



*Te Kura o Heparā Pai*

*Care Manaakitanga*

*Respect Whakautē*

*Honesty Pono*

## Newsletter 03

17 Poutū-te-rangi/March 2023

### From the Principal

Ngā mihi ki a koe me to whānau

Thank you for your support in keeping your children at home yesterday. We all have a vested interest in a strong and successful education system and I am happy to discuss the important issues in our sector with you at any time.

Next Tuesday evening a large group of our children will take part in the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. It is a special time too for their whānau and we invite you to join us in this Sacrament yourselves in preparation for the Easter season.

Strong home-school partnerships are the key to children's learning success, and we have two important opportunities for you to work closely with the school coming up before the end of the term. Firstly, the PTA will be meeting on Wednesday 22 March at 7.30pm. The 2023 School Fair will be on the agenda, as will other discussions about your child's everyday life at school. Secondly, Three Way Conferences are scheduled for 29 and 30 March. This is an opportunity for you to meet with your child's teacher to discuss progress over the first few weeks of the school year.

Te Atua ki a koe  
God bless

*Jane Hahn*

## Upcoming Dates

17 March	Feast of St Patrick
19 March	Feast of St Joseph
21 March	Sacrament of Reconciliation
22 March	PTA Meeting 7.30pm
24 March	Assembly Rm6
28 March	Eden/Albert Cricket Zones
29 March	Three Way Conferences
30 March	Three Way Conferences
30 March	Eden/Albert Cricket Zones (Save Day)
2 April	Palm Sunday
2 April	Daylight Saving ends
4 April	BOT Meeting
6 April	End of Term 1
6 April	Holy Thursday
7 April	Good Friday
9 April	Easter Sunday
24 April	Teacher Only Day
25 April	Anzac Day
26 April	Term 2 begins
30 April	Feast of the Good Shepherd
30 June	End of Term 2

## Special Character

### Good Shepherd Awards



*Tevita Siakumi - Showing great enthusiasm for learning.*

*Racheline Jisha Rojan - Having a great start to the year, showing the Good Shepherd values and working hard.*



## St Patrick's Day Friday 17 March

Our parish and school have a long connection with the Irish community and we acknowledged this today with a sea of green instead of our usual school uniform colours. Check out the Whānau section of our [HIGHLIGHTS](#) site for more pictures.



## Feast of St Joseph

As we prepare for the feast of St Joseph, perhaps he could help us on our Lenten journey. Pope Benedict XVI wrote: 'Let us allow ourselves to be 'filled' with St Joseph's silence. In a world that is often too noisy, that encourages neither recollection nor listening to God's voice, we are in such deep need of it.' It is in the silence that we can hear and respond to God's call to each of us.

St Joseph is a very special person to Good Shepherd because our school was founded by the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart (the Josephites) 110 years ago. On Thursday 23 March we will be celebrating our Feast Day with the following activities::

**9.30am Mass** We invite you to join us and the parish community. Children need to be in full school uniform and to arrive at school on time.

**11.30 – 12.50 Tabloid sports** (in house groups) organised by our House Leaders and other senior students – children can bring house colours to change into.

**12.50 – 1.30pm Sausage sizzle** – sausages provided by our PTA – thank you!

## Season of Lent

On Ash Wednesday we began the Liturgical season of Lent - a time of preparation for the Risen Lord (Easter). This involves looking deep within ourselves and making promises to God in the hope of becoming better people who make better choices like the Good Shepherd. Jesus loved the world so much he sacrificed himself so that we too could reach eternal life with Him in Heaven. Good Shepherd children will be learning all about Lent through their RE lessons in class, as well as participating in the Caritas Lent Action Plan



## Good Shepherd Parish Mass times

We encourage all families to attend Mass together, particularly those children who have completed the Sacramental programme. Sunday Mass is at **9.30am**.

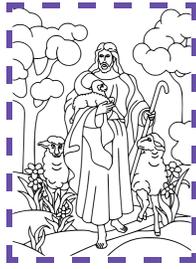
## Sacramental Programme

Please keep the children who are preparing for their First Reconciliation in your prayers. Celebration of the Rite of First Reconciliation will take place at 6.30pm on Tuesday 21 March.

## Class Weekly Mass: 9.30am on Wednesday

*22 March: Room 2*

*29 March: Room 6*



## In and Around School

### Room 7

**'Encourage one another and build one another up.'**  
*(1 Thessalonians 5:11)*

If you were at school last Friday for assembly you would have heard about Room 7's recent work around our brains and our positive mindsets. We in Room 7 believe that these recent learnings are merely extra tools to support our faith and that our faith, in turn, gives us a deeper understanding of our brains and our needs. The above Bible verse was one shared in this morning's prayers. We have quite a strong focus about how the principles and beliefs shared during prayers affect us all day long – not just at prayer time. Thus, we put a lot of work into planning an important morning prayer session.

For a great prayer session our must haves are: an opening prayer, a Bible verse, a meaningful activity and a closing prayer. Below are a few pictures that have resulted due to this process.

