

ABOUT

St Joseph's School Gilgandra

www.stjosephsgilgandra.nsw.edu.au
Email: stjoeysgil@bth.catholic.edu.au

Term 4 Week 8

6 December, 2018

Thought for the Week

Do your little bit of good where you are.

It's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.



YEAR 4 CAVES AND DAM EXCURSION

The Year 4 students, parents and teachers had a fabulous time last Thursday and Friday during their major excursion to the Wellington Caves and Burrendong Dam. The first stop was a visit to Dundullimal Homestead, then it was back in the cars and off to the Wellington Caves and Phosphate Mine. Following guided tours of the magnificent Cathedral Cave and the phosphate mine the group visited the Japanese Garden and Bottle House. Everyone was accommodated for the night at the caves and after checking in, it was time for some fun in the pool. To conclude Day 1 the students entertained the group with a very enjoyable concert. Day 2 was as exciting as Day 1 with visits to the Giant Chimes, Fern Gully and the dam spillway, which included a guided tour. To finish the excursion they stopped off in Dubbo for lots of fun at the waterslide. Thank you to Mr Keady and Miss Giffin for organising the excursion and taking such good care of the children. Thanks also to the parents, Nigel Allan, Mary Davis, Katherine Gaff, Nathan Gilmour, Sussane Gilmour, Phil Henry, Lorraine Hutchison, Rachel Kirsop, Mick Mudford, Rod Murphy, Catherine Neeves, Sally Oehm, Ken Purvis and Penny Zell for their fabulous help and lastly to the children, for their excellent behaviour and being such great ambassadors for our school.

YEAR 1 POLICE STATION VISIT

Our Year 1 students had a fabulous visit to the Police Station on Tuesday. We thank Senior Constable King who showed the children around the station and even organised a ride back to school in the police vehicles. This excursion was part of the Year 1 Geography unit, 'People and Places'.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS IN THE PARK

A wonderful evening was held on Saturday singing Christmas Carols in Hunter Park. A terrific group of children from our school performed two songs, "Little Drummer Boy" and "The Christmas Clap Rap". They certainly 'Gave Of Their Best' and sang beautifully. Thank you to the organisers for inviting our school to participate in such a lovely community event.

INFANTS SWIMMING

Our school based Infants Swimsafe Program began this week and concludes next Friday, 14 December. All the infants children who are enrolled in the program go to the pool every day for the two weeks. The children are being transported to and from the pool each day by bus, saving valuable time and energy. We hope that through this program the children will enjoy participating with their friends and improve their water confidence and swimming skills. We thank the Gilgandra Panthers for the use of their bus.

EAR BUS

Representatives from the Hear Our Heart Ear Bus will be visiting our school tomorrow, Friday, 7 December to test children's hearing. If you have any particular concerns regarding your child's hearing, please let us know.

YEAR 6 - TRANSITION TO YEAR 7 GILGANDRA HIGH SCHOOL

A note went home with all Year 6 students earlier this week relating to a 'Year 6 into Year 7' transition evening that is being held on Wednesday, 12 December from 6:00 p.m. on the lawn area in the main quad area of Gilgandra High School. A light meal (BBQ and salad) will be included. For catering purposes, please RSVP to the High School by Monday, 11 December by phoning 6847 2276.

LEAVING FAMILIES BBQ

Those families leaving St Joseph's this year are invited to our Leaving Families BBQ to be held next Thursday, 13 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, 7 December.

K-6 SCHOOL SOCIAL - Thursday, 13 December

All students are invited to our school social to be held at the **Gilgandra High School Hall** next Thursday, 13 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.

YEAR 6 PICNIC - Friday, 14 December

Our Year 6 students are sure to have lots of fun at the Dubbo Waterslides and tenpin bowling on Monday. This outing is the school's way of saying thank you to our Year 6 student leaders for leading our school so well this year. We thank you for 'Giving Of Your Best' and may God bless you.

ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL YEAR BOOK

Just a reminder that the school Year Books will be available **at school** after Mass on Monday, 17 December. A huge thank you to Lara Zell and her helpers for the tremendous amount of work that has once again gone into the year book. For those families of Year 6 students who have ordered an extra copy, your extra book will also be available for collection. We thank our P & F Association who generously provides one copy for each family.

