KINDER ORIENTATION DAY
We had a great day on Tuesday as we welcomed our 2015 Kinder class. Thirty students have enrolled in Kinder for next year and it was our pleasure to have these children at school to give them a small taste of big school. We can’t wait to see them all next year. Many thanks to Miss Bourke, Mrs Spora and Mrs Stewart for ensuring an enjoyable morning for the children.

SUMMER SPORTS TRIALS
Congratulations to those students who competed in the Summer Sports Trials held in Dubbo on Tuesday, 18 November. All our students performed extremely well at this high level of competition. Zoe Welsh (Basketball) and Marshall Ryan (Touch) were selected in the Diocesan teams that will compete at the NSW Catholic Primary Schools Polding Championships to be held next year. Well done Zoe and Marshall!

YEAR 5 POLICY SPEECHES
We congratulate our Year 5 students who are currently presenting their student leader policy speeches. The standard so far has been excellent and we are sure this will continue. It sounds like St Joey’s is in safe hands next year. Well done Year 5!

YEAR 4 CAVES AND DAM EXCURSION
The excitement is building in Year 4 as their major excursion to the Wellington Caves and Burrendong Dam is approaching. The excursion is next Thursday and Friday, 27th and 28th November and the children will visit the Western Plains Cultural Centre, Wellington Caves and Phosphate Mine, Japanese Gardens, be accommodated at the Wellington Caves and then visit the Giant Chimes, Fern Gully, Dam Wall and Spillway and Dubbo Waterslide. Wow!

YEAR 6 PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT NIGHT
The Year 6 Personal Development evening will be held at school this Monday, 24 November at 6:00 p.m. All Year 6 students and their parents are invited.

YEAR 2 LITURGY
Year 2 will celebrate a class Liturgy at St Joseph’s Church next Thursday, 27 November at 10:30 a.m. Everyone is welcome. Please bring a plate to share for morning tea which will follow the Liturgy.

ST JOSEPH’S CHURCH 40TH BIRTHDAY
St Joseph’s Catholic Church was blessed and opened by Bishop Thomas on 22 December, 1974. Accordingly the parish is organising an anniversary celebration to be held on Sunday, 30 November starting with Mass at 9:45 a.m. followed by morning tea. It will also be a Mass of Thanksgiving for all the priests who have served at St Joseph’s, as our first parish priest, Fr Parker, arrived in Gilgandra 101 years ago. Therefore we would love to fill the church to say thank you to Fr Martin and all past priests. The response from those who have indicated that they will be attending this Mass has been disappointing. If you can come to the Mass it will be a wonderful opportunity to say thank you to Fr Martin and all the priests who have worked tirelessly for our parish. Please bring a plate to share for the morning tea which will follow Mass.

and Alana Elsom for writing with great detail.

RYLEY’S RAFFLE
Thank you to everyone who returned raffle tickets, made donations and sent in goods in aid of Ryley Smith’s family. Ryley was at school yesterday to draw the raffle. The lucky winners of the raffle were as follows: 1st Prize – Barb Hay, 2nd Prize – Jenni Eason, 3rd Prize – Trent Morris. School captains, Isaac Frost and Harriet Beveridge were able to present to Ryley’s mother, Karen a cheque for the sum of $1,215.00 from the proceeds of the raffle. A fantastic effort from everyone! Once again a huge thank you to Lexine Mallison for organising this fund raising activity.

THANK YOU FROM RYLEY’S FAMILY
Ryley’s family wish to thank everyone for their kind generosity, thoughts and prayers. It has been much appreciated.

GILGANDRA HIGH SCHOOL RESPECTFUL ACHIEVERS PROGRAM
As part of the Respectful Achievers Program (RAP) process Gilgandra High School will be conducting interviews with all the students who have expressed an interest in the RAP program. These interviews will take place at our school next Wednesday, 26 November and is open for parents/guardians to attend. A letter has been sent to these families advising the time of their interview.

FINAL P & F MEETING FOR 2014
The November P & F Meeting will be held next Tuesday, 25 November at the ‘Tatts Hotel at 7:30 p.m. As Tuesday night’s P & F Meeting is the last for the year I would like to thank and congratulate all members of the P & F for the wonderful contribution made to the school in 2014. A special thank you to President, Peter Gaff, Secretary Wes Morris, Treasurer Carol Alchin and all those who attended meetings during the year. A huge vote of thanks to all those who coordinated fundraising activities, to those who assisted at these activities, canteen helpers, working bee helpers and anyone who has contributed to our hard working P & F. The P & F has contributed over $20 000.00 worth of resources back to the school this year. Amazing!

