



ABOUT

St Joseph's School Gilgandra

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Term 4 Week 6

19 November 2020

Thought for the Week

As we express our gratitude we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words but to live by them.

YEARS 5/6 GREAT AUSSIE BUSH ADVENTURE

WOW! What an amazing time the Years 5 and 6 students had at The Great Aussie Bush Camp in Kincumber this week. The three days were packed with challenging, fun and diverse activities such as a 12m abseil tower, archery, 15m swing, raft building, 10m tree climb, 9m pole climb culminating with a leap to a trapeze bar and a magnificent mud run that left everyone delightfully dirty! In the evenings we enjoyed a games night, campfire stories and Commando where the teachers got to spotlight the students in the dark of night as they navigated through the bush attempting to free the hostages. The instructors were energetic, always encouraging the students to challenge themselves and to do their best. There was so much more to this camp than just having fun! The children worked as a team and supported each other. Congratulations to our students for their respect and willingness to have a go! Well done to you all! A big thank you to Mrs Schier, Mrs Van der Walt and Mrs Banks who worked tirelessly to ensure the students had a safe and awesome experience. To Adam, our coach driver, who really goes above and beyond every time he takes us away, to Langley Coaches who have been superb all year assisting the school in organising an excursion for Years 5 and 6 and to the staff of The Great Aussie Bush Camp for their wonderful enthusiasm and care. Go Joey's!!

YEAR 4 LEADERS

The Year 4 students did a fantastic job as our school leaders whilst the Years 5 and 6 students were at Kincumber. Well done Year 4!

YEAR 2 RECONCILIATION LITURGY

Our Year 2 class prepared a beautiful Liturgy which was held this morning to celebrate their First Reconciliation. At the conclusion of the Liturgy each child was presented with their special certificate by Mr Musgrave. The class then enjoyed beautiful cupcakes together for morning tea. Congratulations Year 2 on a lovely celebration! Our Year 2 Reconciliation class consists of: **Chloe Alexander, Akhiro Baker, Arabella Chandler, Oli Chandler, Heidi Colwell, Mitchell Cosier, Bayley Dent, Lottie Duffy, Bella Ferguson, Claudia Harrison, Kellie Hutchison, Connor Jones-Copelin, Keaghan Lummis, Ellie McArd, Thomas McIsaac, Milla Morris, Eva Mulligan, Ella Murphy, Harrison Newton, Jessie O'Connor, Isabelle Peart, Oliver Peart, Lucy Profke, Lucas Riley, Bill Ryan, Mackenzie Skinner, Alana Spora, Andrew Standing, Indy Thomas, Harry Thurlow, Archie Valler, Peregrine Volkofsky, Ivy Zell, Lucy Zell.**

DIOCESAN SUMMER SPORTS TRIALS

Congratulations to those students who competed in the Summer Sports Trials held in Dubbo last Thursday. All the Joey's students performed extremely well at this high level of competition. Special mention to **Darcy Morris** (basketball) and **Will O'Connor** (touch) who were selected in their respective diocesan teams to compete at the Polding Trials next year.

KINDER TRANSITION

The second of our three Kinder Transition Days will take place tomorrow and the last day will be next Wednesday, 25 November. It has been wonderful having our next year's Kinder students coming along to school for the day and getting a real taste of 'big school'. We hope both parents and students have found it beneficial. We can't wait to officially welcome the new Kinder class into our Joey's family next year.

YEAR 4 CAVES AND DAM EXCURSION

The excitement is building in Year 4 as their major excursion to the Wellington Caves and Burrendong Dam is approaching. The excursion is next Thursday and Friday, 26 and 27 November and the children will visit the Royal Flying Doctor Visitor Experience, Wellington Caves, Japanese Gardens, Bottle House, Caves Shop, be accommodated at the Wellington Caves and then visit the Giant Chimes, Fern Gully, Dam Wall and Spillway and Dubbo Aquatic Centre. WOW – what fun!

INFANTS SWIMS SAFE PROGRAM

Our school based swimsafe program commences next Monday, 23 November and runs for nine days on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, concluding on Wednesday, 9 December. Those children enrolled in the program will need to bring their swimmers, towel and entry fee of \$1.00 (for those who don't have a season ticket) on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday each week. The children will be transported to and from the pool each day by bus, saving valuable time and energy. A permission note has been sent home today with the infants students for your child to travel by bus to the pool. Please complete and return the note to the school office by next **Monday, 23 November**. The infants students will **not** be swimming for sport on Thursdays during the three weeks of the swimsafe program.

END OF YEAR MASS AND PRESENTATIONS

A note has today been sent home with each child with regards to the arrangements we have made for this year's End of Year Presentations and the Year 6 Graduation Mass and Presentations which will be held at the **Gilgandra Shire Hall** this year. The presentations will be held in **class groups** at the following times:-

Tuesday, 8 December – Kinder to Year 5 End of Year Presentations

Kinder	9:30 – 10:00
Year 1	10:30 – 11:00
Year 2	11:30 – 12:00
Year 3	12:30 – 1:00
Year 4	1:30 – 2:00
Year 5	2:30 – 3:00

Monday, 14 December – Year 6 Graduation Mass and Presentations

Year 6 1:00 p.m.

