



ABOUT

St Joseph's School Gilgandra

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Term 4 Week 7

23 November, 2017

Thought for the Week

Forgiveness forces you to grow beyond what you were.

YEAR 2 RECONCILIATION

Congratulations to the Year 2 students who have received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a special time for us to admit when we have gone wrong in our lives and say we are sorry to God. It helps deepen our relationship with God and helps us grow to become better people. To celebrate this special sacrament, Year 2 has prepared the Mass for this Sunday, 26 November at which the Certificates will be presented to the Year 2 class. Our whole school family is invited to join with Year 2 on this special occasion. Please keep our Reconciliation class in your thoughts and prayers: **Kaycee Bugmy, Amity Chapman, Hudson Duffy, Riley Fiddes, Lucas Fong, Alicia Fordham, Mitchell Fuller, Brody Heffer, Bonica Henry, Jessica Ibe, Hope Jones-Copelin, Eliza Larkin, Emma Mills, Darcy Morris, Eliza Mudford, Isabelle Mudford, Darron Mulligan, Jonas Naden, William O'Connor, Orlando Ryan, Abbie Skinner, Tom Staggs, Emily Standing, Jaida Tarrant, Molly Temple, Adison Thomas, Lauren Thurlow, Stella Valler, Stuart Wheatley and Jordan Wighton.**

YEAR 5 POLICY SPEECHES

We congratulate our Year 5 students who so brilliantly delivered their student leader policy speeches to the school community this week. The standard was excellent and we are sure these students will again continue the Joey's tradition and be fine leaders in 2018.

NOVEMBER P & F MEETING

Our final P & F Meeting for 2017 was held on Tuesday evening. Once again I would like to thank and congratulate all members of the P & F Association for the wonderful contribution made to our school in 2017. A special thank you to President, Peter Gaff, Secretary, Bettina Spora, Treasurers, Toni Fuller and Melanie Ferguson, and all those who attended meetings during the year. Also a huge vote of thanks to those who have coordinated fundraising activities, those who have assisted at these activities and helped out in the canteen. The P & F has contributed nearly \$20,000.00 to our school this year. An amazing effort!

KNOWLEDGE EXPLOSION

The Knowledge Explosion concludes tomorrow, Friday, 24 November. It will be held from 11:20 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. to allow for our school performance in the afternoon. All the children seemed to really enjoy their various activities last week and it is a wonderful opportunity to try something new that they may not otherwise have the chance to experience. This year the activities include: Mosaic Pots, Woodwork, Cooking, Drama, Photography, Robotics, iPads and Origami. A special thank you to Mr Roy Duncan (woodwork) and Barbara Scott (photography), for giving up their time and sharing their expertise in these activities.

EXCURSION SNIPPET

Wow! It was awesome on the Captain Cook Cruise. We were bouncing around from the massive waves. We got to see some interesting places around the harbour and we all wanted to live in the waterfront mansions! When we hopped off the cruise, everyone said the ride was GREAT! Darcy Neeves, Oscar Spora, Bailey Wykes, Isaac Grimshaw

'ONE STOP ROCK SHOP' PERFORMANCE

'One Stop Rock Shop' is this term's school performance and will be staged tomorrow, Friday, 24 November in the school hall. It is an hilarious interactive journey through music styles from disco to reggae, punk rock to jazz! The performers do so much more than just play their music. They individually demonstrate how they can produce the right sound needed to create each of the very different music styles. Audience participation is a huge part of the show with every song having (quick to learn) movements, chorus, dance steps or all three.

INFANTS SWIMMING

Our school based Swimsafe program begins next Monday, 27 November and concludes on Friday, 8 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) every day for the next two weeks. The children will be transported to and from the pool each day by bus, saving valuable time and energy. If you haven't already done so, could you please fill out the permission slip which was with last week's About, for your child to travel by bus, and return the note to school by this Monday, 27 November.

HEALTHY EATING WORKSHOP

It's not too late to register for our Healthy Eating Workshop which will be held at school this Tuesday, 28 November from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. This free workshop

is run by Cancer Council NSW and gives tips on the simplest way to improve the health of your family and save money. With today's newsletter is a leaflet with some menu suggestions.

