

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 5, 30 March 2017

From the principal....

In the last newsletter I discussed the *Key Competencies* which are described in our New Zealand Curriculum as ‘capabilities for living and lifelong learning’. These competencies come into all aspects of learning and are particularly important for our children to develop in a rapidly changing society. They are also an important idea for our families and whānau to know about and understand because you can do lots of things to help your children use and develop them.

Previously I looked at the *Relating to Others* competency, the importance of ‘standing in other people’s shoes’, and how this aligns with our Good Shepherd Way. This week I would like to discuss briefly the *Managing Self* competency. Children (and adults) who manage themselves are self-motivated, have a ‘can-do’ attitude and understand themselves as learners. They are not passive participants but active sense-makers in the learning process. They are willing to take risks in their learning, are prepared to make mistakes and to come back from these mistakes – they are resilient in their learning and know what it means to be a powerful learner. Our three-way conferences are one of the ways we encourage our students to understand how they learn, to set themselves challenging goals and work towards them with the support of their teachers and their families. If you would like to know more about the Key Competencies and how you can support their development at home you can visit the website:

<http://nzcurriculum.tki.org.nz/Key-competencies/Capable-kids-Working-with-the-key-competencies#collapsible2>

Finally, as we near the end of this powerful liturgical season of Lent we are reminded by Pope Francis that ‘In Jesus, love has triumphed over hatred, mercy over sinfulness, goodness over evil, truth over falsehood, life over death’. It is a time to renew our encounter with Christ through the sacraments, to think about Christ’s presence in our lives today and to help the poor and the vulnerable in our world.

Te Atua ki a koe
 God bless
Jane Hahn

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:

Monday 3 April	Room 3
Monday 10 April	Room 6

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:

6 April	Room 7
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You are warmly invited to join the classes at these Masses.

Parish Family Mass 9.30am Sunday 7 May, the Feast of the Good Shepherd

Community is very important to us at Good Shepherd and part of building a strong Catholic community is celebrating the Eucharist together. On the first Sunday of term 2 we celebrate the Feast of the Good Shepherd and it is important for us, as a parish school, to attend Mass at our very own Good Shepherd Church on this occasion. We look forward to seeing all our children and their families at the 9.30am Mass on Sunday 7 May. Please put this time aside and thank you for your commitment to our community

Room 2 Assembly this week

You are warmly invited to attend this assembly on Friday at 2.15pm

Good Shepherd Awards

This week we congratulate **Trisha Raman** from Room 9 and **Sharelle Lemalu** from Room 2 for winning the Good Shepherd Awards. Thank you Trisha and Sharelle for being such great role models for our values of care, respect and honesty.



Student Achievement at Good Shepherd School

Included at the end of this newsletter there is a report on the National Standards results in reading, writing and mathematics from the end of 2016 that was presented and discussed at the last PTA meeting. Although we must remember that assessing students' learning can never be an 'exact science' this information shows that our children are doing well in all these areas. Our PTA meetings are not only focused on fundraising for resources that benefit all our students but are also an opportunity to exchange information between the school and our families and whānau. You are very welcome to come along to the next PTA meeting which will be advertised in the newsletters and on our website.

Keeping our Children Safe Parent Meeting

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 and you are warmly invited to attend this meeting to hear more about the content of the programme.

Swimming Pool Hire Keys

A reminder to families who hired a GSS swimming pool key for the season that keys need to be returned to the school office by **Friday 7th April 2017**. Incorporated in the key hire charge is a bond of \$30.00. This bond is refundable if the key is returned to the school office. If the key is not returned by this date, you will lose your bond.



Welcome

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

Darcy McGivern

Melody Tuala Soon

Attendance Dues

Just a reminder that if you are paying in term instalments they are now due and we would appreciate all Term 1 Attendance Dues to be paid by the end of the term, Thursday 13th April.

Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences

Tuesday 11 April and Wednesday 12 April

We allocate 10 minutes to each child's interview and 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.

Please visit www.schoolinterviews.co.nz enter code **n33w8** and follow the instructions. If you require any assistance with this please contact the school office.

Last day of Term

The last day of Term 1 2017 is Thursday 13 April. School will finish at 3.00pm.

