



Good Shepherd Primary School News Update

St Augustine

Term 4

Week 7

Tuesday 22nd November, 2022



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,

St Augustine had good insight when he wrote: *"When people choose to withdraw far from a fire, the fire continues to give warmth, but they grow cold. When people choose to withdraw far from the light, the light continues to be bright in itself but they are in darkness. This is also the case when people withdraw from God."*

And withdraw from God we all do, not out of disbelief necessarily, but mostly out of forgetfulness, because we are just too busy with the rest of life. Take for example the Bethlehem Innkeeper who told Mary and Joseph that there was no room for them in his inn. This did not mean that he was a bad person; he was just very busy taking care of his customers, providing for their needs and keeping the peace.

Unfortunately, when the most important birth in history took place in his backyard, he missed it entirely, not because he was a bad person, he was just too busy. With Christmas just around the corner, we might be too busy to give attention to what we are actually commemorating. Those who live "by the cash register" will do everything they can to keep our attention on our wallets and purses.

The Three Wise Men seem to have had the true understanding of the Christmas event. They spent many weeks in anticipation as they travelled from their homeland to Bethlehem. When they arrived, their purpose was to honour the newborn child and out of courtesy they brought one gift each.

We, too, have the opportunity for a period of anticipation in the Season of Advent. Of course, Advent is a constant season for reflection, within our own lives, we are continuously waiting to become, to discover, to complete, to fulfil. Hope, struggle, fear, expectations, are all part of our Advent experience. God does not come to us from the sky, he comes to us in the daily story of our lives in people, places and events.

Advent invites us to prepare for the commemoration of God's coming by taking time to have a closer look inside ourselves away from the busy outside. This looking inside is not about remorse or regret, nor about listing ways life over the past year could have been different; it's not about wishing we were better people. It's about forward movement, getting new bearings, relying more on God for directions. It's about a fresh start, getting closer to the "fire" and the "light" that are God's love and compassion. Advent is a time to *"Rejoice, let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is nigh."* St Paul Phil 4:4,5

As well, Advent is a time to: *"Accept surprises that upset your plans shatter your dreams, give a completely different turn to your day and – who knows – to your life. It is not chance. Leave the Fatherto Himself weave the pattern of your days."* Dom Helger Camara. A Thousand Reasons for Living.

"The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." St Paul. Phil. 4:7.

Peace and Best Wishes

Patricia Carr

Tricia Carr
Principal



Upcoming Events

Wednesday, 22nd November through to Friday, 16th December

Wednesday, 23rd November:	Stage 3 only Touch Football Gala Day
Monday, 28th November:	Year 5 at St Agnes 'Experience Day'
Tuesday, 29th November:	Year 6 Reflection Day
Thursday, 1st December:	Showcase of Talent (Good Shepherd School)
Friday, 2nd December:	Primary Swimming Carnival
Monday, 5th December:	Infants End of Term Awards - 8.30 am Good Shepherd School
Wednesday, 7th December:	Vinnies Gold Coin Christmas Appeal - Wear Christmas clothes
Friday, 9th December:	Mrs Carr's Farewell Mass commencing at 10 am. A picnic lunch for families to farewell Mrs Carr will commence at 1 pm in the school grounds.
Monday, 12th December:	Primary End of Awards - 8.30 am Good Shepherd School
Monday, 12th December:	Year 6 Graduation Mass - 6 pm Good Shepherd Church
Wednesday, 14th December:	End of Year Liturgy/Mass - 9.30 Good Shepherd Church
Friday, 16th December:	Final day for students

