

GOOD SHEPHERD SCHOOL



* Hello * Kia Ora * Malo e Lelei * Namaste * Cead Mile Failte * Talofa Lava *
* Kia Orana * Zdravo * Dzień Dobry * Apa Kabar * Guten Tag * An Nyung Ha Se Yo *
* Privet * Kwaziwai * Mabuhay Kayo * Kon Nichi Wa * Hola * Ola * Salaam * Fakalofa Atu

Newsletter No 20, 24 November 2016

From the principal...

We certainly have a full programme of learning and celebration at school over the next three weeks and we look forward to sharing many special occasions with you. This weekend is the Albert/Eden Cultural Festival, a wonderful annual celebration of the diversity of our schools, and we invite you all to come along to support our performance groups and those of our neighbouring schools. Next week we have the final board and PTA meetings for the year. We are very fortunate to have these two groups of people who give so much to benefit every child at Good Shepherd School. Don't forget the special Sports and Performance Assembly on Wednesday next week; we love to acknowledge the many talents of our children. Thank you to those parents who have made the commitment to the Potter's Park Carols evening on Sunday – our children will be performing at 6pm. On 7 December some of our children will be competing in the Weetbix Tryathlon and we will be celebrating our End of School and Graduation Mass as a whole community at 5.30pm. The final week at school is full of celebration with class picnics, the annual Christmas Concert and our final farewell assembly on Friday 16 December. We can be grateful for the many blessings we have as a community that give us such cause for celebration at this time of year.

We are well underway in our plans for 2017 and one important aspect of this is organizing classes for the coming year. As you can imagine, this is a complex process that brings together a number of considerations before any decision is made. These include ensuring siblings and where possible cousins are in different classes, working for a balance of girls and boys, looking at friendship groups and deciding which particular teacher may suit your child at any given year level. Where possible, we give children the opportunity to experience being at the younger end of the age range as well as the older end of the age range through their time at Good Shepherd. Throughout this process you can be assured that we have the best interests of every child in our school at the forefront of our minds and we are determined that every child will have the best year possible, whatever their year level. We appreciate your trust in us and we are very confident that through working closely together throughout the year we will achieve this goal.

We are now in the wonderful season of Advent, preparing for the coming of the Lord. In the busyness of this time of year, let us not forget the real reason behind Christmas.

Mā te Atua koe e manaaki

God is watching over you

Jane Hahn



*Come, Lord Jesus. Come and visit your people.
We await your coming. Come, O Lord.*

Personnel Update

It is with great sadness that we farewell **Fran Taylor** from her role as Deputy Principal at Good Shepherd. Those of you who have had long connections with the school will understand the enormous contribution Fran has made to the lives of our children, in the many roles she has undertaken during her time with us. I have worked closely with Fran for the time I have been here and have valued her professionalism, her wide experience and knowledge of effective teaching and learning, her wonderful sense of humour and her commitment to the well-being and learning of every child in the school. I know you will join me in wishing Fran every blessing as she moves on to a new phase in her life.

We also farewell **Lawrence Sharma**, who has been an important member of our team for a number of years. Many of your children will have benefitted from Lawrence's thoughtful approach as a classroom teacher, and his absolute commitment to their wellbeing and ongoing learning. He will be missed in the area of interschool sport, where he has worked hard to give as many opportunities as possible to our children to participate and excel in this area. Lawrence is taking his interest and expertise in special needs education to a new position at Sunnydene Special School.

Finally, we wish **Jordana Lima** well as she moves out of Auckland with her fiancée. Jordana has been such an asset to Good Shepherd in her work with that very important New Entrant/Year 1 level. Children in Sheridan also benefitted from her expertise in speaking Portuguese during the Pumanawa programme in term 3.

We have been lucky enough to make three new appointments to classroom teaching positions at Good Shepherd. We welcome **Fengmei Li**, an experienced teacher with a special love and expertise in music, **Ms Jade O'Neill** who is returning to New Zealand after teaching in the United Kingdom, and **Sandra Cultrera** who is moving to Auckland from Christchurch.

Welcome

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



Eden Gullery

School Attendance Dues

If you are paying by term, the instalment for term 4 was due last week (week 6). **All accounts are required to be settled by 1st December 2016.** If you have any questions regarding your account, please contact Kathryn in the school office.

Good Shepherd Awards

This week we congratulate **Lucia Donohoe** from Room 8 and **Rose Tooman** from Room 5 for winning the Good Shepherd Awards. Thank you Lucia and Rose for being such great role models for our values of care, respect and honesty.



Mufti Day and CakeRaffle tomorrow! 'Keep Little Hearts Beating'

The children will enjoy a mufti day tomorrow in support of the School Council 'Keep Little Hearts Beating' project. Thank you for sending them along with a gold coin donation to help us reach the target of \$2,000 to buy a LifePod incubator for premature babies in a developing country.

The School Council is running a Cake Raffle so we would appreciate you supporting this by buying a \$2 ticket before school or during playtime. Thank you to Lucy De Young and her sister for baking and donating the cake.

**Thank you for your help in
keeping Little Hearts Beating**

End-of-Year Celebration Mass

Wednesday 7 December at 5.30 p.m.

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 those students moving on to intermediate school from Good Shepherd. We look forward to the whole school community being present on this occasion.

