

Shepherd Shorts

Term 4 Week 2

Thursday, 19 October 2017

Dear Community,

Tomorrow, a number of students will represent Good Shepherd at the Boorowa Touch and Netball Carnival. This carnival not only supports two small schools in the bush, but gives our students an opportunity to play against other schools in a setting very different to our own.

We wish our teams all the best tomorrow and look forward to hearing reports of how they went.

A big thank you to Mr Marty Capon for coordinating this event and to the many parents and staff who are volunteering their time to coach, manage and support our teams.

Staffing News

Mr Steve Bent has decided to retire at the end of this year. We wish Steve all the best. I know he has plans to do relief teaching next year- and play a bit of golf!

Ms Jane Moore will join us next year on a teacher exchange from Canada. Jane has 'swapped' with a current staff member, Miss Yolanda Kolek who has taken this year on leave from Good Shepherd. We look forward to welcoming Jane at the start of next year.

Catholic Schools Netball Carnival

Congratulations to all the students who participated in the annual Catholic Schools Netball Carnival at Calwell on Sunday. It was a terrific day and our students were excellent ambassadors for our school. Thanks to the staff who attended and the many parents who assisted.

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 2018, 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 email office.goodshepherd@cg.catholic.edu.au

Class Allocation Policy

During this term, we will be finalizing our staffing arrangements for 2018. Below is a copy of the 'Class Allocation Policy' that has been developed by staff this year which aims to ensure there is a fair and just process in allocating students to classes for the upcoming school year. (Available on the website). My firm belief is that teachers are in the best position to decide a child's placement because they know all the children in their classes and have a view of the 'big picture'. However, I invite parents to inform me of anything that you feel needs to be considered, for your own child's well-being or development.

As there are usually four streams of classes each year at Good Shepherd Primary School, there are different combinations of children in classes. When forming the class lists the following factors are taken into consideration:


- Gender;
- Diverse Learners;
- Work habits;
- Cognitive ability;
- Friendships;
- Behaviour;
- Health considerations;
- Religion (to assist in achieving balance between classes, especially in Sacramental years) and
- Common names.

Ideally we aim for an equal spread of both positive and challenging characteristics. Where practical, parental requests based on educational concerns may be considered. At Good Shepherd, the staff will follow these principles and guidelines when considering placement of students each year:

- Every care will be taken to ensure that each child is placed in the best situation to enhance learning and social development;
- **Parents who wish to raise particular concerns regarding the placement of their children in particular classes should put the concern in writing and address it to me by Friday of Week 4 (Term 4);**
- Parent concerns will be considered during the process. It must be clearly understood, however, that no definite guarantees can be given regarding parental concerns;
- Where appropriate, advice will be sought from the Classroom Support Teacher, School Counsellor, Chaplain and current class teacher during this process;
- There will be an opportunity for students to select a 'friendship five' and this list will be taken into consideration;
- Taking into account all of the factors listed on Page 1, the current class teachers compile class lists from mid-term, Term 4. These are then handed to me to confirm;
- Children will be informed of their class placement for the following school year in December (usually the last week of school) and the opportunity will be provided, where possible, for them to spend some time with their new class teacher. New students to the school for the following year are also invited to attend;
- A class list will be distributed to each child at this time; and
- Throughout this process, after appropriate consultation, I reserve the right to make final professional decisions regarding the placement of children.

Wishing God's blessing on you and your families,


David Austin
Principal

Crazy Socks Day

Friday, 27 October

Crazy Socks Day is a day when students can wear crazy socks to school by donating a gold coin to the Catholic Missions.

(Donation box is at the Front Office).

Catholic Missions is raising funds to buy an ambulance and other medical equipment to assist doctors give readily available health care to sick children and pregnant women in Uganda.

Help SOCK it to poverty!

Polish off your dancing shoes and get ready for the school disco:

Friday, November 3

K - Yr 2: 6.15pm - 7.15pm

Yr 3 - Yr 4: 7.30pm - 8.45pm

\$5 entry at the door includes:
popper, chips and a glow stick

There will also be a BBQ starting from 5.30pm



Term 4 School Fees will be sent home tomorrow.
Payment is due Friday 10 November.


Altar Servers

Holy Spirit Parish are looking for children in Years 3-6 who have received First Eucharist to be altar servers. This is a wonderful way to be part of something special in our Parish. With enough children your commitment should only be required monthly. Training will be provided.

Please contact Naomi Johnson, email; officesupport@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au



And the award goes to.....

Declan (KE)	Sienna (1H)	Tahlia (2C)	Sean (3D)	Harrison (4B)	Will (5D)	Lucy (6Aq)
Emilia (KH)	Elsie (1M)	Grace (2K)	Mitchell (3O)	Shreyansh (4J)	Brodie (5HD)	Beau (6T)
Emmeline (KT)	Justin (1PD)	Anika (2P)	Zac (3T)	Sean (4Z)	Ella (5M)	
Meith (KW)	Harlow (1R)	Avyukth (2S)	Kaustubh (3W)	Gillian (5C)	Owen (6Ab)	