



ABOUT

St Joseph's School Gilgandra

Term 1 Week 1

28 January, 2016

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 2016

Kinder	-	Miss Belinda Bourke
Year 1	-	Mrs Alison Newstead
Year 2	-	Mrs Meichelle Schier/Miss Lisa Harvey
Year 3	-	Mrs Dominica Banks/Mrs Melinda Morris
Year 4	-	Miss Phillippa Smith
Year 5	-	Mr Tim Keady
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, Mrs Sue Alchin
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 today 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

The Student Leaders' Investiture Mass for 2016 will be held next Thursday, 4 February at 10:30 a.m. in St Joseph's Church. At St Joseph's we consider all our Year 6 students to be leaders of our school and therefore all Year 6 students will be presented with a leader's badge. Everyone is welcome to attend this ceremony, particularly family and friends of the Year 6 students. Following the Mass morning tea will be served and we would appreciate it if all Year 6 parents could supply a plate for the morning tea.

IT'S A BOY!

Congratulations to Ashley and Nikkola Thomas on the safe arrival of their son, Lochie John, born on 18th December. Lochie is a brother to Indi. Our best wishes go to you all.

ST JOSEPH'S P & F DEBUTANTE BALL

Saturday, 19 March, 2016

The P & F Debutante Ball will be held at the Shire Hall on Saturday, 19 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 being held regularly. We will let you know next week when they will be held. Even if you can only spare an hour or so it would be greatly appreciated. So please try and be a part of this wonderful fundraiser.

TWILIGHT SWIMMING CARNIVAL

This year's twilight swimming carnival will be held next **FRIDAY, 5 FEBRUARY**. The following timetable for the carnival will be in operation:

1. Children come to school on Friday 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 3:20 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 3:45 p.m. the children will go to their Sports House Meetings to be held in the classrooms.
7. At 4:00 p.m. the staff and students walk down to the carnival together.
8. The carnival begins at 4:30 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 8:30 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. The staff looks forward to seeing you for a family night out at the pool.

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, 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 will commence tomorrow and continue on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday next week with different strokes being held on different days. **All children will be 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. If anyone could help time the heats from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. on any or all of these days, your help would be greatly appreciated. Please phone Mrs Hodge if you can help. The Western Region Swimming Carnival will be held in Coonamble on Thursday, 18 February.

P & F ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our P & F AGM will be held at school on Tuesday, 16 February at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is most welcome to attend.

CONGRATULATIONS ANDREW

Congratulations to parent and former P & F President, Andrew Schier who was awarded Gilgandra Citizen of the Year at the Australia Day Ceremony on Tuesday. This is a fabulous recognition of the tireless voluntary work Andy does in our community.

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. Your help in this matter is much appreciated.

CATHOLIC DEVELOPMENT FUND

School banking will commence next Tuesday, 2 February. Mrs Lorraine Hutchison is the agent for the CDF. All Kinder and new students to our school will receive an application to open an account with the CDF next week. If anyone else would like to start banking with the CDF please let Mrs Hodge know and she will give you an application.

LIBRARY

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

Tuesday: Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4.

Wednesday: Kinder, Year 1, Year 5 and Year 6.

Each child must have a library bag. School library bags may be purchased from the school for \$4.00 each. Next week your child will receive their first Book Club brochure for the year. 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 in 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.

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.

FAMILY INFORMATION/PERMISSION NOTE

Every child received a Family Information/Permission Note today. 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.

PRIVATE VEHICLE CONVEYANCE SUBSIDY

A subsidy is available for students who travel by private vehicle from home to the bus stop. It is paid twice a year. Application may be made online at transport.nsw.gov.au/pvc. Or you can obtain an application from Mrs Hodge.

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

Attached to today's newsletter is a note for those who would like to help out on 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 is with today's newsletter. There have been a couple of price changes, so please destroy all previous canteen lists.

CANTEEN CLEANING

Thank you to Mel Phillips, Kathryn Skinner and Paula Purvis who came in yesterday and gave the canteen a good clean in preparation for the new year. They also prepared food for the morning tea this morning. Your efforts are much appreciated.

CRUNCH & SIP PROGRAM

Our 'Crunch & Sip' Program will continue this year in each classroom at 10:00 a.m. every day. At this time each class takes 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.

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.

FREE TO GOOD HOME

Border Collie puppies. Contact Leesa Gilmour on 0488256926.

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

WEEK 1

Friday, 29 January - Swimming Heats

WEEK 2

Monday, 1 February - Swimming Heats
 Tuesday, 2 February - The Presentation of the Lord

- Swimming Heats
 - House Meetings – 2:00 p.m.

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

Thursday, 4 February - Investiture Mass – Year 6 (K-6) – 10:30 a.m.

- Swimming Heats
 - House Meetings

Friday, 5 February - Twilight Swimming Carnival

WEEK 3- Year 6 Reconciliation

Monday, 8 February - Manly Sea Eagles Visit – 1:30 p.m.

Tuesday, 9 February - Pancake Tuesday

Wednesday, 10 February - Ash Wednesday Mass – (K-6) – 10:30 a.m.

Friday, 12 February - Principals' Meeting

WEEK 4

Monday, 15 February - Dinosaur Science School Performance
 - Staff NAPLAN Analysis 3:30 – 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, 16 February - P & F AGM

Thursday, 18 February - Western Region Swimming Carnival Coonamble

Sunday, 21 February - Years 1 & 4 Sunday Mass – 9:45 a.m.

WEEK 5- Year 4 Reconciliation

Monday, 22 February - Staff NAPLAN Analysis 3:30 – 6:00 p.m.

WEEK 6-

Wednesday, 2 March - Diocesan Swimming Carnival
 - Staff Prayer – Ali

Thursday, 3 March - Kinder Welcome Liturgy – (K-6) – 10:30 a.m.

