Welcome to a new school term. Hopefully everyone had an enjoyable and relaxing break and we look forward to another fruitful term.

**ANZAC DAY**

Once again the students of our school made us feel very proud when they participated in the ANZAC Day march last Thursday. Thank you very much to those students and staff who represented the school so well. It is a very important day and I am sure everyone appreciated your participation. *Lest We Forget.*

**MOTHER’S DAY STALL – FRIDAY, 9 MAY**

Each year parents are asked to donate gifts which the children can then purchase at the Mother’s Day Stall. The stall will be held next Friday, 9 May, so we are desperate for gifts. Your contributions can be sent in at any time and left at the school office. *If the gifts could be wrapped in clear cellophane, that would be greatly appreciated.* The Mother’s Day Stall is a fundraiser for the P & F Association but most importantly it gives the children the opportunity to bring in their own money to purchase a gift for their mothers and grandmothers that they have selected themselves. Prices at the stall range from 50c to $5.00 and we aim to have enough gifts for each child to purchase at least two gifts.

**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.

**MOTHER’S DAY RAFFLE**

In conjunction with the Mother’s Day Stall there will be a raffle with a wonderful prize. Tickets are $1.00 each and a book of 10 tickets is going home to each family today. The raffle will be drawn next Friday.

**DIOCESAN CROSS COUNTRY**

We have twenty runners competing in the Diocesan Cross Country event to be held in Coolah next Monday, 5 May. The nine and ten year old competitors run two kilometres while the eleven and twelve year olds run three kilometres. Just writing that is exhausting! Good luck to our squad that consists of Rhys O’Neill, Will Fuller, Patrick Spora, Bradley Kildey, Rani Diggs, Tayarna McKenzie, Lachlan Riley, Hamish Beveridge, James Ferguson, Martin Fryers, Ashleigh Carlow, Madison Hourigan, Harry Spora, Will Sandford, Mitchell Carlow, Isaac Frost, James O’Neill, John Spora, Deklyn Lummis, Kelly Anforth.

**YEAR 4 MASS**

Year 4 will celebrate a class Mass next Thursday, 8 May in St Joseph’s Church. Everyone is welcome and morning tea will follow Mass so please bring a plate to share.

**ST STANNISLAUS COLLEGE BATHURST**

St Stannies Principal, Dr Anne Wenham and Director of Curriculum, Mr Geoff Melville, will visit our school next Thursday, 8 May at 10:30 a.m. to talk to parents and boys from Years 5 and 6 who may be interested in attending St Stannies.

**PORTFOLIOS**

All children took home their Term 1 Portfolios for the holidays. Hopefully you have been able to look at the children’s work. Could all the portfolios be returned to school as soon as possible so we can start putting the Term 2 work into them.

**ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOLS**

Active After Schools recommenced this week. All students are invited to attend the Active After Schools activities on a Tuesday and/or Wednesday from 3:20 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.

**FIRST COMMUNION PARENT MEETING**

There will be a meeting on Monday, 12 May in the school computer room at 6:00 p.m. for those parents whose children will receive their First Holy Communion this year. First Holy Communion will be celebrated in St Joseph’s Church on Sunday, 22 June at 9:45 a.m.

**UNIFORMS**

Due to the varying weather conditions at the moment children are permitted to wear either their summer or winter uniforms.

**OLIVIA – COLOURING CHAMP!**

Congratulations to Olivia Ferguson in Year 4 who was the store winner of the 2014 Newspower Easter Colouring Competition. Well done Olivia.

**ICAS SCIENCE COMPETITION**

The International Competition and Assessments for Schools Science Competition will be held on Friday, 6 June children for children in Years 3-6. A note went home to all primary students yesterday. If you would like your child to enter this competition please return the note to school together with the $8.00 entry fee by Tuesday, 6 May.

**NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM – LITERACY AND NUMERACY (NAPLAN)**

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is again being held this year for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in all government and non-government schools. This program will assess the literacy and numeracy learning of students in all Australian schools. The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child’s level of achievement. Each student’s level of achievement will be reported against the agreed national benchmarks of student achievement. The tests will be completed in the areas of Language, including spelling, punctuation and grammar, Writing, Reading and Numeracy (including Number, Algebra – function and pattern, Chance and Data and Measurement and Space). These tests will be conducted on Tuesday, 13 May, Wednesday, 14 May and Thursday, 15 May. If you require any information about the NAPLAN tests please contact the school.

