

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 1, 2 February 2017



From the principal....

As you know, teachers and support staff begin to prepare for the school year long before the first day back to school and seeing all those excited faces this week makes all the work worthwhile! Welcome back everyone and a special welcome to the Good Shepherd community to all our new students and their families. We are very blessed to have three wonderful teachers joining our team in 2017: Ms Sandra Cultrera will be in Room 1 with our new entrants and Year 1 children, Ms Jade O'Neill in Room 8 working with our Year 3/4 learners and Ms Fengmei Li in Room 5 with Year 5 and 6 students. They are bringing with them a wealth of experience in education and their own particular strengths and we look forward to the positive contributions they will make to our school community.

2017 is going to be an exciting year and I would like to share with you some of the events and projects we are looking forward to:

- The review of pastoral care in our school community as part of our regular review of our Catholic special character
- Continuing to work as a teaching staff to create a learning environment that promotes students' ownership of and participation in their learning
- Working closely with four Catholic secondary schools and six Catholic primary schools in the Central Catholic Community of Learning
- Working with our parents and students in the building of a resilient community at Good Shepherd
- Developing initiatives that continue to build our students' awareness of their role in protecting our environment
- The Good Shepherd PTA fair in November

We wish our Year 6 children, their teachers and their families well as they enjoy a week of outdoor activities at the Marine Education and Recreation Centre in Long Bay. They are having a wonderful time and will return to school on Friday, tired but very happy. A great way to start their final year at Good Shepherd. We are also thinking about those senior students who have moved on to intermediate this year and wish them every blessing as they begin this new phase in their lives.

Finally, I hope you will be able to enjoy some of the festivities on offer in Auckland as we celebrate Chinese New Year.

Shangdi baoyou.

God bless

Jane Hafn

Good Shepherd School Staff for 2017

Jane Hahn	Principal		
Sarah Gleeson	Deputy Principal	Leader Connolly Syndicate	
Heather McLeod	Teacher Years 1/2	Leader Sheridan Syndicate	Room 3
Melissa Down	Teacher Years 5/6	Director of Religious Studies	Room 6
Marguerite Butcher	Reading Recovery	SENCO	
Sandra Cultrera	Teacher Years 0/1		Room 1
Janet Scanlan	Teacher Years 0/1		Room 2
Jessica Briggs	Teacher Years 1/2		Room 4
Fengmei Li	Teacher Years 5/6		Room 5
Kezia Vergis	Teacher Year 3		Room 7
Jade O'Neill	Teacher Years 3/4		Room 8
Louise Drummond	Teacher Years 4/5		Room 9
Megan Chambers	Teacher Room 3 (Teacher release 2 days per week)		
Rebekah Capon	Teacher Room 6 (Teacher release 1 day per week)		
Rachel Suggate	Teacher Room 8 (Teacher release 1 day per week)		
Fran Taylor	Classroom support		
Clare Fala	Classroom support		
Kathryn Twort	Office Administrator		
Irene Petau	Office Assistant		
Sharyn Hodge	School Caretaker		
Liam O'Reilly	Teacher Aide		
Zdenka Krivokuca	Teacher Aide		
Charna May	Teacher Aide		
Janelle Pool	Teacher Aide		
Alex Vergis	OSCA Supervisor		
Vanessa Vergis	OSCA Assistant		
Saagri Joshi	OSCA Assistant		
Stacey Burnett	OSCA Assistant		
Annie Hwang	OSCA Assistant		

As you can see, most of our classes have two year levels in the one room. This organization is known to be effective for all children and all children will be working at their appropriate levels.

Powhiri to welcome Monsignor Bernard Kiely to Good Shepherd Parish/School Mass for Term 1: Saturday 18 February 5.30 p.m.

This year we are having our first Parish/School Mass for the year on a Saturday evening, to coincide with the welcome to Monsignor Bernard Kiely to our Good Shepherd community. This will be a wonderful occasion with the children being involved in the powhiri and taking responsibility for the singing in the Mass. As a parish school it is an expectation that all Good Shepherd children and their families attend this Mass. The children must wear their school uniform and report to their classroom teachers at 5.30 p.m. to prepare for the welcome. Mass will commence at 6.00 p.m. and will finish at approximately 7.00 p.m. Mass will be followed by supper in the hall.

Thank you for your support of our Catholic special character.

Good Shepherd Parish News

This week we farewelled **Father Philip Sullivan** from his role as Parish Priest at Good Shepherd. We have had the privilege of working with Fr Phil over the last year and he has provided wonderful care and guidance to both the parish and the school. Thank you, Fr Phil, for the interest and support you have given the staff and children of Good Shepherd School. We are also saying goodbye to Fr Lito who has worked so closely with Fr Phil. We wish you both every blessing for the future and we extend a warm invitation to you to come back to visit us whenever you are in the area.

