



# ABOUT

## St Joseph's School Gilgandra

[www.stjosephsgilgandra.nsw.edu.au](http://www.stjosephsgilgandra.nsw.edu.au)  
Email: [stjoeysgil@bth.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stjoeysgil@bth.catholic.edu.au)

Term 4 Week 7

28 November, 2019

### Thought for the Week

*"It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope" - Pope Benedict XVI*

#### **YEARS 5/6 SYDNEY EXCURSION**

The Years 5 and 6 students, their teachers and parents had a sensational time in Sydney last week. It was a wonderful experience as everyone had the opportunity to visit many of the fabulous attractions in Sydney. Congratulations to all the students on their exemplary behaviour. It seemed that every place we visited had a kind word to say about the students. Thank you to the parents who accompanied the children. Their help was invaluable. A huge vote of thanks to the teachers, Mr Keady, Mrs Banks and Mrs Spora whose care, enthusiasm and patience ensured a most successful excursion.

#### **YEAR 4 CAVES AND DAM EXCURSION**

The Year 4 students, teachers and parents left for their Wellington Caves/Burrendong Dam excursion this morning. Today they visited the Dundullimal Homestead, Wellington Caves and Phosphate Mine, Japanese Gardens, Bottle House and Caves Shop. This evening they will book into their accommodation at the Wellington Caves, have a swim, tea, concert and games. Tomorrow sees the travellers explore the Giant Chimes, Fern Gully, Dam Wall and Spillway and the Dubbo Waterslide.

#### **KINDER COOEE VISIT**

On Wednesday our Kinder class spread some Christmas cheer to the elderly residents of Cooee Lodge by singing Christmas carols and handing out some small gifts. A huge thanks to the many parent and grandparent helpers who walked to the Lodge with the children and assisted throughout the visit: Gai-Maree Younghusband, Simone Beaton, Sophia Ibe, Zany Manks, Sarah Adams, Tanya Hutchison and Jodie Johnson.

#### **KINDER TRANSITION**

Tomorrow is the last of our three Kinder Transition Days for this year. 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 to be beneficial. We can't wait to officially welcome the new Kinder class into our Joey's family next year.

#### **INFANTS SWIMMING**

Our school based SwimSafe program begins next Monday, 2 December and concludes on Friday, 13 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 note which was with last week's About, for your child to travel by bus, and return the note to school by next Monday, 2 December.

#### **YEAR 6 PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT EVENING**

The Year 6 Personal Development evening will be held at school next Monday, 2 December at 6:00 p.m. All Year 6 students and their parents are invited.

#### **GILGANDRA HIGH SCHOOL INTERVIEWS - YEAR 6**

Interviews for Year 6 students attending Gilgandra High School will take place at St Joseph's School next Tuesday, 3 December. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to attend. A letter regarding the interviews will shortly be sent home with the Year 6 students containing the time for their interview.

#### **ICAS MATHS COMPETITION**

Congratulations to the following students who were presented with certificates at Assembly on Tuesday for their achievements in the ICAS Maths Competition held last term:

**DISTINCTION:** Michael Ibe, Violet Whitehouse  
**CREDIT:** Lucy McIsaac, Hayden Ferguson, Abigail Davis, Eva Bonnington, Emily Standing, Eliza Mudford, Darcy Morris, Alicia Fordham, Hudson Duffy, Vaughan Zell, Evie Peart, Jemima Harrison  
**MERIT:** Ava Meyers, Sienna Zell, Emilia Peart, Lilla Oehm, Ethan Morris, Kimbalee Gilmour, Declan Gale, Charlotte Ferguson,

Tia Allan, Kenedi Hazelton, Alyssa Ferguson.

#### **ICAS WRITING COMPETITION**

Congratulations to the following students who were presented with certificates at Assembly on Tuesday for their achievements in the ICAS Writing Competition held last term:

**DISTINCTION:** Sophia Peart  
**CREDIT:** Millie Spora, Jordan Neeves, Michael Ibe, Eva Bonnington, Tom Staggs, Jessica Ibe  
**MERIT:** Lilla Oehm, Evie Peart, Poppy-Grace Newton, Jemima Harrison.

#### **ICAS ENGLISH COMPETITION**

Congratulations to the following students who were presented with certificates at Assembly on Tuesday for their achievements in the ICAS English Competition held last term:

**DISTINCTION:** Brooke Woollams, Michael Ibe, Eva Bonnington, Jessica Ibe, Alex Cosier  
**CREDIT:** Nick Tancred, Hayden Ferguson, Millie Spora, Lilla Oehm, Ethan Morris, Blake Fairey, Hudson Duffy, Vaughan Zell, Evie Peart, Jemima Harrison  
**MERIT:** Lucy McIsaac, Kimbalee Gilmour, Georgia Tancred, Alyssa Ferguson.

#### **WELCOME BACK BEC**

We welcomed ex-student Rebecca Gaff on Monday as she is completing a week's work experience. We hope Bec enjoys her time back at St Joseph's. Once A Joey Always A Joey!