Would you please complete and return the tear-off slip attached to the note by next **Friday, 27 November** so that we have an idea of the number of people attending each timeslot. A separate note is required for each child's class.

LEAVING FAMILIES DINNER

Those families leaving St Joseph's this year are invited to our Leaving Families Dinner to be held on **Thursday, 3 December** at 6:00 for 6:30 p.m. at the Gilgandra Sporties Club. This is our way of saying thank you to those families for their involvement with the school over the years. Please RSVP to the school on 6847 2828 by next Tuesday, 24 November.

SCHOOL SURVEY

With today's About is a brief survey which we are asking parents to complete and return to the school office by next Friday, 27 November. We are required each year to complete an Annual Report that is submitted to the Commonwealth Government and published to the community. One of the requirements of this report is to have surveyed the school parents to ascertain levels of satisfaction with various aspects of the school. The survey is a simple one that requires only four ticks, one for each element. Your cooperation in completing this survey and returning it to school by Friday, 27 November is appreciated.

BALL HELPERS

Helpers are needed next Wednesday, 25 November in the Shire Hall to set up tables and decorate the hall for the ball. The ball will be held on Friday, 27 November and is a private event for the debutantes and their families only. If you are able to help setting up tables and decorating the hall, would you please fill in the helper's note with today's About and return it to school by next Tuesday, 24 November.

BOOK CLUB

Final Book Club Catalogues for the year went home last week. Please note that the closing date for book orders is tomorrow, **Friday, 20 November**. These would make great Christmas presents whilst supporting your school at the same time!

THE LOMAX FAMILY

We ask that you keep the Lomax family in your thoughts and prayers. Maci-Jae is in Kinder and her little 3-month old sister, Stevi, is currently in Westmead Children's Hospital receiving treatment. Our thoughts are with Mum, Leanne and Dad, Troy and we pray for a speedy recovery for little Stevi.

EAR BUS

Representatives from the Hear Our Heart Ear Bus will be visiting our school on Friday, 4 December to test children's hearing. If you have any particular concerns regarding your child's hearing, please let us know.

CODE CLUB AT GILGANDRA SHIRE LIBRARY

Code Club is back at Gilgandra Shire Library commencing today, 19 November and continuing most Thursdays from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. for students 10 years and older. Bookings are essential by phoning 6817 887 or emailing library@gilgandra.nsw.gov.au.

COVID-19 UPDATE

- Anyone who is unwell, child or adult, should not come to school.
- Non-essential adults are still not permitted at school events or on school grounds.
- If your child arrives late, please drop off at the office.
- If you are picking up your child before 3:00 p.m., do so via the office.
- Wash hands regularly.
- No sharing drinks or food.
- Cough or sneeze into your elbow, or a tissue which should be discarded immediately.
- Fill water bottles from bubblers rather than using the bubbler directly.
- Kinder transition activities are now permitted.
- Interschool activities may recommence.
- External providers to support the delivery of curriculum are allowed.

MERIT AWARDS

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

KINDER: Alice Peart for using super elaborations in Story Writing, **Tiaki Diamond** for a huge improvement in Reading, **Zoe Fiddes** for great work adding in Maths and **Jack Howard** for trying hard in Phonics.

YEAR 1: Mack Hutchison for great participation in Phonics lessons, **Chloe Heffer** for working diligently to complete Maths assessments and **Sophie Lacey** and **Tex Mudford** for terrific results in our Spelling test.

YEAR 2: Heidi Colwell for an outstanding effort in morning reading, **Mitchell Cosier** for wonderful results in all areas of Maths, **Milla Morris** for thoughtful contributions during discussions about Reconciliation, **Alana Spora** for writing a fabulous exposition about 'Why I Shouldn't Join the Circus', **Indy Thomas** for working independently in Maths and **Archie Valler** for bringing enthusiasm into our class everyday.

YEAR 3: Baxter Whitehouse for reverently saying a 'Prayer of the Faithful' at our Remembrance Day Mass, **Jagger Hazelton** for fantastic improvement in Maths Essential Assessment and **Tilly Tancred** and **Ben Mudford** for drawing great beach scenes in Art.

YEAR 4: Sailor Ryan for his fantastic improvement in his Essential Assessment results, **Angus Johnson** for his excellent research during group work and **Georgia Tancred** and **Olivia Westwood** for their beautiful NAIDOC artwork.

WHAT'S ON

WEEK 6

Friday, 20 November - Kinder Transition

WEEK 7

Monday, 23 November - Infants Swimming commences

Wednesday, 25 November - Kinder Transition

Thursday, 26 November - Year 4 Wellington Caves/Burrendong Dam Excursion

- Kinder Liturgy – 10:30 a.m.

Friday, 27 November - Year 4 Wellington Caves/Burrendong Dam Excursion

WEEK 8

Thursday, 3 December - Year 5 Mass – 10:30 a.m.

- Leaving Families Dinner – 6:00 for 6:30 p.m.

Friday, 4 December - Ear Bus – 12:00 – 3:00 p.m.

