

Good Shepherd School



...Care...Respect...Honesty...

Newsletter No 20, 28th November 2019

From the Principal

Ngā mihi ki a koe me to whānau

This is a special time of year for all of us at Good Shepherd. We are preparing for the end of another school year, and this brings with it the promise and excitement of new beginnings in 2020. We look at this wonderful bunch of senior students and ask ourselves - have we achieved our vision for them? Do they live and experience the values of Jesus, the Good Shepherd on a daily basis? Have we encouraged our learners to be motivated, active seekers, users and creators of knowledge; critical and creative thinkers, and informed decision makers? Are they resilient, positive in their own identities and do they have a sense of belonging to our community. Finally, are they global citizens who can confidently take their place in the world and who are aware of how their actions impact on our environment? We set our expectations high, and I believe that our Year 6 children are well-equipped to take on the new challenges ahead of them.

This Sunday marks the beginning of Advent, the season of the Church year during which we prepare for the birth of Jesus. We are all looking forward to

sharing with you the special occasions, both in school and parish, that this special time brings. In the busyness of this time of year, let us not forget the real reason behind Christmas.

Te Atua ki a koe

God bless

Jane Hahn

Upcoming Dates

Friday 29 November-Parent Helpers' Morning Tea

Saturday 30 November-Hot House Challenge

Sunday 1 December-Pasifika Picnic

Tuesday 3 December-BOT Meeting

Friday 6 December- Sports Assembly 2pm

Thursday 5 December-End of Year Mass

Monday 9 December-Written Reports Home

Wednesday 11 December-Class Picnics

Thursday 12 December-Christmas Concert 6pm

Friday 13 December-Leadership Assembly 9am

Friday 13 December-Term 4 Ends

Please note that some of these dates may change

Special Character

Good Shepherd Awards



Heather Rewcastle - *You are thoughtful, caring and polite to your teachers and classmates, You demonstrate the Good Shepherd Way in everything you do.*

Hannah Saunders - *You consistently set a good example for your peers and display leadership qualities.*

Good Shepherd End-of-Year and Graduation Mass, Thursday 5 December at 5.30pm

This is a very special event as we come together as a whole school community to celebrate the year, and to pray for God's blessings on the students and families moving on from Good Shepherd. All students are to meet their teachers outside Room 9, on the turf in full school uniform, at 5.15pm. We look forward to the whole school community being present on this occasion.

Please note there will be a plate collection at Mass for the Parish.

Sacramental Programme 2020

Good Shepherd School and Parish have enrolment forms available for the Sacramental Programme in 2020. All children who have been baptised and are 8 years old and above are eligible. A copy of their baptism certificate is required. Enrolment forms are available at the Parish Office or Good Shepherd School office from Monday 2 December. **Closing date for enrolment will be the 24 February 2020.**

For further inquiries contact Jade O'Neill (Acting Director of Religious Studies)
joneill@goodshepherd.school.nz

Learning Well Growth Mindset

Growth mindset was an important focus for us this year. As discussed at partnership meetings with whānau, it's all about believing in your own ability to learn (and the potential to improve this ability) and the importance of gritting your teeth and working hard to achieve learning goals. We believe our growth mindset focus has had a positive impact on your child's learning this year - now it's time for you and your child to have your say. Follow the link below to take the survey with your Good Shepherd Student(s). If you have more than one child here then we would like you to fill out a survey for each. We have cunningly coincided this with our last house point count-up. Any child that brings a note from home **before Friday December 6** saying the survey is completed, will receive **3 bonus value tickets!** [Click here for survey...](#)

School Organisation 2020

Class Placements

Class placements have now been finalised for 2020. As you can imagine, this 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 friendships 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. **Class lists are final and we anticipate that all parents will respect our professional judgement by not requesting particular placements for their children.**

Class Organisation

In 2020 we will be changing the organisation of our school. Sheridan syndicate will accommodate Years 1-3 and Connolly will include Years 4-6. This is a return to a previous organisation and is a more natural 'fit' for the year groups. Year 3 students will remain in Room 3 and 4, and will build on the learning they have experienced over the previous two years, exactly as they would if they were entering Connolly. They will enjoy the same 'privileges' afforded to Year 3 students this year, such as a personal google account and access to chromebooks. We are very proud of this 'flexible learning space', and the great teaching and learning that happens there every day. It has been carefully set up according to contemporary research and enables teachers to very effectively cater for a range of learning levels.

Personnel Update

We welcome **Ellen Irish** to Good Shepherd for 2020. Ellen is coming to us from Ireland and is looking forward to working within our community and enjoying our beautiful country.

In and Around School

Cultural

Well done Room One, on your assembly item about Japan. The 'koi kites' were lovely and colourful and your performance was wonderful. You have learnt a lot about this fascinating place! We especially loved the fan dance. Click on the photo to see a snippet of this.



Library

LIBRARY BOOKS- Overdue Books and Annual Stocktake



Please return **all overdue** books as soon as possible. Please let us know if you think the book has already been returned or if it is lost.

In preparation for our annual stocktake we would like all books to be returned by **Friday 29 November**. Our annual stocktake will take place at the end of term and we would like all books back on the shelf.