LIBRARY BOOKS

Please ensure ALL library books are returned to the library by **tomorrow**, Friday, 7 December to enable a stock take to be undertaken next week.

FINAL ABOUT FOR 2018

Next week's About will be the final newsletter for 2018.

SUMMER READING CLUB AT GILGANDRA SHIRE LIBRARY

To support families reading over the holidays, the Library is running a summer reading club for children. The Summer Reading Club is an Australia-wide program, which this year has the theme "Curious Creatures". To take part in the Summer Reading Club, which commences on Friday 14th December, all you need to do is:

1. Be a member of Gilgandra Shire Library.
2. Pick up a reading record bookmark at the Library or print a reading log from the Gilgandra Shire Library Facebook page.
3. Read five books, or have five books read to you, or read for five hours and return to the library to collect a bag of goodies.
4. Keep reading!
4. Read another five books or read for five hours **and return to the library by Friday 8th February to collect a certificate and to go in the draw to win one of two Lenovo Tab E8 16GB 8 inch Tablets!**

SCHOOL HOLIDAY LEGO @ THE LIBRARY

"Designs From Your Mind Club"

The Gilgandra Library are holding FREE lego classes during the school holidays for children aged 5-12 years from 2:00 – 3:30 p.m on Thursday 3, 10, 17 and 24 January. Children must be accompanied by an adult and there are a maximum of 12 children per class. Please phone the library on 6817 8877 to book your child's spot.

MERIT AWARDS

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

KINDER: **Lucy Zell** and **Peregrine Volkofsky** for writing a top description of Santa, **Arabella Chandler** and **Heidi Colwell** for creating a lovely Nativity scene and **Izakk Tarrant** for great dancing at social dance practices.

YEAR 1: **Ben Mudford** for a wonderful story about a naughty elf, **Joe Staggs** for enthusiastic participation in class activities and **Clayton Wheatley** for a super effort in Grammar.

YEAR 2: **Olivia Westwood** for continued improvement in Reading, **Makynli Hazelton** for super improvement in Spelling, **Jemima Harrison** for awesome Spelling results all year, **Tilla Chandler** and **Sailor Ryan** for writing a great Christmas acrostic poem and **Toby Davis** for excellent problem solving in Maths.

YEAR 3: **Hudson Duffy** and **Emily Standing** for fantastic results in our Grammar test, **Abbie Skinner** for fabulous work in Literacy Pro reading and **Lucas Fong** for having a positive approach to all set tasks.

YEAR 4: **Nick Kirsop, Ethan Morris, Alison Mudford, Millie Spora, Charlie Zell** and **Sienna Zell** for representing our school positively on our Year 4 excursion, **Jordan Neeves** for making improvements in the mathematical area of Statistics and Probability, **Molly Nichols** for the enthusiasm she displayed during dance in Knowledge Explosion and **Jessie Riley** for always cooperating with her peers in group work tasks.

YEAR 5: **Nick Tancred** for a passion for reading and knowledge, **Mattea Purvis** for being a helpful and reliable member of Year 5, **Paige Gilmour, Alana Elsom, Casey Gaff, Lucy Kilpatrick** and **Grace Winter** for a wonderful contribution to our Christmas Carols.

YEAR 6: **Molly Wilson** for carefully preparing her exposition speech, **Luke O'Neill** for working hard with order of operations, **Darcy Neeves** for revising Grammar topics with accuracy and **Kate Woollams, Aiden Walker, Jade Elsom, Emily Zell** and **Madison Riley** for a wonderful contribution to our Christmas Carols.

WHAT'S ON

WEEK 8

Friday, 7 December - Ear Bus
Sunday, 9 December - Second Sunday of Advent

WEEK 9

Wednesday, 12 December - Year 6 transition evening – Gilgandra High School – 6.00 p.m.

Thursday, 13 December - Leaving Families BBQ
- Social

Friday, 14 December - Year 6 Picnic
- Infants swimming finishes
- Reports and Portfolios home

Sunday, 16 December - Third Sunday of Advent

WEEK 10

Monday, 17 December - Christmas Carols Choir to visit Cooe Lodge – 2:15 p.m.

