



Te Kura o Hepara Pai

*Honesty Pono
Care Manaakitanga
Respect Whakaute*

Newsletter 05

27 March/ Poutūterangi 2025

From the Principal

Kia ora e te whānau,

I hope this message finds you all well. It has been a wonderful and busy time at our school, and I am grateful for the strong sense of community and involvement from our whānau.

Earlier this week, our teaching team enjoyed the opportunity to meet with parents and whānau during our three-way conferences. Your commitment to your child's learning and future goals is truly valued. Strong home-school partnerships provide an excellent foundation for children to grow and succeed, and I appreciate the effort and dedication you bring to these conversations.

We also had the privilege of celebrating Mass together for the Feast Day of St Joseph. A special thank you to Heather McLeod for organising an exciting and fun-filled tabloid sports rotation for the children. The joy and enthusiasm displayed by the students was great to see.

A big thank you to Father Martin and the PTA for the special treat of ice blocks—it was a delightful way to wrap up a great day! Thanks to Aimee Greenhough for helping on the day. I was also thrilled to see the bright and beautiful House Flags, generously donated by our PTA. These flags bring vibrant school spirit and unity to our community.

Last week, we also held a very well-attended PTA meeting. It was fantastic to welcome so many new families who are eager to get involved and share ideas on how to support the upcoming School Fair. Your willingness to contribute makes a huge difference, and I look forward to seeing the wonderful outcomes of your efforts.

A heartfelt thank you to Mele Kautoke for coordinating our first Pasifika Parents' afternoon last Sunday. It was a valuable opportunity to connect, share ideas, and discuss exciting plans for the year ahead. I deeply appreciate the support and involvement of our Pasifika whānau.

As we continue through the term, I encourage everyone to stay engaged and involved in school activities. Your support is invaluable, and together, we can create a nurturing and thriving learning environment for our tamariki.

Ngā mihi nui,

Ben Fahey

Upcoming Dates

28 March	Whole School Prayers Room 3, 2.45pm
31 March	Cultural Week Begins
3 April	Cultural Dress Day
4 April	Whole School Assembly, Room 4, 2.15pm
8 & 10 April	Year 6 Puberty Talks
9 April	Stations of the Cross
10 April	Colourful Clothes Day for the fair - PTA fundraiser Bring a Chocolate Block
11 April	Last day of term - school closes at 3pm

Please look carefully, as some of these dates have changed

Term Dates 2025

Term	Start	Finish
1	Tuesday 28 January	Friday 11 April
2	Monday 28 April	Friday 27 June

Special Character

Good Shepherd Parish Mass times

We encourage all families to attend Mass together, particularly those children who are participating in the Sacramental programme. Sunday Mass is at **9.30am** - Second Sunday of Lent.

Lent Season



HOLY WEEK 2025

PALM SUNDAY
6pm Saturday Vigil Mass | **SUN - 9:30AM**
Mass with Palm Sunday procession.

Tuesday & Wednesday 9:30am Mass.

HOLY THURSDAY ~ 7PM
The Mass of the Lord's Supper

GOOD FRIDAY
Way of the Cross ~ **10AM**
Passion of the Lord ~ **3PM**

HOLY SATURDAY ~ 7PM
Easter Vigil in the Holy Night of Easter

EASTER SUNDAY ~ 9:30AM
The Resurrection of the Lord

 **GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC CHURCH**
27 Telford Avenue, Mount Eden, Balmoral 1041

In & Around School

NZ Curriculum refresh and school reports

You may be aware that we have begun implementing the refreshed New Zealand Curriculum. This updated curriculum is designed to equip our tamariki with the knowledge, skills, and values necessary for their future success.

While these changes are being introduced in classrooms, our reporting documents will not be updated to reflect the new curriculum outcomes until next year. For the remainder of this year, student progress will continue to be reported using our current anniversary reports for year 0-2 students, and mid and end of year reports for students in year 3-6.

We will be holding a community consultation in the near future. This will provide an opportunity for parents, caregivers, and whānau to learn more about the curriculum changes and ask any questions you may have. Further details regarding the date and time will be shared shortly.

Room 9

We enjoyed leading the assembly last week and thank you to all our whānau for attending and to the many helpers for the cake raffle! We are having a busy but fun start to our year and we enjoyed sharing our learning journeys with you in our three way conferences this week.



Attendance Dues and School Contributions

Thank you for all your payments received so far. Accounts were emailed to Parents and Caregivers a few weeks ago so if you haven't received them, please check your spam or get in touch for a copy to be sent. Tax receipts will be sent out once all March payments have been allocated in early April.

Please don't hesitate to contact Ilana in the school office to arrange payment plans as regular payments (or per term) are required by the Catholic Diocese.

School Library

We are looking forward to the install of our new library management system. This is happening at the moment. To ensure a smooth transition the library will be closed from Wednesday 26 March until the end of term. There won't be any returns or issues at this time. The library will also be closed at lunchtimes until term 2.

