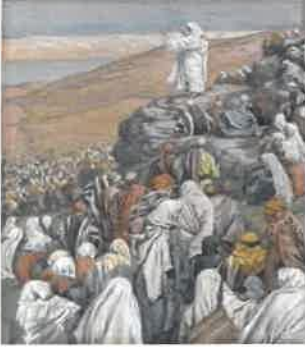




Sixth Sunday in
Ordinary Time



Good Shepherd
Primary School
134 Hyatts Road
Plumpton NSW 2761

Telephone: 9836 7100

Email:
goodshepherd@parra.
catholic.edu.au

Principal:
Ms Anita Knezevic



Good Shepherd Parish
136 Hyatts Road
Plumpton

Telephone: 9832 4461

Email:
parishof@tpg.com.au

Parish Priest:
Fr Vincy D'Costa
ofmcap

Good Shepherd Primary School Newsletter

Term 1

Week 4

Wednesday 15 February 2023

Dear Good Shepherd Parents and Carers,

A Blessing for the New School Year

by Michael McGirr, Caritas Australia 2023

With gratitude for the gift of a fresh new year we ask blessings on our whole community.

May every classroom be a place of **respect** and **possibility**.

May every staffroom and playground be a place of **friendship** and **laughter**.

May every hall and assembly be a place of **connection**.

May every library be a place of **discovery**.

May every tree and plant call us to **care** for **creation**.

May every snack and lunch remind us of those who are **hungry**.

May every student grow in confidence and **love of life**.

May every teacher find daily **vision** and **hope**.

May every support worker help create a **sense of belonging**.

May every leader find **openness** and **patience**.

May every parent **grow in wisdom**.

May every name in this school be blessed because each person is **precious**.

And only **together** can we **learn** and **grow**.

Peace and Joy

Anita Knezevic
Principal

We look forward to seeing you tonight at the Parent Information Evenings. More details are located in the newsletter.

Peace
AND
Joy

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	Not Published	KG	Sophia Goncalves
KR	Dominic Van Den Heuvel	KW	Rosemaria Esera
1B	Cairo Carroll	1G	Trinity Fruen
1R	Angela Amofo	1W	Kai Balasa
2B	Maxi Jameel	2G	Vihana Trivedi
2R	Zianah Rincon Maldonado	2W	Naithen JustinJose
3B	Samantha O'Neill	3R	Jayvannsh Pabbi
3W	Tahlia Bradley		
4B	CJ DelRosario	4G	Ronin Pagquil
4R	Anamanu Setefano	4W	Rhys Anbio
5B	Maxwell Siasaga	5G	Gebrielle Lazo
5R	Xavier Santos	5W	Alexander La
6B	Taiuli-Rose Bennell	6G	Careen Ocampo
6R	Kassandra Nuval		

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Welcome to another exciting year! The school celebrated our Opening Mass last Tuesday and the students were very reverent and sang beautifully. Our next Mass will be on Ash Wednesday (22 February) for Years 4-6 at 9.00 am in the Church.

K-3 will have a Liturgy starting at 11.30 in the church to receive the ashes.

Curriculum

Parents/Carers you will notice that each grade has a Learning Cycle with each covering a term. These will be explained at our Parent Information Night and future newsletters.

Thank you for your support.

Mr. Ian Byrne
(Religious Education Coordinator)



Congratulations to Term 1 Class Captains !

