**CONFIRMATION**

This Sunday, 21 August – 9:45 a.m.

All is ready for our Confirmation Mass that will be celebrated in St Joseph’s Church this Sunday, 21 August at 9:45 a.m. Again we invite everyone to attend on Sunday to support our Confirmation class. Please keep all the Year 6 students in your prayers: Charlie Banks, Hamish Beveridge, Billie Buckland, Ashleigh Carlow, Thomas Durrant, Tom Eason, Tyler Evans, James Ferguson, Olivia Ferguson, Jett Grimshaw, Madison Hourigan, Ella McAnally-Elwin, Amelia Murray, Caitlyn Neves, Aliza Purvis, Heidi Purvis, Michael Raglus, Lachlan Riley, Emily Skinner, Laura Smith, Amber Tarrant, Abby Tate, Mary Westwood, Jacob Wilson.

**WORKING BEE TO CLEAN THE CHURCH FOR CONFIRMATION**

A working bee for the Year 6 parents to clean the church in preparation for Confirmation will be held tomorrow, Friday, 19 August at 3:20 p.m. It would be great if as many parents as possible could lend a hand.

**PENITENTIAL RITE**

Inspired by this year’s ‘Year of Mercy’ which has been proclaimed by Pope Francis, Bishop Michael McKenna will be leading a Penitential Rite in all parishes in the diocese during the year. In Gilgandra Bishop Michael will lead the Penitential Rite, Sacrament of Reconciliation, Confession at 6:00 p.m. tomorrow, Friday, 19 August.

**EXCURSION SNIPPET**

During our Canberra Excursion we went to the Australian Institute of Sport where we had lots of fun! We enjoyed the hands on experience at Sportex where we tested our skills and got to play some games. At the end of the day we all felt like gold medallists after standing on the podium! Madison Hourigan, Ella McAnally-Elwin, Ashleigh Carlow, Olivia Ferguson.

**DIOCESAN ATHLETICS CARNIVAL**

Congratulations to the Joey’s students who represented the Western Region at the Diocesan Athletics Carnival held in Dubbo today. A full report will be given in next week’s About.

**EXCURSION SNIPPET**

The Australian War Memorial was a great place to visit where we learnt all about Australia’s involvement in war. The helicopter light display was really interesting and D-Zone gave us an insight as to how soldiers felt during war. Bradley Killey, Patrick Spora, Marshall Fairey, Finn Marchant, Harrison King.

**ST JOSEPH’S SCHOOL ANNUAL CONCERT**

*The Amazing Race*

Gilgandra High School Hall

Thursday 1 September

Our annual concert involving all students from Kinder to Year 6 will be staged on Thursday, 1 September at the Gilgandra High School hall at 6:00 p.m. The students and staff put a lot of time and effort into the concert and it always promises a great night’s entertainment.

**CONCERT REHEARSAL**

Monday, 29 August

Our one and only full concert rehearsal at the Gilgandra High School Hall will be held on Monday, 29 August. It is very important for everyone to be at school on this day so we can practise on the stage with the microphones etc. As this is a full dress rehearsal the children will need their costumes by this date.

**NAPLAN RESULTS**

Accompanying today’s About are the Year 3 and Year 5 students’ NAPLAN results. If any parents would like to discuss their child’s results with their teacher please contact the school so we can arrange a meeting.

**FATHER’S DAY STALL**

Our Father’s Day Stall will be held this year on Friday, 2 September. Mrs Danielle Digg’s has again kindly offered to coordinate the stall. This stall is run along the same lines as the Mother’s Day Stall. Donations of gifts to sell can be dropped in at the office at any time. If the gifts could be wrapped in clear cellophane, that would be greatly appreciated. There will be a raffle run in conjunction with the stall and tickets will go home in the next couple of weeks.

**DONATIONS FOR FATHER’S DAY RAFFLE**

If anyone would like to donate a prize towards the Father’s Day Raffle, could you please get in touch with Danielle Digg’s or let Mrs Hodge know.

**ST JOEY’S SCHOOL FETE**

Thursday, 15 September

Preparations are well under way for this year’s fete to be held on Thursday, 15 September. Thank you to Rochelle Easman who is again taking the reins as Fete Coordinator. We are very open to new ideas so if there is something you would like to organise at the fete please let us know. A quick overview so you can start planning:

- Infants - Cake/Produce Stall – Coordinator Kristy Gale
- Year 3 and 4 - Tombuli (small items in snap lock bags) Coordinator Needed
- Year 5 or 6 - ‘Everyone’s a Winner’ – Coordinator Meichelle Schier.