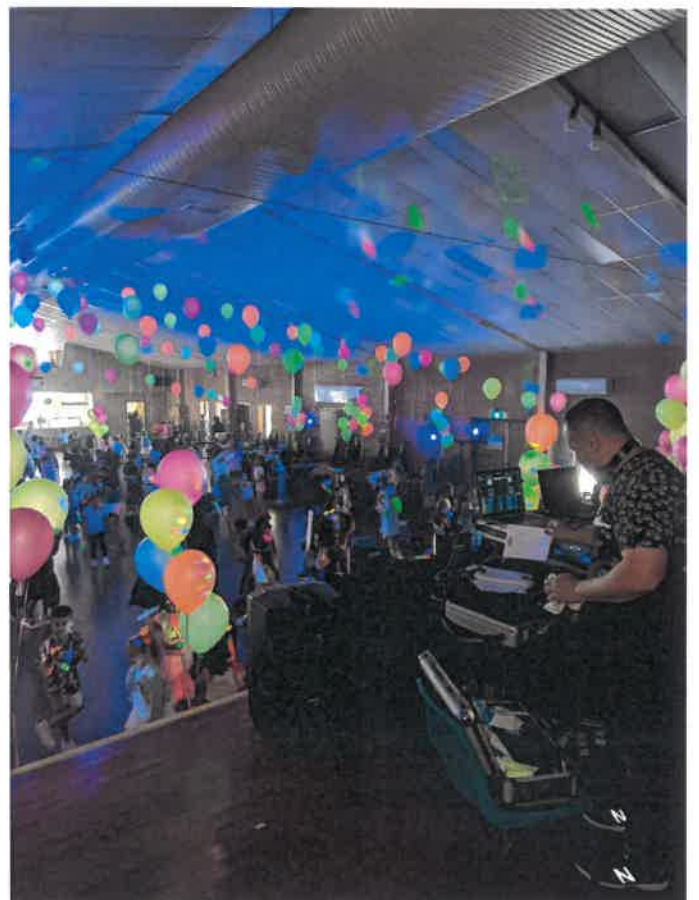
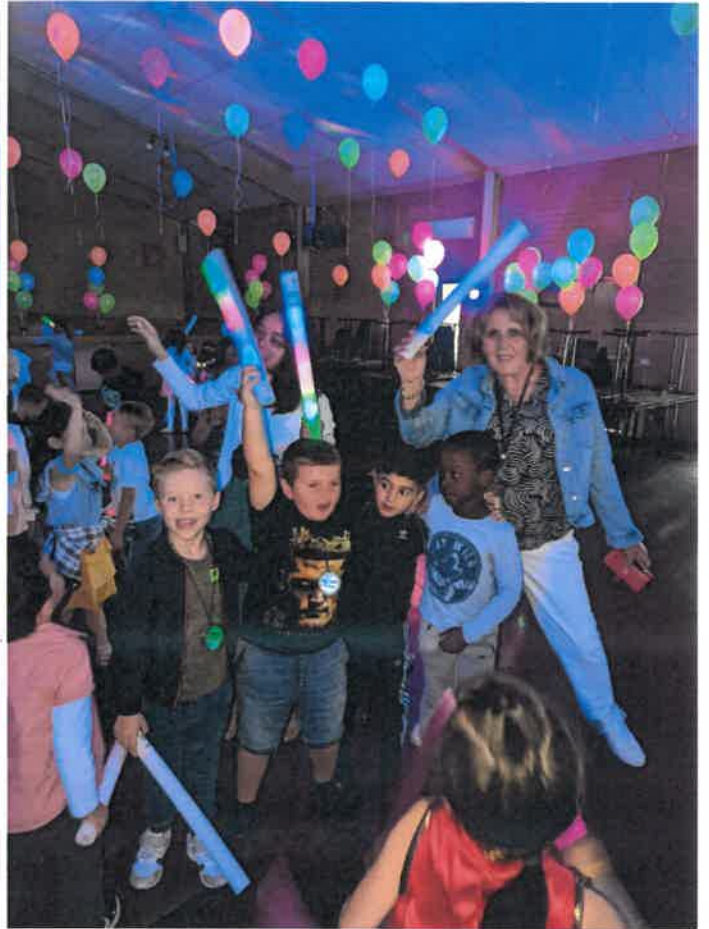


2023 Term 1 Commencement Dates

Tuesday 31st January:	Students Year 1 to Year 6 commence
Wednesday 1st February:	Kindy Children of new families commence
Thursday 2nd February:	Kindy Siblings commence

School Disco

A huge thank you to our Parent Group for organising last week's School Disco. A great time was had by all and a profit of \$3,912 was made! Thank you for your support.



Term 4 2022 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 on Monday 10th October, Friday 11th November, Monday 19th December and Tuesday 20th December. 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.

Changing Schools in 2023?

Are you thinking of or needing to change schools in 2023? Whatever the reason, we would appreciate you letting us know as soon as you can. CEDP require us to estimate our enrolment numbers for 2023 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.



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.

