SISTERS OF ST JOSEPH THANKSGIVING MASS

A beautiful Thanksgiving Mass for the Sisters of St Joseph was celebrated in St Joseph’s Church last Sunday. Seventeen Sisters attended and the St Joseph’s Parish was honoured to be able to thank all the Sisters of St Joseph for their amazing contribution to all facets of Gilgandra life in their ministries as educators and social workers. Sr Therese McGarry spoke on behalf of the Sisters where she conveyed their thanks for the support, love and generosity shown to all the Sisters over the past 104 years. Our school and our town will always be indebted to this outstanding group of people, the Sisters of St Joseph. A big thank you to the children, families and staff who attended. The Sisters were very appreciative of the large congregation present and they were full of praise for our wonderful students. Thank you one and all.

GUMS CHAMPIONS

It was another sensational swimming carnival held at the Gilgandra Pool last Friday evening. Congratulations to all our students for their magnificent swimming and school spirit. You were all fantastic. The Gums were the champion house by the smallest of margins. Many thanks to those parents, family and friends who helped. Without your support these type of activities don’t happen. A huge vote of thanks to our staff for preparing the carnival and ensuring that everything ran so smoothly. We’d also like to thank Bill Walsh and the staff at the pool for their assistance leading up to and during the carnival itself.

P & F ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Many thanks to those who attended our P & F AGM held at school on Tuesday. Again it was a very positive meeting. I’m sure the P & F will again be a vital member of the St Joe’s family this year. Congratulations to our elected office bearers:

President: Peter Gaff  Vice Presidents: Andrew Schier and Mel Phillips  Secretary: Wes Morris  Treasurer: Carol Alchin

I would like to thank outgoing President, Andrew Schier. Andrew has been president for the last four years and has given many hours to all our P & F and school activities. Thank you Andrew for your valuable contributions during this time. Just a reminder you are all invited to our P & F Meetings. There are only five more meetings this year. The meetings go for an hour and then everyone is invited for refreshments. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 8 April. So come along and have a good time while supporting your P & F Association.

WESTERN REGION SWIMMING

From our swimming carnival last Friday the following students have been selected to represent St Joey’s at the Western Region Swimming Carnival to be held at Cootamundra tomorrow, Friday, 21 February. Congratulations to all these sensational swimmers: Jacob Harland, Jack Oehm, Tom Dunn, Laura Farragher, Sarah Temple, Jessica Scholte, Patrick Spora, Bradley Kildey, Rhys O’Neill, Rani Diggs, Ella McNally-Ellin, Olivia McClelland, Hamish Beveridge, Martin Fryers, James Ferguson, Olivia Ferguson, Ashleigh Carlow, Lucy Davis, James Kildey, Isaac Frost, Harry Spora, Rebecca Gaff, Liberty Barden, Grace Alchin, Noah Ryan, Kyle Welsh, Kelly Anforth, Harriet Beveridge, Maddie Eason, Caitlin Spora, Mike Ragonis, Sophie Hassall, Amelia Murray, Zoe Welsh, Alex Beveridge, John Spora, Deklyn Lunnis, Charlotte Banks, Shari Grimshaw, Montana McGrath, Jye Day, Matthew Ferguson.

KINDER WELCOME LITURGY

Thursday, 27 February

St Joseph’s Church – 10:30 a.m.

We can’t wait to officially welcome our Kinder class of 2014 at the Kinder Welcome Liturgy to be held next Thursday, 27 February in St Joseph’s Church at 10:30 a.m. Everyone is invited to attend especially the family and friends of the Kinder children and their Year 6 buddies. It is a fantastic celebration where we get to learn a little more about the newest members of the Joey’s family. Morning tea will follow the liturgy and we ask Year 6 parents to please bring a plate.

WORKING BEE FOR THE BALL – Monday, 24 February

There will be another working bee for the ball, next Monday, 24 February at 9:00 a.m. in the old library. There are still lots of jobs to be done and any help would be greatly appreciated.

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY

We will once again be participating in the Clean Up Australia Day campaign this year. We will be collecting rubbish in the area bordered by Chelmsford Avenue, the railway line, Warren Road and Wamboin Street next Friday, 28 February. Bags and gloves will be supplied by the Council.

