



ABOUT

St Joseph's School Gilgandra

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Term 1 Week 9

26 March, 2015

Thought for the Week

*Mary – a woman of faith, courage and conviction.
She listened to God's call and shows us the way to live.*

2015 ST JOSEPH'S P & F DEBUTANTE BALL 'THE COTTAGE GARDEN'

'The Cottage Garden' was the theme for the 2015 St Joseph's P & F Debutante Ball. Eighteen stunning debutantes and their handsome partners came down the red carpet to be presented to Matron of Honour, Mrs Heather Larkin and Parish Priest, Fr Martin O'Mahony. The hall was once again brilliantly decorated thanks to the hard work of Ball Secretaries, Jaimee McEwen, Melissa Welsh and Merilyn King and their band of workers. A special thanks to Helen Naef for her amazing contributions to the decorations. Miss Phillipa Smith did a wonderful job as compere. The contribution to the night by so many of our school community was superb, from the hard working committee, to those who attended working bees, went to practices, helped decorate the hall and erect the marquee, prepared the food and served, worked on the bars and door, donated food, prepared food, organized light and sound, attended the ball and helped dismantle everything! This was a huge effort by a fantastic lot of helpers and our school appreciates the amount of time and effort that goes into such a successful evening.

CHAIR COVER WASHING

We need some volunteers to help wash the chair covers that we used at the Ball on Saturday night. There are 300 to wash and many hands make light work! So come and get a dozen or grab 100! It all helps.

SENSATIONAL SPELLERS

Congratulations to our sensational spellers who competed in the St Joeys' Spelling Bee Finals held this week. The audience was amazed at the students' super spelling. Well done! Special mention to **Skye Bui** – First and **Finn Marchant** – Runner Up in the Years 3/4 section and **Kate Gilmour** and **Emilie Hassall** – Equal First in the Years 5/6 division. Skye, Finn, Kate and Emilie will now represent Joey's at the Diocesan Spelling Bee to be held next term.

YEAR 2 RURAL MUSEUM VISIT

Year 2 students have been counting down the days until their visit to the Gilgandra Rural Museum which will take place tomorrow, Friday, 27 March. This excursion is part of their HSIE unit, "The Way We Were" and it should be most interesting investigating the way things were in days gone by. Thank you to those parents who have offered to help.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos will be taken **next Monday, 30 March**. Each child has been 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 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.

SCHOOL PERFORMANCE TOUR

Next Monday, 30 March the students will be divided into two groups to watch two performances, 'Return of the Bully' (Kinder – Year 3) and 'The Cyber Bully' (Years 4 – 6). Both shows will address bullying and give strategies to help the children to deal with bullying.

KINDER COOEE VISIT

Our Kinder class will visit Cooee Lodge next Tuesday, 31 March bearing gifts. It is a wonderful opportunity for the children to spread some Easter cheer.

YEAR 5 VISIT TO 'CACTUS WORLD'

Next Tuesday, 31 March Year 5 will be visiting Orana Cactus World with

Mrs Colwell as part of their Term 1 Science unit on 'Desert Survivors'. The class will leave school at 9:30am and walk to Orana Cactus World before returning to school in time for recess. We thank Mr Lester Meyers for allowing us to visit this great attraction.

SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

Training for the school cross country has commenced. Cross country is for any students in Years 3-6. Nine and ten year olds run 2 kilometres while eleven and twelve years olds run 3 kilometres. The Joey's trial will be held next Thursday, 2 April at 11:20 a.m. The Diocesan Cross Country will be held in Coolah on Tuesday, 28 April.

ICAS DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES COMPETITION

(formerly Computer Skills Competition)

The International Competition and Assessments for Schools is holding a Digital Technologies Competition on Thursday, 21 May for children in Years 3-6. If you would like your child to enter this competition please complete the tear-off slip attached to today's About and return it to school together with the \$8.00 entry fee. Entries must be received at school by Thursday, 2 April.

PORTFOLIOS

All children will take home their Term 1 Portfolios next Thursday, 2 April. We encourage all families to take the time to look at the children's work. All portfolios need to be returned to school early next term so the Term 2 work can be placed in them.

PROJECT COMPASSION

At the beginning of Lent a Project Compassion box was sent home to each family. Project Compassion is a Lenten program that Caritas Australia focuses on each year. Caritas Australia is a Catholic agency for overseas aid and development. We hope that whenever you've been emptying your pockets you have been able to drop a few coins into your Project Compassion box. Your donations could go towards improving health and education or aiding an emergency crisis somewhere in the world. **Send your boxes back to school during next week so that we can present all our donations during the Holy Thursday Mass.** Please encourage your child to give to this worthy cause as it is a wonderful opportunity for children to share what they have with those less fortunate.

