**Thougt for the Week**

The members of a family are like branches on a tree – we all grow in a different direction, yet our roots remain as one.

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**SUNDAY FAMILY MASS – 27 OCTOBER 2013**

Everyone is invited to come along to 9:45am Mass this Sunday 27th October to celebrate the gift of faith and family. Parishes around the world are joining in solidarity with the international gathering of families with Pope Francis as part of the celebration of the Year of Faith. On this Sunday we are encouraged to think about our faith and how it can be passed on through everyday family life. If you didn’t return the tear-off slip but are able to come along, that’s fine, we would love to see you there.

**YEARS 5/6 SYDNEY EXCURSION**

We are all very excited about the Years 5 and 6 Sydney Excursion next week. It is sure to be a wonderful trip. Just take a peep at our itinerary:

**Day 1 – Tuesday, 29 October**

Depart St Joseph’s School – 6:30 a.m., Mudgee – morning tea, Scenic World Katoomba – Skyway, Railway and Cableway, ANZ Stadium Tour, Collaroy Centre, Collaroy, Evening Activity – Movie in Theatrette

**Day 2 – Wednesday, 30 October**

Walk across Sydney Harbour Bridge, Rocks Walking Tour, Captain Cook Cruise, Sydney Aquarium, Parliament House, Opera House Tour, Dinner at Darling Harbour, Madame Tussauds

**Day 3 – Thursday, 31 October**

National Maritime Museum, Sydney Tower and Sky Tour, Mary MacKillop Place, Leisure swim at Sydney International Aquatic Centre

**Day 4 – Friday, 1 November**

Surf Safe Program – Collaroy Beach, Luna Park – unlimited rides, Lithgow - Dinner at McDonalds, Arrive St Joseph’s School approximately 10:30 p.m.

**SCHOOL BASED SWIMSAFE LESSONS**

With the swimming season just about to begin our school is once again participating in the school based swimsafe program run by Gilgandra Learn to Swim. These lessons are for children from Kinder to Year 2 and are held during school time with qualified Austswim instructors. The children will be involved in the swimming lessons for ten days from Monday, 3 December to Friday, 14 December at a cost of $55.00 (this does not include pool entry). We hope that through this program the children will enjoy participating and improve their water confidence and swimming skills. Enrolment forms were given to each of the infants children last week and if you would like your child to participate, we need the completed enrolment form returned to school with the payments (cheques should be made payable to the school) by next Friday, 1
November.

ALL SAINTS DAY MASS

All children from Kinder to Year 6 will celebrate All Saints Day next Friday, 1 November with Mass at 10.30 a.m. This Mass is being organised by Year 3 and it would be lovely if as many parents as possible could join us. Morning tea will follow and we would appreciate if you could please bring a plate to share.

APPLICATION FOR YEAR 7 ENTRY TO SELECTIVE HIGH SCHOOLS IN 2015

Applications for entry into Year 7 at selective high schools in 2015 are now available. Online applications are being taken between 15 October and 18 November, 2013. Parents may apply online through the NSW Department of Education and Communities – Selective High School and Opportunity Class Placement Unit’s website, www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement. Further information may be obtained from Mrs Hodge.

MERIT AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who received Merit Awards at Assembly on Monday: **KINDER** - Audrey Carter for being a good listener in class, Jett Chandler for being friendly and kind to his peers, Ryan Ferguson for telling great news for our topic, ‘Animals Around the Home’ and Casey Gaff for beautiful handwriting in his story book. **YEAR 1** - Sarah Temple for working hard to solve Maths problems, Chloe Mudford for fantastic work solving Maths problems, Oscar Spora for writing an entertaining narrative. Camilla Beveridge for a great effort during our Liturgy preparations and Richard Glover for writing a very creative narrative. **YEAR 2** - Patrick Spora for being a kind and considerate class member, Tylah Anforth and Tayarna McKenzie for being wonderful class helpers, Skye Bui for fabulous bookwork and Bradley Kildey for being a speedy mathematician. **YEAR 3** - Amber Tarrant and James Ferguson for working efficiently in Year 3, Heidi Purvis for a fantastic effort with reading, Tom Eason for completing all activities to a high standard and Tyler Evans for working hard in Maths activities. **YEAR 4** - Zoe Welsh and Henry Spora for working out our week in HSIE, Milla Banks, Chloe Goddor and Ryan Carter for a huge improvement in handwriting and Aiden Ryan for super speedy and accurate work in Maths. **YEAR 5** - Liberty Barden for being a Maths Operations whizz, John Spora for continued improvement in all classroom activities and Caitlin Spora and Sebastian Jackson for fabulous expression and enthusiasm towards their Sydney excursion interviews. **YEAR 6** - Ruby Schembri for great mathematical celebrations, Will McEwen and Tom Flannery for terrific expression and enthusiasm towards their Sydney excursion interviews and Mikaela Sandford for contributing thoughtful prayers during our prayer circle.

WHAT'S ON

**WEEK 3** - Year 3 Reconciliation
- Friday, 25 October - Fete
- Sunday, 27 October - Sunday Family Mass – 9:45 a.m.

**WEEK 4** - Year 4 Reconciliation
- Tuesday, 29 October – Year 4, 1 November - Years 5/6 Sydney Excursion
- Friday, 1 November - All Saints Day Mass – Year 3 (K-4) 10:30 a.m.

