Dear Parents & Carers

GOOD SHEPHERD App IS HERE!

Good Shepherd is conducting a trial of our own iPhone App to help us communicate more effectively with our parent community. We are trialling the iPhone version for 30 days, if we continue with the App after the trial we will then get the Android version in the Google Play Store. We are asking parents to install our App and be part of the trial with us. We would appreciate any feedback. To install it, just look for our school name "Good Shepherd Catholic Primary School Amaroo" in the Apple App Store, and install it on your iPhone." A couple of tips:

- Make sure you have allowed for push notifications in your iPhone settings.
- You can subscribe to various push categories (eg Year Levels) by clicking "more" then "setup" in the App.

REFURBISHMENT

It has been a busy few days with removalists, data and IT people around the school helping us move back into the refurbished building. We hope to be fully operational as of Monday, so pop in, say hello and have a look around.

CARPARKS

Drive Thru Pick Up does not commence until 3.20! Please do not arrive at school before this time. Our intention is to allow time for Park & Pick Up parents to vacate the car parks, resulting in less car park congestion. We currently have parents blocking the driveways and causing traffic jams and near accidents. PLEASE help us ease the car park mayhem and maintain the safety of our families and students.
BABY BOY
Congratulations to Alison Graeber and her husband Rob on the birth of their beautiful baby boy Kaden. Mum and bub are doing well.

HATS BACK ON
Today, 1 August means it is ‘HATS ON’ day. The ACT Cancer Council asks that we have the children back wearing their hats again until 1 June 2014. We will start reminding the children this week that as from today hats are to be worn again but you may need to ensure that your child has their hat with them.

TRIVIA NIGHT
Our Holy Spirit Parish is having a Trivia night on Saturday 17 August in our school hall. All participants are asked to be there at 7.15pm to commence at 7.30pm. Just $100 per table (10 seats) payable when registering. Don’t forget BYO drinks & nibbles. Tea & coffee will be provided.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Our next Community Council meeting is next Tuesday 6 August. Before the meeting commences there will be an introduction session to the LIFE Program at 6.30pm. We encourage all parents to come along and listen to how you and your children can access this beneficial program at home.

Brad Gaynor
Principal
brad.gaynor@cg.catholic.edu.au

School Fees
Term 3 School Fees are being sent home today and are due for payment by Friday, 23 August.
Not 16 August as advised in last week’s Newsletter.
Your Building Fund Statement, for tax purposes, is now available at school. However, due to moving into our beautiful new offices, they won’t be sent out until next week. If you need the statement urgently, email Anne at anne.mckenna@cg.catholic.edu.au

A special thank you to the parents who supported our Kindergarten 100 day celebration. The children and teachers had a wonderful day. With out your help and support these activities would not be possible. Thank you once again.

Week | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday
--- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | ---
3 Term 3 | 5 August | 6 August | 7 August | 8 August | 9 August | 10 August | 11 August
| 3 pm Cricket Mega Clinic | 6.30 pm LIFE Information | 1 Metcalfe Parish Mass | Focus Assembly Feast of Mary Macklo | | |
4 Term 3 | 12 August | 13 August | 14 August | 15 August | 16 August | 17 August | 18 August
| My Body My Life 6 pm and 7.30 pm | Sue Geh Cup UNSW Mathematics | | 5 Donnelly Parish Mass Assumption Day | Showcase Assembly Parish Trivia Night | |
OUR FOCUS

In 2013 our theme for the year is “On the Road to the Heart of God”. In every aspect of our lives at Good Shepherd we aim, ‘to be together the Heart of God’.

In 2013 our theme for the year is “On the Road to the Heart of God”. In every aspect of our lives at Good Shepherd we aim ‘to be together the Heart of God in Amaroo’. Our Prayer Celebrations will focus on Scripture under the headings of Identity, Relationships and Connections, these being the core principles of Good Shepherd. Through Scripture we will reflect on our mission, as disciples of Jesus, to bring God’s love to others in the world.

PRAYER CELEBRATIONS

| Week 3 | Faith and Justice Crew - Feast of Mary Mackillop (August 9, 2013) |
| Week 5 | Five Capon and One Price - The New Commandment (August 23, 2013) |
| Week 7 | Six Morrell and Two Jones - The Walk to Emmaus (September 6, 2013) |

Precious Memories Mass:
Saturday, 3 August - 6:00pm
Sunday, 4 August - 9:30am and 5:30pm

First Reconciliation:
Tuesday, 20 August - 1:00pm or 6:00pm
Wednesday, 21 August - 1:00pm or 6:00pm

Day Retreat:
Thursday, 5 September - for children receiving First Eucharist on 7/8 September
Thursday, 12 September - for children receiving First Eucharist on 14/15 September

First Eucharist Dates:
Saturday, 14 September 4:00pm Good Shepherd School
Saturday 14 September 6:00pm Parish Class + Good Shepherd
Sunday, 15 September 9:30am Good Shepherd

GENERAL INFORMATION

Entertainment Books:
If you would like to purchase an Entertainment Book please contact Sara Henden 0406 377 897. There are only 4 books available - so get in quick!

Parentline ACT
Is a confidential, anonymous telephone counselling and information service.
Phone 6287 3833 if you would like:
⇒ To talk with someone about parenting issues.
⇒ Help with some ideas on raising children.
⇒ Support in the important job you are doing.
⇒ To know what is available for parents, teenagers and children in Canberra.
⇒ To build better relationships in your family.
⇒ Help to understand your child or teenager’s behaviour.

Parentline ACT is opened Monday to Friday (except on public holidays), 9am to 5pm.
(Please leave a message if we are busy, and we will return your call within 24 hours)
To be together ......

