



Te Kura o Heparā Pai

*Care Manaakitanga
Respect Whakaute
Honesty Pono*

Newsletter 21 28 November/ Whiringa-Ā-Rangi 2024

From the Principal

Kia ora e te whānau,

This week it was lovely to welcome in the 14 new entrants who will be starting with us at the beginning of 2025. It was wonderful to meet families and see the excitement in their children's faces as they made connections with each other and became motivated as they learnt about the opportunities 2025 will bring!

We also had an inspirational visit from Olympic Ambassador Samantha Charlton. Samantha is a member of the current New Zealand Women's Hockey Team. She shared her journey with our children about how she reached this elite level of sport and the children had an opportunity to ask questions to learn more.

The key initiative our student council have been working on this year has been the swimming pool project. Bridget Spencer, one of our Board Members (who sadly will be relocating to the South Island to be closer to family next year) will be leaving a beautiful legacy behind! The children wanted a Mural and using her artistic talents... a Mural she will deliver! You will see this currently in production on the concrete block

wall near the swimming pool entrance. Two new shade sails have been hung with Tiger Turf set to be laid over the Christmas break. It is amazing to see student voice in action! Our sincere thanks to the PTA for supporting this initiative and to one of our Dads, Stephen Greenhough who has spent a lot of his weekends chemical washing and water blasting the pool fence to tidy this up.

What a great community we have! The countdown is on with one of the most significant events at Good Shepherd School still to come - the End of Year Mass. This will be held at 5.30pm in the Good Parish Church celebrated by Monsignor Bernard Kiely. All children will be expected to attend and should be wearing school uniform. Attendance at this Mass is an important part of upholding the Special Character of our school. If you or your child are unable to attend this please send email notification to principal@goodshepherd.school.nz. This will be a beautiful way to round off a year with so much worth celebrating.

Te Atua ki a koe / God bless,
Ben Fahey

Upcoming Dates

04 Dec 12 Dec 13 Dec	End of Year Mass GSS Christmas Concert Term 4 Ends - Last Day of School School finishes at 2pm Whole School Prayers in Term Four: Friday 2.45pm in church Week 7 - Rm 4
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Please look carefully, as some of these dates have changed

Term Dates 2025

Term	Start	Finish
1	Tuesday 28 January	Friday 11 April
2	Monday 28 April	Friday 27 June
3	Monday 14 July	Friday 19 September
4	Monday 06 October	Friday 12 December

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](#)

[Good Shepherd Term 4 Overview](#)

[OSCA Forms](#)

[Good Shepherd Pre-Enrolment Forms](#)

[When to Contact School](#)

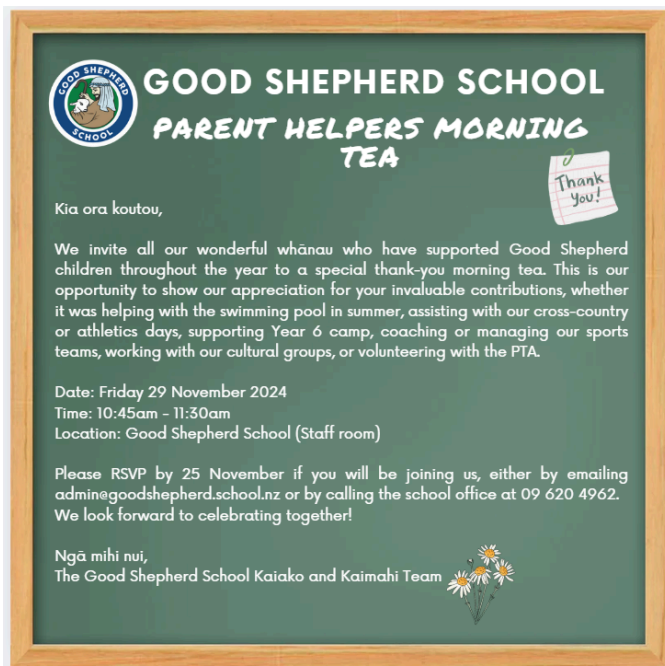
What to wear: Kapa Haka Performance clothes - Will be sent with your child on Friday the 29th
Bring: Sun Hats & Drink bottle (don't forget sunscreen)

Boys don't forget to wear black shorts.



Parent Helpers Morning Tea - 29 November 2024 TOMORROW!

All are welcome to join tomorrow in the staff room from 10:45am - 11:30am.



