



# ABOUT

## St Joseph's School Gilgandra

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Term 1 Week 9

26 March 2020

### 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.

#### **HOME SCHOOLING LETTER**

Accompanying today's About is a letter for parents who are presently home schooling. It is attached to today's newsletter for everyone's information. As stated in the letter we hope everything is going well at home and remember, please contact us if we can be of any assistance. The whole staff is so grateful to all our families for your understanding and patience during this difficult time. Like we have always done, we will work through this together and we will support each other. Thanks again for your support and please don't hesitate to contact us if we can help you in anyway, academically or emotionally.

#### **SCHOOL SPELLING BEE FINALS**

Our school Spelling Bee Finals which were due to take place next Tuesday and Wednesday have been postponed due to the limited number of children at school. We would like to congratulate our super spellers who qualified for the school's finals. The Years 3 and 4 finalists include **Vaughan Zell, Jacqueline Hutchison, Ava Lacey, Alex Cosier, Hayden Nichols, Lara Younghusband, Violet Whitehouse, Mia Mudford, Ben Mudford, Evie Peart, Jemima Harrison** while the Years 5 and 6 contestants will be **Ryda Whitehouse, Rhyan Hutchison, Hudson Duffy, Emma Mills, Alicia Fordham, Tahleigh Davey, Lilla Oehm, Ethan Morris, Eva Bonnington, Charlotte Ferguson, Stella Valler, Alex Gaff, Dakotah Gilmour, Brooke Woollams**. Well done to you all. We hope to conduct our finals at another time.

#### **SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY**

We have also been required to postpone our Joey's Cross Country Trials that were to be held on Thursday, 2 April. All our runners have been training really hard and we hope to stage our race later in the year. The Diocesan Cross Country that was to be held next term has been postponed

#### **2020 MOORAMBILLA VOICES - 'SINGING SELFIE'**

Michelle Leonard, the Artistic Director of Moorambilla Voices has developed a new concept in these challenging times that will enable Moorambilla to continue this year. If your child is in Years 3 to 6 and interested in participating in the 2020 Moorambilla Voices Choir, please email a 'singing selfie' together with the completed application form, which is being sent home with today's About, or can be found on the SchoolStream App, to Ms Dayle Lummis at [dayle@moorambilla.com](mailto:dayle@moorambilla.com) no later than tomorrow, Friday, 27 March. If you require any further information, please contact Dayle on 0418 228 047.

#### **ST JOSEPH'S P & F MEETING - \*CANCELLED\***

The P & F Meeting which was scheduled to take place on Tuesday, 7 April has been cancelled.

#### **SCHOOL CANTEN CHANGES**

Tomorrow will be the last day for normal school canteen procedures. From Monday, 30 March the canteen will be operated by our school support staff and will **ONLY BE PREPARING LUNCH ORDERS**. This means that the front canteen windows will not be open and will therefore not be serving morning tea or other items during lunchtime. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

#### **CLOSURE OF ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH**

In line with the Federal Government's recent announcement, St Joseph's Church is now closed. This means there will be no weekend Mass, nor any school Liturgies and Masses until further notice.

#### **MERIT AWARDS**

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

**KINDER:** **Georgia Riley** for super sounding out of our nursery rhyme "Hickory Dickory Dock", **Archie O'Connor** for a great effort in Story Writing, **Beatrix Volkofsky** for being an enthusiastic member of Kinder and **Hugo Campbell** for super work in Phonics sounding out words.

**YEAR 1:** **Darcy Adams** for great enthusiasm in our Phonics lessons, **Regan Johnson** for a great effort practicing your sounds, **Oscar Medd** for a super effort in Reading and **Estelle Hazelton** for being helpful to others.

**YEAR 2:** **Arabella Chandler** for being a responsible member of our class who is always willing to help others, **Lottie Duffy** for using her time wisely to complete her work, **Milla Morris** and **Indy Thomas** for writing a great narrative about 'Little Red Riding Hood', **Ella Murphy** for fantastic work in MiniLit with Mrs Alchin and **Andrew Standing** for making a big effort with his homework.

**YEAR 3:** **Ben Mudford** for expertly identifying faces, vertices and edges on prisms, **Joe Staggs** for having a more settled approach to his learning and **Tilly Tancred** for thoughtful contributions to our class discussions.

**YEAR 4:** **Dimity Wykes** for being a role model in her display of kindness to all within the school community, **Layla Wykes** for her consistent positive attitude to all tasks, **Te Mana Diamond** for an excellent start to his narrative and **Tilla Chandler** for improved focus on completing her tasks.

**YEAR 5:** **Molly Temple** for being a quiet and conscientious student, **Tom Staggs** for a more settled approach to his learning and **Abi McArd** for great participation in class discussions.

**YEAR 6:** **Eva Bonnington** and **Sienna Zell** for writing high quality sentences in Spelling, **Shane Estens** for working hard in Reading Groups, **Dakotah Gilmour, Millie Spora** and **Ryda Whitehouse** for showing initiative and responsibility.

