Thought for the Week

It’s been 100 years since the ANZACs went to war
For the life we take for granted
The freedom on our shores
May their legend keep living on for a thousand more.

S P I R I T  O F  T H E  A N Z A C S

Congratulations to the organisers of the ANZAC Day Service on Saturday. It was very moving and a fine tribute to all our brave servicemen and women, past and present. Thank you to the 120 St Joseph’s School’s students and staff who represented the school in the march. It is so important that the spirit of the ANZACs lives on and this is only possible if we take the time to remember. Thank you again for your presence.

Lest We Forget.

M O T H E R ’ S  D A Y  S T A L L – F R I D A Y , 8 M A Y

Each year parents are asked to donate gifts which the children can then purchase at the Mother’s Day Stall. The stall will be held on Friday, 8 May, and we are desperate for gifts. Your contributions can be sent in at any time and left at the school office. If the gifts could be wrapped in clear cellophane, that would be greatly appreciated. The Mother’s Day Stall is a fundraiser for the P & F Association but most importantly it gives the children the opportunity to bring in their own money to purchase a gift for their mothers and grandmothers that they have selected themselves. Prices at the stall range from 50¢ to $5.00 and we aim to have enough gifts for each child to purchase at least two gifts.

M O T H E R ’ S  D A Y  R A F F L E

In conjunction with the Mother’s Day Stall there will be a raffle with three wonderful prizes. Tickets are $2.00 each and a book of 5 tickets went home to each family last week. The raffle will be drawn at the conclusion of the stall.

M O T H E R ’ S  D A Y  S T A L L  W O R K I N G  B E E S

There will be two working bees leading up to the stall, tomorrow, Friday 1 May and Thursday, 7 May, both commencing from 9:00 a.m. If anyone can help wrap presents, please come along. You may be able to come for an hour or two or stay all day. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

C R O S S  C O U N T R Y  G O L D

Congratulations to Will Fuller (9 years) and Rhys O’Neill (10 years) who won their respective events at the Diocese of Bathurst Cross Country held at Coolah on Tuesday. There are over 70 competitors in these events and to come away with gold is a fantastic achievement. Well done Will and Rhys! They will now represent the diocese at the NSW Catholic Primary Schools Polding Cross Country Championships to be held at Eastern Creek on Friday, 12 June. Other students who achieved excellent results included: Patrick Spora – 9th, Ashleigh Carlow – 12th, Lachlan Riley – 13th, Harry Spora – 17th and Kelsey Hutchison – 20th.


We wish Martin Fryers, Jye Day and Marshall Ryan the best of luck today as they play in the NSW Catholic Primary Schools Polding Rugby League Championships held in Tamworth. It is a fantastic achievement to reach this high level of competition. Congratulations Martin, Jye and Marshall. Best of luck also to Mr Soares who is coaching the diocesan soccer team. Well done!

C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S  H E I D I

Congratulations to Heidi Purvis who has been invited to join the Moorambilla Voices Tour to the Canberra International Music Festival from 7 – 11 May. Moorambilla voices, led by Michelle Leonard, will take a selected north west NSW primary school choir to Canberra to perform at the festival. The students will participate in various choral performances throughout the festival as well as social activities with the students of Telopea Park School in Barton ACT. We hope it is a wonderful experience for our talented singer. Well done Heidi.

S T  J O H N ’ S  C O L L E G E  V I S I T

Mrs Kerrie Morris, Principal of St John’s College Dubbo will visit our school next Thursday, 7 May. Mrs Morris will address our Year 6 students regarding high school education at the college.

Y E A R 1  L I T U R G Y

Year 1 will celebrate a class Liturgy next Thursday, 7 May at 10:30 a.m. in St Joseph’s Church. Everyone is welcome and morning tea will follow the Liturgy so please bring a plate to share.

U N I F O R M S

Due to the varying weather conditions at the moment children are permitted to wear either their summer or winter uniforms.


The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is again being held this year for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in all government and non-government schools. This program will assess the literacy and numeracy learning of students in all Australian schools. The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child’s level of achievement. Each student’s level of achievement will be reported against the agreed national benchmarks of student achievement. The tests will be conducted in the areas of Language, including spelling, punctuation and grammar, Writing, Reading and Numeracy (including Number, Algebra – function and pattern, Chance and Data and Measurement and Space). These tests will be conducted in Gilgandra on Monday, 18 May, Tuesday, 19 May and Wednesday, 20 May. If you require any information about the NAPLAN tests please contact the school.

