Dear Parents,

Welcome or welcome back to the new school year, I trust your child’s first week has been relatively smooth and they have quickly transitioned into school life. Don't despair if it hasn’t been all plain sailing, change combined with 38 degree heat would test anyone, let alone a young child.

For my part I am delighted to be back at Good Shepherd, my two year stint at the National Catholic Education Commission was a wonderful professional development opportunity and I feel well prepared to re-join school life.

I would like to offer my thanks and congratulations to Brad Gaynor, our Leadership Team, staff and parents on achieving such great progress during the past two years. The capital works to our school including the fantastic improvements to the grounds are a credit to our entire community.

I look forward to working cooperatively with you to continuing to offer an excellent Catholic education for your child. I put the following thought in our staff memo this week. I think it serves as a great reminder to all those involved in raising children.

One hundred years from now it will not matter what kind of car you drove, what kind of house you lived in, how much you had in your bank account, or what your clothes looked like. But the world may be a little better because you were important in the life of a child.

I would like to urge you strongly to attend the Parent Information Night which will be held next Wednesday evening in our classrooms. This is an excellent opportunity to meet your child’s teacher and hear about the day to day operation of the classroom and year level. Our Community Council has worked very hard to arrange for stallholders to gather in our courtyard advertising the many and varied opportunities available at our school. Please see the complete timetable for the evening on this page. I am very much looking forward to reconnecting with you on this evening.

Thank you once again for the warm welcome back.

May God bless you and your family

Graham Pollard
Principal
To be together ...  

Religious Education

To be together the Heart of God

Our Whole School Focus for 2014, “To be together the Heart of God” is designed to help us explore and refresh the mission statement and vision of Good Shepherd. We began our journey last year as we explored our focus for the year, “On the Road to the Heart of God”. Each of our Prayer Celebrations was based on scripture that allowed us to break open our three school pillars, Identity, Connections and Relationships.

The Prayer Focus Celebrations for 2014 will be grounded in scripture and developed under the headings of -
To Be..., To be Together..., To be together the Heart... and To be together the Heart of God.

Sympathy: During the holidays our school community was saddened to hear of death of Damian Roche, husband of our beautiful Tess. Please keep Tess and Bede (her son) in your prayers.

It’s a boy: Congratulations to Jacinta Houler and her husband Adam on the birth of their beautiful son Daniel Alexander. Mum and bub are both doing well.

Green Team takes a hit: As most of your know the Green Team was busy last year making some beautiful improvements to our school yard. The sand pit and gazebo areas are (we think) looking brilliant. In the last two weeks of school we planted some lovely golf ball pottosporums in the garden just in the front of the Kinder block. By time we were finished planting it was looking lovely! All prepped and ready for when school returned and our new little Kinder children start.

We managed to keep the lush new plants alive and well during the holiday heat – thanks Michelle Blakely-Kidd and Brett King! Then some not very nice person decided to steal them all bar three! Just when all of our hard work was coming together too. So..... we will have a take two of the Kinder garden and try again. We have had some very generous parents offer to purchase some replacement plants for us and we are very very grateful.

If you would like any information about the green team please feel free to contact Linda Fleming 0481 066 790 or info@canberrapreschools.org.au

Community Council Meeting

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 18th February at 7 pm in the School Staff Room.

This is a wonderful opportunity for parents to come together as a School Community to discuss how we can improve the school environment for our children.
General Information:

**Cheerleading:** All new and returning cheerleaders interested in signing up for the 2014 Cheer Season, please attend our Cheer Registration Day tomorrow, **Friday 7th February** at the front of the school hall. You can come anytime between 3.30pm and 6.30pm to pick up your information pack, fill out your registration forms, chat with coaches and organise payment.

**Medication:** If your child was administered medication last year for ADHD, asthma or allergies and the medication needs to continue for 2014, you are required to complete a new ‘Request to Dispense Medication’ form which is available from the front office. If you have any questions please contact Joan at the office.

