HEAR OUR HEART WOOL DRIVE

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Our Year 6 students have decided that ‘Are You Joking’ will be our theme for this year’s fancy dress social for all students from Years 3-6. Year 6 want you to use your sense of humour and imagination as you prepare for the Primary Social. Some suggestions for our fancy dress social might include: favourite TV or movie characters, country and western, someone from the future or from the past, superheroes, fairies or footballers, pyjamas, sporting stars, the amazing 80’s, crazy colours or a change of character – a boy Cinderella or a girl Bob the Builder.

The social will be held in our school hall tonight Thursday, 30 July from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. The cost is free and supper is provided - just bring yourself! So start thinking ‘Are You Joking’?

**NETBALL NSW SCHOOLS CUP REGIONAL FINALS**

Our Senior Girls Netball Team travelled to Orange on Tuesday 28th July to compete in the Netball NSW Schools Cup Regional Final. The team consisted of Alex Beveridge, Zoe Welsh, Grace Alchin, Rebecca Gaff, Kate Gilmour, Lily Naden, Olivia Ferguson, Amelia Murray, Zoe Welsh, Mary Westwood.

**JEANS FOR GENES DAY**

Next 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 next Friday 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, primary students need to wear their sports shirt and school jumper, whilst infants students will wear jeans with their normal school shirts and jumper. We look forward to an enjoyable day and raising lots of money for this worthwhile cause.

**MOORAMBILLA VOICES PROGRAM**

Congratulations to Heidi Purvis and Jack Oehn who will participate, along with other talented singers from across the North West region of NSW, in the Moorambilla Voices program. Heidi was selected from a rigorous workshop with other talented singers from across the North West region of NSW, in the Moorambilla Voices program. Heidi is our very special saint as she co-founded the Sisters of St Joseph, celebrated in St Joseph’s Church next Thursday, 6 August at 10.30 am. St Mary is our very special saint as she co-founded the Sisters of St Joseph, the order that started our school back in 1909 and we look forward to celebrating this special day together. Everyone is most welcome and morning tea will follow Mass so please bring a plate to share.
PUPIL FREE DAY
A Pupil Free Day has been organised for Monday 17th August. During the day the teachers will be focusing on improving students reading and comprehension by analysing the reading outcomes in the English Syllabus and identifying the essential learning goals. They will then create a series of common assessment tasks to monitor student’s progress. Finally the teachers will review teaching strategies to help cater for individual needs.

FAREWELL MRS EASMAN
Mrs Hodge returns from Long Service Leave on Monday so we sadly farewell Mrs Easman. We thank Mrs Easman for efficiently fulfilling the secretary role. We also thank Mrs Colwell for competently carrying out the financial duties. A big thank you to both Bonnie and Marina. We now look forward to Mrs Hodge’s return on Monday.

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

KINDER:
Eliza Mudford for writing interesting stories, Jonas Naden for writing an interesting story on football, Abbie Skinner for trying hard with handwriting in Sentence A Day, Tom Staggs for his interesting stories and Emily Standing for excellent handwriting in Sentence A Day.

YEAR 1: Rydah Whitehouse for improved effort in handwriting, Sam Dunn for trying really hard in Writing and Grammar, Molly Nichols for great improvement in Spelling, Blake Fairey for being a wonderful helper and settler, Rani Diamond for writing a fabulous holiday recount and Lochie Henry for writing a terrific weekend recount.

YEAR 2: Alarna Elsom for marvellous work in Maths, Lucy McIsaac for being a quiet and conscientious class member, Casey Gaff for superb effort in Grammar and Nick Tancred for striving to work accurately in Operations.

YEAR 3: Camilla Beveridge for contributing thoughtful answers during class discussions, Luke O’Neill for being a kind and thoughtful member of Year 3, Aidan Walker for showing improvement in reading fluency, Thomas Dunn for trying hard to improve your standard of bookwork and Chloe Mudford for always completing set tasks to a high standard.

YEAR 4: Marshall Fairley for contributions to Australian Story Comprehension discussion, Heidi Holland for great work measuring perimeter, Ella Wykes for taking great care when painting and Jack Purvis for working hard to solve division questions.

YEAR 5: Olivia Ferguson for fantastic reading at our Mass on Sunday, Madison Hourigan for always contributing to class discussions during Science, Amelia Murray for a cheerful approach to all tasks and Emily Skinner for an improved effort with her reading in class.

YEAR 6: Kate Gilmour for helping peers with difficult tasks, Millia Banks for asking clarifying questions in Maths, Tarah Foran for being a positive and thoughtful member of Year 6 and Zoe Welsh for enthusiastic approach to learning.

