



# Shepherd Spy

WEEK 7 TERM 3 31 AUGUST 2017

Dear Community,

Happy Fathers Day (this Sunday) to all the dads, grand-dads, uncles and father figures of our children! Congratulations on the love you put into being a father. Though they may not say it, children appreciate you for the love you put into their lives.

We have lots happening this Friday to celebrate Fathers' Day. Firstly, the Father's Day Stall will be held in the library during the morning. Children wishing to purchase a gift, and who have not already paid via Qkr! Should bring \$5 cash.

Secondly, we have our Father's Day Fun Afternoon planned. This will commence straight after school at 3:30pm and conclude at 5pm. We have hired the ovals for the afternoon and the weather looks like it will be very kind to us. We have plenty planned: touch football, tennis, soccer and golf! We also have 'tug of war' and the tennis speed gun so we can see who has the fastest tennis serve. We will also have a 'Dad's joke' competition- come with your favourite dad's joke and if you can make Mr Bent laugh you win a prize!

A big thanks to one of our parents, Matthew Millar, who has donated some prizes for our 'nearest the pin' competition. Matthew is one of Australia's highest ranked golfers but (lucky for other dads!) cannot participate in the 'nearest the pin competition' on Friday. Thanks Matthew for your generosity. Also, thanks to Jeff Shortland and the team at LJ Hooker Gungahlin for their generous donation of a Coles Myer gift card.

We are anticipating a great afternoon and all are welcome. Sausages and drinks will be provided. What a great way to have some fun with your kids and start the Fathers' Day festivities in style!

## Sacrament of Reconciliation

Please remember in your prayers many of our Year 3 children, as they received their First Reconciliation last week. It was a very special celebration where our students along with their families joined Father Mark and Father Jiss in the Church for this Sacrament.

Our students were reminded of the story of The Prodigal Son. The main message here is that although we make mistakes, we can say sorry for hurting others and move on. In like manner, this is the way in which we parents and teachers should forgive the misdoings of our children. Accept them in spite of or because of their poor choices, offer unconditional love, while challenging their decisions if need be. In this we become instruments of God, capable of giving our children an experience of Him.

Congratulations children- we are very proud of you.



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.

School website  
[www.goodshepherd.cg.catholic.edu.au](http://www.goodshepherd.cg.catholic.edu.au)

Email  
[office.goodshepherd@cg.catholic.edu.au](mailto:office.goodshepherd@cg.catholic.edu.au)

Phone  
6255 7888

Fax  
6255 7999  
Parish Home  
(Fr Mark Croker)  
6242 9622

# To be together .....

## Building Update

As you may have seen, all services are in and connected and the builders are currently 'filling' the area ready for the slab to be poured. Steel for the frame is ready and will be up in no time. Although builders have lost considerable days because of rain, the classrooms look like they will be ready early in 2018. (Plans are available on our website).

This week we have another meeting to look at our playground replacement. Our committee of parent representatives, staff and architects met a few weeks ago and agreed that a nature playground be erected near the sandpit (K-2). When the demountable near the Tennis courts (currently Year 1) is removed early next year, a climbing playground for Years 3 –6 will be erected in that space.

The planning of the K-2 playground is well underway and once a plan is finalised, I will share with the community.

We are aware that we currently have no play equipment and trying to rectify this as quickly as we can. Thanks so much for your understanding.

## Parental Satisfaction Survey

Satisfaction surveys of parents, students and staff will be conducted on behalf of all Catholic schools in the Archdiocese this term. The surveys are designed to gather feedback from parents, staff and students about their school and will be used to inform school improvement. Responses are confidential and individuals can not be identified.

The surveys were launched via email on August 21 and close on Friday September 1, 2017 using the email addresses supplied to the school. If you did not receive an email with a link to the survey on August 21, you can access and complete the survey at the following link:

<https://www.research.net/r/goodshepherdparent2017>

We currently have received 211 responses from parents- which is very good, but doesn't include everyone. This data will be extremely helpful to the school. Please contribute your opinion.

## Where have all the jackets gone???

This week I received an email from a parent. She was very concerned and so am I. I thought I would share the email hoping that this issue can be rectified!

