



Good Shepherd Primary School Newsletter

Term 3

Week 4

Tuesday, 11th August, 2020

**15th August
The Assumption
of the Blessed
Virgin Mary**



Dear Parents

This Saturday is the Feast of the Assumption of Mary into Heaven.

If we were asked to offer a phrase or two to describe the word "mother", most of us would come up with something like this: an amazing, multi-talented person, who gives birth, demonstrates loyalty, bears sorrow, offers support and encouragement, looks after her family.

Well, from the most ancient of times, Mary has been venerated under the title of God-bearer or Mother of God. Down through the ages, paintings and statues of Mary have mostly given expression to a "motherly smile", a smile that is welcoming and expresses peace and serenity.

Mary was regarded as a mother figure for Christians of the early Church. The Christians of the early Church would have been well aware of the role Mary fulfilled as a constant connection with Christ. It was she who had nurtured Him during the years leading up to His public life. She had a leading role at the marriage celebration in Cana, when Jesus began His public life. At the end of His life, Mary witnessed the sorrowful events of the Passion, Crucifixion and Death of her Son.

Mary was with the Apostles when they gave witness to the facts of the Resurrection and Ascension. It was Mary, the constant Mother, who prayed with the Apostles and sustained them in their belief until the First Pentecost.

There is little written about Mary, especially what happened after Pentecost, but there is strong evidence, through tradition, that at the end of her life she was united with her Son in a manner similar to how her Son was united with His Father.

After an in-depth study of tradition and the early writings of the Church, and after broad consultation with bishops, theologians and lay people, Pope Pius X11 in 1950 declared that, "... The Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul to heavenly glory".

Mary had been so closely associated with all the mysteries of Jesus' life, so it is not surprising that the Holy Spirit has led the Church to believe and declare, that she must be with Him body and soul in heaven. Mary is now in a position to be mother to all people for all time.

**"Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us,
your people,
now and at the hour of our death. Amen."**

Peace & Best Wishes

Patricia Carr

Tricia Carr
Principal



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Parish Priest:
Fr Vincy D'Costa ofmcap

Term 3 concludes:
Thursday, 24th September

Term 4 commences:
Monday, 16th October

Over the next two weeks we will be inviting students in grades 4, 5, & 6, teachers as well as parents to provide feedback on their experience of our school using an online survey. The surveys are an important part of our whole school evaluation and planning process.

We would like to invite you to complete the Tell Them From Me (TTFM) Partners in Learning survey. As we value the role of parents and carers within our school community we would greatly appreciate your feedback. The information you provide will be used to maintain our commitment to working together in partnership to further improve student learning and wellbeing at Good Shepherd Primary School Plumpton.

The survey is anonymous and will take approximately 20 minutes to complete. You are able to access the parent survey on your computer or mobile device by using the URL below:

<http://tellthemfromme.com/4dqrr>

We thank you for your on-going support. If you have any questions regarding this survey, please contact the school office and ask to speak with Mr Battikha.



Tell Them From Me®

Crazy Sock Day This Friday 14th August

Dear Parents, this Friday 14th August will be a Mufti Day for all students, with the theme being "Crazy Sock Day". Students are to wear appropriate casual clothes and have fun with crazy socks! A gold coin donation would be greatly appreciated as all funds raised will be going to the St Vincent de Paul Society.



2020 Term Dates

Term 3 concludes: Thursday, 24th September

Term 4 commences: Monday, 12th October

Term 4 concludes: Wednesday, 16th December

2020 Staff Development Days (Pupil Free Days)

Term 3: Friday, 25th September

Term 4: Thursday, 17th December and
Friday, 18th December (to be confirmed)

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.

ACARA Collection Student Background Data Notice

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) collects data from schools to determine the Index of Community Socio-educational Advantage (ICSEA). Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta is currently working to provide relevant details to the Catholic Education Commission of NSW. Data collected is de-identified of personal information.

Parents and caregivers must advise their school if they don't want their child's data included in this report by **28 August 2020**.

Copies of Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP) Standard Collection Notice and Privacy Policy can be obtained from the school office.

**Attention
Please!**





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	Calvin Cerafica	KG	Isaac Grech
KR	Juliana Minano		
1B	Aryan Kumar	1G	Nathaniel Stanislaus
1R	Not Published	1W	Tadeana Goodwin
2B	Levi Findlay	2G	Angela Montales
2R	Jacob Mammoliti	2W	Chelsea Baxter
3B	Maddison Domingo	3G	Mary Ghilagaber
3R	Seerat Mehrok	3W	Isaac Narayan
4B	Izaak Knoester	4G	Jack Jamil
4R	Mahi Prasad	4W	Ravenga Kae
5B	Carolina Barkho	5G	Camille Ebuenga
5R	Zaeclan Orayenza	5W	Samiuela Tonga
6B	Alexander Zeya	6G	Angelina Beshay
6R	Riane Salentes	6W	Jordan Lumbre

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 a phone interview with your child's Year Group Coordinator. 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 Beulah 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, you can email, write a letter or make a phone call to our Assistant Principal, then to the Principal.

Term 3 2020 Staff Development Day (Pupil Free Day)

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 3's Staff Development Day is a Pupil Free Day and will take place on **Friday, 25th September (Week 10)**. Our thanks to parents for organising care for their children on this day. COSHC will be able to offer spaces for care on this day. Please phone COSHC on Ph. 0409 121 980 for all inquiries and bookings.