Friday, 4 March - Clean Up Australia Day

WEEK 7- Year 5 Reconciliation

Thursday, 10 March - Year 2 Liturgy – 10:30 a.m.

WEEK 8

Monday, 14 March - Principals' Meeting

Tuesday, 15 March - Principals' Meeting

Thursday, 17 March - St Patrick's Day Mass – Year 5 (Years 3-6) – 10:30 a.m.

Friday, 18 March - Diocesan Winter Sports Trials

Saturday, 19 March - Ball

Sunday, 20 March - Palm Sunday

WEEK 9

Monday, 21 March - St Joseph's Day – Mass (K-6) – 12:00 p.m. followed by celebrations at the pool

Wednesday, 23 March - Diocesan Winter Sports Trials back-up date

Thursday, 24 March - Holy Thursday

Friday, 25 March - Good Friday

Saturday, 26 March - Easter Saturday

Sunday, 27 March - Easter Sunday

WEEK 10 - Year 3 Reconciliation

Monday, 28 March - Easter Monday

Thursday, 31 March - Polding Swimming

WEEK 11

Monday, 4 April - School Photos
 - The Annunciation Mass – Year 3 (K-6) – 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, 6 April - Grandparents Day

Friday, 8 April - Last Day Term 1

AROUND THE CLASSROOMS

KINDER Welcome to all our new kindergarten students.

They certainly looked smart in their St Joseph's uniforms this morning ready to start their school year. We wish them all the very best. Today has been a very busy day with our swimming and I'm sure the children will enjoy that each week. The children will also be given their news day to begin next week. Just a reminder to make sure that all the children's belongings are labelled with their name. e.g. lunch box, drink bottle, jumpers etc. I look forward to a great year and working well with everyone. Take care. *Miss Bourke*

YEAR 1 Welcome back to another fantastic year at St Joseph's. It was lovely to see all your happy faces and hearing about your exciting and fun filled holiday. This term we will be very busy learning lots of new and interesting things. We have started by being introducing to our literature unit based around the Australian author, Mem Fox. She has written so many great books and we can't wait to read them. We have also started to colour our book covers so we can begin to cover them in clear contact. A note will be sent home regarding homework and any other important information to ensure the smooth running of our classroom. Have a great weekend. *Mrs Newstead*

YEAR 2 Welcome back everyone! It was wonderful to see so many smiling faces as the children returned to school. We are very excited to be working with you this year and are looking forward to getting to know everyone. This term our class theme is 'Pirates' – yo ho, ho! We will be spending lots of time reading, writing and creating pirate art. Have a lovely weekend. *Mrs Schier & Miss Harvey*

YEAR 3 How wonderful it was to see all the smiling faces this morning and hear about the exciting adventures of the school holidays. After a lovely discussion about what lies ahead for us in 2016, 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. Homework will start next week and we look forward to working with everyone this year. *Mrs Banks & Mrs Morris*

YEAR 4 Welcome back to a brand new year. It was great seeing all the fresh faces arrive today and hearing all about their eventful holidays. We have a big term ahead of us so we

started off by writing about our holidays and beginning our class novel "Nanberry" by Jackie French. We also began our Religion unit 'Living the Law of Love' by discussing groups we belong to and our rights and responsibilities in these groups. Some books will be sent home for covering this weekend and homework is set to start next week. Looking forward to a fantastic year ahead.

Miss Smith

YEAR 5 Welcome back everyone to another action packed year at St Joey's. It was great to see everyone so excited as we discussed the many things that we will get to do over the next 12 months. A note went home today outlining homework and books that are being sent home. If there are any problems please feel free to come and see me. I look forward to a thrilling year with Year 5 and getting to know you all. Have a fantastic weekend.

Mr Keady

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. Today we began preparing for our Investiture Mass which will be held next Thursday. Year 6 is very excited for this special event. We sure knew how to lead by example for our kinder buddies today! There was lots of excitement when we found out who our buddies were. 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 Soares

CANTEEN ROSTER

Friday, 29 January – Kristy Gale

Monday, 1 February – Katherine Gaff

Wednesday, 3 February – Volunteers required

Friday, 5 February – Volunteers required

ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER

Sunday, 31 January - Kyle Welsh, Zoe Welsh, Jacob Wilson, Ella McAnally-Elwin



**2016 KINDERGARTEN/YEAR 6
BUDDIES**

Brooke Beaton	Ashleigh Carlow
Scarlett Chandler	Billie Buckland
Tilla Chandler	Ella McAnally-Elwin
Alexander Cosier	Charlie Banks
Mana Diamond	Lachlan Riley
Mason Evans	Jacob Wilson
Alyssa Ferguson	Ella McAnally-Elwin
Mia Ferguson	Abby Tate
Xanthe Gale	Amber Tarrant
Jack Gibson	Mike Raglus
Sophie Gilmour	Amelia Murray
Kenedi Hazelton	Abby Tate
Makynli Hazelton	Emily Skinner
Jacqueline Hutchison	Aliza Purvis
Riley Hutchison	Tyler Evans
Angus Johnson	Tom Eason
Ava Lacey	Heidi Purvis
Poppy-Grace Newton	Amelia Murray
Hayden Nichols	James Ferguson
Evie Peart	Billie Buckland
Sophia Peart	Laura Smith
Alexia Riley	Mary Westwood
Sailor Ryan	Jett Grimshaw
Georgia Tancred	Olivia Ferguson
Violet Whitehouse	Madison Hourigan
Dimity Wykes	Emily Skinner
Layla Wykes	Mary Westwood
Lara Youngusband	Laura Smith
Vaughan Zell	Hamish Beveridge & Tom Durrant