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**Systemic Sibling Discount Reminder**

Another letter was sent home yesterday with every child in Years 1 to 6 regarding the systemic sibling discount for families who have an older student in either St Francis Xavier College, Merici, John Paul College, St Clare’s College or St Mary Mackillop College. It needs to be completed and returned to Anne McKenna no later than tomorrow, **Friday 7 February 2014**.

It is extremely time consuming for Anne if you request a refund part way during the year for the CEO Tuition and Building Fund.

If you did not receive the sibling discount letter yesterday we have attached the letter on page 8 of this newsletter.

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**School Fees:** Term 1 School Fees will be sent home next week via your child’s note bag. Fees are due to be paid no later than Friday, 7th March. Payment may be made by cash/cheque/eftpos or BPay. All direct debits should have been altered to cover your school fee debt for 2014.

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**Swimming Carnival:** Our school swimming carnival for Years 3 to 6 will be held Friday, 14th February at Queanbeyan Pool. Information was sent home earlier this week. All permission notes and participation forms must be returned no later than tomorrow, Friday 7th February.

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**School Banking:** The Commonwealth Bank is offering a School Banking program here at Good Shepherd on Thursday mornings. All that is required is a Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account, simply drop into any branch to apply or through NetBank (for existing customers). If your child has an existing Youthsaver account they are ready to start School Banking.

This is a fun and easy way for your child to develop the knowledge and confidence to handle their money, whilst offering an exciting rewards program for children as well as ongoing fund raising for your school.

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**Calendar:** The 2014 School Calendar is available online through the School Website. Having it online will ensure that it is current and always up to date. The Newsletter will continue to highlight up coming events too to ensure that parents and families are fully aware of what is on.

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**School Uniform:** Thankyou to the many parents who have made that extra effort to send their children to school with the correct uniform. It is great to see the students wearing their uniform with pride.

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**Canteen:** The 2014 Menu is attached on page 9.
To be together ... 

**Netball:** If your child is interested in playing Netball for Good Shepherd, registration will be held tomorrow, 7th February from 3.30pm-4.30pm just outside the Front Office area. If you would like more information please email: goodshepherdnetballclub@gmail.com or ring 0422 644 311.

**Used Uniform Shop:** Will be opened every Monday, 3.10pm - 3.45pm and Friday 8.55am - 9.30am. Our Uniform Shop is now located in Building G (store room opposite the Music Room near Yr 1 Price). All items of clothing $5.

**Newsletter:** Please ensure that the Front Office has your most up to date email address. Once all emails have been updated the Newsletter will only be available via email, on the school website or on the school app.

**Good Shepherd School App:** To install the App, just look for our school name “Good Shepherd Catholic Primary School Amaroo” in the Apple App Store and install it on your phone.

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**S.M.A.R.T Goals**

This year all students will be involved in explicit learning experiences guiding them through the process of setting SMART Goals. It is hoped that as the program develops across the years, students will leave Good Shepherd as capable and confident goal setters.

By Week 3, all students will have set their personal S.M.A.R.T goals and should be ready to discuss these with you. They will have an action plan that outlines the steps they will take towards achieving their goal. Please take time to discuss this with your child and encourage them throughout their journey. Student success in this program will rely heavily on your support and encouragement.

We appreciate your commitment to working as partners with the staff of Good Shepherd within this important program.

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**Sports Uniform**

The children are required to wear their sports uniforms this term on the following days:

- **Kinder:** Tuesday and Thursday
- **Year 1:** Tuesday and Thursday
- **Year 2:** Wednesday and Friday
- **Year 3:** Tuesday and Friday
- **Year 4:** Tuesday and Friday
- **Year 5:** Tuesday and Friday
- **Year 6:** Tuesday and Thursday
Email Etiquette: Communication via email is an excellent way for parents and teachers to correspond, however it is essential that appropriate email etiquette is observed by all users. The correct use of email enables parents and teachers to give and receive information, arrange appointment times and also resolve small issues quickly. When used in this way it is an effective communication tool between school and home.

