Good Shepherd Primary School Newsletter

Term 4 **Week 10** **Tuesday, 17th December, 2019**

Third Sunday of Advent

Good Shepherd Primary School
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Plumpton NSW 2761

Telephone: 9836 7100

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Principal:
Mrs Patricia Carr

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136 Hyatts Road
Plumpton

Telephone: 9832 4461

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Parish Priest:
Fr Vincy D'Costa ofmcap

Term 4 concludes
this Wednesday,
18th December, 2019

Term 1 2020 commences
Wednesday,
29 January for Years 1-6

Thursday,
30th January for New Kinder children

Friday,
31st January for
All children Kinder-Year 6

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As this is our final newsletter for the year it is fitting that we acknowledge and thank everyone who has contributed to a successful school year.

Thank you to Parents, staff, community, Parish and particularly our students.
The Annual school report is written and will be available in the foyer as a hard copy in the New Year.

Sadly for us we are losing some teachers this year to permanent positions at other schools:

- Mrs Cooke is taking up a promotional position as Principal at St Bernadette's Castle Hill
- Miss Moylan is taking up a permanent position at St Michael's Blacktown South
- Miss Burrows is taking up a permanent position at Our Lady of the Rosary Kellyville
- Miss Aguilar is taking up a permanent position at Our Lady of the Rosary Kellyville
- Miss Sherlock is taking up a permanent position at St Luke's Marsden Park
- Mrs Joseph is leaving us to have a Baby
- Miss Almazar is leaving us to travel; and
- Mrs Nolan will continue as a casual teacher.

We wish these staff members all God's blessings for their future and thank them for all they have done for the students, staff and families here at Good Shepherd. They will be greatly missed.

As we approach the end of the year we give pause to think about how we are able to celebrate the coming of Jesus into our lives at Christmas. Jesus came to us in a manger without a special nursery and without the comfort of family around. He was surrounded by animals and shepherds and visited by Wise Men.

May the peace and simplicity of the Christmas story, remind us of what is important at Christmas and all through the year, being with your families and loved ones at this special time and giving joy and love to all who may not have as much as us.

Have a happy Christmas and a safe holiday.

Peace and Joy

Patricia Carr

Tricia Carr
Principal

Tomorrow we will be having a farewell for Mrs Cooke. Please come along if you are able to. It is very sad for Good Shepherd to be losing Mrs Cooke. She has been an inspirational leader here at Good Shepherd and has been part of our community for 18 years. We congratulate Mrs Cooke on her promotional position of Principal at St Bernadette's Castle Hill. We will miss her smiling face, her energy, her enthusiasm and her ability to inspire others.