*Hello Mr Austin,*

*I don't want to complain but I will. It's about something that is small and annoying but it has become far too regular that I am at such a point of frustration.*

*Last week my daughter came home with a jacket that was hers. The only problem was that it was one that was 'lost' about 18 months ago. It had her name on it still - a very small tag remained. But all the other tags that had her name on them had been cut off. It was also well worn as elements of it were fraying. And it was a size 4 - not the size 6 she has now. Every few weeks we have a lost jacket situation.*

*Obviously, I did the questioning of my daughter as to where her jacket was (the new one bought a month or so ago due to yet another jacket being 'lost') and we have checked the front office, after school care, the classroom and told her teacher. I have drilled it into her that once the jacket comes off it must go straight into her bag so as not to get 'lost'.*

*A sports jacket has also been 'lost' earlier this year - it came back after a couple of weeks.*

*I may be very cynical, but I think there may be some unscrupulous parents who are taking jackets and removing tags. Sure, kids make mistakes. Perhaps their child has brought home the wrong jacket, they can't find their own and so instead of returning someone else's jacket and buying a new one, they just cut the tags off and pretend it was theirs all along?! In talking to after school care staff they say that parents are finding that even ironed on name labels are being ripped off.*

*My biggest concern is that I have done the right thing - labelled the jacket in a thousand ways, told my child to put it away as soon as its off and being disciplined for forgetfulness. But after this many occasions of 'lost' jackets, I am starting to think that it is not just my child's forgetfulness .....*

## ...the heart of God.

Would it be possible for there to be a notice on Facebook/Skoolbag/newsletter calling for an amnesty on clothing items? It is not fair and unnecessarily stressful for my child to have to continually be on the lookout for her own (heavily labelled) jacket.

Regards,

Parent

Please have a look at your child's clothing and check names. Please return any clothing to the Front Office that is not yours so we can return to the rightful owner. Thank you.

May Jesus, the Good Shepherd, journey with us,

David Austin  
Principal



## Leaving School Early

If your child needs to leave school during school hours, for an appointment or any other reason, your child's teacher must be notified in writing or email before the commencement of class.

This allows the teacher to make arrangements for your child to be at the front office when you come to sign him/her out this will save you time and reduce interruption to the class.

# And the award goes to.....

<b>Brock W</b> (KE)	<b>Elsie H</b> (1H)	<b>Alek A</b> (2C)	<b>Ethan G</b> (3D)	<b>Rylie S</b> (4B)	<b>Jiwoo L</b> (5D)	<b>Cassidy V</b> (6Aq)
<b>Emmett W</b> (KH)	<b>Ronan H</b> (1M)	<b>Elijah B</b> (2K)	<b>Ainsley B</b> (3O)	<b>Lachlan B</b> (4J)	<b>Anthony B</b> (5HD)	<b>Max P</b> (6T)
<b>Oscar B</b> (KT)	<b>Layla B</b> (1PD)	<b>Thomas J</b> (2P)	<b>Vince O</b> (3T)	<b>Benjamin C</b> (4Z)	<b>Caelan N</b> (5M)	
<b>Gina P</b> (KW)	<b>Caelen E</b> (1R)	<b>Daniel T</b> (2S)	<b>Mitchell Mc</b> (3W)	<b>Harrison G</b> (5C)	<b>Nicholas C</b> (6Ab)	
				<b>Lachlan N</b> (5C)		

To be together .....

# Religious Education News

Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist

Congratulations to those students in Year 3 who experienced God's love and forgiveness through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The liturgies were very powerful, with many parents also receiving the sacrament. Thank you to all Year 3 parents and teachers for preparing the children for this sacrament.

On Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September the Year 3 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.

## Important Dates for Year 3

Holy Spirit Parish First Eucharist Prayer Evening  
Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September 6:30pm

Jesus Day  
Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September

Sacrament of First Eucharist  
Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September 4:00pm and 6:00pm

## Prayer Celebration

Thank you to 2 Coghlan and 4 Jones who led the school in prayer celebrating Jesus as the Messiah, Jesus as Christ. It was a thoughtful prayer that reminded us that we have a role to play in bringing God's Kingdom to Earth as we have been chosen to continue Jesus' work, opening our hearts and minds to walk in His footsteps together as one.

Please join us on [Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September](#) for our next school prayer celebration. 4 Bent and 2 Kenna will be leading us in a prayer to celebrate Jesus as Son. The prayer will begin at 9:15am in the school hall.



## Mini Vinnies Sleep Out

Next Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September children from Years 4 to 6 will be 'sleeping-out' in our school hall without the comforts of home, to raise awareness of the issue of homelessness in our community and wider Canberra. Please say a special prayer for those students who are giving a voice to the vulnerable in our community. Money raised from this event will go towards the St Vincent de Paul *Street to Home* program. If you would like to contribute to this cause, you can make an anonymous donation at the Front Office.

If you have any spare cardboard boxes you would like to donate for an activity the students will be involved in on the night of the Sleep Out, please leave them at the Front Office.



