School Leaders’ Induction Assembly
On Thursday 11th February Gilgandra Public School held their Induction Assembly for students who have a leadership role in the school during 2016. Mr Steve Schier was our guest speaker and he spoke to the students about being a leader and the qualities of a leader using basket baller Michael Jordan as the subject. All the students received their badges and the Assembly was followed by a special morning tea held in the Library.

School Leaders for 2016
Captains- Sarah Schier and Kaleb Sutherland
Prefects- Monique Knight, Brielle Reid, Tyson Pearson and Cooper Fox

House Captains:
Castlereagh: Blair Keogh, Jardi Naden
Bogan: Robert Brown, Araiterangi Karaitiana
Darling: Jack Chandler, Georgia Koch
Macquarie: Ashdyn Smith, Isha Aro.

Student Representative Council (SRC) Class Members
Year 1/2 Foxes: - Jack Hawke; 2/3 Ollieroos: - Sarah Chandler;
3/4 Smarties: - Azariah Iffland, Dominic,
Manusu, Taelan Brown;
4/5/6 Warriors: - Sean Crane, Jake Stubbs, Tyrone Manusu-Sandy;
4/5 Goannas: - Mercedes Thurston, Blair Keogh, Kaydance Wieland;

PBL CLASS AWARDS
Owls: Will Doherty;
Dolphins: Bailey Kaltenbacher;
Kinder Cobras: Ruby Lamb, Jairus Root;
Kinder Meerkats: Jasmine Sandry, Chloe Eason;
1 Monkeys: Tealea Ward, Maddison Bush, Treye Iffland-Lummis;
1/2 Foxes: Maddie Amiet, Connor Sutherland;
2/3 OllieRoos: Josh Louie, Ella Ward, Sarah Chandler, Sarah Keogh;
/4 Smarties: Azariah Iffland, Dominic, Manusu, Taelan Brown;
4/5/6 Warriors: Sean Crane, Jake Stubbs, Tyrone Manusu-Sandy;
4/5 Goannas: Mercedes Thurston, Blair Keogh, Kaydance Wieland;
5/6 Brumbies: Kaidyn Bush, Tallara-Walford-Fernando, Chloe Wieland.

For Your Diary
Feb
Thur 25 District Swimming - Dubbo
Mar
Tue 16 School Photos

School Librarians
Kaydance Wieland, Jessica Smith, Tahlee Duffy, Alicia Byrne Chloe Mackney, Georgia Briggs, Olivia Amiet, and Breanna Dann.

Emergency Procedures
The Department of Education (DoE) require schools to undertake a mock exercise of their Emergency procedures every six months to ensure we are all aware of the requirements for staff, visitors and students. The school will conduct the mock exercise in Week 5. If your child talks about the mock exercise please reassure them that it was a drill and DoE require us to undertake the training. The school will also reinforce this message.

Language/Culture Classes
Gilgandra Public School will commence Wiradjuri Language/Culture classes with students in Year 1 Foxes, 1/2 Monkeys, 2/3 Ollieroos and 3/4 Smarties from Week 4, every Monday from 12pm. Mrs Iris Reid will present the content of the program and be supported by classroom teachers. Leader of the program Diane McNaboe who is based at North Dubbo Primary School attended the first session.
University of NSW Education Assessment
Every year our school is involved with the University of NSW Education Assessment. This is a series of tests in Digital Technologies, Science, Maths, Spelling, Writing and English. Your child is invited to be part of this testing process again in 2016. The cost and dates of this testing are as follows:

**Digital Technologies - Yrs. 3-6**
- Tuesday, 17th May  
  Cost: $8.80

**Science - Yrs. 3-6**
- Tuesday, 31st May  
  Cost: $8.80

**Writing - Yrs. 3-6**
- 13th-17th June  
  Cost: $18.70

**Spelling - Yrs. 3-6**
- Wednesday, 15th June  
  Cost: $12.10

**English - Yrs. 3-6**
- Tuesday, 2nd August  
  Cost: $8.80

**Mathematics - Yrs. 3-6**
- Tuesday, 16th August  
  Cost: $8.80

You may nominate your child for one or any combination of the above tests. If you are still interested in entering your child Please contact the office for an entry form and send back to the school office by Friday 26th February along with the entrance fee. As a result of changes to the pricing and minimum numbers allowed to sit for these tests the school may not be able to run all the above competitions if insufficient numbers apply. A refund will be given if this occurs.

School Banking
School Banking can equip your child with lifelong saving skills. The School Banking program is committed to improving the financial literacy of Australian students and this will include fun financial activities and key articles into the newsletter to help students learn important money skills. The school also benefits financially from School Banking with a donation from CommBank which is used to purchase resources. If you are interested in School Banking talk to Mrs Harvey in the front office.

**Newsletters will be sent home on a fortnightly basis to the youngest child in each family from 29th February to the end of term.**

Annual Swimming Carnival
Friday’s carnival was a huge success with students in Years 3 – 6 competing in swimming and novelty events. A huge thank you to the parents who helped time keep and judge throughout the day, your support is greatly appreciated. Overall our winning house was Bogan with 282 points. Congratulations to our age champions who were:

**Juniors** - Indiana Knight, Landon Ashby
**11Years** - Araiterangi Karatiana, Kaleb Sutherland
**Seniors** - Sarah Schier, Robert Brown.