School Captains 2020

School Captains: Angelo Dela Paz & Cyrille Raposas

Vice Captains: Ethan Escandor & Shantel Santana

Sports Captains 2020

Bradman

Captains

Crystle Manalili & Reuben-Marcel Frias

Vice Captains

Emanuel-Rian Arago & Ashleigh Galletes

Fraser

Captains

Mat Alampayan & Catharina Purwadi

Vice Captains

Andrei Jambalos & Riane Salentes

McKay

Captains

Matt Byrone Sincero & Cleo Tuaimau

Vice Captains

Bella (Skye) Monge Alfaro & Jarred Hide

Newcombe

Captains

Vilisiliva Setefano & Isabelle Deaves

Vice Captains

Marley Tamani & Bianca Cailao

2020 Class Teachers

Principal

Mrs Tricia Carr

Assistant Principal

Mr Paul Battikha

KB: Miss Alyssia Alsochi

KG: Miss Therese Guerrero

KR: Mrs Susanne Mammoliti

1B: Mrs Stephanie Van Weverbergh & Mrs Karen Fairall

1G: Mrs Bronwyn Micallef

1R: Mrs Janice Saliba

1W: Miss Briana Quinn

2B: Mrs Amie Keown

2G: Mrs Maria Rainert

2R: Miss Marina Georgievska

2W: Mrs Beonika Dumont

3B: Mr Karl Rainert

3G: Mrs Carol Sirry

3R: Mrs Linda Freitas & Mrs Tiffany Reid

3W: Mrs Joan Bellenger

4B: Mrs Daniela Del Duca

4G: Mrs Christina Ellul

4R: Mrs Jo-Ann Lindsay

4W: Mrs Tania Periera

5B: Miss Tasha King

5G: Mr Henry Escandor

5R: Mrs Kellie Fox

5W: Ms Elizabeth Le Breton

6B: Mr Ian Byrne & Mrs Anita Meredith

6G: Mrs Debbie dela Paz

6R: Miss Kelly Maloney

6W: Mr Matthew Slager

PE Teachers: Mrs Anne Latham & Mrs Jeanine Zeall

CA Teachers: Miss Diane Touzell & Mrs Sara McCaffrey

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, 18th December:	Farewell to Mrs Cooke (9.00 am Liturgy in the Good Shepherd Church.) Following the Liturgy, there will be a morning tea. All welcome
Wednesday, 18th December:	Last Day for Students

Commencement Dates for 2020

Wednesday, 29th January:	Years 1—6
Thursday, 30th January:	New Kindergarten Families
Friday, 31st January, 2020:	All Students

Congratulations to the Parent Group for their successful fundraiser of the Pie & Cookie Dough Drive. They raised over $500.00!!

Thank you to all the parents & friends who have generously given Christmas presents and cards to Mrs Carr, Mrs Cooke & Staff. Thank you very much for your generosity and support.

Thank You!

Children's Summer Reading Program Reading Rocks!

Are you a reading rock star? Join our Children's Summer Reading Program 2020: Reading Rocks! Read 10 books to receive an invitation to the presentation night where you can come dressed up like a rock star. To participate in this program, you must be a member of our library. If you are not a member, it is free to join and you can do this online or in person at any of our libraries. Open to ages 0 – 12 years. Ask one of our friendly librarians for your reading record. Program closes 31 January 2020

Farewell to Mrs Cooke Liturgy & Morning Tea— Tomorrow Wednesday, 18th December

Dear Parents, you are very welcome to join us in a Liturgy—9.00 am in the Good Shepherd Church—to farewell Mrs Cooke. Following the Liturgy, there will be a morning tea. All welcome.

Sports News

Swimming 2019
Age Champion & Runner Up Age Champion

	Boys	Girls
7/8 Years		
1.	Fabiano Jameel	1. Gabrielle Almazan
2.		Riena Rose Manuel
9 Years		
1.	Gabriel Burke	1. Abbey Irmisch
2.	Zaeclan Orayenza	2. Makayla De Guia
10 Years		
1.	Reuben Frias	1. Ashleigh Galletes
2.	Pranith Tirumalasetti	2. Catharina Purwadi
11 Years		
1.	Andrei Jambalos	1. Gabrielle Capule
2.	Nathan Guillermo	

School Shoes & Joggers

At this time of the year we often find that children need their school shoes & joggers replaced. Please remember if you are buying new school shoes, they are to be **black**. If you need to replace joggers, they should be predominantly white. No fluro or bright colours. For information on uniform and hairstyle requirements, please see website under 'Parent Handbook".'

Saver Plus Program| The Smith Family—please phone 9672 4204 or visit website: https://www.facebook.com/SaverPlusAU for further information.

School Concludes tomorrow for students

Wednesday, 18th December

2019 Staff Development Days
(Pupil Free Days)

Term 4: Thursday, 19th December and
Friday 20th December

Social Skill of the Week

"Maintain eye contact when speaking to someone"

Communication between Parents and Staff for 2020

Just a reminder that the direct line of communication if you need to discuss concerns/issues etc regarding your child is:
Email, phone call or letter addressed to your child's teacher stating your concerns and requesting an interview if required.
Following this, you can request an interview with your child's Year Group Coordinator.

2020 Year Group Coordinators are as follows:

Kinder: Mrs Yvonne Davies
Year 1: Mrs Trish Conner
Year 2: Mr Paul Battikha
Year 3: Mrs Joan Bellenger
Year 4: Mrs Beaulah Frankson
Year 5: Ms Elizabeth Le Breton
Year 6: Mr Ian Byrne

If you need to take further steps, after speaking with the Year Group Co-Ordinator, an email, letter or phone call to our Assistant Principal, then to the Principal.

