

Good Shepherd School

Te Kura o Heparā Pai



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

Manaakitanga Whakaute Pono

Newsletter No 24

22 Whiringa-ā-nuku/October 2021

From the Principal

Ngā mihi ki a koe me to whānau

This has not been the start of the final term of the year that we had hoped for but, as we have over the last year and a half, we will continue to focus on what we can do rather than what is not possible. More than ever it is important that we work together and communicate so that we can keep in touch with what is happening for our tamariki. Please be assured that we understand the challenges you, our parents and whānau, are experiencing as you juggle work commitments and trying to supervise your child or children's learning and we are here to help.

One issue we contend with during lockdown periods is how to make students accountable for their learning without putting too much pressure on them and their families. Although we cannot hope to replicate the face-to-face classroom situation, we are continually looking at the programmes we are providing for our children and adjusting them. Each family situation is different so it is very important that we keep that communication between home and school open and regular.

Coming to you with this newsletter is another communication focusing particularly on vaccination. The school receives regular updates from the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health with lots of information on COVID-19 vaccination so please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns I can help you with.

Ngā manaakitanga

Jane Hahn

Upcoming Dates

25 October	Labour Day Holiday
1 November	All Saints Day
2 November	All Souls Day
2 November	School Photos (tbc)
2 November	Board of Trustees Meeting
21 November	Feast of Christ the King
23 November	Eden/Albert Athletics Zones
25 November	Eden/Albert Athletics (Save Day)
7 December	Board of Trustees Meeting
8 December	End of Year Mass
15 December	End of Term 4

Please note that some of these dates may change

Special Character

Religious Education

To begin our new term students will be learning about Traditional and Devotional Prayer. Though this looks different in an online environment children are encouraged to join in with classroom prayer as we focus on the Psalms and the Rosary. Students have been writing their own prayers to share with their classmates during daily prayer, here is one by Angeline Yee:

Dear God,

May the world be full of righteousness.

Together, we can all face all our fears.

Fill our hearts with the holy spirit and your love.

May we be blessed by you.

We will continue the mission of the Lord, and stick together to be just like Jesus.

May you guide us through our journey to everlasting life.

Once we have done as much as we can, we will lay down our lives for the other sheep, just as the lord did himself.

From the Catholic Diocese of Auckland

[Parent Ponderings](#)
[Kids Korner](#)



Catholic Diocese of Auckland
Te Taumata o te Hahi Katorika

From NZ Catholic

[NZ Catholic newsletter Oct 17](#)

Cans for Christmas - Now Online

Due to the current Covid-19 situation we have had to make the hard decision to make our 2021 collection an online collection.

We have set up a give-a-little page to raise as many funds as possible to still offer help to St Vincent de Paul as they continue to help those families in need across the country.

Please consider using the link below to make a contribution that will help us achieve our massive goal of 35,000 canned food items to help those in need.

<https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/2021-collection>

This collection is open until **1st December 2021**.

Thank you all again for being a part of the Cans for Christmas family.

In and Around School

Library

Welcome to Term 4 and a Special Home Edition of Book Club!

While we are schooling from home, we've created a special digital catalogue to help families stay inspired to read and learn. It's jam-packed with bonus Christmas pages and the best of the best books of 2021!

This issue is available by viewing the catalogue online and placing an order on the [LOOP platform](#). All orders will be delivered directly to the home!



VIEW HOME EDITION
DIGITAL CATALOGUE

www.scholastic.co.nz/media/5721/book-club-student-issue-7-2021.pdf

Highlights from Home

Do you have any great images or videos from the holidays to add to our website this week? If so please email mdyer@goodshepherd.school.nz. Ngā mihi.

Sport

If any of our school netball coaches have any team photos or action shots, taken throughout the season, could you please email them to Heather McLeod on:

hmcleod@goodshepherd.school.nz

These photos are for the school yearbook.

Also, if parents have any photos from the cricket zones or football zones, could you please email them to Heather McLeod.

Our School Athletics Day scheduled for Wednesday 11 November at Three Kings Reserve has been cancelled, due to the uncertainty of alert levels and the current restrictions in place.

Due to Auckland remaining in Level 3 Lockdown and schools remaining closed, the Primary Schools' Champion of Champions' Gymnastic Championships, scheduled for 4 November 2021, have now been cancelled.

Information for Whānau

Tamariki Wellbeing

Quite a few of the children were tired in our google meetings this week. In fact, many of us are probably feeling a little jaded, and this long weekend might be a great time to recharge batteries with plenty of exercise and early nights. Check out the video of [Mr Wong leading by example](#) in his awesome red tracksuit!! Thank you Mr Wong! Visit [Highlights from Home](#) for more great videos from Room 5, 6 and others this week.



