



Good Shepherd

Catholic Primary School

Calendar

Saint Leo the Great



Term 4 Concludes:

Wednesday, 16th December

In this issue

- Year 1 & 2 Mass cancelled
- Afternoon School Gate Access Time
- Class Placement for 2016
- Staff Development Days and School Commencement Dates for 2016
- School Banking News

Term 4

Week 6

Tuesday, 10th November, 2015

I have noticed in the shops over the past few weeks that the sale of Christmas decorations and Christmas goods are ready to go. I even noticed Christmas T shirts on sale already! It never ceases to amaze me at how fast time goes by and the appearance of these things in the shops really makes the point hit home. You probably have the same thinking - "What? Christmas already?"

We know that many families in our community face severe hardship not only at Christmas but all through the year. I am proud to say that our Mini Vinnies group at Good Shepherd are always ready and active to help.

What is Mini Vinnies? Mini Vinnies is a program designed for groups of primary school students who are interested in social justice. Mini Vinnies students get together within their school to help those in need within their school, local or international community. Mini Vinnies introduces children to social justice issues, The St Vincent de Paul Society and to living faith through action. The group is supported by teachers within the school, by the Plumpton Parish St Vincent de Paul conference and other St Vincent de Paul staff. The Mini Vinnies model of "See, Think, Do" is a great way to get young people thinking and talking about their spirituality and to connect their faith with issues affecting their community through volunteering, advocacy and fundraising.

You and your family can help support our Mini Vinnies fundraisers, and in turn, support the families in our local area. There is a delicious cake stall being held this Wednesday and the launch of our food appeal is also this week. Of course, nothing is possible without prayer, so please keep these young people in your prayers as they work for the good of others.

You may even be in a position to donate a gift or money to the SVDP Parish appeal, which begins in Advent. Keep your eyes open in the Parish bulletin for more information.

Thank you for your continued support, not just of Mini Vinnies, but also of everything that we do here at Good Shepherd School.

'Charity is the cement which binds Communities to God and persons to one another.'
St Vincent de Paul

TEEN RANCH

Thank you to the many teachers taking the Year 5 students to Teen Ranch this Thursday and Friday. We are very grateful of you giving up your precious family time to be with the students of GSS. Another fine example of how dedicated the staff of our school are! Year 5 students - enjoy the experience and show the staff of Teen Ranch your outstanding manners and cooperation.

Bianca

Bianca Cooke
Acting Principal

Phone: 02 9832 1509 • Fax: 02 9832 8984

134 Hyatts Road, Plumpton NSW 2761 • Locked Bag 1001, Plumpton NSW 2761
Email: goodshepherd@parra.catholic.edu.au • Web: www.gsplumpton.catholic.edu.au

UPCOMING EVENTS

Term 4, Week 6, 2015

Thursday, 12th November & Year 5 Teen Ranch Camp

Friday, 13th November:

Wednesday, 25th November: Year 6 St Agnes Orientation Day & Summer School Disco

Thursday, 26th November: Year 2 Loreto Excursion

& Friday, 27th November

Friday, 27th November: Gold Coin Mufti Day (WYD Fundraiser)

Looking ahead to 2016:

Wednesday, 16th December: Last day of Term 4 for students

Thursday, 28th January: Years 1—6 students return to school

Monday, 1st February: New Kinder students commence

Tuesday, 2nd February: Sibling Kinder students commence



Birthdays

Happy Birthday to the following students who celebrated their birthday this week: Kosetatino Heron, Osaru Airhumwunde, Joaquin Dungca, Arabella Karganilla, Samiuela Tonga, Nehaal Kumar, Liana Banares, Alisha Makkar, Jordan Torralba, Ayden Hoggard, Joshua Parnell and Andrei Jambalos.

Word of the Week

K—2

Wonder

To think

3 – 6

Reassure

To restore confidence

Social Skill of the Week

"Speak in a friendly tone of voice"

Peace & Joy Awards

The Good Shepherd School Community would like to congratulate the following students for their hard work and dedication throughout the past week. These awards are presented for cooperation, respectfulness, responsibility, care, compassion, fair go and integrity.

