

# Update...



*Te Kura o Heparā Pai*

*Care Manaakitanga  
Respect Whakaute  
Honesty Pono*

**10 Here-turi-kōkā / August 2023**

## Upcoming Dates

17 August	Netball Zones
3 September	Tongan Language Week
5 September	Catholic Schools Cross Country
15 September	Grandparents Mass
22 September	End of Term 3
9 October	Beginning of Term 4
18 November	GSS School Fair
15 December	End of Term 4

*Please look carefully, as some of these dates have changed.*

The following 2024 term dates were approved at the last meeting of the School Board:

Term	Start	Finish
1	Tuesday 30 January	Friday 12 April
2	Monday 29 April	Friday 5 July
3	Monday 22 July	Friday 27 September
4	Monday 14 October	Friday 13 December

## Principal's Open Office

Don't forget to pop in to see Jane in her office between 8.30am and 9.30am on Fridays if you have any questions about school life, or you just want to catch up.

## Special Character Good Shepherd Awards



**Josephine Spencer-** *You consistently show care for others by being an inclusive and helpful friend.*

**Eva Justin-** *You have been following the GSS Way and demonstrating respect in the classroom.*

## Sacramental Programme

Please keep in your prayers the children who are preparing for their First Holy Communion this Sunday at 2pm.

## Please Keep in Your Prayers....

We ask for God's blessing on all those members of our community who are suffering illness or loss in their families at this time. Please keep them in your prayers.

## Good Shepherd Parish Mass times

We encourage all families to attend Mass together, particularly those children who have completed the Sacramental programme. Sunday Mass is at **9.30am.**

## In & Around School



We extend a very warm welcome to the following students that started this term:

*Alfie Arrasco-Ward  
Atarah Fernando  
Luke Boucher  
Leann & Lizette Valde  
Milana Miranda  
Wilfred Wilson*



Congratulations to the following children who celebrate their birthday in August:

*Arthur & Pippa Blakemore  
Saron Dawit  
Rosalie Fala  
Madeline Foskin  
Daniel Fotofili  
James Gallagher  
Eva Justin  
Henry Katongo  
Lily Millar  
Ezra Mulipola  
Esha Nidhin  
Casey Soon  
Nellie Spencer  
Gemma Su*

### Mary MacKillop Feast Day

Mary MacKillop is an important person in the history of our school as she was the founder of the Sisters of Saint Joseph - the order which established our school in 1911. On Tuesday we celebrated the feast of Saint Mary MacKillop by spending time with our buddy classes, check out some of our art and crafts!



## Sport

### Lunchtime Football Programme

On Tuesday 8 August the lunchtime football programme started. It will be on the school field from 1pm until 1.50pm every Tuesday for 5 weeks. You can still register and pay for your child to participate in this programme. Please remember to bring your child a change of clothes and running shoes.

### Term 3 Sporting Events are:

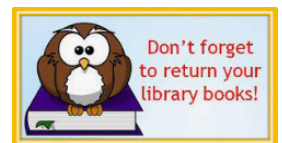
**Netball Zones** - Thursday 17 August

**Catholic Schools Cross Country** - Tuesday 5 September

## Library

### Overdue Books

Please have a big hunt around your house and see if you can find any library books hiding out at your place. If your child has 3 or 4 overdue books, they can't issue any new books from the school library. If the books issued under their name have been lost or already returned, please come and see Mrs McLeod at school.



## Information for Whānau

### Good Shepherd School Uniform

The children are in their winter school uniforms until Term 4. Uniforms are purchased through Elizabeth Michael Uniforms although we do keep a supply of second hand uniforms for purchase at the school for \$5 per item. Online orders can be made through Elizabeth Michael's website with the code GS132.

#### Can we please give special attention to footwear?

**The uniform shoes are black, worn with black knee high socks.** We encourage students to bring in and wear sports shoes for sports but they must wear their uniform shoes to and from school.