FAR WEST ACADEMY OF SPORT TENNIS TRIALS
The Far West Academy of Sport will be holding tennis trials on Saturday, 29 November at the Warren Tennis Courts, Victoria Park, Udoa Road, Road from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. Eligible athletes must turn 10 – 16 years in 2015 (ie born between 1999 – 2005). For further information contact Mrs Hodge. Nominations close Friday, 28 November.

MERIT AWARDS
Congratulations to the following students who received Merit Awards at Assembly on Monday:
KINDER: Tahleigh Davey for being a great problem solver in Mathematics, Rani Diamond for ‘Giving Of Her Best’ in all areas, Henry Purvis for being kind and thoughtful towards others, Brooke Woolams for beautiful artwork, Ethan Morris for being a super speller and Alison Mudford for creative story writing.
YEAR 1: Billie Allan for top work subtracting using a number line Samantha Naden for contributing great arguments about why she wouldn’t want to meet a troll, Ava Meyers for excellent work using shapes to find tessellating patterns, Lucy McIesa for her positive and caring attitude, Jett Tarrant for great work identifying rhyming words

THought for the Week
Forgiveness forces you to grow beyond what you were.
YEAR 2: Sarah Temple for wonderful presentation of work in PDH, Isaiah McKenzie for fantastic work in Art, Ry Heffer for a great effort in Spelling and Molly Fairey for outstanding work in Maths.

YEAR 3: Skye Bui for her mature approach to all tasks, Joshua Purvis for great work in Maths Operations, Rani Diggs for beautiful writing in her Handwriting book, Jennifer Ibe for excellent work with hundreds and Sophie Hassall for carefully placing commas in her writing.

YEAR 4: Charlie Banks for thoughtful responses about Remembrance Day, Olly Schier and Olivia Ferguson for beautiful bookwork in Religion for Remembrance Day, Tyler Evans for improved results in Maths and Ashleigh Carlrow for great progress in Maths.

YEAR 5: Grace Alchin for working hard to produce quality work, Ryan Carter for fabulous work in Maths Operations, Rebecca Gaff for thinking mathematically to solve complex questions and Harry Spor for beautiful bookwork, Sophie Hassall for very creative showing them around our school. “Waddle, Giggle, Gargle!” was our favourite meeting our new Kinders for next year and felt very grown up

YEAR 6: Isaac Frost for great sentences in Spelling activities, Montana McGrath for beautiful bookwork, Spencer McIntosh for a dedicated approach to Operations and John Raguus for excellent thought processes in our star question.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

WEEK 7
Father Martin away on Retreat

Friday, 21 November - Year 5 Student Council Policy Speeches
- Brittany Ward–School Counselor
- Knowledge Explosion

WEEK 8
Year 3 Reconciliation

Monday, 24 November - Student Council Voting
- Year 6 PD Evening – 6:00 p.m.
- P & F Meeting – Tatts Hotel
- 7:30 p.m.
- GHS RAP Interviews

Wednesday, 26 November
- Wednesday, 26 & Thursday, 27 November - AEW Meeting
- Thursday, 27 & Friday, 28 November - Year 4 Wellington Caves
- Thur, 27 November - Year 2 Liturgy – 10:30 a.m.
- Sunday, 30 November - 1st Sunday of Advent
- Church Anniversary Mass – 9:45 a.m.

WEEK 9
Monday, 1 December - Infants Swimming starts
- Wednesday, 3 December - St John’s Orientation Day
- Thursday, 4 December - Year 3 Mass – 10:30 a.m.
- Sunday, 7 December - 2nd Sunday of Advent
- Christmas Carols

WEEK 10
Monday, 8 December - The Immaculate Conception
- Wednesday, 10 December - Year 6 to GHS – Peer Support
- 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Thursday, 11 December - Leaving Families BBQ – 5:30 for 6:00 p.m.
- Social – 7:00 p.m.
- Friday, 12 December - Year 6 Picnic
- Years 3/4 - Windmill Cottage – 10:00 a.m.
- Reports and Portfolios home
- Infants swimming ends

