



Good Shepherd Primary School Newsletter

Term 4

Week 10

Thursday, 14th December, 2017

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Thank you for another wonderful year.

I would like to thank you all for your support throughout the year. It has been very pleasing for the staff to see and hear your positive responses to the teaching and learning here at Good Shepherd. We are very blessed with the wonderful staff we have and our interested and supportive parents.

To our Parents and Friends committee, a very heartfelt thank you for your tireless work throughout the year. All of the students benefit from your efforts and fundraising and we are very grateful. Thank you parents and friends for your support and generosity.

May the joy and peace of Christmas be with you and your families, and hopefully you will have time to enjoy some of the traditions of Christmas, whether from Australia or from an overseas family tradition.

One of the most popular Christmas activities is the setting out of the crib, which is an attempt to reconstruct the stable and manger environment in which Christ was born. The crib, as we know it, dates from St Frances of Assisi who, on Christmas Eve 1223, celebrated the stable scene with a sermon about the humble surrounds into which Jesus was born in the very humble town of Bethlehem. These real activities and other symbols of Christmas are there to help us to celebrate the real meaning of Christmas: the birth of Jesus, God's Son.

At this time of the year with the financial pressures of Christmas, present buying, entertaining and holidays, our homes may not always feel like places of peace! But I know that our children know and love the story and songs of Christmas. Ask them to tell you their version of the story! That is a prayer in itself and will help us take time to think about what we are celebrating. May the light of Jesus, the true meaning of Christmas shine in your homes at this special time of the year.

I bring to you good news of great joy, for to you is born this day a saviour who is Christ the Lord." Paraphrase Luke 2:10,11
Peace and Joy.

Tricia Carr

Tricia Carr
Principal

A Christmas Creed

"I believe that Christmas is a time for remembering Christ and the incarnation of God's love in human flesh.

I believe that the important gifts of Christmas are the things we teach our children, the way we share ourselves with friends, and the generosity and commitment we give to building a better world in our time.

I believe in the Angel's message that we should not be afraid—that the Child of Bethlehem is able to overcome all anxieties and insecurities.

I believe in prayer and quietness and that if I wait in stillness and silence I will experience the presence of the one born in the manger, for He lives today as surely as He lived then.

I believe in going away from Christmas as the wise men went: "another way". I want to be different when these days are past—more centered, more thoughtful, more caring.

And I believe God will help me." Amen.



School Captains 2018

School Captains

Carmella Queras & Christian Durante

Vice Captains

Abbey Cornish & Benedict Cabrera

Sports Captains 2018

Bradman

Captains

Mitchell Holmes & Arianna Cay

Vice Captains

Hayden Mercado & Raanya Ram

Fraser

Captains

Marco Blazevic & Laraine Chicote

Vice Captains

Jonathan Tawk & Marissa Galea

McKay

Captains

Dre Oakes & Thi (Tina) Bui

Vice Captains

Nicholas Gama & Raphaella Garcia

Newcombe

Captains

Emmanuel Adetunji & Enivee Peniata

Vice Captains

William Planer & Shay-Lee Paris

Good Shepherd Staffing for 2018

Principal

Mrs Patricia Carr

Assistant Principal

Mrs Bianca Cooke

Religious Education

Coordinator

Mr Ian Byrne

Office

Mrs Gabrielle Smithard

Mrs Vicki Doran

Mrs Rosa Rusnak

Mrs Dianne Holmes

Grade Leaders

Kinder- Mrs Bianca Cooke

Year 1- Mrs Trish Conner

Year 2- Mrs Yvonne Davies

Year 3- Mrs Debbie dela Paz

Year 4- Mr Ian Byrne

Year 5- Mrs Beulah Frankson

Year 6- Ms Elizabeth Dowd

Librarian/Literacy Support

Mrs Carol Sirry

Mrs Jo Edgerton

Intervention Teacher:

Mrs Stephanie Van Weverburgh

Maintenance

Mr Chris Willard

PE Teachers

Mrs Anne Latham

Mrs Danielle Del Duca

Creative Arts Teachers

Miss Diane Touzell

Mrs Janice Saliba

Mrs Clare Burnett

Reading Recovery Teachers

Mrs Karen Fairall

Mrs Grace Pestano

Mrs Melonie Kemp

Mrs Grace Thomson

EMU Specialist Teachers

Mrs Yvonne Davies

Miss Tasha King

Mrs Bianca Cooke

Mrs Beulah Frankson

Mrs Carolyn Duval

Mrs Joan Bellenger

Mrs Tania Pereira

Mrs Sarah Debrincat

Teacher Assistants

Mrs Jo Edgerton

Mrs Leslee Summers

Mrs Tania Cornett

Mrs Jan Wedgwood

Mrs Annamaria Farrugia

Teachers & Classes

	B Classes	G Classes	R Classes	W Classes	Learning Support
Kinder	Miss Alexandra Burrows	Mrs Megan Robinson	Miss Ebony Moylan	Miss Sarah Debrincat	Mrs Joanne Hocking
Year 1	Miss Susanne Mammolitti	Miss Silvia Kucera	Mrs Melonie Kemp & Mrs Karen Fairall	Miss Jennifer Bousitani	Mrs Louise Gray
Year 2	Mrs Amie Keown	Miss Tasha King & Mrs Anita Meredith	Mrs Bronwyn Micallef	Mrs Beonika Dumont	Mrs Yvonne Davies
Year 3	Mrs Debbie dela Paz	Mrs Joan Bellenger	Mrs Jo-Ann Lindsay	Mrs Tania Pereira	Mrs Grace Thomson
Year 4	Mr Ian Byrne & Mrs Anita Meredith	Miss Kellie Rowntree	Mrs Linda Freitas & Mrs Janice Saliba	Mrs Maria Rainert	Mrs Carolyn Duval
Year 5	Miss Katrina Sherlock	Mrs Cathy Moylan & Mrs Anita Meredith	Ms Joanne Beamish	Mr Matthew Slager	Mrs Maree Callaghan
Year 6	Miss Kelly Maloney	Ms Elizabeth Dowd & Mrs Tiffany Reid	Mr Henry Escandor	Mrs Christine Ellul & Miss Diane Touzell	Mrs Grace Pestano

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, 15th December:	Last day of school for students
Monday, 25th December:	Christmas Day
Tuesday, 30th January:	Students in Years 1—6 commence.
Wednesday, 31st January:	New Kinders commence
Thursday, 1st February:	Sibling Kinders commence

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	Achan Mawien	KG	All of KG
KR	All of KR	KW	All of KW
1B	All of 1B	1G	All of 1G
1R	All of 1R	1W	All of 1W
2B	All of 2B	2G	Ashriyah Harang
2R	All of 2R	2W	All of 2W
3B	Ronan Cruz	3G	Melody Cuasay
3R	Marcus Sewiha	3W	Shiloh Sumilang
4B	Jalil Rizeq	4G	All of 4G
4R	Jessica Odemwengie	4W	All of 4W
5B	Ambrose De Guia	5G	All of 5G
5R	All of 5R	5W	All of 5W
6B	All of 6B	6G	Lucas Duncan
6R	All of 6R	6W	Mojtaba (Mani Shakibaei Shahadati

Medication



If your child is taking regular medication including Asthma or is Anaphylactic or allergic, please note at the beginning of each year we require updated information and Action/management plans for these medical issues.

As part of keeping our children safe, it is vital that we maintain the most current information. Please take the time to update this information for the return to school 2018.

Term 4 2017 & Term 1 2018 Dates

Term 4:

Concludes: Friday, 15th December for students (Monday 18th December and Tuesday 19th December are designated Staff Development Days)

Term 1 2018

Commences: Tuesday, 30th January—students in Year 1 through to Year 6 commence.
 Wednesday, 31st January—New Kinder students commence.
 Thursday, 1st February—Kinder siblings commence.