Personnel Update

We would like to wish Miss Lana Nimmo the best of luck as she takes the next step in her teaching career. Lana has been an exceptional, compassionate teacher for the tamariki in Room 2, and we are grateful for her contributions. We're also pleased that Ms. Carla Parry will continue to be involved with our school community, both as a parent and part-time teacher at GSS. Carla has been an amazing teacher, her work in the classroom is exceptional, going above and beyond for Room 6. Lastly, we warmly welcome Miss Michayla Chamberlain to our teaching staff in 2025, and we look forward to the passion, enthusiasm, and positive energy she will bring to our school.

Teaching Staff for 2025:

Principal	Ben Fahey
Deputy Principal	Megan Dyer
Deputy Principal	Heather McLeod

Classroom Teachers 2025

Albert/Eden Kapa Haka School Cultural Festival 2024

Good luck to our tamariki performing this Saturday at the Albert/Eden Kapa Haka School Cultural Festival. If you're free, go along and support.

When: Saturday 30 November

Venue: Mt Albert War Memorial Reserve (Rocket Park)

Meeting Point: The hall entrance behind the stage

Time: Arrive at 10:20am, performance 11:20am

Name	Room	Year
Sarah Carlsen	2	0/1
Michayla Chamberlain	3	1/2
Bronwyn Williams	4	1/2
Tainui Singh-Clark	5	3/4
Fengmei Li	9	3/4
Rhiannon Williams	8	4/5
Peyton Evans	6	5/6
Cathrine Kaur	7	5/6

Special Character

GSS Awards

Congratulations to Devin Foneska, Sam Tanginoa, Emlen Wetzell and Jacob Peiris on receiving the GSS awards. Continue being the shining examples that you are.



Good Shepherd Parish Mass times

We encourage all families to attend Mass together. Sunday Mass **9.30am**.

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 End-of-Year and Graduation Mass, Wednesday 04 December at 5.30pm

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 the students and families moving on from Good Shepherd School. All students are to meet their teachers outside Room 9, on the turf in full school uniform, at **5.00pm**.

We look forward to the whole school community being present on this occasion. If you are unable to attend could you please email Mr Fahey on principal@goodshepherd.school.nz.

Please note there will be a plate collection at Mass for the Parish.



Warm welcome to the following students and their whānau that recently joined our school community.

Miles Pye

St Vincent De Paul Giving Baskets



As we enter the Christmas season, let us take a moment to think of those families in NZ who are in need of support. If your family is able, we encourage you to contribute by providing a gift or donating non-perishable food items.

- **Odd-numbered classrooms** are asked to bring a wrapped gift, clearly labelled with "Boy" or

"Girl," approx age, to ensure the right gift reaches the right child.

- **Even-numbered classrooms** are requested to bring non-perishable food items to help stock food pantries and provide for those in need.

Your generosity can make a big difference in the lives of families this holiday season. Thank you for your kindness and support!

Year Six End of Year Pool Party

A special celebration to mark the end of an unforgettable journey at Good Shepherd School!

Join us as we celebrate the Year Six students and their incredible years together at Good Shepherd. Whether some are moving on to new schools or continuing their journey with old friends, the memories they've made here will last forever.

This event is a time to reflect, share laughter, and create even more lasting memories. Let's send our Year Six students off with a memorable celebration!