#### **NOVEMBER P & F MEETING**

Our final P & F Meeting for 2019 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 2019. 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 over \$28,000.00 to our school this year. What a wonderful effort!

#### **EAR BUS**

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

#### **CHRISTMAS CAROLS**

Our school has again been invited to perform at the Gilgandra Christmas Carols in Hunter Park to be held on Saturday, 7 December. The evening will commence with a free sausage sizzle from 5:00 p.m. with the carols commencing at approximately 6:30 p.m. If you would like your child/children to join our choir please fill in the tear-off slip that was sent home last week and return it to school tomorrow, Friday, 29 November.

#### **LEAVING FAMILIES BBQ**

Those families leaving St Joseph's this year are invited to our Leaving Families BBQ to be held on Thursday, 12 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 6847 2828 by next Friday, 6 December.

#### **K-6 SCHOOL SOCIAL - Thursday, 12 December**

All students are invited to our school social to be held at the **Gilgandra High School Hall** on Thursday, 12 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.

## **MOORAMBILLA**

We were thrilled to hear that **Will Spora, Nick Tancred, Grace Winter and Lucy Kilpatrick** will be part of the Moorambilla Voices Choir performing a song at the Bestest Foundation's, Bestest Gala Black Tie Fundraising Dinner on Monday, 2 December to be held at the Botanical Gardens in Sydney. Best of luck Will, Nick, Grace and Lucy – we hope you enjoy this wonderful experience!

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S SUMMER**

#### **READING CHALLENGE**

The Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge is back! The Reading Challenge is open to all students enrolled in our Catholic schools in the Diocese of Bathurst. Students need to independently read 10 or more age-appropriate books during the summer school holidays to go in the draw to **win one of four iPads**. The challenge is open now and entries must be received by 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, 6 February, 2020. Further information including reading log is available from Mrs McIsaac or Mrs Thomas in the library.

#### **SAVE THE DATE**

The 2020 St Joseph's P & F Debutante Ball will be held on Saturday, 28 March 2020. Make sure you save the date for this major P & F fundraiser in your 2020 diary.

### **BOOK LAUNCH OF GILGANDRA & DISTRICT WORLD WAR I DIGGERS**

This Saturday, 30 November at 3:00 p.m. the launch of the book "Gilgandra & District World War I Diggers" will take place at the Gilgandra Services Club. For catering purposes, please RSVP to Margo Piggott on 0418 766 726 or email: [margaret.pittott@bigpond.com](mailto:margaret.pittott@bigpond.com).

#### **MERIT AWARDS**

Congratulations to the following students who received Merit Awards at assembly on Wednesday:

**KINDER:** **Chloe Heffer** for sharing thoughtful responses in Geography, **Francis Ibe** for using elaborations in Story Writing, **Tex Mudford** for being a kind and helpful friend and **Luka van der Walt** for writing a super story about Maisie the cat.

**YEAR 1:** **Mitchell Cosier** for a consistent effort in all key learning areas, **Heidi Colwell** for taking pride in the neat presentation of her texts, **Milla Morris** for writing an interesting and imaginative story about pony club, **Bill Ryan** for working hard in Maths and **Lucy Zell** for fabulous work in Comprehension.

**YEAR 2:** **Isla Volkofsky** and **Georgia Allan** for super work in Geography, **Clayton Wheatley** for writing a fantastic acoustic poem, **Jock Mills** for working hard in Problem A Day and Operations, **Elsie Mudford** for always trying hard in Maths and **Baxter Whitehouse** for being an attentive worker who finishes all tasks.

**YEAR 3:** **Xanthe Gale** for sensational work in Spelling, **Kenedi Hazelton** for fantastic improvement in Essential Assessment Maths, **Ava Lacey** for taking great care with her work at all times and **Olivia Westwood** for always trying extra hard during Maths.

**YEAR 4:** **Mitchell Fuller** and **Bonica Henry** for showing improvement in a range of areas in Maths, **Isabelle Mudford** for always striving to achieve her best and **Jordan Wighton** for concentrating on completing his work to the best of his ability.

#### **WHAT'S ON**

##### **WEEK 7**

Thursday, 28 November/  
Friday 29 November - Year 4 Wellington Caves/Burrendong Dam Excursion  
Friday, 29 November - Kinder Transition  
Sunday, 1 December - 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

##### **WEEK 8**

Monday, 2 December - Infants Swimming commences  
- Year 6 PD Evening – 6:00 p.m.  
Tuesday, 3 December - GHS Year 6 Interviews  
Wednesday, 4 December - Ear Bus – 12:00 to 3:00 p.m.  
Thursday, 5 December - Junior Joey's to Cooee Lodge  
- St John's College Hit the Ground Running Program – 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
Saturday, 7 December - Christmas Carols in the Park  
Sunday, 8 December - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