Kindergarten 2021 Enrolments

Just a friendly reminderEnrolment Application forms for Kindergarten 2021 are available from the School Office. **We are filling up quickly so please come in and collect one from the office.** Parents, if you already have a child at Good Shepherd, you will still need to submit an Enrolment Form for any **new** siblings for 2021.



Summer Uniform

Parents, please note that the official changeover date for summer uniform is **Monday, 2nd November, 2020 (Term 4 Week 3)**. The correct school uniform should be worn at all times, in order to maintain expectations. If, for any reason, a child is unable to wear any part of the correct uniform, a note should be sent to your child's class teacher. Parents who have difficulty securing uniforms for their children please make an appointment with Mrs Carr, Principal, to discuss options. **THE SCHOOL HAT IS AN ESSENTIAL ITEM OF SCHOOL UNIFORM. THE WEARING OF THE SCHOOL HAT IS COMPULSORY.** For a full list of the School Uniform requirements, please refer to the following:

GIRLS

Uniform: Regulation School Uniform, Green Hair Ribbons, White turn-down School Socks, Black School Shoes.

Sports: Unisex Sports Shorts with School Crest OR Green School Track Pants, Short sleeved White Polo Shirt with School Crest, Green Sports Jumper, White turn-down School Socks and Joggers predominantly white.

BOYS

Uniform: School white short-sleeved shirt with lay-back collar, Black Shorts, Black turn-down socks and Black School Shoes.

Sports: Unisex Sports Shorts with School Crest OR Green School Track Pants, Short sleeved White Polo Shirt with School Crest, Green Sports Jumper, White turn-down School Socks and Joggers predominantly white.

The School Jumper with crest may be worn at any time throughout the year. **The School Hat with crest is a compulsory school item to be worn every day.** The School's Uniform Supplier is Lowes, Mt Druitt. Please mark all school clothing with your child's name to avoid lost property!!

Hairstyling, Grooming and Earrings

Students are expected to keep their hair clean, neat and tidy at all times. Students are to keep hair off their face and out of their eyes. Student haircuts are to be in a sensible and conventional style. There are to be no extremes of fashion in hairstyle cut or colour. Shaving of any part of the head or undercuts, and haircuts with a number 1 or 2 blade are not permitted. Rat's tails are not permitted. For girls, long hair below the shoulder should be tied back by a ribbon, 'scrunchy', hair band or clip in school colours. Only one pair of sleepers or studs are to be worn in the lower ear lobe. No dangling earrings.

Medications, Creams, Lotions etc

Dear Parents, just a reminder that any medication required for your child must be sent in to the school office in its original packaging with the medical permission form attached.

This includes prescriptions, Panadol, Nurofen and all "over the counter" medication. This form must be completed with all information stated clearly eg name of medication, dosage, time of dosage to be administered, in order for the medication to be given. The Medical Permission note can be found on our school website or you can call into the school office and pick one up.



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.

School Fees 2020

Dear Parents, accounts for the third instalment of school fees have been posted out. Please note any excursions that have been cancelled, will be credited back to your account. **This will reflect in Term 4's Fees Statement.**

Any family having difficulty completing term payments or your family situation has been affected by COVID, please contact the School Office.

Please note that a term's notice in writing must be given to the Principal before the removal of a student or 10 week's fees will be payable.

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**. **Prior to then no child should be dropped off at school.**

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.

Student Absences

Dear Parents, Please note 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.

Australian Citizenship Papers

If parents or students become Australian Citizens at any time during the year, could you please provide the school with a copy of your certificate so we can put it with your child's enrolment forms. This is needed for audit purposes. Thank you.

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!

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.

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.

eSafety Webinars for parents and carers (Two sessions available)

People & Culture - Safeguarding in partnership with the Esafety Commissioner are offering two webinars for parents and carers. Helping Kids Thrive Online (5-12 yrs) and Tech, teens and time online (secondary schools) explore the latest research and they are a great way for parents/ carers to learn how they can help their child develop the skills to be safer online.

Sessions:

1. Helping Kids Thrive Online (5-12 yrs) - Thursday 20 August 2020, 12.00 - 1.00 pm
2. Tech, teens and time online (secondary schools) - 7 September 2020, 7.00 - 8.00 pm

About the courses

- **Helping kids thrive online**
A one hour webinar suitable for parents and carers of young people aged 5-12 years old.
This session will cover:
 - ideas to start the chat about harmful content, contact with strangers and online bullying
 - strategies for addressing common digital parenting challenges
 - skills that young people need to protect themselves online
 - how to get help if things go wrong.
- **Tech, teens and time online**
A one hour webinar suitable for parents and carers of young people aged 12-18 years old.
The session will cover:
 - ideas to start the chat about harmful content, relationships and online harassment
 - strategies for addressing common digital parenting challenges
 - online wellbeing strategies for teens
 - how to get help if things go wrong.

Parents and carers must register for the course on the secondary site via the following link:

20 August 2020 session - [link to register](#)

7 September 2020 session - [link to register](#)

Webinar information and FAQ

If you have any further enquiries please email safeguarding@parra.catholic.edu.au.

