WELCOME BACK
Welcome back! We again look forward to another productive and enjoyable term.

VALE IAN ‘FUZZY’ FARRAGHER
It was with great sadness that we learnt of the death of Ian ‘Fuzzy’ Farragher during the holidays after a battle with cancer. His funeral was held on Thursday, 4 July and it was attended by a huge crowd who were able to celebrate his life. We keep his wife, Donna, daughter Laura who is in Year 2, other children, Joe, Daniel, Amanda, Luke and Cody as well as his parents, Noel and Lorraine, brothers, sisters, nephews, nieces and other family members and friends in our thoughts and prayers.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS OF THE YEAR 3 STUDENTS ARE INVITED. MORNING TEA WILL BE HELD NEXT TUESDAY, 23 July.

PUPIL FREE DAY - TOMORROW - FRIDAY, 19 JULY
CONTEMPORARY LEARNING CONFERENCE
Teaching staff from our regional area of the diocese will participate in a Contemporary Learning Conference at Dubbo tomorrow, Friday, 19 July. This is a pupil free day for our regional Catholic schools. At the conference, our teachers will explore new approaches to learning in the classroom. They will also explore how we can promote independent learners and how we can develop learners who are critical thinkers. International educationalist, Dr Julia Atkin has been at the forefront of promoting new approaches to learning. She has also had a role in promoting excellence in teaching. The Catholic Education Office is coordinating our conference and we look forward to a successful day with many teachers from many other Catholic schools.

CONFIRMATION PARENT MEETING
TODAY – THURSDAY, 18 JULY – 6:00 p.m.
A Confirmation parent meeting will be held at school in the computer room this evening, Thursday, 18 July at 6:00 p.m. During this meeting we will be outlining the significance of the Sacrament of Confirmation, the program being covered at school and organising the celebration. A note regarding Confirmation has been given to all those children who will be receiving the Sacrament.

NSW PSSA CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS
We wish Kaitlyn Norris the best of luck as she competes in the NSW PSSA Cross Country Championships to be held at Eastern Creek tomorrow. Kaitlyn will represent Polding and be up against the best in the state when she runs this 2 km race. Congratulations Kaitlyn!

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR – CHANGE OF DATE
Our annual Scholastic Book Fair will now be held next Tuesday, 23 July in the school hall from 3:20 – 4:15 p.m. – NOT Thursday, 25 July as previously advertised. This is a wonderful opportunity to purchase quality books at great prices as well as helping our school library with additional resources. The children will be able to view the books during their library lesson so they know what is available to buy. I am looking forward to seeing you there. Mrs Kelby (Librarian)

PEPPERS CHAMPIONS
We held our primary athletics carnival on the last day of last term. While the weather was overcast the performances were shining! Congratulations to the winning house, Peppers. Thank you to all our staff who organized and ran the carnival and to the parents, family and friends who helped out. Well done to all the children for their great skill and enthusiasm.

YEAR 3 MASS
Year 3 will celebrate a class Mass next Thursday, 25 July at 10:30 a.m. Parents and friends of the Year 3 students are invited. Morning tea will follow the Mass. Please bring a plate to share.

WESTERN REGION ATHLETICS CARNIVAL
Joey’s will send a strong squad to the Western Region Athletics Carnival to be held in Dubbo next Friday, 26 July. Participating schools include St Joseph’s Gilgandra, St Brigid’s Coonamble, St John’s Baradine, St Lawrence’s Coonabarabran, St Mary’s Dubbo and St Pius X Dubbo. Best of luck to all our athletes: Grace Alchin, Hamish Beveridge, Harriet Beveridge, Brook Bonus Straub, Ashleigh Cartlow, Caitlin Cartlow, Mitchell Cartlow, Tobey Creenaune, Max Cruickshank, Lucy Davis, Jye Day, Kiarna Diggs, Rani Diggs, Maddie Eason, James Ferguson, Tom Flannery, Isaac Frost, Martin Fryers, Kate Gilmour, Shari Grimshaw, Carissa Harrison-Reid, Sophie Hassall, Kelsey Hutchison, Sebastian Jackson, Henry Johnson, Brock Johnston, Bradley Kildey, James Kildey, Deklyn Lummis, Jacob Lummis, Will McEwen, Olivia Newshead, Kaitlyn Norris, James O’Neill, Rhys O’Neill, Heidi Purvis, Lachlan Riley, Loki Ryan, Noah Ryan, William Sandford, Ruby Schenbri, Emer Spora, Harry Spora, John Spora, Sinead Sutton, Kyle Welsh, Zoe Welsh

ST JOSEPH’S P & F QUIZ NIGHT
At the last P & F Meeting it was decided to hold a Quiz Night for our parents, family and friends. It will be held at the Gilgandra Bowling Club on Saturday, 3 August at 7:30 p.m. There will be tables of eight and the cost will be $40.00 per team of eight. So get a team organised and come along. If you can’t organise a table of eight, come along and we will find you a table. It’s sure to be a fun night out! Please bring a plate of nibbly’s to share on the table. This is not a fundraiser, just a fun night out for the adults.

ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOLS
Just a reminder that Active After Schools recommenced this week. This term the Tuesday sessions with Mrs Stewart will focus on basketball and frisbee while the Wednesday sessions with Miss West will be based on softball and cricket.

ENROLLING NOW FOR 2014
We are now taking enrolments for our Kinder class of 2014. If you have a child ready to start school next year, please call in and pick up an enrolment form.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY STUDENT
We are most fortunate to have the services of a fourth year Occupational Therapy student, Ashleigh Burden, from the University of Western Sydney, at our school for the next eight weeks. Ashleigh will be assessing our infants children during this time and then providing support and making recommendations. We look forward to Ashleigh being at our school on Wednesdays and Thursdays and thank Mrs Bettina Spora for organising this visit.

DUNEDOO COMBINED SCHOOLS and MENDOORDAN CENTRAL SCHOOL HORSE SPORTS DAYS
The Dunedoo Combined Schools Horse Sports Day will be held on Thursday, 8 August (with entries closing on Thursday, 25 July) and the Mendooran Central Schools Horse Sports Day will be held on Friday, 9 August (with entries closing on Friday, 26 July). For further information regarding these events, including entry forms, please contact Mrs Hodge in the office.
**THE DANCE ACADEMY**
The Dance Academy conducts classes in Classical Ballet/Modern, Tap and Jazz at the Gilgandra Shire Hall on Wednesdays after school. There are limited vacancies in some classes. Interested parents can come to the hall on a Wednesday after 4:00 p.m. or phone 68451998 or 0439895804 for further information.

**WHAT'S ON IN TERM 3 (so far!)
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**WEEK 2 - Year 4 Reconciliation**

- **Tuesday, 23 July** - Book Fair
- **Thursday, 25 July** - Year 3 Mass – 10:30 a.m.
- **Friday, 26 July** - Western Region Athletics - Dubbo
- **PSSA Cross Country

**WEEK 3**

- **Wednesday, 31 July** - ICAS English Competition
- Little Athletics Visit
- **Thursday, 1 August** - Year 4 Mass – 10:30 a.m.
- **Friday, 2 August** - Jeans for Genes Day
- **Saturday, 3 August** - P & F Quiz Night – Bowling Club – 7:30

**WEEK 4 - Year 6 Reconciliation**

- **Tuesday, 6 August** - Western Region Athletics back-up date
- **Wednesday, 7 August** - AEW Meeting
- **Thursday, 8 August** - St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Mass – Junior Joeys (K-6) – 10:30 a.m.
- **Friday, 9 August** - Diocesan Athletics Carnival
- **Sunday, 11 August** - Confirmation

**WEEK 5**

- **Tuesday, 13 August** - ICAS Mathematics Competition
- **Wednesday, 14 August** - Moorambilla
- **Thursday, 15 August** - Feast of the Assumption Mass – Year 5 (K-6) – 10:30 a.m.
- **Infants Sports Carnival – 2:00 – 3:20 p.m.

**WEEK 6**

- **Monday, 19 August** – Moorambilla
- **Tuesday, 20 August** – P & F Meeting
- **Tuesday, 20 August** – Moorambilla
- **Wednesday, 21 August** – Diocesan Athletics back-up date
- **Thursday, 22 August** – Principals’ Retreat – Kinder Liturgy – 10:30 a.m.
- **Friday, 23 August** – Coocoo Poetry Due – Principals’ Retreat

**WEEK 7**

- **Monday, 26 July** – Life Education Van
- **Wednesday, 28 August** – Robotech – School Performance 2:00 p.m.
- **Thursday, 29 August** – Year 1 Liturgy – 10:30 a.m.
- **Friday, 30 August** – St John’s College Year 7 Placement Testing

**WEEK 8 - Year 3 Reconciliation**

- **Thursday, 5 September** – Year 2 Liturgy – 10:30 a.m.
- **Friday, 6 September** – Polding Athletics

**WEEK 9**

- **Wednesday, 11 September** – Concert Practice

**WEEK 10**

- **Monday, 16 September** – Cricket – Gilgandra
- **Thursday, 19 September** – Concert
- **Friday, 20 September** – Last day Term 3 – Whole School Mass – 9:00 a.m.

