



# 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 8

5 December, 2019

### 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 entertaining concert. Day 2 was as exciting as Day 1 with visits to the Giant Chimes, Fern Gully and the dam spillway, which included a very informative guided tour. To finish the excursion they stopped off in Dubbo for lots of fun in the waterpark. Thank you to Miss Giffin and Mr Keady for organising the excursion and taking such good care of the children. Thanks also to the parents, Amanda Duffy, Katherine Mate, Rodney Ryan, Phil Henry, Ashleigh Mudford, Natalie Mudford and Simone Fordham for their fabulous help and lastly to the children, for their excellent behaviour and being such great ambassadors for our school.

#### **INFANTS SWIMMING**

Our school based Infants Swimsafe Program began this week and concludes next Friday, 13 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.

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

Everyone is invited to relive the thrills and spills of our Years 5/6 Sydney Excursion at our expo to be held at 2:00 p.m. next Tuesday, 10 December. Come along and watch the DVD, peruse the photos and browse through the booklets.

#### **CHRISTMAS CAROLS IN THE PARK**

Come and celebrate Carols in the Park this Saturday, 7 December at Hunter Park. The evening will commence with a free sausage sizzle from 5:00 p.m. with the carols commencing at approximately 6:30 p.m. Our school has been invited to perform a bracket of carols and we have been informed that our performance will be at approximately 6:45 p.m. 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.

#### **LEAVING FAMILIES BBQ**

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

#### **YEAR 6 PICNIC – Friday, 13 December**

Our Year 6 students are sure to have lots of fun at the Dubbo Waterslides and tenpin bowling next Friday. 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, 16 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.

#### **THANK YOU ST JOSEPH'S OATLEY**

Last week we were contacted by Mrs Kellie Fordham, aunty of Alicia and Jacob, who teaches at St Joseph's School Oatley, regarding how her school could help our students during this time of drought. Both schools decided it would be a lovely gesture if the students from Joey's in Oatley donated the food for the students from Joey's in Gilgandra for our pool parties on 17 December. So the Oatley Joey's are going to do some fundraising and send the money to Gilgandra IGA where the teachers from the Gilgandra Joey's will purchase the pool party food. We are so thankful to the St Joseph's Oatley School community for their wonderful generosity. Go JOEY'S!!

#### **LIBRARY BOOKS**

Please ensure ALL library books are returned to the library by next Monday, 9 December. If there are any problems locating books, would you please send in a note to school or make contact with the school.

#### **FINAL ABOUT FOR 2019**

Next week's About will be the final newsletter for 2019.

#### **"SUGAR FREE" ZOOOPER DOOPERS IN CANTEEN**

We now have "sugar free" Zooper Doopers available for sale in the school canteen for \$0.50. If your child wishes to purchase one, please ensure that they ask the canteen workers for "sugar free" as we are keeping them in a separate container to the other Zooper Doopers.

#### **TEN PIN BOWLING SUMMER HOLIDAY**

#### **BOOKLET PROGRAM**

A booklet has today been sent home with each child containing vouchers for reduced price games and shoe hire at Ten Pin Bowling, Dubbo. The vouchers can be used now and are valid until 31 January 2020, so be sure to get your family and friends together over the holidays for some great priced bowling action! If all 12 vouchers are used, complete the Rebate Voucher at the back of the booklet and hand it to the bowling centre as our school will receive a \$10.00 rebate from each fully used booklet!

#### **STORYTIME AT GILGANDRA SHIRE LIBRARY**

#### **"ONE DAY CLOSER TO RAIN"**

Everyone is invited to attend a Storytime at Gilgandra Shire Library to celebrate the publication of Amy Naef's book "One Day Closer to Rain" next Monday, 9 December at 4:00 p.m.. Amy will read her new book and tell us a little about her journey to publication. This will be followed by afternoon tea. Amy's book will be available for purchase at the launch. Please RSVP to Gilgandra Shire Library on 6817 8877 or email: [library@gilgandra.nsw.gov.au](mailto:library@gilgandra.nsw.gov.au).

