



ABOUT

St Joseph's School Gilgandra

www.stjosephsgilgandra.nsw.edu.au
Email: stjoeysgil@bth.catholic.edu.au

Term 3 Week 1

23 July 2020

Thought for the Week

Before you speak, let your words pass through three gates:

1. Is it true?
2. Is it necessary?
3. Is it kind?

WELCOME BACK!

We welcome everyone back to a new school term. Hopefully everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable break and we are now ready for a term full of learning, fun and caring here at Joey's. Unfortunately many of the COVID restrictions from last term are to continue for the time being including:-

- Non-essential adults are still not permitted on school grounds or at school events. This includes parents/carers unless specifically approved by the principal.
- School assemblies are limited to 15 minutes and there are to be no external visitors.
- School photos can take place.
- All school sport and activities including competitions aligned with current health advice (including those activities run by external organisations) can proceed.
- Parent/teacher meetings – **where these need to take place – strong preference for online** where possible unless involving serious matters that require face to face discussion.
- Parents are not able to assist or be spectators at any school physical activity.

Even though these restrictions are in place we are determined to reschedule postponed events where possible over the next two terms. Regrettably this may require the non-attendance of adults. However, during these trying times we don't want the kids to miss out even if it means the adults can't come along. The staff has discussed alternative ways of involving adults such as Zooming, videoing, restricting numbers at events, etc. Be assured, we will keep you informed as circumstances change. Again, we thank you for your understanding and support.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR – TUESDAY, 28 JULY

We have been getting excited about our Book Fair which will be held next **Tuesday, 28 July**. All students have been involved in class competitions for vouchers in library lessons this week. The winners of the \$10 vouchers will be announced on Monday. Unfortunately, parents are unable to attend the fair this year but students have this week visited the book fair to explore the books on offer and make a 'Wish List' to take home for parent approval. Cash and card payments may be made. Photographs and pricings of books were sent out on the School Stream App yesterday. We encourage you to have a look with your child. Orders can be presented to school at any time. Please encourage children to hand their orders to their teacher first thing before school commences. Novelty items, from \$1 to \$6, can be purchased **only** with cash on Tuesday. We are unable to reorder novelty items. If books are sold out we will order more in. They will take a couple of weeks to arrive after the fair. If books are intended as gifts, please let us know on the wish list form or contact the school. Every purchase you make will earn more books for our school library. We thank you in advance for your support of this event and happy reading because a book is a dream that you hold in your hands.

BEAUT BEANIES

Thanks to the generosity of our school P & F Association, all our Years 5 and 6 students were given a Joey's school beanie on Monday. These beanies are an initiative of our P & F who wanted to give all Years 5 and 6 students one during their Canberra excursion. What a great idea! I know everyone in Years 5 and 6 appreciated this great gesture.

SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

The children have started training for our school cross country which will be held on our school grounds on Friday, 31 July at 11:30 a.m. The 9 and 10 year olds will run 2km while the 11 and 12 year olds will compete over 3km. There is no other carnival after this event. Adults are not permitted on the school grounds however you can still get a good view from the fence. Please adhere to physical distancing regulations.

ICAS ACADEMIC ASSESSMENTS

ICAS Academic Assessments for Science, Digital Technologies, English, Maths and Spelling will be held in Weeks 5, 6 and 7 and will be online assessments. There will be no writing assessment this year. Children in Years 3 – 6 have today received a form providing dates and details with regards to the competitions. If your child would like to participate in any of the competitions, please complete and return the tear-off slip to school, together with the relevant fee, no later than **Wednesday, 5 August**.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

As advised last term, school photos have been rescheduled to take place on **Tuesday, 18 August**. In Term 1, each child was given an envelope with full details regarding price and products available. If you did not order your photos back in Term 1, please go online to www.advancedlife.com.au before photo day and enter our school code: 7Q9 5JT KQZ at the top of the page. Then just follow the prompts. You do not need to return your child's envelope if ordering online. You can also make payments by cash or cheque and must be returned in the envelopes provided. A separate envelope must be used for each child. **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. For those families who previously paid by cash, we are holding your envelope here at school. If you are unable to locate your envelope and need a new one, please contact the school office and we will send one home.

INTERACTIVE FLAT SCREENS

We have had two interactive flat screens erected in the Year 1 and Year 2 classrooms this week. This is a fantastic resource that enables the teachers and students to make vibrant visual presentations and control onscreen data through digital touchscreen interactions.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT SURVEY

As part of our focus on school improvement, our school will be conducting surveys to gather your knowledge, beliefs and experiences regarding our school. This survey is part of a suite of annual surveys we are conducting with staff, parents and students. We are collecting this data to capture the experience of all key stakeholders in our school. The results and analysis of the data will assist our school leaders to drive school improvement. Today you have been sent an email with a direct link to the survey. Your participation in this questionnaire is voluntary and confidential. We would greatly value your participation and input.

