



Te Kura o Heparā Pai

Care Manaakitanga
Respect Whakaute
Honesty Pono

Newsletter 01
30 January / Kohitātea 2025

From the Principal

Kia ora e te whānau,

Nǐ hǎo and greetings to you all as we arrive back at school and welcome in the Chinese New Year!

There was certainly a buzz about the place as children spilled through the gates on Tuesday, eager to start the school year! It has been so lovely to welcome our children back and hear their excitement as they share their summer adventures with friends and staff. A special welcome to the new families in our community—we hope you are all settling in well. We look forward to getting to know you and your children.

Our Year 6 children are currently rounding off their final days of camp at Long Bay. All reports have shown a group of Year 6 students willing to step out of their comfort zones and embrace new opportunities. As our student leaders for 2025, they are shaping up to be excellent role models for our younger children. This experience was made even more special as Monsignor Bernard stopped by before our campers departed and offered a prayer and blessing for the week ahead.

For those in attendance at Mass last Sunday morning, we farewelled our much-loved Parish Priest, Monsignor Bernard Kiely, in a special celebration coordinated by the parish. Monsignor Bernard will be welcomed by his new parishes on Sunday, 9 February, at Sacred Heart College, West Tamaki Rd, Glendowie, during a 9:30 a.m. Mass.

Parishioners of Good Shepherd are welcome to be a part of the ‘handover’ to his new parishes. We will wait outside the chapel with him and be welcomed as part of a pōwhiri.

This Sunday, at the 9:30 a.m. Mass, we are delighted to welcome our new Parish Priest, Fr. Martin Wu, through the custom of pōwhiri. You are all warmly invited to attend and support this special occasion. Fr. Martin has been taking every opportunity to connect with the Good Shepherd community, and we are excited to walk alongside him. On Wednesday night he attended a special liturgy for the children and even surprised all the campers with treats!



The staff at Good Shepherd have loved welcoming your children into the 2025 school year, and we are excited about a wonderful year ahead.

Te Atua ki a koe / God bless,

Ben

Upcoming Dates

6 Feb	Waitangi Day (School Closed)
7 Feb	Pōwhiri, 9:15AM
13 Feb	St Peters Music try out and presentation 3PM
14 Feb	Whole School Prayers Room 7, 2:45PM
15 Feb	Parish School Mass 6PM & Picnic
20 Feb	Yr4-6 Swim Sports, Onehunga Jellicoe Pool
21 Feb	Whole School Assembly, Room 8, 2:15PM
26 Feb	Sacramental Program Parents, Yr4plus Meeting 6:30PM

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

Pōwhiri

Haere mai! We warmly invite ALL new families, as well as our existing families, to join us for our Pōwhiri on **Friday, 7th February, at 9:15 AM.**

New whānau please gather in the office at 9:00 AM.

You are welcome to bring your entire family—immediate and extended members. This Invite extends to all that shares a special role in your child's life.

Please RSVP to the office with the number of attendees so we can ensure there is enough kai (food) for everyone.

We also invite one parent from the new families to speak during the Pōwhiri. This short speech will include a thank you and two sentences in Te Reo Māori.

As we come together to welcome you, we share this: "*He waka eke noa*" – We are all in this together.

We look forward to welcoming you!"

Stationery

Week 1 and we've seen many students with their Qizzle boxes, which has been amazing. This has given the staff confidence that the ordering process has been a big success. All students should have their stationery by Monday 03 Feb, as it will be time to label books. The stationery list is available on the Qizzle website—simply search for 'GOOD SHEPHERD SCHOOL.' and choose your child's year group. If you choose to purchase from a different supplier, that is absolutely fine. Alternatively if you need assistance please contact the school office.

Back to School Uniform

It's great to see our GSS children looking smart in their summer school uniform. Let's maintain this standard all year! A reminder that, as we continue to experience warm weather, please ensure your child brings their school hat every day. The hat must be a wide-brimmed, navy blue hat only. If your child does not have a hat that meets the school's uniform whether it be an alternative style or color, they will be encouraged to play in the shade during break times.

