



Te Kura o Hepara Pai

*Honesty Pono
Care Manaakitanga
Respect Whakaute*

Newsletter 06

Thursday 10 April/Paenga-whawha 2025

From the Principal

Kia ora e te whānau,

What a special week we had last week! Our Cultural Week was a beautiful celebration of the unique identities and backgrounds that make up our school community. It was heartwarming to see so many parents coming into classrooms to share stories, artefacts, and delicious foods from their cultures. Thank you for helping us create such rich and meaningful learning experiences for our tamariki.

We also have a staffing update to share. Ms. Parry, who has been teaching in Room 4 on Wednesdays, will be stepping away next term to focus more on the business she runs with her husband. We will miss her very much—she's a truly exceptional teacher and we hope to see her back in a classroom sometime in the

future. The good news is that Mrs. Berger will be stepping into this role. Many of you will already know her, and we're so pleased to have someone familiar continuing the great work in Room 4.

Yesterday, our children took part in beautiful reenactments of the Passover meal, Palm Sunday, and the Stations of the Cross. It was wonderful to watch students from all year levels share these important moments with such confidence and care. A huge mihi to all of our brave performers and to Miss Kaur for coordinating this special event.

Looking ahead, we'd love to see all our families at our **Community Mass on Saturday 3rd May at 6pm**, which will take place in Week 1 of Term 2. Fr Martin will be presiding over the Mass. With the cooler weather and earlier sunsets, we won't be holding a picnic beforehand this time. For this Mass, we kindly ask that children wear their school uniform and sit with their whānau. We expect all families to attend as part of our commitment to the special Catholic character of our kura. If you're unable to make it, please just send me a quick email at principal@goodshepherd.school.nz.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support and for being such an important part of our school community.

Ngā mihi maioha,
Ben Fahey
Principal
Good Shepherd School

Term Dates 2025

Term	Start	Finish
2	Monday 28 April	Friday 27 June

Upcoming Dates

10 April	Colourful Clothes Day for the fair - PTA fundraiser Bring a Chocolate Block
11 April	Last day of term - school closes at 3pm
28 April	First day of Term 2 - school begins at 8.50am
03 May	Parish/School Mass 6pm
07 May	Stall Holders & Volunteers Wine & Cheese Evening 7.30PM
09 May	Colourful Clothes Day (Bring a Jolly Jar)
14 May	Confirmation Parents Meeting Evening
16 May	Pink Shirt Day
18 May	Confirmation Session One
20 May	Eden/Albert Football Zones Y5/6

25 May 02 June	Confirmation Session Two King's Birthday (School Closed)
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Please look carefully, as some of these dates have changed.



Have a look at the lost property table outside the school office. Anything left over of the term will either be donated to our second hand uniform cupboard or thrown away.

Attendance Dues and School Contributions - TERM 1 Attendance Dues Now Needed

As a condition of enrolment, the Catholic Diocese has asked that families make a per term payment of Attendance dues. Please contact Ilana in the school office to organise a payment if one has not yet been made for Term 1. Updated statements will be emailed this week.

Tax receipts for year ending 31 March 2025 were sent during the week. Please check your spam if you didn't receive this or contact the office for a copy to be resent. Thank you for your continued support.

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.

Sacramental Programme

The Sacramental programme resumes next term as students prepare for Confirmation.

Confirmation

Wednesday 14th May 6.30pm-8.00pm-Parents meeting: Confirmation

Sunday 18th May 9.30am - Confirmation Session one

Sunday 25th May 9.30am - Confirmation Session two (with rehearsal after Mass)

Sunday 8th June 9.30am - Pentecost Sunday, Sacrament of Confirmation

Monday 30 June to Friday 13 July School Holidays

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



Birthday blessings to our GSS tamariki that celebrate their birthday in April:

Harry Browne
Paprika Chavez
Andrew Dowell
George Ellis
Freddie Hall
Janice Jin
Madison Laika Momoisea
Samuel Lin
Toby Meintjes
Ridhi Rawat

*Viraj Rawat
Jake Siave
Noah Sujaritwatanasak
Ryleigh Tuala Soon
Lara Valde*

Sports

GSS Penguins

We've had an epic start to our first season playing Flippa Ball this term. Our team is full of spirit, positive vibes and working together! Not only do they play with smiles on their faces, but they are determined and committed to always trying their best. The Penguins have developed an amazing bond from the get-go and are extremely inclusive. Their one-arm passing and shooting skills have improved immensely as has their tenacity to play a strong defence. We've had 6 wins and 1 loss all up! It was a great learning experience for them to build resilience, change our strategy and come back strong on defence! Congratulations Penguins, we are so proud of you and looking forward to continuing to watch you all grow in this sport next term!