Over the next two weeks we will be welcoming **Monsignor Bernard Kiely** as the incoming parish priest at Good Shepherd. Msgr Bernard is coming from St Patrick's Cathedral where he held the position of Cathedral Administrator and we are looking forward to working closely with him to further strengthen the relationship between the parish and school during his time with us. See the notice about our Parish/School Mass for details of the welcome for Msgr Bernard on Saturday 18 February.

Some reminders for the beginning of the year:

Stationery

Thank you for making such an effort to pay for your child's stationery. It is very important that we make maximum use of every school day for learning and having the correct tools helps to provide your child with a positive start to the school year.

Uniform

It was great to see the children turn up this week looking neat in their uniforms. We continually reinforce the importance of taking care and pride in our school and part of this is the school uniform. **Please name all clothing.**

School uniforms can be purchased on **Thursday mornings** between 8.30am and 9.00am. Please note, the school does not have eftpos or credit card facilities.

We are sun smart!

School sunhats are compulsory for all children as part of our summer uniform. These are available from the school office. Children without school sunhats will be required to play only in shaded areas during break times. We also encourage all children to put on sunblock in the morning and to re-apply this before going out during break times. Sun block is available in all classrooms and teachers will also be re-enforcing this message.

Attendance and Punctuality

We cannot emphasize strongly enough how important it is for children to be at school every day unless they are genuinely too unwell to attend. **EVERY DAY COUNTS.**

Our school day starts at 8.50 a.m. Any one arriving after this is asked to report to the school office. Please aim to have your children at school before 8.45 as this gives them a positive start to the day.

Car Park Safety

The chain into the Telford Avenue car park is put up every day between 8am and 9am and then again from 2.45pm to 3.30pm to keep all cars out of this area. This is to keep our children safe during those busy pick up and drop off times. All children are required to wait on the church steps to be picked up in the afternoon and we appreciate your promptness in doing this. Don't forget we have some excellent Walking School Buses at Good Shepherd so please contact us if you would like some more information on these.

Leadership Assembly

On Friday 10 February at 9.00am, the Good Shepherd School leadership badges will be awarded. Parents/Caregivers are welcome to attend this assembly.

Travelwise- Back to School Campaign Thursday 9 February

Next week our Travelwise team will be involved in our first 'Back to School Campaign' for the year. They will be reminding drivers to slow down for children walking, biking and riding their scooters to school.

Connolly Swimming Carnival – Rooms 5-9 Wednesday 15 February, 9am -1pm

The carnival is on Wednesday 15 February, from 9am until 1pm at Westwave Pool and Leisure Centre in Henderson.

If you are able to help at our Connolly Swimming Carnival, could you please email Heather McLeod on hmcleod@goodshepherd.school.nz Please indicate if you are willing to get into the pool.

More information will be sent home with the children next week.

Good Shepherd School Cultural Calendar *"The beauty of the world lies in the diversity of its people."~unknown*

Good Shepherd School would like your help to create a **Good Shepherd School Cultural Calendar for 2017.**

The calendar aims to raise awareness of key cultural events and days that are important to our families and community.

How can you help? We would like you to take the time to identify key cultural celebrations and the dates that are important to your family and heritage. Once you have identified the event/s with the correct date/s, please forward to admin@goodshepherd.school.nz by the end of Week 3 of Term One.

We will then collate the celebrations onto a calendar to be used in our classrooms to celebrate and share the rich diversity of our school. Teachers will display the calendar in the classroom and if your child wishes to do a mini lesson or share information about these events they will have the opportunity; please let the teacher know as they arise.

Class Masses this term

Once a term each class attends the 9.00am Mass with the parish. Class Masses for the rest of the term:

- Thursday 16 February Room 9
- Thursday 23 February Room 8
- Thursday 2 March Rooms 1/2
- Thursday 9 March Room 6
- Thursday 16 March Room 3
- Thursday 23 March Room 5
- Thursday 30 March Room 4
- Thursday 6 April Room 7

You are warmly invited to join the classes at these Masses.

Whole school prayer

Room 3 will be leading our whole school prayer next Monday at 8.55am. The timetable for the rest of the term is:

- Tuesday 7 February Room 3
- Monday 13 February Room 2
- Monday 20 February Room 6
- Monday 27 February Room 1
- Monday 6 March Room 8
- Monday 13 March Room 4
- Monday 20 March Room 5
- Monday 27 March Room 7
- Monday 3 April Room 3
- Monday 10 April Room 6

Year 3 Flippa Ball Players Needed!

Calling all Year 3 students who might be interested in playing flippa ball this term. We are holding a 'have a go' session on Saturday 11 February at 4pm at Three Kings School Pool.

Games will be held on Sunday afternoon at St Cuthbert's College with practices on Saturday afternoon. Any questions contact Sarah McHardy at sarah_judd@slingshot.co.nz

Sacrament of Baptism

For any number of reasons, some children have not been baptised and we would like to continue to support those families interested in their children taking this important step in their faith journey. The school is working closely with the parish team who offer Baptism on the last Saturday of every month (other than December and January). Please contact Miss Down at mdown@goodshepherd.school.nz if you would like more information or support throughout the process.

