



# ABOUT

## St Joseph's School Gilgandra

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Term 4 Week 8

26 November, 2015

### 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.*

#### **CONGRATULATIONS YEAR 2 RECONCILIATION CLASS**

A beautiful Mass was celebrated in St Joseph's Church last Sunday during which the Year 2 children received their Reconciliation Certificates. Congratulations to you all and a big thank you to Mrs Schier, Mrs Morris and Mrs Banks for preparing the children so well. Our Year 2 Reconciliation class consists of: **Billie Allan, Chelsea Brand, Jett Chandler, Alana Elsom, Hayden Ferguson, Ryan Ferguson, Casey Gaff, Nick Gale, Paige Gilmour, Lucas Gleadhill, Tarinya Hannedege, Ben Harland, Lucy Kilpatrick, Sienna Marchant, Ava Meyers, Lucy Melsaac, Harry Mudford, Samantha Naden, Mattea Purvis, Ryley Smith, William Spora, Ben Standing, Nick Tancred, Jett Tarrant, Elten Walker, Grace Winter, Jasmine Zell.**

#### **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 Western Plains Cultural Centre, Wellington Caves and Phosphate Mine, Japanese Gardens and Bottle House. 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 new Dubbo Waterslide.

#### **EXCURSION SNIPPET**

*The Rocks was great fun! We enjoyed the historic sites and found it interesting that people lived in such small houses many years ago. It was also interesting looking at the warehouses and the pulleys.* **Madison Hourigan, Ashleigh Carlow, Amber Tarrant**

#### **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 2016.

#### **BUDDY BENCH**

The school was delighted to receive a Buddy Bench from Bunnings last Thursday. The bench is a place where children are encouraged to sit when they are feeling left out or sad. If a classmate sees someone sitting on the bench they are urged to invite them to play with, or talk to them. We thank Bunnings for their kind donation.

#### **INFANTS SWIMMING**

Our school based Swimsafe program begins next Monday, 30 November and concludes on Friday, 11 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. A note went home yesterday with those children enrolled in the program giving details of groups and times. If you haven't already done so, could you please return the tear-off slip that was with the note giving permission for your child to travel by bus.

#### **YEAR 6 PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT NIGHT**

The Year 6 Personal Development evening will be held at school this Monday, 30 November at 6:00 p.m. All Year 6 students and their parents are invited.

#### **ST JOHN'S COLLEGE 'HIT THE GROUND RUNNING' PROGRAM**

To assist students with their transition from primary to secondary schooling, St John's College will run a program called 'Hit The Ground Running' next Wednesday, 2 December. It will be presented by College Counsellor, Mrs Kierath, and Year 7 Coordinator, Miss Dempsey. This program is for our Year 6 students who will attend St John's next year.

**WHS**

#### **YEAR 5 LITURGY**

Year 5 will celebrate a class Liturgy next Thursday, 3 December at 10:30 a.m. in St Joseph's Church. Everyone is welcome. Please bring a plate to share for morning tea which will follow the Liturgy.

#### **EXCURSION SNIPPET**

*Luna Park was a great experience. There were many adrenaline pumping rides but we especially liked the Tango Train, the Hair Raiser and the Haunted House. We all enjoyed our time at Luna Park and we would love to go back one day.* **Darren Doherty, Jye Day, Marshall Ryan, Stuart Larsen**

#### **EAR BUS**

Representatives from the Hear Our Heart Ear Bus will be visiting our school next Friday, 4 December to test children's hearing. If you would like your child's hearing tested, please see Mrs Hodge to obtain a referral form.

#### **LEAVING FAMILIES BBQ**

Those families leaving St Joseph's this year are invited to our Leaving Families BBQ to be held on Thursday, 10 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, 4 December.

#### **K-6 SCHOOL SOCIAL - Thursday, 10 December**

#### **Gilgandra High School Hall 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.**

All students are invited to our school social to be held at the **Gilgandra High School Hall** on Thursday, 10 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.

#### **CHRISTMAS CAROLS**

Our school has been invited to perform at the Gilgandra Christmas Carols in Hunter Park on Sunday, 6 December. The carols will start at 6:00 p.m. and we will be performing two songs. If you would like your child/children to join our choir please fill in the tear-off slip with today's About and return it to school by Tuesday, 1 December.