#### **MOORAMBILLA MAGIC INSPIRATION CARDS**

The Moorambilla crew are aware of the presence of the ongoing drought and have therefore organised a fundraiser selling "Moorambilla Magic Inspiration Cards". For \$30 you can purchase a pack of 52 cards featuring the photography of Noni Carroll paired with positive words that connect us to each other and country. \$20 from each pack will be put into the main Moorambilla program to support a child to continue to sing, dance, drum and connect to country regardless of the crippling drought! The cards can be purchased online by visiting [www.moorambilla.com/product/moorambilla-magic-inspiration-cards](http://www.moorambilla.com/product/moorambilla-magic-inspiration-cards).

## **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.

## **MERIT AWARDS**

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

**KINDER:** **Darcy Adams** and **Roxy Zell** for great singing and dance moves during our Cooee Lodge visit, **Charlie Howard** for super sounding out when reading our Phonics reader and **Layla Walker** for super counting to 30.

**YEAR 1:** **Thomas McIsaac** for being a keen and efficient worker, **Chloe Alexander** for great improvement in Reading, **Keaghan Lummis** for fabulous improvement in Phonics, **Oli Chandler** for working hard in Maths and **Claudia Harrison** for working independently.

**YEAR 2:** **Amity Henry, Jeremiah Woodrow** and **Mia Mudford** for writing great expositions about joining a circus, **Caine Bugmy** for super problem solving in Maths, **Ryder Larkin** for trying hard in Problem A Day and Operations and **Cooper Lummis** and **Joe Staggs** for fantastic improvement in Reading.

**YEAR 3:** **Alyssa Ferguson** for an outstanding effort in all learning activities, **Violet Whitehouse** for working diligently to complete tricky investigations in Maths, **Sailor Ryan** for trying hard to complete tricky Maths questions and **Alexia Riley** for having an enthusiastic approach to the Literacy Pro Lexile quizzes.

**YEAR 4:** **Eliza Larkin, Mac Lesslie, Maddi Peart** and **Adison Thomas** for representing our school positively on our Year 4 excursion.

**YEAR 5:** **Dakotah Gilmour** for showing persistence with difficult questions in Maths, **Kimbalee Gilmour** for showing interest in calculating mobile phone plans, **Rhyan Hutchison, Ethan Morris, Alison Mudford** and **Millie Spora** for helping others 'problem solve' when using technology and **Ella Mudford** for greeting us each morning with a smile and positive attitude.

**YEAR 6:** **Hayden Ferguson** for his engagement and enthusiasm during excursion preparations, **Ava Meyers** for receiving sound results in Maths, **Harry Mudford** for fluent and expressive reading and **Sam Naden** for applying new skills in Maths.

## **WHAT'S ON**

### **WEEK 8**

- 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.

- Thursday, 12 December - Bust the Dust – 1:00 p.m.  
- 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

### **WEEK 10**

- Monday, 16 December - St John's College Orientation morning – 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

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

- Tuesday, 17 December - Pool Parties

- Wednesday, 18 December - Last Day Term

- Friday, 22 December - 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

## **AROUND THE CLASSROOMS**

**KINDER** The end of the year is fast approaching and Kinder is still very busy working. We have finished our unit on Pamela Allen and have now started reading our Christmas stories. Kinder was very excited to meet our Christmas elf 'Norman'. He has a very busy job keeping an eye on everyone so he can let Santa know what polite, hard working children are in Kinder. We have made some reindeers in Art to accompany our book 'The Naughtiest Reindeer' and painted a beautiful picture of Mary and baby Jesus. Our portfolios are almost complete and ready to go home next week. We had a chilly start to our swimming lessons but everyone has been so grown up and sensible. Have a great weekend.  
*Mrs Alison Newstead*

