A beautiful celebration was held at St Joseph’s Church on Sunday as seven candidates were presented to Bishop Michael McKenna and Fr Martin O’Mahony for the Sacrament of Confirmation. The whole Year 6 class completed the Confirmation program and it was wonderful to see classmates, other members of the school community, parishioners, family and friends in church on Sunday to witness this important step in the faith journey of these young people. A celebration breakfast was held in the school hall following Mass. Our 2016 Confirmation class consisted of: Charlie Banks, Hamish Beveridge, Billie Bickland, Ashleigh Carlyon, Thomas Durran, Tom Eaton, Tyler Evans, James Ferguson, Olivia Ferguson, Jett Grimshaw, Madison Hourigan, Ella McNally-Elwin, Amelia Murray, Caitlyn Neeves, Aliza Purvis, Heidi Purvis, Michael Raglus, Lachlan Riley, Emily Skinner, Laura Smith, Amber Tarrant, Abby Tate, Mary Westwood, Jacob Wilson. Many thanks to Mr Soares and Mrs Banks for preparing the children for this Sacrament, to the staff and students of our school for their reverent participation at Mass and fantastic help in decorating the hall, the Year 5 parents for serving the morning tea and the parents and families of the Confirmation class for working with the school during this important time.

**DIOCESAN ATHLETICS CARNIVAL**

Congratulations to all our athletes who competed at the Diocesan Athletics Carnival held in Dubbo last Thursday. Special mention to Rhys O’Neill who came 1st in the 11 years 800 m, Will Fuller who won the Junior Boys Long Jump and came 2nd in the Junior Boys High Jump and our Junior Boys Relay team consisting of Ryan Ferguson, Aiden Walker, Bailey Wykes and Will Fuller who came second. All these athletes will now compete at the Polding Athletics Championship to be held in Newcastle on Friday, 9 September.

**EXCERPT SNIPPET**

We both had a great time at Canberra! The snow at Perisher was amazing and we also enjoyed the magnificent views from the chair lift. It was great to go on an excursion during our first week at Joey’s!

**ST JOEY’S SCHOOL FETE**

_Thursday, 15 September – Only 3 weeks to go!_

It’s time to start getting organised for the fete! The following are our major stalls that need donations to be successful:

**CAKE & PRODUCE STALL** (Infants) Kristy Gale is the coordinator for this stall and is asking for donations. Kristy has dropped some containers into the office. Please feel free to call in and pick them up at any time.

**TOMBULI** (Years 3 & 4) Thank you to Sally Oehn who has offered to coordinate the Tombuli Stall this year. It is always a great favourite among the children and we are looking for donations. Just simply fill a sandwich sized ziplock bag with miscellaneous items. There could be rubbers, pencils, textas, plastic toys (army men, animals etc.), hair bands, hair clips, toy cars etc., keeping in mind that the tickets for the tombuli stall will be $2.00 each. Please send them into school by Monday, 12 September.

**EVERYONE’S A WINNER** (Years 5 & 6) Meichelle Schier is the coordinator for this stall and it needs donations to be successful, because as the name suggests, whatever it’s a major prize or a minor prize – everyone’s a winner. We are looking for prizes of all values for this stall. While these stalls are class specific they are open to donations from everyone. For any enquiries contact Rochelle Easman on 0413223592.

**ROSTER** Accompanying today’s About is the fete roster. If everyone helps out on the day for just one hour, then all the gaps would be easily filled. So, come on, put your name down and please return the roster by next Thursday, 1 September. There is also a roster for helpers to set up for the fete on the Friday from 12:00 p.m. If you can help, please put your name down and return it so we know if we will have enough helpers.

**COW PAT LOTTO** At the fete each year we have a Cow Pat Lotto. 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! Tickets went home with last week’s About. All sold tickets need to be returned to school by Friday, 9 September.

**BOOK WEEK COMPETITION**

To celebrate Book Week the children have been invited to enter a fun competition – “Guess Who’s Reading?”. On display in the library are photos of all staff members hiding behind a book they are reading. The children have to guess which book each book is hiding behind. There is a competition for students from Kinder to Year 6 and includes a march, war cry, all school march and a competition for the best overall dressed up. This year the sports day is for all students from Year 1 to Year 6 and includes a march, war cry, all school march and a competition for the best overall dressed up. This year the sports day is for all students from Year 1 to Year 6 and includes a march, war cry, all school march and a competition for the best overall dressed up.

**CATHOLIC SCHOOL SPORTS DAY**

The Catholic Schools Sports Day is a day held each year with the participating schools this year including St Joseph’s Gilgandra, St John’s Barradin and St Brigid’s Coonamble. This year the sports will be held in Coonamble on Wednesday, 21 September. The sports day is for _ALL STUDENTS_ from Kinder to Year 6 and includes a maroon war cry, class races, ball games, novelty activities, relays, and tug-o’-wars. The school is always a great favourite among the children as they try to solve the mystery. Winners will be announced in a couple of weeks.