Year 6 Pool Party

To mark the end of their time at Good Shepherd the Year 6 students will be having a pool party on Sunday 11 December 4-6pm. Please note that the school pool will be out of action for other families during this time.

Awards and Performance Assembly

Wednesday 30 November at 1.45 p.m.

At this time of year we have a number of athletics certificates to present and we would also like to give some of our performance groups another opportunity to perform in public. You are all invited to this extra assembly in week 8. ***Please note the earlier starting time as this differs from our previous notice.***

GSS Drama Club

The Drama club are pleased to once again have the opportunity to perform for you on Wednesday 30th November at the Sports and Performance Assembly. The performance will begin at **1.45pm**.

The students will be performing four plays.....

- **Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Wolf** (Yr3/4)
- **The Frog Prince** (Yr5/6)
- **Little Red Riding Hood** (Yr3/4)
- **Peddler Polly and the Story Stealer** (Yr5/6)

We hope to see you there.

School Masses

Every week one of our classrooms joins the parish community for Mass on Thursday morning at 8.55am. You are warmly invited to come along to these Masses. The following classrooms are timetabled for term 4:

Thursday 1 December	Room 5
Thursday 8 December	Room 6

Noel Leeming

Please find below a link from the NZ Catholic Education Office for a special offer at Noel Leeming which is currently running.

https://gallery.mailchimp.com/9918e3bda55b8f77166f216bd/files/Noel_Leeming_Nov16.pdf

School Roll 2017

As you are aware, there is pressure on our roll and we thank you for your diligence in informing us if you have a preschooler expecting to start at Good Shepherd next year. It would be useful to know those expecting to start in 2018 and beyond now too.

If you are not expecting your child or children to return to Good Shepherd School next year, please inform the Principal in writing as soon as possible so that we can make the place or places available for other families.

Catholic Caring Foundation

It is Bishop Pat's intent to help our brothers and sisters impacted by the recent and ongoing devastating earthquakes.

As such, the Catholic Caring Foundation has been nominated as the collection agency for a Catholic humanitarian response to these events.

The Catholic Caring Foundation will absorb all administration costs of this campaign so that **100%** of all funds raised will go directly to assisting the most affected and most vulnerable families.

Bishop Pat will determine how these funds will be allocated on an ongoing basis so that donations can have a fast and effective impact on those in distress.

- Please consider **making** a donation:
By Post: "The Catholic Caring Foundation, Private Bag 47904, Auckland 1144"
By Direct Credit: BNZ 02-0100-0242648-000
Please include your **first and last name** as a reference and **QUAKE** as the code. For a receipt, email info@caringfoundation.org.nz including your mailing address
Donate securely online: to <http://www.caringfoundation.org.nz/donate/online-donations/>
- Please specify that your donation is for the **QUAKE** appeal.
- Please spread the word with your networks, through social media, word of mouth or by forwarding this email.
- Run your own fundraising event and donate the proceeds to this campaign

Auckland City Football Club notice

Auckland City Football Club, located at 47A Kiwitea Street, Sandringham, is playing a game against Hawke's Bay United at their ground on Saturday 26 November at 4:35pm. A flyer was sent home with students yesterday with full details.

Thank you to ITM!

Almost a year ago, Good Shepherd School won a \$10,000 working bee for our school, thanks to **Auckland Rugby and ITM**. We would like to thank ITM for this wonderful gift – the prize money enabled us to put in four new seats outside Rooms 1 and 2, purchase a new pool cover for our swimming pool, refresh the cushion fall on the adventure playground and install a new power saver pump for the pool. As you can see from the photos below, this wonderful prize has helped us to maintain an attractive learning environment for our children and we have invited **Martin Day from Dayle ITM** to our school assembly next week to formally thank him and his company for their support.



From the PTA

THANK YOU!

To **Eddie & the Holey Fathers** for their amazing job tidying up the grounds and doing jobs. We all really appreciate that you took time out of your lives to do this.

To **Lisa Paniora** for her wonderful job in organising the Holey Father clean up – and keeping everyone fed and watered!

To **Eddie & Sarah Sella** for picking up the garden shed and delivering to school.

Last fundraiser for the year

The year is nearly over and we have one last fundraiser left to make one final boost for the bank account..... the **Monster Raffle**

*Each family is allocated 20 tickets to sell * Tickets are \$2 each * Tickets must be sold by 5 December

* Winners announced at the Xmas concert ☺ * Prizes galore!!

PTA Christmas end of year drinks

In the staffroom, 30 November, 7.30pm. We would love to see you – new parents, old (!), those who know us, those who don't. We promise we'll bring you some Christmas cheer – let Carla know if you can make it – rbcp@xtra.co.nz

Hope you have had a great week!

Carla and the PTA team

Cultural Celebration Day in Room 4



We had so much fun celebrating all the different cultures and trying new food!



GSS Yearbook

2016 edition

We have limited numbers this year of our 2016 GSS Yearbook available for purchase. It is important that you get in quick.

The school will not reserve yearbooks.

\$20.00 cash or cheque only

There are no online payments

**On sale outside the school office
30th November, 1st & 2nd December.**

8:30-8:45am and 3:00-3:15pm

If you have any queries regarding the yearbook please contact Miss Gleeson