



ABOUT

St Joseph's School Gilgandra

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Term 1 Week 7

12 March 2020

Thought for the Week

A mind is like a parachute... it does not work if it is not open!

ST PATRICK'S DAY MASS – TUESDAY, 17 MARCH

Years 3-6 will be attending the St Patrick's Day Mass that will be celebrated on **Tuesday, 17 March** at 10:30 a.m. in St Joseph's Church. This Mass is being prepared by Year 5. All are most welcome to attend. Please bring a plate to share for morning tea which will follow Mass.

ST JOSEPH'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

We have planned a day full of fun and celebrations for Thursday, 19 March to celebrate St Joseph's Day. St Joseph is certainly a special saint for all of us at St Joseph's and we want to honour him on this special day. So if you would like to join us for part or all of the day, you are most welcome. Our timetable is as follows: **12:00 noon** – Mass **1:00 p.m.** - Class picnics at pool **1:30 p.m.** - Year 6 Synchronised Swimming, dancing in the pool, biscuit fun and a free swim. **SKI BISCUITS AND ROPES ARE REQUIRED** for St Joseph's Day. As in the past we hope to have lots of fun on the ski biscuits at the pool. If you are able to loan us a biscuit with ropes, could you please let us know.

DIOCESAN WINTER SPORTS TRIALS

Over the past couple of weeks we have been running trials at school for all those Year 5 and 6 students who are interested in attending the Diocesan Winter Sports Trials to be held in Bathurst on **Friday, 20 March**. The sports include rugby league, netball, soccer and rugby union. The sportsmanship and enthusiasm of every single child has been absolutely fantastic. The children who have been selected have been provided with a permission note and various information. Please complete and return the permission note to school by tomorrow, Friday 13 March. Please also ensure that you register your child on the Catholic Schools NSW Sport Portal by following the instructions on the information sheet provided.

CITY OF DUBBO EISTEDDFOD

Individual entries for the City of Dubbo Eisteddfod are now being received. Children who wish to enter a section for their age group should fill in the tear-off slip that was attached to the Week 5 About and return it to Mrs Hodge or Mrs Fuller at school no later than next Wednesday, 18 March. The age of the child shall be taken as at 31 December, 2020, ie, the age the child is turning this year. The school will assist any children wishing to enter the eisteddfod with their selection of a poem. Transport to individual events must be arranged by the parents. The proposed dates for the individual speech and drama section are 9 to 12 June.

KINDER/YEAR 1 NURSERY RHYMES

At the Dubbo Eisteddfod in June, Kinder and Year 1 children (six years and under) are invited to enter the singing section – Nursery Rhymes in Costume. In the past, children who have entered have enjoyed it greatly and gained much from the experience. If your child wishes to enter you must be prepared to take your child to Dubbo on the day and prepare the costume. We will help find a rhyme and teach it at school. If you wish your child to participate, you might also complete the tear-off slip that was attached to the Week 5 About and return it to Mrs Hodge or Mrs Fuller at school by next Wednesday, 18 March. The proposed dates for the nursery rhymes is 3 to 5 June.

CORONAVIRUS - COVID-19 - UPDATE

Accompanying today's About is a letter from the Executive Director of Schools, Christina Trimble, regarding the Coronavirus. At school we have been discussing the importance of washing our hands with soap and when we cough we should do so into our elbow or a tissue. We encourage all families to reinforce these simple practices.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos will be taken on Monday, 23 March. Last week, each child was given an envelope with full details regarding price and products available. To order your photos online go to www.advancedlife.com.au before photo day and enter our school code: 7Q9 5JT KQZ at the top of the page. Then just follow the prompts. You do not need to return your child's envelope if

ordering online. You can also make payments by cash or cheque and must be returned in the envelopes provided. A separate envelope must be used for each child. **ALL PHOTOS NEED TO BE PAID FOR PRIOR TO PHOTO DAY.** The money for photos may be returned to school at any time. If you have more than one child at school and would like a family photo taken, special envelopes are available from the office.

ST JOSEPH'S P & F DEBUTANTE BALL

Saturday, 28 March

Only Two Weeks Away!

This is one of our major fundraisers for the year and **WE NEED LOTS OF HELPERS.** Helpers are needed on Wednesday, 25 March, Thursday, 26 March and Friday, 27 March from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. to help decorate the hall and set up tables etc. On Sunday, 29 March, the morning after the ball, we need helpers to pull down the smoking area and clean up. Also needed on the night of the ball are people to assist in the bar and kitchen. People actually attending the ball may like to give up an hour of their time, while those not attending may be able to give a couple of hours. **SO FAR WE HAVE HAD OFFERS OF HELP FROM ONLY 13 FAMILIES FROM OUR SCHOOL!** As such, we are sending home another note with today's About. If you haven't already done so, could you please put your name down to help out in some way and return it to school by next Thursday, 19 March. **Please support this school fundraiser by purchasing your tickets at Kelly & Astill Lawyers or better still, why not get your friends together for a great night out and book a table! Tickets are \$40.00 each.**

CLEANING UP AFTER THE BALL

One of the least favourite jobs each year seems to be cleaning up after the ball on Sunday morning. If we could get 20 volunteers then it would all be done in two hours. Any less than 20 and the poor old volunteers are there all day. We really need 20 helpers on the Sunday. Please help!