Start looking out for prizes from small to big. In future, about we will be asking for coordinators for various other stalls, so if anyone would like to volunteer, please let us know.

**COW PAT LOTTO**

At the fete each year we have a Cow Pat Lotto. How does cow pat lotto work? We erect a yard with an area of 400 square metres. You then have the chance to purchase one or more of these one metre squares for $5.00 per square. A cow is led around the yard and if you own the square where the first dropping lands, then you win $1,000.00! With today’s newsletter are four tickets to sell. If you would like more tickets, just let us know and we will send them home. All sold tickets need to be returned to school by Friday, 9 September.

**EXCURSION SNIPPET**

We visited the Royal Australian Mint in Canberra and it was outstanding! We got to learn about coins from Australia’s past and features of the mint. Getting to see Titan and Robbie in action was very exciting. Next time we go to Canberra we would love to go there again! Amelia Murray, Billie Buckland, Mary Westwood, Emily Skinner, Amber Tarrant.

**SR KATHY JENNINGS**

Our prayers and thoughts go with Sr Kathy Jennings (Sr James), as she leaves to minister in East Timor for two years. We wish her all the very best.

**DYSLEXIA SEMINAR**

A free 90 minute Dyslexia Seminar will be held at Gilgandra Services Club on Monday, 22 August at 12:00 noon. The seminar will give tips, insight and practical knowledge about what dyslexia is and how you can go about remediation. For further information, see Mrs Hodge, or you can register online at www.dyslexia.com.au/register or call 02 9436 3766.
Congratulations to the following students who received Merit Awards at Assembly on Monday:

**KINDER** - Tilla Chandler and Toby Davis for their knowledge about the Olympics, Te Mana Diamond for giving of his best during Story Writing and Alyssa Ferguson, Mia Ferguson and Jack Gibson for being so enthusiastic during concert practice.

**YEAR 1** - Darron Mulligan for writing a great fishing story, Stuart Wheatley for completing his homework and Sentence A Day, Molly Temple for sharing interesting news and Abbie Shipper for hard work in spelling and reading activities, Sam Dunn for great contributions during class lessons and Declan Gale for always displaying fantastic school spirit.

**YEAR 2** - Millie Sora for working hard to complete all tasks, Grace Tancred for wonderful work on our ‘Dinosaurs’ literature unit, Rachel Ryan for great work in spelling and reading activities, Sam Dunn for great contributions during class lessons and Declan Gale for always displaying fantastic school spirit.

**YEAR 3** - Alana Elsom for beautiful book work, Nick Gale for being a great classroom helper, Ava Meyers for a terrific effort in Comprehension groups and Harry Mudford for excellent work in Comprehension.

**YEAR 4** - Molly Faiery for great results in our PAT Comprehension test, Chloe Mudford for a well written explanation of how paper planes fly, Molly Wilson for a great attitude towards concert practice and Jack Oehm for a great effort finding fractions of a collection.

**YEAR 5** - Marshall Faiery for an enthusiastic approach towards reading our novel, Kelsey Hutchison for having a positive attitude towards all activities in Year 5, Joshua Purvis for using editing skills to improve his writing and Olivia Schier for trying hard to read with expression.

**YEAR 6** - Ashleigh Carlow, Mary Westwood and Michael Raganus for designing amazing Saint PowerPoint presentations.

**WHAT’S ON**

**WEEK 5**
- Friday, 19 August - Working Bee to clean Church for Confirmation – 3:20 p.m.
- Sunday, 21 August - Confirmation

**WEEK 6**
- Thursday, 25 August - AECG Meeting – M. Pearce
- Friday, 26 August - Diocesan Athletics Back-Up date

**WEEK 7**
- Monday, 29 August - Concert Rehearsal – GHS Hall
- Wednesday, 31 August - Support Teacher Meeting
- Thursday, 1 September - Junior Joey’s visit Cooce Lodge
- Friday, 2 September - St John’s College Year 7 Placement Testing

**WEEK 8 - Ear Bus**
- Tuesday, 6 September - PLC Professional Development
- Wednesday, 7 September - PLC Professional Development
- Thursday, 8 September - Year 1 Liturgy – 10:30 a.m.
- Friday, 9 September - Soccer Gala Day - Dubbo