A special thank you to Mr Fahey for coaching and Ms Chan for all her admin and registering the team!!!
If you're interested in registering another GSS team for term 2 or even term 3, here is the info:
<https://mailchi.mp/seawolf/waterwolves>



Players: Kieran, Jack, Jude, Arthur, Harriet, Ted, Hazel, Arlo, Griffin, Mason, Luca



In & Around School

Winter Uniform in Term 2 & Term 3

From **Monday, 28 April until Friday, 19 September**, all students are required to wear their full winter school uniform. This includes, black socks & black winter school shoes. No hats needed.

As the colder months approach, please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the season in school approved uniform items only. While it may be tempting to send children in bright or non-uniform winter jackets and coats, we kindly ask that these are avoided to maintain consistency across the school.

All classrooms are heated and kept warm, so there is no need for heavy outerwear indoors.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping us maintain our school's uniform standards.

Change of Clothes - Field

In term 2 children will need to be wearing a change of clothes to play on the field at break times. This will begin on the first day of term 2.

Cross Country Training

In week 2 of term 2 the whole school will begin training for the cross country. Children will need to be wearing appropriate footwear for running. They can bring in their running shoes each day for training and a change of clothes (change of clothes is optional). If your child can't tie their shoelaces yet, please provide a pair of running shoes that have velcro on them. We will be training Monday to Thursday every week until the school cross country in week 7.



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.

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

Hōtoke (Winter) is definitely upon us!

Winter Wellness Reminder

As we head into the winter season, it's common for colds and other bugs to make their rounds. To help keep our school community healthy, please remind your children about the importance of:

- Washing hands regularly
- Coughing or sneezing into elbows
- Staying home if feeling unwell

You can also support your child's immunity with a few simple steps recommended by the Ministry of Health:

- Provide a balanced diet with fruit and vegetables
- Ensure good sleep and regular physical activity
- Keep up with routine vaccinations, including the flu vaccine

Have You Seen the Orange Cone?

You may notice an **orange cone** on the field during school drop-off and pick-up. This is a friendly reminder from Sharyn to stay off the field.



With colder mornings and rainy days ahead, the field can become muddy and slippery. To help keep it in good condition (and avoid muddy shoes!), we kindly ask that tamariki and parents use the footpath around the field instead of walking across it.



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!

Sushi/Pizzas/Ice-Blocks

Friday Lunch Orders

Lunch orders are available every Friday via [Kindo](#). Place your order by 8:30 am on Friday, or plan ahead for multiple weeks. Cancellations are accepted until 8:30 am on the Friday you ordered for.

Sushi from Nagoya Sushi (Morningside)

- Teriyaki Katsu Chicken on Rice – \$8.50
- Sushi Packs:
 - 4 Pack: Tuna/Chicken/Vegetarian – \$6.00 | Salmon – \$6.50
 - 6 Pack: Tuna/Chicken/Vegetarian – \$7.50 | Salmon – \$8.00
 - 8 Pack: Tuna/Chicken/Vegetarian – \$9.00 | Salmon – \$9.50

Nice Block Ice-Blocks

Available Fridays at lunch. Order via Kindo or bring a \$2 coin. If ordered online, children receive a hand stamp and must collect their ice block after the lunch bell. No carry-overs for missed pickups, thank you for understanding!

GSS SCHOOL FAIR!!!!



Good Shepherd School FAIR 2025

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	MAY 07	MAY 09
COLOURFUL CLOTHES DAY (BRING A CHOCOLATE BAR)	WINE & CHEESE EVENING 7.30PM IN THE STAFF ROOM	COLOURFUL CLOTHES DAY (BRING A JOLLY JAR)

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.

SAVE THE DATE! SATURDAY 22 NOVEMBER

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 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! 🏰 ✨

HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES

Monday 14 April - Thursday 24 April 2025*
held at both venues



Looking for an exciting way to keep the kids entertained these April school holidays?

Our action-packed school holiday programmes are filled with fun activities to match your child's interests, choose the perfect option for them and let the adventure begin!



Week One
Commences Monday 14 April
*No sessions on 18 April due to public holiday

Week Two
Commences Tuesday 22 April
*No sessions 21 and 25 April due to public holidays

Auckland Netball Centre
7 Allison Ferguson Drive
St Johns (PSCAR Accredited)

Windmill Park Venue
48 Windmill Road



To book or for more information please contact:

Caitlin Smardon, Development Programme Officer

T 09 280 4129 or M 021 577 105

E development@aucklandnetball.co.nz

www.aucklandnetball.co.nz



2025 JUNIOR REGISTRATIONS



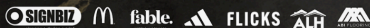
REGISTRATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FROM 5TH GRADE TO SENIOR SOCIAL!

- 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!



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