SENSATIONAL SYDNEY EXCURSION

The Years 5 and 6 students, their teachers and parents had a sensational time in Sydney last week. It was a wonderful experience as everyone had the opportunity to visit the many and varied attractions in Sydney. Congratulations to all the students on their exemplary behaviour. It seemed that every place we visited had a kind word to say about the students. Thank you to the parents who accompanied the children. Their help was invaluable. A huge vote of thanks to the teachers, Mrs Banks and Mr Keady whose care, enthusiasm and patience ensured a most successful excursion.

KNOWLEDGE EXPLOSION

The Knowledge Explosion for all children in Years 3 to 6 will commence next week on Friday, 8 November at 2:00 p.m. It will be held over three weeks and will continue on Friday, 15 November and Friday, 22 November. The children were surveyed as to what special activity they would like to learn more about and these include: Mosaic Tiling, Woodwork, Electronics, Sewing, Cooking, Calligraphy, Scrapbooking, iPads, Multimedia and Welding. Thank you to the following members of the community and parents for their expert assistance with our Knowledge Explosion: Joe and Judy Shalhoub, Roy Duncan, James Hassall, Carol Alchin and Michael O’Neill.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Monday, 11 November

Year 5 students are preparing a Remembrance Day Mass to be celebrated in St Joseph’s Church on Monday, 11 November at 10:30 a.m. All are most welcome to attend. Morning tea will follow Mass so please bring a plate to share. Year 6 will attend the Remembrance Day Service at the Gilgandra War Memorial as a sign of respect for all those brave men and women who have served our country in all wars. Lest We Forget.

EXCURSION SNIPPET

Come walk on the red carpet with us at Madame Tussauds. The wax figures look so life like! It was a once in a lifetime opportunity to get up close and personal with over seventy of the world’s most iconic celebrities. The wax figures we enjoyed the most were ‘One Direction’, Leonardo DiCaprio and Katy Perry. It was a great experience.

Olivia Gale, Emer Spora, Kiarna Diggs

KINDER ORIENTATION DAY

Next Tuesday, 12 November the newest members of the St Jokey’s family will be at school. Our 2014 Kinder class will have their first taste of ‘big school’ and we are all excited about their visit.

DEADLY AUSTRALIANS

Next Tuesday 12 November, all students will be involved in the touring educational presentation called ‘Deadly Australians’. This awareness programme educates children about the roles, importance and dangers of venomous wildlife in our ecosystem. The programme uses both live and preserved exhibits for the children to further enhance their understanding.

NETBALL COACHING

On Wednesday 13 November, all primary students will be participating in a netball coaching clinic run by Netball NSW representative Emily Ross. During this session the students will be involved in a number of fun activities that will develop their netball skills.

YEAR 2 RECONCILIATION

Year 2 has been very busy this term preparing to make the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a special time for us to admit when we have gone wrong in our lives and say sorry to God. It helps deepen our relationship with God and helps us to grow to become better people. Parents of those children making their Reconciliation for the first time can take their child to Reconciliation on Thursday, 14 November at 5:00 p.m. or Saturday, 16 November at 10:00 a.m. To celebrate this special sacrament, Year 2 will prepare the Mass on Sunday, 24 November at 9:45 a.m. during which the certificates will be presented to the Year 2 class. This is a special time for Year 2 and we keep all these children in our prayers as they continue their faith journey.

EXCURSION SNIPPET

The Sydney Aquarium was fun and the best thing we went to in Sydney. The creatures we saw were awesome. We loved looking at all the different things with our friends. It was great to see everyone had a fantastic time. Maddie Eason, Matilda Cruickshank, Montana McGrath

COOOE CALLING COMPETITION

COOOOO-EEEEEE!!! Today we held our Cooee Calling Competition. All students paid $1 to enter the competition and each class selected their best boy and girl cooee caller. These champions will go through to the final, which will be held tomorrow, Friday 8th November. All donations are going to the Lions Club Dollar For A Digger Bronze Sculpture Project. The sculpture will commemorate the 100 year Anniversary of the Cooee March and honour all service men and women and our community. As part of this activity each class has been studying the Cooee March.

