



ABOUT

St Joseph's School Gilgandra

Term 1 Week 1

31 January, 2019

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 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 – Miss Jess Seaman (Teacher Year 6). We hope all the new members of our school family find their time at St Joey's enjoyable and rewarding.

STAFF FOR 2019

Kinder	-	Mrs Alison Newstead
Year 1	-	Mrs Melinda Morris/Miss Phillipa Smith
Year 2	-	Miss Lisa Harvey
Year 3	-	Mrs Donna Colwell/Mrs Meichelle Schier
Year 4	-	Miss Prue Giffin
Year 5	-	Mr Tim Keady/Mrs Dominica Banks/Mrs Nikkola Thomas
Year 6	-	Miss Jess Seaman
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 Dawn Cooper/Mrs Christine Couley

FAREWELL MR SOARES

Sadly we farewelled Mr Soares in the holidays as he accepted a permanent teaching position at Mendooran. Damien has been a member of the staff since 2013, teaching Year 3 and Year 6 during this time and we thank him for his dedication and the wonderful contributions he has made to our school. We wish Damien every success and happiness in his new venture.

REFURBISHMENTS

School was very busy during the school holidays with lots of refurbishments. We thank builder, Peter Hazelton and all the local tradesmen who have extended our undercover area on the playground and laid synthetic turf. It is fabulous and was very welcoming when we returned to school during this hot weather. Also the staffroom has been transformed into a very modern and spacious area and looks amazing. Jeremy Ryan and Clint Morris replaced the roof on the Resource Room and David Corcoran and Michael Scholte painted the canteen and amenities exterior as well as new lines on the handball court. We had trees pruned and sprinklers moved. As you can see it was a very busy time. The funds for these projects were made available from the Diocese of Bathurst's Capital Works Fund as well as a much appreciated contribution from Southern Cross Agricultural Exports and our P & F Association. Please feel free to call in when you are at school and have a look.

KINDER/YEAR 6 BUDDIES

It was an exciting time on Tuesday 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 2019 will be held next Monday, 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.

TWILIGHT SWIMMING CARNIVAL

This year's twilight swimming carnival will be held next **WEDNESDAY, 6 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. 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 – please don't send money to school before the carnival – just pay on the night).
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, 4 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 Thursday, 21 February.

PUPIL FREE DAY – Thursday, 7 February

The day after the Twilight Swimming Carnival next week, ie, Thursday, 7 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.

2019 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 JORDAN

We wish Jordan Neeves the best of luck as she represents the Diocese of Bathurst in the NSW Catholic Primary Schools Polding Cricket Championships to be held in Newcastle next week. It is a fantastic achievement to reach this level of competition. Well done Jordan!

P & F ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our P & F AGM will be held at school on Tuesday, 19 February at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is most welcome to attend.

ST JOSEPH'S P & F DEBUTANTE BALL **Saturday, 30 March 2019**

The P & F Debutante Ball will be held at the Shire Hall on Saturday, 30 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: Kinder, Year 5, Year 6.

Tuesday: Year 1, Year 2, 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.

SPORT SHORTS

School sport shorts have been on order for quite some time now, however unfortunately they have been delayed. We will place a snippet in the About when they arrive.

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, 5 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

We have a new procedure in place with regards to late arrivals and early departures. If your child arrives to school late or is required to depart early, we now ask that you please inform Mrs Hodge or Mrs Fuller in the office and not the classroom teacher. 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 2019 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 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 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. There have been a few price changes and a couple of new items added, so please destroy all previous canteen lists.

CANTEEN VOLUNTEERS

A note has been sent home with 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 next Monday, Wednesday or Friday, 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 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, 1 February - Swimming Heats – 1:15 p.m.
- House Meetings – 2:00 p.m.

