



# Good Shepherd Primary School Newsletter

**Fifth Sunday  
In Ordinary Time**



**Good Shepherd  
Primary School  
134 Hyatts Road  
Plumpton NSW 2761**

**Telephone: 9836 7100**

**Email:  
goodshepherd@parra.  
catholic.edu.au**

**Principal:  
Mrs Patricia Carr**



**Good Shepherd Parish  
136 Hyatts Road  
Plumpton**

**Telephone: 9832 4461**

**Email:  
parishof@tpg.com.au**

**Parish Priest:  
Fr Vincy D'Costa  
ofmcap**

## **2019 Commencement Dates**

Term 1 concludes:  
Friday, 12th April

Term 2 commences:  
Monday, 29th April

Term 1

Week 3

Tuesday, 12th February, 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It is with sadness that I inform you of the recent death of one of our past Principals, Sister Kate Dwyer CSB. Sister Kate would be remembered fondly by many of our current parents and their families. Sister Kate was Principal here at Good Shepherd from 1989 until 1991. We are grateful for the dedication and leadership shown by Sister Kate to our community and to Catholic Education.

*"Eternal rest grant unto her soul O Lord  
And let perpetual light shine upon her  
May she rest in peace  
Amen"*

We hope to see you this week on Wednesday for our "Meet the Teacher" bar-b-que. Last year this was a great success and we are pleased that we have had so many people respond that they are coming along. I know the children love to show you their classrooms. So please come along and have a sausage sandwich and meet other parents as well. This time next year we will have a slide in our new building and that could be a fun way to spend the evening also!

We are very aware that families have many demands on their time and energy and often homework adds to this tension. In our school we note that the most useful HOMEwork of all is family living:

- Lots and lots of family conversation – story telling, jokes, discussions about everything under the sun.
- Shared bedtime stories with a caring adult or family member reading to the children.
- Individual reading in bed before lights out.
- Family games, activities and hobbies.
- Regular visits to the local library.
- Outings to all kinds of places of social, historic or natural interest.
- The kind of imaginative play that comes naturally to children of all ages.

Such activities encourage and help children become better learners and happier people.

With this in mind this year you will note in your grade newsletter that reading homework is compulsory. Your child is expected to read every night no matter what grade. The homework sheet is optional. Homework activities will be sent each week. If your child completes the homework activities, please return it.

We understand that students have after school activities and that families get busy, that is why we are making the homework sheet optional. We would much rather you spend quality time with your children after school and in the evenings. A family conversation after dinner or a game played together would be ideal. This is up to your discretion.

Have a great week and we look forward to seeing you on Wednesday afternoon/evening.

*Patricia Carr*

Tricia Carr  
Principal



## Upcoming Events

Wednesday, 13th February:	Zone Swimming (Blacktown)
Wednesday, 13th February:	Meet the Teacher BBQ (4.30 pm—6.30 pm Good Shepherd School).
Friday, 15th February:	5 Cents Coin Fundraiser
Monday, 18th February:	Staff Development Day (Pupil Free Day)
Wednesday, 20th February:	Years 4G & 4W Excursion to Muru Mittigar
Thursday, 21st February:	Years 4B & 4R Excursion to Muru Mittigar
Tuesday, 26th February:	School Photo Day
Sunday, 3rd March:	Good Shepherd Primary School Open Day (10.00 am—1.00 pm)

please note

### Staff Development Day— Term 1 2019

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 Term 1's will take place on **Monday, 18th February (Week 4)**. 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.

### Communication between Parents and Staff

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. Year Group Coordinators are as follows:

Kinder: Mrs Bianca Cooke  
Year 1: Mrs Trish Conner  
Year 2: Mrs Yvonne Davies  
Year 3: Mrs Debbie Dela Paz  
Year 4: Mrs Beaulah Frankson  
Year 5: Mr Ian Byrne  
Year 6: Ms Elizabeth Le Breton

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.

### Privacy Consent

Dear Parents & Carers,  
If you do not give consent for the use of your child's image and/or works to be published in our School Newsletter or on our website, **please notify the school in writing**. If you do not want your child to sell raffle tickets, please also inform the school office. Thank you.

WELCOME

### Parent Group 2019— Our New Committee Members!

The Parent Group Annual General Meeting was held last night and many thanks to the parents who were able to attend and show their support of our school.

