Good Shepherd School



...Care...Respect...Honesty... Newsletter No 6, 06 May 2021

From the Principal

Ngā mihi ki a koe me to whānau

It was great to see the children's smiles as they returned to school this week. They are certainly glad to see their friends again, and are hopefully eager to begin a very exciting term of learning.

Education issues are often highlighted in the news media at the beginning of a school term and you will have heard the current discussions about the teaching and learning of mathematics in New Zealand's primary schools. It is of national concern that our children are slipping in their performance in international comparative studies. As demonstrated by the opinions of the 'experts' on TVNZ's Q + A programme on the weekend, there is no 'silver bullet' that will change this trend. Some of the key approaches that we use at Good Shepherd School to ensure a good grounding in mathematics for our children are:

- Frequent professional learning and development for our teachers
- Targeted classroom interventions for students experiencing difficulties
- Emphasis on the instant recall of mathematical knowledge, e.g. addition and subtraction facts to 20, times tables to 10x10

- Focus on a growth mindset in the learning of mathematics - it's okay to make mistakes
- Use of flexible groupings to meet the learning needs of the students
- An emphasis on problem solving strategies

Please do not hesitate to discuss our mathematics programmes with your child's teacher or with me, and visit our school website for practical ideas about how you can help at home with your child's mathematics learning.

Ngā manaakitanga *Jane Hahn*

Upcoming Dates

9 May	Mothers' Day	
9 May	Confirmation Session 1	
10-14 May	Sign Language Week	
16 May	Confirmation Session 2	
18 May	PTA Meeting	
23 May	Pentecost Sunday - Confirmation	
24-28 May	Samoan Language Week	
25 May	Eden/Albert Football Zones	
25 May	Board of Trustees Meeting	
3 June	GSS Cross Country	
4 June	Teacher Only Day	
7 June	Queen's Birthday Holiday	
8 June	Gymnastics Festival	
9 June	Sacramental Programme Parents' Meeting	
13 June	First Holy Communion Session 1	
20 June	First Holy Communion Session 2	
22 June	Eden/Albert Cross Country	
27 June	First Holy Communion Session 3	
29 June	Board of Trustees Meeting	
2 July	Matariki	
2 July	Auckland Girls' Chess Competition	
4 July	First Holy Communion	
5-9 July	Production Week	
9 July	Reports Home	
9 July	Term 2 Ends	
26 July	Term 3 Begins	

Please note that some of these dates may change

Special Character

Bishops' Forum

Bishops Patrick and Michael invite everyone to meet with them to hear what is happening in the diocese through the 2021 Bishops' Forums. They are to be held in a variety of venues. If you have a question for the Bishops, please email it to the Bishops' Office <u>bishop-secretary@cda.org.nz</u> by the appropriate deadline. This will enable them to prepare a full response (<u>see attached flyer</u>).

Good Shepherd Awards



Naomi Buddell - For showing kindness and consideration toward everybody Rafaela Barredo - For being friendly, kind and helpful in and out of the classroom

Religious Education in Term 2

To begin Term 2 we start by focusing on the Holy Spirit. Students will gain an understanding of the Trinity and the importance of the Holy Spirit within that Trinity. Each student will unpack their own gifts of holiness, tapu, grace and mana. There will also be a focus on recognising various symbols, titles and ways in which the Holy Spirit is represented.

Mother's Day Concert

Good Shepherd Church Sunday 9 May 5.30pm

The Graduate Choir New Zealand will be performing at Good Shepherd Church for Mother's Day (see notice below). Entry by donation.



Congratulations

We congratulate **Elizabeth Harkison-Merrick** on the occasion of her Baptism last weekend and pray for

her and her family as she takes this important step in her faith journey.

In and Around School Room 7

In Room 7 we are now hosting a Lego club for a few of our students on a fortnightly basis. We are very lucky to have our own Lego expert, Yoel Dawit, to instruct and support us, On Tuesday we had our very first session. The students had a grand time playing freely with a large amount of generously donated Lego. For our future club sessions we will be having building activities, competitions, games and a few illusion videos. It'll be brilliant!