A Request for Dads or Granddads

Are you free to spend 15-30 minutes at school working with a group of boys on their reading? We are interested in setting up a small group of boys to work with a positive male role model to provide some reading 'mileage' with materials that particularly appeal to boys. If you are free either at the beginning or the end of the day to take part in this trial we would love to hear from you! Please contact Mrs Hahn or the school office at admin@goodshepherd.school.nz

Board of Trustees Meeting

Our Board of Trustees meets on Tuesday 4 April, 7.00 p.m. in the Meeting Room.

Enrolments at Good Shepherd School

If you have any pre-schoolers at home or know of anyone who is interested in enrolling their child at Good Shepherd School, please enquire at the office for a pre-enrolment form.

Parish News

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.

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.

Children's Liturgy – Starting Term 2

Parents are the most important resource of Good Shepherd Parish. If you are interested in volunteering to develop children as Christians by teaching and providing challenges through the programme of Children's Liturgy during the 9.30 Mass on Sunday, please contact Mary – griffinm@slingshot.co.nz or in the evenings 6305 842. Training given.

Altar Servers – During Term 2

Each of us are called to encounter Jesus –
We are looking for new servers to join this ministry –
We welcome youth starting Year 5 and up and who have made their First Communion. This is a wonderful learning experience for the young members of the parish and seniors of the school. They learn about the faith and take on responsibility. Training will be provided.

Registration forms are available at either the school or parish offices. Any queries please contact Eden Laika – elai363@aucklanduni.ac.nz

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

Daylight Saving 2017

Don't forget that daylight saving ends this weekend. Put your clocks back 1 hour before you go to bed on Saturday night.

The Opera comes to Good Shepherd School

Next Monday the New Zealand Opera will be performing their adaptation of Donizetti's comedy *Don Pasquale* at our school. Their version of the piece has a distinctly Kiwi flavor, set on Donald Pasquale's farm near Balclutha. This special adaptation for Kiwi children is a perfect introduction for young students to the world of opera and we are very excited to be able to offer the experience as part of The Arts learning area. A big thank-you to Carla Butcher for facilitating this experience and to the Good Shepherd PTA who will be supporting us with the cost of the performance.

Student Teacher in School

Next week we welcome Tereza Mani, a student teacher, into Good Shepherd School. She will be here for eight weeks and will be working closely with Miss Vergis in Room 7.

Arriving at school

It is very important that children arrive at school on time. Our first bell rings at **8.30am**, signalling that cloak bays are open and children can start preparing for their school day. There is a handbell at **8.45am** to call children to class and the school day begins promptly at **8.50am**. We ask that you have your children at school at **8.45am** at the latest, as arriving after this time means that they do not have time to get ready for the day and creates a disturbance in the classroom. Thank you for your co-operation in this.

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.

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**

Walking School Bus

Last Thursday our Walking School Bus leaders gathered together and had a leadership training session with Delia from Auckland Transport. She spoke to our leaders about what makes a good leader and how we can show this on our Walking School Bus.

She gave us our very own high vis vests and our own lanyards with our Walking School Bus licences!

We are all officially Walking School Bus Learner leaders!

If you want to know any more information about our Walking School Buses, please visit our school website!



Travelwise Workshop

What a wonderful and exciting day the Travelwise Leaders had at the Travelwise workshop on Friday last week.

We were involved in lots of great activities such as learning how to ride bikes safely, plan for some Travelwise activities at school, creating road safety posters and learning how to communicate with our family-whanau and our community.

This workshop has helped us with some great ideas for our Road Safety Week coming up in Term 2. We are looking forward to sharing what we learnt with the rest of the school.

Calling all skiers and snowboarders!

The North Island Primary School Ski Championships take place every year on the Whakapapa ski field on Mt. Ruapehu every year in late August. See <http://www.nips.org.nz/>

The competition is open to everyone in the school, from Year 1 to Year 6. There is no limit on the number of children we can enter, or minimum standard required.

Following the success of last year's event, Good Shepherd School will be entering a team again this year.

If you think you might be interested, please contact Stephen Farrell at stephenfarrell04@yahoo.ie to get involved or just for more information.

Everyone welcome!



From the PTA

THANK YOU!