Visitors to our School

Any visitors to our school are required to enter via the Office to sign in electronically. Upon your exit, please ensure you sign out. This requirement also stands for visits to the Uniform Shop, Canteen or to the Music Room inside the School premises. This is a requirement for the continuing safety of all in our community, and complies with child safety and WHS requirements.

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	Leilani-Eve Muller	KG	Xander Lambo
KR	Yarena Montarde	KW	Jayden Baysic
1B	Maximillo Jameel	1G	Reyna Nair
1R	John Tsumhpawng	1W	Axel Joseph
2B	Carlo Ebuenga	2G	Margie Mallari
2R	Juliana Minano		
3B	Ria Oli	3G	Shaniece Johan
3R	Aaron Dela Paz	3W	Tobias Sanak
4B	Jacob Mammoliti	4G	Kamal Kamal
4R	Jayda Magele	4W	Abigail Milag
5G	John-Paul Aloisio	5R	Tamara Tamani
5W	Achan Mawien		
6B	Daniella Duquilla	6G	Brianna Saxelby
6R	Dominic Assey	6W	Riya Prasad

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**. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Vinnes Christmas Raffle and Christmas Mufti Day - Wednesday 7th December

Dear Parents, the School Captains will be selling raffle tickets during lunch time, commencing Monday 21st November. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 7 tickets for \$5.00.

There will be a Christmas Mufti Day on Wednesday 7th December. Students are welcome to wear something that celebrates Christmas!!



Final day for payments

Dear Parents & Carers,

Please note that the last date to accept ANY payments at the school will be Tuesday the 13th December.

Thank you



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.

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.



Volunteer and Contractor Training (Building Child Safe Communities)

All Volunteers and Contractors must complete the Building Child Safe Communities Undertaking Form and Online Training Module prior to being engaged by a school or any other CEDP site. Please click on the link below

<https://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/about/student-safety/volunteer-and-contractor-training>

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.

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.

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.



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 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.

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.

Excursion/Incursion Notes

Please keep these notes in a safe place when your child/ren bring them home. The office Staff are frequently being asked for another note and this uses extra paper and resources that should be utilised elsewhere in our school. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Good Shepherd Parish Sacramental Program

2022 Reconciliation

7th November (Monday) - Parent Information Night, Good Shepherd Church at 7.30 pm

20th November, 27th November, 4th December and 11th December - Sunday classes from 10.30 am to 11.30 am.

13th December (Tuesday) - Sacrament of Reconciliation, Good Shepherd Church at 7.30 pm

2023 Eucharist (First Holy Communion)

5th February, 12th February, 19th February and 26th February - Sunday classes from 10:30 am to 11.30 am.

4th March (Saturday) - Rehearsal 1.00 pm - 2.30 pm

5th March (Sunday) at 2.00 pm - First Holy Communion Mass

Enrolment forms can be obtained from the School Office or at the back of the Church.





Earthcare Schools



A PROGRAM OF  Caritas AUSTRALIA



Good Shepherd Primary School, Plumpton, Parramatta Diocese

AFFIRMING ECOLOGICAL PRACTICE

This certificate celebrates the school's decision to begin the Laudato Si' journey by becoming a Catholic Earthcare School and committing to ecological practice.

+ Yearlong

G. Michener

Bishop Vincent Long

Chair - Bishops Commission for Social Justice, Mission and Service

Gwen Michener

Coordinator - Catholic Earthcare Schools

Date: **03.11.22**





GOOD SHEPHERD PRIMARY SCHOOL

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website: www.gsplumpton.catholic.edu.au

27/10/2022

Good afternoon everyone,

As you all know by now Mr Paul Battikha is leaving Good Shepherd at the end of 2022 to take up the position of Principal at Our Lady of the Rosary Kellyville. I know you will join me in wishing him every success and we will appropriately farewell Mr Battikha later in the term.

I am very pleased to be able to announce to you today that **Mrs Jacqueline Willard** will be the new Assistant Principal here at Good Shepherd from the beginning of 2023.

Mrs Willard is an experienced Assistant Principal and has held the position since 2018 in two schools. She is currently the Assistant Principal at St Bernadette's Dundas Valley. Mrs Willard is an active member of the St Bernadette Parish at Castle Hill.

We are very pleased to welcome Mrs Willard and I know Ms Kenezevic is looking forward to working with her next year.

Yours sincerely

Tricia Carr
Principal