#### **HAVE YOU DOWNLOADED OUR NEW FREE SCHOOL**

#### **APP?**

Thanks to the generosity of our P & F Association we now have a school app to enable parents to receive school information instantly and directly to their smartphone. This app has newsletters, general school information, details of upcoming events and also has an absentee form which enables parents to let us know the reason for their child's absence. A flyer went home on Monday giving details of how to download the app. Simply search for School Stream from the App Store (iPhone/iPad) or Play Store (Android) and download the app to your phone. Make sure you agree to push notifications. Once School Stream has finished installing, open the app, type St Joseph's School Gilgandra into the search and select. If you have any problems, contact Mrs Hodge in the office. We strongly recommend this app to all our parents/caregivers.

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S SUMMER READING CHALLENGE**

The Executive Director of the Catholic Education Office in Bathurst has put out the challenge to all students to read, read, read during the upcoming summer holidays. Each student was today given an information sheet and Personal Reading Log. Entries must be completed by Friday, 5 February, 2016.

Our school WHS Management Plan for 2015 has been completed online. Anyone wishing to obtain a copy should contact the school office.

### EXCURSION SNIPPET

*Wow the Madame Tussauds figures were so lifelike - they actually looked like real people. None of us could believe how much money it cost to make each one. We all can't wait to go back soon.* **Billie Buckland, Heidi Purvis, Amelia Murray, Laura Smith**

### MERIT AWARDS

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

**KINDER:** **Molly Temple** for great improvement in sentence writing, **Adison Thomas** for great listening skills, **Jessica Ibe** for being a considerate member of Kindergarten, **Ryan Cox** for great improvement with his sight words, **Emily Standing** for being a great role model to follow and **Stuart Wheatley** for great sportsmanship on the playground.

**YEAR 1:** **Rani Diamond** for trying hard in reading, **Tableigh Davey** for great work during reading activities, **Grace Jones-Copelin** for working well in Maths and trying hard, **Dakotah Gilmour** for trying hard in Spelling, **Charlie Zell** for groovy dance moves during social practice and **Trinity Zell** for colourful artwork.

**YEAR 2:** **Nick Tancred** for wonderful reading at our Mass on Sunday, **Ben Standing** for an imaginative fictional dragon information report, **Chelsea Brand** for a beautifully detailed painting of a castle and **Will Spora** for an enthusiastic approach to his learning.

**YEAR 3:** **Kyzack Corcoran** and **Jack Oehm** for writing wonderful poems about the seasons, **Thomas Dunn** for setting out his Maths work with care, **Oscar Spora** for excellent work with decimals, **Madison Riley** for being polite and courteous and **Luke O'Neill** for working well with others.

**YEAR 4:** **Tylah Anforth** for writing a thoughtful discussion, **Finn Marchant** for creating a top Nativity scene, **Tayarna McKenzie** for consistently great work in Operations and **Pat Spora** for his enthusiastic attitude towards his concert item for the Wellington Caves Excursion.

**YEAR 5:** **James Ferguson** for working hard to include expression when reading, **Amelia Murray** for fantastic results in Problem A Day, **Heidi Purvis** for fantastic responses in her Sydney Excursion booklet and **Emily Skinner** for being enthusiastic towards all tasks.

**YEAR 6:** **Darren Doherty** for beautiful book work, **Will Sandford** for dedication to mastering fractions, **Nash Marchant** always being willing to help, **Milla Banks** for working quietly on all tasks and **Lachlan Fairey** for reading with beautiful fluency.

### WHAT'S ON

<b>WEEK 8</b>		<b>Year 5 Reconciliation</b>
Thursday, 26 & Friday, 27	-	Year 4 Wellington Caves Excursion
Sunday, 29 November	-	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent
<b>WEEK 9</b>		<b>Father Martin away on Retreat</b>
Monday, 30 November	-	Infants Swimming commences
	-	Year 6 PD Night – 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, 2 December	-	St John's College 'Hit The Ground Running' Program
	-	GHS RAP Interviews
Thursday, 3 December-	-	Year 5 Liturgy – 10:30 am.
Friday, 4 December	-	Ear Bus
Sunday, 6 December	-	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent
	-	Christmas Carols in the Park
<b>WEEK 10</b>		<b>Year 6 Reconciliation</b>
Tuesday, 8 December	-	Immaculate Conception
Wednesday, 9 December	-	Kinder Cooee Visit – 11:30 a.m.
Thursday, 10 December	-	Leaving Families BBQ – 5:30 for 6:00 p.m.
	-	Social – 7:00 p.m.
Friday, 11 December	-	Year 6 Picnic
	-	Infants Swimming ends
	-	Reports and Portfolios home
Sunday, 13 December	-	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent
<b>WEEK 11</b>		
Monday, 14 December	-	St John's College Orientation – 9:00 – 11:30 a.m.
	-	End of Year Mass and Presentations – 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, 15 December	-	Pool Parties
Wednesday, 16 December	-	Last Day Term 4
Sunday, 21 December	-	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

