

Good Shepherd School



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

Newsletter No 14, 09 Mahuru/September 2021

From the Principal

Mālō e lelei

The experience of the pandemic has certainly taught us to be adaptable in our approaches to teaching and learning, and we are all becoming more confident in preparing and delivering home learning programmes. This week a number of our teaching staff attended a webinar on 'Staying Safe Online' presented by Netsafe NZ. Online safety for our tamariki is an area we would like to continue to explore and work together with you, and Netsafe is a great resource for both schools and whānau to tap into.

One of the key messages from the session was that we need to have layers of protection to ensure online safety. There is no one thing that will keep everyone safe online - we need to be working on multiple fronts. You can access a first layer by using the Ministry of Education and Network 4 Learning's simple but effective free content filtering service [Switch on safety](#). We will include some tips from [Netsafe](#) in our newsletter content but do recommend that you visit their website for very helpful and timely tips and strategies to help us through these days of home learning.

Ofa Atu
Jane Hahn

Upcoming Dates

11 Sept	Kāhui Ako Māori Mass (Postponed)
13-17 Sept	Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori/Māori Language Week
16 Sept	Gymnastics Champion of Champions (Postponed)
20-24 Sept	Book Week
21 Sept	Catholic Schools Cross Country (cancelled)
26 Sept	Daylight Saving starts
27 Sept-1 Oct	Life Education Caravan in school (Postponed until 2022)
29 Sept	Catholic Schools Day
1 October	EPro-8 Interschool Challenge (Postponed 19 Nov)
1 October	Term 3 Ends
18 October	Term 4 Begins

Please note that some of these dates may change

Special Character

Good Shepherd Awards



Elria Gomes - for participating in all learning areas with enthusiasm and always seeing the best in people.

Eden Gullery - for bringing a positive attitude to her online learning and trying her best.

Auckland Catholic Programme

You can find the programme of pastoral care/prayer/social initiatives in our Auckland Diocese for the week ahead [here](#).

A reminder that a Mass for this Sunday screens on SHINE TV (Channel 25 or SKY 201) at 2pm or a link can be found on the Good Shepherd Catholic Church Balmoral Facebook or the diocesan web site www.cda.org.nz

The Diocesan link for more children's activities. Kids Korner:
<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/24th-SUNDAY-in-OT.pdf>

And something for parents too!

Parent Ponderings:

<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/2-Important-keys-to-great-parenting.pdf>

The latest issue of the Diocesan newspaper the NZ Catholic is also available at

<https://indd.adobe.com/view/25f770ac-5f43-4534-a6c8-db3a6d9c451e>

In and Around School

Haere Ra, Mrs Bull

We are sad to say goodbye to Mrs Bull who has been such a star in our school office for almost three years. Mrs Bull is leaving us at the end of this term to work closer to home and we wish her and her whānau every blessing as she enters a new stage in her work life.

Malo 'Aupito

-to the Kautoke, Sundin and Mahina fānau and kāinga for their wonderful videos helping us to mark Tongan language week! Don't forget to visit our new [Highlights from Home](#) site to see all the other interesting activities we have been up to!



Kia Kaha te Reo Māori

'Kia kaha' is well understood in New Zealand English with its meaning of 'be strong'. We often talk about languages as if they are people – so when we say 'Kia kaha te reo Māori' we're saying - 'Let's make the Māori language strong'.

Te Wiki o te Reo Māori takes place this year between 13 and 19 Mahuru/September 2021. Good Shepherd School will be taking part in the Māori Language Moment at 12pm on Tuesday 14 September. Teachers will let their students know how we can get together online to celebrate te reo as a unique cultural treasure for all New Zealanders. Please share with us anything you might be doing at home for Mahuru Māori, whether for the Māori Language Moment or throughout the month of Mahuru/September.

*He aha te mea nui o te ao?
He tangata. He tangata. He tangata.*

*What is the most important thing in the world?
It is people. It is people. It is people.*

Sport

Term Events:

Netball Zones - Save Day - Thursday 2 September - **Postponed**

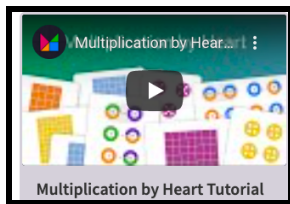
Gymnastics Champion of Champions - Thursday 16 September - week 8 - **Postponed**

Catholic Schools Cross Country - Tuesday 21 September - week 9 **Cancelled**

Information for Kāinga

Mathigon Resource

Good Shepherd teachers value their partnership with kāinga, and now more than ever, we consider you as co-teachers. We would like you to help us assess the value of learning resources and sites. This week one of the sites we looked at is Mathigon. Have a quick look at this [Check Out Mathigon](#) video I made (sorry about the clicking - you will need to mute it). Go to the [site](#) and have a try yourself. Please watch the [Multiplication by Heart tutorial](#) because we think this is a promising and very manageable way to learn timetables - at least two thirds of our Year 4-6 children identify this as an area of need.



Help your child to log in **using their Good Shepherd gmail account** (so that we can monitor their progress easily) and help them have a look around. They may find they are 'already there'. If they are Year 4-6 and not 100 percent fluent with times tables, please get them started on the [Multiplication by Heart](#) journey. Younger children may also benefit. You know best what your child is ready for. Malo 'Aupito and please let me know how you get on: mdyer@goodshepherd.school.nz

Steps Web

Steps Web is an online resource that we have had success with, for children who find spelling a challenge. However because it is expensive, we have been limited with who can be involved.



Steps Web has now announced that they will provide free accounts for any child having difficulty with spelling, until the end of 2021. This will take some commitment from you as kāinga because you will need to monitor their engagement, however it will be worth your effort. Please contact m butcher@goodshepherd.school.nz for more information.

Book Week

We are happy to announce that we intend to carry on with our Book Week celebrations during week 9 this term, although it will almost certainly be an online version. More information to follow but there will definitely be some sort of favourite book character parade involved and other book related activities and competitions as well... In the meantime, if you haven't already, please enjoy this wonderful website just discovered by Mrs Butcher [About Us](#).



Tip for Online Safety - Create a Learner Profile

One of the challenges of home learning is the number of distractions that are immediately there when we are online. Creating a 'Learner Profile' for your child draws a line between the 'learner' and 'leisure' profiles and helps remove distractions for children (and adults!). It involves removing extra 'stuff' - a good guideline is to have only four tabs open at a time.

ENGAGE AND HAVE YOUR SAY



We have extended the time frame for you to give your input into the future direction of our school!

This year the Good Shepherd School Board of Trustees is undertaking a comprehensive survey of the school community. The board will use the information from this consultation to inform the development of the school Charter and Strategic Plan 2022 to 2025.

We are hoping that all members of our school community, parents and whānau, students and staff, will play a part in this process of planning together for the future. Please take the time to complete this [survey](#) by **FRIDAY 17 SEPTEMBER** to help us set the direction of the school over the next few years.

COVID-19 Vaccination

We have seen the COVID-19 vaccination rollout gathering pace during the lockdown, with children aged 12-15 years now eligible to book vaccines with their parents, along with the 30+ age group. The New Zealand Catholic Bishops are urging you to get vaccinated to protect yourself, your whānau and your community.

In getting the vaccine, you will be protecting those who cannot receive the vaccination, such as those with underlying health conditions and young children.

The Pfizer vaccine is safe and effective, and it has been given to hundreds of millions of people worldwide.

More information is available at

<http://www.get-vaccinated-catholic.co.nz/>

**Love your neighbour as yourself
– get vaccinated**