Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you had an opportunity to enjoy some time with your family during the Easter holidays, we were certainly blessed with beautiful weather!

**Parent Teacher Interviews**

It has been wonderful this week to see so many parents taking the opportunity to meet with their child’s teacher. I know the teachers have spent many hours preparing for these meetings, I hope you found the them to be valuable.

This is a prime opportunity for you to follow up on the conversation and praise your child for their achievements whilst setting some goals in areas that require improvement.

**Community Council**

The Annual General Meeting of our Community Council was held last Tuesday evening. We are blessed in this Community to receive strong support from a core group of people. I know many schools in Canberra struggle to reach a quorum at their meetings, at Good Shepherd our attendance is regularly over twenty parents.

Congratulations to Rita Woods who was elected as Chair of the Council for this year. She will be ably assisted by Rachael Church who was elected as Deputy Chair.

I would also like to pay tribute to our retiring Chair, Mike Dunbar and his Deputy, Linda Fleming who have served in these roles for almost five years. Our school is indebted to them for the leadership and energy they have shown in these roles over this long period.

Congratulations also to several new members who have joined the ranks following the nomination process.

**Catholic Schools Soccer Carnival**

Seven teams from Good Shepherd will represent our school at this Sunday’s Catholic Schools Carnival. The teams have been preparing for several weeks and are now ready to perform on Sunday.

Thank you to those parents who have nominated to support the teams as either Manager, Coach or Linesman. The children will receive vital information at a meeting on Friday which will include a draw, maps of ground location and food vouchers for the day.

Thank you to Mr Payne who has been instrumental in organising the teams.

---

God loves each of us, as if there were only one of us.

*St Augustine*
To be together ..... 

Year Five Camp
Our Year Five children depart for Camp at Jindabyne on Monday morning. They will be accompanied by their classroom teachers and several additional staff to assist with supervision. This is a great camp that provides many new opportunities and exciting activities for the children to experience. The second day is an exciting day when the children climb Mount Kosciusko. We hope they have a lovely three days.

May God bless you and your family.

Graham Pollard
Principal

General Information

Congratulations: Ruan (5Stadtmiller) currently participated in the ACT Athletics Championships. He is the Under 11 ACT Champion in Shotput and also came 3rd in the Discus. Well done Ruan.

Cross Country Carnival: Will be held next Friday, 8 April. The Carnival will commence after our morning assembly and should conclude by recess. The day will start with the 12 year olds and finish with the Year 1 and Kindergarten children.

The children are to wear their sports uniform including their joggers. They may wear a coloured T-Shirt in their house colour. The children must bring their school hat, sunscreen and a drink bottle with plenty of water. We are expecting fine weather, however if this does not eventuate a decision will be made in the morning. Please send your child ready to run, regardless of the conditions.

Walk of Hope: A major part of the day on Friday, 8 April will be our inaugural “Walk for Hope” which will begin after the Cross Country at 11.40 am in the Hall. The celebration will conclude at 1.00 pm with lunch on the oval.

Ballet: If your child is interested in learning the skills and love of dance which will last a lifetime. Please contact MAKS Ballet Studios (3/56 Heffernan St, Mitchell) maksballetstudios@hotmail.com or 0403803433.

2017 Enrolments: If you have a child in pre-school this year, please contact the Office for an enrolment pack. Enrolment period is from Monday, 2 May until Friday, 20 May. All enrolments must be returned no later than Friday, 20 May. Enrolments received after this date will be classed as a late enrolment. The enrolment process must be followed for all intending to attend Good Shepherd next year, even those with siblings already attending the school. Our Open Day will be held on Wednesday, 4 May.

Zoo Excursion: On Tuesday, the Kindergarten children took their teddy bears to visit their cousins at the zoo. The Sun Bears did a happy dance because they were sooo excited to see us! We chatted to the otters, frolicked with the fairy penguins and patted a dingo. We fed the greedy emu and met the oldest tiger in Australia but the most magnificent part was when some children got to feed the LION! The children were very well behaved and our parent helpers were very helpful! What a great day! We are so blessed.

Shepherd Spy
...the heart of God.