RETURN AND EARN

Year 6 is participating in the 'RETURN and EARN' program here at school. They are encouraging students to recycle drink containers whilst earning funds for our school. Most drink bottles, cans and poppers are accepted providing they are empty, have the label attached and are in good condition (not crushed or broken). Any large milk, juice or cordial bottles are not refundable. So if you have any at home that you would like to contribute please send them in. This is a great initiative by our Year 6 leaders and we thank them for promoting it at school.

SCHOOL CANTEN

Next week the school canteen will continue as it was in Term 2 with only pre-packaged plain large pies, large sausage rolls, packets of chips and drinks being available to order for lunch on Tuesday and Thursday. From Week 3, we will be reopening the canteen on Monday, Wednesday and Friday and welcoming our parent helpers back into the canteen. If you are able to assist with canteen on Monday, 3 August, Wednesday, 5 August or Friday, 7 August, would you please contact the school office. A canteen roster will be sent home next week.

LUNCHTIME FOOTY

We will start lunchtime footy this Monday. If your child wants to play tackle footy at lunchtime then they **must have their own jumper**. The students will keep this jumper in their own school bag and parents will be responsible for cleaning.

GOOD HYGIENE

School students do not need to follow strict adult physical distancing guidelines, but should follow good hygiene practices like:-

- regularly washing hands;
- avoid sharing drinks or food;
- coughing or sneezing into your elbow, or a tissue which should be discarded immediately; and
- filling water bottles from bubblers rather than using the bubbler directly.

JEANS FOR GENES DAY

Friday, 7 August is Jeans for Genes Day and we have decided this would be a great opportunity to help raise money to prevent childhood disease. We are asking all students to wear jeans to school on Friday, 7 August and bring along a gold coin donation. If you don't own a pair of jeans, just wear a pair of casual pants. With their jeans students will wear their normal school shirt and jumper. We look forward to an enjoyable day and raising lots of money for this worthwhile cause.

WHAT'S ON IN TERM 3

WEEK 2

- Tuesday, 28 July - Book Fair
Friday, 31 July - School Cross Country – 11:30 a.m.

WEEK 3

- Thursday, 6 August - St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Mass – Year 6 – 10:30 a.m.
Friday, 7 August - Jeans for Genes Day

WEEK 4

- Tuesday, 11 August - Spelling Bee (Years 3 & 4)
Wednesday, 12 August - Spelling Bee (Years 5 & 6)
Thursday, 13 August - Feast of the Assumption Mass – Year 5 – 10:30 a.m.

WEEK 5

- Monday, 17 August - ICAS Science Competition
Tuesday, 18 August - School Photos
- P&F Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
Thursday, 20 August - Year 4 Mass – 10:30 a.m.
Friday, 21 August - Primary Athletics Carnival

WEEK 6

- Monday, 24 August - ICAS Digital Technologies Competition
Tuesday, 25 August - ICAS English Competition
Thursday, 27 August - Year 1 Liturgy – 10:30 a.m.
- Primary Fancy Dress Social

WEEK 7

- Monday, 31 August - ICAS Mathematics Competition
Wednesday, 2 September - ICAS Spelling Competition
Thursday, 3 September - Year 2 Liturgy – 10:30 a.m.
Friday, 4 September - Father's Day Stall
Sunday, 6 September - Father's Day

WEEK 8

- Thursday, 10 September - Kinder Liturgy – 10:30 a.m.
Friday, 11 September - Year 6 Religion Test
Sunday, 13 September - First Holy Communion

WEEK 10

- Thursday, 24 September - Concert

AROUND THE CLASSROOMS

KINDER Welcome back everyone to another busy term in Kinder! This week we wrote about our holidays and tried really hard to remember capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. We are very excited about our new Literature unit 'One Spooky Night'. Our unit is based on the Meg and Mog series of books written by Helen Nicoll and Jan Pienkowski. This week we have met Meg the witch and her cute cat Mog along with her witch friends Jess, Tess, Bess and Cress! Our new Religion unit this term is called 'God's Great Family' and we have been discussing how our family is a gift from God. In the Bible it tells us that we should try really hard to obey our parents so we talked about what the word 'obey' means and how we can try hard at home to do what God has asked of us. In Maths we made patterns and worked on identifying and modelling take away number sentences. We enjoy listening to one another present news each afternoon. Next week we are going to try and bring in our favourite book to share. Have a great weekend!
Mrs Alison Newstead

