

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 6, 11 April 2019



From the principal....

Kia ora te whānau

The cooler weather and lovely autumn days signal the end of another full and learning-filled term! Swimming season has come to an end, the St Peter's College Junior Music Programme is well underway, Mandarin teaching has resumed across the school, and our children are enjoying learning across all curriculum areas. The nature of learning has changed so much, even since most of you were at school, and today there is much more emphasis on the 'soft skills' described in the key competencies - **Thinking, Using language, symbols and texts, Managing self, Relating to others, Participating and contributing** - that drive our New Zealand Curriculum. As we know, learning is not confined to school and there will be many opportunities for you, as your children's first teachers, to encourage and affirm these competencies as you spend time with them over the holidays. Similarly, it's great if you can 'grab the moment' to reinforce the work we have been doing on 'growth mindset' with your children this term.

This week we had the very special celebration of First Reconciliation for a number of our children. Their families and many others in the Good Shepherd community also took the opportunity to reflect on the times when we 'miss the mark', Father Bernard's term for 'sin', and to pray the beautiful prayer below as part of the sacrament.

I wish you all a blessed Easter season and a relaxing break with your children.

Te Atua ki a koe
God bless
Jane Hahn

Prayer after Confession

As I gather with other people I know you are with us.
Thank you for your love.
Help me feel at home here at Good Shepherd.
I love being part of your family.
Thank you for sending Jesus to tell us about your love.
Thank you for teaching us about forgiveness. Thank you for forgiving me.
Thank you for making me a part of your family.
For I am precious in your sight.
I especially pray for my parents and family that you will bless us this night.
Help me to love you and each other better.
Amen

School will finish tomorrow at 3:00pm. Term 2 starts on Monday 29th April, 8:50am

Good Shepherd Awards

This week we congratulate **Nathaniel Kaufman** from Room 8 and **Caleb Soon** from Room 6 for winning the Good Shepherd Awards. Thank you Nathaniel and Caleb for being such great role models for our values of care, respect and honesty.



Sacramental Meeting: Confirmation

On Wednesday 15th May at 6.30pm there will be Sacramental meeting for parents with children in the Sacramental Programme at Good Shepherd School.

Parish Working Bee Saturday 13 April 2019

Between 9.30am and 2.00pm

The parish is proposing a community wide event for general cleaning of buildings, and vegetation tidying to the church properties. We need ladders, buckets, cleaning cloths, cleaning materials, brushes, and mops to clean walls, ceilings, floors and furniture in the church and hall. For vegetation we need saws, line trimmers, lopping shears, and rakes. Any questions phone Tony Lovett 021 661 395.

Reconciliation Candidates

We congratulate the Sacramental Programme candidates for making their First Reconciliation on Tuesday night at Good Shepherd. Thank you to all the families who supported their children as they begin their journey in faith this year.



Observing Lent During This Week



Lost Property

Please check the lost property table at the entrance of the admin building. All unclaimed items will be disposed of at the end of term.

ANZAC DAY

Thursday 25th April

Anzac Day falls in the middle of the school holidays this year. Good Shepherd School will be participating in the Mt Eden Anzac Day Service at the Mt Eden War Memorial Hall in Balmoral. The parade will assemble at 10.40am at the corner of Dexter Ave and Dominion Road, Mt. Eden and the service will commence in the RSA Memorial Hall at 11am. Representatives from our school will be called to place a wreath out at the Shrine as part of the service.

Thank you!

I would like to say a huge thank you to all parents and family who have supported our school teams this term at zone events. I really appreciate your help and support. Also thank you to the parents who helped out at our Connolly Swimming Carnival. These events couldn't happen without you.

Heather McLeod

Board of Trustees Elections

Next week Returning Officer, Mrs Surekha Hira, will post out nomination forms to all parents on the School Roll. Please think carefully about this aspect of school life and put your name forward if you feel this role is for you.

Opera in Schools



Last week we were lucky enough to have the team from NZ Opera to come and perform the 'Barber Of Seville' as part of the Opera in Schools program. We all loved listening to the wonderful singing and watching the breathtaking performance. This was a great experience especially for people who hadn't seen an opera before. Do you recognise any of the performers?

Jemima



Pest Quest

You can sign up to the Albert-Eden Pest Quest and be in to win \$4500 worth of prizes! After a week of celebrating gardens and growing at Good Shepherd School, this is a great opportunity for you to spend time as a family on a fun activity that will also help our environment and keep New Zealand free of environmental pests. Sign up at www.ecomatters.org.nz/pestquest

Kia ora Parents and Caregivers

The board has submitted the following submission to the Ministry of Education's Taskforce Review.