EAR BUS

Representatives from the Hear Our Heart Ear Bus Project will be visiting our school on Wednesday, 18 March to deliver their free healthy ears program and targeted hearing testing. This is a project run by the Dubbo District Parent Support Group for Deaf/Hearing Impaired. This group of dedicated local volunteers have been fundraising since 2012 to pay appropriate professionals to bring healthy ears lessons and free hearing testing back into our schools to help our children achieve better learning outcomes.

VOLUNTEERS WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK

The Catholic Education Diocese of Bathurst requires that all parents volunteering on school trips involving an overnight stay must provide a volunteers Working With Children Check. There is no cost for a volunteer WWCC and they are valid for five years. As it may save time in the future, parents may be interested in applying for a WWCC now. The process is as follows:-

1. Complete an online application at: www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au.
2. Take their WWCC application number and proof of identity to a NSW Motor Registry, RMS Agency or Service NSW office to complete the application process.
3. On receipt of their WWCC number, provide the school with a copy of the notification received from the Office of the Children's Guardian, together with a copy of their driver's licence or other photo identification.

ATTENDANCE SNIPPET

Good attendance at school is linked to academic success. We are therefore asking for all parents/carers support in ensuring that pupils achieve the highest possible attendance. You can do

this by bringing your child to school EVERY DAY unless your child is too ill to attend.

MERIT AWARDS

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

KINDER: **Zoe Fiddes** for super story writing, **Taylor Alexander** for neat colouring in your Sound Book, **Regan Godber** for drawing detailed and colourful illustrations and **Lleyton Lummis** for being a happy and cheerful member of Kinder.

YEAR 1: **Sophie Lacey** for sensational work in Story Writing, **Chloe Heffer** for great sounding out in Phonics and **Layla Walker** for having beautiful manners.

YEAR 2: **Chloe Alexander** for trying hard to share strategies to solve tricky Maths questions, **Lucy Profke** for a fantastic effort with morning reading, **Mackenzie Skinner** for working really well in MiniLit with Mrs Alchin and **Alana Spora** and **Harry Thurlow** for fabulous work in Problem A Day and Operations.

YEAR 3: **Isla Volkofsky** for using her creative imagination when writing narratives, **Baxter Whitehouse** for being a Literacy Pro reading champion, **Anna Walker** and **Mia Mudford** for writing great "Green Eggs and Ham" inspired poems.

YEAR 4: **Ava Lacey** for her consistent positive attitude towards all tasks, **Lara Younghusband** for her cheerful approach to all learning areas, **Jacqueline Hutchison** for enthusiasm and positivity in the classroom which is appreciated by everyone and **Kenedi Hazelton** for fantastic progress in Spelling.

YEAR 5: **Stuart Wheatley** for a great effort in completing Maths tasks, **Brody Heffer** for always being willing to have a go at difficult tasks, **Adi Thomas** for her positive attitude to all class activities and **Stella Valler** for a fabulous 'pop art' portrait.

YEAR 6: **Grace Jones-Copelin** for making a consistent effort to read every morning, **Alison Mudford** for great work in Problem A Day and Operations, **Will Younghusband** for a great effort in Maths learning long division, **Charlie Zell** for having a happy and cheerful attitude every day and **Sienna Zell** for beautifully presented bookwork.

WHAT'S ON

WEEK 8

- Tuesday, 17 March - St Patrick's Day Mass – Year 5 (Years 3-6) – 10:30 a.m.
- Wednesday, 18 March - Hear Our Heart Ear Bus – 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.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 3, 4, 5 & 6 Reconciliation

- Monday, 23 March - School Photos
- NAPLAN Online Practice Test – Years 3 and 5
- Wednesday, 25 March - 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
- Wednesday, 1 April - School Spelling Bee Finals – Years 5/6
- Thursday, 2 April - Cross Country Trials
- Moorambilla Trials 1:00 – 3:15 p.m.
- Friday, 3 April - Diocesan Winter Sports Trials back-up date
- Sunday, 5 April - Palm Sunday

WEEK 11

- Tuesday, 7 April - P & F Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday, 9 April - Last Day Term 1
- Stations of the Cross (Years 3-6) – 12:30 p.m.
- Infants Easter Egg hunt
- Friday, 10 April - Good Friday

AROUND THE CLASSROOMS

KINDER This week in Religion, Kinder enjoyed reading the parable of "The Good Shepherd". We were reminded that Jesus is like a shepherd who takes care of us, His flock and He loves us very much. We are trying hard to stretch out words sound by sound and then put the word back together again as this helps us with our reading and writing. In Maths we have sorted and described 2D shapes focusing on the features of circles and identified containers that were full, empty and nearly full. During Science we enjoyed the opportunity to use robots. We programmed the robots to move forwards and backwards to reach a certain location. Just a reminder to bring in a paint shirt if you haven't already done so. This can be an old shirt from home that is no longer needed.

