



Te Kura o Heparā Pai

*Care Manaakitanga
Respect Whakautē
Honesty Pono*

Newsletter 14

08 August/ Here-turi-kōkā 2024

From the Principal

Dear Parents Caregivers and Whānau,

Today we celebrated the Feast Day of Saint Mary MacKillop with Mass in the Good Shepherd Church led by Father Ezio. The children sang beautifully and went on to participate in activities celebrating the life of this special person.

It has been a busy and eventful start to the term and as a result I am looking forward to being slimed! If any of your children are asking when, this will happen next week Wednesday 14 August 12.50pm after our singing assembly.

The buzz around The Olympics has only been enhanced by the learning we have been doing in our classrooms and the very successful fundraising event held last Friday 2 August. This event was a great opportunity to take what the children have been observing on TV and learning about in the classroom and apply this to themselves.

The children had fun challenging themselves in a range of events including Volleyball, Football, Equestrian, Fencing and Gymnastics. Each session was 45 minutes long so children had to dig deep at

times. They learnt about perseverance, friendship, determination and support.

My sincere thanks to Aimee Greenhough from our PTA for leading this event and all the parents who helped and supported on the day. I would also like to thank Heather Mcleod who ensured all organisation and logistics from the school's end went smoothly. A special shout out to Sharyn for the innovative and creative Olympic Torch she created as a part of our opening ceremony!

As a result we have raised over seven thousand dollars which will go towards our student council driven initiative to improve our swimming pool area. The student council will be in touch via the school newsletter with progress on this. Final donations wrap up on August 12 and the top fundraising class will be awarded with a Pizza Lunch, sponsored by Toshiba.

Recently in the media you may have heard about the concerning rates of achievement by year 8 students in New Zealand. I am pleased to share that based on the stanine scores of our Year 6 leavers over the past 6 years 90% of our students are achieving at or above national norms in the PAT Mathematics Assessment. At Good Shepherd we continue to work with expert facilitators in Mathematics to ensure our classroom instruction reflects best practice.

This week we hosted our twice yearly parent teacher interviews. An opportunity for teachers to update parents on their children's progress towards their learning goals and discuss next steps. The collaboration between home and school is essential in giving your child a sound foundation to learn from. Thank you for taking the time to prioritise this.

We have already started thinking ahead to 2025. This inevitably involves finalising staff appointments and organising classrooms. Parents and whānau can help by encouraging their friends and families to enrol students earlier rather than later as it greatly helps our planning processes to have this information as soon as possible.

Finally, our school has recently received [information about the Incredible Years Programme](#) which has run for a long time and is a resource available to

support parents. You are very welcome to use this or share with anyone you feel would benefit. [Here is a timetable](#) to accompany this information.

Te Atua ki a koe / God bless,
Ben Fahey

Upcoming Dates

09 August	Colourful Clothes Day - Gold Coin Donation
20 August	BoT Meeting
22 August	Eden/Albert Netball Zones
30 August	GSS Speech Finals
3-6 Sept	Maritime Museum Trips
11 Sept	Catholic Schools Cross Country
13 Sept	Grandparents Day / School/Parish Mass
16-20 Sept	EPro8 for Year 6
23-27 Sept	Life Education Caravan at GSS
Whole School Prayers in Term Three: Friday 2.45pm in church Week 3 - Rm 9 Week 5 - Rm 7 Week 7 - Rm 6 Week 9 - Rm 3	
Class Assemblies in Term Three: Friday 2.15pm on the turf Week 4 - Rm 7 & Mural Blessing Week 6 - Rm 2 Week 8 - Grandparents Day	

Please look carefully, as some of these dates have changed

Quick Links

[Term Dates](#)

[Whats app Groups](#)

[School Uniform](#)

[Mitey Community Involvement](#)

[Attendance Dues](#)

[Good Shepherd Term 1 Overview](#)

[Good Shepherd Term 2 Overview](#)

[Good Shepherd Term 3 Overview](#)

[OSCA Forms](#)

[Good Shepherd Pre-Enrolment Forms](#)

[When to Contact School](#)

Colourful Clothes Day - TOMORROW GOLD COIN DONATION

All tamariki are encouraged to wear colourful clothes tomorrow and to bring a gold coin donation to support our GSS PTA Quiz Night. Please let your child know that coins will be collected in their classroom.

Special Character

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.

Sacramental Programme Dates - First Holy Communion

11 August 9:30am - FHC Second Session

18 August 9:30am - FHC Third Session

25 August 11:30am Mass - Sacrament of First Holy Communion

Caring Award

Congratulations to the following children for being presented with an award at the Caring Mass: Benecio San Martin, Ted Tuibenau, Anna Jomon and Cecelia Niuala.



