MOTHER’S DAY STALL
A fantastic Mother’s Day Stall was held last Friday. Due to the generosity of the families of our school there was a marvellous array of gifts for the children to choose their special presents. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the stall and many thanks to stall coordinators, Toni Fuller and Bettina Spora and their band of helpers who were very busy last week wrapping gifts and organising the stall. In conjunction with the Mother’s Day Stall we had three marvellous gift baskets raffled. There were also free raffles for each class for which every student had the chance to win. This caused much excitement with the raffle results being as follows: Coffee & Wine Hamper – Matthew Ferguson, Ochre Hair Pack – Madison Riley, $50.00 Ag-n-Vet Voucher – Emile & Sophie Hassall, Adult Zoo Pass & Jurlique Hand Cream – Harrison King, Central Stores Pack – Chloe & Layney Godber, Bed Quilt & Cushion – Loki & Aiden Ryan, Cooks Hamper – William & Mikaela Sandford, $25.00 3D’s Butchery Voucher – Tobey Creeneaune, Bohemia Glass Candle Holder, Print & Scarf – Jasmine Zell, Stained Glass Mirror – Hamish & Harriet Beveridge

STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
The staff will be participating in a professional development activity this Monday, 20 May from 3:30 – 6:00 p.m. During this time Mrs Pat Eakin from the Catholic Education Office will inservice the staff on a variety of assessment strategies. These strategies will be implemented into the classrooms over the next two terms and then Mrs Eakin will return to evaluate the strategies.

ICAS WRITING AND SPELLING COMPETITIONS
The International Competition and Assessments for Schools is holding both writing and spelling competitions on Monday, 17th and Tuesday, 18th June for children in Years 3-6. If you would like your child to enter either one or both of these competitions please complete the tear-off slip attached to today’s About and return it to school by tomorrow, Friday, 17 May together with the relevant entry fee ($17.00 for the writing and $11.00 for the spelling competition).

MICHAEL MANGAN CONCERT
Michael Mangan will be performing live at our school on Tuesday 21 May! Michael is a well known liturgical music writer and singer and we use many of his songs in our Masses and Liturgies. During the concert he will be helping us to focus on the themes and liturgical seasons behind the songs, introduce us to some new songs and sing some of our old favourites.

McNAMEE TROPHY
All students from Years 5 and 6 will represent the school at the McNamee Trophy which will be held in Cooambele next Friday, 24 May. The students will be competing against St Brigids’ Cooambele in public speaking, touch football, soccer, netball and rugby league. The program for the day is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Mass – Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Public Speaking – St Brigid’s School Assembly room</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Rugby League – Cooambele Sports Ground</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 noon</td>
<td>Netball – Cooambele Sports Ground</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Soccer – Cooambele Sports Ground</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Touch Football – Cooambele Sports Ground</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Farewell – Presentation of Sportsmanship Medals</td>
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</tbody>
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OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS MASS
A Mass in honour of Our Lady Help of Christians will be celebrated next Friday, 24 May at 10:30 a.m. Year 4 is preparing the Mass and all are most welcome to attend. Please bring a plate to share for morning tea.

WALK SAFELY TO SCHOOL
Next Friday, 24 May is Walk Safely to School Day. Objectives of the day are:
- To promote the health benefits of walking and help create regular walking habits at an early age.
- To help children develop the vital road-crossing skills they will need as they become mature pedestrians.
- To ensure that children up to 10 years of age hold an adult’s hand when crossing the road.
- To reduce the car dependency habits that are being created at an early age and which will be difficult to change as children become adults.
- To reduce vehicle emissions to help tackle climate change and improve air quality.

We ask you to discuss with your child the health benefits of walking as well as safety rules. All students will receive a Walk Safely to School sticker next Thursday so that they might like to wear it on the Friday to highlight the importance of being a safe pedestrian.

TERM 2 FEES
The Term 2 fees accounts are with today’s About. Prompt payment of these fees would be appreciated.