KB	Silvana Baissary	Jacob Hatoum
KG	Sophia Goncalves	Andre Cicero
KR	Ruby Rose Urias	Carter Drollet
KW	Grace Loloa	Keanu Livi-Papalii
1B	Rosa-Sina Siasaga	Nicholas Vanella
1G	Christiana Jamil	Maxwell Setefano
1R	Emily Brockway	Noah Cobban-Hmura
1W	Monique Fuller	Not Published
2B	Kalita Tanaki	Michael Baissary
2G	Aliet Joul	Pransu Patel
2R	Maddison Bennell	Jayden Tooma
2W	Not Published	Izaac Ahovelo-Lilomaiava
3B	Margie Mallari	Ayaan Kang
3R	Marissa Assey	Antonios Jameel
3W	Jésiree Gigante	Elias Shiber
4B	Rosie Villanueva	Enzo Ygay
4G	Leyna Pham	Alex Rizeq
4R	Riona Lal	Elijah Stazi
4W	Aliyah Vaafusuaga	Not Published
5B	Matilda Holly-Marks	Owen Pender
5G	Taylor Gale	Ethan Aducayan
5R	Giselle Abdallah	Mark Tooma
5W	Lara Limeta	Chukwubikem Ugochukwu
6B	Mikaella DeGuzman	Aditiya Prathapan
6G	Loreign Bautista	Euan Gozon
6R	Jasmine Hoang	Kian Pangan

Upcoming Events

- Wednesday 15 February:** Parent Information Night (Infants: 5.30 pm, Primary 6.30 pm)
- Monday 20 February:** Parent Group Annual General Meeting (6.00 pm Good Shepherd School)
- Tuesday 21 February:** Whole School Photos. Students to wear full summer uniform.
- Wednesday 22 February :** Ash Wednesday (9.00 am Mass with the Parish - Years 4-6 attending. Kindy-Year 3 will have a Liturgy starting at 11.30 am in the Church to receive their ashes.)
- Friday 3 March:** Primary Cross Country (Students in Years 3 to 6 attend)
- Sunday 5 March:** Open Day at our School (10.00 am to 1.00 pm)
- Monday 6 March:** Catholic Schools Week (further details to come)

School Photos Tuesday 21 February 2023

Thank you for your support with our school uniform every day, not just when we have our school photos. It instills pride and respect for one another. As we will be having school photos next week this is a great time to ensure that your child has all they require.

World Youth Day Fundraiser

Thank you to our school community who raised \$930.00 towards the Diocesan World Youth Fundraiser last Friday. Students were very generous in donating gold coins and notes. Your enthusiasm and support for this very worthwhile cause is gratefully received.



Communication between Parents and Staff for 2023

Dear Parents, 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 Grade Leader.

2023 Year Grade Leader are as follows:

Kinder: Mrs Yvonne Davies

Year 1: Mrs Trish Conner

Year 2: Mrs Trish Conner

Year 3: Mr Ian Byrne

Year 4: Mr Ian Byrne

Year 5: Mrs Beulah Frankson

Year 6: Ms Elizabeth Le Breton

If you need to take further steps, after speaking with the Year Grade Leader, an email, letter or phone call to our Assistant Principal and then to the Principal.

Parent Group

All are welcome to come and be a part of our 2023 Parent Group ! Monday 20 February at 6.00 pm. We look forward to seeing you !



Open Day at our School Sunday 5 March

Dear Parents & Guardians

We will be holding an Open Day at our School on Sunday 5 March commencing at 10 am and concluding at 1 pm. Further details will be sent out shortly. Please spread the word to family and friends!



Parent Information Evening

Dear Parents & Carers, just a reminder that our Meet the Teacher/Parent Information Evening will be held tonight Wednesday 15 February.

Infants: 5.30 pm to 6.30 pm

Primary: 6.30 pm to 7.30 pm

All very welcome



School Fees

School Fees statements will be posted from CEDP within the next couple of weeks. You will receive an option to choose a flexible payment plan at this time.

Just a reminder that 10 weeks notice in writing must be given if you are withdrawing your child from school.

Updating of the School Website

Over the coming month our school website will be updated. We apologise for any inconvenience caused. Once updated we would love to know what you think about the new website.

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**. 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.

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.

Enrolments for 2024 Kindergarten are now open

Enrolment packs for Kindergarten 2024 are available as follows:

Packs can be sent home with your eldest child. Please send an email to

goodshepherd@parra.catholic.edu.au with the subject line - **Kindergarten 2024 Enrolment**.