Social Skill of the Week

"Open the door for another person"

Policies and Forms

For all policies and forms, please refer to our School Website.

Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge

Dear Parents—please see attached flyer regarding the Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge.

Birthdays

Happy Birthday to the following students who will celebrate their birthday this week: Breanna Borg, Tuatangiketatau Sailosi, Jeyanthan Albert Jeyathanan, Sinit Teame, Miguel Diamse, Anjlika Gopal and Emmanuel Baduria. For those students who will be celebrating a birthday during the school holidays, we wish them a very Happy Birthday!

COSHC Notice



Dear Parents & Carers, please note there will be **no child care available** on the last two days of Term 4 which are the Staff Development Days (Pupil Free days) **Monday, 18th December and Tuesday, 19th December**. Students finish Term 4 on Friday, 15th December, 2017.

Sports News

Jashan Singh from 6G has been selected to play for NSW at the National Indoor Cricket Championships in Toowoomba QLD next June.

Congratulations Jashan and good luck.

School Holiday Activities—please visit Blacktown Council's website: <http://www.blacktown.nsw.gov.au/>

Good Shepherd School Bag

As we are experiencing delays from our manufacturing company with regards to the School Bags, we have extended the time frame for students to be using the school bag. From Term 1, 2019, all students (**EXCEPT YEAR 6 2019**) will be required to use the official **Good Shepherd school bag**. The decision to have these bags as a standard part of our school uniform was made in 2015, voted in by the school Leadership Team as well as the Parent Group. If you are replacing your child's bag, please purchase the school bag. **The bag will available from the uniform shop or the school office from early in term 1, 2018 The cost is \$40.00. Payment is cash only.** These bags are designed to evenly distribute weight and are made of extremely durable materials making them good value in the long run. Thank you.

We have a star artist!

Congratulations to Theresia Purwadi 6R for her winning entry in the recent IKEA design competition. Theresia entered her design for a new soft toy and has been selected as one of the top 20 Australian Designs! Her entry now goes to Sweden for the final international judging. Good luck Theresia!



Dragocorn
Theresia, 12

Library Borrowing and Sports Days for Term 1 2018

Library Borrowing:

Mondays: Kinder
Tuesdays: Year 1 and Year 2
Wednesdays: Year 3 & Year 5
Thursdays: Year 4
Fridays: Year 6

Sports Days:

Wednesdays: KB & KG, Year 4, 6B & 6G
Thursdays: 1B, 1G, 2R, 2W, Year 5, 6R & 6W
Fridays: KR, KW, 1R, 1W, 2B, 2G and Year 3.

Reconciliation and Christmas Mass Times at Good Shepherd Church, Plumpton

2nd Rite Reconciliation for Christmas

Wednesday, 13th December at 7:30 pm

Christmas Eve—24th December

6.00 pm Children's Mass and 8.00 pm Youth Mass

Midnight Mass at Midnight

Christmas Day—25th December

7.00 am, 9.00 am and 12.00 noon

(12.00 noon in Vietnamese)

There will be NO 6.00 pm Christmas Day Mass



Staff Development Days—Term 4 2017

Each year Staff participate in professional development to support them in their roles as educators. The focus of these days is aligned to Good Shepherd School's goals. Staff will use information they have gathered about the children to design learning programs for the children that will best meet their needs. These Staff Development Days are **PUPIL FREE DAYS** and will take place on **Monday, 18th December and Tuesday 19th December, 2017 (Week 11)**. Our thanks to parents for organising care for their children on these days. COSHC will be able to offer limited spaces for care on these days. To make inquiries of COSHC, please telephone COSHC on Ph. 0409 121 980. **Please note the last day of school for students will be this Friday, 15th December, 2017.**

Uploading of Photos onto YouTube and Social Media

Parents, please note there is to be no uploading of pictures of students that are not your own child, onto YouTube and Social Media eg Facebook, Instagram etc. from events at school without prior permission from the School Principal. Such events include school functions, excursions, liturgies etc.