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**AROUND THE CLASSROOMS**

**KINDER** Welcome to Term 3 and I hope everyone had a happy and safe holiday. This Term is just as busy for our Kinders with the children learning about the letter ‘U’ this week and learning how to write numbers from one to twenty. We started our new HSIE unit, ‘Places We Know’. During this unit we will be looking at places we are familiar with in our community and nationally. We also started our Science and Technology unit, ‘What’s for Lunch’. This topic investigates healthy eating and where food comes from. Just a reminder that next Wednesday, is our Pirate, Prince and Princess Day. Looking forward to another great term. Take care. **Miss Bourke**

**YEAR 1** Welcome back to Term 3. We have a very busy term ahead of us. This week we have been learning about the letter/sound ‘y’ as in ‘pony’ and the use of question marks in Grammar. Year 1 has also written some wonderful recounts of their holidays in Text Types.

In Maths we have continued our work on arrays, number patterns and describing 3D shapes. We have begun our ‘Stories of God’s People’ unit in Religion by discussing the Bible. Our HSIE unit this term is ‘Workers in our Community’. To begin this unit we have discussed the difference between needs and wants and divided various things into each category. Have a lovely weekend. **Miss Smith**

**YEAR 2** Congratulations Year 2 on settling so quickly back into our class routine. Our theme in Religion is ‘Caring for all Creation’ and this week we read the parable of “The Good Samaritan”. In Maths our focus was on two and ten times tables and capacity. We wrote some interesting holiday recounts. Our HSIE topic is ‘Transport’ and together we made a list of many different forms of transport and grouped them into air, land or sea. We are busily collecting boxes and cylinders of all shapes and sizes to create our own ‘vehicle’. Please send in as many as you can! We hope you have a relaxing weekend. **Mrs Larkin & Mrs Newsstead**

**YEAR 3** Welcome back to Term 3! This week we’ve started our new Religion topic, ‘Called to be Saints’ and discussed what makes a hero. We have also begun preparation for our class Mass next Thursday, 25 July. Our theme is ‘Forgiveness’. We look forward to this celebration. We’ve written interesting recounts about our holidays. It seems everyone was kept busy! In Spelling we had great fun using the thesaurus on the iPads to find synonyms. Reflect, translate and rotate were terms that had us thinking in Maths. We also completed ‘Chance’ activities focusing on possible outcomes, practised our nine times tables and revised four digit numbers. We’ve looked at some artworks by artist, Ken Done and have begun patterning fish and coral in bright, bold colours in preparation for our underwater art work. **Mr Soares & Mrs Morris**

**YEAR 4** Welcome back everyone – where did the holidays go? It’s been a busy start to Term 3 and in the classroom we have been focusing on reconciliation in Religion and discussing the unconditional love God has for us. In Maths we revised area, views of 3D shapes and algorithms. Mr Mus worked with Year 4 to design page titles on the computers for our Science unit about magnets. In HSIE we began our new topic, ‘The Australian Nation’ and looked at the symbols on the Australian flag and their meaning. Just a reminder that huts need to be collected from the hall to make room for the book fair next week. Have a great weekend. **Mrs Brau**

**YEAR 5** Welcome back for yet another term. Year 5 has hit the ground running this week spending time preparing fantastic discussions in Literacy. With a busy term ahead we are getting prepared early for a number of school activities. Our class has begun investigating our new Religion topic that looks at the history of the Catholic Religion in Australia. We have been able to look back on some of the St Joseph’s Parish history and how it has changed over time. Literacy homework has commenced this week with our Maths homework to start next week - a reminder that homework is due on Friday (unless you are told differently). Have a great weekend. **Mr Keadey & Mrs Colwell**

**YEAR 6** A big welcome back to Term 3. It is great to see everyone back, smiling and ready to fulfil the challenges of another term. In Maths we have been revising our long division skills and finding the area and circumference of a circle. We are in the final chapters of our class novel, “Hiding Edith” and our Power Writing focus is Discussions. Confirmation, is of course, our highlight this term. This week we have been writing our petitions to the Bishop as well as looking at the Nicene Creed and the Sacraments of Initiation. Our Saint Projects are well underway and we have been discussing the importance of our Service Projects. **Mrs Banks & Mrs Schier**

**CANTEEN ROSTER**

- **Friday, 19 July** – Pupil Free Day
- **Monday, 22 July** – Claudia Ryan & Elizabeth Cruickshank
- **Wednesday, 24 July** – Nicole Scholte & Leanne Creenaune
- **Friday, 26 July** – Paula Purvis & Tracey Tate

**ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER**

- **Sunday, 17 July** – Mollie Banks, Anastasia Newstead, Tobey Creenaune, Jacob Lummiis