Thought for the Week

A mother’s arms are always open when a hug is needed. Her heart understands when it is time to be a friend. Her gentle eyes are stern when a lesson is required and her strength and love will guide and give her child wings to fly.

Happy Mother’s Day to all our mums on Sunday!

MOTHER’S DAY STALL
Tomorrow, Friday, 9 May

Thank you to those who have donated items to our Mother’s Day Stall this year. Just a reminder that the gifts range in price from 50¢ to $5.00 and don’t forget to send a plastic bag with your child to bring home their precious gifts.

HELPERS FOR THE STALL
If anyone can spare some time tomorrow to wrap last minute gifts and help man the stall, your help would be greatly appreciated. Helpers are needed from 9:00 a.m.

MOTHER’S DAY RAFFLE
All raffle tickets need to be returned to school tomorrow as the raffles will be drawn at the conclusion of the Mother’s Day Stall. We would like to thank those parents from our school who have kindly made donations towards the raffles.

NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM – LITERACY AND NUMERACY (NAPLAN)
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 next Tuesday, 13 May, Wednesday, 14 May and Thursday, 15 May. If you require any information about the NAPLAN tests please contact the school.

CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONS
Congratulations to all our competitors who ran in the Diocesan Cross Country held at Coolah on Monday. Joey’s had some tremendous results including our 9 years Boys Team consisting of Rhys O’Neill, Patrick Spora, Will Fuller and Bradley Kildey who won the Diocesan Team Event for that age group. Well done boys! Rhys finished 2nd and Patrick came 5th meaning that they will now compete at the NSW Catholic Primary Schools Polding Cross Country Championships to be held at Eastern Creek Raceway in Sydney on Friday, 13 June. Other excellent results included Ashleigh Carlow – 10th, Will Fuller – 11th and Deklyn Lummis – 15th.

GOOD LUCK LEAGUE LEGENDS
We wish Noah Ryan, Kyle Welsh, Mitchell Carlow and Martin Fryers, our legends of league, the best of luck tomorrow as they play in the NSW Catholic Primary Schools Rugby League Championships to be held in Tamworth. It is a fantastic achievement to reach this high level of competition. Congratulations Noah, Kyle, Mitchell and Martin. Best of luck also to Mr Soares who will coach the diocesan soccer team. Well done!

FIRST COMMUNION PARENT MEETING
There will be a meeting on Monday, 12 May in the school computer room at 6:00 p.m. for those parents whose children will receive their First Holy Communion this year. First Holy Communion will be celebrated in St Joseph’s Church on Sunday, 22 June at 9:45 a.m.

YEAR 2 LITURGY
Year 2 will celebrate a class Liturgy next Thursday, 15 May in St Joseph’s Church at 10:30 a.m. Everyone is welcome and morning tea will follow Mass so please bring a plate to share.

ICAS WRITING AND SPELLING COMPETITIONS
The International Competition and Assessments for Schools is holding both writing and spelling competitions on Monday, 16 June and Tuesday, 17 June for children in Years 3-6. If you would like your child to enter either one or both of these competitions please return the rear-off slip with today’s About to school by next Friday, 16 May together with the relevant entry fee ($17.00 for the writing competition and $11.00 for the spelling competition).

ST JOHN’S COLLEGE VISIT
Mrs Kerrie Morris, Principal of St John’s College Dubbo will visit our school on Monday, 12 May. Mrs Morris will address our Year 6 students regarding high school education at the college.

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.

CHAIR COVER WASHING – 68 TO GO!
We are still looking for volunteers to help wash the chair covers that were used at the Ball. There are 68 left to wash. So come and get a dozen or so! It all helps.

HOMEWORK FOLDERS
We now have for sale St Joseph’s homework folders. These are made from a durable material and will sell for $12.00 each. Call in at the office and have a look. These are not compulsory.

MOTHER’S DAY LUNCH
Tooraweenah Preschool Association Inc invite you to come along and enjoy a family day out celebrating Mother’s Day on Sunday, 11 May at the Armatree Hotel. This is a fundraiser for the preschool whose members will be catering for the lunch. Bookings are essential. Please contact the Armatree Hotel on 68458805.