Congratulations to the following parents who were elected to take Executive Parent Group positions for 2019.

President:	Mrs Jenny Gotts
Vice President:	Mrs Felecia Jane
Secretary:	Mrs Rhea Allen
Treasurer:	Mrs Lauren Shaw

This hard working group rely on the support and assistance of ALL parents in our community and will be advertising for assistance with a variety of events throughout the year. I would also like to thank last year's Committee members—Mrs Jane, Mrs Galea, Mrs Caruana and Mrs Nicolas for their dedication and support throughout 2018. Mrs Carr and Mrs Cooke

### OPEN DAY AT OUR SCHOOL!!

Good Shepherd Primary School invites current and prospective families to come and explore the school's facilities at an Open Day on **Sunday, 3rd March, 2019** from 10:00 am—1:00 pm.

Learning Spaces will be open, staff will be available to meet and greet, and a community barbeque will be provided. Hope to see you all there!



Dear Parents & Carers, please note if someone else will be collecting your child **early or during school hours**, on your behalf, you need to inform the school **in writing or by email to:** (goodshepherd@parra.catholic.edu.au) **PRIOR TO PICKUP**. This policy is **effective immediately**. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

### No Nut Policy

A number of our students have severe allergies. Please do not send peanut butter/Nutella sandwiches or other foods containing whole or crushed nuts or sesame seeds to school. This also includes Excursions! Your co-operation is greatly appreciated.



### Canteen News

Four Meal Deals to choose from at \$5.50 each (This deal is available until end of Term 1 2019).

**Please update your child's class when you are placing your order. Thank you**

To view the full menu of Classroom Catering, please visit website: [www.flexischools.com.au](http://www.flexischools.com.au)



## 2019 Dates

### Term 1 Concludes:

Concludes: Friday, 12th April

### Term 2

Commences: Monday, 29th April (Week 1)

Concludes: Friday, 5th July

### Term 3

Commences: Monday, 22nd July (Week 1)

Concludes: Thursday, 26th September

### Term 4

Commences: Monday, 14th October (Week 1)

Concludes: Wednesday, 18th December

## 2019 Staff Development Days

(Pupil Free Days)

Term 1: Monday, 18th February

Term 2: Monday, 6th May

Term 3: Friday 27th September

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

## Student Supervision

As you know it is a priority at Good Shepherd Primary School to keep every child safe. Teachers have a duty of care to supervise children both in class and on the playground. This supervision commences at 8.10 am each morning. **Similarly afternoon supervision of children concludes at 3.15 pm. All children must be picked up by this time.**

It is vital that parents seek a safe, supervised environment whilst they are away at work. It is not the responsibility of school staff to provide before and after school care whilst parents are at work. School staff have their own personal and professional responsibilities to attend to in out of school hours. Thank you for your support with this matter.

## Visa Updates

If there has been any change to your Visa Status, could you please send in a copy to the school office. It is important that we have the most up-to-date information for our school records.

## Policies and Forms

For all policies and forms, 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.

## 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.

## Social Skill of the Week

*"Make way for an adult"*

School Commencement time: 8.30 am  
School Dismissal time: 2.50 pm



## Small change for a big result!

Is your coin purse rattling!! Can you find some 5 cent pieces in there? What can you buy with 5 cents—not a lot, however you can be part of a big change for Fr Luan in East Timor. Each Friday we are gathering 5 cent coins—they will be going towards a new generator to help the students and community where Fr Luan is located. Please consider saving those rattling 5 cent pieces, your little change can make a HUGE difference. If you would like to be part of the small change revolution, please send those 5 cent coins every Friday. Thank you for being part of the Small Change—Big Result coin donation.

## Summer Uniform

By now all students should be wearing their Summer School/Sports Uniform. **Please remember our "No Hat, No Play" policy and ensure that your child has their school hat each day.** All clothing and hats should be clearly labelled with your child's name and class. Thank you.

## Information regarding Leave from School

Leave from school for holiday/overseas trips in school time is not encouraged and must be explained in writing to the School Principal.

A leave form ("Application for Extended Leave") must be completed at least 4 weeks in advance for **5 or more school days**. If leave is **10 days or more**, an interview with the Principal is also required, together with an Application for Extended Leave form. Leave forms can be obtained from the School Office.