#### **WHAT'S ON**

##### **WEEK 9**

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

##### **WEEK 10**

Tuesday, 31 March - School Spelling Bee Finals – Years 3/4 - **POSTPONED**

Wednesday, 1 April - School Spelling Bee Finals – Years 5/6 - **POSTPONED**

Thursday, 2 April - Cross Country Trials - **POSTPONED**  
- Moorambilla Trials – see article in today's About

Sunday, 5 April - Palm Sunday

## **WEEK 11**

- Tuesday, 7 April - P & F Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – **CANCELLED**
- Thursday, 9 April - Last Day Term 1  
- Stations of the Cross - (Years 3-6)  
- **CANCELLED**  
- Infants Easter Egg hunt
- Friday, 10 April - Good Friday
- HOLIDAYS**
- Saturday, 25 April - ANZAC Day March - **CANCELLED**

## **AROUND THE CLASSROOMS**

**KINDER** has had a very busy and interesting week! We were excited to use the iPads to access Mathletics and complete some set tasks. For those children working at home the app can be downloaded onto a tablet or iPad and your child's log in details are inside their Maths Plus book. I will be communicating with parents via email so please ensure the school has your updated email address. Kinder will not be using Google Classroom at this stage. For those of us at school this week we made some delightful dinosaurs and wrote a story about them. We explored 3D shapes and recognised and described coins. We enjoyed reading "Little Miss Muffet" and completed some fun activities. Remember to keep reading to your child when possible and encourage them to read what they can. We hope everyone stays safe and healthy during this time. *Mrs Alison Newstead*

**YEAR 1** What an interesting week we have had! In class the children learnt how to login and operate the Chromebooks. They now use these to access Reading Eggs and Mathletics. All students who are schooling at home have been given their Chromebook to allow the same access. The students should not be using Google Classroom or email at this point. If/when we need to use Google Classroom I will send out instructions. We've been reading "Wombat Divine" by Mem Fox and have continued learning about verbs. In Maths we have worked on counting by 2, 5 and 10, equal groups and regular and irregular shapes. In Writing we wrote an information report on 'Bilbies' and sequenced the events of "Wombat Divine". I hope to be able to use email as a means of communication to all parents. Please ensure the school knows your email address if you have one. Thank you all for your patience and support as we navigate through this time together. Take care. *Mrs Melinda Morris*

**YEAR 2** What a busy week it's been in Year 2! It's been exciting learning to use Google Classroom. Students have completed some quizzes and set tasks for a range of subjects and learnt how to navigate around the site. In the coming weeks if you need any help please feel free to contact us at school. We are very impressed with how quickly the students have learnt to use this new educational tool. We have also been learning about addition, quarters and chance in Maths along with pronouns in Sentence A Day and Grammar. We have finished off our narratives and are now using a story grid to encourage free writing activities. Keep smiling and stay safe! *Miss Lisa Harvey & Miss Prue Giffin*

**YEAR 3** What a week! Year 3 has been learning how to navigate through Google Classroom this week. Each day we have been setting a different type of activity and trying to complete online. We have also refreshed our memories on how to access the Literacy Pro library to access reading books and our Typing Tournament program. In Maths we've focused on split strategy for addition, 4-times multiplication facts and picture graphs. During Text Types we have written an entertaining piece 'Would you let the Cat in the Hat in'. There have been some great expositions stating our reasons for or against. During Science we looked at how atoms make up our atmosphere and their forms as solids, liquids or gases. In Religion yesterday we made a prayer focus and read our readings which we would have said for our Annunciation Mass. We hope that everyone continues to stay well during these trying times. Take care. *Mrs Donna Colwell & Mrs Phillipa Haling*

**YEAR 4** What an interesting week we have all had. Our focus this week in Year 4 has been to learn as much as we can about how to use Google Classroom. I would like to congratulate each and every student in Year 4 for learning together and showing great resilience and patience with each other. This has been a week full of learning new skills and adapting our lessons to enable students to be able to complete tasks online and with hard copies. We continue with our class novel "Nanberry". We are enjoying the journey of the key characters and discussing different

perspectives within the novel. We have written several diary entries based on the novel. Over the next few weeks I am encouraging students to begin their own diary/journal. In Art we have completed our St Patrick's Day shamrock, our tree and beautiful rainbows to hang in our windows. Have a great weekend everyone.

*Mrs Jacquie Clark*

**YEAR 5** We had a great day last Thursday on St Joseph's Day and I would like to add an additional thank you to Mac Lessie who brought in some yummy honey joys to share. In Maths this week we investigated division strategies and fractions. In Grammar we focused on adverbs and completed tasks in the Google Classroom. I would like to thank everyone for your patience and support during this rapid transition to remote learning. No doubt there will be glitches along the way, but I encourage the students and parents/carers to do what they can and don't stress! I am more than happy to help solve any issues as best I can so please feel free to contact me by phone or email between 2:00 p.m. to 3:20 p.m on school days. So far the students are adapting to the Google Classroom really well and have enjoyed using Spelling City (our new online spelling program). I expressed to the class that their education is important and I hope that during this uncertain time they will continue to be independent and dedicated learners. Take care. *Mrs Meichelle Schier*

**YEAR 6** What a week! Year 6 has enjoyed transitioning into some online learning within the classroom. We have been exploring how Google Classroom works and completing some assigned tasks. During Science we've been learning about the great work that OZ Harvest does in regards to food sustainability. On Wednesday we remembered the feast of the Annunciation and thought about how Mary showed great courage and faith to answer God's call. In History we have been learning about Federation. We watched a BTN clip and then wrote some sentences to demonstrate our understanding. We are coming to the exciting end of our class novel "Stormbreaker" and can't wait to see how Alex manages to get himself out of the tricky situation! Stay positive everyone and be happy. *Mrs Dominica Banks, Mrs Nikkola Thomas & Mrs Mia van der Walt*

## **CANTEEN ROSTER**

- Friday, 27 March - Amii Marchant & Lorraine Hutchison  
Monday, 30 March - **No helpers required**  
Wednesday, 1 April - **No helpers required**  
Friday, 3 April - **No helpers required**



**St Joseph's Day Shenanigans**



