ST JOSEPH’S P & F DEBUTANTE BALL
Saturday, 21 March
Presentation of Debutantes – 8:00 p.m.
Many thanks to those who have volunteered to work at the Ball. If you have not volunteered yet, it’s not too late. More helpers are still needed particularly to tidy up on Sunday. Let us know if you can help. Here is the timetable for the weekend:
Friday, 20 March
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. - Setting up tables, decorating and preparing the hall
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m. – Erecting the marquee and smokers tent – only one helper!
Saturday, 21 March - At the Ball
6:00 p.m. onwards – Kitchen Hands
8:00 – 10:00 p.m. – Washing Up Helpers
7:00 – 1:00 a.m. – Bar
8:00 – 10:00 p.m. – Washing Up Helpers
Sunday, 22 March
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon – Pulling down and packing up
Everyone received a roster today. The committee has worked extremely hard to ensure the success of this year’s ball. If anyone can lend a hand for a couple of hours, it would be greatly appreciated.

GRANDPARENTS DAY/Open Day
Another fabulous Grandparents Day was celebrated at school yesterday with a huge crowd of grandparents, parents, aunts, uncles, family and friends attending. All our visitors were welcomed by our Year 6 leaders who escorted them to morning tea, which was generously provided by our school community. Following morning tea the students performed a tribute to the King, Elvis Presley. Jennifer Ibe, Oli Schier and Heidi Purvis led us in song with ‘We Welcome You To This Place’ before the Elvis extravaganza began. First Kinder showed us how Elvis loved his ‘Teddy Bear’ and then Year 3 sang the great ‘Return To Sender’. Year 4 was ‘All Shook Up’ while Year 5 landed in a lot of trouble with ‘Jailhouse Rock’. The Elvis tribute concluded with our very own Elvis, Aiden Ryan, leading Year 6 in ‘Blue Suede Shoes’. Wow – what a performance and as Elvis himself would say, ‘Thank you very much’! Lastly the children sang an ‘Irish Blessing’. Mrs Beryl Elwin thanked the children on behalf of the senior citizens before the children escorted their family and friends to the classrooms. Another highlight of the morning was the presence of five generations of St Joey’s students in Olga Primmer, Margaret Balchin, Tabitha Primmer, Emma Hayes and Taylor Hayes. Unbelievable. Many thanks to the students on their sensational efforts and to the staff, whose efforts ensured an amazing morning.

ST PATRICK’S DAY
Year 5 prepared a special St Patrick’s Day Mass that was celebrated on Tuesday. Years 3-6 joined in this Mass in honour of St Patrick. Our Year 2 students also performed some special items for the residents of Coowe Lodge for their St Patrick’s Day celebrations.

YEAR 1 VISIT TO WINDMILL COTTAGE
Our Year 1 students and Jennifer Ibe and Oli Schier visited the residents of Windmill Cottage this morning to give them a small sample from our Grandparents Day entertainment. Thank you to the hospital staff for asking us to entertain their residents.

ST JOSEPH’S DAY CELEBRATIONS
We had a fantastic day today to celebrate St Joseph’s Day. The festivities began with a lovely Mass in St Joseph’s Church. Following Mass we went to the pool where we enjoyed class parties in honour of St Joseph. After the parties the Year 6 leaders were superb as they entertained us with their synchronised swimming routine. Finally we all got to have lots and lots of fun on the ski biscuits. Wow, what a great day! Many thanks to the Foran, Temple, Skinner, Foster and Alchin families for lending us their ski biscuits.

JUNIOR JOEY’S
With the guidance of the Sisters of St Joseph our school is part of a national program where students from Years 5 and 6 can choose to become junior members of the Josephite Association – Junior Joeos! The purpose of this program is to:
• LEARN about Mary MacKillop and the Sisters of St Joseph.
• PRAY for those in need.
• PRACTICE some form of outreach in the community.