UNDER 15’S DISCO
A disco will be held at the Gilgandra Youth Club on Friday, 9 May from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. to raise money for the Gilgandra Junior Basketball Under 12’s. Canteen facilities will be available, glow sticks for purchase. Lucky door prize. For further information contact Claudina Ryan on 0427 237333.

TENNIS COACHING
School of Tennis conducts tennis coaching in Gilgandra on Monday afternoons after school. New players are welcome at any time. For
Further information contact Kylie on 0427 637 266 or Andrew on 0428 751 757 or email schooloftennis@bigpond.com.

**FAR WEST ACADEMY SOCCER TRIALS**

Trials for the 2014 Soccer Program will be held on 1 June in Warren at Victoria Park. The trials are open to male and female footballers turning 10-14 years of age in 2014 (ie born from 2000 to 2004). For further information, please see Mrs Hodge.

**KUCA CLUB**

It’s Kuca time again. Kuca is a fun afternoon with tea, games and craft. Kuca only costs 50¢ and is held every Monday from 3:20 – 4:45 at the Uniting Church.

**MERIT AWARDS**

Congratulations to the following students who received Merit Awards at Assembly on Monday: **KINDER**: Blake Fairley for great listening during reading, Henry Purvis for writing a great story about soccer, Kimbalee Gilmour for sharing interesting information about other countries in HSIIE, Alison Mudford for great improvement in her story writing and Indi Murphy for writing interesting stories. **YEAR 1**: Ryan Ferguson for great work learning sight words, William Spora for beautiful presentation of book work, Jett Tarrant for great work learning sight words and Paige Gilmour for a fantastic effort towards writing tasks. **YEAR 2**: Kate Woollams for beautiful handwriting, Luke O’Neill for great work in Maths, Isaac Grimshaw for a super effort in Grammar, Emma Westwood for a wonderful effort in Spelling, Aiden Walker for an awesome artwork of autumn leaves and Madison Riley for being a kind and considerate class member. **YEAR 3**: Mackaylah Ross for writing an extraordinary exposition, Anton Davis and Joshua Purvis for following instructions carefully, Kelsey Hutchison for neat writing in her handwriting book, Jessica Scholte for showing enthusiasm towards poetry and Zac Ferguson for working well in his Operations book. **YEAR 4**: Amelia Murray for always offering ‘gardening’ help to Mrs Kilby, Amber Tarrant for beautiful neat book work, Hamish Beveridge and Ella McAnally-Ellwin for great problem solving work in Maths and Heidi Purvis for excellent sounding out and word attack skills in Spelling. **YEAR 5**: Lachlan Fairey for fantastic research skills for the CWA Project, Lucy Davis for amazing contributions in Maths discussions and Harry Spora and Aiden Ryan for quality writing of class expositions on swimming. **YEAR 6**: Jack Bonus-Straub for great work in Problem A Day and Operations, John Spora and Grace Lummis for having a mature and positive approach to learning and Kayla Bonus-Straub for asking questions to develop learning.

**WHAT’S ON**

**WEEK 2**
Friday, 9 May - Polding Winter Sports Trials
- Mother’s Day Stall

**WEEK 3**
Monday, 12 May - Mrs Kerrie Morris (Principal of St John’s College Dubbo) – visit Year 6 – 11:30 a.m.
- First Communion Parent Meeting – 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, 13 – Thursday, 15 May
Thurday, 15 May - Year 2 Liturgy – 10:30 a.m.

**WEEK 4**
Wednesday, 21 May - ICAS Computer Skills Competition
Friday, 23 May - McNamie Trophy – St Joeys’s to host

**WEEK 5**
Thursday, 29 May - Diocesan Spelling Bee
- Polding Touch
- Peachey/Richardson Football – Far Netball – Coonamble

Friday, 30 May - Polding Touch
- Principals’ Meeting

**AROUND THE CLASSROOMS**

**KINDER**
Another busy week in Kinder has flown by. We have started our new unit in Religion called ‘Belonging to God’. Throughout this unit we will be looking at how we can identify that God is present in our school, community and family. With Mother’s Day only 3 sleeps away Kinder has been preparing some wonderful surprises for all our mums. We read “Are You My Mother?” by Dr Seuss and found out the names of many baby animals. Did you know baby birds can be called hatchlings? We made some gorgeous giraffes in Art and drew some great pictures of our mums. In Science we completed a timeline of how we have changed and grown from the day we were born until now. Subtraction was our Maths focus along with collecting data and completing a graph showing the most popular fruit eaten for ‘Crunch and Sip’. Our sound next week is ‘L’. We wish all our special mums, grandmas and aunties a very Happy Mother’s Day!! Miss Bourke & Mrs Newstead

