Dear Parents

Our school is excited about the prospect of hosting David Price this evening. This presentation is an initiative of the Community Council following rave reviews from other school-based audiences. David will present to the Leadership Team during the school day, the staff after school and the parents during the evening.

David has been described as an educational futurist. His expertise lies in his ability to paint a picture of where education is heading in the future and the skill set that today’s children will require to meet the needs of our changing society and workforce. Obviously some of the discussion will focus on technological advances and their impact on the school setting however the topics will be wide ranging and we believe very engaging.

*It is not too late to come! We will accept your $5 entrance fee at the door if you have not had a chance to make a booking through our Front Office.*

Are you coming to the David Price Presentation this evening in our hall from 7.00 - 9.00 pm?

*Years Three and Four Bush Dance*

Following last year’s highly successful evening we are repeating the opportunity for children in Years Three and Four on **Thursday evening, 22 September**. Can I stress, however, that the evening is open to all members of our community, including siblings of Year Three and Four children, who would like to attend. Our Community Council will be operating a barbeque beforehand so that you can feed your family before the dance begins.

Our Arts Teacher, Mrs Taurasi, has been teaching the children the steps to several dances, however, the Band has reassured us that they will talk all newcomers through the steps before each dance.
Learning Journeys
A reminder that this term’s Learning Journeys will be held on Tuesday, 13 September. The sessions will be held before and after school and this year, and will include an ICT skill that the children have mastered.

Working Bee
Have you committed to our Spring Working Bee? This is our only Working Bee for the year and it will be held on Sunday morning 11 September from 10.00 am to 12.00 noon. As always the work will involve a general tidy of the grounds and maintenance of our garden beds.

More information regarding the Working Bee will be forwarded home closer to the date.

May I take this opportunity of wishing all the Father’s and Grandfather’s a happy Fathers Day this Sunday.

God bless to you and your family

Graham Pollard
Principal

Father’s Day Stall: The Father’s Day Stall will be held at school tomorrow, Friday 2 September. The children will attend the stall with their class during the day. Each child will be able to purchase a gift for their father or special person in their life for just $5. Preferred payment is by Qkr! So, let’s get shopping for all the wonderful Good Shepherd Dads.

Thank you. Without your support, our children would not be able to experience the joy of selecting a gift for their special person.

Swimming Lessons: The Learn to Swim program for the Kindergarten to Year 3 children commences at Aqua Tots, Forde from Monday, 17 October until Thursday, 8 December.

School Banking: Congratulations to our super savers. Good Shepherd has earned $2030.00 in commission for 2015/2016 financial year. We are up $436.00 from last year.

We are in the top 5 earning schools in the ACT. Well done!

School Fees: Reminders were sent home last week via email or the class notebag. Follow up letters will be sent home next week.

If you are having trouble meeting your financial commitment, please contact, Anne McKenna finance.goodshepherd@cg.catholic.edu.au

AFL NSW/ACT: If your daughter is aged between 7 to 12 and would play in the Junior Girls Only AFL Program please contact www.aflcanberra.com.au

Departing Families
We are aware that some families will be moving out of the area at the end of this year. To help us with staffing and class structure for 2017, we would really appreciate knowing which children (apart from Year 6!) will not be returning to Good Shepherd next year. If your child/ren will not be returning, please fill out the slip and return it to school as soon as possible.
Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist:
Congratulations to those students in Year 3 who experienced God’s love and forgiveness through the Sacrament of Reconciliation last week. The liturgies were very powerful with many parents and teachers also receiving the sacrament. Thank you to all the Year 3 parents and teachers for preparing the children for this sacrament.

On Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 September the same students will be receiving Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time. Please come along to Mass to support these children in an important time in their spiritual lives. The Mass times are on Saturday, 17 September at 6.00pm, and Sunday, 18 September at 9:30am.

Prayer Celebration: Change of Date
2Payne, 4Abbott and 6Pfeiffer’s Prayer Celebration on the Spiritual Works of Mercy has needed to be postponed. These classes will still lead the school in prayer and the new date is: Friday, 14 October at 9:15am (Week 1 Term 4). Apologies for any inconvenience this change may have caused. We still hope to see you there to join us in prayer.

Mini Vinnies Sleep Out
Tomorrow evening, Friday 2 September children from Years 4 to 6 will be sleeping out to raise awareness of the issue of homelessness in our community and wider Canberra. Say a special prayer for those children who are giving a voice to those who are voiceless. Money raised from this event will go towards the St Vincent de Paul Street to Home program.

What is Street to Home?
Street to Home supports people who are ‘sleeping rough’ in Canberra. The service has a strong focus on both physical and mental health. Street to Home has six flats for crisis or housing first options for rough sleepers. Street to Home works under the Service Guarantee from specialist homelessness services, and upholds the ACT Mental Health Charter of Rights.

(Taken from https://www.vinnies.org.au/page/Find_Help/ACT/Housing/Street_to_Home/)

St Vincent de Paul Class Collector
Congratulations to Kinder Wright for being the class to collect the most food for the St Vincent de Paul food pantry. They collected a whopping 22 items! Who will be the next Class Collector?

School Masses
Next Thursday, Year 1 classes will be celebrating Mass with the parish at 9.30 am in the church.

Saint Teresa of Calcutta
There will be a special Mass held in honour of Mother Teresa of Calcutta being canonised (recognised as a saint) this weekend. You are all invited to share in this special event on Sunday, 4 September at 9:30am Mass at Holy Spirit church.

If you judge people, you have no time to love them.
There are no great things, only small things with great love.
Spread love everywhere you go. Let no one ever come to you without leaving happier.
Be faithful in small things because it is in them that your strength lies.
Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless.
Peace begins with a smile..
I have found the paradox that if I love until it hurts, then there is no hurt, but only more love.
If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one.
Joy is a net of love by which you can catch souls.

Mother Teresa