**PUPIL FREE DAY – Monday, 23 May**

On Monday, 23 May the staff will be participating in an ICT professional development day focusing on our schools new reporting system and Diocesan ICT endorsed resources. Teachers will be looking at how to access the new reports as well as sharing and collaborating resources within our school and other schools in the diocese during the day.

**LEAGUE & NETBALL IN COONAMBLE**

Our seventy-three netball and footy players are ready for the Primary Netball Challenge and Peachey and Richardson Football competitions to be held in Coonamble tomorrow. All children need to be in Coonamble by 9:00 a.m. Those children requiring transport need to be at school by 7.45 a.m. Go Joey’s!

**PRIMARY SPORT**

Sport for the Years 3–6 students will be held tomorrow as many of the children will be travelling to Coonamble. Therefore all primary children should wear their sports uniform tomorrow, not Friday.

**WALK SAFELY TO SCHOOL DAY**

This Friday, 20 May is Walk Safely to School Day. Objectives of the day are:

- To promote the health benefits of walking and help create regular walking habits at an early age.
- To help children develop the vital road-crossing skills they will need as they become mature pedestrians.
- To ensure that children up to 10 years of age hold an adult’s hand when crossing the road.
- To reduce the car dependency habits that are being created at an early age and which will be difficult to change as children become adults.
- To reduce vehicle emissions to help tackle climate change and improve air quality.

We ask you to discuss with your child the health benefits of walking as well as safety rules. All students will receive a Walk Safely to School sticker so that they might like to wear it on Friday to highlight the importance of being a safe pedestrian.

**OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS MASS**

A Mass in honour of Our Lady Help of Christians will be celebrated on Tuesday, 24 May at 10:30 a.m. Year 4 is preparing the Mass and all are most welcome to attend. Please bring a plate to share for morning tea.

**SUPER SPELLERS**

We wish our super spellers, Dylen Murray, Layney Godber, Jennifer Ibe and Bradley Kildey, the best of luck next Thursday, 26 May as they take on the best in the diocese at the Diocesan Spelling Bee to be held in Wellington. Go Joey’s!

**McNAMEE TROPHY**

All students from Years 5 and 6 will represent the school at the McNamee Trophy which will be held in Coonamble next Friday, 27 May. The students will be competing against St Brigid’s Coonamble in public speaking, touch football, soccer, netball and rugby league. The program for the day is as follows:

- 9:00 a.m. Mass
- 9:45 a.m. Public Speaking
- 11:00 a.m. Rugby League
- 12:00 noon Netball
- 1:00 p.m. Soccer
- 2:00 p.m. Touch Football
- 3:00 p.m. Farewell – Presentation of Sportsmanship Medals

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**

*St Joseph’s Church - Sunday, 29 May – 9:45 a.m.*

The excitement is certainly building for the First Holy Communion class as this special day is quickly approaching. Our school community and parish are warmly invited to celebrate First Holy Communion at St Joseph’s Church on Sunday, 29 May at 9:45 a.m. It would be fabulous to have lots there for this great occasion.

**WORKING BEE TO CLEAN THE CHURCH FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**

There will be a working bee for Year 3 parents to clean the church in preparation for First Holy Communion next Thursday, 26 May at 4:00 p.m. Please spare some time to help if at all possible.

**CELL OF DUBBO EISTEDDFOD**

All students from Year 1 to Year 6 will be participating in the verse speaking choirs at the City of Dubbo Eisteddfod on Wednesday, 8th and Thursday, 9th June. Children are required to wear full winter uniform. Girls are to wear tunics. Times for the Verse Speaking Choirs are as follows:

- **Wednesday, 8 June commencing at 10:00 a.m.**
  - Section 5573 – Years 5/6 – Senior Primary (we are competitor no. 3 of 3 competitors), immediately followed by
  - Section 5572 – Years 3/4 – Junior Primary (we are competitor no. 3 of 4 competitors)

- **Thursday, 9 June commencing at 10:00 a.m.**
  - Section 5575 – Small Schools (3 competitors)

**Thank you to those families who have returned the permission/transport note that was with last week’s About. Another note was given to those families today who we haven’t yet received one. Could you please return it to school by Monday, 23 May to enable us to organise transport. The cost for the bus to travel to Dubbo will be $5.00 per student.**

**BASKETBALL COURT RESURFACING**

Work has finished on the resurfacing of our basketball court and it looks fantastic! The whole school joined our Year 6 leaders in an official ‘opening’ of the new court on Monday. Thanks again to our Year 6 leaders, Mr Michael Mudford and Southern Cross Agriculture, and our P & F Association.

