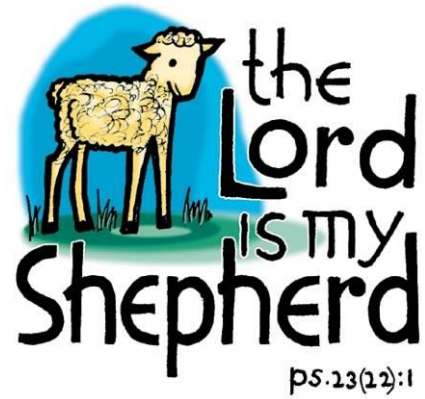


GOOD SHEPHERD SCHOOL



* Hello * Kia Ora * Malo e Lelei * Namaste * Cead Mile Failte * Talofa Lava *
* Kia Orana * Zdravo * Dzień Dobry * Apa Kabar * Guten Tag * An Nyung Ha Se Yo *
* Privet * Kwaziwai * Mabuhay Kayo * Kon Nichi Wa * Hola * Ola * Salaam * Fakalofa Atu

Newsletter No 18, 1 November 2018

From the principal....

We very much appreciate the involvement of parents and family members in school life. This week I would like to especially acknowledge our PTA, that group of parents who put so much energy into providing a great learning environment for all our children. If your child plays in the sandpit or on the all-weather turf, reads in the library, uses a computer, sits on comfortable furniture or interacts with the whiteboard in the classroom, they are enjoying some of the wonderful resources provided by the PTA. These may be some of the 'big ticket' items but this group does so much more! The Caring Committee, morning teas for parents, gifts for our school leavers, financial support for Year 6 camp and uniforms for some families, can all be attributed to the PTA. On behalf of the children, staff and the families of Good Shepherd I would like to thank Andrew, Mairead, Kelly, Kirsty-Anne, those who work with them and all those who have been part of the PTA in the past, for your support of the school. If you are a parent of Good Shepherd School, I strongly urge you to get involved with our PTA.

This week we celebrate the important feasts of **All Saints** and **All Souls**, when we honour all the saints, known and unknown, and remember those friends and loved ones who have died. At this time of year we see the Communion of Saints in action! On 1 November when we celebrate the Solemnity of All Saints the Church honours all of God's saints, even those who have not been canonized. It is a day when families celebrate the memory of those who have gone before them and who are now sharing eternal happiness in the presence of God. This is a good time to talk or read to your children about the saints they are named for. On All Souls Day on Friday 2 November we join with the saints in heaven to pray for all departed souls in Purgatory. It is a more solemn day for families when we can remember the dead spiritually and also remind our children about their ancestors.

Te Atua ki a koe
God bless
Jane Hahn

Planned Teachers' Strike Action - Monday 12th November 2018

As many of you will be aware, the NZEI have announced that primary school teachers and principals have voted for a further full day strike action in Auckland on **Monday 12th November 2018**.

After carefully considering the availability of teaching staff, the board has decided that Good Shepherd School will be closed for all students that day should the strike go ahead. We appreciate that this will cause inconvenience and disruption to many families but as student safety is our main concern, it's important that you make alternative arrangements for the care of your child/children on the day of the strike.

The board also wish to signal our support of the teachers in their decision to strike, as we appreciate the many challenges and difficulties that the profession are facing and have been managing for some time. We wish them a successful outcome.

On behalf of
Katherine McGillivray
Chairperson
Board of Trustees

Good Shepherd Awards

We congratulate **Xavier Raumati-Greenhalgh** from Room 6 for winning the Good Shepherd Award. Thank you Xavier for being such a great role model for our values of care, respect and honesty.



Keeping Ourselves Safe

This morning there was an incident in the Balmoral area in which a girl from another school was approached in public by a male. The girl was able to deal with the situation safely and the police are now looking into the incident. The police do not have any undue concerns about your children's safety but have sent us the attached message, **Advice around personal safety in public**, to remind us about some common sense actions when walking to and from school. It also reinforces the message which the children learn through the **Keeping Ourselves Safe** programme, to focus on the behaviour, not the person, when confronted with behaviour that they don't like or that frightens them. Please read the attached document from the New Zealand Police.

Whole School Athletics Day

On Wednesday 14th November the school will be travelling to Three Kinds Reserve for our annual Good Shepherd School Athletics Day. All students are to be at school at the normal time and will be transported to and from the event by bus. Events begin at 9.45am and will be finished by 2.15pm.

As per the school's Health & Safety Guidelines, no student may be taken home from Three Kings Reserve. All students must return to school on the buses.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible coming along and supporting the children.