Congratulations to Riley Dwyer who won the Room 6 cake raffle which raised \$234.60. Our fortnightly cake raffles raise such a great amount of money for the PTA. Thank you for those who make the cakes, sell the tickets, buy the tickets & eat the cakes!

OUR WONDERFUL NEW PRIEST - FATHER BERNARD

As you all know Good Shepherd Parish has a new priest, Father Bernard.

The PTA is keen to show their support for Father Bernard by encouraging everyone to attend mass at Good Shepherd with their families at 9.30am on Palm Sunday - Sunday 9 April 2017.

After Mass we would love it if you would all gather at the "up top" playground for a shared morning tea (weather permitting). Gathering together afterwards for treats and play is a lovely way to show the children that mass can be a time to reflect and a time to have fun!

Please bring a plate to share (but not Easter eggs as we will still be in Lent).

We hope to see you there.

EASTER RAFFLE

Help us to raise money for the PTA by contributing to our Easter raffle. Instead of the usual cake, Room 9 is putting together an Easter hamper.

- Please donate Easter treats – eggs, school holiday activities, chocolate, lollies
- Boxes are in your child's class – pop your treats in them
- Last day of donations 7th April
- Winner to be drawn on the last day of term!

MOTHER SUPERIOR GET-TOGETHER

Pop in to the Clare Inn tomorrow night to meet some other Mums – we would love to see you. It's always a very fun & welcoming night – read more about it in the attachment.

Have a great rest of the week everyone.

Carla & the PTA team

Room 3

Here are some of our factual reports about the chicks hatching in our classroom. It has been very exciting and we love having the chickens in our classroom.

We also had Gordon come into talk to us about hens and hatching chicks. He told us lots of very interesting information.

The chickens use their egg beaks to hatch. The big chicken made a lot of noise.

William H

When the chick comes out it will need two hours to dry and it will be amazing if it could come out again. *Joshua*

I like the chicken and when it cracks it will be seen. *Ukilifi*

The eggs are all hatching and the yolk is all gone. The chick is all wet and the chick is so cute and I love chicks. *Christina*

Some of the chicks aren't fertilised and some are. Most of the chicks aren't strong enough to crack the egg open, so the mother chicken helps them get out and some are viable. *Jai*

You can tell if it's a boy or a girl chicken, by looking at their wings. It has a long one or a short one. The yolk is their food. *Felicia*

I saw a little egg tooth. Then I saw one egg the wrong way around. The egg tooth helps the chick get out of the egg. The yolk will keep the chick busy. In the egg there is an air pocket for the chick to breathe. *Cicely*

A male has long wings and a female has short wings. An artificial egg could be put into an incubator and some eggs are protected by a mother. They both keep them warm.

Imogen



PTA MEETING MARCH 2017

Student Achievement Report to Parents and Whānau

National Standards December 2016

National Standards in Reading, Writing and Mathematics

National Standards in Reading, Writing and Mathematics were introduced by the New Zealand government in 2010 to support the national curriculum. The standards describe the core capabilities that students need at specific stages of schooling in order to access and meet the demands of all curriculum learning areas. Schools are required to report to parents, families and whānau at least twice a year on their child's progress and achievement in reading, writing and mathematics, in relation to the National Standards. Teachers make Overall Teacher Judgements about a student's achievement in relation to the appropriate standard for their age/year level.

National Standards data and Education Review Office (ERO) reports from Good Shepherd School and other primary and intermediate schools are published on the Ministry of Education website <http://www.educationcounts.govt.nz>.

Overall Teacher Judgements ¹

An overall teacher judgment (OTJ) involves drawing on and applying the evidence gathered up to a particular point in time in order to make an overall judgment about a student's progress and achievement.

In each National Standard (Reading, Writing and Mathematics) there is a description of the learning required in reading, writing and mathematics to meet the demands of The New Zealand Curriculum. In making overall teacher judgments in relation to National Standards, teachers consider the evidence from multiple sources to determine how to report each student's performance.

Definitions of achievement

Above: A student's current level of achievement is at a standard at least one year above their year group, which means that special consideration needs to be given to their learning needs in order to provide them with sufficient challenge to continue their accelerated rate of progression into the future.

At: A student is currently meeting the standard, and effective classroom teaching should realistically enable them to meet or exceed the standard for next year.

Below: A student is not currently meeting the standard, but there is every reason to believe that their learning needs can be accommodated within effective differentiated classroom teaching in order to meet the standard for next year.

Well below: A student's current achievement against the standard is such that in order to have a realistic chance of making sufficient progress to meet the standard for next year, special consideration needs to be given to their learning needs and specific actions in addition to effective differentiated classroom teaching may need to be taken.

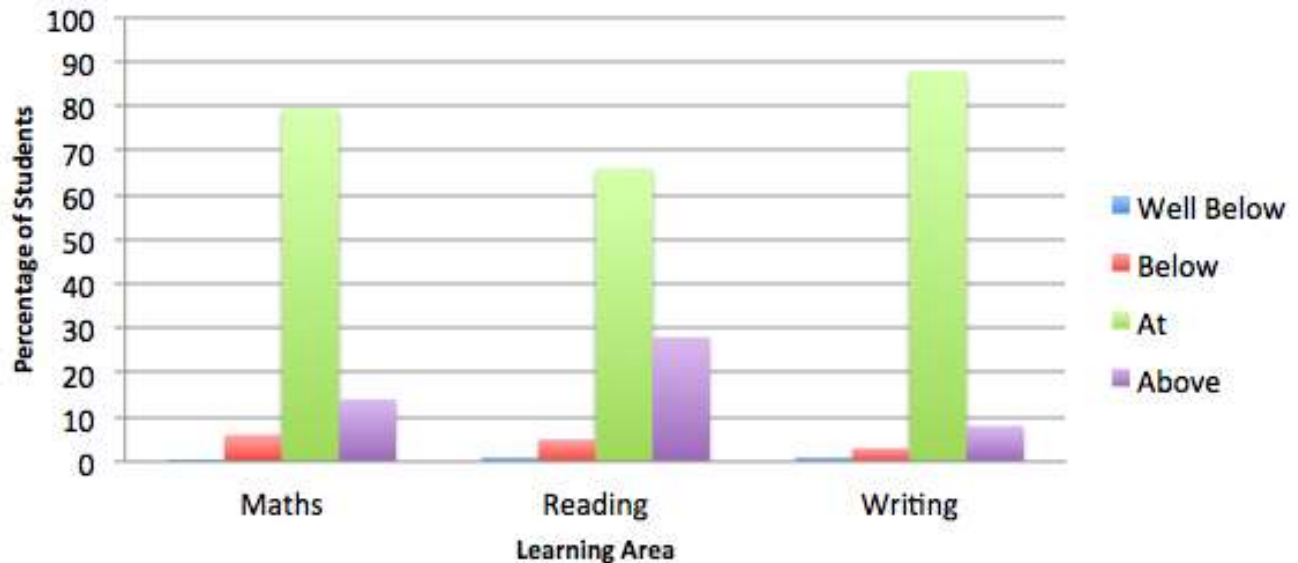
Limitations

National Standards in Reading, Writing and Mathematics are relatively new in New Zealand primary schools and schools are still working towards their full implementation. Teaching staff at GSS have established a system of moderating Overall Teacher Judgements. We will continue to work on these processes to ensure that they are rigorous and that they provide reliable data.

¹ from <http://assessment.tki.org.nz/Overall-teacher-judgment>

Results: All Students

**Good Shepherd School
December 2016 End-of-Year National Standards
Years 1-6 Comparison of Maths, Reading and Writing**



Snapshot Summary:

- More students are achieving *Above* the NS in Reading (28%) than in Writing (8%) and Mathematics (14%)
- Majority of the GSS students are achieving *At* or *Above* the NS in all subject areas.

What does this mean for teachers at Good Shepherd School?

- We will use information from this analysis, along with other forms of information, to plan to meet the learning needs of individuals and groups in the classroom
- We will use information from this analysis, along with other forms of information, to inform parents of students' progress
- We will continue to monitor carefully the progress of all our students, especially those who are below where we want them to be
- We will be continuing to look for other ways to extend those children who are excelling in mathematics, reading or writing

What does this mean for parents and families of children at Good Shepherd School?

- We like to work in partnership with you so regular communication is very important, especially if you have any concerns
- Continue to talk to your children about their learning. Ask them what their next learning steps are in reading, writing or mathematics and ask them if they know what they need to do to reach their next learning goal.