**EXCERPT SNIPPET**

While we were at Canberra we visited the National Museum. Circa was so impressed by the colour of the building that we kept spinning around and learning all these different things. We also went to the National Museum to see the Titanic. While we were in the museum, Circa was so impressed with the power of the Titanic. Circa was so impressed by the colour of the building that we kept spinning around and learning all these different things. We also went to the National Museum to see the Titanic. While we were in the museum, Circa was so impressed with the power of the Titanic. While we were in the museum, Circa was so impressed with the power of the Titanic.
KINDER This week we have been reading “The Mango Tree” and continue learning about clothes, marks and explanation marks. Students predicted what the story was about by looking at the pictures for clues and sounding out words. There were some great ideas shared by all. Next week our sound is ‘Ww’ and ‘Yy’ so please start looking for things you can bring in for our sound table. In Story Writing students wrote stories about masks and we continue to keep trying to sound out words in our writing. During Science we discussed types of packaging and continue to look at things we can safely throw in the bin. In Maths we revisited fractions treated at ten frames and explored number up to 20. In Geography we discussed what our homes look like and continue to learn why shelter is so important. We have been busy practising for the concert and can’t wait for the rehearsal on Monday. Don’t forget to send in your child’s costume in a bag clearly labelled with your child’s name. Take care.

Miss Belinda Bourke

YEAR 1 Our concert is fast approaching! Year 1 has been trying really hard to remember their lines and groovy dance moves. A reminder that our full dress rehearsal is this Monday and the children need to have their costumes clearly labelled and in a plastic bag. In Religion we have read about Moses and how he was called by God to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. Our Grammar focus this week is adjectives and we enjoyed brainstorming a few to describe a giant. In Maths we have been collecting and analysing data about our favourite fruit and pets. We are also using the count back strategy to help us solve subtraction number sentences. We hope everyone has a lovely weekend.

Mrs Mechel Schier & Miss Lisa Harvey

YEAR 2 In Geography this week we investigated the layers of a rainforest and some of the animals who live there. In Maths we looked at number patterns, symmetry and Aboriginal seasons. The focus in Grammar has been question and exclamation marks and in Spelling we are learning to apply silent ‘e’ to words ending in ‘s’ or ‘z’. We have been very busy practising for the school concert and can’t wait to dazzle you with our act. All children will need their costumes on Monday for our whole school rehearsal. Have a great weekend.

Mrs Dominica Banks & Mrs Melinda Morris

YEAR 4 In Maths this week we’ve explored a variety of strategies used to add and divide. We’ve also completed a survey and displayed the data in graphs along with measuring the mass of a variety of objects in grams. During Grammar we’ve worked on verb tense in English and Jordan Neves for beautiful book work. YEAR 3 Grace Winter for an outstanding effort during concert practice, Elten Walker for working hard in Problem A Day and Operations, Jett Tarrant for asking questions to clarify understanding in Maths and Ben Standing for excellent work in Writing. YEAR 4 Rhys Bonnington for excellent work adding the correct punctuation to direct speech, Isaiah McKenzie for commenting beautiful handwriting in his Handwriting book and Sarah Temple and Breanna Foster for working well in pairs to research the importance of different habitats. YEAR 5: Zac Ferguson for identifying similes and metaphors with ease, Jennifer Ibe for always thinking critically when working with complex Maths problems and Bradley Killey, Harrison King and Ella Wykes for great enthusiasm during concert practice. YEAR 6: Amber Tarrant and Ella McNally-Ellwin for using emotive language in their persuasive writing and Jett Grimmshaw for showing speed and accuracy in Maths.

WHAT’S ON

**WEEK 7**

Monday, 29 August - Concert Rehearsal – GHS Hall

Wednesday, 31 August - Support Teachers Meeting

Thursday, 1 September - Junior Joey’s visit Cooee Lodge

Tuesday, 6 September - Pastance – Musical School

Friday, 2 September - Performance – 2:00 p.m.

Friday, 9 September - Concert – 5:45 p.m.

**WEEK 8**

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 - Kindy Buddy Lunch

**WEEK 9**

Wednesday, 14 September - Junior Joey’s visit Cooee Lodge

Wednesday, 15 September - MCCL Meeting

**CAÑE màn RÓERST**

Friday, 26 August – Sophia Ibe & Lesley Riley

Monday, 29 August – Anna Mudford & Shanee Chandler

Wednesday, 31 August – Melanie Ferguson & Dean Ferguson

Friday, 2 September – Phillipa Saunders & Kristy Gale

**ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER**

Sunday, 28 August – Will Fuller, Rhys O’Neill, Olivia McClelland, Oli Schier