Dear Parents & carers

Last Friday’s Winter Woolies was a huge success. I had the opportunity to have a good talk with Leslie from St Vincent De Paul. She was overwhelmed with the huge amounts of clothing items we collected and the funds we were able to gather. Leslie also commented on how our local community has become quite dependent on our food collections each week. Overall she was extremely grateful for all Good Shepherd and our Mini Vinnies do. Apparently our community is one of their leading Mini Vinnie schools. We have much to be proud of. Special thanks to Natalie Zarb and Luke Maher for all their coordination of the event.

LEAVING GOOD SHEPHERD

As we have many families wishing to enroll for 2014, I am keen to hear from families who are aware that they will be leaving Good Shepherd at the end of the year. Our school staffing level is also based on the overall enrolment numbers with the first round of figures being submitted at the end of this week. Please advise us, in writing, as soon as possible.

ASSESSMENT & REPORTING

As you are aware, Reports will be sent home next week. In determining the overall achievements of students, teachers have assessed students using a variety of assessment tools, based on essential content set out in the Curriculum we follow. The results from these assessments allow teachers to make a balanced, professional judgement. Tasks include formal assessment activities such as tests, quizzes, projects, presentations, etc and informal assessment opportunities that include observations, checklists, discussions, etc. Teachers make consistent and reliable judgements about the student’s work. They discuss consistency across the year level with their colleagues and may also seek assistance and information from Learning Support staff. Teachers take into account the student’s knowledge, skills and understandings up to the point the judgement is made. The allocation of A-E depends on the level of achievement as set out in the common grade scale.

School Reports can be an anxious time for some parents and students. Now is a good time to prepare yourself for the Reports. The students take their cues from your reaction and this will affect the way they see themselves as learners and as people. Here are some questions to consider:

- Have you read all the information provided about the new A-E common grade scale?
- Do you feel comfortable with the A-E grading scale and understand that it is very different from the “old” style you had at school?
- Are your expectations for your child in line with their abilities?
- Do you expect too much from your child?
- Are your expectations realistic?
- Do you hold the belief that children learn at different rates?
- Are you willing to safeguard your child’s self esteem rather than deflate it?
- How much of the A-E grades are you going to reveal to your child?

The following table sets out the official descriptors pertinent to each A - E grade. To assist in the interpretation of these grades I have added a ‘child-friendly’ version to assist understanding and to prepare you for the report. Formal parent teacher interviews have already been held this term. However, if you wish to meet with your child’s teacher, please contact them to arrange a mutually convenient time.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Common Grade Scale</th>
<th>Descriptors of grades from the Department of Education</th>
<th>Child Friendly Language</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>A</strong></td>
<td>The student has an extensive knowledge and understanding of the content and can readily apply this knowledge. In addition, the student has achieved a very high level of competence in the processes and skills and can apply these skills to new situations.</td>
<td>Above what is expected, Amazing All the time, Always works independently, Applies to new situations, Accurate, Achieving Above expectations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>B</strong></td>
<td>The student has a thorough knowledge and understanding of the content and a high level of competence in the processes and skills. In addition, the student is able to apply this knowledge and these skills to most situations.</td>
<td>By yourself (Works independently, But makes a few errors), Brilliant, Beyond expectations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C</strong></td>
<td>The student has a sound knowledge and understanding of the main areas of content and has achieved an adequate level of competence in the processes and skills.</td>
<td>Capable, Consistently working well, Coping well with work, Competent, Confident, Can do it</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>D</strong></td>
<td>The student has a basic knowledge and understanding of the content and has achieved a limited level of competence in the processes and skills.</td>
<td>Developing, but Doing well, Direction needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>E</strong></td>
<td>The student has an elementary knowledge and understanding in few areas of the content and has achieved very limited competence in some of the processes and skills.</td>
<td>Encouragement needed, Eventually get there, Extra assistance needed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**P FOR PARENTS**
Pack-up Past Perceptions of A – E and Put them aside
Don’t Put the focus on the single A – E letter
Find the Positive in every grade and comment your child receives
Don’t Pin labels on People
Keep it Private – it’s no one else’s business
Keep it all in Perspective – it’s only Primary School!
Avoid Placing Pressure on your child
Be Patient
Be Proud of your child

**SCHOOL PHOTOS**
We have received a few comments, both positive and negative, regarding the decision to have students wear sports uniform for photos. We regularly alternate between the different uniforms, but the main reason was to develop more consistency of uniforms in the photos. Overall, I am still concerned over the standard of the winter uniform presently being worn. We have already asked for photos to be done in the warmer months next year.

