Hello!

Welcome to the first edition of our PTA newsletter. The Good Shepherd School PTA team are very excited about the activities and events coming up in the second half of 2019 and wanted to take the opportunity to share with you, our school community, some information about what the PTA is all about—and what's happening this year.

OUR PURPOSE

The aim of the PTA is to nurture a great relationship among all members of our school community, to raise funds to support our school, and to support and enhance our children's school journeys.

Membership is open to all. There are four fixed positions on the PTA committee, which are voted in annually, but other than that, if you are interested, there's no need to 'join' —you can simply attend our regular meetings. The PTA welcomes all ideas and contributions. If you:

- want to learn more about the role of the PTA
- want to find out about the strategic direction of the school and upcoming events
- are interested in helping out with fundraising activities
- have ideas about what we could be fundraising for..

...then please come along to a meeting, get in touch with the committee, or our wonderful volunteers running our various events. If you are not on our contacts list, please email nzgoodshepherdpta@gmail.com or join our Facebook page.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Next PTA Meeting	Tues 18 June
Holey Fathers' Fall Ball	Sat 15 June
Movie Night	Fri 16 Aug
Grandparents Day	Fri 13 Sept
GSS School Fair	Sat 9 Nov
Hot House Challenge	Sat 30 Nov

MORE ABOUT OUR PTA EVENTS

Hot House Challenge

The Holey Fathers* group runs an awesome event each year – the Hot House Challenge. Kids get to run the gauntlet through a water themed obstacle course, raising points for their house and having a ball. Parents and teachers also get a turn and everyone faces off in a huge tug o war. It's a great way to mix with the school community in a fun and informal setting. Make sure you keep Saturday 30 November free!

Fall Ball

This is a great adults-only event that's all about fun, music and socialising with our wonderful school community. This year's Back to School themed-event is taking place on Saturday 15 June in our school hall. Flyers have gone home with all the details—just ask if you want to know more.

Movie Night

Get your onesies and your cushions ready for a fun family night out. Snuggle in, and enjoy popcorn and a kids movie. Students will vote on the choice of movie closer to the date. Lock it in: Friday 16 August.

Grandparents Day

Grandparents Day is such a wonderful part of the GSS calendar. We celebrate our grandparents with a whole school mass, followed by school performances, a sausage sizzle and bake sale.

*Who are the Holey Fathers?

The Holey Fathers is a group of GSS Dads who periodically get together to share a few laughs over a couple of drinks at the pub, but who also pride themselves with carrying out a range of "good deeds" for the school.

Social interaction is high on the agenda for the group but an important focus is providing something for the school that, if it were not for the Holey Fathers, would not get done or would not be possible (unless the school paid someone to do the work).

We're always open to newcomers coming along to any of these events and we're happy to have new ideas offered. If you want to find out more or just add your name to the list to receive the occasional email on what's coming up, please touch base with the Holey Fathers email account: holeyfathers@gmail.com



The theme for our 2019 Fair will be focused on **Sustainability and Environmental Awareness**

For those of you who are new to the fair, it is our school's major fundraiser, held once every two years. In 2017 we raised \$65,000, so we are aiming to raise this amount again.

We are proud that our fair is well known in the community for being a fun, family-friendly fair with delicious cakes, brilliant crafts, wonderful food and great experiences, with a real village fete atmosphere.

As we are only a small school, we need the help of all our families to make the fair a success. It is a great way to contribute to our community, and meet other families.

There are many ways in which you can help:

Helping on a stall

We have confirmed stallholders for most stalls, but we need lots of volunteers to help out on all stalls on the day. Additionally, we are looking for:

- Someone to run the clothing stall.
- More delicious ethnic food stalls (we have some confirmed but would love more)
- Any other ideas for great stalls

Monster Raffle, Silent Auction and quickfire raffle prizes

We also require prizes - and lots of them! Everything from small items that we can make into prize baskets, vouchers, experiences to big ticket items for the Monster Raffle.

Or do you own your own business and would like to donate your professional services to the silent auction? for example: 4 hours of handyman work, tax returns completed for the year, business coaching, beauty treatments, etc.

As this year's theme is Environmental Sustainability it would be fantastic to have raffles prizes that reflect this.

If you have anything at all you would like to volunteer or donate, big or small, please contact Justine Clifford Bowles 027 543 1612 or Ronan Bowles 021 814 309

A BIT MORE ABOUT THE PTA

Here's a quick run down of the types of activities the PTA organises, or supports:

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Cake Raffles	Moosies on Fridays	
Yummy Apple Sticker Collection for school equipment	Samosas Fundraiser	
Olive Oil Fundraiser	School Calendars & Cards	
Foster Hope	Irish Dancing & Kapa Haka Groups	
The Caring Committee Helping families in our school community in need	Development of School Infrastructure the school turf, canopy and the new physical resilience course.	
School sustainability initiatives	Sausage Sizzles whenever we can squeeze them in!	
Purchase of sporting equipment, library books, & classroom improvements		



the Good Shepherd PTA is on Facebook

Use the Facebook Page to connect with other parents.

- Missing a shoe?
- Found an extra school jumper in your child's bag?
- Need to check dates/details on upcoming events?
- Wondering about mufti day on Friday?
- Have comments or want to express thanks?
- Have some school related items you no longer need?

The PTA welcomes your contributions, if you have any questions please direct them to our Facebook admins.

CONTACT THE COMMITTEE

Chair – Andrew Shaw	027 523 7374
Vice Chair – Kirsty Anne Singleton	021 905 095
Treasurer – Kelly Peterson	027 535 6771
Secretary – Mairead Woods	029 355 1020