Cultural Week - Week 10

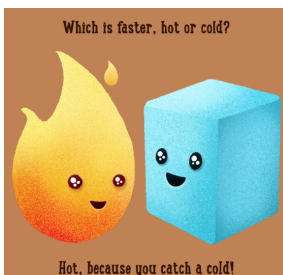
In week 10 (31 March to 4 April) GSS will be celebrating and learning about all the diverse cultures we have here at GSS. **On Thursday 3 April children can wear their cultural dress to school for the day.** Teachers will be emailing whanau to see if they want to come into school and share aspects of their culture with their child's class.

Year 6 Puberty Talks

Year 6 puberty talks will take place in Week 11 of Term 1. A notice with all the information will come home next week. The boys and girls will be split into different groups and each group will have two sessions with an outside facilitator who is experienced with our school.

Second Hand Uniform - unavailable from Friday week 10

In preparation for internal office block painting, the second hand uniform cupboard will be unavailable from Friday 04 April as it will be packed away and inaccessible until Term 2. Friendly reminder that from Term 2 through to Term 3, all children will require a full school winter uniform. If you need to acquire clothing for winter, please come in before the end of week 10.

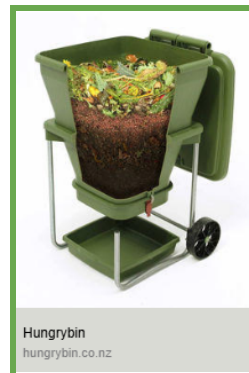


At Garden Club this week we added new soil and worm tea fertiliser to our garden beds. Our garden beds are now ready for planting! We also transferred our strawberries to the planter boxes by the swimming pool so that we can keep them safe and alive until they are ready to produce strawberries again in summer.



Free Hungry Bin Worm Farm

We are consolidating our 4 Hungry Bins into three. If anyone would like this one for free, please email echan@goodshepherd.school.nz



Waste Free Lunches at GSS

A reminder about the Waste Free Lunchbox initiative at Good Shepherd School. Please review the

attached flyer for our guidelines on this. It was great to see the enthusiasm and pride that the tamariki approached this initiative with last year, and it would be wonderful to see this continuing/increasing in 2025.

[How to pack a waste free lunch box](#)

Information for Whānau



All parents and caregivers are automatically part of the PTA, so everyone is welcome. These meetings are a fantastic way to connect with other parents and stay informed about what's happening at the school. Plus, with this being a Fair Year, there are lots of exciting plans ahead! Being part of the PTA committee is a fun and rewarding way to give back to our awesome GSS community!

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to nzgoodshepherdpta@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing you next week!

Reminder for GSS Pool Key Holders

Quick reminder that the pool will be closing for the season on Monday, March 31. If you hired a pool key for the summer, please make sure to return it by Monday, April 7 to get your bond back.

We appreciate your cooperation and hope you had a fantastic time at the pool!

Sushi/Pizzas/Ice-Blocks

Sushi is available to order for your child most Fridays for lunch. Ordering is taken online only, via [Kindo](#). Orders need to be placed before 8.30am on the Friday that you are ordering for but you can also choose to order in advance for as many weeks in the term as you like. Orders may be cancelled up until 8.30am on the Friday that you have ordered for. Sushi is supplied by Nagoya Sushi in Morningside, with the following options:

• Teriyaki Katsu Chicken on Rice \$8.50

- 4 Pack Tuna Sushi \$6.00
- * 4 Pack Chicken Sushi \$6.00
- 4 Pack Vegetarian Sushi \$6.00
- * 4 Pack Salmon Sushi \$6.50
- 6 Pack Tuna Sushi \$7.50
- * 6 Pack Chicken Sushi \$7.50
- 6 Pack Vegetarian Sushi \$7.50
- * 6 Pack Salmon Sushi \$8.00
- 8 Pack Tuna Sushi \$9.00
- * 8 Pack Chicken Sushi \$9.00
- 8 Pack Vegetarian Sushi \$9.00
- * 8 Pack Salmon Sushi \$9.50

Nice Block Ice-Blocks

Ice blocks are available on Fridays at lunchtime. Order online via Kindo or bring a \$2 coin. Year 6 House Captains run this service. If ordered online, your child will get a hand stamp before lunch and must collect their ice block after the "Finished eating" lunch bell. House Captains won't track down students who forget. If your child misses their ice block one week, unfortunately, we can't carry it over to the next, thanks for understanding! The ice blocks come in a range of flavours from [Nice Blocks](#).

Pizza Day

This Term, we will be having Pizza Day on **Tuesday 8th April**. Pizzas are supplied by Dominoes Sandringham. Orders for pizzas will always close **at 6pm, 5 days before Pizza Day** and it is not possible to accommodate any orders once they are closed. **Orders for our upcoming Pizza Day will close at 6pm on Thursday 3rd April).**

Please note that Pizza Day is run by parent volunteers. Please look out for requests to help with collecting and distributing the Pizzas on a Tuesday if you are available. The PTA is also looking for a volunteer to take over the administration of sushi and pizza day service. Please email Emma Chan chanemmanz@gmail.com if you are interested in this role.



