Dear Parents and Carers

Last Tuesday evening we held our first Community Council meeting for this year. I think our school would win any prize being offered for enthusiastic, supportive parents based on the energy and attendance rate at this evening.

The Council is a credit to the school and their passion is testament to their willingness to create the best school imaginable at Good Shepherd. Sadly though many of these wonderful parents are now nearing the end of their time at our school. It is important that we begin a process whereby we transition new parents into roles. There will be an opportunity for you to join our Council during the next few weeks. Keep an eye out for a nomination form which will be widely distributed before the next meeting Tuesday, 22 March.

A strong focus this year will be developing partnerships between the family and school. Several ideas were floated at the meeting and a subcommittee will flesh out some plans during the coming months. Our staff members intend to offer more opportunities for engagement by once again hosting Parents as Partners evenings throughout the year.

Speaking of partnerships...some tips from Dr Michael Carr-Gregg about building a strong relationship with your child:

- Keep calm.
- Don’t talk too much and listen more.
- Keep it short—only two sentences at a time.
- Remind them of what they do well.
- Use humour—never sarcasm.
- Set very clear boundaries and have both positive and negative consequences.
- Only argue over things that matter and let some things go by you.
- Avoid confrontations or ultimatums.
- Catch them doing something good regularly give them positive feedback.
- Help them define the problems and options.
- Do not constantly remind them of past mistakes.
- Talk while doing something together.
- Reduce the number of questions or explain why you are asking them.
- Spend time with them.

Carpark:

Thank you for your patience whilst dropping and collecting your child, particularly in our Church Carpark. The traffic issues have been a little worse than normal, due in no small way to the large number of parents who have been parking their car then collecting their children from class. We have found in previous years that the number drops once children are in a routine with more parents choosing to use the drive by pick up option. It is however imperative that all drivers turn left and join the traffic loop when exiting the netball courts.

In the meantime, the road markings and signage will be renewed in this carpark during the next few weeks.
DSTA:
Our Defence Force Transition Aide (DSTA), Libby Willemsen, has resigned from this position and will conclude her work at the end of Week Three. Libby will remain on staff as a Learning Support Assistant.

The position has been advertised and interviews were conducted yesterday. I am hopeful that the successful applicant will be able to commence duties at either the beginning of next week or the week after.

Thank you to Libby for her work in the position during the past eleven years. Given that the school has approximately 70 families who have Defence Force backgrounds this is, and has been, an important role at our school.

May God bless you and your family.

Graham Pollard
Principal

Dear Lord
I know You receive what is in my heart. Let me be inspired by Your words and by the actions of Your son, Jesus. Guide me to make sacrifices this Lent in the spirit of self-denial and with greater attention to You and those around me. Help me to believe that You will grant me this because of the sacrifice Jesus made for me.
Amen.

WE ENDEAVOUR TO BE A NUT FREE SCHOOL

Year 6 Only
Lorin Nicholson’s Visit
On Tuesday, 8 March our Year 6 children will begin their Leadership training with an inspiring, motivational day designed and presented by Lorin Nicholson.

Lorin is a youth motivational speaker, who speaks of how he overcame obstacles in his life to follow his passions, regardless of the fact that he grew up blind. Not only does he captivate an audience with his inspiring stories, but as a talented guitarist,

Lorin provides an entertaining ‘potentially life changing’ presentation. Our Year 6 students are indeed fortunate to be engaged in a day of activities with such a positive role model.

Apple have recalled all power adaptors dated back to 2003.

If you are unsure please contact your Apple store.
Making an Appointment with Your Child’s Teacher:
Parents who wish to make a more formal appointment with a teacher are asked to email the teacher directly. Teacher emails are firstname.surname@cg.catholic.edu.au

Some things to consider:
- Please do not approach a teacher at morning assembly or straight after school for a formal chat. Teachers are often on duty, have meetings or appointments scheduled;
- Teachers may take a few days to respond to your email;
- Appointments will usually be before school or straight after school. Like any specialist appointment, parents make need to rearrange their work schedule to make the appointment;
- Formal interviews are scheduled for all year levels in early Term 2. Parents also have the option of a formal interview at the end of Term 2 and Term 4 following written reports.

Lost Property: After the swimming carnival we had a few unclaimed items. If your child own any of the following unloved items they may collect them from Mrs Jones at the front office.
- Size 6 navy shorts
- Size 10 Lime Green Rashie with palm trees on the front
- A pair of red goggles

Medication Reminder: If your child has any medication at school eg. Epipen, Ventolin, Asthma or Antihistamine it is your responsibility to check and replace any medication out of date.

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.

Please Help: We have had a number of frustrated parents coming into the Front Office looking for their child’s labelled lost item of clothing.

Parents over the weekend could you please take the time to check your child/ren’s possessions to make sure they have brought home the correct hat, jumper, lunchbox, etc.

If you have any item that does not belong to your child could you please return it to school as soon as possible.

Thank you for your assistance.

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<td>Netball Registrations are due for Girls in Yr to Yr 6</td>
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<td>Term 1</td>
<td>Yr 6 Excursion Parliament House</td>
<td>Pirates and Princesses Kindergarten</td>
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<td>Confirmation Information Sessions 1pm or 3pm</td>
<td>Prayer Celebration 9.13am</td>
<td>Confirmation Enrolment Mass 6 pm</td>
<td>Confirmation Enrolment Masses 9.30 am &amp; 5.30 pm</td>
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As we are in an extraordinary Jubilee Year, our ‘Heart of God’ focus is going to be extraordinary too. Usually our Heart of God focus is based on our three pillars of IDENTITY, RELATIONSHIPS and CONNEC TIONS which Good Shepherd School is built on. In this Year of Mercy, our three pillars will be COMPASSION, FORGIVENESS, and MERCY. These three pillars, together with PRAYER support a Christian life. Compassion leads us to forgive others, and with God’s help, we can also show mercy.

During the year students will receive a Heart of God card if they forgive someone, if they are compassionate towards someone, or if they show mercy.

The aim of the Prayer Celebration is to provide the students with a prayerful opportunity to make connections with the teachings and instructions for the ‘Year of Mercy’.

**Dates to Remember:**

- **Prayer Celebration:** “Introduction to the Year of Mercy” – Friday, 19 February
- **Mini Vinnies Commissioning Ceremony** – Friday, 26 February
- **Year 2Huleatt and 6Mooney Prayer Celebration:** “24 Hours of the Lord” - Friday, 4 March
- **Confirmation Information Session** - Thursday, 3 March
  - 1:00pm or 7:00pm
- **Confirmation Enrolment Mass** - Saturday, 5 March 6pm or Saturday, 6 March 9:30am or 5:30pm

There are over 40 million Scouts in the world today and in the ACT there are Scout Groups in more than 35 local communities. Scouting helps create friendships, confidence, life skills and much more. Boys and girls aged 6-25 are encouraged to try come and try our 3 week FREE offer. Simply contact your local Scout Group, go to our website [www.scoutsact.com.au](http://www.scoutsact.com.au) or give us a call on 1800 SCOUTS.
HOLY SPIRIT PARISH
Multicultural Feast
Saturday, 5 March 2016
Mass at 6:00pm

Then join us in the Good Shepherd School Hall from 7:00pm for:
MUSIC
DANCING
FOOD

Plus performances by children from our Parish Schools

Wearing National Dress is encouraged.
Each cultural group is invited to bring food to share.

Come and enjoy food from around the world.
EVERYONE is WELCOME!