



ABOUT

St Joseph's School Gilgandra

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Term 4 Week 8

30 November, 2017

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 Miss Harvey and Mrs Banks for preparing the children so well. Our Year 2 Reconciliation class consists of: **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 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 Dubbo Waterslide.

EXCURSION SNIPPET

We were all excited to go to Parliament House and learn about the history of the building. We participated in a role play and discussed a Bill. This helped us understand how NSW Parliament works. It was great to sit in the green and red seats of the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council. It was an awesome experience to go to such an important building.

Isaiah McKenzie, Aiden Walker, Kyzack Corcoran, Luke O'Neill

INFANTS SWIMMING

Our school based Infants Swimsafe Program began this week and concludes next Friday, 8 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.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS IN THE PARK

Come and celebrate Carols in the Park this Saturday, 2 December at Hunter Park. The evening will commence with a free sausage sizzle from 5:30 p.m. with the carols commencing approximately 7:00 p.m. Our school has been invited to perform a bracket of carols and we will be the fourth group to sing. We thank those children who have volunteered to be a part of our choir. We can't wait to hear you sing! So, bring a chair or rug, bring your carols sheet leaflet from this week's Gilgandra Weekly and join in the festivities. In case of wet weather the venue will be changed to the Youth Club.

YEAR 6 PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT EVENING

The Year 6 Personal Development evening will be held at school on Monday, 4 December at 6:00 p.m. All Year 6 students and their parents are invited.

KINDER COOEE LODGE VISIT

Kinder will be spreading some Christmas cheer next Wednesday, 6 December as they visit Cooee Lodge. We're sure they will bring a smile to many faces during this special season.

LEAVING FAMILIES BBQ

Those families leaving St Joseph's this year are invited to our Leaving Families BBQ to be held next 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 tomorrow, Friday, 1 December.

K-6 SCHOOL SOCIAL – Thursday, 7 December

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

EXCURSION SNIPPET

*During the excursion we went to Luna Park. It was the best place by far (in our opinion) even though the Haunted House was closed there were still amazing rides to go on. One of the rides was the Hair Raiser which was superb. We did our interview under the Luna Park entrance, it was fantastic and there was a fat cardboard conductor that we got to have our photo with. **William Gaff, Jack Purvis, Anton Davis***

SCHOOL REPORTS AND PORTFOLIOS

The children's end of year reports and portfolios will be sent home next Friday, 8 December.

END OF YEAR MASS AND PRESENTATIONS

Wednesday, 13 December

Our End of Year Mass and Presentations will be held on Wednesday, 13 December. Children are to wear full summer uniform and the format will be as follows:

5:45 p.m. Students assemble in school square.

6:00 p.m. Mass and Year 6 Graduation Ceremony in St Joseph's Church

7:00 p.m. Supper in St Joseph's School grounds. Please bring a plate.

8:00 p.m. Presentations at Gilgandra High School Hall.

All students are expected to attend both the Mass and Presentations. If children are unable to attend, could you please advise your child's class teacher as your child may be receiving an award.

ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL YEAR BOOK

Just a reminder that the school year books will be available **at school** after Mass on Wednesday, 13 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. All Year 6 students will receive a book as a farewell gift and our P & F Association generously provides one copy for each family. If someone would like an extra copy, please contact Mrs Hodge.

FINAL ABOUT FOR 2017

Next week's About will be the final newsletter for 2017.

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 iPad minis**. The challenge is open now and entries must be received by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, 6 February, 2018. Further information including reading log is available from Mrs Kilby in the library.