22 NOVEMBER
SATURDAY

SAVE THE DATE!

THIS YEAR IS A FAIR YEAR!

GET READY FOR ONE OF THE BIGGEST AND MOST EXCITING EVENTS ON THE SCHOOL CALENDAR—OUR SCHOOL FAIR! IT'S ALWAYS A DAY PACKED WITH FUN, FOOD, AND FANTASTIC FESTIVITIES FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY, AND WE CAN'T WAIT TO BRING OUR COMMUNITY TOGETHER FOR IT.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAS ALREADY REACHED OUT AND OFFERED TO HELP—WE REALLY APPRECIATE YOU!
WE NOW HAVE OUR FAIR COMMITTEE IN PLACE AND ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO WORKING WITH THE WIDER COMMUNITY TO DELIVER AN AMAZING EVENT TOGETHER.

APRIL 10 COLOURFUL CLOTHES DAY (BRING A CHOCOLATE BAR)	MAY 07 WINE & CHEESE EVENING 7.30PM IN THE STAFF ROOM	MAY 09 COLOURFUL CLOTHES DAY (BRING A JOLLY JAR)
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NOT ON THE COMMITTEE? NO PROBLEM!

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

CAN YOU HELP WITH SPONSORSHIP OR PRIZES?

WE'RE ALSO ON THE LOOKOUT FOR SPONSORS AND PRIZE DONATIONS. DO YOU WORK FOR A BUSINESS THAT COULD SUPPORT US—BIG OR SMALL?

WHEN YOU PROVIDE A PRIZE OR SPONSORSHIP, WE'LL MAKE SURE YOU GET THE EXPOSURE YOU DESERVE. OUR FAIR REACHES BEYOND JUST THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY, WITH LOCAL PROMOTION, COMMUNITY BOARDS, AND A STRONG VISITOR TURNOUT.

treats—anything fun! We're giving you a heads-up now so you can prepare something over the school holidays.



We Need Your Help! 🙌

🙌 Can You Help with Sponsorship or Prizes?

We're also on the lookout for **sponsors and prize donations**. Do you work for a business that could support us—big or small?

When you provide a prize or sponsorship, we'll make sure you get the **exposure you deserve**. Our fair reaches beyond just the school community, with **local promotion, community boards, and a strong visitor turnout**.

🔧 Other Ways to Help:

If joining the committee isn't for you, that's totally fine! There are **plenty of other ways to get involved**, from running a stall to helping with setup, pack-down, or behind the scenes. Every role makes a difference.

📣 If you're keen to get involved, now's the time!

Let us know how you'd like to help and be part of making this a fantastic fair.

 **Mark your calendars – Saturday, November**

22! 🏠 ✨

Thank you to everyone who has already reached out and offered to help—we really appreciate you! We now have our **Fair Committee** in place and are looking forward to working with the wider community to deliver an amazing event together.

Upcoming Events:

🟡 Thursday, 10th April – Colourful Clothes Day (Bring a Chocolate Bar)

This will help stock the **Chocolate Trailer** game at the fair. We'll let families know what their donations are going toward in advance.

🧀 Wednesday, 7th May – Stall Holders & Volunteers Wine & Cheese Evening 7.30PM in the staff room

Come along for a relaxed drink and get a deeper understanding of how we run the fair—and how you can be part of it!

🟢 Friday, 9th May – Colourful Clothes Day (Bring a Jolly Jar)

Jolly Jars are filled with trinkets, stickers, lollies, little



29 MAR
10am-2pm

EDEN RUGBY
JUNIOR MUSTER DAY

5-17yrs Rippa | Tackle
Girls | Boys | Contact | Non-Contact

GET RUGBY READY!

- MERCHANDISE
- WEIGH-IN
- SKILL SESSION

EPSOM GIRLS NETBALL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME!

YEAR 5&6 AM SESSIONS
Tuesday 15th April 25
930-1200pm
Wednesday 16th April 25
930-1200pm

YEAR 7&8 PM SESSIONS
Tuesday 15th April 25
1pm-330pm
Wednesday 16th April 25
1pm-330pm

- \$50 a day or \$90 for both days
- Don't miss out—sign up today!

Register Here
Payment details will be sent to you after registration.

Further details:
Contact Jamie Clifford
JClifford@eggs.school.nz



2025 JUNIOR REGISTRATIONS

REGISTRATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FROM 5TH GRADE TO SENIOR SOCIAL!

- Boys & Girls
- Girls-only team options in all grades
- Play with your friends from local schools

FOR MORE INFORMATION HEAD TO OUR WEBSITE!

Location: Auckland United F.C (Keith Hay Park, Mt Roskill)
Register online at www.aucklandunitedfc.org.nz

PLAY FOOTBALL WITH AUCKLAND UNITED!



SIGNBIZ **fable.** **FLICKS** **ALH**