Dear Parents and Carers

In a recent staff meeting the staff focussed on the importance of reading. Our school Literacy Coordinator, Penny Vanzwol, presented some excellent research on the significance of reading, not just for children but for adults as well. This comes from the RMC Research Corporation for the Partnership for Reading, National Institute for Literacy and contains messages for us all.

I WANT MY CHILDREN TO READ
I want my children to be readers.
I want my children to have big dreams.
How can I help my children learn to read?

I SHOW THEM THAT READING MATTERS
I help them find books they like.
They see me read.
We go to the library together.
We write letters to their relatives and spell out all the words.
We read before bed every night.

WE SPEND TIME TOGETHER
We talk a lot.
I talk to them about what we’re doing.
I ask about their day.
They ask me about the world.
I tell them what I know.

I HELP THEM HEAR THE SOUNDS IN WORDS WHEN WE TALK
I help them hear how baby and bubble start with the same sound.
I help them hear that kitten and mitten rhyme.
We sing songs.
We say nursery rhymes together.
They are getting ready to read.
I am helping them.

I HELP THEM LEARN THE ABCS
We start with ant and go all the way to zebra.
We look for letters everywhere.
We say the names of letters and the sounds they make.
We practise writing all the letters.

I HELP THEM KNOW WHAT WORDS MEAN.
I teach my children that things have names.
I teach them the colours, the foods we eat.
I teach them the animals and the kinds of weather.
I teach them walk, run, jump, fly.
I teach them is, was and will be.

I HELP THEM PRACTISE READING
They read their favourite book out loud.
I read it too. We take turns.
They read it over and over. I don’t mind.
They read until the words sound right, say, “Great job reading!”
I help them understand what they read

I say, "Tell me about the story."
What happened?
Who did what? Why?
How did it end?"
We talk about it.
I say, "What do you think about the story?"
And I listen.

Reading can help our dreams come true

I show them that reading matters.
We spend time together.
I help them hear the sounds in words when we talk.
I help them learn the ABC.
I help them know what words mean.
I help them practise reading.
I help them understand what they read.

2014 Classes
In 2014 we will again have 25 classes based on an enrolment of about 620, with the following configuration.

4 x Kinder
3 x Year 1
4 x Year 2
3 x Year 3
4 x Year 4
4 x Year 5
3 x Year 6

We did have plans to have 3 x Kinder classes and 4 x Year 3, however we have received an influx of Kindergarten enrolments in the past few weeks, so the decision has been made to have smaller Kinder classes rather than small Year 3 classes.

Outstanding School Fees
In order to finalise our accounts for 2013, I ask all families to please settle any outstanding school fee accounts before the end of the year. Thank you.

Leaving Early
If you are heading off on holidays before the end of the school year, will you please let the Front Office and classroom teacher know. This will allow us to make arrangements for School Reports and other end of year information.

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

Our next Prayer Celebration is on **tomorrow**, Friday 22 November and will be lead by 6 Morrell and 2 Jones. They will be sharing the gospel reading, ‘The Promise of the Holy Spirit’.

Our Prayer Focus will begin at 9:15am after morning assembly. We warmly invite all parents, family and community members to join us on Friday.

**Prayer Celebrations**

- **Week 6** - 6 Morrell and 2 Jones - The Walk to Emmaus (22 November).
- **Week 7** - 4 Dittmar and 3 Zarb - The Promise of the Holy Spirit (29 November).
- **Week 9** - Kindergarten - The Nativity (13 December).

**School of Hope Update**

ONLY 100 BRICKS TO GO!

Thank you all so far for your support of our ‘Raise the Roof’ initiative for the School of Hope. We *only have a few days* before Simon from Global School Partners comes back to celebrate our appeal. If you have not yet participated, and you are able to, we remind you that just $5 will purchase a brick and help us to achieve our goal of building a secured classroom for the School of Hope.

**Mini Vinnies**

A very big thank you to all the students and families who supported Good Shepherd’s very first ‘Sleep Out’. We are very proud of the students, they entered into the evening with a fantastic attitude and raised some much appreciated support for the ‘Street to Home’ program. Well done Mini Vinnies!

Information will be coming home this week about the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Hamper appeal that is held annually in partnership with Holy Spirit Parish. Thank you in advance for your support of this wonderful annual program that allows families in need in our local community to enjoy a full Christmas meal.