S T A F F  P R O F E S S I O N A L  D E V E L O P M E N T

On Thursday, 14 May from 3:30 – 6:00 p.m. all staff will be completing compulsory online training modules in the areas of Child Protection and Discrimination, Bullying and Harassment. This compliance training is important in ensuring that as employees of the Diocese of Bathurst Catholic Education Office, the staff is aware of their legal and other obligations in the workplace. More importantly it guides the staff in interacting responsibly with colleagues, students and families.

C Y B E R  S A F E T Y  A G R E E M E N T

The Catholic Education Office has directed that all schools in the Diocese of Bathurst distribute a Cyber Safety Use Agreement to all students. This agreement highlights to staff, students and parents/carers their rights and responsibilities when it comes to using ICT in the school. All students received this agreement today and we ask that it be signed and returned to school as soon as possible.

T E R M  2  F E E S

The Term 2 Fee Accounts are with today’s About. Prompt payment of these fees would be appreciated.

F E T E  C O O R D I N A T O R  N E E D E D

In last week’s About we reported that a fete coordinator was needed. Unfortunately we had the wrong date for the fete. This year’s fete
will be held on **Friday, 30 October**. We still need a coordinator for the fête which is a wonderful day for the children and a major fundraiser for the school so if you, or a group of people, are able to assist it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact the office if you are able to help.

**CHAIR COVER WASHING**

We are still looking for volunteers to help wash the chair covers that were used at the Ball. So come and get a dozen or so! It all helps.

**MOTHER DAUGHTER INFORMATION NIGHT**

An information night for mothers and daughters will be held at the Gilgandra MPS on Wednesday, 6 and 13 May commencing at 6:00 p.m. for girls in years 5 and 6. Presented by Nicky Giddings (Women’s Health Nurse) and Lou Gillman, these sessions are designed to provide factual information that is easy to understand. Please contact the MPS on 68805900 as numbers are limited.

**FAR WEST ACADEMY SOCCER TRIALS**

Trials for the 2015 Soccer Program will be held on 17 May in Nyngan at Frank Smith Oval. The trials are open to male and female footballers turning 10-14 years of age in 2015 (ie born from 2001 to 2005). For further information, please see Mrs Hodge.

**MERIT AWARDS**

Congratulations to the following students who received Merit Awards at Assembly on Monday:

**KINDER:**
- **Justin Coleman** for always working hard on challenging tasks.
- **Lucas Fong** for a super effort in story writing.
- **Isabelle Mudford** for a super effort in reading and **Eliza Larkin** for always ‘Giving Her Best’ in all areas.

**YEAR 1:**
- **Rachel Ryan** for beautiful writing and illustrations.
- **Maddie Amiet** and **Dakotah Gilmour** for settling in well at St Joseph’s.
- **Sam Dunn** for super sounding out in Story Writing, **Sienna Horne** for fabulous work in Spelling and Sentence A Day and **Tia Allan** for writing an excellent holiday recount.

**YEAR 2:**
- **Eli Fullbrook** and **Danna Durrant** for settling in well at St Joe’s, **Sarah Temple** and **Kate Woodlams** for using descriptive language in their narrative writing and **Rhys Bonnington** for reading with excellent fluency.
- **Olivia Amiet** and **Heidi Holland** for settling well into school life at St Joseph’s.
- **Jessica Schilling** for working well with a partner to write a fantastic limerick and **Jennifer Ibe** and **Anton Davis** for super contributions to class discussions about poetry.

**YEAR 3:**
- **Thomas Durrant** for settling in so well at St Joe’s, **Charlie Banks** and **Elle McAnally-Ellwin** for writing fabulous narrative about their ‘adventures’, **Billie Buckland** for always asking questions to clarify understanding in Maths and **Tyler Evans** for always participating in class discussions.

**YEAR 4:**
- **Will Sandford** for asking intelligent questions in Maths, **Alex Beveridge** for striving for excellence in Writing and **Zoe Welsh** for being a dedicated student.

**WHAT’S ON**

**WEEK 2**
- **Friday, 1 May**
  - Mother’s Day Stall Working Bee – 9:00 a.m.

**WEEK 3**
- **Monday, 5 May**
  - Year 6 Reconciliation
  - ICAS Science Competition entries due
- **Wednesday, 6 May**
  - Staff CPR/First Aid Skills Update
- **Thursday, 7 May**
  - Kerrie Morris (St John’s College) – Visit Year 6 – 11:30 a.m.
  - Year 1 Liturgy – 10:30 a.m.
  - Mother’s Day Stall Working Bee – 9:00 a.m.
- **Friday, 8 May**
  - REC Assembly
  - Mother’s Day Stall

**WEEK 4**
- **Wednesday, 13 May**
  - Gilgandra Show
- **Thursday, 14 May**
  - Year 6 Mass – 10:30 a.m.
  - Staff Professional Development – 3:30 – 6:00 p.m.