Sports

Tough Guy / Tough Gal Challenge

On Wednesday 07 August we had 8 Good Shepherd senior school students travel to Kumeu to take part in the 2024 Tough Guy / Tough Gal challenge. Well done to all those who took part in this challenge. Thank you to Matt Poland for coordinating this opportunity.



Birthday Blessings to our tamariki that celebrate their birthday in August:

*Gemma Su
Madeline Foskin
Nellie Spencer
Eva Justin
James Gallagher
Casey Soon
Ezra Mulipola
Arthur Blakemore
Pippa Blakemore
Thomas Bull*



We extend a very warm welcome to the following student and whānau who started with us recently:

Edith Madgwick



Information for Whānau

Playing on the field

In term 3 children still need to be wearing a change of clothes to play on the field. This includes before school, morning tea time and lunchtime.

Leaving school at 3pm

All children are expected to be wearing their full school uniform when they leave the school grounds at 3pm. This includes school socks and shoes.

Attendance Dues and Financial Assistance

Payments of attendance dues for Term 1 and Term 2 are overdue with Term 3 fees now also falling due. We would appreciate you please making payments towards these as soon as possible. Collection reports are sent to the Catholic Diocese on a monthly basis as a part of our obligations. 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. If your family is facing financial difficulties, please contact Ilana in the school office, your Parish Priest, or Auckland Common Fund Ltd at the Catholic

In and Around School

Reminder to check out our [Highlights](#) site for even more photos and events from GSS....



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 - please click [here](#).

GSS PTA NEWS



Olympic Success

Congratulations to all the tamariki who participated in the GSS Olympics last Friday! A big thank you to our fabulous teachers and parent helpers for making the event a success.

Our school community has shown incredible support, and we've reached \$7.5k, which means Mr. Fahey will be slimed Wednesday 14 August 12.50pm after the singing assembly.

There's still time to contribute and help your class win the Toshiba pizza day, as the pages will remain open until Monday, 12th August.

Current Class Standings:

1. Room 4
2. Room 2
3. Room 5
4. Room 9
5. Room 8
6. Room 3
7. Room 6
8. Room 7

Thank you once again for your amazing support!

Quiz Night!!

The poster features a black and white photo of Albert Einstein sticking his tongue out, wearing red-rimmed glasses. The background is black with various colorful icons representing science and education, such as a lightbulb, a globe, a magnifying glass, a paper airplane, and a molecular model. The text on the poster is as follows:

IT'S A DRESS UP QUIZ PARTY!!
GSS QUIZ NIGHT
Date: 7th September | Time: 7pm sharp | Venue: GSS School Hall

The theme is 'G' - will you come as Ghosts, Grandmas, Goons, or something Green?

Gather your team of 8 and start thinking about your team name - tickets go on sale August 16th!

Tickets will be available in groups of 8 for \$200. Don't have a team? No worries! Buy a single ticket for \$25 and we'll match you up with one.

ALL WELCOME!
Friends and family of GSS are invited to join in the fun.

BYO Platter on the night - prize for the best platter!

Sign up here: [Quiz Volunteer Sign Up](#)

BYO Platter on the night - prize for the best platter!

Sushi, Pizza's & Moosies

This Term, sushi will be available on the following dates:

- Friday 09 August
- Friday 16 August
- Friday 23 August
- Friday 30 August
- Friday 06 September

Friday 20 September

Friday 27 September

Orders are taken online only via [Kindo](#).

** Please note, there will be no sushi on Friday 13th September due to Grandparents Day.

Pizza will be available on the following dates:
Tuesday 20th August and Tuesday 24th September.

We need one parent volunteer to help on each of the sushi and pizza dates. The volunteer needs to collect the sushi/pizza from the local supplier, write the children's names on the sushi/pizza package and sort the orders into class baskets. Please contact Emma Chan - chanemmanz@gmail.com if you are able to assist.

Ordering has been set up on Kindo for all the sushi dates this term. You can order for as many weeks in advance as you like. Sushi orders close at 8.30am on the day of the delivery. You can also cancel a sushi order up until 8.30am on the day of the delivery.

Moosies are also able to be ordered through Kindo and have been set up on Kindo for all of the Moosie dates this term. You can also order Moosies for as many weeks in advance as you like. Moosie orders close at 8.30am on the day of the orders. You can cancel a Moosie order up until 8.30am on the day of delivery.

If you have ordered a Moosie from Kindo, please remind your child they MUST line up outside Room 2 at lunchtime, after they are released from sitting/eating time. Moosie monitors are not able to find children once lunch begins.