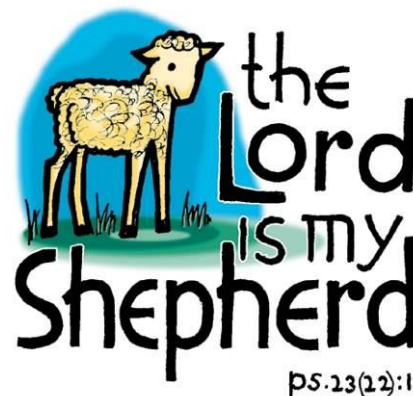


GOOD SHEPHERD SCHOOL

* 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 21, 13 December 2018



Good Shepherd Awards

From the principal....

A short note from me today, just to thank you all for another great year at Good Shepherd School. The end-of-year Mass last week was a very fitting way to celebrate 2018, to look forward to next year and to farewell our graduates moving on to intermediate school. These are the important events create memories and build community and I look forward to continuing to do this with you all in 2019.

Ngā mihi o te Kirihimete ki a koe.

Jane Hahn



Come, Lord Jesus. Come and visit your people. We await your coming. Come, O Lord.

Christmas Mass Times Good Shepherd Parish

5pm Christmas Eve: Children's Vigil Mass

Midnight Mass (carol service from 11.30pm)

9.30am Mass Christmas Day

Filipino Community: Tagalog Mass 11.30am

Weetbix Tryathlon

Congratulations to all those children who participated in the Weetbix Tryathlon. Eighteen athletes from Good Shepherd took part in the swim, bike, run event on a beautiful day. Thank you to Eddie Sella for co-ordinating this wonderful event for our children.

**SCHOOL WILL FINISH TOMORROW,
FRIDAY 14TH DECEMBER AT 2.00PM.
OSCA will run until 6.00pm as per usual.**

Good Shepherd Awards

This week we congratulate **Hao Nguyen** from Room 3 and **Anna Butcher** from Room 5 for winning the Good Shepherd Awards. Thank you Hao and Anna for being such great role models for our values of care, respect and honesty.



Parent Donation 2019

The Family Donation levy of \$180 and \$20 per child as photocopying donation have not changed for over six years. In 2019 we will be asking for a donation of \$250 per family per year. We appreciate our families paying this donation so that we can continue to provide the best resources for our students.

2019 Classes

As you can imagine, placement of children in classes is a complex process that brings together a number of considerations before any decision is made. These include ensuring siblings and where possible cousins are in different classes, working for a balance of girls and boys, looking at friendship groups and deciding which particular teacher may suit your child at any given year level. Where possible, we give children the opportunity to experience being at the younger end of the age range as well as the older end of the age range through their time at Good Shepherd. Throughout this process you can be assured that we have the best interests of every child in our school at the forefront of our minds and we are determined that every child will have the best year possible, whatever their year level. We appreciate your trust in us and we are very confident that through working closely together throughout the year we will achieve this goal. On the last day of school your children will have the opportunity to visit their classrooms for 2019 and to spend some time with their teacher next year.

Organization of classrooms for the beginning of 2019 will be as follows:

Room Number	Teacher	Year Groups
1	Sandra Cultrera	Years 0/1
3 & 4	Heather McLeod & Peyton Evans	Years 1/2
7	Kezia Vergis	Years 3/4
8	Jade O'Neill	Years 3/4
9	Fengmei Li	Years 4/5
5	Louise Drummond	Years 5/6
6	Melissa Down	Years 5/6

Please note that some children will stay in the same class with the same teacher. This is not a disadvantage for your child as they will be working with someone who knows them well, nor is it an indication that they have not done well in 2018. As always, our goal is that every child has a great year of learning in 2019. A letter will come home to you on Friday 14 December advising you of your child's placement next year, and will also give you some information on stationery requirements for 2019.