# ...the heart of God.

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/AT/Housing/Street\\_to\\_Home/](https://www.vinnies.org.au/page/Find_Help/AT/Housing/Street_to_Home/))

## Year 2 Father's Day Holy Spirit Parish Mass

On Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September (Father's Day) we are inviting our Year Two students and their families, along with Good Shepherd and Mother Teresa's Year Two students, to attend the 9.30am Sunday Parish Mass. Over the year, one Sunday Parish Mass has been dedicated to a particular grade (from the three Parish schools) as a way of building community. The Year Two Parish mass coincides with Father's Day making it an extra special celebration. Father Mark will give our Year Two students a special blessing during Mass, as well as all the fathers/grandfathers present. A morning tea and sausage sizzle will be shared at the end of Mass. Please feel free to bring a plate to share for morning tea. All are welcome to attend.



## Father's Day Prayer

God our Father,  
in your wisdom and love you made all things.  
Bless all the fathers in the world.  
Help them to be a father like You are.  
Give them grace and patience,  
and strengthen them by your love that they may become  
the loving, caring persons they are meant to be.  
Grant this through Christ our Lord.

## From our Chaplain

Don't Miss This!

**At the Open Parents' Community Council Meeting this Tuesday 5 September at 6pm** in the Staff Room, Gerard Nolan, the manager of Gungahlin Child and Family Centre is coming to talk about the programs the Centre offers around Child Development, and Family Programmes. Please bring your questions for Gerard to answer.



STUDENTS SHARING ACROSS THE GLOBE

**DATES**

**Annual Fund Raising Dinner**  
23 September 2017  
Hellenic Club Woden

**Can't make the dinner?**

Please consider a donation so GSP can continue the work changing lives of children in Africa.

[Donate now](#)

<http://www.globalschoolpartners.org.au/donate/>



**Dance to live band Funky Fedoras!**

A great night of dancing, silent auction, games and a 3-course meal with drinks included!

[Book now](#)

<https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=288971>



**Global School Partners annual fundraiser**

Our 100% guarantee means that all money raised on the night, or donated to GSP at any time, goes to Africa - to the school, the student, the family, the projects or programs for which it is donated.

We deal directly with the people for whom the money is given – no middle men, no administration. In 2016-17 financial year, our total administration expenses were 2.3% of income, covered by funds donated for that purpose.

[Book now](#) <https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=288971>



**GSP Fund Raising Dinner supports:**

- **Young Women's program** – Imagine missing a week of school every month because of your menstrual cycle! Our program provides education and reusable sanitary pads to young women to keep them in school. In the 6 months to July 2017 we have had 98.5% attendance compared with less than 25% last year for these girls.
- **Traveling Library** – Many of our schools have no reading books and nowhere to store them securely even if they had. Our program provides all our Kenyan school students with the opportunity to learn to read and enjoy books. In addition, we provide teacher training so they can teach reading in school.

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Deakin ACT 2600 E [simon@globalschoolpartners.org.au](mailto:simon@globalschoolpartners.org.au)  
Australia www.globalschoolpartners.org.au



STUDENTS SHARING ACROSS THE GLOBE



St John Paul II College

Justice • Peace • Courage

## If you are enrolled to attend JPC in 2018 Would you like to play in the 2017, Summer Netball Competition?

You will be placed into a team with current and or new students who are also enrolled, for 2018.

The competition will run for 8 weeks  
Commencing on the 9th of October and concluding  
on the 29th of November 2017

**WHEN:** Wednesday evenings – Intermediates & Seniors  
Game Times will be 6pm, 6.50pm or 7.40pm

**WHERE:** BNA Courts, Lhotsky Street, Charnwood

**WHO:** Anyone who is interested - beginner to advanced

**COST:** \$60 (incl GST) per player (this includes \$10/ PP for umpire fees).  
or  
\$80 (incl GST) if you haven't played netball in 2017 (this includes the insurance and levy fee).

**DRESS:** \$70 if required (all players must wear official JPC netball dress).

If you would like to participate, please send an email to: [jpcnetball@gmail.com](mailto:jpcnetball@gmail.com)

Please note, as places are limited late entries will not be accepted.

Summer Netball is a fun, relaxed environment. It is a great way to retain current skills, or build on new ones.

A Manager will be assigned to each team, to help with equipment and scoring.

If you unsure or have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us to discuss the team arrangements and details further.

**\*\*MUST BE ENROLLED AT JPC FOR 2018\*\***

Request to join our Facebook page – JPC Netball