KB	Faith MacMillan Savea	KG	Francisco Lira
KR	Cassandra Cruz	KW	Giezelle Autor
1B	Chadd Ablaza	1G	Ashleigh Galletes
1R	Sidiah Lomano	1W	Karen Gunawan
2B	Jessica Odemwengie	2G	Celina Baker
2R	Aryan Sharma	2W	Roman Tuaimau
3B	Adier Job	3G	Edrea Santos
3R	Pipiena Setefano	3W	Marissa Galea
4B	Theresia Purwadi	4G	Jakob Basmayor
4R	Vin Ramos	4W	Geethika Aranhiiyullathil
5B	Chloe Newham	5G	Taylor Roukos
5R	Sangela Rosa	5W	Kayne Cornett
6B	Osaru Airhumwunde	6G	Czeyden Raposas
6R	Aodhan Tomlins	6W	Aleisha Faiz

Afternoon School Gate Access Time

In order that afternoon classroom procedures can run smoothly and as a matter of child protection, the school gates will not open until the afternoon dismissal bell is rung at 2.50 pm. This is a practice that is now common to most primary schools, and we feel that it is something that we need to implement. This procedure will start as from Wednesday, 11th November, 2015. Thank you for your cooperation.

Class Placement for 2016

Very soon we will start to formulate classes for 2016. If you have any issues regarding your child's class placement, please inform Mrs Bianca Cooke, Acting Principal, in writing no later than **Friday, 20th November**. Whilst we endeavour to take into account your considerations, final decisions are made by the School.

If your family is not returning to Good Shepherd in 2016, **would you please let Mrs Cooke know in writing by Friday, 20th November**. Please indicate the school that they will be attending, for our records. Thank you.

Year 1 and 2 Mass

Dear Parents & Carers, please note that the Year 1 and 2 Mass scheduled for 24th November, has been cancelled.

Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta - College Open Morning Tour

Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta warmly invites you to attend our Open Morning Tour on 16th November, 2015 the last tour of the year. Tour the College and discover why a Mercy Education is treasured for life and enjoy a 'comfortable cup of tea' with the College Leadership Team. The College is now enrolling for 2017. Visit www.olmc.nsw.edu.au to reserve your place or contact the Registrar 8838 1222 to discuss how your daughter can be a Mercy Girl.

Office Hours

Parents, please note that the hours of business for enquiries, payments, phone calls etc to the school office are between **8.30 am – 3.00 pm**. Before and after these times the office staff are preparing for or completing their office duties. If there is a change to how your child will be going home ie catching the bus, please notify the office **prior to 2.30 pm** so that the child may be informed prior to home time. We are happy to attend to your queries or any other business during these hours.

The School Opal Card—2016

Attached to this Newsletter is a Flyer from the NSW Government—Transport for NSW regarding a School Opal Card for 2016. Please read carefully and if you have any questions or queries, please visit their website—transportnsw.info/school-students.

Staff Development Days (Pupil Free Days) for Term 4, 2015

Thursday, 17th December and

Friday, 18th December (Last two days of the term).

School Commencement Dates for Term 1 2016

Thursday, 28th January: Years 1—6 start

Monday, 1st February: New Kinder students commence

Tuesday, 2nd February: Sibling Kinder students commence

Lost Property

Please feel free to call into the school office and look through the Lost Property Bin for any items of clothing that you may have misplaced as they may have ended up in this bin! Anything not claimed will be sent to the Uniform Shop for re-sale. It is a good idea to mark and recheck all items of clothing to ensure your child's name is clearly visible. Also, there are many items that have been found on the school grounds, eg wallets, glasses,..... Please ask at the School Office if you have lost any items. Thank you.

Courtesy and Safety in Car Parks

A number of complaints have been received recently about parents parking on zebra crossings in the church car park. These crossings are for the safety of children walking from cars into school. At no time should cars park or stop to drop children on these crossings. If you are using either of the Parish car parks, you must park your car in a designated parking space and walk your child into the school. Thank you for your cooperation and consideration.

School Banking News

Please note Student Banking will finish in **Week 7 of Term 4** 2015. Banking will resume for the students in Week 3 of Term 1, 2016.

Please note Issue 8 of Bookclub Orders is due Monday 16th November. Thank you.

Office Hours

Parents, please note that the hours of business for enquiries, payments, phone calls etc to the school office are between **8.30 am – 3.00 pm**. Before and after these times the office staff are preparing for or completing their office duties. If there is a change to how your child will be going home ie catching the bus, please notify the office **prior to 2.30 pm** so that the child may be informed prior to home time. We are happy to attend to your queries or any other business during these hours.

Family Maths Challenge

Mrs Cooke took a survey of people who like cats and people who don't like cats. She drew her results into this table—

How many people like cats?

How many people do not like cats?

How many people did Mrs Cooke ask?

How many more people like cats than do not like cats?









How many people equal one cat picture?

What would half a cat picture mean?

What if the key was one cat picture equals 5 people? 10 people? 100 people? 4 people? 8 people? What would the answers to questions above be?

Could you draw these results a different way? A pie graph? A column graph? A line graph?