**STRICTLY NO PARKING ON THE BASKETBALL COURT**

Just a reminder to everyone that the basketball court is strictly a no parking zone. It would be a shame if our new court had tyre or oil marks on it!

**ENROLLING NOW FOR KINDER 2017**

We are now taking enrolments for our Kinder class of 2017. If you have a child ready to start school next year, please call in and pick up an enrolment form. Please note that this year applications close on Friday, 1 July.

**KEEPING KIDS SAFE**

Parents or carers who engage the services of a private tutor or coach have an important role to play in helping to keep their children safe. From 1st April 2016 adults who provide private tuition or coaching services to children will need to obtain a new Working With Children Check. The Certificate for Self Employed People will no longer be valid after their expiry date and the certificate holders will need to
apply for a new Working With Children Check. Parents or carers should ask their child's tutor or coach for their name, date of birth and their Working With Children Check number. They must then go online and verify the tutor or coach is not barred from working with children in NSW. Verifying that a tutor or coach can work with children is quick and easy - just follow the simple steps at www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/parentscheckthecheck. If you suspect that an adult is providing services to children without a Working With Children Check you can go online to make a confidential report or phone (02) 9286 7219. Help to keep kids safe by sharing #parentscheckthecheck with your family and friends through your own social media networks.

**MERIT AWARDS**

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

**KINDER**
- Toby Davis for giving of his best in Story Writing. Sophie Gilmour for excellent counting skills up to 20, Ava Lacey and Hayden Nichols for their knowledge of numbers before and after to 20 and Violet Whitehouse for excellent expression during reading.

**YEAR 1**
- Stuart Wheatley for great work solving subtraction number sentences. Jaida Tarrant for a super effort with homework. Bonica Henry for writing a well structured weekend recount and Hudson Duffy for being a super speller.

**YEAR 2**
- Tia Allan and Ella Mudford for writing a great recount about Mother’s Day. Trinity Zell for working hard in Problem A Day and Operations. Sienna Zell for super spelling results. Carter Chapman for working hard to improve his punctuation and Grace Jones-Copelin for a great effort to participate in Maths.

**YEAR 3**
- Lucy Kilpatrick for a great effort in Reading. Sienna Marchant for trying hard in Operations. Will Spora for terrific contributions to class discussions. Jett Tarrant for a great effort in learning subtraction with trading and Grace Winter for being an enthusiastic classroom helper.

**YEAR 4**
- Jerome Woodrow, Rhys Bonnington, Emily Zell and Chloe Mudford for great work researching the ships of the First Fleet. Molly Fairey for great contributions to class discussions in Religion and Aiden Walker and Sarah Temple for creating lovely comic strips of ‘The Ghost’.

**YEAR 5**
- Will Gaff for trying hard to improve clarity in his writing. Olivia McClelland for being a kind and considerate member of Year 5. Jack Purvis for working well with others during Reading Groups and Jessica Scholte for demonstrating an enthusiastic approach to reading.

**YEAR 6**
- Tom Eason for excellent work converting fractions, decimals and percentages. Michael Raglus and Emily Skinner for writing amazing imaginative poems and Jacob Wilson for accurately identifying principal clauses in Grammar.

**WHAT’S ON**

**WEEK 4 - Year 4 Reconciliation**
- Thursday, 19 May - Peachey/Richardson Football/Primary Netball Challenge – Cooamable
- Friday, 20 May - Principals’ Retreat
- Saturday, 21 May - Walk Safely to School Day

**WEEK 5**
- Monday 23 May - Pupil Free Day
- Tuesday, 24 May - Our Lady Help of Christians Mass (Year 4)
- K-6 – 10:30 a.m.
- Thursday, 26 May - Diocesan Spelling Bee – Wellington
- Working Bee for Year 3 Parents to Clean
- Church for First Holy Communion – 4:00 pm
- Friday, 27 May - McNamee – Years 5 & 6 – Cooamable
- Sunday, 29 May - First Holy Communion – Body & Blood of Christ

**WEEK 6**
- Tuesday, 30 May - ICAS Science Competition
- Thursday, 2 June - Priests and Principals Meeting
- Kinder Liturgy – 10:30 a.m.
- Friday, 3 June - Kinder Nursery Rhymes – Eisteddfod

**WEEK 7 - Eisteddfod Week**
- Tuesday, 7 June - Individual Items – City of Dubbo Eisteddfod
- Wednesday, 8 June - MCCL Meeting
- City of Dubbo Eisteddfod – Senior Primary/Junior Primary
- Thursday, 9 June - City of Dubbo Eisteddfod – Infants
- Friday, 10 June - A Fish Outta Water – An Olympic Odyssey, School Performance – 12:00 p.m.