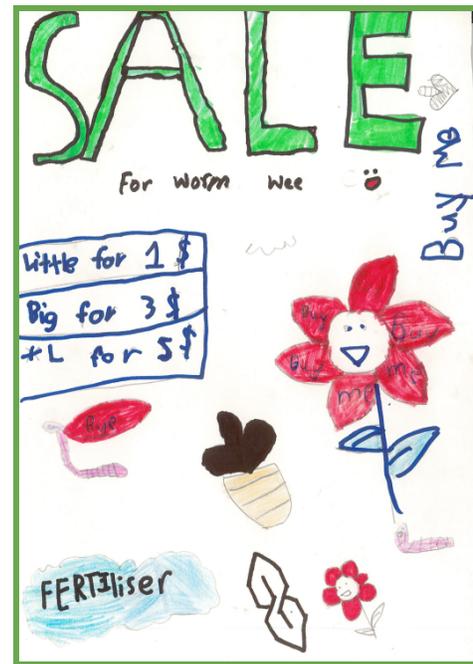


### Garden Club

#### Worm Wee Garden Fertiliser For Sale

The Garden Club will be selling worm wee garden fertiliser after school this Friday. Our worm wee has been produced by the worm farms that the children's fresh fruit and vegetable scraps go into after lunch each day. Our Environmental Leaders and Garden Club Leaders work hard to ensure that

the worms are fed daily with food they like to eat. Please support our stand which will be selling bottles of worm wee for \$1, \$3, or \$5. Proceeds will go to buying new seeds or seedlings for our vegetable garden.



### Camp Photos

There are more of these available on the Whānau section of our [HIGHLIGHTS](#) site if you are curious to see what goes on...



### Sports

#### Netball- Yr3-Yr6 Registration 2023

Winter Netball Season starts in Term 2. Please follow the link if you son or daughter would like to play. [Registration](#)

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Aimee Greenhough on 021-763-002 or [aimee@ingoodcompany.co.nz](mailto:aimee@ingoodcompany.co.nz).

## Eden/Albert Touch Tournament

It was a great day to play touch rugby on Tuesday! Thank you to all the coaches and team managers on the day for making it possible for our players, and to the players themselves for their committed play and sportsmanship.



## Information for Whānau

### PTA Meeting

**Wednesday 22 March 7.30pm in Staff Room**

You are all invited to come along next week to spend some time with other school whānau, learn more about what happens in your school and contribute to making it an even better learning experience for all of our children.

### Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences

**29 and 30 March**

A reminder to book time in your busy calendars to meet with your child's teacher to talk about their learning this term. A notice will be sent to you via email on Monday of next week, advising you how to book your appointments.

**Remember-** school closes at 2.00p.m. on Wednesday 29 March to allow the conferences to begin (normal 3.00 p.m. closing on Thursday 31 March). After school care will be available from 2pm on Wednesday.

### Side Gate Near Room 1 & 2 Closed

The external school gate near the swimming pool will be permanently locked for the safety and security of all students and staff.

All whānau who have keys to the swimming pool will be able to access the side gate with the swimming pool key that they hired from the office. We ask that you lock the gate after entering the pool and leaving the premises.

## Swimming Pool Key

A reminder to families who hired a GSS swimming pool key for the season that the pool closes on Monday 27 March 2023 and keys need to be returned to the school office by Thursday 06 April 2023. Incorporated in the key hire charge is a bond of \$30.00 which is refundable if the key is returned to the school office. If the key is not returned by this date, you will lose your bond.

## St Peter's After School Music Programme

We are very lucky to be able to offer out of school music tuition to our students on a Thursday afternoon through the St Peter's After School Music Programme.

The St Peter's After School Music Programme is now accepting new enrollments for 2023. Please fill in the form <https://forms.gle/jTnPjoCmZvambik58> or to find out more you can email [stpetersprimarymusic@gmail.com](mailto:stpetersprimarymusic@gmail.com).



## Let's Keep in Touch

We use WhatsApp and Facebook to facilitate communication among whānau. There is no obligation to join these informal groups, but whānau find them very useful for asking and reminding each other about school happenings - not to mention tracking down lost property! This document contains links to our groups, including classroom and PTA WhatsApp groups; and school and PTA Facebook groups.



[GSS WhatsApp and Facebook Information 2023](#)

## Procedure for dealing with concerns and complaints at Good Shepherd School

We value our community culture at Good Shepherd School. When dealing with any concerns and complaints that may arise, we keep at the forefront our core values of care, respect and honesty. If you have an issue, please follow this [link](#) which can guide you in how to proceed in order to resolve it with us.

## Attendance Dues and Donations 2023

**Attendance Dues** are a compulsory payment approved by the Minister of Education under the terms of the Education and Training Act 2020. They

are a condition of enrolment at Good Shepherd School, as they are in all Catholic schools in Aotearoa New Zealand. Attendance Dues are collected by Good Shepherd School on behalf of the school's Proprietor, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Auckland. They can be paid in full at the beginning of the school year, per term or by regular automatic payments.

