

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 4, 16 March 2017

From the principal....

I often think that schools are the best working environment you could possibly ask for! Those of us who are privileged to work in education love working with children, shaping their learning and their overall development and creating opportunities for them to reach their potential. Schools, along with families and whānau, have a role in forming good citizens who successfully live, learn, work and contribute to their communities. In the case of Catholic schools, this role extends to ensuring our children develop a personal relationship with God.

Our job, therefore, extends much further than teaching children how to read, write, compute, or the content of the eight learning areas described in our curriculum (nine including Religious Education). The New Zealand Curriculum has identified five **Key Competencies** that will not only enable children to become successful learners, but will also support them in reaching their potential as adults. These key competencies are:

- Thinking
- Using language, symbols and texts
- Managing self
- Relating to others
- Participating and contributing

Relating to others fits particularly well with our school charism, which focuses on Jesus, the Good Shepherd as our role model. The New Zealand Curriculum describes students who relate well to others as being *aware of how their words and actions affect others* (p.12) and this is very much part of our Good Shepherd Way where we respect and care for others in what we say and do. Children (and often adults too) will sometimes use words that hurt others and our core values provide us with a shared language to talk to them about the effects of this behavior. Today we are sending home to you again our summary of 'The Good Shepherd Way' so that you can use the same language, if you so wish, when discussing this aspect of 'relating to others' with your children. Working in close partnership with our parents and whānau is another great thing about working in schools!

God bless

Jane Hahn

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:

23 March	Room 5
30 March	Room 4
6 April	Room 7

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

Whole school prayer

Room 5 will be leading our whole school prayer next Monday at 8.55am. The timetable for the rest of the term is:

Monday 20 March	Room 5
Monday 27 March	Room 7
Monday 3 April	Room 3
Monday 10 April	Room 6

School Assembly Friday 17th March

Room 6 will be presenting assembly tomorrow. You are all very welcome to attend. Assembly starts at **2.15pm**

Good Shepherd Awards

This week we congratulate **Ethan Sharma** from Room 6 and **Harper Kelly** from Room 1 for winning the Good Shepherd Awards. Thank you Ethan and Harper for being such great role models for our values of care, respect and honesty.



Irish Dancing Display

9.00-9.30am Friday 17th March

There is an Irish dancing display tomorrow in the hall to celebrate St Patrick's Day. All are welcome to attend.

A message for our Irish dancers – please come to school in your costume but don't forget to bring your school uniform to change into after the display.

Feast Day of St Joseph

Monday 20 March

Next week we wish you a 'happy feast day' as we celebrate that special man, St Joseph, husband of Mary and patron saint of families, workers, travellers, immigrants and the Universal Church. St Joseph is a very special person to Good Shepherd because our school was founded by the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart (the Josephites) just over 100 years ago. We will, therefore, be celebrating with the following activities:

8.50am Special Liturgy to St Joseph (Room 5 organising) in the hall – please join us.

9.15am – 10.15am Tabloid sports (in house groups) organised by our House Leaders and other senior students – **children can come to school dressed in their house colours** and we are asking them to bring in a gold coin donation to contribute to the Caritas Lenten Appeal.

12.30 – 1.30pm Sausage sizzle – sausages provided to our students thanks to our PTA.

A Message from Msgr Bernard Kiely

At this time of the year many of our families are asking for our Parish Priest to sign Preference forms for Catholic secondary schools. Msgr Bernard will be available to sign Preference forms after the 6.00pm Mass on Saturdays and the 9.30am Mass on Sundays.

HOLEY FATHERS – ANNUAL HOT HOUSE CHALLENGE

Saturday 18th March 3.00pm



The Holey Fathers social club for GSS dads invites all our kids, staff and their families to the 9th Annual Hot House Challenge fun run event, kicking off at 3.00pm on Saturday 18 March at the school. This free event for the kids combines a cross-country with an obstacle course and there's also the inter-house tug of war! Every kid earns house points and the chance to help win the coveted Hot House Challenge Trophy for their school house.