After School Supervision

Just a reminder that school finishes at 2:50 pm. Please ensure that your children have been collected before 3:15 pm each afternoon.
There are many children who have not been collected before 3:15 pm which creates issues with supervision & safety for the children. If you are late collecting your children from school it impacts on the children, the staff and the running of the school. Please ensure that you have made suitable arrangements to have your children collected by 3:15 pm.
If there is an emergency and you are running late to collect the children, please telephone the school office on (02) 9836 7100. Thank you.

2019 School Captains congratulating the new 2020 School Captains .....

Parent Group News

On behalf of the Parent Group, we would like to thank Mrs Bianca Cooke for being a bright star in our community. We'll miss you and we wish you all the best at St Bernadette's, Castle Hill.

Thank you to the school community for supporting the Parent Group fundraisers and events in 2019.

Special thanks to the parents who run the uniform shop on Friday mornings, and those who have volunteered their time to help at fundraisers and events this year.

We wish everyone a safe, fun and happy Christmas. See you in 2020!

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.

School Banking will resume next year

Dear Parents, please note school banking has finished for 2019, and will resume Week 3 of Term 1, 2020. Thank you.

Student Absences

Dear Parents,
Just a quick reminder that **ALL student absences need to be explained. This is a legal requirement.**

Unexplained Attendance letters

Your child may bring home a letter asking for an explanation for your child's absence from school. **Would you please complete and return back to your child's teacher promptly.**

Children Absent from School due to illness

In the event of your child being absent from school due to illness, **please inform the school office by phone or email. It is necessary that a written note of explanation be forwarded to the class teacher on the day of your child's return to school.** We need to receive this note within seven days of the last day of absence. Prolonged absences from school due to illness should be supported by a medical certificate.

School Commencement and Finishing Times

School commences at 8.30 am and concludes at 2.50 pm. Any child who arrives after this time or leaves school earlier for an appointment etc will need to report to the School Office. It is very important that your child arrive to school on time. Children arriving late to school miss out on valuable learning time and their late entry to the classroom disrupts their fellow students. **If your children are late to school, they are to be escorted to the School Office by a Parent/Carer.**

National Art School 2020 School Holiday Programs

Our January School Holiday workshops are now open! **13–17 and 20–24 Jan** . Please email enquiries@nas.edu.au for all details.
National Art School
Forbes Street, Darlinghurst
Sydney NSW 2010
Australia

Christmas Mass Times

Tuesday, 24th December
6:00 PM Children's Mass
8:00 PM Youth Mass
11:30 PM Carols in the Church
12:00 AM Midnight Mass

Wednesday, 25th December (Christmas Day)
7:00 AM Christmas Day Mass
9:00 AM Christmas Day Mass
12:00 PM Christmas Day Mass (Vietnamese)

Carols Night 2019 on 13th December, 2019 from 7.30 pm onwards

Term 4 2019 Staff Development Days (Pupil Free Days)

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. **Term 4's Staff Development Days are Pupil Free Days and will take place this Thursday 19th December and Friday 20th December.** Our thanks to parents for organising care for their children on this day.

COSHC will be unable to offer spaces for care on these days.

Student Mobile Phones

Parents, please note students are not allowed to have mobiles on their person or in the backpack during school hours. If you need to contact them, please ring the School Office. Students can leave their mobile phones with the office in the morning and collect them at dismissal time. Thank you.

Complaints/Grievances Forms

Parents, please note if you would like to make a complaint/ grievance in regards to any school matter, you can pick up a form from the school office. All matters will be attended to under strict confidentiality.

Pastoral Care & Student Management Policy 2016 and the Countering Discrimination, Harassment & Bullying—Policy

Dear Parents & Carers, for information on the above policies, and other policies, please refer to our School Website—About Us—Policies & Procedures. Please note our Parent Handbook is on our School Website under "Enrol Now" for your convenience.

Commencement Dates for 2019

Wednesday, 29th January, 2020	Years 1—6
Thursday, 30th January, 2020	New Kinder Families
Friday, 31st January, 2020	All Students

Primary Principal's Morning Tea
Term 4 2019

Dear Parents, last week we held our Primary Principal's Morning Tea at school. Teachers were asked to nominate one child from each class to attend morning tea with the Principal and the Assistant Principal. These nominated children have shown a positive attitude to all aspects of schooling for the term. Congratulations to the parents and teachers of these children who consistently make good choices about their learning. The following photo is from the Primary Morning Tea .....

