Dear Parents and Carers

CHRISTMAS BLESSING

God grant you the light of Christmas, which is faith;

the warmth of Christmas, which is purity;

the righteousness of Christmas, which is justice;

the belief in Christmas, which is truth;

the all of Christmas, which is Christ

2013 COMMUNITY COUNCIL SURVEY

The Community Council have created a survey seeking community opinion on a variety of School and Community Council initiatives this year. Please go to:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CBT7NQ7

These results are important as they will guide our school improvement plans for the coming year. For example, many of the improvements you see this year came from past surveys. (Yes, covered walkways are on the plan, but may take a few years to finance!) Information will be shared at the beginning of next year. Thank you.
SCHOOL FEES
Many thanks to all the families who have settled their 2013 school fee account. If you have not made contact with Anne McKenna or myself, could you please pay your fees either via the Front Office or Bpay. Many thanks! A copy of the 2014 School Fees is attached.

PRE PRIMARY CHRISTMAS CONCERT AND KINDERGARTEN NATIVITY
Congratulations to our Kindergarten students and their teachers for their fantastic Christmas Nativity last week. Our Kindergarten students have come such a long way since the start of the year. What great performances! It was wonderful to see so many parents and relatives at the event. Congratulations to the teachers for all their work in preparing our students. It was an enormous job. Big thanks to the many parents who assisted with this too - especially putting together the costumes!

FAREWELL
Special farewell to:
- Robyn Snowball who is moving to Queensland after 12 years at Good Shepherd. Robyn was a foundation member of staff and will be sadly missed;
- Jacinta Housler who commences maternity leave in preparation for the birth of their much anticipated baby No.1;
- Sally Hanrahan who is moving to sunny Maroochydore to be closer to her family;
- Scott Suitor who is moving to Canberra Grammar;
- The many families who will be leaving Good Shepherd this year. Some have had short associations, while others have been wonderful supporters of Good Shepherd for many years. Farewell to the following families: Azdakoc, Araya, Bartlett, Bergin, Boume, Brady, Bright, Coady, Daffem, Dawson, Dudek-Bylinksi, Dunn, Doohan, Farquhar, Fisher, Golding, Gorham, Gupta, Hambleton, Hanna, Hessenberger, Homick, Kang, Kozak, Le, MacMahon, Mahon, Matas, Mangelsdorf, Maucieri, Magnocavallo, Maher, McGinty, Mc Queen, Mulhan, Murray, Nesbitt, Nolen, Oszternkovics, Page, Pasquariello, Rabanal, Richards, Quinnlan, Savage, Siebrand, Shaw, Smith, Spanos, Strausov, Tolano, Torpy, Trudgen, Van Dijk, Van haren, Vidaic, Westin and Zhou.

It has been an absolute honour and a pleasure to have served as the Principal of Good Shepherd and I hope you all know how much I have enjoyed the past 2 years. Even in a short space of time we have worked together to make a difference to the students, staff and wider community. Much has changed in the 2 years and the school is certainly looking marvellous. But there are things that will never change, these being, a wonderful staff and a fantastic community spirit. We have all worked hard as a school community to ensure that Good Shepherd continues to be a place that symbolises commitment, creativity and enthusiasm, and is responsive to the needs of students and their families. It is the people in this community that give this school “the Heart of God” and I know this will continue into the future with Graham Pollard.

I know you will warmly welcome back Graham, and I know he is looking forward to coming back. I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to Fr Mark, Fiona Wilkinson, to all of the staff, the Community Council, students, and parents of this community for the wonderful support I have received during my time at Good Shepherd. Good Shepherd is a very special place to learn, work, live and grow.

May you all have every success and happiness in the future.

Cheers

Brad Gaynor
Principal

THE FINAL SCHOOL DAY FOR THE YEAR IS FRIDAY 20 DECEMBER.
SCHOOL RESUMES IN 2013 ON MONDAY 3 FEBRUARY.
PARISH NEWS:-

CHRISTMAS CHOIR
If you enjoy singing and will be available to sing at our Christmas Eve Children’s Mass, please join us for practice Sundays at 4.30pm. All school aged children are very welcome.

CHRISTMAS NATIVITY
Arrive 6:30pm for 7pm start
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 - Please meet in the hall foyer at 6:55pm.

Children in Years 3 to 7 are invited to participate in the Parish Christmas Nativity at Mass on Christmas Eve, Tuesday 24 December 2013. If your child would like to be involved they must attend two practice sessions at Holy Spirit Church, Burdekin Avenues, AMAROO on:

Monday 23 December, 9am—11am;
Tuesday 24 December; 9am – 11am.

If this is acceptable to you, please sign the permission slip available in the foyer and return it to the RED mailbox in the church foyer or email the information to fionawilk@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Mass Times For Christmas

Christmas Vigil (Children’s Mass) 7:00pm
Christmas Eve Mass (carols at 9:30pm) 10:00pm
Christmas Day 9:00am

Please Note: There will be no 8:00am or 5:30pm on Christmas Day.

St Francis Xavier (Hall): Christmas Vigil at 7:00pm (with Carols)

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
2014 Term Calendar

Term 1: February 3 - April 11
Term 2: April 28 - July 4
Term 3: July 21 - September 26
Term 4: October 13 - December 17
...heart of God.