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 a beautiful walk we finally arrived at the Rocks. We saw Cadman's Cottage and we were fascinated to see how far up the water level originally came. It was interesting to see all of the old work houses where the convicts lived. **Molly Wilson, Layney Godber, Breanna Foster**

GO4FUN ONLINE

Go4Fun is a new and free program that helps children and families improve their eating and physical activity habits. There are ten weekly online sessions and phone calls from a trained and qualified coach to help keep participants on track. Preliminary testing of the program resulted in excellent participant outcomes and the NSW Office of Preventative Health is now aiming to recruit up to 100 families (particularly from rural/regional areas) to a full pilot test of Go4Fun Online starting in Term 1, 2018. Interested families are encouraged to register or find out more: Phone 1800 780900 or access the website <https://go4funonline.com.au/>

SPORT AND RECREATION SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

Bookings are now open for the NSW Sport and Recreation school holiday residential programs. These programs include 24 hour supervision, instructor led activities, accommodation, meals and supervised transport (where applicable). For more information phone the Office of Sport on 13 13 02 or book online at sportand recreation.nsw.gov.au/schoolholidays

MERIT AWARDS

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

KINDER: **Baxter Whitehouse** for great work dividing collections, **Jagger Hazelton** for top work completing counting patterns, **Ryder Larkin** for writing a great free choice story, **Brodie Nichols, Anna Walker** and **Callan Tobin** for reading beautifully at our Liturgy and **Joe Staggs** for improvement in reading.

YEAR 1: **Vaughan Zell** for trying extra hard with his swimming, **Toby Davis** for great improvement in Maths, **Sophie Gilmour** for coming up with a great idea to save the whales, **Scarlett Chandler** for reading with expression and using speech marks and **Te Mana Diamond** for writing some great sentences using homophones.

YEAR 2: **Kaycee Bugmy** for great work in Religion, **Brody Heffer** and **Bonica Henry** for terrific working out strategies in Maths, **Darcy Morris** and **Isabelle Mudford** for thoughtful contributions during our Reconciliation discussions, **Jaida Tarrant** for working hard to solve tricky Maths problems and **Hudson Duffy** for beautiful handwriting and publishing.

YEAR 3: **Taylor Hayes** for a conscientious effort in all areas, **Nick Kirsop** for super work in Spelling, **Millie Spora** for a wonderful effort in Maths, **Jordan Neeves** for a great effort when applying speech marks and **Trinity Zell** for 'Giving Of Her Best' in all areas.

YEAR 4: **Hayden Ferguson** for an improved effort with Literacy Pro reading, **Ryan Ferguson** for creating a wonderful fairy tale portfolio task, **Lucas Gleadhill** for using a wider vocabulary in his writing and **Dylan Tobin** for great recall of our Burrendong Excursion facts.

YEAR 5: **Kyzack Corcoran** for a fabulous effort in Problem A Day and Operations, **Emma Durrant** for excellent results in Maths, **Breanna Foster** for being considerate of others and **Jack Oehm** for outstanding presentation of book work.

YEAR 6: **Anton Davis** and **Kelsey Hutchison** for great work with Roman numerals, **Jinda Green** for her willingness to help others and **Olivia McClelland** for accurate work with contractions in Grammar.

WHAT'S ON

WEEK 8 - Year 4 Reconciliation
Thursday, 30 November & - Year 4 Wellington Caves/Burrendong Dam
Friday, 1 December - Excursion

- Year 6 GHS Visit
Saturday, 2 December - Christmas Carols in the Park
Sunday, 3 December - 1st Sunday of Advent

WEEK 9 - Year 6 Reconciliation
Monday, 4 December - Year 6 PD evening
Tuesday, 5 December - GHS Year 6 Interviews
Wednesday, 6 December - Kinder Cooee Visit – 11:00 a.m.
Thursday, 7 December - Leaving Families BBQ – 5:30 for 6:00 p.m.
- Social – 7:00 p.m.

Friday, 8 December - Infants Swimming concludes
- Reports and Portfolios home
Sunday, 10 December - 2nd Sunday of Advent

WEEK 10
Monday, 11 December - Year 6 Picnic
Tuesday, 12 December - Sydney Excursion Expo – 2:00 p.m.
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 - 3rd Sunday of Advent