Could you survey some family members and friends and draw your results in a table? What could you ask? Favourite biscuit? Best footy team? Most popular playstation game?

like cats	     	KEY
do not like cats	   	 = 2 people

Parent Group News

School Summer Disco

The School Summer Disco will be held Wednesday, 25th November in the Parish Hall. Sausage sizzle, Drinks, chips and Glow Sticks will be available for purchase on the night. Parents, please note the following times for your children to participate at the Disco:

Kindy & Year 1: 4.30 pm—5.30 pm

Years 2, 3 & 4: 5.45 pm—7.00 pm

Years 5 & 6: 7.15 pm—8.30 pm

We require Parent Helpers for the disco, so if you are able to assist and have completed an online Child Protection Volunteers application, please leave your name at the office.

Parent Group News (Cont'd)

Parent Helpers required for Kinder 2016 Orientation Mornings to help with uniforms etc.

The Parent Group also require parent helpers for the Kinder 2016 Orientation mornings from 8.30 am—11:30 am. The dates are as follows: 16th, 17th, 18th, 23rd, 24th, 25th November. Please leave your details at the office.

Canteen News

(Two Meal Deals to choose from at \$4.50 each)

Available every day until Friday, 13th November.

Meal Deal 1

Chicken Lettuce & Mayo Sandwich, Juice Popper & Fruit Cup.

Meal Deal 2

Cheeseburger & Slushie.

Both Meal Deals are \$4.50 each

Don't forget the "Healthy Option" Crunch & Sip promotion —Piece of fruit + small bottle water \$2.00.

Orders to be placed by 9.00 am daily. Online Ordering: To order online please visit www.flexischools.com.au. Orders to be placed by 9.00 am daily.

Your Guide to the Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge

These summer holidays the Executive Director will once again be launching his Summer Reading Challenge and encouraging all students to read, read, read! Students can read anything they like to enter the challenge, whether it's a comic, play, piece of poetry, book, e-book or graphic novel. This year we have made the challenge easier to enter by removing the minimum number of books to read and provided students with more chances of winning a prize. How to enter: It's simple, students just need to read something they enjoy and tell us in 50 words or less why they loved it. The more material a student reads, the more times they can enter the reading challenge and the more chances they have of winning one of four iPad minis. Entries open on 2nd November, 2015 and close at 5.00 pm on 5th February, 2016. Please see Flyer attached.

Lowes—13% off Schoolwear—One Day Only

Online Only—One Day Only—Friday 13th November. 13% off Schoolwear and everything else. Offer does not apply to items already on sale. Cannot be combined with other offers or discounts. Simply enter the code 13FRI2015 at Checkout.



Expand your imagination
by reading this summer and
you could **win** an **iPad mini**

Read as many books as you can, tell us why you love them, and
you could win one of four iPad minis.
The more books you read, the more chances
you have to win*.

Enter online at www.parra.catholic.edu.au
Entries close 5 February 2016.

Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge



 @CatholicEdParra

 catholicedparra



Catholic Education
Diocese of Parramatta

*Terms and Conditions apply

Transport for NSW

Fact sheet: The School Opal card

Who's eligible?

To be eligible for a School Opal card, students need to be NSW residents and may need to live a minimum distance away from their school:

- Years K-2 (Infants) there's no minimum distance.
- Years 3-6 (Primary) 1.6km straight line distance or 2.3km walking or further.
- Years 7-12 (Secondary) 2.0km straight line distance or 2.9km walking or further.

Students completing secondary studies at TAFE, boarding school students and students temporarily in Australia may also be eligible for a School Opal card. The eligibility criteria for these students is available at **transportnsw.info/school-students**.

A School Opal card is provided to eligible students who need to travel within the Opal network. Paper travel passes are issued to eligible students who need to travel outside the Opal network.

Who needs to apply?

Most students or parents won't need to apply for the School Opal card. The School Opal card will be sent to a student's school automatically at the beginning of the new school year in 2016.

However, a new application is required if:

- The student is just starting school or has not had a pass for travel before.
- The student is progressing from Year 2 to 3, or Year 6 to 7.
- The student is changing schools, including going between primary and secondary school.
- The student's personal details have changed (e.g. address).

Applications must be made by a parent or guardian for children aged 15 years and under. Applications must be made by the student if aged 16 years or older.

How to apply

Step 1 Complete the application at **transportnsw.info/school-students**.

Step 2 Print, sign and submit the form to the school for endorsement.

Step 3 The school will then forward the application to Transport for NSW for processing. Once approved, Transport for NSW sends the School Opal card to the home address given in the application.

The application may take several weeks and the applicant's email address is required.

If the student doesn't qualify for free travel

They may be eligible for a Term Bus Pass which offers travel on buses between home and school at a discounted rate for the whole school term.

Apply at **transportnsw.info/school-students**.

Find out more

For more information on the School Opal card and the School Student Travel Scheme (SSTS), please visit **transportnsw.info/school-students**.