Cheers
Brad Gaynor
Principal

**CEO SLEEP OUT**
Many people have asked if I am doing the CEO Sleep Out this year. I am not mainly because we are planning a ‘School Sleepout’ later in the year. This a new initiative that we are going to be involved in and comprises raising money and the Night Van visiting and feeding the group. More details to come later in the year.
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’.

Thank you to the students and teachers of 4 Whackett and 3 Zaja for the beautiful and thoughtful way they presented the Prayer Celebration on the gospel of ‘The God Samaritan’.

The students and teachers taught us that when we make a choice, we say YES to one thing and NO to another. When we say yes to kindness and no to unkindness, it tells other people what we are like as a person. They told us that it is important to remember that when we make a decision about how we will behave, we should not forget to include Jesus in our decision making. He is our helper and our guide. We remember … God loves us, now and forever.

MINI VINNIES

Every week, 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:
- Pet Food:
- Beans:
- Sugar:
- Flour:
- Dried Fruit:
- Dried Biscuits:
- Muesli Bars (In a box and not from their lunch box).

TERM 2 PRAYER CELEBRATIONS

Week 10 - End of Term Prayer Celebration - Faith and Justice Crew

FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST EUCHARIST REMINDER

The Commitment and Enrolment Masses will be held next weekend at Holy Spirit Parish Church, Amaroo. The Mass times are 6:00pm on Saturday 29 June, 9:30am and 5:30pm on Sunday 30 June. Please remember to bring the enrolment form and a copy of your child’s baptism certificate to the Mass.
The heart of God.

General Information

WOOLWORTHS EARN AND LEARN
Thank you to all the families who supported our Woolworth’s Earn and Learn Program. We are now in our final stage of collecting all the stickers and cards and then tallying our total number. Please send in any loose cards and stickers you have as soon as possible. The cards may be sent even if they are incomplete. Do not stick extra stickers out of the spaces allocated on the card. The cards and stickers need to be in by FRIDAY 6TH JULY (end of term). Many Thanks Sally Taurasi and Christine Donnelly

CANTEEN
The Vegetable lasagne is not available until further notice. The Macaroni and Cheese will be sold at the same price

SCHOOL UNIFORM
A reminder to parents, to check if your child/ren are bringing home the correct jumper. With the chilly days upon us students are not checking the names on jumpers before putting them back on after playing.

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP
If you have any uniform items that no longer fit your beautiful child/ren and would like to donate them to our Second Uniform Shop, would be appreciated.

GOOD LUCK
Good luck to all of our enthusiastic cheerleaders who are looking forward to performing in their first competition of the year this weekend. We know you will do Good Shepherd proud!!!!

DA VINCI DECATHALON
Congratulations to our Year 5 team for achieving first place in; Creative Producers and General Knowledge and second place in; Cartography and Philosophy. The team members were; Luke S, Brianna N, Tyson T, Isabella M, Cecilia M, Mason O, James W, and William C. Well done to our Year 6 team; Konrad D, Hugo V, Joshua D, Tianna N, Kayla V, Connor H, Sarah S and Lachlan R for excellent thinking and a brilliant team effort.

Sports News

NETBALL NEWS

Yr 5/6 SNOW: The Snow team had a great game on Saturday and won their game. They are really starting to knit together as a team and are really enjoying their games. Well done girls and keep it up.

Yr 4 CYCLONES: The Cyclones had two games on Saturday to make up for a recent rainy weekend. They fought hard in both games and came away with two close wins. The girls played well as a team and are improving their skills every week. A great effort once again!

Yr 4 STORMS: A slow start for our girls in the first quarter but they soon woke up to play a game that was evenly matched - we don’t even know who won! Great work girls. Next week we need a start as good as your finish! Now it’s off to Chamwood for the remainder of the season. Thanks to our umpires Chloe B and Angelina M, who are remaining at Lyneham courts to help out other teams.

Yr 2 LIGHTNING: Lightning played a great game of netball on Saturday against Harrison School. They continue to improve their skills each week implementing different aspect from their training sessions. They have begun talking to each other on the court and use their bounce passes in more difficult situations. Following the game all girls think of a skill they used and believe they are developing. Well done girls.