Congratulations to the new members of the Junior Joeos who were presented with their badges at the St Joseph’s Day Mass today. Our new Junior Joey’s are: Aliza Purvis, Laura Smith, Billie-Jo Buckland, Amelia Murray, James Ferguson, Tom Eason, Charlie Banks, Madison Hourigan, Jett Grimshaw, Ashleigh Carlyon, Hamish Beveridge, Lachlan Riley, Olivia Ferguson, Abby Tate, Jacob Wilson, Amber Tarrant, Mary Westwood, Heidi Purvis, Mike Raglus, Ella McAnally-Elwin, Emily Skinner, Tyler Evans.

SUPER SPellers
Our school Spelling Bee Finals will be held next Monday, 23 March for Years 3 and 4 and Tuesday, 24 March for Years 5 and 6 at 11:20 a.m. Congratulations and good luck to these super spellers who have qualified for the school’s finals. The Years 3 and 4 finalists include Skye Bui, Zac Ferguson, Will Fuller, Sophie Hassall, Kelsey Hutchison, Jennifer Ibe, Bradley Kildey, Harrison King, Finn Marchant and Kate Woollams while the Years 5 and 6 contestants will be Darren Doherty, Lachlan Fairey, James Ferguson, Tarah Foran, Rebecca Gaff, Kate Gilmour, Emily Hassall, James Kildey, Marshall Ryan, Amelia Murray and Aiden Ryan. Well done to you all.

THE FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION
Year 3 is preparing the Mass for the Feast of the Annunciation to be held next Wednesday, 25 March. The feast celebrates Mary saying ‘Yes’ to becoming the mother of Jesus. We hope many of you can join us for this special celebration at 10:30 a.m. in the church. Please bring a plate to share for morning tea which will follow the Mass.

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 were interested in attending the Diocesan Winter Sports Trials to be held in Bathurst next Friday, 27 March. The sportsmanship and enthusiasm of every single child was absolutely fantastic. Congratulations to all the students. Congratulations to the following who will represent St Joey’s at the trials: Laura Smith, Aliza Purvis, Amber Tarrant, Emily Skinner, Olivia Ferguson, Mary Westwood, Charlie Banks, Lachlan Riley, Nash Marchant, James Ferguson, Mike Raglus (Soccer), Grace Alchin, Lily Naden, Kate Gilmour, Emille Hassall, Rebecca Gaff (Netball) and Martin Fryers, Jacob Wilson, Hamish Beveridge, Tom Eason, William Sandford, Harry Spora, Aiden Ryan, Jye Day, Darren Doherty, Marshall Ryan and James Kildey (Rugby League).

SCHOOL PHOTOS
School photos will be taken on Monday, 30 March. Each child was last week given an envelope. The photographers have also sent us the following information for online school photo ordering. **Step 1:** Go to www.advancedlife.com.au before photo day and enter our school code: 7Q9 5JT KQZ. **Step 2:** Enter your child’s details. **Step 3:** Choose the

Thought for the Week
“Children and their grandparents build the future: children because they lead history forward and grandparents because they transmit the experience and wisdom of their lives.”

Pope Francis
package that best suits your needs. **Step 4:** Pay for the photos via the shopping cart. You can also make payments by cash, cheque or money order. **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.

**LONG SERVICE LEAVE POSITION**

Mrs Hodge is taking long service leave next term for a period of five weeks commencing 15 June to 26 June and 13 July to 31 July. Applications are invited for this leave position from qualified persons. Written applications with CV and the names of three referees (including a Priest of the Parish) should be forwarded to the Principal, St Joseph’s School, PO Box 37, Gilgandra by Friday, 2 April.

**WRITING COMPETITION**

Entry is now open in the 2015 Schools Writing Competition. Students all over Australia are invited to enter their short stories or poems and battle it out for the great cash prizes on offer. There is no theme. Entrants are encouraged to let their imaginations run wild and write in any style. Students from all grades from Kinder to Year 12 are welcome to enter. Enter online at [www.write4fun.net](http://www.write4fun.net), or email to enter@write4fun.net, or fax entries to (07) 5574 3644, or post entries with official entry form (available from school) to Write4Fun, PO Box 2734, Nerang DC, Qld, 4211. Entry is free and all entries must be received by 29 March, 2015.