##### **WEEK 9**

Tuesday, 10 December - Sydney Excursion Expo – Years 5 & 6 – 2:00 p.m.  
Wednesday, 11 December - GHS Peer Support – 12:00 – 3:00 p.m. at the pool  
Thursday, 12 December - Leaving Families BBQ  
- Social  
Friday, 13 December - Year 6 Picnic  
- Infants swimming finishes  
- Reports and Portfolios home  
Sunday, 15 December - 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

#### **AROUND THE CLASSROOMS**

**KINDER** had a fabulous time yesterday at Cooee Lodge. We entertained the residents with our beautiful singing and groovy dance moves. We then spent some time reading Christmas books and sharing stories and chocolate slice! It is such a valuable and memorable experience for both the children and residents. Thank you also to the parents and grandparent who came along. We

have started our Christmas craft by making a fantastic Santa that we will hang in our room. In Religion we are discussing Advent and thinking of ways we can prepare for Christmas in our own homes. During Maths we used the signs for addition and equals to make up number sentences. We completed our portfolio task for Geography and are working on our remaining tasks. Swimming starts next week so bring your swimmers, towel and money on Monday. Have a great weekend!

*Mrs Alison Newstead*

**YEAR 1** Thank you to all our family and friends who came to our Liturgy today. It was lovely to see everyone celebrating with us. Congratulations to the Year 1 students for your reverent and enthusiastic participation. This week we have been reading "The Paper Bag Princess" and have completed sequencing and vocabulary activities about the book. We have also completed our end of year assessments along with all our Maths homework! Homework will just consist of reading for the rest of the term. The children are excited to start intensive swimming on Monday for the next two weeks. Please remember to bring your swimmers, towel and pool entry money each day. We have also begun practising dances for our school social which the children are also looking forward to. Have a lovely weekend.

*Mrs Melinda Morris & Mrs Mia van der Walt*

**YEAR 2** has been busy looking at shapes within shapes in Maths, revising time concepts, place value and trading using subtraction. The Grammar focus has been speech marks and punctuation. In Spelling we reviewed words using 'c, k, ch and qu' sounds and looked at doubling letters when adding 'ing'. It is the first Sunday of Advent this week, so we discussed the meaning of Advent and looked at special occasions we wait for during the year. We began our Christmas craft as the end of the year draws closer. Everyone is excited about starting the two weeks of swimming. Have a great weekend.

*Miss Lisa Harvey*

**YEAR 3** has had another busy week. In Religion we have looked at the journey of becoming a Saint. We have focused on the life of St Mary Mackillop and some of the miracles she performed. With the lead up to the first Sunday of Advent this weekend we have begun looking at the Advent wreath and its importance. During Text Types this week we have been working in small groups, using our chromebooks, to write an information report on a planet in our Solar System. Year 3 will share these with the class next week. In Science we learnt a mnemonic to help us remember the planets in order. We have also shared some interesting facts we have discovered about the planets and looked at day and night on Earth. In Maths we have continued to look at some investigation tasks during Maths Plus and focused on 24 hour time and converting kilograms to grams during operations. Have a lovely, restful weekend.

*Mrs Donna Colwell & Mrs Meichelle Schier*

**YEAR 4** has been so excited all week because our excursion is finally here! We cannot wait to share all of our stories about our fun couple of days away when we return! A massive thank you to the parents who are travelling with us, we really appreciate all of your help! This week we have been learning about the history of Dundullimal, Burrendong Dam and Wellington Caves in preparation for our excursion. We have also been practising our concert which we get to perform tonight. In English we have studied haikus, shape poems, quatrains and other types of poetry. In Maths we have been adding and subtracting decimals and doing isometric drawing. We have also been working on our portfolio tasks for Religion, Art and Maths as well. Have a relaxing weekend everyone!

*Miss Prue Giffin*

**YEAR 5** has been reminiscing about our wonderful Sydney excursion by writing recounts elaborating on our favourite locations and completing our excursion booklets. During Maths we have been learning how to find the highest common factor and lowest common multiple from a pair of numbers and comparing the value of mobile phone plans. During English we have been publishing our policy speeches for our portfolios and we continue to enjoy reading our class novel "Tom Appleby – Convict Boy". Our Religion focus is Advent and we have discussed the importance of this special season in our preparation for Christmas.

*Mr Tim Keady, Mrs Dominica Banks & Mrs Nikkola Thomas*

**YEAR 6** returned this week with many exciting stories to share from the Sydney excursion and it is safe to say all students enjoyed themselves immensely! I congratulate the students on their excellent school spirit and positive attitudes and behaviours over the past week. In the classroom we have been looking at the liturgical year in Religion, with a focus on Advent and challenging our higher order thinking skills with some tricky Maths problems. Keep up the great work!

*Miss Jess Seaman*

#### **CANTEEN ROSTER**

Friday, 29 November – JB & Alison Tancred  
Monday, 2 December – Katherine Gaff  
Wednesday, 4 December – Donna Wheatley & Karen Harris  
Friday, 6 December – Danielle Fiddes & Jessica Howard

#### **ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER**

Sunday, 1 December – Lucy McIsaac, Dakotah Gilmour, Grace Winter

--	--