**YEAR 1**
Year 1 has had a great week practising their poems for the eisteddfod and I am very impressed with how well they have picked up the words. We welcomed Samantha Naden to our classroom this week who enjoys being part of the Joey’s family. Our spelling sound this week is ‘ll’ and we have made a fabulous brainstorm of ‘ll’ words on our board. We are still learning all about prepositions in Grammar and have found them in a range of sentences. The text type we will be exploring for the next few weeks is procedures. Our comprehension has been about the book “Zizzy” and as Zizzy is a sloth we are making an artwork of a sloth in Creative Arts. In Maths we have been practising take away questions, quarters and hexagons. Have a lovely Mother’s Day.

**YEAR 2**
This week we’ve been learning about descriptions. We learnt how to use our five senses to enhance a description. We then wrote a description of a sour worm and especially enjoyed using our sense of taste to complete the description. In Maths we’ve studied picture graphs, division and multiplication and we’ve also read “Where The Wild Things Are” in English. We’ve begun preparing for our Liturgy next Thursday and remind everyone to please send in your photo as soon as possible. We’ve created some special Mother’s Day surprises and would like to wish all the mums a Happy Mother’s Day on Sunday.

**YEAR 3**
In class this week we have continued with our First Holy Communion preparation. We have looked at the four main parts of the Mass and discussed how we may pray. We have been preparing for the ‘Young Adventurer’ award. Year 3 read about his hard work and determination to achieve his dream. In writing we have written a discussion about the topic ‘Is Reading Fiction a Waste of Time?’ In Maths we investigated doubling numbers, multiplication facts and symmetry. I look forward to the First Holy Communion parent meeting on Monday. Have a lovely Mother’s Day weekend.

**YEAR 4**
It was a lovely celebration in the church this morning. Congratulations Year 4 on your beautiful reflection during the Mass. In the classroom, we focused on subtraction with trading, two step problem solving and multiplication. Conjunctions and noun plurals were covered in Grammar and the spelling combinations of ‘ear’, ‘ere’ & ‘are’ were identified in many words. Well done to the cross country runners who went to Coolah on a chilly Monday. Years 3 and 4 are right into the swing of things, showing great enthusiasm during poem practices in readiness for this year’s eisteddfod. Finally, happy Mother’s Day to all the special mums and nans this Sunday – enjoy a relaxing weekend.

**YEAR 5**
Week 2 and Year 5 is definitely powering through their busy schedule. In class this week we welcomed our new student Lily - welcome to St Joeys. We have also been busy reflecting on our writing and seeing how we can improve our styles. Our focus for Grammar and SAD has been identifying the principal clause within a statement and we have been fortunate enough to be using the iPads to look for these in a book we are reading. In Maths we have covered line graphs and multiples. Outside the classroom we have been super busy preparing for McNamie with training for our selected sports. McNamie is just around the corner and it would be great to get as many people as possible to help out and support us on the day. To all our mums, have a great Mother’s Day.

**YEAR 6**
We have been working hard in Year 6 this week. In Maths we have been concentrating on decimals to thousandths and area of a triangle. Descriptions have been our focus in Writing and we have been looking at similes and metaphors to make our writing more elaborate. We have also been working on our free choice speeches, which we look forward to presenting in Week 6. It is great to see some CWA projects coming in looking very impressive – don’t forget they are due next week! Our string art works are underway with all the hammers in full swing! Happy Mother’s Day to all our mums on Sunday.

**CANTERBURY ROSTER**
Friday, 9 May – Leanne Glover & Mel Phillips
Monday, 12 May – Anna Mudford & Sally Oehm
Wednesday, 14 May – Lorna Donan-Spora & Carol Alchin
Friday, 16 May – Kyle Carlow & Melissa Ryan

**ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER**
Sunday, 11 May – Georgia Horan, Kate Gilmour, James O’Neill, Lachlan Fairey