Swimming Pool Care

We hope all our GSS families who hired keys have enjoyed using the school pool, especially with the amazing weather we've been blessed with during the holiday season and as we move into the coming term. Just a reminder to always double-check the area and tidy up before leaving, as there has been a lot of lost property left behind. Please also remember to lock the gate when you leave.

Note: How awesome is the school pool area!



Waste Free Lunches at GSS

A reminder about the Waste Free Lunchbox initiative at Good Shepherd School. Please review the attached flyer for our guidelines on this. It was great to see the enthusiasm and pride that the tamariki approached this initiative with last year, and it would be wonderful to see this continuing/increasing in 2025.

[How to pack a waste free lunch box](#)

Sushi, Moosies & Nice Blocks

Sushi Available from Week 2

Moosies/Nice Blocks Available from week 3

Sushi/Pizzas/Ice-Blocks

Sushi is available to order for your child most Fridays for lunch. **This Term, sushi will be available on a Friday from Week 2 onwards.** Ordering is taken online only, via [Kindo](#). Orders need to be placed before 8.30am on the Friday that you are ordering for but you can also choose to order in advance for as many weeks in the term as you like. Orders may be cancelled up until 8.30am on the Friday that you have ordered for. Sushi is supplied by Nagoya Sushi in Morningside, with the following options:

- Teriyaki Katsu Chicken on Rice \$8.50
- 4 Pack Tuna Sushi \$6.00
- * 4 Pack Chicken Sushi \$6.00
- 4 Pack Vegetarian Sushi \$6.00
- * 4 Pack Salmon Sushi \$6.50
- 6 Pack Tuna Sushi \$7.50
- * 6 Pack Chicken Sushi \$7.50
- 6 Pack Vegetarian Sushi \$7.50
- * 6 Pack Salmon Sushi \$8.00
- 8 Pack Tuna Sushi \$9.00
- * 8 Pack Chicken Sushi \$9.00
- 8 Pack Vegetarian Sushi \$9.00
- * 8 Pack Salmon Sushi \$9.50

Please note that the sushi lunch service is run by parent volunteers. Please look out for requests to help with collecting and distributing the sushi on a Friday if you are available. The PTA is also looking for a volunteer to take over the administration of sushi and pizza day service. Please email Emma Chan chanemmanz@gmail.com if you are interested in this role.

Nice Block Ice-Blocks

Ice-blocks are available for the children on most Friday lunch time. They can be ordered online via Kindo or your child can come to school with a \$2.00 coin. This service is run by our Year 6 House Captains. If you have ordered online, the House Captains will come around before lunch to give your child a stamp on the hand and then they need to collect their ice-block after the bell has gone at the end of lunch eating time. It is the child's responsibility to go and collect their ice-block and House Captains

are not able to search the playground for children who have forgotten to collect their ice-block. The ice blocks come in a range of flavours from [Nice Blocks](#).

Pizza Day

This Term, we will be having Pizza Day on Tuesday 25th February and Tuesday 8th April. Pizzas are supplied by Dominoes Sandringham. Orders for pizzas will always close **at 6pm, 5 days before Pizza Day** and it is not possible to accommodate any orders once they are closed. **Orders for our upcoming Pizza Day will close at 6pm on Thursday 3rd April.**

Please note that Pizza Day is run by parent volunteers. Please look out for requests to help with collecting and distributing the Pizzas on a Tuesday if you are available. The PTA is also looking for a volunteer to take over the administration of sushi and pizza day service. Please email Emma Chan chanemmanz@gmail.com if you are interested in this role.

Volunteers Needed

If you are able to collect sushi or pizzas on the following dates, please email Emma Chan chanemmanz@gmail.com

- Friday 7th February (sushi)
- Friday 14th February (sushi)
- Friday 21st February (sushi)
- Tuesday 25th February (pizza)
- Friday 28th February (sushi)
- Friday 7th March (sushi)
- Friday 14th March (sushi)
- Friday 21st March (sushi)
- Friday 28th March (sushi)
- Friday 4th April (sushi)
- Tuesday 8th April (pizza)
- Friday 11th April (sushi)