Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have had an opportunity to recharge your batteries over the school holidays. I am well aware that many parents are required to work through this period however hopefully the two week break at least gave you an opportunity to have a rest from school associated routines.

Several staff have returned from, or are currently spending some time away from school during the final weeks of the term. It was lovely to welcome back Liz Zaja who has re-joined our staff after taking Leave for the First Semester. I would ask you to keep Christine Donnelly in your prayers who remains absent from school following a serious fall late last term. Christine is thankfully making a steady recovery.

Approximately one hundred children from Years 5 and 6 have been preparing for our school’s first foray into the Wakikiri Competition. The competition requires children to produce a performance which tells a story involving song and dance. This year’s theme is “Star” and our staff and children have based the performance around the children’s book, Thelma the Unicorn. The performance is limited to seven minutes and enables children who have an interest in contributing both back and front of stage to be involved.

A Dress Rehearsal will take place in our School Hall on Friday, 29 July commencing at 2.15 pm. This will be a perfect opportunity for the cast and support crew to refine their act for the actual performance which will take place on Tuesday evening, 2 August.

Our School Athletics Carnival is scheduled for next Monday, 25 July. As you would be well aware we have already had several false starts (no pun intended) for this event and unfortunately the weather once again is not looking promising. We will keep you posted via our school app regarding a decision on the carnival.

I hope you and your family have a rewarding term.

Graham Pollard
Principal

---

Eternal God,
In whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible,
Look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us,
That in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent,
But with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will,
Which is Love and Mercy itself.
Amen
Reminder that Year 2 will not be participating in Monday’s Athletics Carnival due to a clash with their excursion. Year 2 students will have the opportunity to participate in track and field events during Week 2 and their times/distances will be included in the decision of who attends the District Carnival.

School Fees: Term 3 School Fees will be emailed. Payment will be due Friday, 19 August. Building Fund Statements were emailed earlier this week.

Hats Back On: Monday, 1 August is ‘HATS ON’ day. The ACT Cancer Council asks that we have the children back wearing their hats again until 1 June 2018. We will start reminding the children this week that as from Monday week hats are to be worn again but you may need to ensure that your child has their hat.

Handy Helpers: You are invited to our Handy Helpers group on Monday mornings. We will start with a cuppa prior to the Athletics Carnival this week, so come along and help out our teachers while you meet a few new faces!

Kindergarten and Year 1 Athletics Carnival: Will be held on Monday, 25 July. Children must wear their sports uniform. The children will be commencing with class rotation on the school oval from 11.40pm - 12.50pm. 70m running races will be held on the Amaro Playing Fields (the oval behind our school oval) from 1.30pm until 2.00pm. Parents are most welcome to attend.

After School Auskick: Will be held on Monday afternoons from 1 August until 5 September from 3.45 pm - 4.45 pm at Amaro Oval. For more information please contact luke.martin@afl.com.au

Deepest Sympathy: Our school community extends sympathy to the following families: Brusensky-Webb (Bella 5vT, Josh 4J); Searle (Hannah 5VT) and Livanos (Marcus 6P, Gillian 4J, Victoria 2K, Elizabeth KM). Please keep these families in your prayers.

Wakakiri: Our Year 5/6 children are performing “Be Careful What You Wish For….” at the Canberra Theatre, Tuesday evening 2 August. The performance is a re tell of the story “Thelma the Unicorn” written by Aaron Blabey. The children have been practising for a term and are very excited.

Canteen will be closed on Monday. No lunch orders will be served.

Changes to School Bus Timetable: Please see below:
Next time you walk through Good Shepherd’s front entrance you may like to look to your left and right where you will see this Year of Mercy’s logo and our school motto. When you pass through the doors, our wish is that you are blessed with the unconditional love and mercy from God and when you leave, that you may bring God’s love and mercy to those you meet during the day.

One way you can receive God’s mercy in a real and tangible way is by receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The sacrament is celebrated each Saturday before Mass from 5:15 - 5:45pm.

A reminder to parents and their children that celebrating Mass each weekend is a big part of the preparation for the sacraments. When students who are receiving these sacraments attend Mass they can receive a puzzle piece to add to their placemat. We hope to see you at Mass this weekend!

Congratulations to 1Eglington for being the class to collect the most food for the St Vincent de Paul food pantry. They collected a whopping 32 items just before the holiday break! Who will be the next Class Collector?

Every week, we are asking each family to bring just one item of non-perishable food to school to distribute to people in need. There is a collection box in your child’s classroom where you can send your gift of food. Thank you for your continued support.

How much I desire that the year to come will be steeped in mercy, so that we can go out to every man and woman, bringing the goodness and tenderness of God!

Misericordiae Vultus - Papal Bull (2015)
Rewarding regular savers with spectacular prizes.

We’re bringing the exciting news that Prize Lights have appeared in the Outback sky, and the Dollarmites are giving students who demonstrate regular savings behaviour the chance to win spectacular prizes.

How to enter

Students must simply make three or more School Banking deposits during Term 3 for a chance to win one of the Star Saver prizes, including camping kits, instant cameras and magazine packs.

What’s more, students who complete the fun Stargazing online activity, along with making three or more School Banking deposits during Term 3, will also go in the separate draw to win one of the Supernova prizes – a PlayStation 4 pack. Students can complete the Stargazing activity online at any time during Term 3 by visiting commbank.com.au/prizelights

Win a bag of sports equipment for your school

We’re also giving schools participating in the School Banking program a chance to win one of 75 bags full of sports equipment, valued at $200, when students make three School Banking deposits during Term 3.

To complete the Stargazing activity, or to find out more, visit commbank.com.au/prizelights

90 Instant Cameras
200 Magazine Packs
50 Camping Kits
50 PlayStation 4 Packs

Terms and conditions apply. See commbank.com.au/prizelights. Promotion starts 9 March 2023 and ends 11 April 2023. Entry is open to all Australian residents aged 16 years and over. Entry is limited to one per person per draw. Entries will be judged on the following criteria: Stargazing activity score, School Banking deposits made through the School Banking program, and a valid School Banking account at the time of entry. The winner will be determined by a draw of School Banking account numbers. The School Banking Program is a separate program from the Outback Savers Program. For more information, please visit commbank.com.au/prizelights.