WEEK 9

Tuesday, 8 December - Kinder – Year 5 End of Year Presentations

Wednesday, 9 December - Last day Infants Swimming

- GHS Transition Day

Friday, 11 December - Year 6 Picnic

- Reports home

WEEK 10

Monday, 14 December - Year 6 Graduation Mass and Presentations

Tuesday, 15 December - Pool Parties

Wednesday, 16 December - Last Day 2020

AROUND THE CLASSROOMS

KINDER In Kinder this week we read the classic picture book by Pamela Allen, "Who Sank the Boat?". We discussed the use of question marks and thought of some questions we could ask the animals in the story. During Maths we completed our Essential Assessment and portfolio tasks. We also revised how to write our numerals correctly. During Science we investigated how objects move and sorted them into categories by asking ourselves "Do they roll, slide or bounce?". In Religion we have been preparing for our Creation Liturgy. Everyone has a reading stapled inside their Homework Book so please remember to practise it each night. We are very excited to have our Year 5 and 6 friends back from their fabulous excursion and a big thank you to Year 4 for being such great leaders. Infants swimming starts on Monday so remember your swimmers and money for the pool. Have a great weekend.

Mrs Alison Newstead

YEAR 1 We've finally finished most of our assessments for the end of the year which is timely given we start intensive swimming next week. Adjectives have been our Grammar focus and we read the book, "If You Were an Adjective" and we wrote an acrostic poem using adjectives to describe ourselves. We then used our chromebooks to type our poems on a Google Doc. In Religion we have sequenced the events of the Creation Story and we drew a tree artwork to celebrate God's creation. In Maths we've focused on time, learning about the 'past' and 'to' side of the clock, counting the minutes and also revised sharing into equal groups. Don't forget to bring your swimmers Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday for lessons. Have a great weekend.

Mrs Melinda Morris

YEAR 2 Congratulations Year 2 on your 'Good Shepherd' Liturgy, it was beautiful. The students enjoyed their cupcakes to celebrate Reconciliation today. A big thank you to our parents for sending in baby photos and information. The students loved seeing how their faces have changed over time. In the classroom, we have been busy using the chromebooks to publish our Christmas stories for portfolios. The students have worked hard in Spelling and Phonics revision and have finished all testing and assessments. Year 2 has also finished their Maths Plus homework for the year. Keep up the great reading at home! Everyone is excited for infants swimming lessons to begin next week. Have a great weekend!

Miss Lisa Harvey & Miss Prue Giffin

YEAR 3 Congratulations to Year 2 on celebrating the special Sacrament of Reconciliation with a special liturgy this morning. Well done. It certainly sounds like the Years 5/6 excursion was lots of fun. From all reports everyone had a wonderful time doing the activities. Year 3 has once again had another busy week completing some more testing. We have completed some more Maths assessments as well as a Text Type and Grammar test. During Text Types we have been researching on our chromebooks, with a partner, a planet in our solar system. This coincides with our Science topic on 'Earth, Space and Sun.' We've also discovered a number of interesting facts about some of the planets in our solar system. In Science we have continued to look at more facts about the sun, moon and earth. Hope you have a relaxing weekend!

Mrs Donna Colwell & Mrs Phillipa Haling

YEAR 4 What a busy week it has been at St Joey's. Well done to Year 4 for being excellent leaders whilst the Years 5 and 6 students were away on their excursion. The stories of their adventures have us all very excited for our own excursion next week. Final preparations are underway to ensure we all have a great time. Congratulations to Year 2 for a wonderful Reconciliation Liturgy today. In the classroom this week, Year 4 has completed most of their assessments and has now begun portfolio tasks. In Religion we have started our final unit for the year, "Advent to Christmas: A Time for Journey in Hope". Literacy has us planning, writing and editing a persuasive text of our own choice. Students have established some very convincing arguments across a vast array of topics. Have a fantastic weekend everyone.

Mrs Jacquie Clark

YEAR 5 Wow, what a fabulous time we had at The Kinumber Bush Camp. Everyone went out of their comfort zone and pushed themselves to try new things. I was so proud of how everyone supported and encouraged each other. I would like to thank Years 5 and 6 on their behaviour and enthusiastic participation and making the camp such a wonderful experience. You were all great representatives of our school.

Mrs Meichelle Schier

YEAR 6 What a fabulous time we had on our excursion to Kinumber! The activities really challenged us to set goals and step out of our comfort zone. We also learnt so much about team work and encouraging each other to be the best we can be! Everybody enjoyed spending time with their friends and we certainly came home with some wonderful memories which we will treasure for a long time! Thank you so much to all the children for your great manners and enthusiasm! It was such a pleasure to take you away on an excursion!

Mrs Dominica Banks, Mrs Nikkola Thomas & Mrs Mia van der Walt

CANTEEN ROSTER

Friday, 20 November - Catherine Neeves & Jill O'Connor

Monday, 23 November - Emma Hayes & Adam Howard

Wednesday, 25 November - Shiree Ryan & Jill O'Connor

Friday, 27 November - Amii Marchant & Rachel McMahon