Rooms 7 and 8 Assembly this week

Assembly will commence at 2.15pm tomorrow and you are warmly invited to attend.

Albert/Eden Cultural Festival

The Good Shepherd Irish dancing group and Senior Kapa Haka will be performing at the annual Albert/Eden Cultural Festival at Rocket Park on Saturday 17th November.

This festival is a wonderful event that hosts a number of schools in our community and gives the children an opportunity to showcase their amazing talent.

**Performance Times: Irish Dancing - 11.15am
Senior Kapa Haka - 1.05pm**

Student Achievement at Good Shepherd School

It was a pleasure to attend the PTA meeting last week and talk to this group about school happenings and developments, including the *Student Achievement Report to Parents and Whānau: STAR Reading and e-asTTle Reading August 2018*, a copy of which is coming to you via separate email.

Picking up children from OSCA

Our after school care programme is an important service to our school community and our children's health and safety is a top priority while at OSCA. It is very important that we are notified if there is a change in the nominated person picking your child up. This means that children will not be released to anyone other than the person nominated on our records unless contact has been made by parents/caregivers to advise a change.

All bookings and changes to bookings need to be made via the school office, either in person, by phone 620 4962 or email to admin@goodshepherd.school.nz

We need you!

Are you an expert in tiling or know of a tiler that doesn't mind giving up some of their precious time to work with the art team. We are in the final stages of our project and require the support of a tiler (even a home expert). If you are available to support this project could you please email or contact **Melissa Down** mdown@goodshepherd.school.nz

PTA Parents' Morning Tea Friday 9 November at 9am

Come and join other Good Shepherd parents/caregivers for a cup of tea/coffee and some home baking - a great way to get to know others in our community. Pre-schoolers are welcome.

Bereavements

Three of our staff members have lost much loved grandparents recently. Please remember them in your prayers.

Netsafe Tips for Parents

Social media

How old should kids be before they get social media accounts?

- The minimum sign up age for Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, Twitter and YouTube is 13. Of course, if they're under the age minimum it's always better that they're honest with you about using an app or site, rather than doing it behind your back. This way, you can help them to stay safe online.

Tips for setting up social media accounts

1. Make sure you've taught them the online safety basics above
2. Help your child to set up the account
3. Depending on their age, use your email address to sign up
4. Enter their actual birth year so they're less likely to see inappropriate content
5. Become their friend, or follow them
6. Teach them about the safety tools available

When it's appropriate you should talk to your kids about the risks of sharing personal information and sexual images and what can happen to those photos or videos once created and shared.

Give them the tools they need

Most social media organisations have a safety centre with tools for staying safe online. Take a look at the safety centres of the apps or websites your child uses, and teach them how to use the tools available.

Enrolments at Good Shepherd School

Thank you to all those families who have filled out enrolment forms for siblings of current students. This is also a gentle reminder to do so, if you haven't already done this. We also appreciate the support of our school families in recommending Good Shepherd School to their friends and whānau.

It's Sanitarium Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon time again!!

Manukau event: Wednesday 5th December 2018 at Mountfort Park in Manurewa.

Central West event: Sunday 9th December 2018 at Keith Hay Park in Mt Roskill.

These events are open to all children who are 7 years old or older on the day of the event. If you are interested in entering your children and participating in this fun event, please contact the school co-ordinator, **Eddie Sella** at eddie.sella@xtra.co.nz or on **021 634 300**

WSB End of year party - Save the Date!

What: Walking School Bus End of Year Pool Party.

Who: All our dedicated Walking School Bus Children.

Where: School Pool.

When: Friday 7 December, straight after school until 4.30pm. **Any queries to:** rrrclement@xtra.co.nz

Please note, this event will not affect those families who hire pool keys for the summer as the pool will still be available to them for the usual hours from 4.30pm until 7.00pm.

Congratulations to the following children who celebrate their birthday in November 2018:



Miranda Flexman	Emma Forbes
Ryansun Kanthi	Maxine Barry
Ayrestyn-Skye Leger	Emelia Fergus
Gina Smoldon	Liam Bowles
Liam Turner-Padgett	Eli Turner-Padgett
Sophie Sella	Eden Gullery
William Woods	Hannah Saunders
Seihara Andrews	Olivia D'Rose
Sharelle Lemalu	Leo Gribble
Matthew Blanch	Willow Irving



Congratulations to a past student **Garath Hale**, brother of Luka Hale, who won a bronze medal for Patterns at the International Taekwondo world championship held in Sydney, Australia this year. Third best in the world out of 65 competitors in his division (Black stripe 12-14 years).

Attendance Dues

School account statements were emailed out last week. Attendance Dues are required to be paid by 1st December 2018.