Welcome!

We extend a very warm welcome to the following students and their families who started with us recently:

Airini Couch Jack Buckthought

Birthdays

Congratulations to the following children who celebrate their birthday in May:



Manny Puyat William Moulder Josephine Spencer Dominic Carter Lucia Hodgson George Hanrahan Calum Buddell Luke Butcher Ryan Menezes Jane Matar August Gullery Ida Greenhough Miguel Biado Reuben Kennerley Willem Greenhough Jessica St Clair Benjamin Maddox Jamie Dixon-Mclver

Cultural

New Zealand Sign Language Week 10-14 May 2021

Next week we will all have an opportunity to learn New Zealand Sign Language, one of the official languages of Aotearoa New Zealand. We are very lucky to have Janelle Pool, a valued member of our school community, coming into school to work with us in learning some sign language. For more information visit the official <u>website</u>.

Sport

Term 2 Events:

Eden/Albert Football Zones - Tuesday 25 May (Wk 4); Save Day - Thursday 27 May

GSS School Cross Country - Thursday 3 June (Wk 5) Tri-Star Gymnastics Festival - Tuesday 8 June (Wk 6)

Eden/Albert Cross Country Zones - Tuesday 22 June (Wk 8)

If you are able to help out at any of these events please email Heather McLeod on: hmcleod@goodshepherd.school.nz

Cross Country Training

In place of our fitness rotation we will be running every Monday to Thursday for the first half of this term at least. Our goals are to increase fitness, regardless of



current level, and to prepare for cross country. Students must bring their running shoes every day. They may change into their sports gear before school. Even without the correct gear students will be expected to run, however we strongly encourage running shoes and for the Connolly team, sports gear, as this makes fitness a lot more enjoyable and productive.

Brain Break

Related to the above, could you please ensure that the brain break snack is prepared so that it can be eaten quickly with minimal disruption to learning. For



example half an apple or a banana can be eaten easily and quickly without need for spoons or containers. In fact a banana would be an excellent choice for Connolly students right now as they provide great fuel for their running which will be happening just before morning tea.

Information for Whānau Book Club



This term we are again offering parents and families the opportunity to purchase books from the Scholastic Lucky Book Club. Issue 3 will be sent home with your child this week.

If you want to order please do so directly through the Scholastic online website LOOP.

https://www.scholastic.co.nz/parents/lucky-book-club/

Any orders will be delivered to your child's classroom. Every order earns 20% back in rewards for our school.

Any queries can be directed to Marguerite Butcher.

Sushi

Sushi orders are now open on Kindo for Term 2. You can choose to order weekly or order in advance for multiple weeks. Orders can be cancelled up until 8.45am on a Friday.

We are also looking for volunteers to help with sushi and pies on the following days: Friday 7th May (sushi) Friday 14th May (sushi) Friday 21st May (sushi) Tuesday 25th May (pies) Friday 28th May (sushi) Thursday 3rd June (sushi) Friday 11th June (sushi) Friday 18th June (sushi) Friday 25th June (sushi) Friday 2nd July (sushi) Tuesday 6th July (pies) Friday 9th July (sushi)

Please email Emma Chan chanemmanz@gmail.com if you are available to help.









YOU ARE WARMLY INVITED TO THE 2021

Bishops' Forun



All are welcome to this time of prayer, sharing, and information concerning the diocese

5 May, 7.30-9.30 pm	St Joseph Takapuna, Church Hall Questions by 29 April	~
8 May, 11.00 am	St Therese, Moerewa Questions by 5 May	~
9 May, 11.30am	St Francis Xavier Whangarei , Hall Questions by 5 May	~
11 May, 7.30-9.30 pm	Christ the King Owairaka , Church Questions by 7 May	~
27 May, 7.30-9.30 pm	St Anne's Manurewa , Church Hall Questions by 21 May	~



Please send questions for the bishop by the date indicated to bishop-secretary@cda.org.nz

