Our Kinder class had a wonderful time visiting the residents of Cooee Lodge. We had a cool day dressing up for Phil Kettle’s visit. It was exciting seeing

Thank you to those people who attended our April meeting on Tuesday. Congratulations to those Years 5 and 6 children who represented the school.

All children are invited to join in the Offertory Procession during Holy Thursday Mass next Thursday at 7:00 p.m. This Mass is where we will offer our Project Compassion boxes. Could you please return all Project Compassion boxes by tomorrow, Friday, 11 April.

The first day back in Term 2, Monday, 28 April, will be a pupil free day. The focus of this day will be the implementation of the new National English Curriculum. Stage teachers will meet together to replace old outcomes with new outcomes, adjust terminology to match the new syllabus, examine term overviews, checking all outcomes are covered, write literature units to cover context and text requirements and assess resources needed.

Congratulations to those Years 5 and 6 children who represented the school at the Diocesan Winter Sports Trials held in Bathurst last Friday. Special mention to Mitchell Carlow, Jye Day, Martin Fryers and Aiden Ryan (Under 11’s Rugby League) and James O’Neill, Noah Ryan and Kyle Welsh (Under 12’s Rugby League) who were selected in the Possibles vs Probables matches. Congratulations to Mitchell, Martin, Noah and Kyle who were then selected in their respective Diocesan teams. They will now represent the Diocese at the NSW Catholic Primary Schools Polding Championships to be held next term. Well done to you all.

Thank you to those people who attended our April meeting on Tuesday evening. At the meeting it was reported that the Ball raised just over $8,000. Amazing! Again we thank Ball secretaries, Merilyn King, Melissa Welsh and Jaimee McEwen and the countless number of helpers who ensure the Ball’s success each year, both financially and socially. Also at the meeting Paula Purvis kindly offered to be our first Clothing Pool Coordinator. Thank you to Paula for volunteering to undertake this role.

We had a cool day dressing up for Phil Kettle’s visit. It was exciting seeing all of Phil’s characters come to life. Well done everyone and a big thank you to Mrs Kilby for organising Phil’s visit to St Joeys.

Our Kinder class had a wonderful time visiting the residents of Cooee Lodge yesterday. The children sang songs, gave gifts and wished all a very happy Easter. Well done to all the children. Many thanks to Miss Bourke and Mrs Newshead for organising the visit and to the helpers, Danielle Jones, Lesley Riley, Paula Purvis, Anna Mudford, Jessica Whitehouse, Belinda Murray, Katherine Gaff, Michelle Woolliams, Claudina Ryan, Kristy Gale, Sally Oehn and Lois Statham

This week was Mrs Colwell’s last week as she heads off on maternity leave. We excitedly await the news of the safe arrival of the Colwell’s new baby. Mr Keady will take Year 5 for the rest of the year.

Our school has once again been invited to participate in the annual ANZAC Day March and an invitation is extended to all students from Years 2-6 to represent our school on ANZAC Day. St Joseph’s has traditionally had a fantastic representation at this march and hopefully as many students as possible will give up an hour or so of their time to represent their school on such an important occasion and show respect for those who served our country. Children need to assemble in Bridge Street at 10:30 a.m. or they could come to Mass at 9:00 a.m. after which we will walk them down to Bridge Street. The march will proceed down Bridge and Miller Streets to the War Memorial for the service at 11:00 a.m. Students are required to wear full summer uniform. If any parents have a special request for any Kinder or Year 1 children to march, please contact the office and I’m sure there will be no problems.

Active After Schools will recommence on the first day back next term, ie, Tuesday, 29 April. All students are invited to attend the Active After Schools activities on a Tuesday and/or Wednesday from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. The program will run for seven weeks. A light afternoon tea is provided followed by lots of fun activities. Mrs Margie Stewart will coordinate activities on Tuesday. Gilgandra High School teacher, Miss Sheryn West will coordinate activities on Wednesday. Activities related to tennis and athletics will be taught during these two days.