HOLY THURSDAY MASS

All children are invited to join in the Offertory Procession during Holy Thursday Mass next Thursday, 2 April at 7:00 p.m. This Mass is where we will offer our Project Compassion boxes.

ANZAC DAY

Our school has once again been invited to participate in the annual ANZAC Day March and an invitation is extended to all students from Years 2-6 to represent our school on ANZAC Day. St Joseph's has traditionally had a fantastic representation at this march and hopefully as many students as possible will give up an hour or so of their time to represent their school on such an important occasion and show respect for those who served our country. **Children need to assemble in Bridge Street at 10:30 a.m. or they could come to Mass at 9:00 a.m. after which I will walk them down to Bridge Street.** The march will proceed down Bridge and Miller Streets to the War Memorial for the service at 11:00 a.m. Students are required to wear full summer uniform. If any parents have a special request for any Kinder or Year 1 children to march, please contact the office and I'm sure there will be no problems.

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 associated with the weather and matched those words with pictures.

School, PO Box 37, Gilgandra by Friday, 2 April.

CANTEEN VOLUNTEERS

As our canteen volunteers may be required to undertake manual tasks the Catholic Education Office and our school recommend that all volunteers complete the CSOHS Manual Tasks e-learning module online. If you wish to undertake this module please contact the school for the online instructions.

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 on any topic and in any style. Students from all grades from Kinder to Year 12 are welcome to enter. Enter online at 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:** **Ryan Cox** for a great effort in counting during Maths Warm-Up, **Riley Fiddes** for a super effort in learning his sight words, **Lauren Thurlow** for telling interesting stories during News and **Jonas Naden** for being a considerate member of Kindergarten. **YEAR 1:** **Rani Diamond** and **Kimalee Gilmour** for taking great care in the presentation of book work, **Declan Gale** for fantastic reading and comprehension, **Tahleigh Davey** for great 'sounding out' in writing, **Taylor Hayes** for trying hard to work out odd and even numbers, **Ethan Morris** for a great description of his grandparents and **Grace Tancred** for trying very hard in 'buzz off buddy'. **YEAR 2:** **Paige Gilmour** for great work with sequencing activities, **Jett Chandler** for a super effort in reading, **Ryley Smith** for having beautiful manners and **Chelsea Brand** for a consistent effort in all areas. **YEAR 3:** **Camilla Beveridge** for writing an extraordinary exposition, **Oscar Spora** for reading with great fluency, **Chloe Mudford** for careful setting out of her book work, **Jacob Harland** for contributing intelligent answers to class discussions and **Madison Riley** for wonderful singing at Mass. **YEAR 4:** **Sophie Hassall** for thoughtful answers to comprehension questions and **Harrison King** for great contributions to class discussions. **YEAR 5:** **Ashleigh Carlow** and **Laura Smith** for fantastic reading at our St Joseph's Day Mass, **Olivia Ferguson** for excellent work in Maths extension activities and **Madison Hourigan** for showing great pride in her writing. **YEAR 6:** **Chloe Godber** for having a positive attitude, **Nash Marchant** for trying hard in Maths, **Marshall Ryan** for excellent fluency when reading aloud and **Milla Banks** and **Sinead Sutton** for wonderful leadership on Grandparents Day.

WHAT'S ON

WEEK 9

Friday, 27 March

- Diocesan Winter Sports Trials
- Year 2 Rural Museum Visit
- Principals Meeting

Sunday, 29 March

- Palm Sunday

WEEK 10

Monday, 30 March

- **Year 3 Reconciliation**
- 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
- Year 5 Visit to 'Cactus World'
- Diocesan Winter Sports Trials back-up date
- Holy Thursday
- School Cross Country Trials - 11:20 a.m.
- Last day Term 1
- Good Friday

Friday, 3 April

TERM 2

WEEK 1

Monday, 20 April

- First Day - Term 2
- Whole School Mass - 9:00 a.m.
- P & F Meeting

Tuesday, 21 April

Thursday, 23 April

- Polding Winter Sports Trials

Friday, 24 April

- Polding Winter Sports Trials

Saturday, 25 April

- ANZAC Day

AROUND THE CLASSROOMS

KINDER This week Kindergarten has been learning about the nursery rhyme, "Little Miss Muffet". In particular we have been looking at words in the story and finding out what they mean and finding words that mean the same thing. There has been a lot of participation this week for the sound table, so well done to all. Next week is revision for the sounds we have learnt so far. In Mathematics we learnt to write the figure eight and discussed the difference between morning and afternoon activities. As part of our unit 'Weather in my World', we revised words