ROOT WORD OF THE WEEK



pop
(LATIN)

MEANING:

people

EXAMPLES:

popular, population



Studies that prove we need to read more...

(From *Disrupting Thinking* by Beers and Probst)

Reasons to read more:



Develops Personal Identity

Abodeeb-Gentile & Zawilinsky, 2013 • Begum, 2014 • Fives, Russell, et al., 2014 • Hall, 2012 • Harste, 2009 • Jesweak, 2015 • Tatum, 2009

From the Catholic Education Office

Child Safety Handbook

NSW Police Legacy [Child Safety Handbook](#) is now available in digital form. The Handbook provides advice to assist children, parents and teachers on a range of areas related to child safety, including cybersafety, bullying and crossing roads safely. Over the past five years, many NSW primary schools have received hard copies of the NSW Police Legacy Child Safety Handbook for distribution to their families. Now schools are encouraged to assist in the promotion of this resource to all families. Attached is an article that can be included in your school newsletter or other communications with parents, carers or the broader community. The direct link to the resource is <http://www.childsafetyhub.com.au/>

Positions Vacant

- Youth Minister - St Bernadette's Parish, Castle Hill
- Accounts Officer - Chancery Office, Parramatta.

More details at: www.parracatholic.org/employment

Christmas 2017 Mass Times

Christmas Mass and Reconciliation times across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains can be found by visiting: www.parracatholic.org

Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse

The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse will shortly release its final findings on public hearings, and its recommendations, related to the Catholic Church in Australia. The Diocese of Parramatta once again offers its unreserved and deepest apologies to those many people who have suffered because of the child sexual abuse that has occurred in the context of Church ministry. In particular, the Diocese of Parramatta apologises to survivors of abuse and their families for the hurt and suffering this abuse has caused throughout their lives. During the Royal Commission, the Diocese of Parramatta has strived to engage in their processes with openness, transparency and a commitment to learning about our history so that our child protection policies and procedures are strengthened and there is restored confidence in Church ministry. The Diocese of Parramatta is committed to continuously reviewing and improving its child protection policies and procedures. For more information please visit www.safeguarding.org.au. For more information please refer to the Royal Commission website: www.childabuseroyalcommission.gov.au

For anyone needing information and support please contact the Diocese of Parramatta information line on (02) 8838 3419. Concerns or allegations about any criminal offence should be reported to NSW Police on 131 444.

Volunteers for the homeless needed

The Order of Malta requires volunteers to visit 'homeless hotspots' around Parramatta. Volunteer drivers, nurses and paramedics are needed to provide this service to Parramatta's homeless. If you would like to learn more, please email info@smom.org.au

Campion College Summer Program

Campion College Summer program is forming young minds in faith and reason. Looking for 16 – 24 year olds to come join the Program on January 8-12 2018. Experience College life and a taste of the Campion College course: Literature, History, Hiking, Coastal Walks & Swims, Theology, Philosophy, Sports, Other Activities. Registration: \$390 per person Financial assistance available. For more information: visit www.campion.edu.au/summer or contact us at study@campion.edu.au, 0413 489 738

Grief to Grace

Healing the Wounds of Abuse – is a spiritual retreat for anyone who has suffered degradation or violation through physical, emotional, sexual or spiritual abuse. The retreat will be held April 8th – 13th 2018. To request an application contact Anne by emailing info@grieffograceaus.org.au or phone 0407704539. For more information visit www.grieffograce.org

Christmas at St Finbar's: 17 December

St Finbar's traditional Christmas feast will be held this year on Sunday 17th December at 7.30pm. Massed Choir, Readings, Harp, Handbells, Soloists and Brass. Join the great organ in singing carols with the choir and congregation, and rejoice in the Hallelujah Chorus with trumpets and timpani. Donation: Families \$35, individuals \$15. Bring the family, friends and neighbours. Proceeds towards the upkeep and maintenance of the organ. St. Finbar's Catholic Church, 46 Levy Street, Glenbrook. Enquiries 4754 1780.