3B Darianne Afinidad, 3G Farah Kamal, 3R Prabnoor Manan, 3W Smir Al Hamwi, 4B Kaiden Blair, 4G Natalia Falemaka, 4R Opeti Vatikani, 4W Lebron Manalo, 5B Emmanuella Soliman, 5G Angelo Dela Paz, 5R Mikayla Uili-Lilo, 5W Angelina Beshay, 6B Martin Stanton, 6G Iesha Singh and 6R Leatuku Setefano.

Lost Property Items

Dear Parents, there is a large amount of clothing and other items that have ended up in Lost Property. Please make time to come in and look through these items as they must belong to someone!

Showcase of Talent

Last week students performed in a Showcase of Talent at school.

News from the Catholic Education Office

Lettuce crunch together in 2020!

Vegetable Week & The Big Vegie Crunch is on again in 2020.

The event is a FREE school-based health promotion initiative that is funded by NSW Health. It's a fun, quick and easy way to encourage your students to eat more vegetables.

The event will run over Week 6 of Term 1 – from Monday 2 March to Friday 6 March 2020 – with The Big Vegie Crunch being held at 10 am on Thursday 5 March.

In 2019, 41,538 primary school students across NSW munched on veg simultaneously. Help us to 'beet' this in 2020!

For more details on the event, and to register, take a look at the Vegetable Week & The Big Vegie Crunch webpage.

Executive Director Summer Reading Challenge

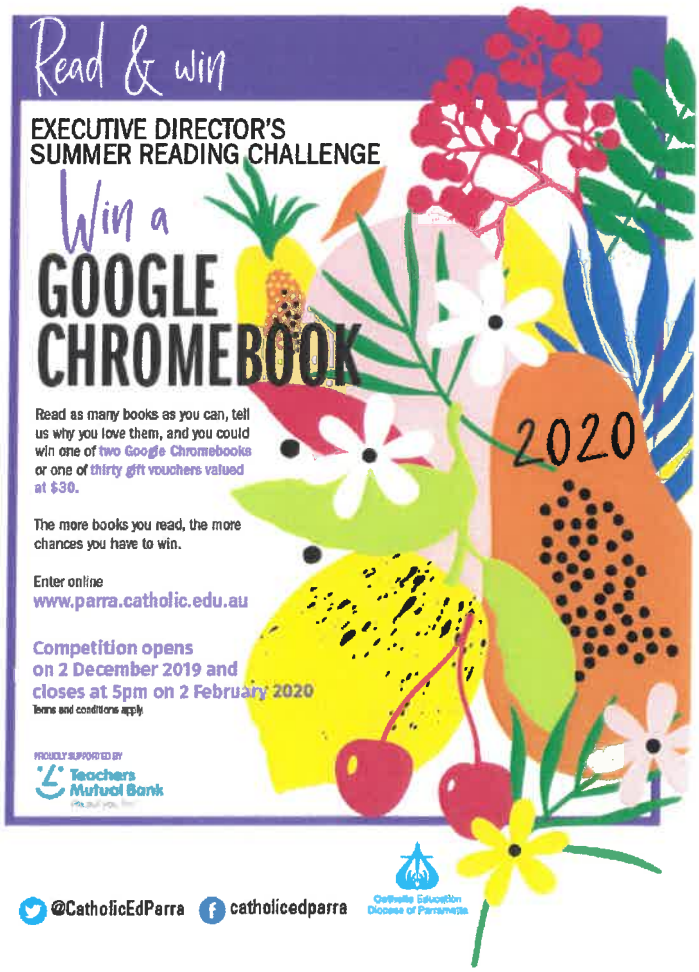
These summer holidays, CEDP are again launching the Executive Director Summer Reading Challenge and encouraging all students to read, read, read!

Students can read anything they like to enter the challenge, whether it's a comic, play, a piece of poetry, book, e-book or animated novel.