Children may wear either summer or winter school uniform when they return to school next term. It is a personal choice, depending on the weather.
grandmothers that they have selected themselves. Prices at the stall range from $50 to $5.00 and we aim to have enough gifts for each child to purchase at least two gifts.

**SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY**

Our school cross country for the primary students was staged on the school oval today. Congratulations to all our runners for their tremendous training and efforts today. From our school trials a team will be selected to compete at the Diocesan Cross Country which will be held in Coolah on Monday 5 May. These students will be given a note tomorrow. It is expected that the children will continue training for this event.

**ICAS COMPUTER SKILLS COMPETITION**

The International Competition and Assessments for Schools is holding a computer skills competition on Tuesday, 20 May for children in Years 3-6. If you would like your child to enter this competition please complete the tear-off slip which was attached to last week’s About and return it to school together with the $8.00 entry fee. Entries must be received at school by tomorrow, Friday, 11 April.

**PORTFOLIOS**

All children will take home their Term 1 Portfolios tomorrow, Friday, 11 April. We encourage all families to take the time to look at the children’s work. All portfolios need to be returned to school early next term so the Term 2 work can be placed in them.

**MOTHER’S DAY STALL WORKING BEE**

There will be a working bee leading up to the stall – on Thursday 8 May from 9:00 a.m. If anyone can help wrap presents, please come along. You may be able to come for an hour or two or stay all day. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

**CHAIR COVER WASHING**

We still need some volunteers to help wash the chair covers that we used at the Ball. There are 300 to wash and many hands make light work! So come and get a dozen or grab 100! It all helps.

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

We wish everyone a holy, happy and safe holiday break. Term 1 has been full of a variety of activities and we look forward to seeing everyone back refreshed and ready for Term 2 on Tuesday, 29 April.

**MERIT AWARDS**

Congratulations to the following students who received Merit Awards at Assembly on Monday: **KINDER**: Rani Diamond for her neat colouring in all her work, Michael Ibe for fantastic pictures in his story writing, Charlie Zell for effort in learning his sight words, Ethan Morris for a fantastic effort in learning his sight words, Beatie Davis for remembering her homework, Sienna Zell for always bringing something interesting in for the sound table and Jordan Wighton for his thoughtful responses in Religion **YEAR 1**: Nick Gale for well written comprehension responses, Ben Harland for terrific work making equal groups, Ava Meyers for being a fantastic listener, Mattea Purvis for being a conscientious student, Ryley Smith for terrific work making equal groups, animal and plant, William Gaff for giving clever answers in class discussions, Sophie Hassall for reading with lovely expression, Harrison King for asking intelligent questions, Joshua Purvis for working well independently and Bradley Kildey for great problem solving in Maths **YEAR 4**: Billie Buckland and Charlie Banks for working hard to finish all tasks, Ashleigh Carlow, Amber Tarrant, Olivia Ferguson, Jett Grinshaw and Ella McAnally-Ellwin for writing great descriptions about an animal and Tyler Evans and Emily Skinner for trying hard to sound out tricky spelling words. **YEAR 5**: Emilie Hassall for sensational Star reading results, Grace Lumniss for fantastic end of term results and Zoe Welsh for her enthusiastic approach to learning **YEAR 6**: Spencer McIntosh, Grace Lumniss, Sebastian Jackson and Mitchell Gaff for sensational graffiti artwork.

**WHAT’S ON**

**WEEK 1**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Monday, 28 April</th>
<th>Pupil Free Day – National English</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 29 April</td>
<td>Whole School Mass – 9.00a.m.</td>
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**WEEK 2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday, 5 May</th>
<th>Diocesan Cross Country, Coolah</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, 8 May</td>
<td>Polding Winter Sports Trials</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, 9 May</td>
<td>Polding Winter Sports Trials</td>
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**AROUND THE CLASSROOMS**

**KINDER** Kindergarten looked wonderful all dressed up in their favourite ‘Too Cool’ characters yesterday. Thank you to Mrs Kilby for organising a great day. What a delight it was to see all the residents of Cooee Lodge clapping and singing along with us. Kinder certainly brought a smile to everyone’s face.