Mass of the Holy Innocents: 28 December

The principal celebrant for the Annual Mass of the Holy Innocents will be Fr Benedict La Volpe OFM Conv. Mass at 11am at Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, 8 Diana Ave, Kellyville, followed by a rosary procession to the Franciscan Shrine of the Holy Innocents. A luncheon will be provided – please bring a plate to share. Inquiries (02) 9629 2595.

Feast of the Holy Family Vigil: 30 December

The Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth cordially invite families and youth (aged 18-35) to join us for a Celebration Vigil for Feast of the Holy Family on Saturday 30 December at 2:30 pm. Pizza from 5:30pm. 116-132 Quakers Road, 2148 Marayong NSW. Please RSVP to Sr Paula by 28 December on vocationscsfn@gmail.com or 0449 656 406

For more events please go to: <http://parracatholic.org/events/>

CHRISTMAS 2017 AND JANUARY 2018: COSHC OPERATION DATES

To assist COSHC families in planning their education and care needs over the Christmas closure period and to plan bookings for Vacation Care in January 2018, a calendar of Closure Dates and Operational Dates has been issued to all families enrolled with COSHC.

COSHC WILL BE CLOSED ON:

- Monday, 18 December 2017 and Tuesday, 19 December, 2017. COSHC staff will be participating in professional development in line with teachers and school staff.
- The Early Learning and Care team will be on annual leave from 22 December, 2017 to 5 January 2018. COSHC will not be operating during these days.
- COSHC will be closed on Australia Day, 26 January, 2018
- COSHC will be closed on Monday, 29 January 2018 for professional development of staff.

FAMILIES, PLEASE NOTE:

Christmas Closure

- The **last day of operation** of COSHC services will be Friday, 15 December 2017.

January Vacation Care

- The COSHC Summer Vacation Care Program commences on Monday, 8 January, 2018 to Thursday 25 January 2018.

2018 Commencement of COSHC operations for Before- and After-School programs

- COSHC will re-open on Tuesday, 30 January, 2018.

Good Shepherd Primary School

134 Hyatts Road, Locked Bag 1001, Plumpton NSW 2761 - Phone: 9836 7100 - Fax: 9836 7199
Email: goodshepherd@parra.catholic.edu.au - Website: www.gsplumpton.catholic.edu.au

NSW School Term Dates 2018

Term 1:

Staff return Monday, 29 January 2018 (Week 1)
Students return Tuesday, 30 January 2018
Term concludes on Friday, 13 April 2018

Term 1 School Holidays
Monday, 16 April 2018 – Friday, 27 April 2018

Term 2:

School resumes Monday, 30 April 2018 (Week 1)
Term concludes on Friday, 6 July 2018

Term 2 School Holidays
Monday, 9 July – Friday 20 July 2018

Term 3:

School resumes Monday, 23 July 2018 (Week 1)
Term concludes on Friday, 28 September 2018

Term 3 School Holidays
Monday, 1 October – Friday, 12 October 2018

Term 4:

School resumes on Monday, 15 October 2018 (Week 1)
Term concludes on Wednesday, 19 December 2018

Term 4 School Holidays
Thursday, 20 December – Monday, 28 January 2019

Staff return on Monday, 28 January 2019
Students return on Tuesday, 29 January 2019

Public Holidays:

Friday, 26 January	Australia Day
Friday, 30 March	Good Friday
Saturday, 31 March	Easter Saturday
Sunday, 1 April	Easter Sunday
Monday, 2 April	Easter Monday
Wednesday, 25 April	Anzac Day
Monday, 11 June	Queen's Birthday
Monday, 1 October	Labour Day
Tuesday, 25 December	Christmas Day

NESA Website: <http://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/about/key-dates/school-terms-and-public-holidays> used to obtain dates.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

14:00

Win an

IPAD
MINI

Enter online

www.parra.catholic.edu.au

Entries close at 5pm on 5 February 2018.

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Diocese of Parramatta

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