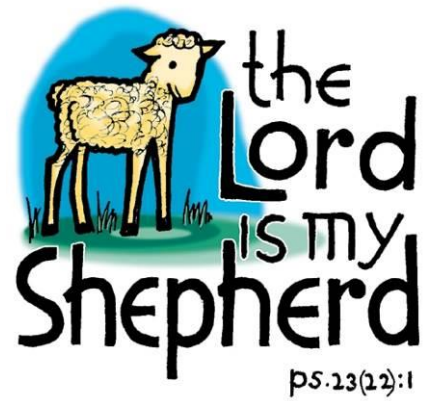


GOOD SHEPHERD SCHOOL

* 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 21, 15 December 2016



From the principal....

Thank you all for another great year at Good Shepherd! Last week's Mass was a very fitting way for our whole community to thank God for all the blessings of 2016, and to farewell our graduates moving on to intermediate school. The focus of my end-of-year address at the Mass was our vision statement that underpins every decision we make and action we take at Good Shepherd:

Good Shepherd School provides a Catholic environment in which students become critical and creative thinkers who are positive in their own identities and who contribute to the global community.

This statement captures our four main strategic objectives for the next few years – the deepening of our Catholicity in order to foster the faith formation of every student, supporting our learners to become competent thinkers and problem-solvers who actively seek, use and create knowledge, the building of a resilient community at Good Shepherd, and a community-wide commitment to sustainability and environmental awareness. We look forward to working closely together with you in order to achieve these goals.

This week we say goodbye to some families who have had a long association with our school. Good Shepherd has been a big part of your lives for a number of years and you will always belong to our family. Thank you for your contribution over the years and we look forward to catching up with you to hear how you are going.

Thank you to the outstanding staff of Good Shepherd! We are very lucky to have teachers and support staff who work so tirelessly for our students. I hope you all have a well-deserved break over the summer. God bless you all and keep you safe during the holidays.

Ngā mihi o te Kirihimete ki a koe.

Jane Hahn

Prayer for Advent

God of Advent, we are an impatient and busy people. We are propelled into the Christmas season and swept away by activity. Help us to slow down and savour Advent.

Teach us in this rhythm of expectation to see You at work in our lives and in the world. Your Son was not born in a castle to strong rulers. He was born in a barn to a vulnerable young woman. That teaches us something about You.

Open our eyes to the vulnerable around us in our own communities and in our global home. Guard every child in need. Equip us, Your people, to fill in the valleys and make the rough ground level.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen



Good Shepherd Awards

This week we congratulate **Seini Berwick** from Room 7 and **Cameron Pereira** from Room 5 for winning the Good Shepherd Awards. Thank you Seini and Cameron for being such great role models for our values of care, respect and honesty.



Good Shepherd Christmas Concert – Tonight!

Good Shepherd children and teachers would like to invite all families to a Christmas concert. This will be an interactive event where you can come and sing some carols with the school. All classes will be performing a class Christmas item. Parents will be provided with a carol sheet to join in the singing while classes are in transition from one performance to another.

Thank you for your contributions to our gift boxes that will be delivered to the St Vincent de Paul Society tomorrow. There is still time to bring in either a non-perishable item of food or a wrapped unisex gift to add to the boxes tonight.

Come and start your picnic early! The weather forecast is for rain later in the evening so we may start the concert at 6pm. All children should be at school by 5.30pm to report to their teachers. Bring your own food and drinks and sausages will be for sale at the PTA sausage sizzle. Once the concert is finished all children will be under their parents' supervision. The event will finish at 8.00pm.

Event: Good Shepherd School Christmas Concert

Date: Thursday 15 December

Time: 5.30 p.m. children to report to teacher; performances begin 6.00 p.m.

Place: School field

So come on and book in the event, bring your picnic rugs and join with us to celebrate this special time of year with the children of Good Shepherd!

2017 Classes

On Friday your children will have the opportunity to visit their classrooms for 2017 and to spend some time with their teacher next year. Organization of classrooms for 2017 will be as follows:

Room	Teacher	Year Groups
1	Sandra Cultrera	Years 0/1
2	Janet Scanlan	Years 0/1
3	Heather McLeod	Years 1/2
4	Jessica Briggs	Years 1/2
7	Kezia Vergis	Year 3
8	Jade O'Neill	Years 3/4
9	Louise Drummond	Years 4/5
5	Fengmei Li	Years 5/6
6	Melissa Down	Years 5/6

Please note that some children will stay in the same class with the same teacher. This is not a disadvantage for your child as they will be working with someone who knows them well, nor is it an indication that they have not done well in 2016. As always, our goal is that every child have a great year of learning in 2017. A letter will come home to you on Friday afternoon advising you of your child's placement next year, and will also give you some information on stationery requirements for 2017.

NO Sushi/Moosies tomorrow

There are NO Sushi or Moosie sales tomorrow. Please provide lunch for your child.

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.

Last day of term 2016

School finishes this year on
Friday 16th December at 2pm

First day of term 1 2017

Tuesday 31st January 2017

Weetbix Tryathlon

Congratulations to all the Good Shepherd children who took part in the Tryathlon last week. They had a wonderful day at Mountford Park, competing in the swimming, cycling and running event and receiving their medals from Valerie Adams herself! Thank you to all the parent helpers and especially to Eddie Sella for coordinating the team.



From the PTA

We'd like to thank you all for your support, enthusiasm and passion for our school this year. We have achieved so much with the help from all of you. Wishing you all a very safe and happy Christmas - we look forward to seeing you all next year. Happy holidays!

Helen, Leonie, Sarah and Carla