YR 1 HURRICANES: The Hurricanes enjoyed playing in the sunshine on Saturday morning. All girls hit the court with their big contagious smiles and enthusiasm yet again, and played so gorgeously. Go Hurricanes!

YR 3 TSUNAMIS: The Tsunamis came away with a win on the weekend - by one point! All the girls played well and were focused on their game. Good job girls.
19th June 1913. Train travel.

Dear diary,

Our travel plans for Sydney have been made. We will be travelling by train from Queanbeyan with Aunt Agnes. We will be going over to her home to collect her things and have some supper. When it is time to go, Pa will take us to the train station and get us settled. After we leave, he will stay at Aunt Agnes’, then go home the following morning.

Pa can not come with us, so Joe keeps saying I will have to do whatever he says because he will be the ‘man’ on the trip. He says he will be responsible for everything, so Henry and I have to do what he says, when he says it. If he thinks that that is what is going to happen, he has another thing coming. He was carrying on the other afternoon and I told him that Ma was more than capable of looking after everything. He said she’d need a man. I replied, “Then we’d best take Pa!” He didn’t like that. We started to argue, each of us trying to score points over the other. He finally gave up after I said that the “man’s” job was to keep company with Aunt Agnes the whole way. He didn’t have a reply - he is scared of Aunt Agnes!

I must admit I am scared of going on the train. I’ve never been on one before and they are so big, noisy and smelly (I saw one in Queanbeyan station once). Pa said that they travel up to 20 miles per hour; depending on whether it was a freight train or a passenger train. How can anything go that fast? It only runs on those little pieces of steel. Going so fast might make me feel sick. I’ve never been that fast before.

We are to go on the overnight train. We leave at 8.30 pm and arrive in Sydney at 6 am. Our train is a mix of freight cars and passenger cars. We will have to sleep in our seats as sleeping berths were too expensive. The train will need to make stops to fill up on coal and water, but as it is a night train we will not be able to get off. Ma says we will all carry a cushion to use when we need to go to sleep and a rug to keep warm. We will also have our own compartment - Pa insisted on that.

I have been talking to Amelia about our trip. She has been on trains before. She has even been to Melbourne! She has been telling me some things that her family have done to make the trip pleasant. Her idea is to take something to read, something to draw and/or write with, a picnic basket with nice food and drink in it and the cushion and rug, which Ma had already suggested. I told her we were travelling at night and reading and writing couldn’t be done in the dark. She just laughed and said that trains had gas lights! How was I to know that, I have never even been on a train!

Then she told me something truly shocking. I’m almost too embarrassed to write it down, but I have to tell you. They have facilities on the train! I was wondering how we were to relieve ourselves when we couldn’t get off the train. I could not hang on for 10 hours! She says that the bathroom is tiny, no bigger than a cupboard. There is a seat with a lid and a fold down basin. She says that you can only go in when the train is moving. When you lift the lid the hole goes straight through the floor onto the tracks! Have you ever heard anything like it? I said she had to be joshing me, that could not be true. She crossed her heart and swore it was true. That means everything would go out the hole and onto the tracks! Yuck! I’m never going to walk anywhere near train tracks.

She did say that the little basin was a great invention. It folds up onto the wall and can only fold down when you are standing, as it is placed on the wall over the seat. When you are done with the seat you close the lid and fold down the basin. There is a little pump handle for water to wash. Then you fold up the basin and the liquid drains into a pipe which also waters the tracks. I can’t wait to give it a go on our trip.

I’m still scared, but I’m now also excited. The trip still seems so far away.

Mary
**CANBERRA REGION**

Parliament House, known formerly as the **Provisional Parliament House**, began operation on 9 May 1927 as a temporary base for the Commonwealth Parliament. It remained in service until 9 May 1988. The construction was commenced in August 1923 and completed in early 1927. It was built by the Commonwealth Department of Works, using tradesmen and materials from all over Australia. The final cost was about £600,000, which was more than three times the original estimate.

The building was opened on 9 May 1927 by the Duke and Duchess of York (later King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother). The building was extensively decorated with British Empire and Australian flags and bunting for the gala occasion. Invitations were issued to 500 national and international official guests and a further 5000 tickets were distributed throughout Australia for seats in outside stands. The ceremony included the review of a guard of honour by the Duke of York and a reading in the Senate chamber of a message from the King. After the official proceedings, a review of 2000 troops and a Royal Australian Air Force flypast were held in York Park.


