10:30 a.m.

WEEK 10 - Year 3 Reconciliation

Wednesday, 5 April - Kinder Cooee Visit – 11:00 a.m.
Friday, 7 April - Last Day Term 1
Sunday, 9 April - Palm Sunday

AROUND THE CLASSROOMS

KINDER Wow! What a wonderful start we have had to the school year. Kinder students have been busy learning our class rules with a particular focus on listening skills. We also explored the alphabet through the introduction of the terms 'vowels' and 'consonants'. During English we read "Diary of a Wombat" by Jackie French to learn about the different parts of a book. Kinder enjoyed singing about the 5 little monkeys and their 10 little fingers in Mathematics. We began our History unit for the semester, 'Personal and Family Histories' and next week the children will take home a blank family tree which I hope you will be able to help them complete. Reading for homework begins next week. Everyone is very excited about the swimming carnival on Wednesday – Go Gums!! I'm looking forward to a fantastic year. *Miss Phillipa Smith*

YEAR 1 Welcome to Year 1! It was wonderful to see everyone back at school on Monday with happy smiles and exciting stories to share about their holidays. We are all looking forward to a fun year together. This week we received our new books and started to colour in the cover pages. Some of these books will be sent home for covering this Friday and need to be returned on Monday whether or not they are covered, please. We enjoyed working on the laptops with Mr Keady, learning how to open a document and use the shift key to type our name. Our Literature unit this term is based on the author, Mem Fox. We have read "The Magic Hat" and completed some fun activities. We can't wait for the Twilight Swimming Carnival next Wednesday. Go the Kurras!
Mrs Alison Newstead

YEAR 2 Welcome back everyone and hello Year 2! I am looking forward to working with you all and I'm sure it will be a great year – there's lots to learn, lots to do and we'll have fun. We welcome Will O'Connor to our class and hope he enjoys being part of the St Joey's family. Everyone is very excited about the swimming carnival next Wednesday. It's sure been great swimming weather and best of luck to all the houses – Go Kurras! In the classroom Year 2 has been settling in to new routines and being great leaders for the Infants children. Keep up the terrific work. If books can be covered over the weekend and returned on Monday, it would be much appreciated. I'm looking forward to being your child's teacher and please don't hesitate to contact me at school if you wish to discuss your child's progress at any time. Have a wonderful weekend and stay cool!
Miss Lisa Harvey

YEAR 3 Welcome back everyone. It is wonderful to see all the happy faces as we begin a new school year. A special welcome to our St Joey's family to our new classmate, Charlotte Ferguson. Today we enjoyed the Investiture Mass with our new Year 6 leaders and a refreshing swim in the pool as we prepare for our Twilight Swimming Carnival next week. In class we have been busy colouring book covers and title pages and listening to stories by Dr Seuss as part of this term's Literature unit. We are looking forward to a fabulous year and please drop in and see us if you have any concerns. Have a lovely weekend. Go Gums! Go Cedars!
Mrs Meichelle Schier, Miss Belinda Bourke & Mrs Melinda Morris

YEAR 4 Welcome back to another fun filled year! This week Year 4 has hit the ground running as we have begun working on most of our key learning areas. In English we have been discussing why punctuation is important in our writing and trying to use it correctly as we write our holiday recounts. In Maths we have been learning some new ways to practise our times tables while in Art we have started to decorate our room by designing an 'all about me' poster. We are also eagerly anticipating the swimming carnival next Wednesday – let's hope the Cedars can make it two years in a row! I look forward to a great year with you all. Have a great weekend.
Mr Tim Keady

YEAR 5 How wonderful it was to see all the smiling faces on Monday and hear about the exciting adventures of the school holidays. After a lovely discussion about what lies ahead for us in 2017 and writing some personal goals, we got straight to work organising our books and learning how things should be set out. Books will be sent home on the weekend to be covered and returned on Monday. We can't wait for the swimming carnival next week. Go the red hot chilli Peppers! Homework will start next week and we look forward to working with everyone this year.
Mrs Dominica Banks & Mrs Nikkola Thomas

YEAR 6 Welcome back! I've heard many stories about lots of holiday fun and it sounds like everyone is excited to start the school year. In Religion we examined our 'Leaders' Pledge' and discussed the importance of us all being leaders of St Joey's, as well as our responsibilities. Year 6 students were very excited for our Investiture Mass today, we are ready to continue to be great leaders of our school. We sure knew how to lead by example for our Kinder buddies this week, there was lots of excitement when we found out who our buddies were. Good luck to everyone at our Twilight Swimming Carnival on Wednesday, I'm sure we will all give of our best. Books will be sent home on Friday to be covered. Please ensure all books are returned to school on Monday covered or uncovered so we can continue with our work. Year 6 is off to a wonderful start to the year!
Mr Damien Soares

CANTEEN ROSTER

Friday, 3 February – Belinda Murray & Jessica Whitehouse
Monday, 6 February – Emma Meyers & Rochelle Harmer
Wednesday, 8 February – Katherine Gaff
Friday, 10 February – Sheree Staggs & Simone Fordham

ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER

Sunday, 5 February - Pat Spora, Charlie Banks, Madison Hourigan, Amber Tarrant

2017 KINDERGARTEN/YEAR 6 BUDDIES

<i>Elsie Adams</i>	<i>Jessica Scholte</i>
<i>Georgia Allan</i>	<i>Tylah Anforth</i>
<i>Isabella Brand</i>	<i>Tayarna McKenzie</i>
<i>Caine Bugmy</i>	<i>Will Gaff</i>
<i>Finn Chapman</i>	<i>Finn Marchant</i>
<i>Oliver Christian</i>	<i>Bradley Kildey</i>
<i>Max Fiddes</i>	<i>Joshua Purvis</i>
<i>Ashley Gilmour</i>	<i>Laura Farragher</i>
<i>Jacob Fordham</i>	<i>Anton Davis</i>
<i>Lilly Hanson</i>	<i>Rani Diggs</i>
<i>Chloe Harris</i>	<i>Jinda Green</i>
<i>Jagger Hazelton</i>	<i>Rhys O'Neill</i>
<i>Amity Henry</i>	<i>Samantha Miller</i>
<i>Ryder Larkin</i>	<i>Will Fuller</i>
<i>Cooper Lummis</i>	<i>Marshall Fairey</i>
<i>David McIsaac</i>	<i>Patrick Spora</i>
<i>Jock Mills</i>	<i>Harrison King</i>
<i>Ben Mudford</i>	<i>Zac Ferguson</i>
<i>Elsie Mudford</i>	<i>Oli Schier</i>
<i>Mia Mudford</i>	<i>Olivia McClelland</i>
<i>Ivy Murphy</i>	<i>Jennifer Ibe</i>
<i>Brodie Nichols</i>	<i>Isaiah Gleadhill</i>
<i>Nikola Riley</i>	<i>Kelsey Hutchison</i>
<i>Ruby Ryan</i>	<i>Ella Wykes</i>
<i>Joe Staggs</i>	<i>Bradley Gibson</i>
<i>Matilda Tancred</i>	<i>Jennifer Ibe</i>
<i>Callan Tobin</i>	<i>Bradley Kildey</i>
<i>Anna Walker</i>	<i>Laura Younghusband</i>
<i>Clayton Wheatley</i>	<i>Jack Purvis</i>
<i>Baxter Whitehouse</i>	<i>Will Fuller</i>
<i>Jeremiah Woodrow</i>	<i>Mason Fryers</i>



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