A team of students will be selected from Friday’s carnival to participate at the Dubbo District Twilight Carnival on Thursday 25th February. These students will be notified in the near future.

K-2 Water Stories and Sports Day
While the older students were having their swimming carnival, K-2 students remained at school and participated in their “Water Stories and Sport Day”. Students were placed into five water animal groups - red crabs, purple starfish, blue whales, green turtles and yellow fish. They then excitedly listened to four different water-themed stories each followed by a fun interactive activity. In their fifth activity each group had their sport time keeping active in a game of “Sharks and Fishes” with Mr Altmann. It was great to have parents and younger siblings join us for this fun event that concluded with everyone enjoying a frozen water ice block.

**Identifying & Treating Head Lice**
There is an outbreak at the school at the moment. Your child may experience a tickling sensation on their scalp as the lice move about or you may notice them scratching their head, particularly around the ears or neck. You may notice small, white oval-shaped eggs attached to the hair shaft close to the scalp. If detected try wet-combing by wetting the hair and liberally applying conditioner. Then section the hair and comb through with a head lice comb and apply a treatment according to the instructions.

There are a number of treatments available from the chemist which should be repeated 7-10 days later. If your child has long hair please keep it tied back or plaited.

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**SCRATCHY KIDZ - NO MORE**

Forget about the stigma attached to Head Lice and let’s just treat the condition. We have developed a head Lice treatment that is easy for you. WE DO THE TREATMENT and it works

**Professional Salon Treatment** - Short Hair $35; Long Hair $45; Take Home Kits $20

beauty on wingewarra - 96 Wingewarra Street, Dubbo     Ph. 6885 5060
PBL

PBL is a proactive approach to establish the behavioural supports needed for all students to achieve social, emotional and academic success.

Gilgandra Public School’s PBL program is based on a school-wide set of expectations which apply across the school in every circumstance and setting in which students are learning.

We are Safe

We are Respectful

We are Learners

Expected behaviours are taught, practised and acknowledged with Lion Tokens and class Lion Heads.

Attached are some ways that parents or carers can help support PBL at school.

This program focuses on explicit teaching and supporting positive behaviour for all students. It is a program which supports students’ own personal development as well as helping them to understand what is required of them in order to create together a peaceful, productive and harmonious learning community.

Filial Therapy at Gilgandra Public School

Filial Therapy was developed in the 1960s by Bernard and Louise Gurney; it helps children learn about themselves and their world. Filial Therapy is based on the fact that children communicate primarily through play. Toys are the words children use to express their feelings. When children feel sad, worried or troubled about an event or incident they may not be able to talk about their feelings like adults do – instead children communicate through their play. Play provides children with experiences that develop character by promoting mindfulness, curiosity, resilience, and leadership to name a few. During 2015 some staff members at our school were trained in this therapy and will be commencing the delivery with identified students this term. The sessions will take place in Gilgandra Public School’s “play room”. Sessions usually go for approximately 30 minutes once a week for up to 10 weeks.
Welcome back to 2016.

Term one has started off with all classes learning about Living Things.

In Kindergarten we have been learning about the terms; living, once living and non-living. We will start investigating the plants, animals and people around us and what they require to be alive.

Stage one have been investigating living things such as insects from the playground! Students are exploring with magnifying glasses, helping them to understand what living things require and be classified as either a living, non-living or once living specimen. Throughout the term we will be looking at human, plant and animal requirements.

Stage 2 have created their own little gardens where we are watching how living plants are attracted to the sunlight, and the impacts of no sunlight. Later in the term we will become palaeontologist and look at how indigenous people used their knowledge of plants and animals for survival.

Stage 3 are growing their own algae, and looking at important components such as the cells of all living organisms. To build on this understanding we will look at plants and human adaptations in the environment, and structures and survival of animals and humans.
On Wednesday our school choir meets with Mrs Purvis, Mr Knight and Mrs Spora. Our first song we are perfecting is ‘Our School Song’. We look forward to presenting many items throughout 2016.

Outside we have a group of students who are working hard to dig up and create a school vegetable garden. Vegetable beds will soon be ready to plant with many different types of vegetable and possibly even some fruits.

**Debating** is also running again this year. We had our first debate challenge this week with the topic: ‘Why we should be able to eat chocolate for Crunch’N’Sip’. Students are already displaying the skills of great debaters.

Any primary student who would like to join the debating team or the choir is very welcome.

Looking forward to 2016 at Gilgandra Public School.

Amy Spora

Classroom/ RFF- Science teacher
2/3 OllieRoos

OllieRoos are Safe, Respectful Learners.

OllieRoos did some beautiful Art work.

OllieRoos enjoyed their Zumba and yoga for Sport.

OllieRoos have such a bright future they have to wear shades.
Learning from We love books.

Run Run Run

K-2 Water Stories and Sports

Friday 12th February, 2016

We love books.