Enrolment forms are available from the school office between the hours of 8.00am - 3.00pm.

The enrolment forms can be downloaded from our website: [Enrolment Forms](#)



Car Park Safety

Dear Parents,

Just a friendly reminder :

- Do not double park.
- Do not park in the covered Portico directly outside entrance to Church.
- Do not park on pedestrian crossings and walkways into the school.
- Only park in designated areas.
- There are numerous car spaces available at the back of the Church.

We are very blessed with plenty of parking but unfortunately people are still not being considerate of others. It would be a shame if the Parish car park had to be closed due to lack of consideration of others.

The **ONLY DROP OFF AREA** in the mornings is the drop off bay at the front of the school. No other students are to be dropped off in the Parish car park OR the Hall car park.

If you are entering the Parish car park or the Hall car park, **YOU MUST PARK YOUR CAR AND WALK YOUR CHILD INTO THE SCHOOL GROUNDS.**

As always, hold your child's hand when walking through car parks. As always, display courtesy towards other drivers – it makes the trip to and from school more pleasant.

Why not park in the Shopping Centre car park and take advantage of our crossing guard? She is there to help us all and keep us safe.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding. After all, it is you and your child we are protecting.

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.

NAPLAN Information for parents and carers

2023

Why do students do NAPLAN?

NAPLAN is a national literacy and numeracy assessment that students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 sit each year. It is the only national assessment all Australian students have the opportunity to undertake.

As students progress through their school years, it's important to check how well they are learning the essential skills of reading, writing and numeracy.

NAPLAN assesses the literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through the school curriculum and allows parents/carers to see how their child is progressing against national standards and over time.

NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process. It doesn't replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance, but it can provide teachers with additional information about students' educational progress.

NAPLAN also provides schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working and whether young Australians are achieving important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

Your child will do the NAPLAN tests online

Schools have transitioned from paper-based to computer-based assessments. All Year 3 students will continue to complete the writing assessment on paper.

Online NAPLAN tests provide more precise results and are more engaging for students. One of the main benefits is tailored (or adaptive) testing, where the test presents questions which may be more or less difficult depending on a student's responses.

Tailored testing allows a wider range of student abilities to be assessed and measures student achievement more precisely. A student's overall NAPLAN result is based on both the number and complexity of questions they answer correctly. Your child should not be concerned if they find questions challenging; they may be taking a more complex test pathway.

What does NAPLAN assess?

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through their regular school curriculum.

Students sit assessments in writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. The questions assess content linked to the Australian Curriculum: English and Mathematics.

All government and non-government education authorities contribute to the development of NAPLAN test materials.

To find out more about NAPLAN, visit nap.edu.au.

Participation in NAPLAN

NAPLAN is for everyone. ACARA supports inclusive testing so all students have the opportunity to participate in the national assessment program.

Adjustments are available for students with disability who have diverse functional abilities and needs.

Schools should work with parents/carers and students to identify, on a case-by-case basis, reasonable adjustments required for individual students with disability to access NAPLAN. Adjustments should reflect the support normally provided for classroom assessments.

To help inform these decisions, you may consult the [NAPLAN public demonstration site](#), the [Guide for schools to assist students with disability to access NAPLAN](#), or our [series of videos](#) where parents/carers, teachers and students share their experiences in using NAPLAN adjustments.

In exceptional circumstances, a student with a disability that severely limits their capacity to participate in the assessment, or a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background, may be granted a formal exemption.

Your school principal and your local test administration authority can give you more information on adjustments for students with disability or the process required to gain a formal exemption.

What if my child is absent from school on NAPLAN days?

Where possible, schools may arrange for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the school's test schedule.

What if my school is closed on NAPLAN days?

Schools with compelling reasons may be given permission to schedule tests after the 9-day test window.

What can I do to support my child?