AROUND THE CLASSROOMS

KINDER has been busy doing swimming lessons this week and practising dance moves for the social. We have also made Christmas cards and learnt a Christmas song and dance for the elderly people of Cooee Lodge Hostel and Special Care Wing. We have learnt about the 'og', 'op', 'od' and 'ot' word families in sounds and read "Mr McGee Goes To Sea" for Reading. During Mathematics we completed our portfolio task and revised addition and sharing. Our new Religion topic for the remainder of the term is 'Advent and Christmas'. To begin this topic we discussed how we prepare for Christmas and read about John the Baptist. I hope everyone has a lovely weekend. *Miss Smith*

YEAR 1 What a busy week! Year 1 celebrated a beautiful Liturgy today and it was lovely to see our parents and grandparents there to support us. We have also enjoyed our first week of swimming lessons where we practised lots of skills. Our social is next week so we have been learning lots of groovy dance moves! We have almost finished our portfolio tasks and loved doing some fun activities about "The Scarecrows Wedding". In Maths we have been trying really hard to convert analog time to digital time and revising the properties of 3D shapes. Have a great weekend!

Mrs Newstead

YEAR 2 Congratulations Year 2 on a beautiful Christ the King Mass on Sunday. It was a lovely way to also celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation received by thirteen class members a few weeks ago. Well done everyone and a big thank you to the parents and friends who joined us on the weekend. It's been a busy week with the commencement of the Infants swimming programme and as usual the weather has been a real mixed bag. Social practices are also in full swing in readiness for the big night next Thursday. In the classroom we've continued revising graphs and data and using Mathletics. We've created some great paper plate Santas and finished our reindeer paintings. Hopefully there will be lots of people at the Hunter Park Christmas Carols on Saturday. Have a fabulous weekend. *Miss Harvey*

YEAR 3 'Why do birds have feathers?' was the topic of our explanation this week in text types. In Maths we are enjoying mathematical challenges including code breaking and shape patterns. In Grammar we are looking at conjunctions and in Religion we discussed the symbols and actions used during the Liturgy of the Eucharist. As part of our Literature unit we are creating a story map as we depict the main idea of each chapter. This week we have put on our boogie shoes as we prepare for our school social next Thursday. We can't wait to start our Christmas craft next week. *Mrs Schier, Miss Bourke & Mrs Morris*

YEAR 4 It is finally here! We are on the road and off to Dubbo and Wellington for our greatly anticipated excursion. Thank you to all the parents who have kindly come along with us. Earlier this week in class we have been completing revision spelling activities for the term and it has been great to see how well we have learnt all our words. In writing we have been hosting writing conferences where we must work together to plan, draft, edit and publish a narrative as part of a team. In Maths we have revised timelines, recognising the importance of reading all the information given to us before answering questions. Congratulations to Year 2 on your celebration last Sunday. Have a great weekend. *Mr Keady*

YEAR 5 It has been another fabulous week in Year 5! Our picture books are coming along nicely and we are publishing them on the iPads using the App: Book Creator. In Maths we have looked at how to find the highest common factor and lowest common multiple of two numbers. During Religion we started our Advent unit looking at the importance of the season in preparation for the feast of Christmas. In History we looked at immigrants to Australia and how they have contributed to our country. Congratulations to Year 2 on your beautiful Christ the King Mass last Sunday. *Mrs Banks & Mrs Thomas*

YEAR 6 This week in Writing we have written a procedure about how to construct paddlepop stick towers. We also had lots of fun trying to build them as tall as we could. In Maths we have focused on decimal and fraction numbers patterns, mass and order of operations. We have learnt about abbreviations in Grammar and we have identified them in text. In Religion we learnt about 'The First Christmas Crib' and its relevance to the birth of Jesus. Year 6 is looking forward to the Peer Support Day at Gilgandra High School tomorrow. It sounds like the day will be lots of fun. Don't forget your swimmers Year 6! *Mr Soares*

CANTEEN ROSTER

Friday, 1 December – Jo Lummis & Lorraine Hutchison
Monday, 4 December – Sally Beveridge & Carol Alchin
Wednesday, 6 December – Nicole Brand & Rachel Kirsop
Friday, 8 December – Nikki Church & Jessica Whitehouse

ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER

Sunday, 3 December – Oscar Spora, Aiden Walker, Olivia McClelland, Oli Schier