In our health lesson, we read "Grandpa and Thomas" by Pamela Allen and discussed ways Grandpa and Thomas were safe in the sun. Next week we will be visiting Cooee Lodge for Easter so we have been practising some songs to entertain the residents. Please make sure you return your permission note to school for this visit. Take care - *Miss Belinda Bourke*

YEAR 1 As the end of a busy term draws near, Year 1 has been working hard to complete portfolio tasks on units covered so far. In HSIE we investigated the different types of food the Thai people eat and compared their daily diets to Australians. We also discussed the animals found in Thailand and made a list of animals unique to both countries. During Religion we revised the parable of 'The Mustard Seed' and illustrated the story. We've begun discussing the importance of Holy Week which begins this weekend with Palm Sunday. The challenging concepts of odds and evens, addition combinations and the properties of 3D objects have been the main focus in Maths whilst in English we've been reading "The Little Refugee" and completed comprehension and cloze passages. Have a great weekend. *Mrs Alison Newstead & Miss Lisa Harvey*

YEAR 2 This week we enjoyed watching the finals of the Spelling Bee. Congratulations to all the super spellers. In Maths we revised half past and o'clock using an analog clock, then we had to represent this in digital time. In Grammar we continued to investigate pronouns and in PDH we listed the qualities a friend may have. In Art we put the finishing touches on our treasure chest and used a smudging technique to create colourful fireworks. Tomorrow we are looking forward to exploring the Rural Museum and discovering treasures from the past. Have a lovely weekend. *Mrs Meichelle Schier & Mrs Melinda Morris*

YEAR 3 It was a top effort by all the boys and girls who participated in our spelling bee finals. Congratulations to you all. This week Year 3 has been learning about verb tense in Grammar. In Comprehension we have read an interesting Nigerian folktale called 'The Story Of Thunder And Lightning'. In Maths we have been learning about 3D shapes, informal area and perimeter. Our Science topic led us to search for animals in our leaf litter, Year 3 did a fabulous job working as taxonomists. Thank you to everyone who came along and celebrated the feast of the Annunciation with us on Wednesday. Good luck to all the boys and girls who are participating in the Winter Sports Trials in Bathurst tomorrow! *Mr Damien Soares*

YEAR 4 We started this week with our Spelling Bee Final. A big congratulations to Skye and Finn, our winner and runner up. A big thank you to Year 3 for the lovely Annunciation Mass we celebrated yesterday. In class this week we have been revising sounds and working on silent letters in Spelling. For Grammar our focus has been prepositions and prepositional phrases. During writing this week we watched an animation titled 'The Dreamgiver' and completed a character map of its main character. We then planned and wrote a narrative about the Dreamgiver. In Maths we have revised our seven times table facts, and fifths and tenths as well as using litres to measure. *Miss Phillipa Smith*

YEAR 5 This week in Year 5 we have been busy learning all about our CWA project country Italy - spending time with Mr Musgrave and Mrs Kilby researching. In English we have been learning about discussions, identifying the similarities and differences they have with expositions. Maths has seen us investigating new ways to draw three-dimensional prisms and pyramids along with cracking codes and working out missing numbers. We also took time out of our week to celebrate the Annunciation Mass as a school - thanks Year 3 for a wonderful Mass. We are all extremely excited for our excursion to Orana Cactus World next Tuesday with Mrs Colwell. Best of luck to all Year 5 and Year 6 students heading to Bathurst tomorrow. Have a great weekend. *Mr Tim Keady*

YEAR 6 It is fantastic to see everyone making good progress on their information report speeches this week. We are looking forward to hearing them on Monday, 30 March. Our Maths focus this week has been writing remainders as decimals and fractions and converting mixed numerals to improper fractions. We have completed writing our procedures of the Tower Challenge. In groups we had fifteen minutes to make a free standing tower using no more than thirty straws, sticky tape and pins. It was certainly interesting to see the variety of 1 designs that were created! In HSIE we have finished our unit on Antarctica and we have started our CWA project. The country of study is Italy and we are looking forward to discovering all about its history, culture and geography. *Mrs Dominica Banks & Mrs Nikkola Thomas*

CANTEEN ROSTER

Friday, 27 March - Paula Purvis & Mel Phillips

Monday, 30 March - Sally Beveridge & Carol Alchin

Wednesday, 1 April - Merilyn King & Greg King

ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER

Sunday, 29 March - Kyle Welsh, Zoe Welsh, Charlie Banks, Jett Grimshaw