Leave of **4 days and less** needs to also be approved by the Principal. **Please write a letter to your child's class teacher outlining the details of the leave, including the first and last school day that the child will be absent.**

Leave during school terms is strongly discouraged.



# 2019 Term 1 Class Captains

KB	Nimeka Gosain	Sikander Singh
KG	Joanna Halatokoua	Theo Hatziandreou
KR	Kezia Amofo	Michael Ragheb
KW	Krystelle Caalim	Aryan Kumar
1B	Scarlet Nguyen	Cyan Santos
1G	Aahna Patel	Xavier Santos
1R	Violet Nguyen	Jacob Luke
1W	Ronawyn Decena	Falani Stanley
2B	Tia Scali	Winston Milag
2G	Malia Tupou	Jesse Taylor
2R	Jasmine Ismail	Andrei Bichescu
2W	Ava McKeough	Christian Elters
3B	Roza-Elloise Frias	William Davis
3G	Bianca Galea	Brayden Sincero
3R	Riya Prasad	Corey Reyes
3W	Bhavva Chand	Ezekiel Laurente
4B	Gizelle Autor	Lucas Blasevic
4G	Taylor Lees	Sosaia Fihaki
4R	Abbey Irmisch	Joseph Nucum
4W	Faith MacMillanSavea	Mason Parica
5B	Gabrielle Capule	Lachlan Bell
5G	Marell Wasfy	Ethan Nunag
5R	Heina Kiteau	Maselino Palu
5W	Isabelle Deaves	Ethan Escandor
6B	Adriana Cayetano	Gilsan Gilbertsaygayathan
6G	Divine Vaifale	Paolo Reyes
6R	Avani Narayan	Arav Prasad

## \$100 Sporting Voucher

The NSW Government is helping kids get active with the new Active Kids program. From 1st January 2019, parents, guardians and carers can apply for a \$100 voucher per calendar year for each student enrolled in school. The voucher may be used with a registered activity provider for registration, participation and membership costs for sport, fitness and active recreation activities. The voucher can be used at any time during the calendar year it was issued. Please click on the following link:

<https://sport.nsw.gov.au/sectordevelopment/activekids>



NSW Government will provide \$100 to help contribute to the cost of each child's participation in sport and active recreation

## School Photos

Dear Parents, School photographs are scheduled for **Tuesday, 26th February** and will be taken by Advancedlife Photography. **Students are to wear their normal School Uniform (not Sports Uniform).** Online ordering is preferable as this will reduce administration and potential security issues related to the return of cash and envelopes on photo day. Should you have any queries concerning school photos please email [advancedlife-enquiries@advancedlife.com.au](mailto:advancedlife-enquiries@advancedlife.com.au). The 9 Digit Online Order Code for Good Shepherd is **BP8 5JQ VNW**.



## 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	Gabriel Dela Cruz	KG	Aubrey Sonter
KR	Izaak Justine Jose	KW	Enzo Ygay
1B	Novaoe Lealamanu'a	1G	Ethan Aducayen
1R	Emalyn Shaw	1W	Zooey Davis
2B	Mikaella DeGuzman	2G	Chelsea Vere
2R	Not Published	2W	Isabella Adams
3B	Not Published	3G	Joanne Soliman
3R	Alivia Cobban	3W	Ezekiel Laurente
4B	Henry Sene	4G	Suzanna Wilkes
4R	Mary Shamoka	4W	Angeliah Elters
5B	Not Published	5G	Sienna Soares
5R	Angelo Cruz	5W	Malaki Schmutter
6B	Oliver Allen	6G	Isaac Luke
6R	Not Published		



### Contact Details

Parents, it is vital that all contact information including phone/mobile numbers, emergency contacts, home address, email address are kept up to date. Please contact the

School Office if any changes need to be made. Thank you.



### Children Absent from School

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. Prolonged absences from school due to illness should be supported by a medical certificate.

### Label Uniforms

Please label your child's uniform especially their hats, drink bottles, school bags, jumpers as many items are ending up in lost property! Names can be written on with a laundry pen, embroidered, or you can use iron-on labels. All unlabelled uniforms are washed and re-sold in the uniform shop. By failing to label your child's uniform, you are spending money unnecessarily when you need to replace these items.



### Anaphylaxis Asthma Diabetic

Parents, students who are known to be Anaphylactic, Asthmatic or Diabetic wear identification bracelets during school hours at Good Shepherd School. The identification bracelets assist awareness for all staff and provide a quicker response should any of these students show signs of these illnesses while they are in our care.