YEAR 1 has settled quickly back into our classroom routines. We were very lucky to receive a new interactive flat screen in our classroom and we've all been enjoying testing it out. In Maths we've been adding odd and even numbers together, using addition to work out subtraction questions, describing position and calculating area. We have also started our new Geography unit, 'Features of Places'. We read "Ernie Dances To The Didgeridoo" which is about a boy who moves to Arnhem Land. We used Google Maps to see how far Arnhem Land was from Gilgandra (very far!) and Google Earth to look at the features of the landscape. Our Literature unit focus is Julia Donaldson books and this week we have been reading a favourite, "The Gruffalo". Have a great weekend!
Mrs Melinda Morris

YEAR 2 Welcome back everyone for a busy term. It was great to hear about everyone's well deserved break. The focus for Writing this week is recounts. In Maths we explored digital time, division, manipulating shapes to flip, slide or turn and we have begun saying our times tables. The Geography unit this term covers some great places in Australia and we drew pictures of favourite holiday spots from the mountains to the sea. The new Religion topic is 'Reflecting God's Love', reminding us to love one another as Jesus did and to always think of how we treat our friends and family. Have a great weekend!
Miss Lisa Harvey & Miss Prue Giffin

YEAR 3 Welcome back everyone! It sounds like everyone had a nice holiday and are now ready for what is bound to be an action packed term. During English we wrote holiday recounts and have begun looking at our new Text Type, the information report. We also completed our Literacy Pro test to find our new Lexile levels. Some children have made some excellent progress in their reading levels and have borrowed exciting books. We look forward to the book fair next week after having a look and writing down our wish lists on Tuesday with Mrs Thomas. There was great excitement as we began our new Literature unit about Aaron Blabey. In Religion we began our new unit on 'The Eucharist' as Year 3 will be preparing to make their First Holy Communion later this term, while in Maths we have focused on 3-digit subtraction, calculating change, cross sections and litres. Our Science focus this week has been on living and non-living things as we began our unit on 'Living World Animals'. Have a lovely weekend!
Mrs Donna Colwell & Mrs Phillipa Haling

YEAR 4 Welcome to Term 3. Hopefully you have enjoyed a restful break and are ready for a productive and exciting term. This week we started our new novel, "Paper Planes". We are really enjoying the descriptive way outback Western Australia has been introduced as the setting and how we can relate to the scenery. Maths has consisted of extending our understanding of addition using 3-digit numbers. During Grammar we have talked extensively about homophones and writing powerful sentences to distinguish between the different types. Our Religion unit this term is 'Mary, Mother of God'. This semester we will start our Geography unit, 'The Earth's Environment'. We have a very busy term ahead so we have revisited class expectations. It has been wonderful listening to everyone sharing their adventures over the holidays. Have a great weekend everyone.
Mrs Jacquie Clark

YEAR 5 Welcome back to Term 3. I hope everyone is well rested and is ready for an action packed term! On Monday we received a surprise – Joey's Beanies! A big thank you to our P & F for providing such a wonderful gift. They look fantastic and are a great way to keep warm on these cold mornings. In Grammar we are learning about adjectival subordinate clauses and identified clauses in sentences and during Maths we examined decimals to thousandths. We began our new Geography unit of work, 'Factors that Shape Places'. In this unit we will learn about the continents, bushfires, rainforests and Antarctica. On Wednesday we visited the book fair display where we explored all the items available and wrote a wish list. In Art this term we will be inspired by the work of Pablo Picasso who was known for his surrealism and cubism style. Have a great weekend.
Mrs Meichelle Schier

YEAR 6 A big welcome back to Term 3. It is great to see everyone back, smiling and ready to fulfil the challenges of another term. We have written our holiday recounts and have included complex sentences and more sophisticated vocabulary. In Maths we have been revising our long division skills, finding the area and circumference of a circle and working on our Essential Assessment goals. During Religion we have continued our unit on the Bible where we created a Venn diagram to display the similarities and differences of the Old and New Testaments. We have started our Geography unit for this term, 'Factors that Shape Places' and this week we have been learning about the seven continents of the world! Year 6 is loving the cold weather and the students are showing great style by wearing their new Joey's beanies. We thank the P & F for generously giving them to us!
Mrs Dominica Banks, Mrs Nikkola Thomas & Mrs Mia van der Walt