**Sunday, 17 May**
- Ascension of the Lord

**WEEK 5**
- **Monday, 18 May**
  - NAPLAN – Years 3 & 5
  - ICAS Digital Technologies Competition
- **Tuesday, 19 May**
  - NAPLAN – Years 3 & 5
- **Wednesday, 20 May**
  - NAPLAN – Years 3 & 5
  - ICAS Digital Technologies Competition
- **Thursday, 21 May**
  - Year 2 Liturgy – 10:30 a.m.

**AROUND THE CLASSROOMS**

**KINDER**

This week the Kindergarten children wrote some great stories on creatures of the sea. They have been using lots of sight words in their stories and telling the reader when the story happened, who was in their story and where the story took place. For reading we read “Grandpa Grandpa”. We focused on sight words found in the book and answered questions about what Grandpa caught with his granddaughter. Our sound next week is ‘Gg’ so start looking for things around your home that start with that sound.

In Mathematics Kindergarten has been focusing on the number ‘10’. They have been learning what numbers add up to 10 and how to subtract. In our HSIE unit on ‘Japan’ we learnt where Japan is on a world map compared to Australia. During our Science and Technology unit, we discussed how you can tell if something is living or non-living by sorting out living things like people and non-living things like a rock. A big congratulations to all the Kinders for their reverent participation in our Liturgy this morning. It was lovely to have so many friends and family join us. Take care - Miss Bourke

**YEAR 1**

Thank you to everyone who attended the ANZAC Day march on Wednesday. It was very touching to see so many people marching proudly to remember the ANZACs. We also enjoyed a visit from Mr Bonnington last week, who shared some special photographs, medals and stories of his family during the war. During the week we painted a beautiful poppy garden to remember our brave men and women who gave their lives for our freedom.

In writing we reflected on our thoughts about ANZAC Day. Next week Year 1 has a special Liturgy focusing on all our mums as we prepare for Mother’s Day. We hope to see lots of family and friends at the church at 10:30 next Thursday to celebrate this special day. Have a lovely weekend.

**YEAR 2**

Thank you to all the Year 2 students who attended the ANZAC Day service. It was wonderful to see so many children there to celebrate the 100th anniversary. We’ve enjoyed writing descriptions of sour worms and a chocolate bar. We used our five senses to help with our writing. Of course, we all loved it when it was time to describe the taste, quickly having a bite so that we had the description just right! In HSIE we have begun a unit on ‘Celebrations’ and have the children celebrating ANZAC Day.

In Maths we’ve looked at informal area, estimating, bridging to ten and time. Our classroom is becoming a monster zoo as we have created some unusual looking plate paper monsters.

**YEAR 3**

It was great to see so many children at the ANZAC Day march on Saturday. Thank you to everyone who came along to our First Holy Communion parent meeting on Monday. It was a great time to discuss what your child is learning about in preparation for this special sacrament. In the classroom we completed a comprehension activity on one of our eisteddfod poems, ‘The Adventures of Isabel’. In Grammar we have been learning about quotation marks. Our Maths activities have focused on number patterns, time and data. In Religion we have started to learn about the four main parts of the Mass. Keep up the hard work Year 3!

**YEAR 4**

**Busy, busy, busy** - that is definitely one way to describe the Year 5 classroom this week. We have been working well on refining our exousion writing through the identification of our persuasive language and comparing our texts with others. In HSIE we wrote a glossary of terms that will form the foundation for our ‘Gold’ unit. In Maths we have been paying close attention to decimal place values as well as chance and probability. We are still continuing to work on our CWA projects - with only one more week to go until they are due. Our poem practices have commenced and they are already sounding rather good. Thank you to those Year 5 students who represented the school at the ANZAC Day march. Well done on a very productive week Year 5. Have a great weekend.

**YEAR 6**

Thank you to all the leaders who came along to the ANZAC Day march on Saturday and participated in a wonderful commemoration. We have been working hard in Maths, concentrating on decimals to the thousandths area of a triangle. Poetry has been our focus in Writing and we have been experimenting with similes and metaphors to make our writing more elaborate. In Religion we have looked at the doctrine statements surrounding the resurrection and the importance of the Easter season. It is great to see some CWA projects coming in looking very impressive – don’t forget they are due at the end of next week!!

**CANTEEN ROSTER**

Friday, 1 May – Kirstie McKenzie & Lesley Riley
- Monday, 4 May – Penny Zell & Danielle Bonnington
- Wednesday, 6 May – Brenda Purvis & Julie Marchant
- Friday, 8 May – Roz Zell & Kristy Gale

**ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER**

Sunday, 3 May – Martin Friers, Charlie Banks, Olivia Newsstead, Morgan McGrath