EAR BUS

Representatives from the Hear Our Heart Ear Bus will be visiting our school next Wednesday, 29 November to test children's hearing. If you have any particular concerns regarding your child's hearing, please let us know.

YEAR 1 LITURGY

Year 1 will celebrate a class Liturgy next Thursday, 30 November in St Joseph's Church at 10:30 a.m. Everyone is welcome. Please bring a plate to share for morning tea which will follow the Liturgy.

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, 30 November and 1 December and the children will visit the Western Plains Cultural Centre, Wellington Caves and Phosphate Mine, Japanese Gardens, be accommodated at the Wellington Caves and then visit the Giant Chimes, Fern Gully, Dam Wall and Spillway and Dubbo Waterslide.

SCHOOL SURVEY

Just a reminder that the parent survey that was sent home with the About two weeks ago is due tomorrow, Friday, 24 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 tomorrow, Friday, 24 November is appreciated.

EXCURSION SNIPPET

During the excursion we got to visit the Sydney Aquarium. It was very exciting, we couldn't wait. We all loved walking in the sea tunnels where you could see all the amazing and colourful fish. During our interview there were stingrays swimming over the top of us. We got to see so many things and even got to touch a starfish. We also got to go on one of the new rides, the very cold penguin ride. Kelsey Hutchison, Olivia Schier, Laura Younghusband, Olivia McClelland

LEAVING FAMILIES BBQ

Those families leaving St Joseph's this year are invited to our Leaving Families BBQ to be held on Thursday, 7 December at 5:30 for 6:00 p.m. in the school grounds. This is our way of saying thank you to those families for their involvement with the school over the years. So bring the family for tea and please feel free to stay on while the children go off to the social. For catering purposes please RSVP to the school on 68472828 by next Friday, 1 December.

K-6 SCHOOL SOCIAL – Thursday, 8 December

All students are invited to our school social to be held at the **Gilgandra High School Hall** on Thursday, 7 December from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Parents are most welcome to stay or to leave their children at the social and collect them at 9:00 p.m.

EFTPOS FACILITIES FOR CLOTHING PURCHASES

We now have EFTPOS facilities available for clothing purchases at school. We hope this will make purchasing clothing a little easier as people tend not to carry cash as much these days.

EXCURSION SNIPPET

After four hours of travelling on the coach we finally arrived at Katoomba. We went to the lookout to see the Three Sisters. We also went on the steepest train ride in the world and the cableway. The view was amazing and Scenic World was awesome! Jacob Harland, Ry Heffer, Jerome Woodrow, Tom Dunn

CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Our school has again been invited to perform at the Gilgandra Christmas Carols in Hunter Park to be held on Saturday, 2 December. The evening will commence with a free sausage sizzle from 5:30 p.m. with the carols commencing at approximately 7:00 p.m. If you would like your child/children to join our choir please fill in the tear-off slip that was with last week's About or simply write a note and return it to school by Friday, 24 November.

DONATION FROM GILGANDRA HIGH SCHOOL'S YEAR 12

We received a wonderful donation this week from Gilgandra High School's 2017 Year 12 cohort. They donated \$250.00 worth of JB Hi-Fi gift cards to the school. The students raised over \$5,000.00 during the year and we would like to congratulate and thank this fine group of young adults for their amazing fundraising achievements. We also really appreciate them passing a proportion of this money on to their primary school and we will make sure the money is used in a way which will benefit the students.

POSITIONS VACANT

ABORIGINAL EDUCATION WORKER (AEW) – 15 hours per fortnight commencing 29 January, 2018 to 21 December, 2018. Applications are invited for the above position from persons who demonstrate a sincere commitment to the aims and philosophy of Catholic Education. A Position Overview (Position Description and Selection Criteria) and Application Form (Non-Teaching Position) can be obtained from the CEDB website www.bth.catholic.edu.au or contact the school. A valid Working With Children Check Number is required for this position and must be provided at the time of application. To apply for a Working With Children Check Number go to www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au. Applications are to include a covering letter addressing the selection criteria and completed CEDB application form with supporting documentation. Completed applications to be submitted to the Principal, St Joseph's School, PO Box 37, Gilgandra. Applications close: Monday, 27 November, 2017 at 3:00 p.m.