ST JOSEPH’S P & F DEBUTANTE BALL

Saturday, 15 March

Only Three Weeks Away!

This is one of our major fundraisers for the year and WE NEED LOTS OF HELPERS. Helpers are needed on Wednesday, 12 March, Thursday 13 March and Friday, 14 March from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. to help decorate the hall and set up tables etc. On Sunday 16 March, the morning after the ball, we need helpers to pull down the smoking area and marquee and clean up. Also needed on the night of the ball are people to assist in the bar and kitchen. People actually attending the ball may like to give up an hour of their time, while those not attending may be able to give a couple of hours. If you are able to help please fill in the note with today’s newsletter and return it to school by next Thursday, 27 February.

CLEANING UP AFTER THE BALL

One of the least favourite jobs each year seems to be cleaning up after the Ball on Sunday morning. If we could get 20 volunteers then it would all be done in two hours. Any less than 20 and the poor old volunteers are there all day. We really need 20 helpers on the Sunday. Please help!

BALL TICKETS NOW ON SALE

Tickets are now on sale and may be purchased for $35.00 from Howards Furniture One. This great social night out includes presentation of debs, entertainment and finger food. Bar facilities are available. There will be NO spectator tickets sold at the door on the night of the ball. Spectator tickets are only available to immediate family members of the debs and their partners. These tickets are $10.00 per adult and $5.00 per school aged child and also available from Howards Furniture One. All tickets must be purchased by Wednesday, 12 March.

GILGANDRA JUNIOR LEAGUE AND NETBALL

Registration days will be held for both junior league and netball on Thursday 6th & 13th March. Training for football 15s & 17s teams.
will commence on Tuesday 11th March with all other training for both football and netball commencing Thursday 27th March. As in previous years team numbers are limited and will be done on a first in basis. Registration packs are available from the school and these MUST be completed prior to you lining up to register. Any queries can be directed to Jaime Timmins (President) on 0448 973 666.

**FAR WEST ACADEMY OF SPORT TENNIS TRIALS**

Trials for the 2014 FWAS Tennis Program will be held on Friday, 14th March in Coonabarabran and Saturday, 15th March in Warren. The trials are open to all athletes turning 10-16 years in 2014. Information packages and application forms may be obtained from the office.

**MERIT AWARDS**

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

- **KINDER**: Eva Bonnington for her lovely manners in class, Carter Chapman for being a considerate class member, Trinity Zell for her beautiful singing during music, Kimballie Gilmour for a great story writing, Declan Gale for great cutting skills and Sienna Horne for being a helpful class member. **YEAR 1**: Billie Allan for completing a tremendous brainstorm of ‘sh’ words, Hayden Ferguson for being a champion clapper, chunk speller, Lucy McSaae for her positive attitude towards all tasks, William Spora for drawing a wonderfully welcoming artwork for Religion and Ben Standing for putting in a huge effort towards the presentation of work. **YEAR 2**: Oscar Spora and Zahlia Proctor for wonderful elaborations in your weekend recounts, Jack Oehm for working conscientiously in class, Jacob Harland for making an extra effort when completing work and Bailey Wykes for completing work quickly and accurately. **YEAR 3**: Ella Wykes for neat work in her Operations book, Jack Purvis for trying hard to complete all tasks, Tayarna McKenzie and Sophie Hallam for writing fabulous descriptions about their ‘creature’, and Patrick Spora for working well in Problem A Day. **YEAR 4**: Olivia Ferguson and Ella McNally-Elwin for writing fabulous recounts, Aliza Purvis for fantastic work on British Colonisation in HSIE, Lachlan Riley for developing more settled work habits and being organised and Mary Westwood for great problem solving in Maths. **YEAR 5**: Grace Alchin for magnificent singing at the Sisters of St Joseph Mass, Zoe Welsh for creating an amazing cartoon portrait in Art and Dylan Doberty for always ‘Giving of His Best’ in all coursework. **YEAR 6**: Charlotte Banks for great work in Spelling, Matilda Cruickshank for working diligently at all times, Jack Bonus-Straub for trying hard with handwriting and John Ralugus for excellent reading.

