



Shepherd Spy

WEEK 3 TERM 4

26 OCTOBER 2017

Good Shepherd Catholic School Amaroo is a companion school to Holy Spirit School Nicholls, Mother Teresa School Harrison and St John Paul College. 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

Email
office.goodshepherd@
cg.catholic.edu.au

Phone
6255 7888

Parish Office
(Fr Mark Croker)
6242 9622

Dear Community,

Today and tomorrow I am joining all Archdiocesan Principals and Key Personnel from the Catholic Education Office for the annual Archdiocesan System Days. We will spend much of this time discussing the new Catholic Education Strategic Plan and the implications it has for individual schools. Our own Archdiocese covers a land area larger than Tasmania- from Pambula in the South, to Goulburn in the North and Lake Cargelligo in the West. We have 59 Catholic Schools educating 24 000 students with 2700 staff. Our Catholic education system plays a significant contribution to the education of so many students and their families in our city and beyond. We don't get together often so they should be productive days.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Mrs Kirsty Price and her husband Brett on the birth of their second daughter, Kara. Mum and bub are both well.

Year 5 Camp

Our Year 5 campers returned from their three-day trip to Cooba yesterday. From all reports it was a fantastic few days away, with highlights being the 'Gladiator Challenge', the Big Swing, archery and dirt cars. Big thank you to the staff who attended and spent three days and two nights away from their own families.

Farewell

With sadness we farewell Year 2 teacher Mrs Melanie Shannon (Finn - 6Thornton) from our Good Shepherd school community. Melanie's last day with her class will be tomorrow with her class. Melanie has been with Good Shepherd since 2012 and was recently in the role of classroom support teacher. Many students and families across our school have benefitted from her expertise, care, support and excellence. (Melanie and her family are returning to Ireland). We wish Melanie and her family God's blessing for a safe return.

Class Allocation Policy

During this term, we will be finalising our staffing arrangements for 2018. Below is a copy of the 'Class Allocation Policy' which has been developed by staff this year to ensure there is a fair and just process in allocating students to classes for the upcoming school year. (Available on website).

My firm belief is that teachers are in the best position to decide a child's placement because they know 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;

To be together

- 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, staff and parents 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 on this day.
- A class list will be distributed to the 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 Gods blessing on you and your family.



David Austin
Principal



Leaving 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 2018 we would really appreciate knowing which children (apart from Year 6!) will not be returning to Good Shepherd next year.

Please email: office.goodshepherd@cg.catholic.edu.au



Hayfever: Since we have returned to school this term we have been inundated with children suffering with hayfever. If your child suffers with hayfever could you please send in their eye drops or medication. An 'Authorisation to Dispense Medicine' form must be completed. This form is available at the Front Office or email office.goodshepherd@cg.catholic.edu.au

And the award goes to.....

Chantelle (KE)	Dominic (1H)	Sybilla (2C)	Izaak (3D)	Bailey (4B)	Jaime (6Aq)
Kirriily (KH)	Leon (1M)	Clare (2K)	Amiru (3W)	Alina (4J)	Carley (6T)
Jack (KT)	Max (1PD)	Sapphira (2P)	Alani (3T)	Ojasv (4Z)	Year 5 on Camp
Cohen (KW)	Sebastian (1R)	Brandon (2S)	Grace (3W)	Levi (6Ab)	



...the heart of God.

Swimming timetable

There have been a few adjustments to the swimming timetable at the request of Aqua Tots.

We apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused

Please refer to the updated timetable below:-



Tuesday	Class	Time	Wednesday	Class	Time	Thursday	Class	Time
	2 Shannon	11:30-12:00		2 Kenna	11:30-12:00		2 Coghlan	11:30-12:00
3 Thewlis	12:00-12:30	2 Payne	11:30-12:00	Year 1PD	12:00-12:30			
3 Donnelly	12:30-1:00	Kinder E	12:00-12:30	Year 1R	12:30-1:00			
3 Whackett	1:00-1:30	Kinder T	12:30-1:00	Year 1M	1:00-1:30			
3 Welsh	1:30-2:00	Kinder H	1:00-1:30	Year 1H	1:30-2:00			
		Kinder W	1:30-2:00					

Newsletter and notices available on school website

For your convenience a copy of notes for excursions, performances, sporting events, camp etc for year groups are available on the school website.