Term Dates 2019

Term 1:	29 January to 12 April
Term 2:	29 April to 5 July
Term 3:	22 July to 27 September
Term 4:	14 October to 13 December

Summer Reading-Dare to Explore



Stuck for ideas these holidays? Auckland Libraries has your summer sorted with a great range of fun and free activities, events and services on offer.

Keep kids busy and entertained with the Kia Māia te Whai Dare to Explore reading adventure. This free, summer reading programme is an easy and fun way for your 5-12-year olds to beat boredom and is designed to foster kids' love of learning and can help maintain reading levels over the holidays. With over 60 challenges to complete, there's plenty for kids of every interest, plus they can share the fun and invite friends to sign up as well. Activities can be completed wherever, whenever – at the library, online, on holiday, at home, in English or Te Reo Māori.

Gardening club



The GSS Gardening Club has worked so hard this year. With the help of Sharyn, we replanted the front gardens by the office, and aren't they looking beautiful! Last week the gardeners were able to harvest some of the produce grown in the vegetable gardens behind Rooms 1 and 2. The strawberries were so yummy! We were also lucky enough to be able to use the castings and worm juice from the hungry bins to fertilise our gardens. Our gardens are looking and tasting so healthy!

Netsafe Tips for Parents:

With the summer holidays upon us it is important we.....

Set expectations

Talk to your child about the type of behaviours you'd like them to adopt.

- how long they should spend online ([tips on timing](#))
- what apps and social media sites you'd like them to use
- what is appropriate content to view.

This will be different depending on the age of your child, and what you feel comfortable with.

Technological options like [parental controls](#) can help, but it needs to be teamed with online safety education.

Understand what they do online

Talk to your child about what they're using the internet for.

- What's involved?
- Who's in their network?
- What information do they share?
- Are they using the internet - to learn?
 - to communicate and create friendships with others?
 - to create music or videos?

Really listen to what they have to say – what might seem like 'just a game' to you, could in fact be a way for them to connect with people who have similar interests.

Showing an interest in the things they do helps to build your understanding of what their online world looks like and creates an environment that makes it easier to have more difficult conversations about in the future.

After School Art and Craft Lessons Term One

Let your child discover and explore their artistic passion. Teaching the foundations of colour, shading, composition and problem solving. Build up creative thinking, knowledge and skills through the use of various mediums such as water colour, pencils, charcoal and clay.

Option of 6 or 8 classes for the term.

Contact Olesya for more information, and to advise preference for day of the week for classes. olesianz@yahoo.co.nz.

Good Shepherd School Gym Club

Wednesdays 7.30 – 8.30am

Gymnastics is a great way for your child to improve coordination, strength, balance and develop self confidence.

Tri Star Gymnastics is bringing their awesome, high energy gymnastics programme to Good Shepherd School in Term 1, 2019.

To register your interest, please contact Ashleigh:

ashleigh.henry@tristar.org.nz

09 625 4354



Jump into it!

From the PTA

Thank you!

It's hard to believe that the end of the year is here! It has been a great first year for the new executive with a lot of support from the school community helping to organise some great events throughout the year, along with the weekly efforts to bring sushi, pies and cakes for the kids. We'd like to say a massive thank you to everyone!

To all the parents that have children finishing for the last time at GSS on Friday – best of luck for the coming years, and thank you for all your support over your time here. You are always welcome back!

Christmas Concert

I am really looking forward to the Christmas Concert – it is a great finish to the year, and a time for parents and friends to get together. The PTA will be

cooking some sausages for the children and their siblings to help keep them fed for the evening.

The Fair

Planning for the fair is already underway. Justine and Ronan will be leading the charge, anyone wanting to get involved please get in touch!

Next Year

The first PTA meeting for the year will be the 12th of February, with the AGM on the 5th of March.

Have a great summer, and see you all next year!

As always, feel free to get in contact any time,

digitalbugsy@gmail.com

Or join us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/GSSPTA/>

Thanks!

