

## From the Principal

Issue 19 - Term 4 November 24, 2023

Our Year 6 students and their families along with staff members enjoyed a beautiful liturgy on Friday evening in our Mary MacKillop Hall to affirm their achievements and give thanks for the gift they have been to our school community. It was a time for reflection and thanksgiving in which the students participated with reverence. One special moment was when the parents prayed a blessing over their child and their child responded with a blessing for their parents.



At the conclusion of the liturgy, the group moved to the Shamrock Restaurant to share a meal together. The venue had been decorated by the Year 5 students as their gift to the graduating group with the colour scheme and the cake design reflecting each student's favourite colour. This event occurred a little earlier than in most years as one of the students was returning to visit family and friends overseas. The students now have 16 days to continue to learn and enjoy before they complete their primary years of schooling on December 15. During this time they will be participating in Transition to High School days, and we wish them well.

## P&F Christmas Tree community event is only ONE WEEK AWAY!!!

This is an amazing community event and the biggest fundraising event for our school. The P&F committee has been working tirelessly to ensure this is a wonderful success.

Look on the back page of this newsletter to see all the wonderful activities that will be at the Christmas Tree.

Don't forget to organise Santa Tickets as they close this Friday (Santa needs time to get organised.)

**FRIDAY  
DECEMBER  
1st**



**Calling parents and friends of the school  
to set up for the Christmas Tree  
@ 9.00 am on Friday, 1 Dec.**

**The more hands we have the quicker the set  
up will take.**



*This is our school, let peace dwell here*

*Let the love of Jesus be shown in the words we use, the way we act and the way we care for creation.  
St Mary of the Cross MacKillop pray for us. St Joseph, patron of our school pray for us.*

*Let Your Light Shine Before All*



# Principal's Message



Georgia's qualities

respectful  
kind  
hard working  
nice  
caring  
responsible  
sporty  
fair



Geoffrey's qualities

kind  
funny  
cheerful  
creative  
a good actor  
strong  
helpful  
friendly

## Year 5 students' gift to Year 6 students

It is hard to quantify the effect of feedback from one's peers, but it goes without saying that it is indeed powerful. Last week, in readiness for the Year 6 graduation, our Year 5 students surveyed all the students in the school and asked them to respond to the following questions.

**Can you think of a time when a Year 6 person taught you something?**

**Can you think of a time when you saw a Year 6 person doing something that was hard for them but they tried/ gave it a go?**

**Can you think of a time when a Year 6 person helped you on the playground or was kind to you?**

**What is your wish for the Year 6 student's future?**

**Can you give one word to describe each Year 6 student?**



Hunter's qualities

friendly  
sporty  
funny  
cheerful  
kind  
helpful  
caring  
smart

## Our wishes for our graduating students

to be good learners  
to make new friends in high school  
to get good grades  
to be successful in high school  
to have a happy life and to be successful  
to be kind to everyone  
to have a positive time in secondary school  
to be successful and to have a happy life

Thank You

Many hands and hearts worked together to ensure this celebration was such a success. Thank you to Miss Lowe, Mrs Watkin, Mrs Dauth, Mrs Hutchison and Mrs Simpkin for the organising of the Liturgy and dinner afterwards.



Aiden's qualities

kind  
funny  
cheerful  
happy  
sporty  
strong  
helpful  
friendly

**Thanksgiving Liturgy and Presentation Evening - Tuesday, December 5**  
**7.00 pm start. All students and families are expected to attend.**

BE THANKFUL  
BE GRATEFUL  
BE BLESSED

Students are to wear their full summer uniform and be gathered in K/1/2 room and Yr 5/ 6 room by 6.45 pm so that we can begin on time. Gate on Aidan Street will be opened for easy access to the Mary MacKillop Hall.

*Let Your Light Shine Before A*

# Principal's Message

## Annual School Report Surveys

The *Education Act 1990* requires registered non-government schools, such as St Joseph's to participate in annual reporting to publicly disclose the educational and financial performance measures and policies as identified by the Minister of Education. **Principals are required** to certify information in the report is the result of a rigorous self evaluation process and a balanced and genuine account of the school's achievements and areas of development.

To assist in preparing our 2023 Annual School Report, I am asking parents, students and staff to complete surveys to ensure I comply with the Minister's wishes. The parent survey will be sent home in hard copy today and I would appreciate them being returned by the end of next week. It will also be sent out digitally tomorrow, for parents who find this method easier.