CLERICAL ASSISTANT – 24 hours per fortnight commencing 29 January, 2018 to 21 December, 2018. Applications are invited for the above position from persons who demonstrate a sincere commitment to the aims and philosophy of Catholic Education. Further details, including selection criteria, for this position can be obtained by contacting the principal on 68472828. A valid Working With Children Check Number is required and must be provided at the time of application. To obtain a Working With Children Check Number go to www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au. Completed applications are to be submitted to the Principal, St Joseph's School, PO Box 37, Gilgandra. Applications close Monday, 4 December at 3:00 p.m.

MERIT AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who received Merit Awards at Assembly on Monday: **KINDER: Isabella Brand** for completing work with increasing independence, **Lilly Hanson** for reading with confidence and fluency, **Elsie Mudford** for beautifully presented work, **Oliver Christian** for being a friendly and happy member of Kindergarten and **Ruby Ryan** for completing all work diligently. **YEAR 1: Evie Peart** for an excellent recount about visiting Tamworth, **Alex Cosier** for great work in Maths, **Georgia Tancred** for a thoughtful response to why God made the world and us and **Mia Ferguson** for improved results in addition and number work. **YEAR 2: Emma Mills, Stella Valler and Jessica Ibe** for super results in Spelling, **Lauren Thurlow** for great improvement in reading and comprehension and **Stuart Wheatley, Orlando Ryan and Alicia Fordham** for painting great landscapes of Sydney Harbour. **YEAR 3: Alex Gaff** for great work in Grammar, **Dakotah Gilmour** for a positive approach to all tasks, **Lilla Oehm** for outstanding results in Spelling and **Ryder Ryan** for a super effort in Maths Operations. **YEAR 4: Lucy Kilpatrick** for always looking to improve her writing, **Ava Meyers** for being a kind and courteous member of Year 4, **Jett Tarrant** for always taking pride in his book work and **Elten Walker** for writing an amazing free choice narrative. **YEAR 5: Isaiah McKenzie** for outstanding design of his excursion booklet cover and **Madison Riley, Luke O'Neill and Tom Dunn** for improvement in spelling test results. **YEAR 6: Rhys O'Neill** for excellent work in Grammar, **Harrison King** for carefully using a compass to construct circles, **Rani Diggs** for a consistent effort in Maths Operations and **Finn Marchant** for being a positive and enthusiastic member of Year 6.

WHAT'S ON

WEEK 7 -	
Friday, 24 November	- Knowledge Explosion – 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
	- 'One Stop Rock Shop' Performance – 2:00 p.m.
	- Parent Surveys due
Sunday, 26 November	- Christ the King Sunday Mass – Year 2 – 9:45am
WEEK 8 - Year 4 Reconciliation	
Monday, 27 November	- Voting for Student Council
	- Infants Swimming commences
Tuesday, 28 November	- Healthy Eating Workshop – 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.
	- School Audit
Wednesday, 29 November	- Ear Bus
Thursday, 30 November &	- Year 4 Wellington Caves/Burrendong Dam
Friday, 1 December	- Excursion
Thursday, 30 November	- Year 1 Liturgy – 10:30 a.m.
Saturday, 2 December	- Christmas Carols in the Park
Sunday, 3 December	- 1 st Sunday of Advent
WEEK 9 - Year 6 Reconciliation	
Monday, 4 December	- Year 6 PD evening
Wednesday, 6 December	- Kinder Cooee Visit – 11:00 a.m.
Thursday, 7 December	- Leaving Families BBQ
	- Social
Friday, 8 December	- Infants Swimming concludes
	- Reports and Portfolios home
Sunday, 10 December	- 2 nd Sunday of Advent
WEEK 10	
Monday, 11 December	- Year 6 Picnic

Wednesday, 13 December	- End of Year Mass and Presentations – 6:00 p.m.
Thursday, 14 December	- Pool Parties
Friday, 15 December	- Last Day Term 4
Sunday, 17 December	- 3 rd Sunday of Advent

AROUND THE CLASSROOMS

KINDER Thank you to all the family and friends who came to celebrate our Creation Liturgy this morning. Kinder has been reading Pamela Allen's "Waddle Giggle Gargle" this week. The children have written a summary of the book and a recount of their weekend. They have also learnt about the word families 'ig', 'in' and 'ip' during Sounds. The Mathematics focus this week has been on division by grouping, counting patterns and digital time. For Geography we identified our local park and discussed why this place is important and how we can look after it. Have a good weekend. *Miss Smith*