GSS GRADS POOL PARTY

FRIDAY 13 DECEMBER | *Last day of school*
2.30-5.00pm @ Pt Erin Pools, Herne Bay

Scan QR to join group
& RSVP for your child



**PIZZA, DRINKS,
SNACKS
& LOTS OF FUN**

\$13 per child

PARENT HELPERS NEEDED FOR TRANSPORT & SUPERVISION

Qs? CONTACT ANNA SHAW / 02102970532 annalshaw@gmail.com

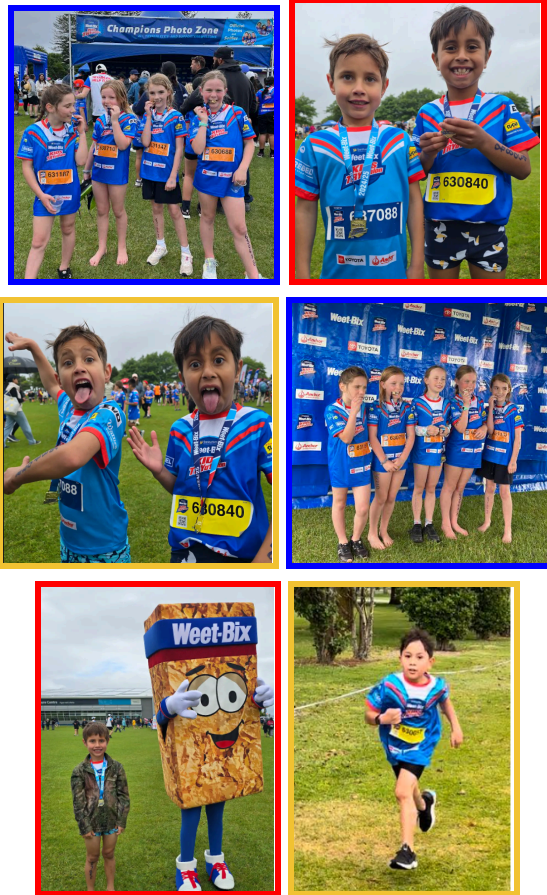
Sports

Eden Albert Athletics

On Tuesday a team of year 5 and 6 students represented GSS at the Eden/Albert Athletics competition. Well done to all our children for competing and congratulations to the following students for placing in their respective events:
Vaea 2nd in discus, Jamie 3rd in discus, August 2nd in the 200m and Luke 3rd in high jump.

GSS Our 'Weet-bix' Kids

Congratulations to our GSS tamariki that participated in last weeks 'Weet-bix' Tryathlon. Our school community is so proud of you all for showing up and giving it a go!

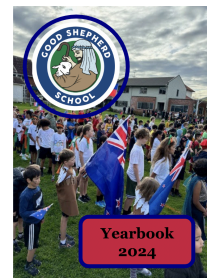


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In and Around School YEARBOOKS ARRIVING NEXT WEEK!

2024 has been a memorable year. Our yearbook will provide you with a permanent and colourful record of our students and their activities at school. All students are celebrated in this book, with pages dedicated to



each class, and special recognition for our leavers. Yearbooks can soon be purchased on Kindo for a cost of \$25 or just pop into the office. There are a few leftover yearbooks from 2023, so if you are quick you will have the chance to purchase one for the bargain price of \$10!

Room 1

Our newest members of the GSS whānau have dived straight into their learning with an exciting inquiry about kitchen science! We have been discovering how food changes when it is heated and cooled. Here are some pictures of the fun we've been having making toast, jelly and popcorn.



Sustainability

Last week Room 4 enjoyed making bath salts using epsom salts along with some rose petals, lavender and sage collected from our school gardens. This tied in to previous work where we have learned about the importance of bees to our environment and ways that we can help sustain and improve the bee population. Room 8 children enjoyed making some [herb bread](#) using sage, parsley and leek from the school garden. This also tied in to previous learning about the importance of bees.

Rustic Round Herb Bread

- 2 cups all purpose flour
- 1 cup grated cheese
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 tablespoon diced fresh herbs
- 50g cold butter
- 1/2 cup natural yogurt
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1 large egg



Directions

1. In a large bowl, combine the first 7 ingredients. Cut in butter until mixture resembles fine crumbs.
2. In another bowl, whisk the egg, yogurt and milk. Stir into dry ingredients until just moistened.
3. Spoon into a 20cm round baking pan coated with cooking spray or lined with baking paper.
4. Bake at 200° for 20-25 minutes or until golden brown. Cool in pan on a wire rack. Cut into wedges.



A Visit from an Artist

Room 8 was very fortunate to have a special art class last Friday run by local artist and former Good Shepherd parent, [Gabrielle Gatt](#). Gabrielle had the children looking very carefully at and noticing details of the sunflowers she had brought in. She also asked the children to think about how art is a feeling and that we can think about how an artwork makes us feel and also how the subject matter (sunflowers) look like they might be feeling if they had emotions. A couple of other very powerful messages to our Room 8 artists were, draw or paint what you see, not what you think other people see, and your mistakes are what makes your artwork unique to you and make it beautiful.



Information for Whānau School Camp for Year 5 Whānau Meeting

Parents of year five students, don't forget about the camp meeting tomorrow morning (Friday). Bring all your questions. **See you at 8:30am in the library.**



Samantha Charlton, Olympic Ambassador (Hockey)

Our tamariki were in the presence of Olympian and Commonwealth Games greatness when we hosted Samantha Charlton on Wednesday. Samantha has competed representing New Zealand more than 250 times including winning gold and bronze at Commonwealth Games and competing at three Olympics. What an inspiration!