## Donation to St Joseph's P&F from Hillston Lions



Last Saturday morning, Hillston Lions donated \$2 500 to our P&F. The donation is gratefully accepted and we thank the Lions not only for this donation but for all the wonderful community service they so generously give to us all.

**THANK YOU!**

## Swimming for Sport Weeks 7 and 8 and Intensive Swim Programme - Weeks 9 and 10

This information was shared on a paper note that was sent home on Tuesday.

Thank you to the families who returned the signed permission note.

### Swimming for Sport



All students in Kindergarten to Year 6 will be participating in swimming as part of their weekly sport session this week and next week.

Students will be driven to the Hillston Pool on each of these Thursdays - Nov 23 and Nov 30 and the sessions will run from 1.00 pm - 2.30 pm.

Students will need to wear their sport uniform and bring their school hat and bring the following to school

- swimmers
- rashie or T shirt for sun protection whilst in the pool
- towel
- sun block and goggles (highly recommended)
- plastic bag to carry wet gear home



### Intensive Swimming Programme -

All students in Kindergarten to Year 6 will be involved in swimming skill development sessions at the Hillston Pool on the following days in Week 9 and Week 10 and the session time is 11.30 am - 1.00 pm

#### Week 9

Wednesday, Dec 6

Thursday, Dec 7

Friday, Dec 8

#### Week 10

Tuesday, Dec 12

Wednesday, Dec 13

Thursday, Dec 14

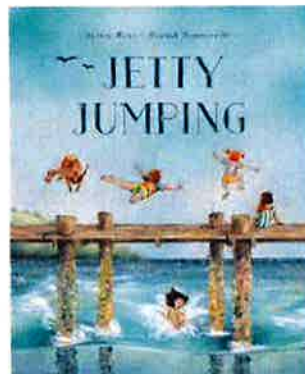
Friday, Dec 15 - POOL PARTY - LAST DAY FOR 2023

*Let Your Light Shine Before All*



# Focus on learning

Year 2/3/4 students enjoy reading!



Year 2/3/4 students have been developing their comprehension skills through making connections between their prior knowledge and new knowledge gained through investigating information required to understand a text. Being aware of this background knowledge assists a reader to engage with the text and visualise what the author is describing.

To show what they have learnt about jetties through their book study on 'Jetty Jumping' by Andrea Rowe, the students have created beautiful pictures using water colour. Pictured are Naude, Riley, Princy and Lachlan in their classroom at work painting and then the boys enjoyed some independent reading time in our much loved book corner.



*Let Your Light Shine Before All*



# Community News

Jump on board with Joey  
and get ready for  
Kindergarten 2024



Join us for a 9.00 am  
start.  
Bring your recess and lunch  
as well as a sun smart hat  
and water bottle.  
Day ends at 3.10 pm

Preschoolers enrolled to begin Kindergarten at St Joseph's in 2024  
are invited to join our

## Little Joeys In Training Program

which will be held on the following Wednesdays

October 18, October 25, November 1

November 15, November 22, November 29

It's not too late to enrol and join the program. For any assistance with the  
enrolment process just ask at the office or call 69672462 or 0437943758

We are looking  
forward to  
welcoming our  
preschoolers  
on **Wednesday**  
**next week,**  
**November 29,**  
for their last  
Little Joeys in  
Training.  
day for 2023.

## ST JOSEPH'S P&F CHRISTMAS TREE 1ST DEC LEGO MASTERS COMPETITION

To enter,  
bring your  
creations  
to our LEGO display  
at the  
Christmas Tree  
or drop into  
the school  
from 27 Nov.

Age categories;  
\*pre-school  
\*K-2  
\*Primary  
(Enter as many  
items as  
you like.)

Great LEGO  
prizes  
to be won!

So, start  
creating!

Claiming the date  
Saturday 16 December

For a school/parish farewell  
to St Joseph's staff ceasing  
their time at the end of 2023

BBQ dinner following 6pm Mass  
In Mary MacKillop Hall from 7pm  
Meat supplied, bring a salad or dessert to share  
BYO drinks  
RSVP to Mandy Hutchison, Fr Chris or school Admin

## Hearts on Fire FEET ON THE MOVE Catholic Mission Month

Through our War On Waste project to collect  
cans and bottles for recycling at local events  
we have tallied up \$120. This money will be  
given to Catholic Missions as our school's  
donation for October's mission month, with  
this year's focus being on their projects  
helping the people of Timor- Leste.