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

On Monday, 5 May the staff will be participating in a professional development activity in which they will discuss and investigate ‘Professional Relationships’ and ‘Prayer, Liturgy and Spiritual Life Of The School’. This inservice will be held between 3:30 and 6:00 p.m.

**CANTEEN VOLUNTEERS**

As our canteen volunteers may be required to undertake manual tasks the Catholic Education Office and our school recommend that all volunteers complete the CSOHS Manual Tasks e-learning module online. If you wish to undertake this module please contact the school for the online instructions.

**CHAIR COVER WASHING**

We are still looking for volunteers to help wash the chair covers that were used at the Ball. So come and get a dozen or so! It all helps.

**HOMEWORK FOLDERS**

We now have for sale St Joseph’s homework folders. These are made from a durable material and will sell for $12.00 each. Call in at the office and have a look. These are not compulsory.

**DUNEDOO HORSE SPORTS DAY**

Dunedoo Central School will hold their annual Horse Sports Day on Monday, 19 May for riders 8 years and over. Entries close on Monday, 5 May. For further information and entry forms, please contact Mrs Hodge.
WHAT’S ON THIS TERM (so far!)

WEEK 2
- Monday, 5 May  - Diocesan Cross Country – Coolah
- Thursday, 8 May  - Polding Winter Sports Trials
- Friday, 9 May - Polding Winter Sports Trials

WEEK 2 - Year 4 Reconciliation
- Monday, 12 May - Mrs Kerrie Morris (Principal of St John’s College Dubbo) – visit
- Thursday, 29 May - First Communion Parent Meeting – 6:00 p.m.

WEEK 4 - Year 3 Reconciliation
- Tuesday, 20 May - Cross Country back-up date
- Wednesday, 21 May - ICAS Computer Skills Competition
- Thursday, 22 May - Peachey/Richardson Football – Far West Netball - Coomambe
- Friday, 23 May - Polding Touch – Principals’ Meeting

WEEK 6 - Eisteddfod Week
- Monday, 5 & 6 May - Eisteddfod back-up date
- Monday, 20 May - Scholars’ Conference
- Tuesday, 21 May - Polding Touch back-up date
- Wednesday, 22 May - ICAS Science Competition

WEEK 7
- Monday, 2 May - Queen’s Birthday Long Weekend
- Thursday, 28 May - Polding Cross Country
- Friday, 29 May - Polding Cross Country

WEEK 8
- Monday, 16 June –
- Thursday, 19 June - PSSA Open Rugby League
- Monday, 23 June - NAIDOC Week activities
- Tuesday, 24 June - NAIDOC Week activities
- Wednesday, 25 June - Peachey/Richardson Finals
- Thursday, 26 June - Year 4 Hut Day
- Friday, 27 June - Last Day Term 2

WEEK 9
- Monday, 23 June - NAIDOC Week activities
- Tuesday, 24 June - NAIDOC Week activities
- Wednesday, 25 June - Peachey/Richardson Finals
- Thursday, 26 June - Year 4 Hut Day
- Friday, 27 June - Last Day Term 2

ABOUT THE CLASSROOMS
KINDER Welcome back to another busy term. We were excited to see everyone return with happy smiles and lots of fun holiday stories. We have started home reading once more and we are very pleased with everyone who has remembered their readers and continued to practise and revise their sight words each night. Our big book was all about Smarty Pants the clown. We completed some fun activities and even wrote a story about him. In Maths we have been discovering 3D shapes and focusing on the numeral 8. In Art we made an outrageous octopus called Olli and completed a prayer flower in Religion. Our new Science unit is titled ‘Growing Up’ and we have discussed some things we could and couldn’t do at different stages in our lives. Our sound next week is ‘Gg’. Have a great weekend.