THE VEGIE PATCH
The vegetables are growing well. We have put in more plants so we now have a great variety. The herbs are doing well and we have recently planted chocolate mint, thyme and garlic. Thank you to Will, Patrick, Harry and Caitlin Spora for donating a worm farm. It will be a great addition to our other worm farm which will allow us to turn our extra food waste into worm juice and castings for the garden. A big thank you also to Mrs Carol Smith, a local artist who very kindly painted a beautiful sign to decorate our vegie patch. Our scarecrow won ‘Best Male Scarecrow’ at the Gilgandra Show. Thank you Year 6 for helping to dress him for the occasion. Mrs Kilby

SHORT FILM FESTIVAL
Orana Arts, with assistance from the National Film & Sound Archive Black Screen, will be holding a Short Film Festival in Gilgandra at the Basketball Courts on Tuesday, 28 May from 6:30 p.m. It is a really casual night and we encourage people to bring along their folding chairs, bean bags, blankets etc to make themselves comfortable. Kids can even come dressed in their pj’s. (Its outdoor cinema but indoors because of the cold weather!) The Gilgandra Junior Basketball Association will be running a fundraising canteen on the night where food and drink will be available for purchase. Entry in to see the films is FREE. There are six films to be screened – all are rated G or PG. Screening of the films will start at 7:00 p.m. and run for approximately one and a half hours (short intermission will be provided). All of the films feature actors, writers and/or directors who are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.
Congratulations to the following students who received Merit Awards at Assembly on Monday:

**KINDER:** Billie Allan for great work during Maths Warm-Up, Ben Standing for a great effort in learning his sounds, Lucas Gleadhill for a terrific job in counting and Mattea Purvis for a great effort in our Maths Warm-Up.

**YEAR 1:** Jade Elsom, Molly Fairy, Richard Glover, Sarah Temple, Emily Zell, Layney Godber and Madison Riley for a fantastic effort in Group Reading.

**YEAR 2:** Anton Davis, Breanna Foster and Laura Farragher for writing excellent recounts about the Show, Will Gaff for trying hard in Spelling and Sophie Hassall for beautiful expressive reading.

**YEAR 3:** Laura Smith, Abby Tate and Heidi Purvis for striving to reach your writing goals, Ashleigh Carlow for ‘Giving of Your Best’ in all class activities and Lachlan Riley for working well independently.

**YEAR 4:** Alex Beveridge and Lachlan Fairley for great descriptive writing about ‘odd creatures’, Chloé Godber and Aiden Ryan for being speedy mathematicians and making great progress in Maths, Lucy Davis for always trying hard in Problem A Day and Operations and Tarah Foran for ‘Giving of Her Best’ at all times.

**YEAR 5:** Caitlin Spora for continued improvement in her reading tasks, Shari Grimshaw for consistent effort with all homework tasks and Kelly Anforth for ‘Giving of His Best’ in all classroom activities.

**YEAR 6:** Kiarna Digg for asking intelligent questions in Maths, Ruby Schembri for being a conscientious and diligent student, Mikaela Sandford for working hard in Spelling and Olivia Gale for helping those in need of assistance without being asked.

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**WHAT’S ON**

**WEEK 4**

**Year 3 Reconciliation**
- Monday, 20 May - Staff Maths Assessment Inservice – 3:30 – 6:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, 21 May - ICAS Computer Skills Competition - Michael Mangan Concert
- Wednesday, 22 May - AEW Meeting
- Friday, 24 May - Our Lady Help of Christians Mass – Year 4 (K-4) 10:30 a.m.
  - McNamee Trophy – Coonamble (Years 5 & 6)
  - Walk Safely To School

**WEEK 5**

- Wednesday, 29 May - Peachey/Richardson Football
- Thursday, 30 May - Diocesan Spelling Bee - Wellington
- Friday, 31 May - Principals Meeting
  - Polding Touch – Caitlin Carlow
  - ‘Write Here Write Now’ Entries due
- Sunday, 2 June - First Holy Communion – Body and Blood of Christ – 9:45 a.m.

**WEEK 6**

- Eisteddfod Week - Year 5 Reconciliation
  - Tuesday, 4 June - Kinder Nursery Rhymes – Dubbo
  - Eisteddfod
  - Wednesday, 5 June - Infants Verse Speaking – Dubbo
  - Eisteddfod
  - Thursday, 6 June - Junior Primary & Senior Primary Verse
  - Speaking – Dubbo Eisteddfod
  - Friday, 7 June - Science Competition
  - Polding Touch back-up date

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**AROUND THE CLASSROOMS**

**KINDER** This week in Kinder the children have been trying to think of as many ‘g’ words as they can and what a long list we have come up with. Well done Kinder! In Science and Technology we discussed elements of living things and investigated lifecycles of a frog and a butterfly. We continue to learn about 3D shapes in our Maths warm-up session with students improving to say the days of the week. Just a reminder to parents to make sure notes in the note folder and other materials in the folder are being emptied each week. Take care.

**Miss Boucke**