Whether it be to feed the hungry or save our  
planet from degradation and decay from too  
much rubbish piling up, we may feel helpless  
that as individuals we can't change things but  
together we can make a difference, one step  
at a time. All of us doing something is better  
than everyone doing nothing.

*Let Your Light Shine Before All*



# Assembly Term 4 Week 6



**The Principal Award of Excellence**  
was presented to  
Riley and Lachlan

**Congratulations to the students who  
received class awards at our  
Week 6 assembly.**

Gabby, Doug, Lachlan and Diya  
(back row)  
Jandre and Victoria



**Home Reading Award  
for 150 Nights**  
Princy



**Sport Award  
presented to  
Aiden**



**A Principal Award was presented to  
Naude, Riley and Lachlan**



**Well done K/1 for your picture book**



**Congratulations Princy, Lachlan and Jack  
for completing the 2023  
Premiers Reading Challenge  
*Let Your Light Shine Before All***

# Child Protection Information

## Attendance on Student Reports

The Diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes will be reporting on student attendance in Semester Two Reports in the following way:

The Attendance Period and number of Attendance Days which are being reported upon will be displayed. The report shows Whole Days and Partial Days Absent (Explained) and Whole Days and Partial Days Absent (Unexplained).

Please note that a partial absence is counted as anything that is not a full day at school e.g. arriving to school 15 minutes late is counted as a partial absence.

## Students on Visas

For our families from overseas, it is important that the school has details of your current residency status.

Please provide us with your new visa grant notice or Australian citizenship documents, if:

- there has been any change in your visa sub class or the expiry date, or
- if you previously had a visa but have now become an Australian citizen

## New Reporting for the English and Mathematics Syllabus

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are excited to announce changes to the way we report on student progress in K-2 English and Mathematics, in response to the NSW Curriculum Reform. Our new reporting system will provide you with more comprehensive and detailed information about your child's progress, including specific skills and concepts they have mastered and areas where they may need additional support.

We understand that you play a crucial role in your child's learning and development, and we believe that open communication and partnership are essential to achieving this goal. We encourage you to communicate with us regularly, share your questions, and work with us to support your child's learning.

By working together, we can ensure that your child receives the best possible education, in line with the NSW Curriculum Reform. We will also ensure that we communicate regularly with you about your child's progress, and provide you with opportunities to participate in their education. We believe that these changes will provide you with a clearer understanding of your child's strengths and weaknesses, and help us work together to provide the best possible support for their learning.

Thank you for your continued support of your child's education.

## DATES TO CHECK ARE ON YOUR CALENDAR

- **FRIDAY, 1 DECEMBER - The Christmas Tree**
- **TUESDAY, 5 DECEMBER - Thanksgiving Liturgy and Presentation of Awards**
- **FRIDAY, 8 DECEMBER - Semester 2 Reports sent home via COMPASS**
- **WEDNESDAY, 13 DECEMBER - Final Mobile Library for 2023**
- **FRIDAY, 15 DECEMBER - Last Day for School 2023**
- **2024 THURSDAY, 8 FEBRUARY - Day 1 for all students**

*Let Your Light Shine Before All*



**FRIDAY  
DECEMBER  
1st**



ST JOSEPH'S PARISH SCHOOL P&F

# CHRISTMAS TREE

**ST JOSEPH SCHOOL GROUNDS - STARTING AT 5.00 PM**

**Hillston GPAC  
Dance**



**Christmas  
Stalls**

## SPECIAL VISITOR

Santa tickets are \$10



TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED BY 24th NOVEMBER 23  
Available from \*St Joseph's Office, \*Brettschneider's  
Store, \*Petals and Dust

**FREE ENTRY - A COMMUNITY EVENT**

TREAT STALL

**BBQ  
FOOD  
CAFE**

**HORSE & CART  
RIDES**

**MAJOR RAFFLE**

Chocolate Toss  
**HOT POTATOES**  
Central School Band  
South African Food  
**HAM WHEEL**

**GAMES**

Jumping  
Cards  
Water Pistol  
Lunar Tag

**TRAILER  
RIDES**

# AND LOTS MORE...

Check us out on FB - St Joseph's Parent's & Friends Hillston