### AROUND THE CLASSROOMS

**KINDER** This week we have been reading "The Pear in the Pear Tree" by Pamela Allen. There were many great suggestions about how to resolve the problem of getting the pear from the pear tree. We have also written letters to Santa telling him about ourselves and explaining how we have enjoyed being in Kindergarten. We hope Santa enjoys reading our letters! In Mathematics we have been revising addition and subtraction and practising writing number sentences. During Science and Technology we looked at different words to describe parts of a plane whilst in HSIE we discussed the importance of having shelter. Well done to the Kinder children who are trying hard to organise their things in the morning. Take care. *Miss Bourke*

**YEAR 1** In Religion we have started our Advent unit and discussed the Advent wreath and its significance in our preparation for Christmas. We enjoyed reading the story about Mary visiting her cousin Elizabeth and completed our portfolio task. Sharing, mapping, following directions and problem solving have been our challenges in Maths this week. We are also trying really hard in Maths Warm-Up to remember how many days in a month and how many minutes in an hour. "The Whale and the Snail" is our new Julia Donaldson book. Before reading the story we looked at one of the illustrations from the book and predicted what we thought was going to happen. Next week infants swimming begins. Please remember to bring your swimming gear and money each day. Have a lovely weekend. *Miss Harvey & Mrs Newstead*

**YEAR 2** What a wonderful celebration we had at our Christ the King Mass on Sunday. Congratulations to Year 2 on your reverent participation. Congratulations to our Year 5 friends on presenting their policy speeches. You all did an amazing job! We've written expositions about why weekends should be longer and tried to focus on using strong language to convince the reader. We've continued working on the strategies of sequencing and finding the main idea in our comprehension groups. In Maths we have practised our times tables and had fun following a treasure map. We are looking forward to starting our intensive swimming next week. Don't forget to pack swimmers every day. *Mrs Schier & Mrs Morris*

**YEAR 3** Year 5 did such an amazing job with their policy speeches this week! Well done. In Maths we have been learning about decimals, multiplication strategies and how to convert between centimetres and metres. In Writing we have finished publishing our poems about the seasons. Our Grammar focus has been on using direct speech marks. In Comprehension we read an interesting text about an 'exploding chook'. During Science we investigated what happens to water when it freezes. We discussed what changed and what stayed the same. Year 3 were lovely today at Mass for our celebration on forgiveness. Have a great weekend. *Mr Soares*

**YEAR 4** This week we've been busy revising prepositions in Grammar and publishing our writing portfolio tasks on Microsoft Word. For Maths we have looked at number relationships, estimating and checking and mapping. During Religion we discussed the Advent wreath and the liturgical calendar. Today we are visiting the Western Plains Cultural Centre and the Wellington Caves and Phosphate Mine on our excursion. We'll see you tomorrow. Have a great weekend. *Miss Smith*

**YEAR 5** Wow! What an amazing effort by all of Year 5 this week in delivering their policy speeches in front of the school. It was fantastic to hear all of you speak so confidently in front of your peers. Thanks to all the parents and friends for giving up their time to hear the children's presentations. In class this week we have been investigating tense in Grammar while in Maths we have been spending time practising our speed and accuracy of division and multiplication facts. We have also begun preparing for our Liturgy next Thursday - it would be great to have our family and friends there to help us celebrate. *Mr Keady*

**YEAR 6** It has been another fabulous week in Year 6! Our writing activity had us thinking about what it would be like to be stranded on a deserted island for a whole year. We had to describe what and whom we would like to take with us. Some very interesting and imaginative ideas were suggested! In Maths we have looked at decimal and fraction number patterns and order of operations. During Religion we have looked at why the Church honours Mary as a woman of faith and we have also completed our portfolio task on the Advent wreath. Congratulations to Year 2 on your beautiful Christ the King Mass last Sunday. *Mrs Banks & Mrs Thomas*

### CANTEEN ROSTER

Friday, 27 November – Alicia Heffer & Trish Henry  
Monday, 30 November – Lexine Mallison & Kristy Gale  
Wednesday, 2 December – Brenda Purvis & Julie Marchant  
Friday, 4 December – Paula Purvis & Mel Phillips

### ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER

Sunday, 29 November – Kyle Welsh, Zoe Welsh, Ella McAnally-Elwin, Jett Grimshaw