



# Good Shepherd Primary School Newsletter

28th Sunday in  
Ordinary Time

Term 4

Week 2

Tuesday, 12th October 2021



**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

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I know it will be no surprise to all of our families that the lockdowns and pandemic we have lived through, and are living through, has highlighted what is important to us all and that always comes back to those we love and our family.

No matter what size family we live in, we all rely on our family to provide an affirming, positive and loving experience that is supportive and gives us an identity of who we are and what's unique about us. Family life teaches us how to share, how to stand up for ourselves and how to love other people. In addition to providing for our physical welfare, a family provides for the emotional and mental welfare of each of its members. Family provides the esteem and confidence when we set out to face each new day and family provides the comfort and consolation when we return.

So many of our families have been affected by Covid 19 either directly suffering physically from the virus or because it has impacted on the economic stability of the family. But throughout all this stress and worry you have shown great resilience and courage to your families. Thank you all for the great work you have done with home schooling and keeping your children positive and engaged.

The children will need this courage when they come back to school. Not everyone will feel excited about coming to school after such a long time. They might feel anxious, worried, and they may not want to leave you, their parents.

These feelings may or may not surface but if they do, please reassure them that it is quite ok to be feeling this way.

**This week I am including a Social Story that was prepared by our school counsellor Mrs Trevena. This is something you can go through with your child and could be a reassurance for them if they are worried.**

Of course, others will be very excited to be coming back to school and the staff are also excited to have the students back.

We will have covid safety plans in place with hand sanitisers, distancing, separate playing areas for each grade, extra cleaning, staff wearing masks and we encourage the use of masks for students.

We Christians are people of hope and have Jesus as our model of courage, and we know that Jesus had the courage to be himself and to trust God in every circumstance of his life.

As Christians, we are called to give courageous witness to Christian values in the way we live our personal lives, how we interact with other people.

***“Jesus, help us to build courage that is capable of handling life's situations.  
May we be inspired by the courage you showed so constantly. Amen.”***

Peace and Best Wishes

**Tricia Carr  
Principal**

**Term 4 concludes:**

Wednesday 15th December

**2022**

**Tues 1st Feb:** Years 1 to 6  
commence

**Wed 2nd Feb:** New Kinders'  
First Day

**Thurs 3rd Feb:** Kinder  
Siblings' First Day

**Dear Parents, please click on the following link to download the Social Story.**

[Good Shepherd Primary Returning to school](#)



## **2021 Good Shepherd Primary School NSW Return to School COVID Safety Plan.**

We have designed this safety plan to ensure compliance with the current NSW Health COVID restrictions and guidelines.

As directed by the NSW Government, Good Shepherd will follow the updated Return to School

- **Kindergarten and Year 1 return on Monday 18th October 2021**
- **All students (K-6) return to school on Monday 25th October 2021**

As the safety and wellbeing of our staff and families and wider community is paramount, this COVID safety is aimed at ensuring a safe learning environment for all at Good Shepherd Primary School.

### **Staff**

- Any individual with cold/flu like symptoms will not be allowed onsite. Staff exhibiting COVID like symptoms will need to be tested and a negative result must be obtained and sent to the school office/Principal before returning to school. This is for the safety of the staff concerned and the wider school community.
- If you have been notified by NSW Health that you need to isolate because you have a positive result to the Covid test, please advise our Principal, Patricia Carr immediately.
- If you have been notified that you have been considered a casual contact or close contact, please telephone or email Patricia Carr with the details
- All staff (permanent, temporary, casual) who work on site at Good Shepherd Primary School will provide proof of two doses of a COVID-19 approved vaccination by the 18th of October 2021
- Staff are to use the QR code for our school site, social distance & hand sanitise.
- Staff are required to always wear an appropriate facial mask (inside and outside)
- Any authorised contractors **must** log into the **QR CODE** for our school and **present proof of vaccination status** each time the premises are entered. Please also ensure that you sign out when you leave the school.
- Any issues around student learning submitted by families are to be referred to the class teacher or grade leader.
- Our office staff are monitoring the Good Shepherd email and will forward queries to the relevant person as they are received.

## **NSW Health Guidelines regarding students permitted to attend school.**

### **Families:**

- Any individual with flu like symptoms will not be allowed onsite
- Students are required to sanitise their hands prior to entry and reminded during the day to continue this practice.
- Students will be required to social distance while on the school site.
- Students will arrive at school in the morning and move directly to their designated classrooms. This arrangement is designed to reduce students from different cohorts mixing.
- School gates will not open until 8:10am.
- Afternoon dismissal will be via the main gate – parents are not allowed on the school premises (inside the gates) and must wait in line with adequate social distancing and are encouraged to wear facial masks and must not engage with any member of staff or students or other families/students.
- Afternoon dismissal will commence from 2:40pm and go through to 3:15pm
- Our canteen facilities will be reduced to lunch orders only from 25th of October. Students will not be able to make over the counter purchases from the school canteen.
- Communication with families regarding regular items will be by SkoolBag app, GSS website and Facebook page.
- EMERGENCY contact – families and staff will be contacted by telephone call, SkoolBag app, emails, Facebook, and Website.
- In the event of a notification of COVID presence in our school, we follow the CEDP directives and the NSW Health Guidelines.