**The identification bracelets are to remain at school after school hours.** We would appreciate parents encouraging their child to put it on in class each morning and remove it at the end of each school day.



The **ALERT! ASTHMATIC** bracelet is pale blue, the **ALERT! DIABETIC** is dark blue and the **Anaphylaxis ALERT!** is red. If your child suffers from Anaphylaxis, is Asthmatic or Diabetic **or has any other medical problem** and the school has not been informed or you know your child hasn't been given the appropriate bracelet, we would appreciate correspondence from you so that he/she can be given the bracelet and his/her individual Medical Action Plan can be put in place. Thank you for your assistance.

### 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 as soon as possible.



## How you can help your child become the best they can!

Attendance matters—especially for children in Kindergarten. Studies show children who miss too many days in Kindergarten and Year One can struggle academically in later years, particularly if they miss 10% of school days. This can be just two days a month and can build up before you know it.

Poor attendance can influence whether children read proficiently by Year Three.

How you can help—

- Set a regular bedtime and morning routine
- Plan vacations during term break
- Schedule your child's medical and dental appointments after school
- Make sure they come to school every day unless they are truly unwell
- Have a backup plan for getting your child/children to school
- Car pool
- Make sure your child arrives at school by 8.25 am, ready to join class lines when the bell goes at 8.30 am. Please note: supervision of students begins at 8.10 am every day!

## Did you know

Your child's best learning time is the start of the school day  
just a little bit late doesn't seem much but

He/she just  
missing,

That equals ..

Which is ...

and over 13 years  
of schooling that's ...

10 minutes per day

50 minutes per week

Nearly 1.5 weeks per year

Nearly half a year

20 minutes per day

1 hour 40mins per week

Over 2.5 weeks per year

Nearly 1 year

Half an hour per day

Half a day per week

4 weeks per year

Nearly 1 and a half years

1 hour per day

1 day per week

8 weeks per year

Over 2 and a half years

every learner  
every day 



Catholic Education  
Diocese of Parramatta

## 'Express Yourself'

This year the Literacy team have decided to continue to build vocabulary across the school with a weekly focus. As we are using vocabulary as our vehicle to develop writing skills, the 'Root of the Week' has been replaced with 'Express Yourself'. Each term we will have a particular focus and the words selected will be used in a statement or sentence which can be used as a writing prompt. This term the vocabulary focus is "onomatopoeia".

# EXPRESS YOURSELF

Giggle:  
Worth the  
GIGGLE



**ONOMATOPOEIA:**  
A WORD THAT  
IMITATES THE SOUND  
IT MAKES



**ST AGNES**  
**CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**  
**Year 7/2020**  
**INFORMATION**  
**NIGHT**  
**MONDAY 4 MARCH 2019**  
**5pm - 7.30pm**  
[www.stagnesrootyhill.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stagnesrootyhill.catholic.edu.au)

EVANS ROAD ROOTY HILL 8882 0700  
*To Truth Through Love*

**ENROLLING NOW FOR 2020**  
  
Catherine McAuley is a Catholic girls' secondary school, located at Westmead. Our broad curriculum encourages young women to pursue independent lifelong learning.  
  
**OPEN NIGHT**  
Tuesday 12 March 2019 4.00pm - 7.00pm  
This school open event will give visitors the opportunity to tour the school and view facilities as well as meet our School Principal and School Leadership Team.  
CONTACT OUR SCHOOL ON 9849 9100 FOR AN ENROLMENT PACK. APPLICATIONS CLOSE 22nd MARCH 2019  
Catherine McAuley, 2 Darcy Road, Westmead | [www.mcauley.nsw.edu.au](http://www.mcauley.nsw.edu.au)

## News from the Catholic Education Office

### **\$100 Creative Kids Vouchers Go Live**

As parents begin planning for the year ahead, they can now access Creative Kids vouchers, providing them with \$100 for every school-age child to help cover the cost of enrolment for creative and cultural learning activities. Parents can use one voucher for every school-age child per year to help meet the cost of structured creative and cultural activities, such as music lessons, languages, coding, drama and theatre, photography and graphic design. Minister for Finance, Services and Property Victor Dominello said the NSW Government's Creative Kids program builds on the success of the Active Kids program, which is back this year, helping to reduce the cost of registration for sport and organised physical activity. Please visit website: <https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/apply-creative-kids-voucher>

### **Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge—see attached flyer**

Read as many books as you can, tell us why you love them, and you could win one of four iPad minis. Enter online at The Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge.