Good Shepherd School also asks for **donations** from whānau. We rely on these donations to provide the extra learning opportunities, such as the *Opera in Schools* performance in week 5, and the exceptional resources available to our students, such as one-to-one devices in our classrooms. These donations include *Trips and Activities* and, where relevant, camp donations so that we can offer our students a range of rich education outside the classroom experiences. As a small school, we very much appreciate these contributions to our limited budget.

### Enrolments at Good Shepherd School

If you, or anyone you know, are considering enrolling your child at Good Shepherd, please contact the school office as soon as possible on [admin@goodshepherd.school.nz](mailto:admin@goodshepherd.school.nz).

As always we appreciate your recommendations of our school to friends and whānau.

### Arrivals at School

We are noticing a number of very young children arriving at school early, sometimes before 8am. Although we do understand the pressure that parents and whānau are under in getting to work, please be aware that teachers are busy preparing for their school day and cannot supervise children arriving early (see notice below about dropping off and picking up children and about our OSCA programme).

### Dropping off and Picking up Children

This is just a reminder that children are under the care of their parents or caregivers after 3pm, unless they have been booked into our Out of School Care programme. They are, of course, supervised on the Church steps until approximately 3.15pm, by which time parents will have picked them up. Similarly, we have Out of School care between 7.30am and 8.30am for those children whose parents need to get away to work early. Children are not closely supervised in the playground before 8.30am.

### Good Shepherd OSCA - Before & After School

The Good Shepherd OSCA programme is an important service that we offer to our school community. Below is a link to the booking form and OSCA Parent Information Sheet which outlines the operational details, and costs for the programme.

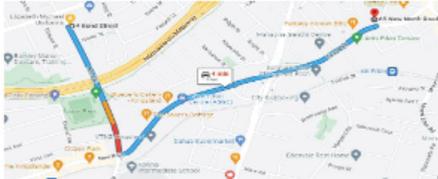
[OSCA 2023 Form & Parent Info](#). Forms can also be picked up from OSCA. OSCA is payable in **advance** to bank account 12-3067-0208272-03 on the Friday before the booking is needed.

- Please fill in all forms for OSCA accurately and keep us up to date with changing medical conditions for your child.
- Remember to let us know by email to [admin@goodshepherd.school.nz](mailto:admin@goodshepherd.school.nz) if your plans change, for example if your child is being picked up by another parent.

Thank you to Alex and his team for all the good work you do in OSCA.

### Elizabeth Michael Uniform

**Elizabeth Michael Uniforms**  
From Saturday 7th JANUARY 2023 you  
can visit us at our new shop at  
**65 New North Road, Eden Terrace**  
*We are at 4 Bond St, Grey Lynn until Saturday  
17th December!*



**EXTENDED SHOP HOURS**

Mon - Thurs	9am - 5pm	
Fri	9am - 4pm	
Sat	9am - 12pm	
Sat	9am - 3pm	7, 14, 21, 28 January 2023
Sat	9am - 3pm	4, 11 February 2023

Online orders can be made through Elizabeth Michael's website with the code GS132. We have a good selection of second hand uniforms available at minimal cost from our school office.

### Sushi & Moosies

Moosies are available to buy most Fridays, for two dollars. Please make sure your child has their coin in a safe place before lunchtime.

Orders are now open on Kindo for sushi orders for Term 1.

There will be sushi available on the following dates:



Thursday 23rd March  
Friday 31st March  
Thursday 6th April

If you do not have a Kindo account it is quick and easy to set one up [here](#).

If you have any questions, please email Emma Chan [chanemmanz@gmail.com](mailto:chanemmanz@gmail.com). Thanks to all our wonderful volunteers who help make this lunch service possible. Remember if your child orders Teriyaki chicken on rice, please send them to school with a fork in their lunchbox.

### Receptionist/Administrator – Catholic Social Services, Ponsonby.

Catholic Social Services is looking for a part-time (3 days) Receptionist/Administrator based in Ponsonby. As a faith-based professional service Catholic Social Services provides social work, counselling, out-reach and support to individual people and families.

The successful applicant would be required to provide efficient, effective, and professional reception and administrative services to the team at Catholic Social Services.

For further details please go to our website [www.auckland.catholic.org.nz](http://www.auckland.catholic.org.nz), staff vacancies.



# FAIR

- Quick Fire Wheel
- Silent Auction
- Fabulous Food
- Entertainment
- Books
- Clothing
- White Elephant

**Sunday 26 March** • 9am-2pm  
Parking available via Gate 4





## Holiday Surf Programme Orewa Beach

We are running our popular holiday surf programme over the April School Holidays at Orewa Beach. This is open to 6-16 year olds

**Fun, Active & Healthy**

6-16yr olds | Monday-Friday | Morning or Afternoon Sessions  
Orewa Beach | 10-14 April (including Easter Monday) | 17-21 April 2023

Suitable for beginner and intermediate surfers – developing surf skills and water confidence in a fun and safe environment.

**Limited spaces | Please email to book**  
[surf@nzsurfacademy.co.nz](mailto:surf@nzsurfacademy.co.nz)  
[www.nzsurfacademy.co.nz](http://www.nzsurfacademy.co.nz)