AROUND THE CLASSROOMS
KINDER This week the children have been learning how to count syllables in words. We have been concentrating on words starting with the sound of the week. Next week’s sound is ‘J’ so try and think of things to put on our sound table. In story writing we have been writing about what we like to play with at home and why. There has been much emphasis on handwriting and making sure the students are writing the letters in the right spaces. In Mathematics we discussed what patterns were and modelled patterns using two or three things. We continued to revise comparing groups together. In HSIE, we discussed what is in the Gilgandra community. Pictures of Gilgandra were shown and the students were asked to label the pictures. During Science and Technology, each student designed and constructed a dinosaur. The students then had to write a description on something they found describing what it was made from. During Religion we discussed the importance of the Holy Family and wrote information about who was in the Holy Family. We also wrote a prayer for our buddies making their Confirmation. Take care. Miss Bouke

YEAR 1 In Year 1 this week we have been working on retelling the Parable of The Treasure and The Pearl and The Parable of The Yeast. Following the time, subtraction and revision of 3D shapes in Maths. We are also improving with our skip counting. We are reading the new Nick Bland book ‘The Very Noisy Bear’ and picking out all the direct speech used in the story. Expositions continued to be our text type focus and we are trying hard to elaborate our reasons for or against. We are looking forward to cheering on St Joe’s at Macnamee tomorrow. Have a great weekend. Miss Harvey & Mrs Newsstead

YEAR 2 Thank you to all our wonderful families and friends who joined us today as Year 2 “shined” at our Liturgy. In PDH we discussed the safety reasons of wearing a helmet and this week we created a protective ‘helmet capsule’ for eggs out of recycled materials and then dropped them. Many eggs survived the fall but alas some didn’t and based on these results we all agreed that wearing a helmet is a great idea. In our literature unit we read a book about the diplodocus and put together a skeleton of this dinosaur. We created a dinosaur skeleton and dimensioned diagram. During Drama this week was our focus this week in Grammar and we continue our work on conjunctions in spelling. Have a great weekend. Mrs Schier & Mrs Morris

YEAR 3 This week in Maths we examined litres and had lots of fun making 3D shapes with play dough so we could investigate cross-sections. In Grammar we have been learning about articles and in Comprehension we learnt about clouds. Our explanation writing led us to learn and write about how paper is made’. In Art we have continued to create our underwater seascapes, they are looking great so far! Learning about ‘The Widow’s Offering’ was our focus in Religion this week; we learnt how we could offer our help to others in need. I’m sure we’re very excited about our primary social tonight; I can’t wait to see everyone’s costumes! Have a fabulous weekend. Mr Soares

YEAR 4 In Grammar this week we have been revising verbs while in Science we have focused on the ‘wr, rh’ sound. We have sought to improve our writing by reading and highlighting overused or simple words and exchanging them for more challenging words. In Comprehension this week we viewed a movie review of Paper Planes and answered a variety of questions about it as well as creating a character profile of Dylan Webber, the main character of Paper Planes. During Maths we have revised 4 digit addition, decimals and angles. This week Year 4 has also begun preparing for our “St Mary of the Cross MacKillop” Mass next week. See you at the social tonight. Miss Smith

YEAR 5 What a wonderful Mass on Sunday, thank you to all the Year 5 and Kindergarten students who participated in the celebration, you all did an amazing job. This week in Year 5 we have been working on refining our knowledge about poetry writing and attempting to write our very own poem. In Science we were able to do an exciting experiment looking at what combinations would make a balloon expand when connected to a bottle. We have also explored some areas of our school looking at the Catholic history of St Joseph's. Can't wait to see everyone costumes at tonight’s social. Please also come along to support us at the McNamee trophy tomorrow- we are really looking forward to it. Have a great weekend. Mr Keady

YEAR 6 This week we have started an art work that we will submit in the Diocesan Christmas Art competition. We reflected on scripture passages and then created an artwork based on the theme of Christmas. Next week we will write an explanation of our artwork. During Maths we have refreshed our long division skills and revised percentages and fractions. Our dance moves are looking pretty slick as we prepare for the Primary Social tonight! It will be great to see everyone and ask the question: “Are you joking?” Can’t wait! Mrs Banks & Mrs Thomas

CANTEEN ROSTER
Friday, 31 July – NO CANTEEN – McNamee Trophy
Monday, 3 August - Sally Oehm & Anna Mudford
Wednesday, 5 August - Susie Harvey & Alicia Heffer
Friday, 7 August - Amy Spora & Kristy Gale

ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER
Sunday 2 August – Amber Tarrant, Kate Gilmour, Ella McNally-Elwin and Lachlan Fairey.