**GUNGHAULIN AREA**

**Elmgrove**

John Gillespie’s son James purchased land at Gooyooyaroo, to the north west of his father’s house in 1882 and built a homestead, Elmgrove. James married Isabella Jones and lived in the house until his death in 1926. Isabella lived there until she died in 1938 and their son Harold remained there until he died in 1974. The separate kitchen building burned down in 1911. This property was still a working station as of 2010. It grew some crops and the sheep were sheared in the shed built by the Gillespie family in the 1950s.

James Burton moved to Mulligans Flat in the 1870s. He was a stonemason at Duntroon in the 1860s and he worked on some of the stone work on the Rectory for St John’s Church Reid in 1873. His second home, which he probably built in the 1870s and where he died in 1896, was beyond ‘Elm Grove’. The house disappeared in decay but an old pear tree struggled on until the 1970s.

**WHAT’S ON IN TOWN?**

**Turner from the Tate: The Making of a Master** - 01/06/2013 to 08/09/2013, NGA. J.M.W. Turner (1775-1851) is known around the world as one of Britain’s greatest artists, and one of the key figures of the Romantic generation at the start of the nineteenth century. Turner’s art has generated controversy and admiration for its restless and experimental character.

**Lifeline Southside Bookfair** - 21/06/2013 to 23/06/2013 Get involved in the activities at the Lifeline Southside Bookfair. Books on display will include fiction and non-fiction, DIY and children’s books, rare collectable items, games, music and much more. It’s going to be a family friendly environment with plenty of activities for the kids.

**Canberra and Capital Region Truffle Festival** - 21/06/2013 to 28/07/2013 Discover the magic of truffles at the Canberra and Capital Region Truffle Festival. The region celebrates these highly prized gems from late June to early August. Learn from celebrity chefs and other truffle experts. Join a truffle hunt or simply indulge in the special flavours.
To be together....

Cyber Safety

Parent Information Evening

When: Tuesday 25th June
Where: Mother Teresa School Hall (40 Wimmera St Harrison)
Time: 6:30pm

The purpose of this presentation is to raise awareness of the issues facing young people online including:
- Online grooming;
- Inappropriate content – both self-created and accessed;
- Cyber-bullying;
- Scams, fraud and identity theft;
- Social networking;
- Gaming;
- Instant Messaging & Chat;
- Peer to Peer;
- Mobile Technologies;
- Reputation management;
- Privacy;
- Protecting your computer; and
- Where to go if things go wrong.

The parent information evening includes short videos and real life case studies presented by the 'Think U Know' organisation.

Because this presentation is tailored for an adult audience we request that no children attend. However for those parents who need to bring their children, teachers will be available to supervise them during the presentation.

Please RSVP your attendance and if you will require student supervision to office.mts@cg.catholic.edu.au
The heart of God.

**Year 6 Celebrates Confirmation**

Last week many Year 6 students made their Confirmation. They have prepared for Confirmation since the start of the year and have learnt about the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit and the Pentecost story. The students also chose a Saint to guide them through Confirmation and for the rest of their Christian lives. It was a very special week.

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**Interview: Mr Aquilina, aka ‘Mr A’**

**Where do you come from?**

Mr. A: Well, I was born in Sydney and I moved here 5 years ago.

**How have you settled into Good Shepherd?**

Mr. A: Everyone is friendly and all the students are very kind.

**What is your dream job?**

Mr. A: I’m already doing it! So, teaching.

**What is your favourite sport to teach?**

Mr. A: Definitely have to be Sport/P.E

**How do you hope to change the lives of the students at Good Shepherd?**

Mr. A: To give students the chance to play different sports or try new things.

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**Special Reminders**

- Don’t forget to bring ‘Winter Woolies’ for Friday.
- Hats away at the end of May! Beanies are a good idea.
- Girls please remember hair ribbons must be school colours.
- Remember to log onto to LiFE, Mathletics and Reading Eggs. Have you found Lyle yet?
- Enjoy some time with your family during ‘Family Week’

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**Guess who?**

1. Which student in 2H moved to Canberra this year?
2. Which student in 4D broke their wrist at the skate park?
3. Which teacher has handled an 11 ft python?

**Wr. 3 Answers:** Ms. Kolek, Mrs. Janieson, Miss Kelly

Written and compiled by the Year 6 Shepherd Spy Team 2013