We are all looking forward to our St Joseph's Day celebrations next week. Have a lovely weekend!

Mrs Alison Newstead

YEAR 1 In Maths we have been adding numbers on number lines, counting and representing numbers to 30 and we enjoyed using counters to determine if numbers were odd or even. We have continued learning about adjectives and have been using adjectives to describe a pirate - Tough Boris. "Tough Boris" by Mem Fox is our book this week. We have been looking at the structure of a narrative and are writing a class narrative about a pirate. We have finished painting our wizard artworks. We are looking forward to celebrating St Joseph's Day next week. Have a great weekend.

Mrs Melinda Morris

YEAR 2 Thank you to all of our parents, family and friends who came along today to help celebrate our Liturgy about 'God's Creation'. Well done Year 2, you all did a fantastic job with the readings and participated reverently in the reflection. During the week we have looked at division and multiplication in Maths. We have also started studying narratives in Text Types and enjoyed retelling the story of "Little Red Riding Hood". Next week we are excited about all the fabulous activities we have planned for St Joseph's Day. What a week we have coming up! Have a lovely weekend.

Miss Lisa Harvey & Miss Prue Giffin

YEAR 3 Wow, Week 7 already! Where has the term gone? During Religion we have explored what Lent symbolises and how important it is to think about others. During English we have looked at the 'o, oa' sound and in Spelling we have begun using a program called 'Spelling City' to complete spelling activities on the chromebooks. In Text Types we have written fantastic narratives about 'The Box.' Year 3 has tried really hard to follow the sequence of writing a narrative and to include more difficult vocabulary into their pieces. In Maths we have been focusing on the division symbol, jump strategy for addition and parallel lines and we have begun using an extension folder based on some Essential Assessment Maths activities. In Science we have melted choc chips, honey, cordial and a chocolate tim tam and we observed the changes in them. Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Donna Colwell & Mrs Phillipa Haling

YEAR 4 We have had a very busy week in Year 4. Our completed artwork has been displayed in the classroom and our patterned name art looks fantastic. The class novel, 'Nanberry' has introduced us to Rachel, a convict girl sent to the New South Wales settlement. Mathematics has included consolidating our knowledge of time, rounding numbers and multiplication. The Grammar focus this week has been adverbs. We have worked hard at developing sentences that are interesting and exciting to read. Narrative writing continues with some amazing stories being written about a school camp. In Science we are planting seeds and learning about what plants need to grow. Have a fantastic weekend everyone.

Mrs Jacquie Clark

YEAR 5 A big thank you to Gilgandra High School for having us visit their school on Tuesday for their Open Day. We all had a fabulous time and enjoyed all the activities on offer. In Grammar this week we are revising verbs and have continued working on expositions in Text Types. We have also begun typing up our speeches 'All About Me' in preparation to present these in the coming weeks. Next week we are celebrating St Patrick's Day with a Mass and hope all of our family and friends can join us on Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. During our St Joseph's Day Mass the Year 5 Junior Joey's will be presented with their badges as they prepare to live in the Josephite spirit and 'go out and give back' to our wonderful community. Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Meichelle Schier

YEAR 6 On Tuesday we visited Gilgandra High School to participate in their Open Day. We enjoyed all the activities - giving us a little taste of what High School is like! Year 6 also enjoyed a visit from Prakash Aryal who spoke to us about life in Nepal. We thank the Bonnington family for inviting Prakash to our classroom. The excitement is building as we prepare for the Joey's Day festivities next week! We have been enthusiastically practising our synchronised swimming routine and next week we will be doing some lunch time practises at the pool! During Maths we have been looking at number patterns, circumference and area of a circle and long division. In Grammar we have focused on conjunctions and identified the different types. We have even been noticing them as we continue to read our class novel "Stormbreaker".

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

CANTEEN ROSTER

- Friday, 13 March – Tracey Riley & Danelle Jones
- Monday, 16 March – Lara Zell & Stacey Thomas
- Wednesday, 18 March – Alicia Harrison & Anna Peart
- Friday, 20 March – Sarah Adams & Rebecca Medd

ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER

- Sunday, 15 March – Nick Gale & Declan Gale