Attendance Dues and Donations

As always at this time of year, there has been a lot in the media recently about the attendance dues and donations schools are asking their parents to pay. Next week you will receive a statement outlining 2017 dues and donations for your child/children at Good Shepherd School. Attendance dues are compulsory and enable the Catholic Diocese of Auckland to provide and maintain the land and buildings in our Catholic school system. The Special Character donation also supports the wider Catholic education system by helping to provide religious education advisers and other personnel.

The other contributions you are asked to pay come directly to the school and enable us to provide the resources and programmes for all children that you have come to expect from Good Shepherd. We ask that, if at all possible, you pay all the contributions outlined in your account. As always, if you have any difficulties at all please do not hesitate to speak to Mrs Hahn

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE DUES SPONSORSHIP SCHEME

The Attendance Dues Sponsorship Scheme - has been created to assist families who may need financial support with the payment of attendance dues, for students attending Catholic schools in Auckland Diocese, both primary and secondary.

The purpose of the sponsorship scheme is to allow parents or caregivers facing financial hardship another option to seek relief where they may be reluctant to approach their school for help.

The existing financial hardship scheme – operated by your school – is also available to parents or caregivers facing hardship and we do encourage families facing financial difficulties to please contact your school office.

Application forms are available from school and parish offices, or can be down-loaded from the Catholic Schools Office Website: www.catholicschools.org.nz (go to Property and Finance / Finance / Attendance Dues)

If you have any queries or require assistance with the payment of attendance dues under the sponsorship scheme, you are invited to phone in confidence, Carol Krebs (Ph. 360 3069) at the Auckland Diocese office.

Applications to the sponsorship scheme for 2017 attendance dues will be accepted by the Auckland Common Fund Ltd up to **November 2017**.

Communication

At Good Shepherd School we are committed to an 'open door' environment. This means that we welcome our families into the school and classrooms and will endeavour to be available to you if you would like a quick catch up. For anything longer we appreciate you ringing the school office to make an appointment. Remember, if you have any worries or concerns we are only a phone call away.

New student management system

We have recently installed a new student management system at school. As with any new system it will take some time to fully familiarize ourselves and we thank you for your patience at this time. Next week we will be sending out family contact update sheets for you to complete. These will also require you to update all medical information for your child.

Good Shepherd PTA Meeting

The PTA is a very important part of Good Shepherd School and is a way you can become more involved in your children's learning and help to make our community even stronger. The PTA works not only as a fundraiser for important learning resources for the children but serves as a valuable means of communication between home and school.

You are warmly invited to the first meeting for 2017 (date to be confirmed) and parents new to the school will be especially welcomed

Sushi and Moosie

There will be **NO** sushi or moosie sold tomorrow. Sushi and Moosie orders will start on Friday 10th February.

**St Peter's College
Catholic School for Boys Years 7 – 13**

**OPEN DAY
For Year 7 Enrolments in 2018
Tuesday 28th February 2017
9.30am or 1.00pm
in the College Hall (main school entrance –
Mountain Road)**



Welcome

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

William Harris	Henry Russell
Harriet Russell	Harper Kelly
Jodeci Lagofaatasi	Elizabeth Harkison-Merrick
Hao Nguyen	Liadan Baker-Seoighe
Mackenzie Taito	Madison McLeod
Ava Elbourne	

Congratulations to the following children who celebrated their birthday in JANUARY 2017:



Liadan Baker-Seoighe	Lucia Donohoe
Stella Fergus	Lennox Fuimaono
Elliott Humphrey	Jodeci Lagofaatasi
Maggie Lewthwaite	Harrison Maddox
Luke McKinnel	Madison McLeod
Kevin Murphy	Hao Nguyen
Soeun Park	Aiden Pool
Riley Sella	Mackenzie Taito
Victor Telequido	Ella Tuibenau
Benjamin Woffindin	

Important Dates

10 February	Leadership Assembly
15 February	Connolly Swimming Carnival
18 February	Parish/School Mass
28 February	Eden/Albert Swimming Zones GSS BOT Meeting

2017 Term Dates

Term 1:	31st January – 13th April
Term 2:	1st May – 7th July
Term 3:	24th July – 29rd September
Term 4:	16th October – 15th December

Guitar Lessons at Good Shepherd School

This year we will again be offering our families the opportunity to learn to play the guitar during school hours with the New Zealand Modern School of Music. The lessons will once more be with Michael Collier and if we have too many applications preference will be given to senior students. Please fill out the attached Enrolment Form and return to the school office if you are interested in this offer.

Concerns and complaints

At Good Shepherd School we are committed to an 'open door' environment. We know that if a problem does occur, early intervention often reaps the best results, so take your concern to the appropriate person at the earliest possible convenient time. It is always better to talk directly to the teacher rather than let a problem grow through not addressing it.

CONCERNS AND COMPLAINTS FLOWCHART

If you are worried by something in your child's classroom here is what to do:

