Dear Parents & Carers

Some time ago I came across a cartoon illustration which showed a traffic intersection where the lights were out of order. Cars from all directions had nosed their way ahead until there was a complete jam, the end result was much hooting of horns and quite a few angry words being exchanged.

The caption for this illustration read, ‘If everyone gets their own way, then no one gets their own way.’ In life we would be familiar with many examples of situations such as this. However at Good Shepherd, one of the main aims is the building of a community of people committed to Gospel Values. When we all pull together to create such a climate, our young people are influenced and see lived reality of the meaning of love, truth, respect, care, justice, service and forgiveness.

I write this message this week as a tribute to the many families who offer this school community so much. I thank the parents who have generously offered their time, their skills and their wisdom this year. We cannot operate without parental support - classroom helpers, Mothers’ Day and Fathers’ Day stalls, Walkathon, Community Council, assisting with excursions, supplying emergency meals, offering the hand of friendship to new parents, parent network reps, School Banking, managing the School Clothing Pool, Working Bees this year, Disco, Bookclub, Netball, Cheerleading, managing and coaching a sporting team, assisting with enrolment time Open Day, Orientation Days for Kinders, End of Year BBQ and the list goes on and on. Even if you couldn’t physically lend a hand this year, speaking positively about the school to others and especially to your children is invaluable. I personally thank each and every one of you for your support of this amazing community.

SCHOOL FEES
Many thanks to all the families who have settled their 2012 school fee account. If you have not made contact with me, could you please pay your fees either via the Front Office or Bpay. Many thanks! A copy of the 2013 fees will be sent home shortly.

READERS/LIBRARY BOOKS
Teachers and Learning Support Staff have been collecting all home readers and the many outstanding library books. We would appreciate all families taking an extra close look to find any school readers or library books in their homes. Please ensure they are all returned as soon as possible.

ATHLETE’S FOOT PROMOTION
This week you will receive a brochure from Athlete’s Foot promoting the sale of their school shoes that have been approved for Good Shepherd. It is a great promotion as Athletes Foot will give us a donation according to how many shoes are sold to students who attend Good Shepherd. You are very much able to purchase shoes from any business, but they must be black leather school shoes, not black joggers or boots, and sports shoes need to be predominately white.
REPORTS
Reports will be sent home tomorrow. Reading your child’s report can bring about many emotions such as anticipation, pride, frustration and anxiety. How you respond to the report will affect them.

It is important to remember that a school report is not the definitive measure of your child’s abilities. It is only one measure amid a wide range of opportunities, experiences and activities. Setting a pattern of constructive support should help make report time a productive and positive experience that will help your child make progress at school. A few tips:

- Find the positive aspects of the report and praise your child;
- Take into consideration that the A-E grading scale is very different to the one you would have experienced;
- Don’t over react;
- Discuss what your child found difficult. Look at work habits, homework routines, diet, sleep patterns, etc;
- Discuss how things could be improved. Offer some constructive/criticism and attainable goals for next year; and
- Don’t look for quick fixes.

If you wish to discuss your child’s report with your teacher, please contact them before the end of term to make an appointment. Alternatively, meet with your new teacher next year to set goals for the future.

Special thanks to the teachers for the many unpaid hours of work, outside school time, that go into marking assessments, preparing, editing and finalising the written reports.

CLASS LISTS
A reminder that class lists will not be sent home with reports or posted on the doors of the admin area. Next Wednesday all students will be placed in their new class grouping for 2013 and will spend a short time in their new classroom meeting their new teacher (where possible) and seeing who their new cohort of peers will be. A class list will then be sent home that day. It is important to remember that in life, there are always going to be times when we have to work and communicate with people whom we may not always get along with so well. School is about learning for life and it is here that we also learn how to get on with others and negotiate experiences that are sometimes difficult. When this learning takes place the children become resilient, stronger people and gain skills that will support them through life. I ask you to understand that it is highly unlikely that any changes will be made to classes for 2013. If your child is feeling a little unsettled about their class placement and the year ahead, as parents you have the important role of being positive in reassuring them that making new friends and working with new teachers is an exciting experience and although it may be different to begin with they will soon settle in for a good year.

END OF YEAR ACTIVITIES & REMINDERS
13 December - Community Council Christmas BBQ
14 December – Cheer Concert 2-3 pm
18 December – Year 6 Graduation - 5.30 pm
17 December - Indigenous Community BBQ - 3.30 pm
19 December – New Class Orientation Afternoon
19 December – Camp Australia Information Night
20 December – Candle Ceremony - 12.00 pm
21 December – Final Assembly
21 December – LAST DAY

Brad Gaynor
Principal
Thank you to all the mums who helped with School banking this year. Your assistance was very much appreciated.

Just a reminder there will be no banking next week.

Children can resume banking on Thursday, 7th February.

The 2012 Graduating Class will be farewelled from Good Shepherd School in our traditional Candle Ceremony at 12 Midday, Thursday 20 December in our school hall.