**WEEK 5** - Year 5 Reconciliation
- Wednesday, 6 November - Preschool Visit – 10:30 a.m.
- Thursday, 7 November - Year 4 Mass – 10:30 a.m.
- Friday, 8 November - Knowledge Explosion – 2:00 p.m.
- Monday, 11 November - Remembrance Day Mass – Year 5 (K-5) – 10:30 a.m.
- Tuesday, 12 November - Kinder Orientation Day
- Wednesday, 13 November - Netball Coaching - Year 6 - GHS
- Thursday, 14 November - Year 2 Reconciliation – 5:00 p.m.
- Friday, 15 November - Knowledge Explosion – 2:00 p.m.
- Saturday, 16 November - Year 2 Reconciliation – 10:00 a.m.

AROUND THE CLASSROOMS

KINDER

This week has been a busy one for our Kindergarten children. We continue to revise and learn our new sound of the week ‘th’. I am also very happy and pleased to see more and more beautiful handwriting and hearing the children sound out their words in Sentence A Day. All children are to be congratulated on their efforts. During Religion we have been reading the story of ‘Noah’s Ark’ and how God created all the animals that Noah looked after in the ark. The students seem to enjoy this story and have contributed to meaningful conversation about how we can look after God’s creation. During DPDHE we have been discussing what is trust and how do we know when we trust someone. All students wrote about who they trusted and why they trusted them. There are some great friendships in the Kindergarten classroom. In Mathematics we started to look at how many tens are in numbers from 11 – 25 and how many are left over and will continue to work on this. Hope to see everyone at the school fete tomorrow and just a reminder about the family Mass on Sunday morning. Take care. Miss Bourke

**YEAR 1**

A big thank you to all the friends and family who came and helped celebrate this beautiful Liturgy. If you would agree with me that Year 1 did a fabulous job. This week we have been learning about the ‘pr’, ‘tr’ and ‘fr’ sounds. In Grammar we were introduced to homographs, words that are spelt the same but have different meanings. The children have put a variety into sentences. We have also been working on narratives. We have looked at different fairy tales to determine their structure and have planned and written a fairy tale of our own. In Maths Year 1 has been learning about faces, corners and edges of 3D shapes, comparing mass and have been introduced to the multiplication symbol. Hope to see you at the fete. Have a lovely weekend. Miss Smith & Mrs Thomas

**YEAR 2**

We have started to discuss in Religion how important it is to make good choices and how our choices may affect other people. In PDH we have designed posters to remind us how we need to keep safe when we have poisons in our home – lock the cupboard, keep children away, label containers, know how to get help and getting to the hospital if you would agree with me that Year 1 did a fabulous job. This week we have been learning about the ‘pr’, ‘tr’ and ‘fr’ sounds. In Grammar we were introduced to homographs, words that are spelt the same but have different meanings. The children have put a variety into sentences. We have also been working on narratives. We have looked at different fairy tales to determine their structure and have planned and written a fairy tale of our own. In Maths Year 1 has been learning about faces, corners and edges of 3D shapes, comparing mass and have been introduced to the multiplication symbol. Hope to see you at the fete. Have a lovely weekend. Miss Smith & Mrs Thomas

**YEAR 3**

A big thank you to all the friends and family who came and helped celebrate this beautiful Liturgy. If you would agree with me that Year 1 did a fabulous job. This week we have been learning about the ‘pr’, ‘tr’ and ‘fr’ sounds. In Grammar we were introduced to homographs, words that are spelt the same but have different meanings. The children have put a variety into sentences. We have also been working on narratives. We have looked at different fairy tales to determine their structure and have planned and written a fairy tale of our own. In Maths Year 1 has been learning about faces, corners and edges of 3D shapes, comparing mass and have been introduced to the multiplication symbol. Hope to see you at the fete. Have a lovely weekend. Miss Smith & Mrs Thomas

**YEAR 4**

What a fantastic time we had at the zoo last week! Putting a knowledge into practice a trip to the zoo allows us to get up close in HSIE. Milla Banks, Chloe Goddor and Ryan Carter for a huge improvement in handwriting and Aiden Ryan for super speedy and accurate work in Maths. **YEAR 5** - Liberty Barden for being a Maths Operations whizz, John Spora for continued improvement in all classroom activities and Caitlin Spora and Sebastian Jackson for fabulous expression and enthusiasm towards their Sydney excursion interviews. **YEAR 6** - Ruby Schembri for great mathematical celebrations, Will McEwen and Tom Flannery for terrific expression and enthusiasm towards their Sydney excursion interviews and Mikaela Sandford for contributing thoughtful prayers during our prayer circle.

SCHOOLS IN 2015

- Thursday, 14 November - Year 2 Reconciliation – 5:00 p.m.
- Friday, 15 November – Cate Corcoran & Amanda Shalhoub-Purvis
- Friday, 22 November – Year 1 Reconciliation – 5:00 p.m.
- Friday, 29 November – Year 4 Reconciliation – 5:00 p.m.
- Friday, 6 December – Year 6 Reconciliation – 5:00 p.m.

APRIL TERM

- Monday, 8 January - Year 1 Orientation Day
- Monday, 5 January - Year 1 Orientation Day
- Monday, 5 January - Year 6 Orientation Day

**WEEK 6**

- Friday, 1 November – Cate Corcoran & Amanda Shalhoub-Purvis

WELCOME BACK!