Our huge inflatable 25m CRAZY CRUISER waterslide is always a massive hit with the kids, and it's back again this year. There'll be music, a sausage sizzle, and cold drinks and hot coffee will be available. Bring a picnic and your own refreshments and hang out with other Good Shepherd families after the event. Don't forget your water pistols (and a spare t-shirt for the kids)! It's going ahead rain or shine, so make sure your family is part of the fun.

Keeping our Children Safe

Next term we will be taking our children through the **Keeping Ourselves Safe** programme, a resource provided by the New Zealand Police that enables children and young people to learn and apply a range of safety skills that they can use when interacting with others. As part of the Keeping Ourselves Safe programme we will be running a parent information meeting 2.30 – 3.00pm on Thursday 6 April. Attached to this newsletter is a communication from our Police Liaison Officer with advice around personal safety in public, for you to discuss with your children should you wish to do so.

Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences

Tuesday 11 April and Wednesday 12 April

This is one of those special times for children, parents and teachers when we get together to focus on individual children's learning. Schools in the 21st century focus on enabling students to learn how to learn and so become life-long learners. Children are encouraged to take control of their own learning so it is very important that your child comes with you to these three-way conferences. The teachers are looking forward to discussing your child's progress, achievement levels and next learning steps with you and your child.

Remember: school closes at 2.00 p.m. on Tuesday 11 April to allow the conferences to begin (normal 3.00 p.m. closing on Wednesday 12 April).

Online appointment bookings for the Parent/Teacher/Student conferences will open at 12 noon on Friday 31st March 2017. Instructions for booking the appointments online will follow shortly.

PTA Caring Committee

If you are able to assist the Caring Committee in support of their community service, please either complete the form sent home earlier this week or email Malia DeLacey on maliastowersdelacey@gmail.com.

Catholic Caring Foundation

The Catholic Caring Foundation is now accepting grant applications for 2017. The Bishop's Foundation disperses grants to agencies and community groups throughout the diocese who work with the most vulnerable in our community. If you know suitable agencies who might be interested in applying, our grant application form is available on our website: www.caringfoundation.org.nz
Applications close on **April 14th, 2017**

Parish News

Volcanic Street Entrance

The Volcanic Street entrance to Good Shepherd grounds will now have a chain across it overnight to prevent access to the carpark. The chain will be put up each evening and taken down each morning and at this stage it is not intended that it be padlocked. If the chain is still up when you arrive to drop your children at school in the mornings, it can easily be unclipped (and can stay down) to allow access.

Sacrament of Initiation will occur in Term 3, Week 9 Sunday 24th September at 2pm. Please book this date in your diary.

St Peter's College 2018 Enrolments

Enrolments for entry to St Peter's College for 2018 close on Friday 31st March 2017 at 4pm.

www.st-peters.school.nz

enrolments@st-peters.school.nz

Ph: 524 8108 x 7323

ASB School Banking

Application packs are available at the school office for students wishing to participate in ASB School Banking via their own ASB Headstart account. Our school banking day is **Friday** and each week students can drop off their deposit envelope into the secure drop box at the school office.



Lost Property

Please remember to check the lost property shelves inside the admin building. Please name all items belonging to your children including uniform, lunch boxes and swimming gear.

Room 8

Over the past two weeks Room 8 have been attending swimming lessons at the Dean Greenwood Swim School. We had such a fantastic time working with the coaches each afternoon on our swimming skills.



We used pool noodles to practise our long kicking legs.



The flutter boards helped us to practise out strokes and breathing



We worked up the confidence to jump into the deep end!
We practised our streamline pose and worked on our pencil jumps before some of us moved onto some diving

From the Director of Religious Studies (DRS)

Light it Orange Friday – Congratulations Good Shepherd School

Good Shepherd School took part in Shine's Orange Friday to raise awareness of domestic abuse in New Zealand. On Friday the 10th March Good Shepherd School was transformed into a sea of orange as staff, students and families arrived at school to take part in making a stand against domestic abuse in our community.

We collected donations for the cause and set a target for Good Shepherd School to raise \$350.00. However, with the outstanding support and community backing Good Shepherd School raised not only the awareness of this fantastic charity but a whopping **\$418.70**. Congratulations on your efforts and achievements.

