



Shepherd Spy

WEEK 1 TERM 3

20 JULY 2017

Dear Community,

Welcome back for Term 3! It is great to see everyone enthusiastic and ready for a busy and productive term. Although the weather was chilly during the break it is always nice for us all to have a break from school, recharge the batteries and spend extra time at home with our families. I hope you all enjoyed your time at home.

A special welcome to ten students (and their families) who have joined our community this term. We welcome:

Tyson Arnold (Kinder Hazell), Curtis Bartlett (Kinder Hazell), Miles Bartlett (2 Payne), Dante Dwight (5 MacMahon), Evgeniy Malakhov (1 Huleatt), Yaroslav Malakhov (4 Bent), Vrittee Rao (4 Jones), Aarush Sinha (Kinder Tokich), Indi Stacey (2 Coghlan) and Sybilla Swain (2 Coghlan).

You and your families are most welcome.

Teachers have spent much of their holidays preparing and planning teaching programmes for this term. Many spent time attending Professional Development courses too. All staff are ready for a busy and productive term.

STAFFING NEWS

A few changes and news this term:

- We welcome back Mrs Angela Callaghan from Maternity Leave. She will teach 3 Whackett every Thursday and Friday for the rest of this year;
- Miss Amy Hazell was married during the holidays and is currently on leave. She will return in Week 4. We look forward to welcoming Mrs Amy Kouparitsis back in a few weeks;
- Mr Steve Bent, Mrs Christine Donnolly and Miss Sonya Huleatt are all currently on Long Service Leave for a few weeks;
- Mr Luke Mooney has been appointed 'Leader of Learning Officer: Learning Technology' at the Catholic Education Office for the rest of this year. He will leave our school in a few weeks once a replacement is found. This is an exciting opportunity for Luke and we wish him all the best;
- Miss Hayley Oldfield will be leaving Good Shepherd at the end of Week 6 to take up a teaching position overseas. We wish her all the best; and
- We welcome back our Defence Services Transition Aide, Mrs Mandy Woodall, who has returned from a term of Long Service Leave.

REGISTRATION

Late last term, a panel spent two days at Good Sheperdd as part of our School Registration. The major purpose of the review was to ensure the school is meeting the requirements of the ACT Education Act 2004 in relation to curriculum, teaching staff and educational resources. In addition, the Panel considered the Catholic ethos and leadership of the school and the implementation of the Catholic Education Office School Review and Development Program.

On the basis of the Panel visit and consideration of the documentation supplied by the school, the Panel concluded that the school is maintained and conducted in accordance with the provisions of the ACT Education Act 2004, and recommends that:

Good Shepherd Catholic School Amaroo is a companion school to Holy Spirit School Nicholls, and Mother Teresa School Harrison and St John Paul II College Nicholls. Together we serve and are served by Holy Spirit Parish Gungahlin.

Parish Mass is held every
Saturday 6.00pm
Sunday 8am;
9.30am and 5.30pm
All are welcome to join us.

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www.goodshepherd.
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Parish Home
(Fr Mark Croker)
6242 9622

To be together

"Good Shepherd Primary School shall be placed upon the register of schools as a registered primary school for a period of 5 years."

The Key recommendations and commendations from the report are below:

Key Recommendations

The Panel makes the following commendations:

- The Catholic Identity of Good Shepherd Primary School which is at the forefront of the school's endeavours.
- The close relationship between the school and the Parish Priest and the wider Parish community.
- The warm welcome that is extended to all who enter the school. The school exudes a sense of calm and focussed endeavour.
- The openness of the Good Shepherd Primary School community to the Registration process.
- The Leadership Team for its honesty in articulating the current position of the school and their strategic intent for future improvement.
- The students, for the obvious pride in their school and their gratitude for all that is provided to them. They have an obvious love of learning and feel safe and cared for by the school.
- The staff for their collaborative approach to improving student outcomes.
- The passionate commitment of staff to the wellbeing of students, colleagues, parents and extended families.
- The school's culture of nurturing a connected community and valuing the contributions of all members.

4.2 Key Recommendations

The Panel makes the following key recommendations:

- The Leadership Team and staff collaborate to create and implement a core document that reflects the Australian Curriculum and includes contemporary pedagogical practices, scope and sequences to guide the teaching of content and skills in a sustained and consistent manner.
- That staff undertake a range of professional learning opportunities, including coaching, to reflect upon and improve their pedagogical practices to improve student outcomes.
- The school develops a clear vision in terms of wellbeing and inclusion, that outlines the roles and responsibilities of the staff and the interrelationships among them, to achieve a coherent approach and explicit model of wellbeing and inclusion in alignment with Goal 2 of the school's annual plan.
- That professional learning be undertaken to enable effective analysis and use of data to guide teaching and learning.

We are very pleased with the report and the process. The detailed report will be made available on the website in the next few weeks and will assist us in our strategic planning for the next five years.

BUILDING UPDATE

Building has commenced of our new classrooms that will join our current Kindergarten block (Reminder: the plans are available for viewing on our website).

Currently, the playground equipment is being demolished and the shade structures dismantled and stored. It was planned to dismantle the play equipment and relocate this to another area of the school, however, the equipment is not compliant to today's standards and cannot be reinstalled. We are currently organising a 'Playground Working Party' to look at options for new equipment so it can be installed as quickly as possible.