Students are not expected to study for NAPLAN. You can support your child by reassuring them that NAPLAN is a part of their school program and reminding them to simply do their best. Some familiarisation and explanation of NAPLAN is useful to help students understand and be comfortable with the format of the tests. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the types of questions in the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance.

ACARA does not recommend excessive preparation for NAPLAN or the use of services by coaching providers.

See the types of questions and tools available in the online NAPLAN assessments at nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site.

NAPLAN timetable

The NAPLAN test window is 9 days. This is to accommodate schools that may have fewer devices.

The NAPLAN test window starts on Wednesday 15 March and finishes on Monday 27 March 2023. Schools are advised to schedule the tests as soon as possible within the testing window, prioritising the first week.

How is my child's performance reported?

Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each assessment. This scale indicates whether the student is meeting expectations for the literacy and numeracy skills needed to participate fully in that year level.

A NAPLAN individual student report will be provided by your child's school later in the year. If you do not receive a report, you should contact your child's school.

How are NAPLAN results used?

- Students and parents/carers may use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to help identify students who need greater challenges or extra support.
- Schools use results to identify strengths and areas of need to improve teaching programs, and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review the effectiveness of programs and support offered to schools.
- The community can see information about the performance of schools over time at myschool.edu.au.

Where can I get more information?

For more information about NAPLAN:

- contact your child's school
- contact your local test administration authority at nap.edu.au/TAA
- visit nap.edu.au

To learn how ACARA handles personal information for NAPLAN, visit nap.edu.au/naplan/privacy.

Test	Scheduling requirements	Duration	Test description
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Year 3 students do the writing test on paper (on day 1 only)• Years 5, 7 and 9 writing must start on day 1 (schools must prioritise completion of writing across days 1 and 2 only, with day 2 only used where there are technical/logistical limitations)	Year 3: 40 min Year 5: 42 min Year 7: 42 min Year 9: 42 min	Students are provided with a 'writing stimulus' (sometimes called a 'prompt' – an idea or topic) and asked to write a response in a particular genre (narrative or persuasive writing)
Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To be completed after the writing test• To be completed before the conventions of language test	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 50 min Year 7: 65 min Year 9: 65 min	Students read a range of informative, imaginative and persuasive texts and then answer related questions
Conventions of language	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To be completed after the reading test	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 45 min Year 7: 45 min Year 9: 45 min	Assesses spelling, grammar and punctuation
Numeracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To be completed after the conventions of language test	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 50 min Year 7: 65 min Year 9: 65 min	Assesses number and algebra, measurement and geometry, and statistics and probability

Catholic Schools NSW COVID Smart Measures

A combination of layers safety measures are used:

- Mask-wearing.
- Rapid antigen testing (RAT).
- Strongly encouraged vaccinations.
- Ventilation.
- Hygiene.
- Cleaning.

Allows us to keep schools operational. In line with the health advice and community settings, schools will continue the 'baseline' COVID-smart measures as we head into Term 1 2023. These measures allow us to keep our schools operational while prioritising student and staff safety and wellbeing.

In certain circumstances Diocesan Offices and RI/MPJP schools may determine that additional COVID-smart measures are to be temporarily reintroduced or enhanced to act as a 'circuit breaker'.

Masks

In response to NSW Health advice and the current COVID-19 situation in the state, the Minister for Education and Early Learning has strongly encouraged mask-wearing when indoors for all school-based staff and for all students, when physical distancing is not possible, and for people who believe they have been exposed to COVID-19.

Masks are an effective way to reduce the risk of transmission of respiratory viruses and infectious diseases, including COVID-19 and the flu.

Masks are no longer mandatory on public transport in NSW, the department continues to encourage they be worn by students, staff and visitors to school sites, particularly when using transport to and from camps, excursions and other large group events and when physical distancing cannot be maintained. Schools are asked to refer parent and carer enquiries to the NSW Government fact sheets for information on safely managing COVID-19. Please do not provide specific advice as information can change.