Shine directly helps thousands of adult and child victims of domestic abuse to be safer. Shine motivates hundreds of family members that hurt their families to change their behaviour. They help thousands more by supporting and training other professionals to effectively intervene and support victims of domestic abuse. Shine is a non-profit organisation focusing on domestic abuse in New Zealand.



St Patrick's Day at Good Shepherd School



Good Shepherd School will celebrate the feast day of St Patrick on Friday 17th of March. The whole school will meet in the hall at 9am with the special character leader preparing prayers for St Patrick's Day. Then the talented Good Shepherd School Irish Dancing Group will demonstrate their skills and talent as they dance for us.

Don't forget to accessorise with green.

St Joseph's Day – Celebrated on the 20th March (Feast Day the 19th March)



As a community we come together to recognise our distinctive charism; Good Shepherd School celebrates three important feast days during the year, the feast day of St Joseph, the feast day of the Good Shepherd and the feast day of St Mary MacKillop.

The feast of St Joseph on March 19th (celebrated at school on the 20th of March) acknowledges the importance of St Joseph in the life of Jesus, and to the founding sisters who bore his name.

Good Shepherd School will be celebrating the feast day of St Joseph with Prayers organised by Room 5 at 9am in the Hall. The school will also have other celebratory activities throughout the day, tabloid sports, a St Joseph's Day treat and all students can come to school in their house colours.

A reminder of house colours:

Hillary	Blake	Sheppard	Cowley
Green	Blue	Red	Yellow

Photos from previous years:



FAMILY WHANAU BOOKS/WEBSITE

It is important that we share students' learning and key ideas with you and your whanau, to support and nurture the home environment through access to ideas and scripture readings. Each family is able to purchase a Family Whanau Book when they first arrive at Good Shepherd School. Alternatively, this resource is available on the Faith Alive site,

<http://www.faithalive.org.nz/families/>

At the beginning of each strand it is important that we share the Family-Whanau Summary with our whanau, so teachers will either send a copy home for the fridge or even send a note to check the website.



Learning Strand – THE HOLY SPIRIT – TE WAIRUA TAPU

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		<h2>Learning Strand – THE HOLY SPIRIT – TE WAIRUA TAPU</h2> <p>Family Whanau Sheridan Syndicate</p>	
Room One	Year One	<div style="border: 1px solid gray; padding: 10px; background-color: #f0f0f0;"> <p>Lesson Focus: God the Holy Spirit</p> <p>The Holy Spirit is God – the Third Person of the Holy Trinity. We use <i>symbols</i> like fire and wind for the action of the power or <i>Mana</i> of the Holy Spirit and we can see signs of the Holy Spirit – Te Wairua Tapu, at work in people's lives.</p> </div>	
Room Two	Year One	<div style="border: 1px solid orange; padding: 10px;"> <p>Take time to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – listen to the wind and think about how it is a sign of the Holy Spirit – walk in the wind and remember how it is like the Holy Spirit – you cannot see it but can feel it working – look out of a window and notice the effects of the wind – play with water and remember how it is a sign of the Holy Spirit – water plants and notice how it gives them life and energy like the Holy Spirit – tell children how you notice the Holy Spirit working in them and helping them to grow into the best person they can be </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid orange; padding: 10px;"> <p>Pray together</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – the Sign of the Cross using <i>holy</i> water – Holy Spirit of God bless me and my family </div>
Room Three	Year Two	<div style="border: 1px solid gray; padding: 10px; background-color: #f0f0f0;"> <p>Lesson Focus: The Holy Spirit in People's Lives</p> <p>We can respond to the Holy Spirit at work in our lives in many ways. Two important ways the Holy Spirit is at work in the Church, the people of God – <i>Te Whānau a Te Atua</i>, is through prayer and the <i>Eucharist</i>.</p> </div>	
Room Four	Year Two	<div style="border: 1px solid green; padding: 10px;"> <p>Take time to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – go on a family “joy walk” and enjoy each other's company – notice and enjoy all of the beauty around you – have a joke-telling time at home or when travelling and laugh a lot – invite each family member to name something they really enjoy doing and to do it together </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid green; padding: 10px;"> <p>Pray together</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – and ask the Holy Spirit to remind your family members to be loving, peaceful, joyful people – by sharing a special meal, lighting candles, playing quiet music and thanking the Holy Spirit for the gift of peace within your home and hearts </div>
		<div style="border: 1px solid green; padding: 10px;"> <p>Talk about – how your family feels about important things which are mentioned on the news</p> </div>	