Taking part in the Executive Directors Summer Reading Challenge is easy! Students just need to read something they enjoy and tell us in 50 words or less why they loved it. The more a student reads, the more times they can enter the reading challenge and the more chances they have of winning one of two Chromebooks or one of thirty runner-up gift vouchers to the value of $30. Students can enter online by visiting the CEDP website.

Entries open on 2 December 2019 and close at 5pm on 2 February 2020. Terms and Conditions can be found here.

This year we are introducing Student Ambassadors for the challenge. The role of the Student Ambassador is to creatively encourage their peers to participate and enter the competition. Schools are then invited to nominate one outstanding Student Reading Ambassador for one of 10 prizes (each prize is a $30 gift voucher). Nominate your Student Ambassador via this form https://forms.gle/yXAq3Svz93HPKES99 by 2 February 2020.



News from the Bishop's Office

Positions Vacant:
Volunteers - CatholicCare Mamre Creche
More details at: parracatholic.org/employment
Retired Priests Care Coordinator (Part-time) - Broken Bay Diocese
Clergy Development Officer (Part-time) - Broken Bay Diocese
For more details, please contact Kelly Paget on 02 8379 1612 or kelly.paget@bbcatholic.org.au

Plenary Council 2020
The Plenary Council invites people to continue to participate in the journey towards the Council sessions in 2020 and 2021. The "Listening and Discernment" phase recently opened and a guide has been developed to encourage groups to take part in communal discernment on the National Themes for Discernment. Learn more about the Christian practice of discernment and download the guide, "Let's Listen and Discern", at www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au

Diocesan Forum Resources
You are invited to view the resources from the recent Diocesan Forum at www.parracatholic.org/forum2019. Read the address from Bishop Vincent Long, materials prepared for the forum, data collated from the forum and images from the day. There will be further opportunities to engage in deanery and diocesan initiatives following the Forum as we continue to go out into the deep to become the community Christ calls us to be.

CatholicCare Blacktown Neighbourhood Aid Volunteers Needed
Blacktown Neighbour Aid, a program with CatholicCare, is looking for volunteers to support our senior clients in the Blacktown area to remain living independently in their own home. If you feel you would like to make a positive difference to other's lives in this way, please contact the Manager, Deb Woolacott on 0418 114 055 or email deb.woolacott@ccss.org.au.

Bishop's Christmas Appeal
Help vulnerable people in crisis turn their lives around, recover and thrive. Your compassionate gifts and prayers will help CatholicCare to connect people with support and services to build strong foundations for self-sufficiency, fulfilling family relationships and brighter futures. Please give generously to the Bishop's Christmas Appeal via yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal

Handel's Messiah at St Patrick's Cathedral: 17 December
To end their inaugural year, River City Voices is proud to present an intimate performance of Handel's Messiah for Western Sydney audiences. The performance will be held at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta, on 17 December at 7.30pm. For information and to purchase tickets, visit https://www.classikon.com/concert/river-city-voices-parramatta-2019-december-17/

Feast of the Holy Family celebration: 28 December
The Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth invite families and young people aged 18 to 35 to celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family on 28 December at the Our Lady Queen of Poland Convent in Marayong. Mass will be held at 3pm, with Adoration from 4.30pm. RSVP to Sr Paula by 26 December on 0449 656 406 or vocationscfn@gmail.com.

Campion College Summer Program: 5 – 9 or 13 – 17 January 2020
Campion College's Summer Program provides an unparalleled opportunity to experience college life and a taste of the Campion College course. Students aged between 16 to 20 are encouraged to attend the program from either 5 to 9 January or 13 to 17 January at the campus in Toongabbie. Program is free for all local and interstate students. For more information, contact Student Recruitment Manager Christine Vella on 9896 9303 or study@campion.edu.au, or visit www.campion.edu.au/summer-program

The Capuchin Franciscan Friars

extend an invitation to

Good Shepherd School Community

to join them

in the celebration of the Silver Jubilee
of Ordination to the Priesthood

of Br. Gerard O'Dempsey OFMCap.

To be held at Good Shepherd Church,

130-136 Hyatts Road,

Plumpton NSW

on Friday 31st January 2020: 7.30pm Mass.

Mass will be followed by a BBQ.

R.S.V.P. parishof@tpg.com.au (by Friday 24th January)