**WHAT'S ON**

**WEEK 4**
- Friday, 21 February - Western Region Swimming Carnival – Coonamble

**WEEK 5**
- Monday, 24 February - Ball Working Bee – 9:00 a.m.
- Tuesday, 25 February - Kinder Welcome Liturgy – 10:30 a.m.
- Thursday, 27 February - Principals Meeting
- Friday, 28 February - Principals Meeting

**WEEK 6**
- Monday, 3 March - Year 4 Reconciliation
- Tuesday, 4 March - Ball Working Bee – 9:00 a.m.
- Wednesday, 5 March - Ash Wednesday Mass 10:30 a.m.
- Thursday, 6 March - School Audit

**WEEK 7**
- Monday, 10 March - Year 5 Reconciliation
- Tuesday, 11 March - Ball Working Bee – 9:00 a.m.
- Wednesday, 12 March - Adaminriginal – School Performance
- Thursday, 13 March - Year 2 Liturgy – 10:30 a.m.
- Saturday, 15 March - Ball

**AROUND THE CLASSROOMS**

**KINDER**

In Kindergarten we are busily preparing for our Welcome Liturgy. We are very excited and hope to see lots of our family and friends there to help us celebrate. “Humpty Dumpty” has been our big book focus and we have enjoyed sequencing the story in our reading books. We made some dingle dangler scarecrows for ‘Ss’ week and in Maths we discovered what makes objects roll or slide. In HSIE we talked about sharing and how we can look after our school belongings. Thank you to all our Kinders who came to the Sisters of St Joseph Mass on Sunday. It was a beautiful Mass and the Sisters loved seeing all the children there. Our sound next week is ‘Y’. Have a great weekend.

**YEAR 1**

What a great time we had at the swimming carnival last Friday! A big thank you to those who helped out with infants Marshalling and to the children for their participation. This week Year 1 has been learning about the ‘ch’ sound in spelling and has been writing some very interesting sentences about nouns in Sentence A Day. For text types we have self and peer assessed our recount of a morning at school and have talked about how we can improve our writing. During Maths we have looked at number patterns, 2D shapes, measuring time and counting on and back with counting. In Religion we have been learning about collective nouns and adjectives. We have self and peer assessed our recount of a morning at school and have talked about how we can improve our writing. During Maths we have begun working on a crazy paper bag pirate face and enjoyed a game of bingo in Spelling.

**YEAR 2**

What a great time we all had at the swimming carnival last Friday. Congratulations to the Gums and to everyone who displayed such team/school spirit. This week we discussed what things make a family. In Maths we have been focusing on looking at the addition of 5 digit numbers and have self and peer assessed our recount of a morning at school and have talked about how we can improve our writing. During Maths we have begun working on a crazy paper bag pirate face and enjoyed a game of bingo in Spelling.

**YEAR 3**

What a great time we all had at the swimming carnival last Friday. Congratulations to the Gums and to everyone who displayed such team/school spirit. This week we discussed what things make a family. In Maths we have been focusing on looking at the addition of 5 digit numbers and have self and peer assessed our recount of a morning at school and have talked about how we can improve our writing. During Maths we have begun working on a crazy paper bag pirate face and enjoyed a game of bingo in Spelling.

**YEAR 4**

What a great time we all had at the swimming carnival last Friday. Congratulations to the Gums and to everyone who displayed such team/school spirit. This week we discussed what things make a family. In Maths we have been focusing on looking at the addition of 5 digit numbers and have self and peer assessed our recount of a morning at school and have talked about how we can improve our writing. During Maths we have begun working on a crazy paper bag pirate face and enjoyed a game of bingo in Spelling.

**YEAR 5**

What a great time we all had at the swimming carnival last Friday. Congratulations to the Gums and to everyone who displayed such team/school spirit. This week we discussed what things make a family. In Maths we have been focusing on looking at the addition of 5 digit numbers and have self and peer assessed our recount of a morning at school and have talked about how we can improve our writing. During Maths we have begun working on a crazy paper bag pirate face and enjoyed a game of bingo in Spelling.

**YEAR 6**

What a great time we all had at the swimming carnival last Friday. Congratulations to the Gums and to everyone who displayed such team/school spirit. This week we discussed what things make a family. In Maths we have been focusing on looking at the addition of 5 digit numbers and have self and peer assessed our recount of a morning at school and have talked about how we can improve our writing. During Maths we have begun working on a crazy paper bag pirate face and enjoyed a game of bingo in Spelling.