Even though we have begun our annual Christmas Hamper appeal we still appreciate any support you can offer the weekly St Vincent de Paul Food Collection. We are asking each family to bring just one item of non-perishable food to school to distribute to the needy people in our Gungahlin Community. For example • Pasta and Pasta Sauce: • Noodles: • Soup: • Tinned Food: • Rice: • Crackers: • Tuna: • Long Life Milk: • Cereal: • Beans: • Sugar: • Flour: • Dried Fruit: • Dried Biscuits: • Muesli Bars
To be together the ...

General Information:

Departing Families: If your children will not be returning to Good Shepherd next year, please contact Joan at the Front Office as soon as possible.

School Banking: School Banking Competition for Term 4 ends 30 November. Make sure you enter the competition by getting your 2 deposits in. Good luck.

School Fee Reminders will be sent home this week.

Kinder Orientation: Kinder Orientation will be held next week, Tuesday 26 November and Wednesday, 27 November. If you have not yet enrolled your child could you please ring Joan as soon as possible.

Year 6 Graduation: Graduation Ceremony will be held Tuesday, 3 December at 5.30 pm. Please keep the children in your prayers.

Candle Ceremony: The 2013 Graduating Class will be farewelled from Good Shepherd school in our traditional Candle Ceremony on Thursday, 19 December in the school hall. This prayer celebration includes the Year 6 children passing on the Light of Leadership to the Year 5 children. We warmly invite all parents and friends in our school community to join us for this occasion. Please mark this date in your diary.

Concert: All students in Years 1 and 2 will be performing their Christmas Concert in the school hall on Tuesday, 10 December at 7pm. Everyone is most welcome to attend. It will be a wonderful evening of entertainment. The children are so excited.

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

Hockey Act are holding a Skills Clinic on Friday 13 December and Saturday 14 December. If your child would like to attend please register www.hockeyact.org.au or 6257 2374.

Swimming Lessons: Aquatots have advised that they will be holding a makeup lesson for the swimming lessons that 3Tokich, 3Houer, KVanzwol, Khuleatt and KManenica missed due to the bus strike. The lessons will be held on Wednesday 18 December and the timetable will run as usual.

Last Day of Term is Friday, 20 December
GOOD SHEPHERD COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Cordially Invites You to Our

CHRISTMAS
SAUSAGE SIZZLE &
CAROLS

Thursday 12 December
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
in the new Courtyard Area

THERE IS NO FIXED FEE FOR THIS EVENT, HOWEVER THERE WILL BE
DONATION BUCKETS FOR YOU TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE COSTS

Please cut here and return to Front Office by December 6 for catering numbers

We would like to attend the End of Year Celebration BBQ

Family Name .................................................................

Number Attending End of Year BBQ ............................
To be together the ...

After School Care provides a safe environment for children to explore and play.

About the program

After School Care promotes a healthy and active lifestyle, encourages friendships and supports children to develop new skills – all while having fun.

Good Shepherd Catholic Primary School has partnered with Camp Australia, the leading provider of before and after school care in Australia. This high quality program embraces the school’s values and builds on your child’s educational experience and individual interests.

The program combines active games with planned and unplanned play, quiet time, homework time and a healthy snack. Every day is an adventure led by enthusiastic Camp Australia staff who are on a mission to bring smiles to kid’s faces. As trained educators, we know lots of different ways to help your child get the most out of their day and feel good about themselves.

Key information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Times</th>
<th>Full Fee</th>
<th>Out of Pocket*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Before Care</td>
<td>7:00 AM - 9:00 AM</td>
<td>$12.00</td>
<td>$2.61 to $6.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After Care</td>
<td>3:15 PM - 6:00 PM</td>
<td>$22.00</td>
<td>$6.34 to $11.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacation Care</td>
<td>7:30 AM - 6:00 PM</td>
<td>$48.15</td>
<td>$6.27 to $24.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curriculum Day</td>
<td>7:30 AM - 6:00 PM</td>
<td>$60.00</td>
<td>$12.19 to $30.00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Note: Additional fees apply for casual bookings and Vacation Care onsite/offsite excursions.

Next step

Find the after school care link on your school website and click through for more information.

or

Visit www.campaustralia.com.au and enter your school name in the school finder.

Notes on fees and out of pocket:

1. The Child Care Benefit (CCB) is income tested and scaled, resulting in a reduction of between 0% and 85% of the fees.
2. The Child Care Rebate (CCR) is not income tested and is available to almost all Australian families. It provides a rebate of 50% of fees owing after the CCB has been calculated and considered.

So that the CCB and CCR can be automatically applied to your account you will need to provide your Centralink Customer Reference Number/s (CRNs) during the registration process. These can be obtained from the Family Assistance Office on 13 61 50.

We look forward to caring for your children

www.campaustralia.com.au | 1300 105 343
...heart of God.