In winter and the colder weather, we strongly recommend that children wear the school uniform jumper and there is also a school jacket available. A warm singlet could also be useful. Please name all uniform items.

Finally, children are asked to bring in a change of clothes if they want to play on the field as it quickly becomes very muddy.

### Second Hand Uniforms

We would appreciate it if whānau could bring in any uniform that no longer is in use. The school's second hand uniform cabinet is not only great for families to buy from (at the cost of \$5 per item of clothing), but also helpful for when children unexpectedly need a change of clothes.

### Class WhatsApp Groups

We use WhatsApp and Facebook to facilitate communication among whānau.

There is no obligation to join these informal groups, but whānau find them very useful for asking and reminding each other about school happenings - not to mention tracking down lost property! This document contains links to our groups, including classroom and PTA WhatsApp groups, and school and PTA Facebook groups.



#### [GSS WhatsApp and Facebook Information 2023](#)

### Mitey-Community Engagement



This year we again are excited at Good Shepherd School to partner with the Sir John Kirwan Foundation to deliver Mitey – a NZ specific, evidence-based approach to teaching mental health education in our classrooms. Please use this [link](#) to find out more about Mitey and what it means for Good Shepherd School.

### Absence Notification



Please notify the school office of any student absences **before** 9:15 am on the day of absence by phone on 09 620 4962, by emailing [admin@goodshepherd.school.nz](mailto:admin@goodshepherd.school.nz) or using the app to enable us to complete our school roll. Our school uses an app that is linked to teachers and our admin staff. Please download the app '@school' and contact the office on [admin@goodshepherd.school.nz](mailto:admin@goodshepherd.school.nz) if you require your unique login information. Please also see a previous [newsletter](#) with the set up instructions.



### Attendance Dues and Donations 2023

**Attendance Dues** are a compulsory payment approved by the Minister of Education under the terms of the Education and Training Act 2020. They are a condition of enrolment at Good Shepherd School, as they are in all Catholic schools in Aotearoa New Zealand. Attendance Dues are collected by Good Shepherd School on behalf of the school's Proprietor, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Auckland. Thank you to all of our families that have made payments already and to our families who have made per term, per week and per fortnight arrangements.

Good Shepherd School also asks for **donations** from whānau. We rely on these donations to provide the extra learning opportunities, such as the *Opera in Schools* performance, and the exceptional resources available to our students, such as

one-to-one devices in our classrooms. These donations include *Trips and Activities* and, where relevant, camp donations so that we can offer our students a range of rich education outside the classroom experiences. As a small school, we very much appreciate these contributions to our limited budget.

### **SCHOOL ATTENDANCE DUES FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Financial assistance is available to assist families who may need support with the payment of Attendance Dues for preference students attending both primary and secondary Catholic schools in Auckland Diocese.

Families facing financial difficulties can contact their school office, their Parish Priest, or Auckland Common Fund Ltd at the Catholic Diocese of Auckland on 09-360-3069 for further information. Term 3 is a good time to start that process so please reach out for that assistance now.

Application forms for this assistance are available from school and parish offices, or can be downloaded from the Catholic Diocese of Auckland Website:

<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/catholic-schools-2/>

### **Enrolments at Good Shepherd School**

If you, or anyone you know, are considering enrolling your child at Good Shepherd, please contact the school office as soon as possible on [admin@goodshepherd.school.nz](mailto:admin@goodshepherd.school.nz).

As always we appreciate your recommendations of our school to friends and whānau.

### **Dropping off and Picking up Children**

This is just a reminder that children are under the care of their parents or caregivers after 3pm, unless they have been booked into our Out of School Care programme. They are, of course, supervised on the Church steps until approximately 3.15pm, by which time parents will have picked them up. Similarly, we have Out of School care between 7.30am and 8.30am for those children whose parents need to get away to work early. Children are not closely supervised in the playground before 8.30am.