Church Carpark:
Please assist us by driving the correct way in the Church carpark. If you are parking on the courts, as you leave please turn left and follow the line of traffic around the carpark and out the exit. Some inconsiderate drivers are cutting across the front of the carpark or through parking bays to make a quick exit, however this is dangerous and is causing further traffic jams. Witches hats have been placed near the entrance to assist in easing the congestion in the carpark.

Playground Equipment
Please help us to keep all children off the playground equipment after school each day. We know that the playground is very appealing to children straight after school. However, we would like to remind everyone that school and pre-school children should NOT be on the playground equipment between 3.10 and 3.30 pm each afternoon. It is too difficult for the teacher on playground duty to know which children are being supervised by their parents, and those who are still waiting to be picked up.

Thank you for your help with this request.

Please remember that a number of our students have serious allergies to peanuts. We have agreed as a community to take care of these children and work together for their safety. Therefore, peanut butter, peanuts and peanut related products should not come to school as part of the children’s lunches and snacks. This includes Nutella and all hazlenut-based spreads.

Thank you for your support.
SPORTS NEWS:
World cup fever has hit – Australia is heading to Brazil next year. Kidsoccer runs skills based, age appropriate programs for 3 to 12 year olds. Our emphasis is on fun, participation, fun, development, and did we mention fun! We have positions available at Woden and Bonner on Saturday mornings, Woden on Tuesday afternoons and O’Connor on Sunday mornings. Join for term 3 - it is NEVER too late to register with us. Keep fit, make new friends, hone your soccer skills and maybe play in a future world cup team. For more information and to register, visit our website – www.kidsfc.com.au. But hurry – positions are limited.....

NETBALL:
Yr 5/6 SNOW: Snow’s passing game was on fire on Saturday and they were passing down the court like professionals. Even though they convincingly beat the opposing team 24-3, their sportsmanship was something to be proud of. Enjoy your weekend off girls – you definitely deserve it.

Yr 4 CYCLONES: The sun was shining and the Cyclones enjoyed their game on Saturday. The girls played an amazing game in attack and defence, with every player putting in 100% effort. The game was very close with our girls having a great final quarter to win the game 14-10. Well done and good luck this weekend.

Yr 2 LIGHTNING: The Lightning team take the court every Saturday with plenty of enthusiasm. They are continuing to practice the skills they have learnt and try their hardest against all teams they play. Well done girls!

YR 1 HURRICANES: The Hurricanes played very well considering they haven’t trained for a month due to bad weather! Abby and Eliana were on fire in the defence circle and the rest of the girls used their great passing to get the ball up our end a few times. Janey and I were very proud girls! Go Hurricanes!

YR 3 TSUNAMIS: It was a foggy start to the game but the sun finally came out for a lovely Saturday morning. The Tsunamis had a very well matched team in the Pink Garnets but in the end went down 7 to 5. Well done to all the girls – you played a great game this week.

YR 4 STORMS: After smiling beautifully for team photos (well, squinting into the sun), the Storms enjoyed their first full game in a long time in the winter sunshine. Unfortunately the other team out-played us on the day but everyone had fun and there were lots of smiles. Nice work Storms!

Parish News

Would you like to find out more about becoming a Catholic?

➢ You may have been baptised as a child but not received the sacraments of Eucharist or Confirmation.
➢ You have friends or family who have shown an interest in your faith and would like to know more.
➢ You have been away from the church and would like to become part of a parish community once again.
➢ You are part of the community but feel there are questions you would like answered.
➢ You have friends or family who have shown an interest in your faith and would like to know more.

Our next Parish RCIA Program will be commencing in August. Expressions of interest can be emailed to Fiona Wilkinson at fionawilk@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au
To be together ......

Grief Education Program

Loss and grief are issues that affect all of us at some stage in our lives. Learning to deal effectively with these issues is central to personal well-being and happiness. Unresolved grief can also affect a student’s learning. Good Shepherd School is proud to be offering an Australian education program called “Seasons For Growth” again this year. This program is designed for children who have experienced significant change in their family because of death, separation or divorce. The program aims to support participants by exploring issues such as change, loss, managing feelings, coping strategies and support networks. “Seasons For Growth” is an 8-session program, which concludes with an additional ‘Celebration’ session. The groups will also have the opportunity to meet again towards the end of the year to reconnect with their group and discuss ongoing issues.

This year the program will be offered to children in Years 1-6 and will commence in our school in Week 5, Term 3. The Program will be coordinated by Anne Gilfelt and each group will be facilitated by one of our trained Companions: Sonya Hulett, Ursula Jamieson, Tracey Kenna, Nicole Rouse, Jessica Dittmar, Jacinta van Meurs, Hayley Oldfield and Ana Manenica.

If you think your child would benefit from the Seasons For Growth program we would encourage you to talk to him/her about this. Should he/she decide to participate please fill in the tear-off section below and return to Anne Gilfelt via the Note-bag by Thursday, 8th August.

Good Shepherd School is pleased to offer this program and we are confident that it will be a valuable growth experience for those involved. Information for parents can be found at www.goodgrief.org.au Under: Children and Young People’s Program there is a short video, which very clearly explains the program.

If you need any extra information please contact Anne Gilfelt on 62557888 or via email annejgilfelt@cg.catholic.edu.au

I _______________ have discussed this program with my child __________________ in __________(class) and give permission for him/her to attend the Seasons For Growth grief education program commencing in Term 3, 2013 at Good Shepherd School.

The approximate time since the change, death/separation/divorce (please circle one) occurred in our family is _____ weeks/months/years (please circle one).

I have/have not read the parent information at www.goodgrief.org.au

Parent/Guardian’s Signature ___________________ Date: ______________

Child’s Signature ___________________