**AROUND THE CLASSROOMS**

**KINDER** Kindergarten had some special visitors yesterday from the preschool. We read “Springtime Rock and Roll” and sung songs about frogs and sheep. We have been doing lots of revision with the sounds and sight words we have learnt so far this year. Next week’s sound is ‘Vv’ so we have a look for things starting with ‘Vv’ for our sound table. During reading we have been reading “Splishy Sploshy” and learnt when to use exclamation marks and question marks in our story writing. We continue to improve our sentences by sounding out our words and using capital letters and full stops. During Maths Warm Up we have been learning about time and revising numbers from 1 to 30. In Mathematics we have been revising data and learning how to take away. During Geography we discussed the differences and similarities in our homes. During Science and Technology, we discussed what things are made from and learnt about recycling by looking at packaging materials. Just a reminder to please send in your child’s concert costume in a bag with their name on it by next Tuesday.

**YEAR 1** This week Year 1 enjoyed celebrating the Feast of the Assumption beginning with a beautiful Mass lead by our Year 3 friends. We have also discussed the Hail Mary and how this prayer is said to honour and praise Mary for being such a wonderful woman. In Maths we have been practising our addition and groups of ten along with brainstorming 2 and 3 digit numbers. “The Very Brave Bear” is our final Nick Bland book for this term. We have enjoyed finding the verbs used to explain Bear and Buffalo’s tricky challenges – “wearing a beard of bees” and “crossing a raging river” – wow were they brave! We completed our expositions, coming up with some excellent reasons as to why polar bears should not move to the jungle! Congratulations to our Year 6 class who will be celebrating their Confirmation this weekend.

**YEAR 2** It’s been a great week and Olympic fever certainly hit our class as we continued to focus on the Rio games in Geography. We’ve enjoyed watching some of the finals in which the Aussie participated. In class we’ve learnt a lot about the Rio mascots and kept a tally chart of the medal count. During Maths we looked at repeated subtraction on a number line, solving problems and modelling 3D objects. We are keeping Year 6 in our prayers as they prepare for Confirmation on Sunday. Hopefully lots of family and friends will be at Church on Sunday to help them celebrate. Have a great weekend.

**YEAR 3** Congratulations to all the Year 3 students on their réverent participation in our Mass on Monday. It was wonderful to see so many family and friends there to celebrate Mary’s Assumption with us. We have been enjoying learning about the Olympics and this week we read the biography of Wilma Rudolph, an American athlete who overcame a disability to win three gold medals. We admired her courage, determination and that she always gave of her best. Our Olympic theme continued in Art as we created an Olympic Rings artwork. Cutting out the rings proved a little testing for some! In Science we are learning about living and non-living things and how to classify observations of specimens. We look forward to celebrating with Year 6 on their Confirmation day on Sunday.

**YEAR 4** We enjoyed a lovely Mass for the Assumption on Monday with Year 3. In the classroom we have been learning about the appropriate punctuation for direct speech and adding ‘y’ to words that end in ‘e’. For writing we have revised the purpose and structure of expositions. During Maths our focus has been on extended multiplication, rounding to the nearest 5 cents, reading coordinates and comparing graphs. For Geography we have explored the importance of threats to various habitats. Our concert item is “wearing a beard of bees” so discussed the Hail Mary and how this prayer is said to honour and praise Mary for being such a wonderful woman.

**YEAR 5** This week we have been working hard to learn all of our parts for our ‘Amazing Race’ concert item. If you need any help getting costume pieces please let me know. In English we have begun to investigate the structure and language features of an explanation expositions. During Maths our focus has been on extended multiplication, rounding to the nearest 5 cents, reading coordinates and comparing graphs. For Geography we have explored the importance of threats to various habitats. Our concert item is “wearing a beard of bees” so discussed the Hail Mary and how this prayer is said to honour and praise Mary for being such a wonderful woman.

**YEAR 6** This week Year 6 completed the ICAS Maths Competition and we have also learnt about misleading data, geometric patterns and multiplying decimals. In Grammar we have been working with interrogative pronouns and adverbs. Our Writing activities have focused on persuasive texts where we learnt different persuasive language features to enhance our writing. Keep up the great work Year 6!

**CANTEEN ROSTER**
- Friday, 19 August – Sarah Gordon & Lesley Riley
- Monday, 22 August – Sally Beveridge & Carol Alchin
- Wednesday, 24 August – Kyle Carlow & Jacinta Ferguson
- Friday, 26 August – Sophia Ibe & Belinda Murray

**ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER**
- Sunday, 21 August – Rani Diggus, Oli Schier, Mason Fryers, Rhys O’Neill, Jessica Scholte