### **Good Shepherd OSCA - Before & After School**

The Good Shepherd OSCA programme is an important service that we offer to our school community. Below is a link to the booking form and OSCA Parent Information Sheet which outlines the operational details, and costs for the programme.

[OSCA 2023 Form & Parent Info](#). Forms can also be picked up from OSCA. OSCA is payable in **advance** to bank account 12-3067-0208272-03 on the Friday before the booking is needed.

- Please fill in all forms for OSCA accurately and keep us up to date with changing medical conditions for your child.
- Remember to let us know by email to [admin@goodshepherd.school.nz](mailto:admin@goodshepherd.school.nz) if your plans change, for example if your child is being picked up by another parent.

Thank you to Alex and his team for all the good work you do in OSCA.

### **Winter health and vaccination reminders**

Te Whatu Ora encourages whānau to vaccinate their tamariki for pneumococcal disease, Meningococcal B, measles, and flu, alongside their three COVID-19 vaccines to provide the greatest level of protection heading into winter.

Tamariki aged six months to 12 years are eligible for free flu vaccinations. For more information, visit:

[Flu immunisation for tamariki – KidsHealth](#)

[Measles, mumps, and rubella \(MMR\) vaccine – Te Whatu Ora](#)

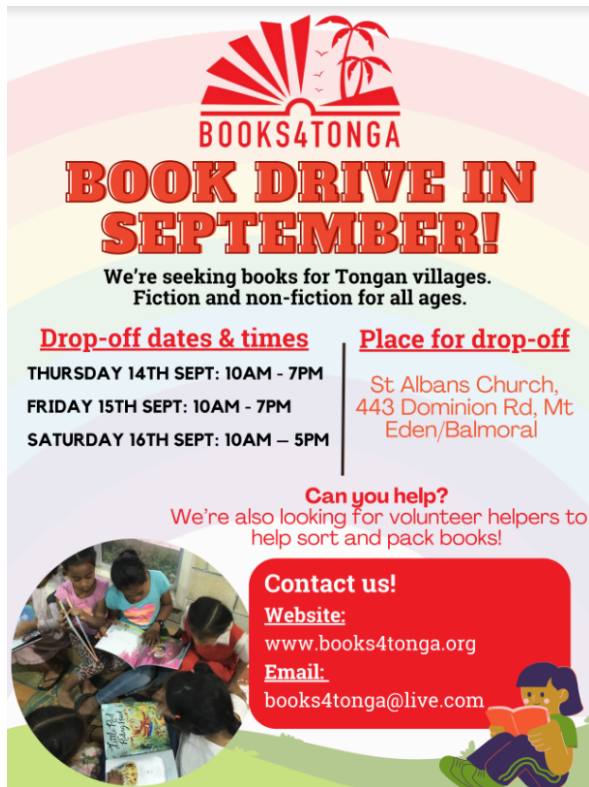
[COVID-19 boosters for over 30s and those at increased risk of severe illness – New Zealand Government](#)

You will still need to isolate for seven days if you have COVID-19 to reduce the risk of spread. For further information:

[If you have COVID-19 – New Zealand Government](#)

**Please inform the school if your child has tested positive for COVID-19.**

## Books for Tonga



**BOOKS4TONGA**  
**BOOK DRIVE IN SEPTEMBER!**  
We're seeking books for Tongan villages.  
Fiction and non-fiction for all ages.

**Drop-off dates & times**  
THURSDAY 14TH SEPT: 10AM - 7PM  
FRIDAY 15TH SEPT: 10AM - 7PM  
SATURDAY 16TH SEPT: 10AM - 5PM

**Place for drop-off**  
St Albans Church,  
443 Dominion Rd, Mt  
Eden/Balmoral

**Can you help?**  
We're also looking for volunteer helpers to help sort and pack books!

**Contact us!**  
**Website:**  
www.books4tonga.org  
**Email:**  
books4tonga@live.com

The poster features a logo with a sun and palm trees, a list of drop-off dates and times, the location of the drop-off point, a call for volunteers, and contact information. It also includes a circular photo of children reading books and an illustration of a child reading.

## GSS PTA

### Sushi, Pizza & Moosies

***Sushi, Pizza and Moosies Can Now All Be Ordered On Kindo!***

Sushi and Moosies are available for lunch most Fridays in Term 3. Pizza is available as an alternative to sushi twice this term on the dates noted below.

**Due to a recent price increase from our supplier, the price of each sushi pack will increase by 50 cents effective this week**

As Friday 15th September is Grandparents' Mass, sushi will be available on Thursday 14th instead. Orders are taken online only via [Kindo](#). You will need to set up a Kindo account if you are ordering for the first time. Orders will close at 8.45am on the day of the sushi delivery. You can order weekly or for as many weeks in advance as you like. You are also able to cancel sushi orders up until 8.45am on the day of the delivery. Remember if your child orders Teriyaki chicken on rice, please send them to school with a fork in their lunchbox.



**Pizza orders will close at 6pm TONIGHT!! Thursday 10 August.**

Sushi and pizzas lunches are scheduled for the following dates this term:

Friday 11th August (sushi)  
Tuesday 15th August (pizza)  
Friday 18th August (sushi)  
Friday 25th August (sushi)  
Friday 1st September (sushi)  
Friday 8th September (sushi)  
Thursday 14th September (sushi)  
Tuesday 19th September (pizza)  
Friday 22nd September (sushi)

Moosies are sold for two dollars, and are managed by our Year 6 House Captains. If you prefer your child to pay for their Moosie with a coin, please instruct them to keep it in a safe place before lunchtime. Don't send tamariki with large amounts of money, as change can easily get lost at school.

If you have ordered your child's Moosie on Kindo please remind them that they must line up for it next to Room 2, straight after they finish eating their lunch. **House Captains will not search around the school for missing Moosie customers.**

Thanks to all our wonderful volunteers and House Captains, who help make this lunch service possible.

## PTA NEWS

### Calendar Art



**CALENDAR ART 2023**  
The PTA Calendar Art Fundraiser is returning this year in early September.

On sale will be **calendars, diaries, note cards, sketchpads and mousemats** professionally produced with beautiful artwork, made by your child.

**More info to follow!**

The poster features a colorful abstract background with the text 'CALENDAR ART 2023' in large, bold letters. Below the title, it states that the PTA Calendar Art Fundraiser is returning in early September. It lists the items for sale: calendars, diaries, note cards, sketchpads, and mousemats, all professionally produced with beautiful artwork made by children. The poster concludes with 'More info to follow!'.

### GSS School Fair

Please join the facebook school fair page by scanning the barcode below or search

**'Good Shepherd School Fair 2023'**



### **Caring Committee**

Good Shepherd PTA, as part of its school community focus, has a Caring Committee that gives support to families that are in need for a variety of reasons such as sickness, loss of a family member or wakeful newborns. This service is usually given as meals or baking for the family. When the committee gets notified of a family, an email is sent out to everyone on the committee, and whoever can help on a certain day for a meal then you get rostered for that day. No conditions or pressure even if your name is on the committee, only help when you can. If you are interested in being on the email list, please email [sashamadas@hotmail.com](mailto:sashamadas@hotmail.com)



### **JOIN THE MOTHER SUPERIORS**

The Mother Superiors is the mum's version of the Holey Fathers. If you are interested, please add yourself to the Whatsapp group or keep an eye out in the newsletter for the next event.

**[Mother Superior's WhatsApp Group](#)**

### **Join the Holey Fathers**

The Holey Fathers are a group of Good Shepherd School dads, who get together from time to time for social catchups and to help out at the school with the occasional working bee. We'd love to welcome some new faces to the group, especially dads who have just joined the Good Shepherd School community. It's a great way to get to know other dads at school and have a bit of fun along the way.

Please contact [holeyfathers@gmail.com](mailto:holeyfathers@gmail.com) if you're keen to join us.