This prayer celebration includes the Year 6 children passing on the Light of Leadership to the Year 5 children. A presentation by the Year 6 children will follow the ceremony. We warmly invite all parents and friends in our school community to join us for this occasion.

The Holy Spirit Parish Christmas Drama

Drama roles for children in years 3 – 7

(Younger children may come dressed as a shepherd or angel and join the procession to Bethlehem – no practice required)

All children are invited to participate in the Parish Christmas Drama at Mass on Christmas Eve, Monday 24th December.

If your child would like to be involved they must attend two practice sessions at Holy Spirit Church, on:
- Sunday 23 December, 2pm – 4pm;
- Monday 24 December, 9am – 11am.

Christmas Eve:
7pm - Children’s Mass
9:30pm - Carols
10:00pm - Mass

Christmas Day:
9:00am - Mass

**School Fees**

As we are nearing the end of the year, it is imperative that all school fees are paid immediately.

Thank you for the families who have paid their school fees promptly throughout the year.

If you are leaving the school at the end of the year and have no outstanding fees, you will need to cancel your Direct Debit.

Today our 2013 School Fee Schedule pack will be attached to the newsletter. All new or altered Direct Debits must be forwarded to the front office no later than Monday, 17th December.

Sympathy is extended to the von Demleaux family on the death of Frank’s father. Please keep them in your prayers.

We have had another case of head lice reported to the school this week. We would like to ask all parents to check their child’s hair and treat if necessary. If you are unsure please consult your local chemist.

**Sports Shorts**

*Congratulations to Lola, Mia, Kelsy, Tenille and Oliver for being selected to represent the ACT for the 2013 basketball season.*

*The popular Good Shepherd After School in2CRICKET will once again take place every Tuesday starting in week 2 of Term 1 from 3.15-4.15 at the School’s Oval for 8 weeks, including a FREE Come and Try session. To register, visit [www.in2CRICKET.com.au](http://www.in2CRICKET.com.au) and select Good Shepherd Catholic Primary School or for more information contact Matthew on 0416 531 998 or matthew.william@cricket.com.au*
Dear Parents

2013 SCHOOL FEES

Please find below the 2013 School Fee Schedule for Good Shepherd. You will note that the fees have been raised slightly when compared to this year’s schedule.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION COMMISSION FEES
This particular fee is set by the Catholic Education Commission and is normally raised each year to reflect CPI increases. The school retains only a small portion of this fee. The Catholic Education Office retains the majority of the collected amount. The Catholic Education Commission has set Archdiocesan School Fees for 2013.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuition Fee Per Term</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First child</td>
<td>$298.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second child – 70% discount</td>
<td>$89.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third child – 80% discount</td>
<td>$59.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth child</td>
<td>No Charge</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A further 20% discount applies to the first child fee where there is a sibling in one of the following systemic secondary colleges: John Paul College, Merici College, St Clare’s College, St Francis Xavier College and St Mary Mackillop College.

Building Fund per Family per Term $139.00

The Building Fund is a tax deductible contribution payable by the eldest child at a systemic school.

Please note that Marist, St Edmunds and Daramalan are NOT systemic schools.

SCHOOL BASED FEES
Our Community Council was particularly mindful of the ever-increasing financial burdens which are placed upon our families, and for that reason only the School Services Fee has had to be increased.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Per Child/ren per Term</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School Services Fee</td>
<td>$175 1 x child (Cleaning, electricity, water, gas, security, waste management, etc)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$228 2 x children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$263 3 x children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resource Fee</td>
<td>$45 (Books, stationery, consumables)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrichment Fee</td>
<td>$30 (Excursions, incursions, enrichment)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICT Fee</td>
<td>$35 (Computers, internet charges, resources)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Other Fees per term
Swimming $20
Year 4 Camp $45
Year 5 Camp $68
Year 6 Camp $80

School Fee Calculator
An automatic school fee calculator is attached to this week's Newsletter for you to download. (You may need to enable editing.) This calculator will make it easier for you to work out your school fees for 2013. Simply put in the number of children you have, with the year levels they are in and your fees will automatically be calculated for you.

Direct Debit
Attached to the Newsletter is a new Direct Debit form for those families who would like to pay their fees by Direct Debit. Also attached is a Direct Debit Alteration form for the families to increase their current Direct Debit.

Systemic Secondary College Discount
Also attached is a letter detailing a change to the CEO Tuition Fee for families who have an older sibling in a systemic secondary school. This letter needs to be completed and returned to the school to enable you to receive the discount.

Fee Remission
Early next year I will write to you again outlining the new procedures that will be in place for families requesting a fee remission. The changes will reflect more of a high school fee remission model where parents will be requested to complete a budget sheet indicating your current financial situation and be supported by documentation. The Good Shepherd Finance Committee will then assesses the information and consider your request on its merits.

If you have any questions or queries regarding school fees for 2013, please do not hesitate to contact either myself or Anne McKenna, our school bursar.