WEEK 2

- Monday, 4 February - Investiture Mass (K-6) – 10:30 a.m.
- Swimming Heats – 1:15 p.m.
- House Meetings – 2:00 pm.
- Tuesday, 5 February - Swimming Heats – 1:15 p.m.
- House Meetings – 2:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, 6 February - Twilight Swimming Carnival – 4:15 p.m.
- Thursday, 7 February - Pupil Free Day
- Friday, 8 February - Polding Summer Sports Trials – Jordan Neeves

WEEK 3

- Friday, 15 February - Principal's Meeting - Compliance

WEEK 4

- Tuesday, 19 February - Grandparents Day

- Thursday, 21 February - Western Region Swimming Carnival – Coonamble

WEEK 5

- Tuesday, 26 February - Moorambilla Trials 2:00 – 3:15 p.m.
- Thursday, 28 February - Year 2 Liturgy – 10:30 a.m.
- Friday, 1 March - Diocesan Swimming Carnival
- Clean Up Australia Day

WEEK 6

- Tuesday, 5 March - Pancake Tuesday
- Wednesday, 6 March - Ash Wednesday Mass – (Years 3-6) – 10:30 a.m.
- Thursday, 7 March - Kinder Welcome Liturgy – 10:30 a.m.

WEEK 7

- Tuesday, 12 March - School Spelling Bee Trials – written tests (Years 3-6)
- Wednesday, 13 March - Support Teachers Meeting – Dubbo
- Thursday, 14 March - Support Teachers Meeting – Dubbo
- Friday, 15 March - St Patrick's Day Mass – Year 5 (Years 3-6) – 10:30 a.m.

WEEK 8 **Years 3 & 4 Reconciliation**

- Tuesday, 19 March - St Joseph's Day Celebrations – Mass K-6) – 12:00 p.m. followed by celebrations at the pool
- Thursday, 21 March - Principals' Meeting
- Friday, 22 March - Principals' Meeting

WEEK 9 **Years 5 & 6 Reconciliation**

- Monday, 25 March - School Photos
- Tuesday, 26 March - School Performance – 'Quest for the Ultimate Rhythm' – 2:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, 27 March - CPS Swimming - Homebush
- Thursday, 28 March - Annunciation Mass – Year 3 (K-6) – 10:30 a.m.
- Friday 29 March - Diocesan Winter Sports Trials
- Saturday, 30 March - St Joseph's P & F Debutante Ball

WEEK 10

- Tuesday, 2 April - School Spelling Bee Finals – Years 3/4
- Wednesday, 3 April - Diocesan Winter Sports Trials back-up date
- Thursday, 4 April - School Spelling Bee Finals – Years 5/6

WEEK 11

- Thursday, 11 April - School Cross Country Trials – 11:20 a.m.
- Friday, 12 April - Last Day Term 1
- Stations of the Cross (Years 3-6) – 12:30p.m.
- Infants Easter Egg hunt
- Portfolios home
- Sunday, 14 April - Palm Sunday

HOLIDAYS

- Friday, 19 April - Good Friday
- Thursday, 25 April - ANZAC Day
- Friday, 26 and Saturday, 27 April - Gilgandra Show

AROUND THE CLASSROOMS

KINDER What a fabulous start to Kindergarten! It was wonderful to see so many happy, smiley faces on Wednesday as we welcomed our new Kinders for 2019. Thank you to all the mums, dads, grandparents and family who came along to support and encourage their children. We have settled so well into our busy routine and were very excited to meet our Year 6 buddies who will help guide us through the year. This term we will be reading nursery rhymes together and completing lots of fun activities. We are looking forward to our swimming carnival next Wednesday too. Thank you to everyone for making our first week in Kinder so special! Have a great weekend.
Mrs Alison Newstead

YEAR 1 It was lovely to see so many happy smiling faces in Year 1 yesterday! We enjoyed a great start to the year hearing lots of holiday stories, creating an artwork 'All About Me' and reading our first Mem Fox book, 'Possum Magic'. We have also created some cute possums to display in our classroom. Today we enjoyed swimming for sport and are all looking forward to the swimming carnival next Wednesday. Homework will begin next week with a note detailing what is to be completed. We look forward to a busy and fun year in Year 1. Enjoy the weekend.

Mrs Melinda Morris & Miss Phillipa Smith

YEAR 2 Welcome back everyone to a hot and busy Term 1. It has been great hearing about your holidays. In the classroom we are writing a recount of our holiday adventures and sharing stories in News. During Religion we discussed what a leader is and how important it is to lead by example. Maths challenged us with addition facts, calendar months and halves. The Literature unit this term is "Pirates", so if you have any books or toys / games about pirates, please send them in. We are looking forward to the swimming carnival next Wednesday – the weather is perfect! Have a wonderful week and I look forward to catching up with you all during the year.
Miss Lisa Harvey

YEAR 3 Welcome back everyone. It is wonderful to see all the happy faces as we begin a new school year. 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 me know if you have not received one. Some books have been sent home to be covered and more will go home tomorrow. Please ensure ALL books are returned on Monday even if they are uncovered. We look forward to a fun and rewarding time in Year 3! Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Donna Colwell & Mrs Meichelle Schier

YEAR 4 Welcome back everyone! It has been wonderful to see you all and hear that you had a safe and happy holiday. Year 4 has been getting back into the swing of things this week by starting some addition and multiplication in Maths. We have been getting creative by writing stories entitled 'That's Good That's Bad' and we have been organising our books for the year. Our Science topic for the term is 'Food and Fibre'. In Library on Tuesday students will be looking at how to make slideshows and digital sequences. We are all getting really excited about our swimming carnival next week! Good luck everyone! Have a wonderful weekend.

Miss Prue Giffin

YEAR 5 How wonderful it was to see all the smiling faces yesterday and hear about the exciting adventures of the school holidays. After a lovely discussion about what lies ahead for us in 2019 and writing some personal goals, we got straight to work organising our books and learning how things should be set out. We warmed up our mathematical brains with some revision of the 4 operations and challenged our literary minds by writing some sizzling starts. 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.

Mr Tim Keady, Mrs Dominica Banks & Mrs Nikkola Thomas

YEAR 6 has had a wonderful first week catching up with one another and I have enjoyed meeting them all. We have hit the ground running, with preparations in place for the Investiture Mass next Monday. Students are excited to receive their leadership badge and Duty Statements. We have also been busy memorising our Leader's Pledge and discussing our role as leaders in our school and look forward to making our school community proud. Year 6 has formed wonderful friendships with their Kinder Buddies and are loving the responsibility of showing them around the school and taking care of them. The students are excited about the upcoming twilight swimming carnival, with many discussing their house war chants already! Next week will be a busy week as we resume Library with Mrs Thomas, PDH with Mr Musgrave and Science with Mrs McIsaac.

CANTEEN ROSTER

Friday, 1 February – Lorraine Hutchison & Jo Lummis
Monday, 4 February – Ashleigh Mudford & **Volunteer Required**
Wednesday, 6 February – **Volunteers Required**
Friday, 8 February – **Volunteers Required**

ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER

Sunday, 3 February – Emily Zell & Molly Fairey

2019 KINDERGARTEN/YEAR 6 BUDDIES

Darcy Adams	-	William Spora and Ryan Ferguson
Mitchell Beaton	-	Hayden Ferguson and Nick Tancred
Estelle Hazelton	-	Lucy Kilpatrick
Chloe Heffer	-	Alana Elsom
Charlie Howard	-	Jett Tarrant
Mack Hutchison	-	Nick Gale
Francis Ibe	-	Casey Gaff
Regan Johnson	-	Cameron Davis
Sophie Lacey	-	Ava Meyers and Jasmine Zell
Clancy Larkin	-	Billie Allan
Parker Leven	-	Lucas Gleadhill and Ben Standing
Jakirah McKenzie	-	Grace Winter
Oscar Medd	-	Jett Chandler and Elten Walker
Hannah Meers	-	Lucy McIsaac
Adelaide Mudford	-	Grace Winter
Tex Mudford	-	Harry Mudford
Elijah Newton	-	Ben Harland
Layla Walker	-	Lucy Kilpatrick
Neve Walker	-	Paige Gilmour
Caitlin Younghusband	-	Ava Meyers
Roxy Zell	-	Samantha Naden