YEAR 1 This week we have continued our Maths testing and revising many of the concepts we have covered in Grammar and Geography. We enjoyed reading "The Snail and the Whale" by Julia Donaldson and brainstorming some interesting ways the snail could help save the whale from being beached in the bay. We also located interesting verbs and adjectives in the story. In Religion we discussed the Gospel for the Feast of Christ the King which we will celebrate this Sunday. We were reminded through this scripture that Jesus wants us to live a life of goodness and try to always do the right thing. We are looking forward to our Liturgy next Thursday and we hope many of our family and friends can join us. Congratulations to all our Year 5 friends for their inspiring and well presented policy speeches. Year 1 certainly enjoyed listening to these fabulous leaders for 2018! *Mrs Newstead*

YEAR 2 We are all looking forward to celebrating our Christ the King Mass on Sunday. During the week we continued to focus on returning to the love of Jesus if we stray from making the right choices. Last week thirteen of our classmates made their First Reconciliation and hopefully will now continue on their faith journey knowing God's love and forgiveness. In the classroom we've been busy finalising testing in Maths. We also revised 3D models, volume and money. Narratives are the focus during writing over the next two weeks and we've looked closely at the structure of fairy tales and how different characters and endings can really alter plots and resolutions. Well done Year 5 on your policy speeches – you will all be great leaders in 2018. See you on Sunday everyone. *Miss Harvey*

YEAR 3 This week in Year 3 the students have been completing assessments in English, Mathematics, Geography and Religion. Everyone has been giving of their best. During Religion the students discussed what happens during Mass when the bread and wine is blessed. As part of this discussion the class wrote about the Last Supper. On Friday we look forward to another session of developing our skills and knowledge during the Knowledge Explosion. Just a reminder to return all portfolios for the Term 4 work. Have a great weekend. *Mrs Schier, Miss Bourke & Mrs Morris*

YEAR 4 One week to go! This time next week Year 4 will be on our excursion and we cannot wait. This week in class we have been looking at Burrendong Dam and learning about how it was made, how big it is, as well as what types of animals live there. The challenge of the week has been to see if we can remember the difference between stalactites and stalagmites. We have also been writing a narrative based around the theme of 'Under The Sea' and they are sounding great. In Maths we have looked at number relationships and estimation and checking. It would be great to see you all at Mass this Sunday to help celebrate the feast of Christ the King with Year 2. Have a great weekend. *Mr Keady*

YEAR 5 Congratulations to all Year 5 students for your wonderful policy speeches. You all have worked very hard on writing and presenting your ideas about leadership and we are looking forward to you showing the way in 2018! In Maths we have looked at elapsed time and how to read and record the time on a stopwatch. Our writing task this week has been to write a narrative in the form of a picture book. We hope to read our published books to Kinder or Year 1 students. In Religion we have completed our portfolio task on the Sacraments and have looked at the Ten Commandments. We look forward to celebrating with Year 2 at Mass this Sunday to congratulate them on their first Reconciliation. *Mrs Banks & Mrs Thomas*

YEAR 6 This week in Writing we have written a recount about our amazing excursion to Sydney and we have published them for our portfolios. We have learnt about Roman numerals, circles and problem solving in Maths. Our Grammar topic has focused on contractions. We learnt about three types including coordinating, subordinating and conjunctive contractions. In Religion we reviewed 'The Birth of Jesus' and we have written our own versions of this event. It sounds like everyone had a wonderful time during Knowledge Explosion last week! I'm sure we can't wait for it again tomorrow. *Mr Soares*

CANTEEN ROSTER

Friday, 24 November	- Nat Mudford & Briony Mills
Monday, 27 November	- Alicia Heffer & Amii Marchant
Wednesday, 29 November	- Toni Tarrant & Rhonda Madgewick
Friday, 1 December	- Jo Lummis & Lorraine Hutchison

ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER

Sunday, 26 November	- Zac Ferguson, Jess Scholte, Will Fuller, Mason Fryers
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