Any concerns or questions please see Marguerite Butcher.

Dare to Explore: Auckland City Library Summer Holiday Programme



The Kia Māia te Whai Dare to Explore summer reading adventure runs throughout the summer holidays (9 December 2019 to 20 January 2020) and can be completed anywhere - at home, on holiday, at your local library and with friends.

<https://www.daretoexplore.nz/>



Dare to Explore: Past, Present and Future

Chess Club News

New Zealand Junior Chess Badges

Congratulations to the following children who recently gained a badge.

Kharsha Selvathas

Level One

Felicia Tibbles

Level One

Sport

Thank You Very Much

I would like to say a huge thank you to the large number of parents who helped out at our school Athletics Day in Week 5. I really appreciate you giving up your time to help this event run smoothly. This event couldn't happen without your support.
Heather McLeod

Presentation

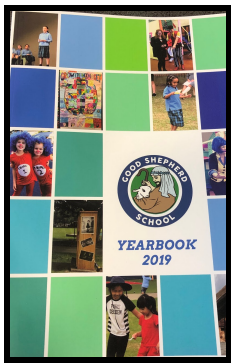
All athletics day certificates and zones certificates will be handed out at our sports assembly on Friday 6 December (week 8), starting at **2pm** in the hall.

Information for Whānau

Year Six Reshoot Monday

Unfortunately our last attempt at a leaving photo for Year 6 students featured several pairs of closed eyes and a couple of absentees. Please send your Year 6 along on **Monday December 2** in correct school uniform. The photo will be taken in the morning after prayer (which will be extended as we also have a speaker coming to tell us about 'pasture painting'). If your child is absent please consider bringing them just for the photo. Any queries see Clare Fala.

YEARBOOK SALES HEATING UP



Come into the office and check out our beautiful, colourful yearbooks. They feature all classes, and cover a heap of school happenings (sports events, trips, house events, classroom highlights, student work, and much more). You definitely won't want to miss out on your copy. Thank you to those who have purchased.

Next week Dec 2-6 yearbooks are on sale/display in the **after school pick up area** (thanks to our school journalists for making this happen). Bring your cash!!

Parent Helpers Morning Tea, Friday 29th November 10.45 – 11.30 a.m. School Staffroom.

At Good Shepherd we are blessed with an army of generous parents and family members who give up their time in so many ways to support the children of our school. Please give us the opportunity to say 'thank you' by coming along to this morning tea if you have been in any way involved in supporting the school.

Good Shepherd Christmas Concert

Thursday 12 December

6.00pm children report to teacher - concert to begin at 6.30pm

You are warmly invited to the Good Shepherd Christmas Concert. All classes will perform a Christmas item and we hope you will join in the carol singing in between items. Bring your own picnic dinner and the PTA will be providing a sausage sizzle. Once the concert is finished, children will be under the supervision of their parents. The event will finish at 8.00pm.

So come along with your picnic rugs, and join with us as we celebrate this special time of year with the children of Good Shepherd.

St Vincent de Paul Giving Baskets

Each classroom in the school has a 'Giving Basket' that will be donated to St Vincent de Paul at the end of the year for Christmas. Rooms 3, 5, 7, 9 are collecting wrapped gifts (please label these with boy/girl and which age group they suit) and Rooms 1, 4, 6, 8 are collecting non-perishable food items. All gifts and food items are greatly appreciated at this happy time of the year when we can give back to our local community. The boxes will be delivered to the St Vincent de Paul after the Christmas Concert.

Enrolments at Good Shepherd School

Thank you to all those families who have filled out enrolment forms for siblings of current students. We also appreciate the support of our school families in recommending Good Shepherd School to their friends and whānau.

School Account Statements

Statements will be emailed out again this week to families with amounts still owing on their school account. Please look out for this in your email inbox.

Just a reminder that Attendance Dues are required to be paid by 1st December 2019 please. We very much appreciate you paying your donations by then as well, as these help us to provide the excellent facilities and resources we enjoy at Good Shepherd School. If you wish to discuss your account or ability to pay please email Mrs Hahn at principal@goodshepherd.school.nz

Lost Property

Please check the lost property. At the end of term, all unclaimed items will be disposed of.

Swimming Pool Keys

There are still a small number of swimming pool keys available for hire for the summer. Please contact the school office

For the Love of Bees Speaker

Monday 2 December 9.15am

We are very excited to be welcoming Sarah from *For the Love of Bees* to Good Shepherd on Monday after whole school prayer. This project is another exciting development in our drive for Environmental Sustainability and you are welcome to come along to hear Sarah talk about this on Monday.

Job opportunity

Part-time School Canteen Assistant-Kowhai Intermediate/Auckland Normal Intermediate

We are looking for a well-presented person to help out in our school tuckshops next year. February start 2020. Hours will range from between three to five hours per day.

You must be flexible with hours, have your own transportation and have good time management.

The job involves food prep and counter sales.

This is a great opportunity for anyone looking to ease back into the workforce. School hours and school term dates only. (lots of holidays)

Good communication skills are a must.

If this sounds like you please ring Kaye on 0212860944 for a chat.