SCHOOL SURVEY

With today’s About is a brief survey which we are asking parents to complete and return to the school office by Friday, 30 November. We are required each year to complete an Annual Report that is submitted to the Commonwealth Government and published to the community. One of the requirements of this report is to have surveyed the school parents to ascertain levels of satisfaction with various aspects of the school. The survey is a simple one that requires only four ticks, one for each element. Your cooperation in completing this survey and returning it to school by Friday, 29 November is appreciated.

TEA TOWELS AND NOTE TOTES AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

There are still some tea towels available for purchase from the school. These tea towels have a small self portrait of every child in the school and are a lovely memento. With Christmas just around the corner, maybe a great gift idea for nan or grandma. Also available are our note totes. These have a magnet at the top to stick on the fridge with a plastic pocket at the front and are a handy idea for school newsletters and notes etc. The tea towels are $10.00 each and the note totes $15.00 each. If anyone is interested, please see Mrs Hodge.

FINAL CHANCE TO PURCHASE A PAVER

Next Friday, 15 November will be the closing date to purchase a named paver in our front path. If you haven’t already done so and would like to purchase a paver, the forms are available from the office. The pavers cost $30.00 each.

EXCURSION SNIPPET

The Rocks walking tour was very interesting as we got to learn about how people lived and the homes they lived in many years ago. We also found it interesting when we were told children played on the road as there were no backyards back then. James O’Neill, Mitchell Carlow, Toby Greenama

FREE DENTAL TREATMENT

The Child Benefit Scheme will commence on 1st January, 2014 and will provide access to basic dental care for children aged 2 to 17 years. This sound the same but are spelt differently. For text types we have
Family Tax Benefit A or B. The total benefit is capped at $1,000.00 per child over two calendar years. To see if your family is eligible call Medicare on 132011 or Centrelink for Family Tax matters on 136150. Your local dental surgery is Gilgandra Dental Surgery and is located at the hospital. Please phone the Narramine Surgery to make an appointment in Gilgandra with Catie.

MERIT AWARDS
Congratulations to the following students who received Merit Awards at Assembly on Monday:
KINDER: Billie Allan for showing lots of enthusiasm in Mathematics, Bethany Earssman for always being reverent and respectful during prayer, William Spora for being a team player during sport and Jasmine Zell for showing a great imagination during creative play.

YEAR 1: Dennis Gale for making an effort to complete all set tasks, Layney Godber for writing a thorough description of her monster, Emma Westwood for painting a lovely monster and Isaiah McKenzie for a great job reading analog and digital time.

YEAR 2: Zac Ferguson for enthusiastic participation in class discussions, Laura Farragher for being a helpful class member, Bradley Gibson for taking care with his ‘Rainforest’ picture, Rani Diggins for working independently to complete set tasks and Jennifer Ibe for being a cheerful and enthusiastic member of Year 2.

YEAR 3: Olivia Schier for accurate recall of three times tables, Hamish Beveridge for great work in Maths Operations, Emily Skinner for a fantastic effort learning his times tables and Mary Westwood for always ‘Giving Of Your Best’.

YEAR 4: Julia Cusack for setting into the Joey’s family so well, Martin Fryers and Darren Doherty for fantastic creativity in Art when painting landscapes and Emille Hassall, Kate Gilmour and Rebecca Gaff for writing great discussions about having a class pet.

WHAT’S ON

WEEK 5 - Year 5 Reconciliation
Friday, 8 November - Cooee Calling Competition Final - Knowledge Explosion – 2:00 p.m.

WEEK 6 - GHS Work Experience
Monday, 11 November - Remembrance Day Mass – Year 5 (K-5) – 10:30 a.m.
Tuesday, 12 November - Kinder Orientation Day - Deadly Australians – School Performance
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.

WEEK 7 - Father Martin away on Retreat
Tuesday, 19 November - Summer Sports Trials - P & F Meeting
Wednesday, 20 November - Final Active After Schools – Family Fun Golf Afternoon
Thursday, 21 November - Kinder Liturgy – 10:30 a.m.
Friday, 22 November - Knowledge Explosion – 2:00 p.m.
Sunday, 24 November - Christ the King – Year 2 - Reconciliation Mass – 9:45 a.m.