Room Seven	Year Four	<p style="text-align: center;">Lesson Focus: Pentecost</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The coming of the Holy Spirit at <i>Pentecost</i> revealed the Trinity and the Church and enables people to live like Jesus and to know the Father. Through the Holy Spirit Jesus fulfilled his promise to be with his followers, through Church, Word and <i>Sacrament</i>.</p>
Room Eight		<p>At family prayer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - read Acts 2:1-13 and talk about how the apostles must have felt when they received the Holy Spirit on <i>Pentecost</i> day and suggest why Jesus sent his Spirit - pray by candle light to the Holy Spirit remembering <i>Pentecost</i> and asking the Spirit to help your family to live as Jesus lived with <i>tika</i>, <i>pono</i> and <i>aroa</i> - remind each other that Jesus promised to be with us always and he is through his Holy Spirit living in each family member 
Room Nine		
Room Five	Year Five	<p style="text-align: center;">Lesson Focus: Baptism and the Holy Spirit</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Through <i>baptism</i> people receive the Holy Spirit who strengthens them to believe, to hope and to love. <i>Baptism</i> frees people from original <i>sin</i> and personal <i>sin</i>. The indwelling of the Holy Spirit helps people to grow in <i>tapu</i> and <i>mana</i> and to be more like Jesus.</p>
Room Six		<p>Talk about</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - what we mean by the word <i>sin</i>, eg times when people choose to violate <i>tapu</i> by being selfish, hurtful and unloving - how God's <i>grace</i> – God's presence and action in the world enables people to avoid, to resist or restore <i>tapu</i> by making up for <i>sinful</i> actions - experiences of having the strength – <i>mana</i> to resist something <i>sinful</i> and ways you can make up for <i>sinful</i> actions - what happens when people <i>sin</i> – people's relationships with other people and with God are damaged - what people can do to live in loving relationships, eg spend time with each other, show concern and care – <i>manaakitanga</i> for each other, encourage each other, challenge each other in a positive way, respect each other's needs, share feelings with each other, listen to each other, pay attention to each other, notice how each other is each day, speaking and acting with honesty, truth and faithfulness at all times, sharing good and hard times, taking responsibility for one's actions - how, if we are in a loving relationship, we try to do what will help it to grow, relate this to our relationship with God – remind children that we are all children of God – <i>te whānau a Te Atua</i> 

From the PTA

THANK YOU!

To all those who came to our first meeting - it was a great turnout.

HELP NEEDED:



Have you run a kindy or sports raffle before?

We need a volunteer or two to run this baby for the Fair this year – please get in touch if you can help.
Justine - justineandronan@gmail.com

EXCITING PLANS FOR THE YEAR AHEAD!

The PTA is guided by the BOT when it comes to projects for our fundraising. They tell us what the school and our children need and we get right in behind them and fundraise – with the help of each and every person in the school.

Our Fair is held every second year and is our big fundraiser, although all those other things we do also bring in some awesome amounts of money.

Over the last couple of years some of the things we have raised money for are:

- The furniture and alterations to Rooms 3 & 4
- The Garden Shed
- The Stained Glass Window
- Library software, shelves & books
- Sports uniforms
- Irish Dancing costumes
- School uniforms for those in need
- A visit by New Zealand Opera to perform live to the children
- Contributed to the newly installed canopy

Our next big project is paying over \$20,000 for the turf about to go under the canopy!

What project will benefit from the 2017 Fair?

The BOT have identified **Resilience** and **Physical Wellbeing** as important areas of the Strategic Plan. The money we raise will go towards supporting these areas by creating an environment that fosters physical wellbeing and resilience. This could mean a confidence course, or cycle track around the school – the options are endless! What we do know is that something amazing will be planned throughout the year via staff, the BOT, parents, the community and our children. We are very excited to have the Fair committee working hard to prepare for the Fair, and look forward to having all your help too!

Good Shepherd School Fair 2017

Safe places, challenging spaces -- building physically resilient kids