



ABOUT

St Joseph's School Gilgandra

Term 1 Week 1

30 January 2020

www.stjosephsgilgandra.nsw.edu.au

Email: stjoevsgil@bth.catholic.edu.au

Thought for the Week

What Is Your Hope?

That your coming year be filled with magic and dreams and gratitude. Love others, show empathy and always surround yourself with positivity. Don't forget to read lots of books and write and draw and build and think and sing and play and laugh. And somewhere during the year make sure you surprise yourself!

WELCOME BACK

A very big welcome back to a brand new school year. We hope everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday and now look forward to a prosperous year. A special welcome to our new Kinder class and new students in other classes. We also welcome new staff member – Mrs Jacquie Clark (Teacher Year 4) and welcome back Mrs Haling in Year 3. We hope all the new members of our school family find their time at St Joey's enjoyable and rewarding.

STAFF FOR 2020

Kinder	-	Mrs Alison Newstead
Year 1	-	Mrs Melinda Morris
Year 2	-	Miss Lisa Harvey/ Miss Prue Giffin
Year 3	-	Mrs Donna Colwell/Mrs Phillipa Haling
Year 4	-	Mrs Jacquie Clark
Year 5	-	Mrs Meichelle Schier
Year 6	-	Mrs Dominica Banks/Mrs Nikkola Thomas/Mrs Mia van der Walt
Parish Priest	-	Fr Greg Kennedy
Principal	-	Mr Tony Musgrave
Assistant Principal/Religious Education Coordinator	-	Mrs Dominica Banks
Support Teacher	-	Mrs Sheree Spora
Executive Release/Library	-	Mrs Nikkola Thomas
RFF/Library	-	Mrs Helen McIsaac
Literacy/Numeracy Assistants	-	Mrs Cheryl Batten, Mrs Margie Stewart, Mrs Sue Alchin, Mrs Jacinta Ferguson
Aboriginal Education Worker	-	Mr Nunka Pearce
Secretary	-	Mrs Heather Hodge
Clerical Assistant	-	Mrs Toni Fuller
Cleaner	-	Mrs Christine Couley

CORONAVIRUS

The NSW Departments of Health and Education have recommended that any student who was in China over the past 14 days should not return to school this week, as the coronavirus' incubation period can be as long as two weeks. Students who returned to Australia more than 14 days ago and have shown no symptoms should be able to return to school this week.

CONGRATULATIONS MISS SMITH

Farewell Miss Smith and welcome Mrs Haling! Congratulations to Phillipa and Matt who were married during the holidays. We wish them both a lifetime of love, joy and happiness.

IT'S A GIRL!

Congratulations to Jess Seaman and Jake Morrissey on the safe arrival of Elly in the holidays. Elly is a little sister for Darcy and we wish the whole family all God's blessings.

FAREWELL MR KEADY

As we were all informed at the presentation night last year, Mr Keady has taken a permanent position at St Mary's Dubbo. Tim has been a wonderful teacher at Joey's for the last seven years. He was enthusiastic, well organised and prepared to do anything to benefit the children. We also appreciated Tim's expertise in the technology field, which has resulted in

our school being extremely well resourced. We wish Mr Keady all the best in his new adventure and thank him for being part of the Joey's family.

KINDER/YEAR 6 BUDDIES

It was an exciting time yesterday 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 at the back of today's newsletter.

STUDENT LEADERS' INVESTITURE MASS

The Student Leaders' Investiture Mass for 2020 will be held next Tuesday, 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 the family and friends of the Year 6 students. Following the Mass morning tea will be served and we would appreciate if all Year 6 parents could supply a plate for the morning tea.

NEW BUBBLERS

Thanks to the initiative of our Year 6 leaders last year new bubblers were installed during the holidays. This was made possible with funds from the Diocesan Capital Works fund and our school P & F Association. They look great, the water is cold and there is even an outlet to fill water bottles. Well done to our 2019 leaders.

CHICKEN POX

There have been reported cases of chicken pox at school which we ask you to be aware of and please keep an eye out for symptoms.

VALE LIONEL LARKIN

We were all very saddened to hear the news of the death of ex-student, Lionel Larkin during the holidays. Lionel was a wonderful young man who will always be remembered for his loyalty, respect, consideration of others, determination, politeness, love of his family and his amazing courage and persistence in always 'Giving Of His Best'. We continue to keep Lionel in our thoughts and prayers as we do Lionel's mother, Heather, who was an exceptional teacher for many years here at Joey's, his late father Chris, all his brothers and sisters, their partners, his nephews and nieces, other family members and friends. May he rest in peace.