WEEK 8
Monday, 25 November - Year 6 PD Evening – 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, 26 November - Summer Sports Trials back-up date
Thursday, 28 and Friday, 29 November - Year 4 Burrendong Excursion

AROUND THE CLASSROOMS

KINDER This week the Kindergarten children are revising their single sounds and the blends they have learnt so far this term. This week’s big book is ‘The Gingerbread Man’ and the students seem to be getting a lot of enjoyment from this story. In Mathematics we continue to learn about time and have been completing some more addition work. During HSIE we have continued to investigate the difference between a need and a want and in Science and Technology we looked at what can be recycled and what can’t be recycled. On Wednesday we had a visit from the preschoolers and hope they enjoyed the story “The Lion and the Mouse” and making their own lions. We certainly look forward to them returning next year. Take care. Miss Bourke

YEAR 1 has been busy this week. Our spelling focus has been the ‘dr’ sound. For Grammar Year 1 has worked on homophones – words that written a narrative about our monster and read it to a peer to discuss what was good about our story and what we could do better next time. In Maths we have worked hard to add money, subtract from 20 and measure using metres. During Religion we have continued looking at creation and have written about our favourite part of the creation story. While last week in HSIE we learnt about what it was like when our parents grew up, this week we learnt about what it was like when our grandparents grew up. Have a fantastic weekend. Miss Smith & Mrs Thomas

YEAR 2 In Religion we have discussed the importance of telling the truth even if we sometimes don’t want to. Telling the truth and being honest is a choice God wants us to make. “The Lorax” by Dr Seuss was our literacy focus this week. It explained to us the importance of caring and protecting our world environments. We came up with some excellent suggestions about how we can protect our rainforests. In Science we looked at the life cycle of a silkworm and how we use the silk to make clothes. In Maths we practised measuring and drawing different views of 3D shapes. Adjectives and interesting sentences have been our Grammar focus. Remember to keep reading each night. Enjoy your weekend. Mrs Larkin & Mrs Newsstead

YEAR 3 has been practising their times tables in order to recite them quickly in our times tables challenge. The children are being timed whilst saying their tables and are showing great improvement. All students have needed to be practicing their six and seven times tables. In Computers we’ve started to create a slideshow based on our alliteration poems we’ve written. The children are copying and pasting images from Google, adding backgrounds and beginning to add animations to their slides. In Art we are completing our ‘stained glass window’ artworks and are beginning a ‘complementary colours’ artwork. We all had fun at our ‘Cooee Calling’ challenge today and are looking forward to hearing the calls of the winners tomorrow. Mr Soares & Mrs Morris

YEAR 4 Thank you Year 4 for a lovely Mass this morning. It was great to see so many family and friends at church. As the excited Years 5 and 6 students returned this week, Year 4 has begun counting down to their overnight excursion to Burrendong. In Maths the class examined the link between percentages, fractions and decimals and then investigated mixed numerals and equivalent fractions. In Art Year 4 designed great peace and friendship signs and are looking forward to the Knowledge Explosion tomorrow – scrapbooking, welding, sewing, cooking – wow what a choice! Have a great weekend. Mrs Bray

YEAR 5 Week 5 already! After a fantastic ‘holiday’ experience last week! Year 5 has been busy finishing off their Sydney booklets in class - filling in what we managed to do and see whilst we were there. Our Sydney excursion was wonderful and thank you to all the parents that joined us on our trip. A special mention also to the children who are to be commended on their behaviour and involvement during the trip - it made it a very enjoyable experience for us all. This week in homework we have started the first stages of our policy speeches whilst in Religion we have been preparing for our upcoming Remembrance Day Mass to be held on Monday. Have a great weekend and we hope you can join us on Monday for our Mass. Mr Keady & Mrs Colwell

YEAR 6 This week we have been reminiscing about the wonderful time we had in Sydney. We thoroughly enjoyed all our experiences and have collected many memories that shall be treasured forever. Our writing tasks have included recounts of our excursion and drafts of our free choice speech, which is due on Monday, 18 November. In Maths we have looked at selecting appropriate units of measure and finding the average, mean, median, mode and range of a set of numbers. Today we enjoyed our Cooee Calling Competition and look forward to the final tomorrow! Mrs Banks & Mrs Schier

CAANTEEN ROSTER
Friday, 8 November – Tracey Tate & Leanne Glover
Monday, 11 November – Jodie Walker & Stacey O’Neill
Wednesday, 13 November – Kylie Carlow & Melinda Beveridge
Friday, 15 November – Katherine Gaff & Roslyn Zell

ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER
Sunday, 10 November – Matthew Ferguson, Henry Johnson, Caitlin Spora, James O’Neill