Kirsty-Anne, Kelly, Mairead and Bugsy

Christmas Eve Vigil Mass

24 December at 5pm



All children are welcome to join in the nativity presentation. If you would like to be involved and are able to attend the rehearsal in the holidays, please contact Nicola Maddox on email at hunternic@gmail.com.

All children are encouraged to attend in costume as we will need lots of shepherds, sheep, kings and angels!

We could use a few parent helpers to guide the children on the day too.



GOOD SHEPHERD SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES

'Together we Learn and Care'

30 Telford Avenue, Balmoral, Auckland 1041

(09) 620 4962



13 December 2018

The final Board of Trustees newsletter for 2018 reiterates the message delivered by the Board Chairperson Katherine McGillivray at the Good Shepherd School End of Year Celebration Mass last week.

Kia Ora and a very good evening to you all

This evening marks the end of a chapter for my family as my husband and I see our youngest child, Kara in Year 6 complete her final year at the school. So a few mixed emotions really, Kara was just three months old when I began as a Proprietor's Trustee on the board – over ten years ago now. Our eldest child had settled well into her second year with her younger brother having just started school – so we were on our way. The years have raced by – but I remember feeling very new all those years ago and not really knowing too many families, particularly those with older children. These families had reached the end of their time at the school and they were already busy and involved with children at high school. However, Good Shepherd had and continues to have a wonderful community and it wasn't long before that feeling of being a 'newby' began to change and you quickly felt like a part of the furniture.

I am very conscious that that is me now – regretfully I have not kept up with all the new families that have arrived in the past couple of years. With four children at three different schools, the busyness of family and working life – time here at the school is considerably less than it used to be. So my apologies to those of you who are seeing me for the first time tonight!

Next year my time on the board comes to a close and with a number of board members stepping down at next year's election, the school will be looking for new trustees. We have been very fortunate to have had a stable, hard-working and harmonious board working together with our Principal, Mrs Hahn. This has been affirmed in a number of ways, not least of all by recent external reviews and the successful advancement of our annual and strategic plans. It has been good work and it has been very rewarding. I would like to strongly encourage anyone who might be interested

in being a part of a team that oversees the governance of the school to consider putting their names forward at the election. The NZ School Trustees Association has an excellent website with plenty of information about what it means to be a trustee – so I urge you to go and have a look:

<http://www.trustee-election.co.nz/>.

Of course we will keep the community up to date with information leading up to the election.

The school is in very good heart. We are extremely fortunate that we have a school that provides our children with an excellent education by dedicated and hard-working staff who are witnesses of the faith and who assist in the formation of faith in the students.

In return as parents and parishioners we are asked to support the school and they do – we do! We have a school community who are hugely supportive as I've said many times in so many ways from being witnesses of our faith to our young people and being active in 'safeguarding and strengthening our catholic special character' – as it is this character that sets us apart from other schools. Good Shepherd School is a school in which we can be very proud in this regard. We are also very appreciative of those who support our school by paying the school fees and this includes the 'donation' component. This is vital to ensuring we can fund all necessary aspects of our curriculum and we are fortunate to have a hugely rich curriculum in the school that our teachers deliver with expertise and dedication.

So please do find a way to become involved in our school – it is a special time while our children are young, it goes by incredibly quickly, so make the most of it.

Once again, my heartfelt thanks to the team who make up the board of trustees, Monsignor Bernard Kiely, Leonie Lewthwaite, Aaron Delacey, Marieke Zieleman, Nikki Flexman, Graeme Twose, Steve Rewcastle, Heather McLeod, Jane Hahn and to Kathryn Twort our secretary. I have greatly appreciated their support of me as Chair over the past five years – they have been an incredible team to work with.

On behalf of this team, I would like to wish you all a very Happy and blessed Christmas and a restful break before our return in 2019.

We also pray for God's blessings upon our Year 6 students as they begin their new schools next year. We trust they will take with them many happy memories of their time at Good Shepherd School.

Ma te Atua tātou e manaaki

Best wishes

Katherine McGillivray