TWILIGHT SWIMMING CARNIVAL

This year's twilight swimming carnival will be held next **WEDNESDAY, 5 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. The 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. At 3:25 p.m. the children will go to their Sports House Meetings to be held in the classrooms.
6. At 3:40 p.m. the staff and students walk down to the carnival together.
7. **The carnival begins at 4:15 p.m.**
8. A sausage sizzle tea will operate between 6:15 and 7:00 p.m. (cost \$2.00 – please don't send money to school before the carnival – just pay on the night).
9. The infants' events will cease at 6:00 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.
10. The carnival will finish by 8:00 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, 3 February. As we have such a short preparation time, we will need to order the food and send home rosters next Tuesday.*** Full canteen facilities will also be available on the night. The staff look 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 would 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 tomorrow and 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 Friday, 21 February.

PUPIL FREE DAY – Thursday, 6 February

The day after the Twilight Swimming Carnival next week, ie, Thursday, 6 February, will be a pupil free day. During this day staff members will be participating in professional development regarding assessment in mathematics. We will be familiarising ourselves with the new features of the Essential Assessment online resource, learning how to develop differentiated activities for students and investigating Reading and Writing Assessments.

NEXT WEEK'S ABOUT

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

2020 SCHOOL FEES

The Term 1 School Fee Accounts will be sent out next Friday. The Fee Statements will be emailed to those people who have supplied us with an email address and those who do not have access to email will be given to the eldest child with the About.

GOOD LUCK ETHAN & DARCY

We wish Ethan & Darcy Morris the best of luck as they represent the Diocese of Bathurst in the NSW Catholic Primary Schools Polding Basketball Championships to be held in Lismore next week. It is a fantastic achievement to reach this level of competition. Well done Ethan & Darcy!

P & F ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our P & F AGM will be held at school on Tuesday, 18 February at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is most welcome to attend.

ST JOSEPH'S P & F DEBUTANTE BALL

Saturday, 28 March 2020

The P & F Debutante Ball will be held at the Shire Hall on Saturday, 28 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 always lots of jobs in the lead up to the ball with working bees to be held at school. We will advise details of these working bees in the coming weeks.

LIBRARY

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

Monday: Year 1, Year 2, Year 5, Year 6.

Tuesday: Kinder, Year 3, Year 4.

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

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.

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, 4 February. All Kinder students will receive an application to open an account with the CDF as soon as we receive them. If anyone else would like to start banking with the CDF please let Mrs Hodge or Mrs Fuller know and they will give you an application form.

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, 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.

LATE ARRIVALS / EARLY DEPARTURES

If your child arrives to school late or is required to depart early, we ask that you please inform Mrs Hodge or Mrs Fuller in the office before proceeding to your child's classroom. We thank you for your assistance in this matter.

FAMILY INFORMATION/PERMISSION NOTE

Every child received a Family Information/Permission Note on Wednesday. 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 2020 bus travel are now open via www.transportnsw.info/school-students.

SCHOOL DRIVE SUBSIDY

The School Drive 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 by phoning 131500 for assistance or online at www.transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive.

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 during lunchtime. 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.

NEW PRICE LIST

A new canteen menu and price list has been sent home with today's About. Please destroy all previous canteen lists.

CANTEEN VOLUNTEERS

A tear-off slip has been attached to today's About 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. In the meantime, if anyone is available to help out in the canteen on Friday, 7 February please inform Mrs Hodge or Mrs Fuller in the office.

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 the School Zone speed limit of 40 km/h from 8:00 to 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 and 4:00 p.m.

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

WEEK 1

Friday, 31 January - Swimming Heats – 1:00 p.m.
- House Meetings – 2:00 p.m.

WEEK 2

Monday, 3 February - Swimming Heats – 1:00 p.m.
- House Meetings – 2:00 pm.
Tuesday, 4 February - Investiture Mass (K-6) – 10:30 a.m.
- Swimming Heats – 1:00 p.m.
- House Meetings – 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, 5 February - Twilight Swimming Carnival – 4:15 p.m.