### **Students**

- Are encouraged to wear a face mask whilst on school site.
- Will remain with their cohort for the duration of the school day
- Will have a designated playground area during recess and lunch - students will not mix across cohorts
- Students are required to sanitise their hands prior to entry of classrooms and reminded during the day to continue this practice
- Students are bring their own water bottles as school bubblers will not be in use
- Students who have COVID like symptoms will need to provide a negative COVID test result before they return to the school site
- Students will not participate in any excursions, external sport, whole school assemblies or inter school visits

### **Cleaning and Ventilation**

- Extra cleaning for toilets, classroom tables and high touch areas will take place on a daily basis
- Our contracted cleaners are attending school twice per day in accordance with the guidelines. Each shared space, bathroom etc will be cleaned and disinfected to maintain safety.
- Where and when possible doors and windows will be open to ensure good cross ventilation
- Air conditioning units will be used on outside airflow circulation
- Classrooms will be ventilated before and after school

### **Office**

- Daily Attendance of Staff & Students is kept electronically and on paper, onsite.
- Normal procedures for notifying of your child's absence will continue
- Class rolls are marked each morning
- Once the students have been marked in, the Office door is locked. No deliveries are to be brought into the office; deliveries are to be left outside the door.
- Sanitising will be done prior to bringing ANY good into the office.
- No entry is permitted to the office for deliveries, collections or queries.
- Onsite school uniform shop will not operate until further notice. Good Shepherd school uniforms are available for purchase from LOWES in Mt Druitt

**This plan complies with Level 3+ restrictions and will be reviewed each time there is a major change in the health and safety guidelines issued by NSW Health.**

### Water Bottles

Dear Parents,  
Please ensure your child brings to school a water bottle and their hat **each day**. Both items are to be clearly labelled with their name on it. Thank you.



### Term 4 Canteen Menu

Dear Parents, please note Canteen facilities will be available from Monday 25th October **for pre-ordered recess and lunch orders only**. A copy of the Canteen Menu is attached.



### Summer Uniform

Parents, please note that the official changeover date for summer uniform is **Monday, 25th October, 2021**. Students must be wearing their full summer uniform by then.

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!!

### Library Borrowing & Sports Days for Term 4, 2021

#### Library Borrowing:

Mondays: Kinder and Year 6

Tuesdays: Year 1 and Year 2

Wednesdays: Year 3 and Year 5

Thursdays: Year 4

#### Sports Days:

Wednesdays: Year 2, Year 3, 4B and 4G

Thursdays: Kinder and Year 6

Fridays: Year 1, 4R, 4W and Year 5

**Please note that Kindergarten will be required to wear their Sports Uniform on Tuesdays and Thursdays.**

### Term 4 2021 Staff Development Days (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 4's Staff Development Day is a Pupil Free Day and will take place on **Thursday, 16th December (Week 11)**. Our thanks to parents for organising care for their children. 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.

### 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.

### 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.

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.

### 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. 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.

### Medications/Lotions/Creams

In order for staff to administer any kind of medication or lotion, whether prescribed by a doctor or not, parents/carers are required to complete a Medical form which is available from the school office. A note is also to be addressed to the class teacher stating when the medicine should be taken. Thank you.

### Changing Schools in 2022?

Are you thinking of or needing to change schools in 2022? Whatever the reason, we would appreciate you letting us know as soon as you can. CEDP require us to estimate our enrolment numbers for 2022 in order to predict and prepare for appropriate staffing and budgeting. It would be appreciated if you could notify the school in writing if your child/ren may be leaving Good Shepherd at the end of the year, from Year groups other than Year 6.

### 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.

### Bicycle Awareness - Keeping the children safe

Dear families, If your child rides a bicycle to school, (with or without supervision), please ensure that you have signed the Good Shepherd Primary Bicycle/Scooter Policy and returned it to school. Please also ensure that the child enters the school using the walkers' gate and not through the carpark entrances or drop off circle. A copy of the abovementioned Policy is available in the office and on our website.

### 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.

Letter from Mrs Idette Mannell, Canteen Supervisor at Good Shepherd Primary

"To Tricia Carr, Staff, Students and Families of Good Shepherd Primary School,

This announcement comes with a heavy heart, as I have made the decision to not return to Good Shepherd's Canteen. This position has definitely been one of the most rewarding work experiences of my life and I am going to miss all the friendly faces and friends I have made working there.

In the 11 years of working in this canteen I have seen some beautiful staff and students go through. I have had the best laughs and will remember them forever. I am sure the new canteen person will be just as happy as I was.

I wish everyone the best in what the future holds and will be sure to still say hi if I see you around. Thank you for the years of being at Good Shepherd and I will never forget the kindness that runs through this school.

Kind regards, Idette Mannell"



**Only a few spots left so please call the School Office for an Enrolment Pack, or download one from our website.** Parents, if you already have a child at Good Shepherd, you will need to submit an Enrolment Form for **any new siblings for 2022.**



*Enrol Now!*

*Enrol Now!*

# GOOD SHEPHERD PRIMARY PLUMPTON

Enrolling now

for 2022

134 Hyatts Road, Plumpton  
9836 7100 Register at  
[www.gsplumpton.catholic.edu.au](http://www.gsplumpton.catholic.edu.au)

**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)