YEAR 1 Welcome back to a new term. During Spelling we have been learning about the ‘mm’ sound while in Grammar we are learning all about prepositions. In Writing we have planned and written a recount of our weekend and Comprehension has seen us exploring the book “How The Frogmouth Found Her Home”. In Maths we have practised addition sums, modelled numbers and identified left and right. Our new topic in HSIE this term is ‘Our Need For Shelter’ and we have begun exploring this topic by finding out what we need to survive. In addition to regular homework students took home copies of our poems for the eisteddfod to learn and practise. Have a nice weekend.

YEAR 2 Welcome back! We hope everyone had an enjoyable and relaxing break and is ready for an action packed term. This week Year 2 completed the Easter Story. We read and depicted ‘Easter Sunday’ - the resurrection of Jesus. In Maths we counted backwards, investigated ½’s and ¼’s and had fun with angles. Consolidation of plurals is our focus in Spelling and in Grammar we completed work on adjectives. As we look forward to Mother’s Day we have begun work on something special for our mums in craft. We would appreciate if each child could bring in a photo of themselves with their mum or a family photo by next Friday to use in our class liturgy which is coming up soon. Have a great weekend.

YEAR 3 It seems everyone enjoyed a happy Easter and holiday. A big thank you to those students who participated in the ANZAC Day March. It’s a great way to remember and give thanks for the wonderful country in which we live. In class we have been looking at and writing narratives, learning direct speech and reviewing our spelling rules. In Maths we have learnt about thirds, patterns and informal mass. In Religion this week we have begun our new topic ‘The Sacrament of the Eucharist’. We discussed belonging to a Christian community which begins with the special ceremony of baptism. In Science we have started the topic ‘Eating Out’ as our new unit of work.

YEAR 4 Welcome back everyone. It sounded like a good holiday was had by all. Year 4 has hit the classroom floor at full pace as it’s going to be a very busy term. In Religion we began our unit ‘Friendship and Bullying’ and looked at the importance of our network of friends. We have been looking at apostrophes, in particular the role possessive language that can enhance our position or understanding. In Grammar we have been learning about the ‘mm’ sound while in Grammar we are learning all about prepositions. In Writing we have planned and written a recount of our weekend and Comprehension has seen us exploring the book “How The Frogmouth Found Her Home”. In Maths we have practised addition sums, modelled numbers and identified left and right. Our new topic in HSIE this term is ‘Our Need For Shelter’ and we have begun exploring this topic by finding out what we need to survive. In addition to regular homework students took home copies of our poems for the eisteddfod to learn and practise. Have a nice weekend.

YEAR 5 Welcome back to another busy term in Year 5. This week our class has been extremely busy looking at text type writing and language that can enhance our position or understanding. In Grammar we have been looking at apostrophes, in particular the role possessive apostrophes have in writing. Maths has been exciting with our ops challenge being set for the term as well as looking further at understanding the links between fractions, decimals and percentages. It was fantastic to see the progress many have made on the CWA project thus far- keep up the great work, it is due in just over a week. Have a great weekend.

YEAR 6 A big welcome back to Term 2! In Year 6 we all have our batteries recharged and are ready for an action packed term! We have started our new class novel “Chinese Cinderella” which we are reading as an iBook on the iPads. In Maths we have reminded ourselves about percentages, fractions, long division and circumference and area of a circle. We have been learning about the ‘mm’ sound while in Grammar we are learning all about prepositions. In Writing we have planned and written a recount of our weekend and Comprehension has seen us exploring the book “How The Frogmouth Found Her Home”. In Maths we have practised addition sums, modelled numbers and identified left and right. Our new topic in HSIE this term is ‘Our Need For Shelter’ and we have begun exploring this topic by finding out what we need to survive. In addition to regular homework students took home copies of our poems for the eisteddfod to learn and practise. Have a nice weekend.

CANTEEN ROSTER
- Friday, 2 May – Kerrie Altus & Leanne Glimour
- Monday, 5 May – Kristy Gale & volunteer required

ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER
- Friday, 2 May – Kerrie Altus & Leanne Glimour
- Monday, 5 May – Kyle Welsh, Zoe Welsh, Tobey Greenan, Deklyn Lummis