Thank you for your patience and understanding with building works.

CHROME BOOKS

During the holidays, we purchased 60 new Chrome Books for students use. Primarily they will be used in Years 2 and 3 with the availability for other students to use as well. They will also support us with implementing online NAPLAN from 2018 and the Digital Technology Curriculum. They will be available in classrooms in the next few weeks.

...the heart of God.

START OF TERM REMINDERS

Arriving late to school - Students must be signed in by a parent at the front office when arriving late to school. Please do not go directly to the classroom if arriving late.

Leaving early from school - Students must be signed out by a parent at the front office when leaving early from school.

Supervision - Staff supervision times are from 8:30 – 3:30 pm. Any child remaining at school after 3:30pm will be placed in After School Care (Camp Australia) and parents will be invoiced accordingly.

Student Absence- short absences 1-3 days - Student absence can be notified by a note to the class teacher on return to school. The front office staff should only be notified of student absence if the student has head lice or an infectious disease such as chickenpox, impetigo, whooping cough etc.

Extended Leave (10-100 days) - If a student is away from school for an extended amount of time (10-100 days) parents are required by law to complete an Application for Extended Leave form which can be obtained from the front office. If the application is approved parents will receive a Certificate of Leave which they must retain for their records and a copy will be placed in the student's file.

Changes of details - Please notify the front office immediately of any change with phone numbers, email address, home address etc. For emergency and correspondence purposes it is imperative these details are correct.

Volunteering - Parents and carers wishing to volunteer at a school are required by law to have a Working with Vulnerable People Card. All volunteers will need to show their card to the front office staff who will make a copy to file. Each time you volunteer you must have your WWVP card with you and sign in to the visitors' book in the school foyer. Heavy fines can be imposed on the school and individuals if we do not follow these procedures.

Wishing God's blessing on you and your families,



David Austin
Principal



MORAN ARTS FOUNDATION PHOTOGRAPHIC WORKSHOP

At the end of last term thirty children who achieved a green band through our School Wide Positive Behaviour Program (SWPBP) from years 5 & 6 were the fortunate recipients of a photographic workshop from the Moran Arts Foundation. During this day the children were given advice from a professional photographer and provided with their own digital camera to practise their new photographic skills. The children selected their top 5 photos which will be entered into a photographic competition.



It was a really relaxing and fun day. I loved how we all received our own personal camera and used this to go around the school and take photos of anything we liked.

We were allowed to go around the school and take photos of nature shots and then choose our best 5 shots. Sally (the professional photographer) helped us by giving us her honest opinion and recommendations for better shots like a close up shot or a far away. She gave us lots of great advice. It was entertaining learning from a professional photographer. You need to stay very still when you take a photo so you don't get the wobbly effect unless that is what you want.

It was really nice to work with lots of different children because I got to meet new kids even some from my own year who I didn't know really well.

I love taking photos because it captures the moment.

Amber Butchart 5D



To be together

Religious Education News

Sacrament of Reconciliation & First Eucharist

This weekend begins the formal preparation of those students receiving the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist later this term. Please keep these students in your prayers as they are welcomed more fully into the Church and into a Christian life serving God and loving those around them.

A reminder to parents and children to collect a jigsaw puzzle piece at Mass each week. They will be available in the room adjacent to the foyer before Mass.

Pray Celebration - "Jesus is a Servant"

Next Friday 28 July, 1Huleatt and 5Dittmar will be leading the school in prayer to continue the school's focus on 'Who do we say Jesus is?' These classes will be exploring and praying with the focus of 'Jesus as a Servant'. All families are welcome to come and pray with us next Friday at 9:15am in the hall.

Term 3 Masses

During the school term, each class celebrates a Mass with the parish at 9:15am on Thursdays. A warm invitation is extended to all families to come and celebrate Mass with the children.

Classes	Mass Timetable
Year 4 and Year 6	Thursday, 3 August (Week 3)
Year 1 and Year 5	Thursday, 10 August (Week 3)
Kinder and Year 6	Thursday 14, September (Week 9)
Year 2 and Year 3	Thursday, 21 September (Week 10)



Year 5 Parish Mass

Holy Spirit Parish have invited all families of Year 5 students from the three schools in our parish to come to Mass on Sunday 13 August at 9:30am. The Year 5 students will be singing a hymn after communion. All are warmly welcome.

Mini Vinnies

At Good Shepherd, every student seeks to 'See, Think & Do' by:

Kindergarten – Visiting the elderly.

Year 1 – Putting together packs for the Night Patrol van to take to Canberra's poorest.

Year 2 – Learning about the St Vincent de Paul Society and its members.

Year 3 – Collecting and storing items donated to the Mini Vinnies Food Pantry.

Year 4 – Taking care of the garden to donate produce to 'The Blue Door'.

Year 5 – Learning about refugees and migrants, including visits from special guests.

Year 6 – Organising newsletter communication/organising events and school visitors.



Mini Vinnies

Well done Good Shepherd!
Our generous community donated \$1050 and three trailer loads of warm items for those sleeping rough.
Thank you all for supporting our Mini Vinnies Winter Woollies Appeal.

Departing Families

My child/ren

_____ will not be returning to Good Shepherd School in 2018

The school my child/ren will be attending in 2018 is

Signed _____ Date _____