Unfortunately over the past year, the use of email as a form of communication between home and school has been misused by some parents. Emailing is not an avenue for venting anger or at its worst, abusing teachers. While this has only happened on a few occasions, the effect it has had on the teachers receiving these emails has been profound.

If a parent is concerned or upset about an issue, it is preferable to speak to the teacher face to face. An email to a teacher to organise a meeting produces a far better outcome in these situations. Good and effective communication between home and school is of paramount importance to us here at Good Shepherd. We embrace email as an effective communication tool and we aim to ensure that we all use it in a courteous and respectful way.

Counselling Service: Good Shepherd provides a counselling service to all students and families within the school. The school counsellor is employed by CatholicCare and attends the school weekly, to provide one-on-one assessments and therapies with children, support to families and carers, consultation to the school, and resources and referrals to outside services.

What are common issues that the school counsellor can help with?
- Improving mood and mental health, such as anxiety or depression
- Difficulties with friendships or social skills
- Self-esteem or resilience
- Family situations such as parental separation or health issues
- Grief and loss
- Managing behavioural difficulties or developmental issues
- Providing support for parenting

How can I contact the school counsellor?
Parents and carers can speak to the counsellor directly by phoning the school, or ask your child’s teacher or the school Principal to make a referral. In some cases, teachers may make a referral directly or older children may initiate contact. However, parental consent is always gained before the school counsellor has any contact with children.

How does the counselling service work?
The school counsellor works in collaboration with families and carers, teaching staff, learning support, and if necessary outside services, to ensure a holistic approach to children’s wellbeing. However, contact is carried out in a way that ensures as much privacy for children and families as possible, and information is kept confidential unless permission is given or there are serious concerns about the safety of the child.

After a referral has been made, there can be a waiting period of up to two weeks, although the counsellor endeavours to make contact as soon as possible and prioritises urgent cases. The school counsellor starts with discussing what is happening with your child to make an assessment about how to best provide therapy or support.

The school counsellor at Good Shepherd is Laura Pound, who works at the school every Tuesday and every second Thursday. To make contact please phone the school.

Violin Lessons: If you would like your child to learn to play the violin please contact Vivianne Anthrak 0404 132 419 for more information
A Few Reminders:

- Starting time is **8.55am sharp**. Students arriving late will need to be signed in at the Front Office.

- Supervision commences at **8.35am** and **NO STUDENT** should be at school before 8.35am. Students arriving before 8.35am are unsupervised. Please use before school care if necessary.

- A student’s hair should be cut off their face and, if longer than shoulder length, it must be tied back in an appropriate school coloured band. Hair should also be of natural colour and extreme haircuts are not encouraged.

- **No jewellery** should be worn to school and only plain studs, small sleepers and watches are acceptable. No bracelets, bangles, sparkly ear rings, nail polish, make up, etc is allowed.

- Good Shepherd is a **NUT FREE** School.

- Good Shepherd has a **NO HAT NO PLAY** Policy. Students without a correct school hat will be asked to sit in the Gazebos.

- Black ‘jogger’ type school shoes and boots are not part of the school uniform. The only school shoes allowed at Good Shepherd are the traditional or formal leather school shoes.

- Students with Mobile Phones are asked to switch the phone off and leave it in their bags. If mobile phones are heard or sighted during school time they will be confiscated. The School takes no responsibility for mobile phones.

- Students who are collected by their parents during the day for appointments must be signed out/in at the Front Office before and after the appointment.

- Parents visiting the school to assist are also asked to sign in at Front Office and receive a Visitors Badge.

- Please ensure that the School always has up to date contact and emergency details for your children.

- Please drive slowly and be vigilant in the car parks.

- **Drive Thru Pick Up** does not commence until **3.20pm**. This allows parents who park & Pick Up to vacate the car parks. The aim is to ease traffic congestions in our car parks and ensure the safety of our community members. Please DO NOT arrive earlier and start queuing up in the car park.

- Families with 2 or more children use Drive Thru in the front car park.

- 1 child families use Drive Thru in the Church car park.