**YEAR 2**

For writing great descriptions about an animal and sight words this week and trying hard to use them correctly in our story writing. We have been playing some Maths games to help us remember our numerals. We are looking forward to sharing our portfolios with our family when we take them home tomorrow. Please remember to return them next term. Have a wonderful holiday and thank you Kinder for all your hard work this term. **Miss Bourke & Mrs Newton**

**YEAR 3**

A big thank you to all who attended our Mass on the weekend. It was a beautiful celebration. Year 3 has had a fantastic term and should be very proud of the progress they have made. We have spent this week looking at the ‘ck’ sound in Spelling and revising nouns, adjectives and verbs in Grammar. In Writing we have written a description of our favourite toy. Year 1 has been assessed this week on their knowledge of Thailand and I am very impressed with the things they have learnt in such a short time. In Religion we have examined holy weeks to consider how we prepare ourselves for Easter. Have a restful holiday and a happy Easter. **Miss Smith**

**YEAR 4**

What a busy final week of term we have had! We had a fabulous time at the Rural Museum on Friday. A huge thank you to all families who accompanied us. We were excited to meet Phil Kettle! We enjoyed dressing up and seeing the costumes that our friends put together. We have put the finishing touches to our portfolios and are ready to show our families samples of our work this term. We’d like to wish everyone a happy Easter and a safe and enjoyable holiday. **Mrs Schier & Mrs Morris**

**YEAR 5**

The term has flown by but Year 5 has continued to work hard. In Maths we investigated angles, counting by tens and metres. In Grammar we have been looking at sentences and their structure. We completed a comprehension activity about a magnificent bull named ‘Rodney’. It was great to see how hard everyone was trying in the school colouring competition to try and win a ‘Rodney’ gift. We are very excited to see the amazing work of all our students over the Easter holidays. As ANZAC Day falls at the end of the school holidays, we would like to thank all our families and friends for coming together to read some moving stories of the brave men and women who fought for our freedom. Hopefully, students can give up an hour of their holiday time to represent St Joey’s at this year’s march. Have a safe and happy holiday and enjoy the Easter break. See you all in Term 2. **Miss Harvey**

**YEAR 6**

Wow what a term! This week Year 5 has said farewell to Mrs Colwell who has taken leave to have her baby. We all wish her well. There have been lots of suggestions for possible names for baby Colwell. We will have to wait until Term 2 to meet the new addition. In text types we have been finalising our review texts we have been writing whilst beginning to look back on our Narrative writing at which we have become very proficient. Religion has seen us taking time to reflect upon the significance of the upcoming Easter celebrations within our church. It would be great to see as many Year 5 students as possible attend the ANZAC Day March to represent Joey’s. You would both like to wish you a happy and safe Easter – enjoy your break. **Mr Keady & Mrs Colwell**

**YEAR 6**

We’ve really enjoyed our final week of Term 1. In HSIE we’ve continued to research the Republic of Botswana for the CWA Projects. During Maths we’ve investigated geometric patterns and prime and composite numbers. It has been fantastic listening to speeches this week and we congratulate everyone on their great efforts. In Religion we’ve looked at the significance of ANZAC Day and the importance in acknowledging the men and women who sacrifice so much for us. We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable holiday and look forward to a terrific Term 2! **Mrs Banks & Mrs Thomas**

**CANTEEN ROSTER**

Friday, 11 April – Leanne Glover & Melissa Ryan
Monday, 28 April – Pupil Free Day
Wednesday, 30 April – Claudina Ryan & Belinda Murray
Friday, 2 May – Kerrie Alrus & Leanne Gilmour

**ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER**

Sunday, 13 April – Kyle Welsh, Zoe Welsh, Tobey Creenaune, Deklyn Lumniss