Rapid antigen testing (RAT)

As part of the NSW Government's focus on minimising disruptions to teaching and learning, CSNSW will continue to support the use of rapid antigen tests (RATs) in schools throughout Term 1.

Beyond the NSW Government's provision of RATs, students and staff should continue to access PCR tests and store-purchased RATs when experiencing symptoms or when identified as a close contact.

Close contacts

Staff and students who are identified as close contacts are allowed to attend school, providing they follow certain guidelines. Staff and students cannot attend specialist centres or support units as a close contact, and will be supported to work or learn from home.

Please turn over for further information

Visitors on school sites

Visitors can attend schools and early childhood education and care (ECEC) services regardless of their vaccination status, in line with settings in the broader community. This includes:

- volunteers or staff operating uniform shops and canteens
- allied health partners for the wellbeing of students
- university and TAFE students completing their practicum or teacher training.

Visitors are required to advise the school that they are a close contact, if they are interacting with students, before they come on site. Check-in School staff are not required to use School Visitor Check-in to sign in daily for COVID-19 contact tracing purposes. Schools can continue to use third-party digital sign-in systems to manage attendance administration tasks or continue to use their paper-based method for these tasks.

Cohorting

Schools do not need to keep students in their class or year cohort groups, as part of daily school operations. Note: In certain circumstances Diocesan Offices and RI/MPJP schools may determine that additional COVID-smart measures are to be temporarily reintroduced or enhanced to act as a 'circuit breaker'.

Ventilation and physical distancing

Maximising natural ventilation is an effective method for minimising the spread of respiratory viruses including COVID-19 and flu and other illness and can be best achieved by opening doors and windows.

- To support thermal comfort, schools may use heating or cooling in conjunction with windows and doors remaining slightly open to continue to allow natural ventilation.
- Use outdoor spaces for events and activities as much as possible in order to maximise natural ventilation. Measures should be put in place to maximise ventilation when using indoor spaces, such as opening windows.
- Allowing a reasonable space between people will reduce the risk of transmission in those environments and also ensure people are more comfortable.
- Air purifiers are deployed in schools. These purifiers could be located in areas where high levels of student and staff mixing occurs, such as staffrooms, internal canteens, student centres and music rooms. Air purifiers do not replace the need to maximise ventilation through open doors and windows, or the requirement to continue COVID-smart practices.

Hygiene and cleaning

- Encourage students and staff to wash their hands regularly with soap and water.
- Use personal protective equipment (PPE) correctly, as incorrect use can increase the risk of infection.
- Boosted day cleaning of schools may be implemented, focusing on target areas such as high-touch areas and other hard surfaces, door handles, lockers, light switches and handrails in stairways and movement areas.

Reducing the risk of illness All students, staff and their families should follow NSW Health's advice to reduce the risk of not only COVID-19, but also other illnesses that may affect schools. Schools should reinforce the following NSW Health messages with their communities:

- Stay home if unwell or showing even the mildest of symptoms
- Keep up to date with vaccinations – including the flu vaccine, which is available from your local GP, pharmacy or Aboriginal Medical Service
- Get tested immediately for COVID-19 if you become symptomatic and isolate until you receive a negative result and are symptom free
- Practice good hand hygiene by washing regularly with soap and water
- Take a RAT before visiting vulnerable loved ones or going to large gatherings and events.

Student Absences

Dear Parents,

Just a quick reminder that **ALL student absences need to be explained**. This is a legal requirement. **Please use the Parent Portal to log your child's whole day absence. If your child is absent for a partial day, please do not use the portal to log this as we'll sign the children in/out from the office.** Thank you.

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.**

MON TUE WED THU FRI



Partial absences = missed learning.
Let students know that every day counts by recognising punctuality, good and improved attendance.

every learner every day

How can you promote a healthy attendance culture in your school?

Visit www.pama.catholic.edu.au/everylearnereveryday to find out more.

every learner
every day 