Engage and Have Your Say

Thank you to everyone who took some time to complete our survey. We had a very good response in the end and the information we have gathered will help the Board of Trustees to determine the future direction of our school. We will report back to you all when we have collated our responses.



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

Covid- 19 Newsletter

Please follow this [link](#) to view the most recent Good Shepherd School Covid-19 Newsletter.

Lockdown Tips for whanau and communities

This is a short, but helpful and useful, video hosted by Dr Hinemoa Elder and Nathan Wallis with lockdown tips for whānau and communities.

<https://parents.education.govt.nz/essential-information/covid-19-information-for-parents-and-whanau/lockdown-tips-with-dr-hinemoa-elder-and-nathan-wallis/>

A Message from the Government Help to get food

We've had feedback from Tāmaki Makaurau that some families are struggling with basics, such as access to food. There are a range of support services available, please see below.

Please take a look at [this fact sheet](#) with information and contact details for the many ways of getting food and other essential items.

It covers:

- food delivery
- what people can do if they can't get food delivered
- staying safe when getting food delivered
- financial help to buy food
- foodbanks.

Please note, we're aware some food banks have been experiencing high demand. If there is a need for financial help to buy food, [Work and Income](#) may be able to help.

The Ministry of Social Development has information about how they can assist communities with essential costs. MSD encourages people to check what they're eligible for via this website [Check what you might get \(msd.govt.nz\)](#)

Attendance Dues Support for Parents and Caregivers facing Financial Difficulties due to the current Covid-19 Lockdown

Attendance dues support is available to assist parents and caregivers facing financial difficulties.

Details on how to access this support is available on the Catholic Diocese of Auckland website. <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/catholic-schools-2/>

or please contact Carol Krebs CarolK@cda.org.nz

30 km/h Coming to a School Near You Kōrero mai: Have your say

Auckland Transport are looking at permanently changing speed limits on selected roads near some schools in Central Auckland and this includes Good Shepherd School. Follow the link for more information and to have your say.



■ J007504 Central Schools A5 CARD A Good Sh...

Good Shepherd School Uniform

Good Shepherd is making the transition to a new school uniform provider. From this term, Elizabeth Michael Uniforms will take over the manufacture and supply of our school uniform. These will be able to be purchased from their shop in Bond St, Newton and through an on-line web portal.

We will be in touch with more information about access to school uniforms when we have more clarity about returning to school.

A Message from the Good Shepherd PTA

To our wonderful parent community!

We hope that you're all making your way through lockdown as best as you can. We've been in this phase for quite some time now, and we're all feeling the ups and downs, sometimes on a daily basis!

We wanted to confirm that the bi-annual school fair won't be going ahead in November as planned. We know you've all probably assumed this is the case. The good news is that rather than cancelling it, we have decided to delay the fair until November next year. We're hoping that will give sufficient time to enable Auckland to come out of lockdown, and to settle back into a normal environment where people can get together for community events like this and feel comfortable and safe doing so. We thought about a shorter delay – say, until Term 1 next year - but given the uncertainty surrounding when we will come out of lockdown and the amount of planning required for the fair, we think November 2022 is a more realistic bet. We're happy to talk to any and all of you about this proposal. Please feel free to get in touch with Kirsty-Anne Singleton or with Aimee Greenhough if you would like to discuss it.

We're not sure when we will next be able to post a PTA event. We're certainly hoping it will be sooner rather than later, but, like in every corner of society at the moment, we will need to see how lockdown unfolds. In hindsight, we were really lucky we were able to have the Quiz Night earlier this year. Mrs Hahn tells us that the money raised at this event has been put to good use already! We're looking forward to hearing all about what the school has been able to buy with these funds in the next couple of weeks.

So until we can get together again, take care and look after yourselves.

From your PTA

Kirsty-Anne, Sarah, Alan and Sophie



Catholic Diocese of Auckland are looking for an Executive Officer

We are seeking a highly capable and experienced Executive Officer. Our Executive Officer will provide executive support in governance, legal, property, finance, treasury, human resources, risk and compliance as well as supporting the GM on strategic projects and initiatives. It's a busy and very interesting role working with a great team of people. The role will assist our GM to collaboratively manage the leadership team.

While handling strategic and operating information with integrity and confidentiality, you will have the experience to prioritise tasks that change frequently. Of course, strong skills in most of these applications are important - MS Word, Excel, SharePoint, Mailchimp, Infodile and PowerPoint. Our senior team is also advanced in their use of these applications.

We're looking for a people person with great communication, relationship and administration skills. Sound judgement, accountability, discretion, initiative and the ability to work autonomously, efficiently and professionally are essential for the success of this position and its reputation.

Please visit the Diocesan website

www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz to view the full advert and position description. Applications are via SEEK and close on 3 November.