Sunday, 14 December - 3rd Sunday of Advent

WEEK 11
Monday, 15 December - End of Year Mass and Presentations – 6:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, 16 December - Pool Parties
- Wednesday, 17 December - Last Day Term 4
- Sunday, 21 December - 4th Sunday of Advent

AROUND THE CLASSROOMS

KINDER Another busy week has flown by in Kinder. We really enjoyed meeting our new Kinders for next year and felt very grown up showing them around our school. “Waddle, Giggle, Gargo!” was our literacy focus this week and we came up with some very creative magpie scarers and suggestions for protecting ourselves from being swooped! We also brainstormed ideas and wrote a discussion regarding the advantages and disadvantages of owning a pet bear. In Maths we constructed a picture graph, practised matching times to events and investigated equal groups. We completed our paintings of Noah’s Ark and retold the story in Religion. Have a relaxing weekend. Miss Bourke & Mrs Newstead

YEAR 1 This week Year 1 has been learning about the ‘all’ sound in spelling and in grammar we have continued identifying rhyming words. In writing we have written some very convincing expositions about why we may or may not want to meet a troll and in comprehension we have looked at the poem, ‘The Pirate Song’ from Pamela Allen’s “Doodledum Dancing”. In Maths this week we have been sharing objects into equal groups, using number lines to solve problems and comparing time using analog and digital clocks. In HSIE we have learnt all about artefacts and identified different artefacts the family members might pass on or archaeologists may discover. I hope everyone has a lovely break with their families.

YEAR 2 is enjoying listening to our Year 5 friends present their policy speeches this week. We all admire your confidence and think you will be great school leaders. This week we’ve enjoyed playing bingo in Spelling, sharing our favourite song for news and swimming is always a highlight. In Religion we’ve been discussing the history of our church and would love to see many Year 2 students at the special Anniversary of the Church Mass on Sunday 30 November. We have begun preparing for our Liturgy which will be held next Thursday at 10:30 a.m. We look forward to seeing you there. Mrs Schier & Mrs Morris

YEAR 3 has had another busy week! In Spelling we have reviewed the use of apostrophes for possession. We have been doing activities in Grammar focusing on punctuation and prepositions. In Maths we have learnt about associative property, fractions and units of measurement. During our PDH lesson this week we talked about both safe and unsafe places to cross the road. In Comprehension we read and completed an activity where we learnt about the moon and its unique characteristics. We have written some very interesting poems about the seasons. A top effort this week Year 3! Mr Sources

YEAR 4 The count down is on until an excited group of Year 4 students head to Wellington for their much anticipated excursion. In class we’ve been learning lots of information about the formation of the caves, fossils, Burrendong Dam and the phosphate mine. During the week we challenged ourselves with problem solving tasks that involved interpreting picture graphs and data as well as revising 5 digit subtraction and fractions. It was lovely to see so many new faces on Kinder Orientation Day. It’s the last week of Knowledge Explosion and everyone has really enjoyed their activities. Have a great weekend. Miss Harvey

YEAR 5 Absolutely amazing! The Year 5 students have done a tremendous job so far in presenting their policy speeches to the school. A spectacular job by those who have presented so far and we are all eagerly awaiting to hear the final speeches tomorrow. It has been an absolute pleasure to see just how much everyone has grown from their first speeches way back in Term 1. A big thank you to the friends and families who have come along to listen to the speeches - we really appreciate your support. This week we have also had the opportunity to finish off our backyard league program with a special viewing of the State of Origin trophy at our school. It has been a huge week for us and we look forward to even more exciting things happening next week. Have a great weekend. Mr Ready

YEAR 6 has been hard at work this week! In Maths we investigated the Cartesian number plane and revised finding the mean, median, mode and range of a set of numbers. We have been working on publishing our explanations on the computers and putting the finishing touches on our portfolio tasks. Free choice speeches have been presented this week. The topics have been very entertaining and informative and the standard of presentation has been very high. Well done Year 6! Mrs Banks & Mrs Thomas

CANTEEN ROSTER
Friday, 21 November – Alicia Heffer & Danielle Jones
Monday, 24 November – Anna Pearl & Kristy Gale
Wednesday, 26 November – Daniele Bonnington & Sally Temple
Friday, 28 November – Melissa Ryan & Lara Zelil

ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER
Sunday, 23 November – Kyle Welsh Zoe Welsh, Tobey Creanaua, Deklyn Lummis