**MERIT AWARDS**

Congratulations to the following students who received Merit Awards at Assembly on Monday: **KINDER:** Stuart Wheatsley for super cutting skills, Jordan Wighton for always speaking about something interesting during News, Molly Temple for a great effort learning her sight words and Eliza Mulford for a super effort learning her sight words. **YEAR 1:** Trinity Zell for writing imaginative stories, Sienna Horne for fantastic ‘sounding out’ in Story Writing, Nick Tarrant for wonderful effort in reading activities, Alex Gaff for writing a super recount of her weekend, Michael Ibe for his thoughtful responses in Religion and Ella Mulford for her groovy dance moves for Grandparents Day.

**YEAR 2:** Nick Galle for wonderful contributions to class discussions, Jett Tarrant for a great effort in Spelling, Ben Standing for a fantastic expression when reading, Ava Meyers for trying hard in Maths and Sienna Marchant for super improvement in handwriting. **YEAR 3:** Molly Wilson for always contributing to class discussions, Thomas Dunn for coming up with great ideas for our class exposition, Molly Fairley for being a polite an courteous member of Class 3, Ry Heffer for asking questions to clarify his understanding and Emily Zell for showing pride in her bookwork. **YEAR 4:** Marshall Fairley for super work ordering numbers, Rhys O’Neill for a great effort identifying adverbs and Kelsey Hutchison for fantastic work researching a pioneer of Australia. **YEAR 5:** Lachlan Riley, Amber Tarrant, Tom Eason and Jacob Wilson for great delivery of their first Year 5 speech. **YEAR 6:** Grace Alchin for enthusiastic participation in our synchronised swimming practice, Lanuchash Bash for asking questions to clarify understanding in Maths, Ryan Carter for excellent expression when reading aloud and Martin Fryers for speed and accuracy in Maths Operations.

**WHAT’S ON**

**Catholic Schools Week**

Friday, 20 March - Polding Swimming – Homebush Saturday, 21 March - St Joseph’s P & F Debutante Ball

**WEEK 9**

Monday, 23 March - Years 3/4 Spelling Bee Final – 11:20 a.m. Tuesday, 24 March - Years 5/6 Spelling Bee Final – 11:20 a.m. Wednesday, 25 March - The Annunciation Mass – Year 3 (K-6) – 10:30 a.m.

Friday, 27 March - Diocesan Winter Sports Trials Sunday, 29 March - Principals Meeting - Palm Sunday

**WEEK 10**

- Year 3 Reconciliation Monday, 30 March - School Photos - School Performance Tour - Return of the Bully – (K-3) – 12:30 a.m. - ‘The Cyber Bully’ – (4-6) –2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, 31 March - Kinder Cooee Visit - Diocesan Winter Sports Trials back-up date Wednesday, 1 April - Holy Thursday - School Cross Country – 11:20 a.m. - Last day Term 1 Thursday, 2 April - Good Friday

Friday, 3 April - Good Friday

**AROUND THE CLASSROOMS**

**KINDER**

Congratulations Kindergarten on your performance during Grandparent’s Day singing the Elvis classic, ‘Teddy Bear’. It sounded wonderful and you should be proud of yourselves. There was also fantastic participation during our St Joseph’s Day celebrations. A special thank you to Toni Tarrant for our St Joseph’s cakes. This week in Kindergarten, we read the story “The Grand Old Duke Of York”. As part of our reading, we discussed when capital letters and full stops are used and what makes a sentence. Next week’s sound is ‘Dd’, so start looking for things around your home beginning with this sound. In Religion we discussed St Patrick and what the difference is between a shamrock and clover. As part of this discussion we also learnt why people wear green on St Patrick’s Day. During Mathematics we learnt how to write the number 7 and learnt different ways we can sort things. Take care Mrs Belinda

**YEAR 1**

Welcome back Miss Harvey! What a wonderful, fun filled week Year 1 has had. We began with St Patrick’s Day where we learnt all about this special Irish Saint and followed with a description of a mischievous leprechaun. Our week continued with a special visit from all our grandparents, aunts, uncles, mums and dads to celebrate Grandparents Day. We were all so proud to show off our Elvis moves, followed by a visit to our classroom where we invited everyone to look at our super work. St Joseph’s Day was again a wonderful celebration beginning with our Mass and then to the pool for some lunch and ski biscuit rides. We would also like to thank Claudina Ryan for making our yummy cupcakes. In class we’ve enjoyed reading “The Pirate Cruncher” and we have begun writing a description of this unusual creature. In HSIE we have looked at the way we use technology in our homes and how this has changed since our grandparents were young. In Maths we’ve completed our diagnostic report to enjoy class discussions on other words that use the same sounds. We tallied our results and were able to draw conclusions from our data.