Reflection:


‘Till this moment they (and we) had failed to understand the teaching of scripture that Christ Jesus must rise from the dead.’ John 20:1-9

The **cross** is the standing statement of what we do to one another and to ourselves.

The **resurrection** is the standing statement of what God does to us in return.

**Christ Crucified** is all of the hidden, private, tragic pain of history made public and given over to God.

**Christ Resurrected** is all suffering received, loved, and transformed by an All-Caring, MERCIFUL God.

How else could we have any kind of cosmic hope?

How else would we not die of sadness from the tragedy of life and for what humanity has done to itself and to one another?

The **cross** is the standing statement of what we do to one another and to ourselves.

The **resurrection** is the standing statement of what God does to us in return.

---

**Alleluia! Christ is Risen!**

We are now in the season of Easter and it continues for the next fifty days until Pentecost. This is a time for all of us to celebrate and to know that we are loved by God. Easter is also the season to share this Good News with those around us. There are many people close to us who do not feel loved by God.

In this season let us make an effort to share the Good News of Jesus’ resurrection and let people know they are loved, without condition, by Jesus Christ.

---

**Confirmation News**

- Thank you to those parents and grandparents who offered to sew stoles for Confirmation. Your generosity and hard work is much appreciated by the Good Shepherd Community and the Year 6 students receiving Confirmation.

- A reminder to Year 6 students who are receiving Confirmation: **please remember to attend the Masses you have chosen to perform ministries at**. Your teachers have a copy if you have forgotten the dates and times. Please arrive 20 minutes before the beginning of Mass.

- Continue to fill in your Confirmation program booklet after Mass each week. These will be collected at the Prayer Night on Wednesday, 18 May at 7pm.

- Thank you to all those parents who have paid for the Confirmation program. A reminder that payment is due no later than tomorrow, **Friday 1 April**.

---

**Friday, 8 April is the last day of Term**

---
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday 11 April 2016</th>
<th>$53.88</th>
<th>Monday 18 April 2016</th>
<th>$53.88</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jewel of the Nile</td>
<td></td>
<td>Toya the Explorer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There are so may special treasures hidden in the jungle. Speak to the onsite Coordinator to find out what exciting fun awaits, in a specially designed program.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Toya has her safari hat on and looks like she's ready for an adventure. Wait up Toya, we're coming too! Speak to the onsite Coordinator to find out what exciting fun awaits</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 12 April 2016</td>
<td>$68.88</td>
<td>Tuesday 19 April 2016</td>
<td>$72.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puzzling Animals</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jungle Rumble</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3D Animal Puzzles - Today we'll be the ones getting puzzled, building and decorating our own iconic animal puzzles.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Make an erupting Volcano - Today we're making the rumble to put in the jungle!</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 13 April 2016</td>
<td>$83.88</td>
<td>Wednesday 20 April 2016</td>
<td>$68.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoologist for a Day - ACT</td>
<td></td>
<td>Beasts of the Jungle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Zoo and Aquarium - Explorers ready? We're off on an adventure to visit our favourite animals from the mighty jungle! Please arrive by 9.45am.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Disco Jungle Yoga - You'll have to be a part of it to believe it! Disco Jungle Yoga exists and it's great!</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 14 April 2016</td>
<td>$53.88</td>
<td>Thursday 21 April 2016</td>
<td>$83.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spots &amp; Stripes Spectacular</td>
<td></td>
<td>Urban Jungle - Hoyts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I spy with my little eye... Let's look at all the amazing colours and patterns in the jungle! Speak to the onsite Coordinator to find out what exciting fun awaits, in a speci</td>
<td></td>
<td>At the Movies - Zootopia: Join Judy Welcome to the mammal metropolis!</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 15 April 2016</td>
<td>$71.38</td>
<td>Friday 22 April 2016</td>
<td>$53.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lost Treasure</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sahara Sands</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make a Mandala - Create a hidden treasure inspired by the beautiful (wild) world around us.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Today we're venturing out of the busy, bustling, green jungle, and heading to the biggest desert in the world! Can you think of what animals and mysteries we'll encounter?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>