- **Disabled parking** - please leave the disabled car spaces free for those who need them.

- **Walkers/ Bike Riders** - Students are to wait at the exit near the Kindergarten block until the teacher on road crossing/bus duty collects them and walks them across the roads. No student should be walking their bikes across the road in the afternoon without supervision.

- **Toys** and personal sporting gear should not be brought to school. Accidental damage and loss is too common in schools.
...the heart of God.

STAFF 2014

Principal - Graham Pollard
Assistant Principal - Ursula Jamieson
RE Education Coordinator - Luke Maher
Coordinators - Jessica Dittmar, Luke Mooney and Penny Vanzwol
Front Office - Joan Jones
Finance Manager - Anne McKenna

Kindergarten
Ana Manenica
Nicole Rous
Penny Vanzwol
Natalie Zarb

Year 1
Tracey Kenna
Toni Pfeiffer
Kirsty Price

Year 2
Angela Callaghan
Christine Donnelly
Sonya Huleatt
Susan Metcalfe

Year 3
Vanessa Dunstan
Erika Tokich
Liz Zaja

Year 4
Matt Aquilina
Jessica Dittmar
Lisa McMahon/Karen Eglington
Kate Whackett

Year 5
Marty Capon
Luke Mooney
Lelani Morrell
Hayley Stadtmiller

Year 6
Stephen Bent
Yolanda Kolek
Kristy-Lee Walker

Learning Support Team
Melanie Shannon
Ursula Jamieson
Anne Smart
Maria Goleby
Tania Fleming

Teacher Librarian
Bernadette Aitken

Library Assistant
Sue Hall

Defence Services Transition Aide
Libby Willemsen

Leadership Team Release
Diana Jones

Arts Release
Sally Taurasi

Science
Michelle Weier
Brooke Thompson
Luke Maher

Student Welfare Office
Anne Gilfelt

School Counsellor
Laura Pound
(Every Tuesday and 2nd Thursday)

Grounds and Maintenance
Brett King

House Colours
Brescia - Blue or Purple
Cavanagh - Green or White
Noolup - Yellow or Orange
Patterson - Red or Black

All families of Parish Schools are warmly invited to join us at the Commissioning Mass for Teachers and Staff of Parish Schools.

Sunday, 9 February at Holy Spirit Church commencing 9.30am
Followed by Morning Tea

We Endeavour To Be ... Peanut Free!

Please remember that a number of our students have serious allergies to peanuts. We have agreed as a community we will 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 hazelnut-based spreads. Thank you for your support in this matter.
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 system 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 2014.

**Failure to advise the school means you will miss 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 2014</th>
<th>School Attending 2014</th>
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Discounts that will apply for the CEO Tuition Fee in 2014 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 Friday, 7 February 2014.

Yours Sincerely

Graham Pollard
Principal
...the heart of God.

**FOOD ON THE RUN @ GOOD SHEPHERD CANTEEN 2014**

### SANDWICHES
- Vegemite, Honey or Jam: $2.00
- Cheese: $2.00
- Ham: $3.00
- Egg & Mayonnaise: $3.50
- Chicken & Mayonnaise: $3.50
- Salad: $3.00
- Tuna: $3.00

### HOT FOOD
- Mini Pie or Mini Sausage Roll: $1.20
- 2 Mini Sausage Rolls or 2 Mini Pies: $2.20
- Corn on the Cob: $1.20
- Aussie Pie: $3.50
- Potato Pie: $4.00
- Aussie Sausage Roll: $3.00
- Middle Hot Dog: $1.40
- Hot Dog: $2.70
- Piza Rounder: $3.50
- Vegetable Lasagne: $4.00
- Tomato Sauce: $0.30
- BBQ Sauce: $0.30

### SNACKS
- Carrot Sticks: $0.70
- Cheese Stick or Fruit Stick: $0.70
- Cake of the Day: $1.00
- Sultanas: $1.20
- Jelly Cups: $1.40
- Popcorn: $1.00
- 3 C’s: $2.00
- (Cheese, carrots, crackers): $2.00
- Cheese & Cracker Pack: $2.00
- Yoghurt (Frozen): $2.50
- JJ’s (Pizza, Chicken) Snacks: $1.80

### SALADS & FRUIT
- Fruit Salad: $3.00
- Garden Salad: $3.50
- Add Ham or Chicken to Salad: $1.00
- Choice of Seasonal Fruit: $1.00

### DRINKS
- Fresh Juice: $2.50
- Apple or Orange: $2.00
- Water: $2.00
- Arona Spring Water: Monthly Special Flavour: $2.50
- Flavored Milk Chocolate or Strawberry: $2.50

### ICE BLOCKS
- Frozen Fruit Cups – Apple, Orange, Apple and Blackcurrent: $1.00

**FOOD ON THE RUN LUNCH VALUE PACKS**

**PACK A $6.00**
- Vegemite, Honey & Cheese Sandwich
- 2 Mini pies or 2 mini sausage rolls
- Mini hot dog or Hot Dog
- Snack, Fruit & Drink

**PACK B $6.50**
- Pie or Sausage Roll
- Garden Salad or Any Sandwich
- Snack, Fruit & Drink

**LUNCH ORDERS MAY BE PLACED ON LINE WITH FLEXIMEALS SAVE MONEY**

All Packs come with 1 item from each group
- Snack – Muffin, Popcorn, Cheese Stick, Carrot Sticks, Fruit Sticks or Sultanas
- JJ’s can be add to any pack for an extra 50 cents.
- Fruit - Apple, Orange or Pear
- Drink - 250ml Juice, Water, 300ml Milk or Arona Spring Water.

**GLUTEN FREE OPTIONS**
- Gluten Free Hot Dog: $3.00
- Gluten Free Apple Bar: $2.50
- Gluten Free Pie: $5.00
- Gluten Free Rice Wheels: $1.50

**SPECIALS WILL BE ADVERTISED IN THE NEWSLETTER**
Welcome to 2014 at Good Shepherd, from Good Shepherd Community Council!

Whether you are new to Good Shepherd or a family who has been with us forever, we are sure that you’ll be impressed by what you see around the school in 2014.

Unlike most other schools, Good Shepherd does not have a P&C and a separate school Board - both are combined to form the Community Council, which means the Council is involved in lots of areas from overseeing the school's budget to community events to fundraising and everything in between!

Over the past few years your Community Council has worked on a number of projects that we feel have really enhanced our school. To date we can list:

- The engagement of Camp Australia who are now in their second year with us and are proving to be terrific, reliable organization that as seen the utilization of the before and after school care program double. We are now able to offer vacation care at Good Shepherd (previously children had to attend the program offered at Amaroo Primary)
- Admin building refurbishment
- Development of sandpit / flag poles areas
- Permanent shade covers
- IPads for every staff member
- New interactive whiteboards for every classroom
- The reintroduction of the end of school BBQ
- The new quadrangle
- Great improvements in our yard – and we ain’t finished yet!

We have worked hard to improve our communication and profile so that we are in touch with our school community’s needs and so that we can be accessible for feedback.

This year will see our Committee in overdrive, as we are preparing for the Good Shepherd Fete. **SAVE THE DATE:** Saturday 22nd November, 3pm – 7pm. Good Shepherd, Mother Theresa, Holy Spirit and John Paul College are all “sister schools”. As such, one school will be the host to a Fete or major fundraising activity every four years.

This is our year – one opportunity to have awesome fun and fundraise like crazy!

Your council is a dynamic, fun (well we think we are!?) hands on group. We meet on a Tuesday evening at 7pm on Week 3 and Week 8 of every term.

Please consider this your invitation to join us on our ride in 2014!!!

If you have any interests or questions we are always up for a chat,

Linda Fleming on behalf of Good Shepherd Community Council,

Linda Fleming, Secretary 0481 066 790
Sara Henden, Vice President 0406 377 897
Communitycouncil.goodshepherd@cg.catholic.edu.au