**AROUND THE CLASSROOMS**

**KINDER**
This week Kindergarten has been learning about the sound ‘LI’ and counting how many ‘LI’ sounds in words. Thank you to those who have contributed to the sound table this week. Next week we will be revising all the sounds we have learnt so far. Our big book we are focusing on this week is “Hairy Bear”. During reading we discussed what sight words we could see and continue to sound out words that are unfamiliar to us. We also looked at words that rhyme in the book. In Story Writing today we wrote about our favourite holiday place. During History we discussed why significant events are sometimes made into public holidays and in Religion we thought about where we have seen crosses and what they symbolise. During Art we finished our lions and painted some delicious hamburgers to decorate our classroom. Take care. Miss Belinda Bourke

**YEAR 1**
This week in spelling groups we have been learning about plurals and the long ‘a’ sound. We have also tried our hand at alphabetical order and writing interesting sentences. Our Grammar focus has included identifying all the vowel and consonant sounds and trying to decide if we should add ‘a’ or ‘an’ in front of words - very tricky! In Maths we have explored volume and capacity, sharing and interpreting picture graphs. Thank you to everyone who has tried really hard to write and spell some of their sight words for homework. This really helps to reinforce the words and helps us to use them in our writing. Our new Science unit with Mrs Kilby is all about mixtures and we are looking forward to lots of fun experiments. In Art we have completed some very colourful autumn leaf murals and a spiky echidna. Have a great weekend. Mrs Alison Newshead

**YEAR 2**
As part of our Literature unit we have written some wonderful descriptions of “The Ravenous Beast” and tried our hand at poetry with a cinquain poem about a monster. Verbs continue to be our focus in Grammar and in Spelling we are looking at the rule ‘e’ goes away when ‘ing’ comes to stay. In Maths we used a jump strategy on a number line to add numbers and identify number patterns. In Art we have created some fantastic monsters to decorate our room. Have a lovely weekend. Mrs Michelle Schier & Miss Lisa Harvey

**YEAR 3**
This week our Year 3 students have become budding poets! In pairs we have written wonderful rhyming poems called “Things” using a poetry formula. We have started eisteddfod practice and are working hard at eye contact and facial expressions. In Maths we have looked at the fractional parts of fifths and tenths and keep practicing decimals. During Grammar conjunctions have been our focus and how we can use these in our writing. With only 11 more sleeps until our First Holy Communion we are getting very excited and gaining a deeper understanding of the Mass. We wish all the netballers and footballers the best of luck tomorrow in Cooamable! Mrs Dominica Banks & Mrs Melinda Morris

**YEAR 4**
This week we have been preparing for our ‘Mary Help of Christians’ Mass next Tuesday. We have also begun practising for the eisteddfod. In Grammar our focus has been on prepositions while in Writing we have begun writing an information report on convict life. During History we have examined the affect of the arrival of Europeans on Aboriginal Australians. For Maths we have counted and ordered fractions and explored division strategies. I hope everyone has a lovely weekend. Looking forward to seeing you at our Mass next week. Miss Philippa Smith

**YEAR 5**
This week in Year 5 we have been looking closely at the purpose and structure of an information report and have begun writing one using Sharecloud in our classroom. In Grammar we have been focusing on identifying subordinate clauses in sentences while in reading groups we have been very keen to rotate between our fluency, interactive whiteboard, ‘Read Theory’ and ‘Spot X’ activities. Maths has been tricky this week as we begin to construct shapes using a prototype. Good luck to everyone representing Joeys in Cooamable tomorrow. Have a great weekend. Mr Tim Keady

**YEAR 6**
In Maths this week we have been learning about calculating volume, 4-digit multiplication and equivalent number sentences. We have focused on identifying subordinate clauses in Grammar. In Writing we have been practising descriptive writing to create imagery in our narratives. We have learnt about migrants in our History unit and why they have migrated to Australia. Good luck to everyone playing rugby league and netball in Cooamable tomorrow. Go Joeys’! Mr Damien Soares

**CANTEEN ROSTER**
Friday, 20 May – Amy Spora & Michelle Woollams
Monday, 23 May – Danielle Diggs & Amii Marchant
Wednesday, 25 May – Sophia Ibe & Jessica Whitehouse
Friday, 27 May – Nikki Church & Briony Mills

**ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER**
Sunday, 22 May – James O’Neill, Rhys O’Neill, Olivia McClelland, Oli Schier