Yours sincerely

Brad Gaynor
Principal
Dear Parents/Carers

A Sibling discount of 20% will apply next year to the CEO Tuition Fee for the eldest child attending an ACT system primary school where they have an elder sibling in a systemic secondary school.

The five CEO systemic secondary schools are:

- St Francis Xavier
- Merici
- St Clare's
- St Mary MacKillop College
- John Paul College

(St Edmunds, Marist and Daramalan are not systemic schools.)

With the introduction of a sibling discount it is important that the following information be completed showing where all school age children will be attending in 2013.

Failure to do so may mean families missing out on the discount.

This will also be used to determine where the building fund contribution will be billed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Child's Name</th>
<th>Date of Birth</th>
<th>Year/Grade 2013</th>
<th>School Attending 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Discounts that will apply for the CEO Tuition Fee in 2013 are:

- 20% for the 1st child with an elder sibling attending an Archdiocesan Secondary School
- 70% for the 2nd child attending an Archdiocesan Primary School
- 80% for the 3rd child attending an Archdiocesan Primary School
- No charge for the 4th or subsequent child/children attending an Archdiocesan Primary or Secondary School

To enable us to pass these fee discounts on we require you to complete the following information and return it to the school by Monday, 17 December 2012.

Yours Sincerely

Brad Gaynor
Principal
...God in Amaroo.

### Good Shepherd Primary School Amaroo

#### Schedule School Fees for 2013

**Please note** that you will only need to fill in one column, either the green, blue or yellow depending on if you have children in high school and which high school they are attending.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fees</th>
<th>All school aged children attending Good Shepherd only</th>
<th>For children who have sibling/s that attend a High School that is:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tuition Fee</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 child</td>
<td>$298.00</td>
<td>$298.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 children</td>
<td>$387.40</td>
<td>$387.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3+ children</td>
<td>$447.00</td>
<td>$447.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Building Fund</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per Family</td>
<td>$139.00</td>
<td>$139.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>School Levy</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 child</td>
<td>$175.00</td>
<td>$175.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 children</td>
<td>$228.00</td>
<td>$228.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3+ children</td>
<td>$263.00</td>
<td>$263.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Stationary/Resource Levy</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 child</td>
<td>$40.00</td>
<td>$40.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 children</td>
<td>$80.00</td>
<td>$80.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3+ children</td>
<td>$120.00</td>
<td>$120.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Enrichment Levy</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 child</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 children</td>
<td>$60.00</td>
<td>$60.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3+ children</td>
<td>$90.00</td>
<td>$90.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ICT Levy</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 child</td>
<td>$35.00</td>
<td>$35.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 children</td>
<td>$70.00</td>
<td>$70.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3+ children</td>
<td>$105.00</td>
<td>$105.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Learn to swim</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Note: Kindergarten to Year 3 only</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Camp</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4 students</td>
<td>$45.00</td>
<td>$45.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5 students</td>
<td>$68.00</td>
<td>$68.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6 students</td>
<td>$80.00</td>
<td>$80.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### School Fees Payments Schedule

- **For the year (2012)**
  - $ -
  - $ -
  - $ -

- **Half yearly (6 months)**
  - $ -
  - $ -
  - $ -

- **Quarterly (per term)**
  - $ -
  - $ -
  - $ -

- **Monthly (12 months)**
  - $ -
  - $ -
  - $ -

- **Fortnightly (25 fortnights)**
  - $ -
  - $ -
  - $ -

- **Weekly (52 weeks)**
  - $ -
  - $ -
  - $ -
HOLY SPIRIT PARISH LENTEN MISSION
PRESENTED BY THE CATHOLIC GUY

GUNGAHLIN, ACT
13, 14, 15 & 18, 19 February 2013

Discover for yourself the event that has changed thousands of people

“I can’t even begin to put it into words, but it has already altered my approach to each and every day.”
- Tina

“Fabulous event! I came with a completely open mind and leave with a renewed spirit.”
- Yvonne

“I found it refreshing to attend something that had been put together here in Australia. It was life changing and I totally recommend The Catholic Guy.”
- David

five inspiring sessions that take you on a life changing journey

laugh learn reflect be changed

Bruce Downes and The Catholic Guy team present a Catholic TV program that is screened around the world. Some people have heard of a Parish Mission, but this event is one that you just have to experience, no matter your age or background.

Experience the power of God in a real and relevant way through Scripture, music and the arts. To describe it in detail would be putting a lid on how amazing and life changing this experience is.

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH LENTEN MISSION
PRESENTED BY THE CATHOLIC GUY
FREE ADMISSION

5 Inspiring Sessions - Choose from Morning or Evening

| Session One | Wednesday 13th February | 7.30pm | 9.45am |
| Session Two | Thursday 14th February | 7.30pm | 9.45am |
| Session Three | Friday 15th February | 7.30pm | 9.45am |
| Session Four | Monday 18th February | 7.30pm | 9.45am |
| Session Five | Tuesday 19th February | 7.30pm |

HELD AT: Holy Spirit Church
Burdekin Ave, AMAROO, ACT

The Catholic Guy Television program is seen on: