

Good Shepherd School



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

Newsletter No 17, 26 November 2020

From the Principal

Ngā mihi ki a koe me to whānau

Last week we had the final PTA meeting for the year. This group is of great importance to a school like ours which has a focus and strength in building community. Yes, the PTA is a vehicle for raising funds for important resources that benefit all our learners, but it also provides a great opportunity for parents and whānau to get to know each other and to find out more about their school. At this last meeting I presented a student achievement report on reading ([attached for your information](#)) and we were able to discuss it in some depth. We are also looking ahead to 2021 which is a school fair year. Now is the time to think about how you may be able to contribute to this unique school and community event.

Meanwhile, we have some other significant community events to look forward to before we close for 2020. We wish our children performing at the Albert/Eden Cultural Festival this weekend well, and we are preparing for a memorable occasion at our end of year and leavers' celebration next Wednesday.

Ngā manaakitanga

Jane Hahn

Upcoming Dates

26 Nov	E/A Athletics Zones Save Day
27 Nov	Parent Helpers' Morning Tea
28 Nov	Albert/Eden Cultural Festival
2 Dec	End of Year Mass
8 Dec	Board of Trustees Meeting
9 Dec	Christmas Concert
10 Dec	End of Term 4

Special Character

Good Shepherd Awards



Sophie Sella - For her kind and caring ways

Silongou'a Fotofili - For trying hard and participating in school activities with enthusiasm

Sacramental Programme

First Holy Communion

Congratulations to all the candidates who made their First Holy Communion last Sunday.



First Sunday of Advent

This Sunday we celebrate the First Sunday of Advent. The first candle we light is purple and symbolises hope. Advent is a special season in the

Church's year as we prepare for Christmas and Jesus' birth.

Good Shepherd End-of-Year and Graduation Mass, Wednesday 2 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 School. 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.

Information for Whānau Yearbooks Are Printed!



Many thanks to the many people who have already prepaid for their 2020 yearbook. They will be on their way to you very shortly. For the rest of you, come on in and purchase one! At only 20 dollars our yearbook will provide you with a permanent and colourful record of our tamariki and their activities

at home and at school. All students are celebrated in this book, with pages dedicated to each class, and special recognition for our leavers. There is also an exclusive account of the events of 2020 (including elections) from the perspective of our school. Be quick as many are already sold. Please note, we do not profit from our yearbook. The hours that go into their production are a service for our whānau.

Yearbooks can be purchased on Kindo

To open a Kindo account please follow this link and select [Join up](#).



Moosies on Sale Tomorrow

This may be the last time for the year depending on how stocks last.

Books 'n Toys

Thanks for your support of our School Council as they undertook the books and toys event yesterday. We actually ended up with a lot of stock to sell and everyone found something they liked while helping to raise money for our special project, \$349 to be exact!

Thank you too for making room for a fresh lot of pre-loved toys which may have found their way into your home yesterday as a replacement for your donation...



Albert/Eden Schools Cultural Festival 2020 Saturday 28 November 9.30am-3.00pm Rocket Park, Mt Albert

This is the major performance event for our Irish Dancing, Tongan and Kapa Haka groups for this year. We would love you to come along to support our children, and also to enjoy performances by our neighbouring schools, the great food stalls and extra children's activities.

Our children are performing on the Outside Stage at **10.50a.m.**

We would sincerely like to thank the generous Good Shepherd staff, parents and whānau who have given so generously of their time to work with our performance groups this year. We very much rely on this support and it has been especially appreciated in these challenging times when we had so little time to practise and prepare.

Congratulations

Please share with us any significant achievements of our children outside of school.

Parent Helpers Morning Tea, Friday 27th 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

Tuesday 9 December

6:00pm children report to teacher ready for 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.

Health Consultation Survey

Thank you to all in our community who filled in the Health Consultation Survey recently. The following themes could be identified from the responses:

- There were far more responses to the first question, *What does our school do really well in helping our students to maintain or improve their wellbeing?* than any of the other questions
- Many respondents mentioned daily fitness/physical activity/sport as something that GSS does well
- Mental health/wellbeing/growth mindset/resilience was mentioned as something the school did well and also a possible area of continued development.

Just a reminder too that you don't have to wait for a survey to come out to record any concerns - these are always better dealt with when they first arise and a face-to-face meeting is the best way to deal with them.

Class Organisation

In 2021 our school will be organised in a similar way to this year. Sheridan syndicate will accommodate Years 1-3 and Connolly will include Years 4-6. Whatever year level your child will be at next year, we are committed to giving every student the best opportunities for learning possible.

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.

Swimming Pool Keys

A limited number of keys will be available for hire by Good Shepherd School families for this summer. Keys are available for purchase from 8.30am on Monday 23rd November 2020. Please see the linked form for pricing and conditions of hire. [Pool Key Form](#)

LIBRARY BOOKS- Annual Stocktake



Please return **all** books as soon as possible and no later than **Friday 27 November**.

Your child will bring home a slip of paper if they have any books on loan.

Please let us know if you think the book has already been returned or if it is lost.

Our annual stocktake takes place next week and we would like all books back on the shelves.

Any concerns or questions please see Marguerite Butcher

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 2020 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.

Sushi and Pie Day

Our last Pie Day for the year will be on Wednesday 9th December. Pies will be baked freshly by Jestors on Wednesday morning. Orders are open from now until 11am on Tuesday, 8th December



Ordering is done online only by setting up an account on Kindo. To set up an account, please go to the Kindo website:

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

If you have any questions, contact Emma on 027 7745 941 or chanemmanz@gmail.com or contact Kindo directly on 09-869 5200.

GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH
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 please contact Nicola 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!



*Auckland United's
Christmas Football Camp*



*December 21st-22nd
Waikaraka Park
9am-1pm
All Kids Welcome!!*



www.aucklandunitedfc.org.nz/holidayprogramme

Parnell Trust Holiday Programme

Summer Fiesta!

Fun activities every day for 5-14 year olds from 16 Dec '20 to 29 Jan '21



Enrol online

parnell.org.nz/SHP