Nga mihi

Katherine McGillivray

Chairperson

GOOD SHEPHERD SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES



26 March 2019

'Together we Learn and Care'

30 Telford Avenue, Balmoral, Auckland 1041
(09) 620 4962



Mr Bali Haque

Chairman

Tomorrow's Schools' Independent Taskforce

Submission on the Review of Tomorrow's Schools

Good Shepherd School situated in Balmoral, Auckland is a Catholic state-integrated school that was established by the Sisters of St Joseph in 1912. We are a culturally diverse decile 7 school with a roll of nearly 200, providing an education for boys and girls from Years 1 – 6.

Our board has taken a keen interest in the report and as such has read widely the information available as well as having attended a number of presentations. As a result, the board would like to put forward a summary of these views as follows.

While members of our board have some different views on a few points, the overwhelming view is one of opposition to the establishment of 'hubs' and the compulsory nature that is proposed. Good Shepherd School has long had and continues to have strong community support and this combined with excellent leadership and a high functioning board of trustees has enabled our school to operate very successfully.

Our special character underpins all that we do and this is reflected throughout the school as well as in governance decisions. We believe that state-integrated schools should be left to govern themselves in accordance with the Private Schools Conditional Integration Act 1975 that pertains to each school. We do not believe that the proposed change to a 'hub' would be in any way beneficial to us as a Catholic school. We see considerable risk as the potential to shift the focus away from our local community and parish would lead to much greater bureaucracy and would assume control away from the school's principal and board.

If the Taskforce believe there are issues within the existing system, then further assistance should be available for those schools who do require specific help – these schools could 'opt' in for the services they require.

We are concerned also with the proposal that overall responsibility for appointments of teachers and principals would be removed from the board of trustees. This is especially

*Trustees: Katherine McGillivray (Chair), Aaron Delacey,
Nikki Flexman, Marieke Zielemann, Leonie Lewthwaite, Graeme Twose,
Steven Rewcastle, Mons Bernard Kiely, Jane Hahn (Principal), Heather McLeod*

concerning within our Catholic environment as this has the potential to significantly undermine the special character of our schools. Employment of staff is critical to ensuring our special character is retained.

Our board do agree that equity within our New Zealand schools is a concern. However, we strongly believe that the proposals put forward in the report will not address these issues.

We believe that quality teachers are at the heart of ensuring our tamariki have the very best education possible during their schooling in this country. Therefore, an increased supply of well-qualified and able teachers should be a priority. This would mean a commitment to raising the profile of teaching as a profession and ensuring that it is seen as an attractive career option and remunerated accordingly. This may require providing increased incentives for teachers and principals to work in areas where children are most in need.

We appreciate the opportunity to put forward this submission and take heart that the Taskforce did in fact find that the vast majority of the educational systems reviewed are working well.

Yours faithfully



Katherine McGillivray
Chairperson
Good Shepherd School Board of Trustees

Congratulations

Congratulations to the Year 3/4 flippaballers "The Sharks" who placed 3rd in the league last weekend.



Walking School Bus Award

The winner is –Daniel Peterson from the Rocket Snails for being a consistently thoughtful walker.



Join our September pilgrimage to the Holy Land with Monsignor Bernard Kiely and Dame Lyndsay Freer

There are still a few places available on this special 15-day pilgrimage in the footsteps of Jesus, departing 14 September. Prepared by the specialist pilgrimage company, Harvest Journeys, it makes the gospels alive in this authentic faith journey in the footsteps of Jesus, in Jordan and Israel, with longer than usual stays in quality hotels. It includes all breakfasts, dinners and some lunches. You are welcome to phone Lyndsay on 021 272 4895 or Harvest Journeys on their free calling number 0800 819 156 or visit <http://www.harvestjourneys.com/pilgrimages/our-pilgrimages/pv4219> for full details.



Fall Ball Committee

Important notice- all parents save this date, Saturday 15th June.

It's the bi-annual big kids (adults only) school dance fund raiser for the PTA.

More details to come when everyone is Back to School!

Sneak peak- there will be a band. Be there or be square!

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 images and what can happen to those photos or videos once created and shared.

GSS Touch Team

On Tuesday, Good Shepherd sent two teams to the Eden/Albert touch tournament at Fearon Park. Both teams had fierce competition in their pools. The girls came out 4th in their pool and the boys team 2nd in theirs. The boys then went head to head with the other 2nd place team to come out 3rd equal overall. We are so pleased with our results. Thanks again for all of the parent help and support!!