Please contact the school office if you have any questions regarding your account.

Gardening Club

The gardening club have been working hard to maintain our beautiful front garden. We have so many lovely flowers that are in bloom. If you would like to help us maintain our gardens, please email

Miss O'Neill: joneill@goodshepherd.school.nz.



Dates for End of Year Events

Please note the following important dates in your diary:

2 November	Year 5 Retreat Assembly Rooms 7 & 8
9 November	Parents' Morning Tea
12 November	Planned Teachers' Strike Day
13 November	Kids for Kids Concert
14 November	Whole school athletics
16 November	Assembly Room 6
17 November	Albert/Eden Cultural Festival Ukulele Festival
22 November	Eden/Albert Athletic Zones
30 November	Sports Assembly
5 December	Weetbix Tryathlon End of Year Mass
10 December	Reports go home
13 December	Christmas Concert
14 December	End of Term 4

From the PTA

PTA PIE DAY - Friday 9th November

We will be having another PTA **PIE LUNCH FUNDRAISER** for the children on Friday, 9th November. This will replace our usual sushi lunch fundraiser for that day.

What you need to know:

- The pies are supplied by Jesters and are \$5 each
- They can be ordered online only via Kindo <https://shop.tgcl.co.nz/shop/>
- Cut off for orders is **11am Thursday 8th November**
- The pies will be delivered to each child's class on Friday
- The pies will be made freshly on Friday morning by Jesters.

The online system (Kindo) is the same one we use for online sushi ordering - it's really easy and hopefully many of you are familiar with it. If you haven't already, please register and then place your order.

<https://shop.tgcl.co.nz/shop/>

The following pie choices will be available:

- Mince
- Mince & Cheese
- Bacon Egg & Cheese
- Steak
- Steak & Cheese
- Smoked Salmon
- Butter Chicken
- Spinach, Mushroom & Feta
- Apple & Custard
- Gluten-free mince, steak or butter chicken
- Small sausage roll (\$2.50)

If you have any problems ordering your pies you can contact:

Kindo Help Desk (Mon-Fri 8am-4pm) 09 869 5200

or your **PTA representative Emma Chan**
emma@virtualtag.co **027 7745 941**

SHAKEOUT

During weeks 2 and 3, Room 3 and 4 have been learning about earthquakes. We researched facts about earthquakes and earthquake safety, including the importance of having a plan in place before an emergency arises. We planned and created posters giving information about earthquakes. Along with the rest of the school we participated in the NZ wide 'Shakeout' earthquake drill. We hope we never have to experience a serious earthquake but if it happens, we know what to do...



Finished posters by Monet, Elizabeth, Maddie, Genevieve, Heather and Ben.



Advice around personal safety in public – from the New Zealand Police

We have recently seen some incidents where suspicious individuals have been reported approaching school students in public. Some of these reports have been found to not be suspicious, but others remain concerning.

With this in mind, it is timely to provide some advice to students who are walking to or from school, or in public areas at other times. With all of this considered though, we still live in one of the safest countries in the world, and we still want our young people to be able to walk freely to and from school without undue concern.

Advice for young people when walking in public places:

- 1) Walk in areas where other people are also present - avoid taking shortcuts through secluded areas.
- 2) If at all possible, walk with a buddy or in a group.
- 3) Avoid distractions such as listening to music or texting when walking - instead pay attention to your surroundings.
- 4) If you think you are being followed, walk quickly straight ahead. Consider crossing the road to see if the person also follows. If this happens, run to a shop or up to an adult and ask for help.
- 5) If you are approached by someone offering you treats, or asking you to come with them, ignore them and quickly move away.
- 6) If someone grabs you, yell out "Go away!!" at the top of your voice so as to attract attention to the situation. Push the person away with all of your strength.
- 7) If someone starts talking to you and asking you questions that make you feel uncomfortable, ignore them and quickly move away.
- 8) Always remember to tell an adult you trust as soon as possible so that the Police can be notified - if you are able to yourself, call Police on 111. Remember that Police will need a description of the person, so as soon as possible write this down - if you can remember it, a vehicle number plate is very helpful - write this down as soon as possible. Don't worry if you can't get it all right, any part of it is very helpful for the Police.

Finally, we want our young people to remember that personal safety rules apply to all situations, be they with people they know or people they don't know. Don't teach them to fear strangers, as in all likelihood if they are in immediate danger it is a stranger who will be their closest support - one sad fact in New Zealand is that a child is more likely to be harmed by someone they know, rather than a stranger. Therefore, let's focus on behaviour - if it is behaviour they don't like, or behaviour that frightens them, then teach them to get help as soon as possible.