

Shepherd Shorts

Term 3 Week 8

Thursday, 7 September 2017

Dear Community,

What cold and windy weather we have had this week! Luckily, the weather was fantastic for our Fathers' Day Family afternoon last Friday.

Thank you very much for the many emails and messages regarding the afternoon. We were hoping for a fun afternoon with families and were very pleased with the turn-out and support. A big thanks to the Community Council for coordinating the BBQ and drinks. A big thanks also to the teachers and staff for staying back and running activities and games. It was a great community afternoon.

VINNIES SLEEPOUT

Our annual Vinnies Sleepout will be held this Friday night. Just under 50 students and staff will be sleeping rough to raise awareness and money for St Vincent de Paul. It is such a worthwhile cause.

I have been a Vinnies Night Patrol member for many years now. Once a month I go out with my team to provide a cuppa, some snacks and a chat to people sleeping rough on the streets in Civic. It is amazing how many people rely on this van and the support from Vinnies. Raising the profile of Vinnies, and raising funds is a small thing we can do as a community but it goes a long way. Well done kids (and teachers!)

NAPLAN ONLINE - TRIAL OF THE NEW ONLINE ASSESSMENT PLATFORM

You may have heard that NAPLAN online is proposed to be introduced across Australia from 2018.

NAPLAN online will provide better assessment, more precise results and faster turnaround of information. Your child's results will be returned to you faster, within a couple of weeks rather than a couple of months.

Between 11 and 22 September 2017, our school is participating in a trial of the NAPLAN Online platform (the computer system the test will be taken on). This trial isn't 'another' NAPLAN test for 2017, rather, it is a chance for teachers and students to test the new platform in a real-life classroom environment. A selection of our students will participate in the trial, by undertaking either one or two online tests that include examples of the new NAPLAN

online questions. Each of these tests will take approximately 45 minutes to complete.

Participating in this trial is important as it will help us make sure we have adequate bandwidth capacity, wireless connectivity, and are confident with the administrative processes and classroom practices in setting up NAPLAN testing.

Feedback from schools participating in the trial will inform transition to the online assessment as well as provide valuable feedback to shape the final development of the NAPLAN online platform.

Participation in this trial is a key step to ensuring a successful NAPLAN online experience. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Mrs Melinda Hall-Obrien.

Further information on NAPLAN Online is available at www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/naplan-online.

AUSTRALIAN PRIMARY PRINCIPAL CONFERENCE

I will be away for much of next week attending the Australian Primary Principal Association Conference with over 1000 Primary Principals across Australia. The theme of the Conference will be 'Agility-Creativity-Agility'. There are plenty of speakers and workshops and I will write from Brisbane next week. Thanks for allowing me time away with colleagues.

May Jesus, the Good Shepherd, journey with us so we are the 'heart of God in Amaroo',



David Austin
Principal



Our Learning Journeys will take place on
Tuesday, 12 September.

The classrooms will be open
from 8.15am – 8:45am in the morning and
then again in the afternoon from
3:30pm until 5:30pm.

We hope that all families will be able to take this
opportunity to visit the school during these
times.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YEAR 3

Tuesday, 12 September @ 6:30pm:

Holy Spirit Parish First Eucharist Prayer Evening.
Remember to bring your completed placemat.

Thursday, 14 September: Jesus Day

Saturday, 16 September 4:00pm and 6:00pm:

Sacrament of First Eucharist. Please come along to Mass to support the children.

The Dance Core Performance will now be held on Friday, 22 September at 2.15 pm not 9.15 am as previously advertised.

Prayer Celebration



Please come join us tomorrow, Friday 8 September at 9.15 am for our School Prayer Celebration in the school hall. 4 Bent and 2 Kenna will be leading us in a prayer to celebrate Jesus as Son.

Cathy Ransom, the Diocesan Director of the Canberra and Goulburn Catholic Mission Office will be addressing the school afterwards. Cathy will also talk to our Year 6 students about the call to mission.

Mini Vinnies Sleep Out

Tomorrow evening, Friday 8 September, 43 children from Years 4 to 6 will be sleeping-out in our school hall 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. For more information about the Street to Home Program, please visit:

[https://www.vinnies.org.au/page/Find_Help/ACT/Housing/Street_to_Home/.](https://www.vinnies.org.au/page/Find_Help/ACT/Housing/Street_to_Home/)



Students Larissa Thornton, Alexia Outridge, Will Seidl and Jeffrey Miller proudly represented Good Shepherd Primary at the Battle For Australia Commemorative Wreathlaying Ceremony at the Australian War Memorial on Wednesday.

The ceremony was attended by many Government and Defence Force dignitaries and Veterans, and only a select number of students from ACT schools. Our students participated in a beautiful wattle wreath construction and were thanked and acknowledged by the Director of the AWM, Dr Brendon Nelson as 'representing the youth of Australia'. Well done!



And the award goes to.....

Aidan (KE)	Brigitte (1H)	Joseph (2C)	Brooke (3D)	Martina (4B)	Rory (5D)	Luca (6Aq)
Shervin (KH)	Noah (1M)	Charlotte (2K)	Amiru (3O)	Shaniah (4J)	Lillah (5HD)	Joshua (6T)
Georgia (KT)	Cooper (1PD)	Mark (2P)	Dejon (3T)	Emma (4Z)	Marina (5M)	
Sophia (KW)	Amelia (1R)	Shantala (2S)	Michael (3W)	Tomas (5C)	Ciara (6Ab)	



Be Kind: Be accepting of others.