## News from the Bishop's Office

### **Position Vacant**

Head of Social Services Operations – CatholicCare Social Services

More details at: [www.ccss.org.au](http://www.ccss.org.au)

Head Housekeeping and Casual Cleaner at Benedict XVI Retreat Centre (Richmond NSW)

Opportunities are available for a suitably qualified and experienced Head Housekeeping, and a Casual Cleaner. You can view these positions at [catholicjobsonline.com.au](http://catholicjobsonline.com.au) - applications for both positions close on 1 February 2019.

### **Catholic Charismatic Renewal: 15-17 February**

Catholic Charismatic Renewal in the Diocese of Parramatta is holding a "Restoring Reverence" event. From Friday 15 – Sunday 17 February at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 7 Grantham Road, Seven Hills. Further information can be obtained on 0404 093 118 or 0425 607 227. Entry by donation, Children's Ministry available, coffee and tea provided, BYO lunch.

### **Bereavement Support Program: 21 February - 16 May**

CatholicCare Solo Parent Services is commencing a Bereavement Support Program for men or women whose spouse or partner have died. The program will be run at Holy Spirit Parish, St Clair (5 Todd Row, St Clair) on Thursdays fortnightly from 10am to 12 midday in the Pioneers Room of the Parish, commencing 21 February to 16 May. To secure a place on this program please ring the Parish on 02 9670 8222 or email to [stclair@parracatholic.org](mailto:stclair@parracatholic.org)

### **Ordination to the Diaconate: 22 February**

Most Rev Vincent Long OFM Conv, Bishop of Parramatta, will be the principal celebrant for the Mass of Ordination to the Diaconate of Roque Dias, John Cinya, Thong Nguyen and Roderick Pirota on Friday 22 February at 7.00pm. The ordination will take place at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Refreshments to follow.

The Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth cordially invite youth (ages 18-35) to join us for Holy Hour for Vocations. Thursday 7 February from 7:00pm. Join us also for a meal at 8:00pm. Holy Spirit Convent, 120 Capuchin Way, Plumpton. RSVP to Sr Paula via [vocationscsfn@gmail.com](mailto:vocationscsfn@gmail.com) or 0449 656 406.

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

### **Good Shepherd Primary School**

134 Hyatts Road, Locked Bag 1001, Plumpton NSW 2761 - Phone: 9836 7100  
Email: [goodshepherd@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:goodshepherd@parra.catholic.edu.au) - Website: [www.gsplumpton.catholic.edu.au](http://www.gsplumpton.catholic.edu.au)





PRIME MINISTER

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

Dear parents, carers and the school community,

Keeping our children safe is a shared responsibility. Schools, governments at all levels, the Australian community and, first and foremost, parents take this obligation seriously.

As parents, we know that it can be challenging to raise children today in a world where risks to safety can appear not only on the street but online. And it is not always easy to navigate when the online world can have real world physical and mental health impacts.

That is why our Government has developed resources to empower parents (and schools) to protect children and prepare them to be resilient, responsible and respectful adults:

- [www.esafetv.gov.au](http://www.esafetv.gov.au) – resources that promote online safety including tackling image-based abuse and a complaints service for young Australians who experience serious cyberbullying.
- [www.studentwellbeinghub.edu.au](http://www.studentwellbeinghub.edu.au) – support for students, parents and teachers to create a learning environment that promotes student wellbeing and the development of respectful relationships.

You can also visit [www.bullyingnoway.gov.au](http://www.bullyingnoway.gov.au) for education and advice for kids, parents and schools on how to combat and respond to bullying.

Whatever age your kids, it is never too late to make changes to improve their welfare. With the fresh start that a new school year brings we encourage you to use these resources for practical advice on keeping your family safe and well through the year.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Scott Morrison'.

SCOTT MORRISON

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dan Tehan'.

DAN TEHAN

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

2019

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 [www.parra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au)

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY



**Entries close at 5pm on 4 February 2019**

Terms and Conditions apply



@CatholicEdParra



catholicedparra



Catholic Education  
Diocese of Parramatta