Attendance Dues

Payments of all Attendance Dues are now urgently required as final 2024 payments will be made to the Catholic Diocese next week. Attendance Dues set by the Auckland Catholic Diocese will be increasing to \$532 annually (\$133 per term) in 2025. Special Character contributions collected on behalf of the Catholic Diocese will remain the same at \$60 per year.

ATTENDANCE DUES

Providing for Catholic Schools in the Auckland Diocese

Attendance Dues are used to pay for building-related costs at Catholic Schools in the Auckland Diocese. They are Attendance Dues as a condition of enrolment for all students attending the Auckland Catholic Schools. Attendance Dues are compulsory - Even a small contribution for parents and caregivers is an Attendance Dues under the Education and Learning Act 2020.

Year	Primary	Secondary
2024	\$133	\$133
2025	\$133	\$532

For more information:
<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/catholic-schools/>
 Phone: 099 300 2650 Email: enroll@cbds.org.nz

Catholic Special Character Contribution
 SUPPORTING CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN OUR SCHOOLS

The Catholic Special Character contribution is used to fund the staff and services provided by the Catholic Education Service Board who are responsible on behalf of the Department of Education and Employment for the Catholic Special Character of our schools.

The contribution is \$10 per term per student or \$60 per student per year.

The contribution is tax deductible and a 10% discount can be claimed from the ABE.

For more information:
<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/catholic-education-service/>
 Phone: 099 300 2031 Email: enroll@cbds.org.nz

GSS PTA NEWS



Crosses

In 2018, the entire school painted crosses and attached them to the netball court fence. They are a beautiful connection between the school, parish and the community. A group of our Year 6 leavers who were not at Good Shepherd when these were created, have spent time during Term 3 and 4 creating crosses. These were blessed with Father Bernard on Friday, and have now gone up on the fence. Our Year 6s will leave Good Shepherd in a few weeks time, but will have left behind a piece of their artwork, which will forever tie them to the school, parish and community. Next year, every student in the school will again produce a cross to hang on the fence.



We're proud to share that this project was funded by the PTA, thanks to the incredible support of our school community through various fundraising efforts. Your generosity helps bring projects like this to life, leaving a lasting impact on our school and students.

Nice Blocks!

Thank you for your support in our journey to become more sustainable. The tamariki are enjoying their new plastic-free ice blocks!

Ice blocks are able to be ordered through Kindo and are set up for the term. The cost of the new ice blocks is still **\$2**.

You can order ice blocks for as many weeks in advance as you like. Ice blocks orders close at 8.30am on the day of the orders. You can cancel an ice block order up until 8.30am on the day of delivery



Sushi, Pizzas

Sushi/pizza will be available on the following dates this term:

Friday 29th November - Sushi

Friday 6th December - Sushi

Wednesday 11th December - Pizza (Orders will close on Friday 6th December.

Friday 13th December - Sushi

Orders are taken online via [Kindo](#). Sushi orders close at 8.30am on Friday mornings. Pizza orders close at 6pm, 5 days prior to the pizza day. Once orders are closed, it is not possible to add an order. Sushi orders can be cancelled up to 8.30am on the day of the delivery but pizza orders can only be cancelled up until the orders close.

Thank you very much to the volunteers that are helping out with sushi and pizzas this term.

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.



Christ the King Catholic School
 Te Kura Katorika o te Karaiti te Kingi
 Respect - Compassion - Service - Peace & Joy

TWILIGHT FAIR

FRIDAY 6TH DECEMBER
 5:30pm to 9pm

JOIN US FOR LOTS OF FUN!

- Food trucks •
- Games •
- Bouncy castles •
- Cake stall •
- Face paint •
- Raffles •

and much more!

STARDOME
 FREEWAY TEN
 HANAUHIAHIA

WICKSTEAD
 CRICKET

AUCKLAND
ZOO
Love. Education.

BUTTERFLY creek

CHRISTMAS MARKET

SUNDAY 1st DECEMBER
 10AM - 3PM BANIFF AVE, EPSOM

FOOD - KIDS FUN - CRAFTS - SANTA PHOTOS - GIFTS - PLANTS

THE OLSH CHRISTMAS MARKET IS BACK!

Sunday 1 December
 10am - 3pm

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School, Baniff Ave, Epsom

- * White Elephant
- * Delicious range of food stalls
- * Quick fire raffles & silent auction with amazing prizes!
- * Our famous cake stall
- * Coffee

- * Christmas crafts & decorations
- * Kids games & entertainment (including inflatable zone)
- * Preserves & potted plants
- * Face painting, hair braiding and lots lots more

Come along for some Christmas cheer and support our little school