- End of Year Mass and Presentations – 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, 18 December - Pool Parties

Wednesday, 19 December - Last Day Term 4

AROUND THE CLASSROOMS

KINDER Another busy week is flying by in Kinder. In Religion we have been discussing the season of Advent and how it is a time of waiting and preparing for the coming of Jesus. We discussed some of the things that we have to wait for and how important it is to remain patient and hopeful. We really enjoyed reading 'The Naughtiest Reindeer'. We couldn't believe how much mischief Rudolph's sister Ruby got up to! In Maths we practised telling the time, measured the length of objects and used ten frames. In Science we experimented with lots of toys to see how they moved. Have a fabulous weekend. *Miss Smith & Mrs Newstead*

YEAR 1 We are certainly enjoying our trips to the pool this week as part of the intensive swimming program and had lots of fun visiting our local Police Station on Tuesday. We especially enjoyed our trip back to school in the police vehicles with the sirens blaring! In Grammar we are looking at direct speech and writing an exposition on 'Christmas is the Best'. During Religion we discussed the meaning of Advent and have revisited The Annunciation – the beginning of the story of Christmas. This week we read the traditional tale of 'Jack and the Beanstalk' and have used pictures to sequence the story. In Art we completed work on our Santa picture and decorated a paper plate Christmas tree. *Mrs Schier*

YEAR 2 Put your skates on everyone, it's a busy time of year! The weather has been beautiful for swim school and everyone is learning lots of new water skills. In the classroom we discussed the importance of Advent and also how people can make others feel good with acts of kindness in the lead up to Christmas. We made some groovy Santas in craft and are enjoying fun activities in our Christmas booklet. The Spelling sound focus is "ew, oo" and in Grammar we revised exclamation marks and speech marks. Have a fabulous weekend everyone! *Miss Harvey*

YEAR 3 We have commenced our Advent Religion unit by creating title pages in LucidPress. We have also looked at the significance of the Advent wreath and what it represents. Today we read 'Whoever You Are' by Mem Fox. This book shows that despite the differences between people around the world, there are similarities that unite us, such as pain, joy and love. Over the next week we will continue exploring the theme of common humanity to remind us people are precious and unique, people come from different nations with different ethnicity, cultures, beliefs and languages and despite differences in our lives we are all essentially the same. Our Christmas artworks have begun and we are creating some cute snowman selfie artworks. Thank you to those children who represented our school at the Christmas Carols on Saturday night. *Mrs Morris & Mrs Colwell*

YEAR 4 Wow, what a wonderful time we all had on our excursion last week! Going to Dundullimal Homestead and the new Dubbo Pool Water Park for the first time were just some of the highlights. We also really enjoyed the Wellington Caves, Fern Gully and the Dubbo Water Slides! Another big thank you to the parents that came along to help, our excursion would not have been possible without you! This week we have been writing reviews on our excursion, doing revision in Grammar and learning about mapping in Maths. We have made our own Advent wreaths in Religion and started some Christmas art and craft. Have a lovely weekend everyone!

Mr Keady & Miss Giffin

YEAR 5 It has been another fabulous week in Year 5! Our book reports are just about complete and ready for our portfolios. In Maths we have looked at how to find the highest common factor and lowest common multiple of 2 numbers. Geography had us focusing on bushfires and how they affect our flora, fauna and communities. During Religion we started our Advent unit looking at the importance of this season in our preparation for the feast of Christmas. We are also enjoying completing some lovely Christmas artworks. *Mrs Banks & Mrs Thomas*

YEAR 6 students have been presenting their exposition speeches this week. They have been well prepared and have included excellent examples and elaborations. In Maths we have been learning about equivalent number sentences, side-by-side column graphs and plotting coordinates on the Cartesian plane. Our Grammar activities have focused on homophones and homographs and identifying them in sentences. Year 6 enjoyed our transition session this week at Gilgandra High School where we got to play some fun games and participate in an interesting Science lesson. Keep up the great work Year 6! *Mr Soares*

CANTEEN ROSTER

Friday, 7 December - Ashleigh Mudford & Jodie Peart

Monday, 10 December - Suzanne Profke & Emma Meyers

Wednesday, 12 December - Sarah Hickey & Lorraine Thurlow

Friday, 14 December - Lesley Riley & Kirstie Bugmy

ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER

Sunday, 9 December - Luke O'Neill & Aiden Walker