We understand that paper copies may not always find their way home after school. Please refer to the 'Newsletter and Notices' section to access these.

Student attendance

It is a legal requirement that the school is provided with reasons for any student absence.

Teachers will at times send home reminder notes for any unexplained absence they are yet to received an explanation for.

We ask for your assistance by providing a note for absences when your child returns to school.

You can use the absentee form through the app, send an email or a handwritten note.

School Fees

Term 4 Fees are due Friday, 10 November. All accounts must be finalised by Friday, 15 December.



REMEMBRANCE DAY
Let Us Forget

Remembrance Day Commemoration and Heart of God Award Ceremony

Save the Date

**Friday, 10 November right after morning assembly.
Followed by parents morning tea in the Staff Room.**



On Wednesday 25th October, 27 Year 6 students attended the Catholic Missions Mass at St. Christopher's Cathedral. There were many other schools present as we participated with Fr Tony Percy to speak about the people and children of Uganda. We also learnt the saints on the stained-glass windows were special to the cathedral because every saint there represented a parish in our Archdiocese.

It was very sad to hear about the children and adults in Uganda that are struggling and with no ambulance.

At the end we took a photo in front of the cathedral! Overall we had a lot of fun learning about all the different saints and people of Uganda and how we can help.

Rosetta T and Carley T

To be together

GOOD SHEPHERD CHEERLEADING

It has been an exciting few months at Good Shepherd Cheerleading with all of our cheerleaders competing in their final competition of the year and our year 5 and 6's travelling to Sydney to compete at the Australian Scholastic Nationals. We had some great results from both competitions and all our cheerleaders had a fantastic experience. A huge thank you to the parents and supporters who were with us every step of the way and to our amazing team of coaches, managers and helpers who consistently go above and beyond for our children.

AASCF SCHOLASTIC NATIONALS

Our year 5 and 6 Scholastic team "Good Shepherd Phoenix" came second in cheer and second in pom. They were the only primary school from the ACT and hit a flawless routine with no deductions. Rory Grummet also defended his title and won the best school tumbler award in the individual tumbling competition which means he is National Champion, the second year running. Congratulations to all the children involved. Your commitment and enthusiasm is outstanding.

CHEERCON

At the beginning of the holidays our whole squad competed at Cheercon Cheerleading competition at Tuggeranong. Our 4 teams competed twice each and had some fantastic results. It was wonderful to see all year levels cheering each other on and really "flying the flag" for Good Shepherd Primary school. All of our teams placed with our year 5 and 6 team coming 3rd overall out of all 43 cheer teams. This is a fantastic effort for a scholastic team! We are always proud of our cheerleaders, not just for their skills but also for their commitment, enthusiasm and good sportsmanship at these competitions. Congratulations to everyone for a very successful, fun and exciting term.

END OF YEAR CONCERT

Our cheerleaders are very much looking forward to our end of year concert on Tuesday, September at 6.30pm in the school hall. All families are welcome to come along to see them perform.

If anyone would like some more information about Cheerleading at Good Shepherd or the 2018 season please email Belinda at goodshepherdcheerleading@gmail.com or call 0410 561 579.



On Tuesday we went to the National Gallery Australia. We saw lots of artwork. There were dingoes made of wood and a landscape with pink mountains. We had lunch in the sculpture garden. I had lots of fun at the gallery and on the bus.

Emilia Edwards KK

*We went to the National Art Gallery.
I liked seeing the Aboriginal tubes.*
Aiden (KE)

I liked sitting and resting in the water sculpture.
We looked at the sky.
Mika (KE)

I liked the water falling down.
Ajok (KE)

We saw Ned Kelly the bush ranger. He got shot in the knee. We saw a picture of the Blue Mountains. I saw Kinder Wright. We saw a big picture of Splat (Blue Poles). I love the NGA. My favourite was being back at school. Good old school!
Emmeline Buckley (KT)

Last Tuesday Kindergarten went to the National Gallery of Australia. We saw a famous artwork by Matisse and a funny lobster telephone. We also saw some sculptures. One sculpture was so big that we could go inside and make water ripple water patterns on the ceiling. It was a lovely day.

Kindergarten Wright

*I liked the Blue Poles Painting.
It looked beautiful.*
Grace (KE)