Thursday, 6 February - Pupil Free Day
Friday, 7 February - Polding Summer Sports Trials –
Ethan & Darcy Morris

WEEK 3

Tuesday, 11 February - Big Science Big Fun Show – 2:00 to
3:00 p.m.

Friday, 14 February - Principal's Meeting - Compliance

WEEK 4

Tuesday, 18 February - Grandparents Day
- P & F AGM – 7:00 p.m.
Friday, 21 February - Western Region Swimming Carnival –
Coonamble

WEEK 5

Tuesday, 25 February - Pancake Tuesday
Wednesday, 26 February - Ash Wednesday Mass – (Years K-6) –
10:30 a.m.
- Child Protection Training (all staff) –
3:30 p.m.
Friday, 28 February - Clean Up Australia Day

WEEK 6

Tuesday, 3 March - Moorambilla Trials – 1:00 to 3:15 p.m.
Thursday, 5 March - Kinder Welcome Liturgy (Years K-6) –
10:30 a.m.

WEEK 7 Years 3 & 4 Reconciliation

Tuesday, 10 March - School Spelling Bee Trials – written
tests (Years 3-6)
Thursday, 12 March - Year 2 Liturgy – 10:30 a.m.

WEEK 8

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

Thursday, 19 March - St Joseph's Day Celebrations – Mass
K-6) – 12:00 p.m. followed by
celebrations at the pool

Friday, 20 March - Principals' Meeting
- Diocesan Winter Sports Trials

WEEK 9 Years 5 & 6 Reconciliation

Monday, 23 March - School Photos
Wednesday, 25 March - CPS Swimming – Homebush
- Annunciation Mass – Year 3 (K-6) –
10:30 a.m.

Saturday, 28 March - St Joseph's P & F Debutante Ball

WEEK 10

Tuesday, 31 March - School Spelling Bee Finals – Years 3/4
Thursday, 2 April - School Spelling Bee Finals – Years 5/6
- Cross Country Trials

Friday, 3 April - Diocesan Winter Sports Trials back-up
date

Sunday, 5 April - Palm Sunday

WEEK 11

Thursday, 9 April - Last Day Term 1
- Stations of the Cross (Years 3-6)
– 12:30 p.m.
- Infants Easter Egg hunt
- Portfolios home

Friday, 10 April - Good Friday

HOLIDAYS

Saturday, 25 April - ANZAC Day

CANTEEN ROSTER

Friday, 31 January - Simone Fordham & Sheree Staggs
Monday, 3 February - Tanya Hutchison
Wednesday, 5 February - Gai-Maree Younghusband & Amanda
Chandler
Friday, 7 February - **Volunteers Required**

ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER

Sunday, 2 February – Ethan & Darcy Morris

AROUND THE CLASSROOMS

KINDER A warm welcome to our new Kinders and their families! It was fabulous to see everyone begin their first year of school with big smiles and lots of enthusiasm. We will have a very busy and productive year in Kinder learning lots of new and exciting things. We began our week with meeting our Year 6 buddies. It was great to see our leaders for 2020 taking such good care of the new members of our Joey's family! This week we have been practising writing our first name and learning the sound "a". We have been trying hard to hold our pencils correctly with the help of our "pencil song". In Maths we loved singing "5 Cheeky Monkeys" and completing a number page in our booklet. It is great to see your child's name clearly written on their belongings as this makes it easier for everyone. Have a great weekend!

Mrs Alison Newstead

YEAR 1 It was lovely to see so many smiling faces arrive in Year 1 yesterday. We have had a great start to the year. We made some "All About Me" artworks to display in our room. We read "Possum Magic" the first book of our Mem Fox Literature unit and also created some cute possums to hang in our room. We enjoyed our swim today in this warm weather and are looking forward to the swimming carnival next week. Can you please send in a paint shirt for your child to use during Art. Some books will be sent home on Friday to be covered. Please return them on Monday even if they are uncovered. Homework will also begin next week. Enjoy the weekend.
Mrs Melinda Morris