**YEAR 2**

What a fabulous week we’ve celebrated at Joey’s! We had the pleasure of visiting Coosee Lodge on St Patrick’s Day to perform for the residents. We then had an unreal time performing for our grandparents and showing them our classroom. And finally we enjoyed splashing about today for St Joseph’s Day. Thank you to Mrs Kristy Gale for making our yummy cupcakes. In class we’ve enjoyed reading “The Pirate Cruncher” and we have begun writing a description of this unusual creature. In HSIE we have looked at the way we use technology in our homes and how this has changed since our grandparents were young. In Maths we’ve completed our diagnostic report to enjoy class discussions on other words that use the same sounds. We tallied our results and were able to draw conclusions from our data.

**YEAR 3**

What a fantastic week we have had. We celebrated St Patrick’s Day on Tuesday, Grandparents Day yesterday and St Joseph’s Day today. Wow! Our Grammar focus has been conjunctions and in Spelling we have worked on the sound ‘ce’ or ‘se’ as in ‘cease’ ‘in case’ and ‘once’ this week. We enjoyed using for our Grandparents Day. I hope everyone enjoyed our Elvis performance. In the classroom we read an interesting text about eggs, we discussed why they are so popular and versatile. In Grammar we have been learning about action, saying and thinking verbs. We have also written an exposition about ‘Why School Is Great’. In Maths we have been learning about the ‘jump strategy for addition’. Keep up the hard work Year 3.

**YEAR 4**

What a fantastic week we have had. We celebrated St Patrick’s Day on Tuesday, Grandparents Day yesterday and St Joseph’s Day today. Wow! Our Grammar focus has been conjunctions and in Spelling we have worked on the sound ‘ce’ or ‘se’ as in ‘cease’ ‘in case’ and ‘once’ this week. We enjoyed using for our Grandparents Day. I hope everyone enjoyed our Elvis performance. In the classroom we read an interesting text about eggs, we discussed why they are so popular and versatile. In Grammar we have been learning about action, saying and thinking verbs. We have also written an exposition about ‘Why School Is Great’. In Maths we have been learning about the ‘jump strategy for addition’. Keep up the hard work Year 3.

**YEAR 5**

What a fabulous week we have had! We had a very reflective Mass on the life of St Patrick. Thank you to all the parents and friends who arrived to join us. On Wednesday we were busy once more as we rocked our socks off to ‘Juvenile Rock’ and welcomed our grandparents and friends into our classroom to show them what we are doing in our class. And today, what a day! A magnificent celebration for our school’s patron Saint. Thank you to Mel Phillips for our yummy cakes. At Mass he new Junior Joys were officially presented with a certificate and badge from Sr Robyn and are all now extremely eager to help carry on the traditions of the Sisters of St Joseph. This was of course followed by another marvellous afternoon at the pool. Have a great weekend.

**YEAR 6**

What an extraordinary week we’ve had! With outstanding school spirit, Year 6 greeted our visiting grandparents on Wednesday with great manners and smiles that made everyone so proud. Elvis, singers, dancers and speakers all did a great job keeping everyone entertained. And then today was St Joseph’s Day! We started with a beautiful Mass and then we were off to the pool. Thanks to Sinead Sutton, Milli Banks and Zoe Welsh for making our St Joseph’s Day cakes – they were delicious! Year 6 looked a little crazy in their outfit costumes but certainly got the crowd clapping along to their groovy moves in their synchronized swimming routine. In between all these celebrations we have managed to continue our work on equivalent fractions and measuring angles with 360° protractors. We have begun brainstorming possible topics for our free choice speeches. Thanks again Year 6 for a great week and congratulations on your enthusiasm, leadership and great style!

**CANTER ROSTER**


**ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER**

Sunday, 22 March – Charlie Banks, Jett Grimshaw, Olivia Newstead, Montana McGrath