**YEAR 1** We are certainly enjoying our trips to the pool this week as part of the intensive swimming program, gaining valuable skills and growing more confident, all while having lots of fun! This week we have started with our Christmas busy books where we do Christmas-themed maths, art projects, comprehension and writing responses. Several of our Year 1 classmates have signed up to sing at the Christmas Carols in the Park event this coming Saturday and have been warming up their vocal cords for the occasion all week long. We have also been practising our dancing for the school social next week - the children are very excited to show off their fabulous footwork! We've also been completing our different portfolio tasks to showcase what we have learnt this past term.  
*Mrs Melinda Morris & Mrs Mia van der Walt*

**YEAR 2** Who needs a rain dance? Just commence infants swimming and the rain will arrive! Thankfully some warmer weather has helped and everyone has been enjoying and learning new skills at the pool each day. Down to the busy end of the year and Year 2 has been working hard in Grammar activities revising commas, speech marks and proper nouns. Spelling focused on "ph, ff and f" words and alphabetical order. In Maths we have enjoyed Mathematics, looking at the calendar and interpreting data on graphs. Mrs McIsaac has been showing Year 2 how to code in Science and Technology lessons – it is a lot of fun! Have a great weekend everyone.  
*Miss Lisa Harvey*

**YEAR 3** This week we have commenced our 'Advent to Christmas' Religion unit by creating meaningful title pages. We have continued to look at the significance of the Advent wreath and what the first candle represents. During Library we looked at using Light Bot where Year 3 were asked to create a code and then follow a path in order to give out a light. This was so much fun! In Science we have delivered interesting information reports on some of the planets in our Solar System. We have also looked at why day and night occur and labelled what the earth looks like during these times. Our Christmas artworks have begun and we have created some cute strings of light using finger painting. Have a lovely weekend!  
*Mrs Donna Colwell & Mrs Meichelle Schier*

**YEAR 4** Wow, what a fantastic time we all had on our excursion last week! Year 4 absolutely loved going to the Wellington Caves, Fern Gully, Dundullimal Homestead, Burrendong Dam and going to the waterpark at the Dubbo pool. They also enjoyed getting to spend time away with their friends. We really appreciate all the help from the parents who came along and also from Mr Keady - thank you!!! This week we have started doing some Christmas art. We have been writing a review on our excursion and in Maths we have been learning about how to find missing numbers in number sentences, estimating and checking answers and how to read timelines. We also did our Geography portfolio task on Burrendong Dam. Students are getting excited for the fun end of year activities which are fast approaching! Have a great weekend.  
*Miss Prue Giffin*

**YEAR 5** It has been another fabulous week in Year 5! For our writing task this week we put ourselves in Mary MacKillop's shoes and wrote a letter to one of her sisters. We then wrote a letter back to Mary outlining our struggles and joys that we were experiencing as a Sister of St Joseph. In Maths we have looked at time zones in Australia and enlarging and reducing two dimensional shapes. During Religion we are continuing our Advent unit – we enjoyed reading "Wombat Divine" by Mem Fox where we explored the themes of waiting, preparing and longing for a special occasion. We are also bringing some joy to our world by completing some lovely Christmas artworks.  
*Mr Tim Keady, Mrs Dominica Banks & Mrs Nikkola Thomas*

**YEAR 6** This week has been a busy one with the end of term fast approaching! Some students attended their GHS interviews, whilst others represented our school at Moorambilla. In English we have completed our class novel "Hiding Edith" and began constructing our individual responses for writing. We have also enjoyed 'moovin' and 'groovin' in preparation of the Social. The students have been exploring Advent and decorating our room with festive artwork.  
*Miss Jess Seaman*

## **CANTEEN ROSTER**

- Friday, 6 December – Danielle Fiddes & Jessica Howard  
Monday, 9 December – Sarah Adams & Amanda Lesslie  
Wednesday, 11 December – Kristy Cosier & Alicia Harrison  
Friday, 13 December – Tanya Hutchison & Amandeep Kaur

## **ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER**

- Sunday, 8 December – Millie Spora, Lilla Oehm, Emmie Peart