YEAR 2 Welcome back to a new year! It was wonderful to hear plenty of fantastic stories from the holidays and we are looking forward to having a busy and fun year. We welcome a new member our class, Ellie McArd. Welcome to the Joey's family Ellie. This week, we are getting used to the new routines and the expectations of being an Infants leader. We have started writing recounts based on our holidays and we have been completing 'All About Me' booklets and drawing some great portraits of ourselves in Art. We are getting excited about the swimming carnival next Wednesday! Books will go home to be covered this weekend, please send them back on Monday even if you run out of time to cover them all. If you have any questions or concerns please contact us at school. Have a lovely weekend.
Miss Lisa Harvey/Miss Prue Giffin

YEAR 3 Welcome back everyone. It is wonderful to see all the happy faces as we begin a new school year. It certainly sounds like everyone had a wonderful holiday. Today we enjoyed 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. Our class welcome letter has gone home outlining routines and class organisation, please let us know if you haven't received one. Some books will be sent home to be covered tomorrow please ensure ALL books are returned on Monday even if they are uncovered. We look forward to a fun and rewarding year in Year 3! Have a lovely weekend.
Mrs Donna Colwell & Mrs Phillipa Haling

YEAR 4 has had a brilliant start to 2020. Thank you everyone for making me feel so welcome. We have been doing activities based on getting to know each other. One of the activities involved designing a t-shirt which highlights our favourite things. We have also been getting creative with designing our own desk and tub labels. The novel we will be reading this term is "Nanberry" by Jackie French. Today we read the outline and had some interesting discussions on what the book may be about. Swimming has started and we are getting excited about the swimming carnival next week! I look forward to a busy year with Year 4 and being a member of the St Joey's community. Have a wonderful weekend.
Mrs Jacquie Clark

YEAR 5 Welcome back. It was great to see everyone happy and keen to begin a new school year. This year we welcome a new class member, Abi McArd. We hope Abi and her family really enjoy being part of the St Joseph's family. This week we have written a recount sharing our holiday adventures and have begun revising punctuation in Grammar. In Maths we investigated angles, addition and multiplication in preparation for homework which starts next week. We have also started reading our class novel "The Donkey Who Carried The Wounded" by Jackie French – a story about John Simpson Kirkpatrick and his heroic deeds in Gallipoli. We are looking forward to welcoming our 2020 Year 6 leaders at the Investiture Mass on Tuesday and the Twilight Swimming Carnival on Wednesday. Go Gums!!
Mrs Meichelle Schier

YEAR 6 Our first few days back to school have started with lots of smiles and enthusiasm. Year 6 students greeted their buddies on Wednesday morning and have enjoyed getting to know them and helping them settle in. Year 6 has written some goals for 2020 and it was wonderful to read the mature and reflective responses from our leaders. We have started preparations for our Investiture Mass and are working hard to learn the "Leader's Pledge" off by heart. We look forward to this special celebration next Tuesday.
Mrs Dominica Banks, Mrs Nikkola Thomas & Mrs Mia van der Walt

2020 KINDERGARTEN/YEAR 6 BUDDIES

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Nykea Aldridge | - Jessie Riley & Grace Jones-Copelin |
| Taylor Alexander | - Abigail Davis & Tahleigh Davey |
| Mia Buckley | - Millie Spora & Sienna Zell |
| Oliver Buckley | - Lochie Henry |
| Hugo Campbell | - Rydah Whitehouse |
| Katie Colwell | - Emilia Peart & Jordan Neeves |
| Charlie Cruickshank | - Charlie Zell & Ethan Morris |
| Tiaki Diamond | - Ryder Ryan & Sam Dunn |
| Zoe Fiddes | - Trinity Zell & Beatie Davis |
| Regan Godber | - Charlotte Ferguson |
| Bella Hammond | - Molly Nichols |
| Laycee Hazelton | - Taylor Hayes & Kimbalee Gilmour |
| Jack Howard | - Rhyann Hutchison |
| Rose Howard | - Alex Gaff & Lilla Oehm |
| Charlie Jones-Copelin | - Shane Estens |
| Dusty Jordan | - Blake Fairey |
| Maci Lomax | - Tia Allan |
| William Luckie | - Declan Gale |
| Lleyton Lummis | - Henry Purvis |
| Pearl Mudford | - Ella Mudford & Eva Bonnington |
| Archie O'Connor | - Will Youngusband |
| Alice Peart | - Grace Tancred & Brooke Woollams |
| Georgia Riley | - Rani Diamond & Dakotah Gilmour |
| Nate Temple | - Nick Kirsop |
| Beatrix Volkofsky | - Alison Mudford |



