



*Care Manaakitanga  
Respect Whakaute  
Honesty Pono*

# Update...

*Te Kura o Hepara Pai*



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**Thursday 01 May/Haratua 2025**

## Term Dates 2025

Term	Start	Finish
2	Monday 28 April	Friday 27 June
3	Monday 14 July	Friday 19 September

## Upcoming Dates

3 May	Parish/School Mass 6pm
7 May	PTA Meeting 7pm - Fair Information evening, 7:30pm
9 May	Colourful Clothes Day - Please bring a jolly jar
11 May	Mother's Day
14 May	Sacramental Programme, Parents Meeting
16 May	Pink Shirt Day
16 May	Room 6 Assembly, 2:15pm
27 May	BOT Meeting
29 May	Feast of the Ascension
30 May	Room 7 Assembly, 2:15pm
2 Jun	Kings Birthday, School Closed
6 Jun	School Disco. 5pm - 7pm
8 Jun	Sacramental Programme, Sacrament of Confirmation
9 Jun	Cross Country, 9:30am - 1pm
13 Jun	Room 5 Assembly, 2:15pm
20 Jun	Matariki Holiday, School Closed
23-27 Jun	Book Week
26 Jun	Book Week, Character Parade, 9am - 10am

*Please look carefully, as some of these dates have changed.*

## 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 this term as our students prepare for Confirmation.

- Parents Meeting- Wednesday 14 May 6.30pm-8.00pm
- Sunday 18 May 9.30am - Confirmation Session one
- Sunday 25th May 9.30am - Confirmation Session two (with rehearsal after Mass)
- Sunday 08 June 9.30am -Pentecost Sunday, Sacrament of Confirmation



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

*Calum Buddell*  
*Luke Butcher*  
*Dominic Carter*  
*Emily Clark*  
*Fox Curnow*  
*Edgar Dipin*  
*Asher Dove*  
*Hugh Elmes*  
*Ethan Gomes*  
*Willem Greenhough*  
*August Gullery*  
*Grace Hannay*  
*Ada Hayhow*  
*Lucia Hodgson*  
*Casey Lupis*  
*Ryan Menezes*  
*Ivy Montague*  
*Patrick Nimo*  
*Manraj Singh*  
*Jessica St Clair*  
*Presley Walker*  
*Mason Wilkinson*



Special welcome to our new children and families that started at Good Shepherd this week:

*Clara Johnstone*  
*Benjamin O'Hara*  
*Elinor O'Hara*  
*Mason Egelani*

### 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

From now until the end of term 3 children will need to be wearing a change of clothes to play on the field at break times.

### Cross Country Training

Next week 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.



### Year 6 Level 1 Leadership Badges

On Friday 9 May all year 6 children will receive their level 1 leadership badge. This will happen after whole school prayers in the church. Prayers will begin at an earlier time of 2.35pm (led by Room 9) then the badges will be handed out afterwards.

### 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.

## 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](#)



## Reminders from the PTA

Hi Whānau,

We hope you all had a lovely holiday! As we head into Term 2, here are a couple of reminders from the PTA for next week:

 **Wednesday Night – PTA Meeting & Fair Info Evening**

We'll have a short PTA meeting from 7:00–7:30

PM to cover the essentials, followed by our Fair Information Evening (details in the flyer attached). Come along, enjoy a glass of wine and some nibbles, and find out how you can get involved – we'd love to see as many of you there as possible!

### 🍷 Colour Clothes Day – Bring a Jolly Jar!

Next Friday 9 May is our colour clothes day. Kids can come in colourful clothes and bring along a Jolly Jar. If you didn't manage to make one over the holidays, here's your reminder to add it to this weekend's to-do list!

Thanks as always for your support,  
The PTA Team



### GSS Fair Sponsor!!

### 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

### Sushi and Pizza Days – Term 2

Sushi will be available on the following Fridays:

- 2nd May
- 9th May
- 16th May
- 23rd May
- 30th May
- 6th June
- 13th June
- No Sushi on 20th June (Matariki)
- 27th June

### Pizza Days:

- Tuesday 27th May
- Tuesday 24th June

If you are available to help with the collection and distribution of food on any of these dates, please contact Emma Chan at [chanemmanz@gmail.com](mailto:chanemmanz@gmail.com).

### 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!

### Enchanted Forest Disco

#### Step into the Enchanted Forest Disco!

Get ready to dance under the stars and step into a world of magic at this year's Enchanted Forest Disco. Join us for a night of shimmering lights, mystical music, and spellbinding fun on Friday June 6th 5pm - 7pm. Gain inspiration from:

1. Enid Blyton's Enchanted Wood, The Magic Faraway Tree or The Folk of the Magic Faraway Tree.
2. The Hobbit
3. Alice's Adventures in Wonderland
4. Snow White
5. Hansel and Gretel
6. Goblins, Giants, Fairies, Pixies, Gnomes, elves, dragons or other mystical beings.

Whether you arrive as a forest fairy, a gnarly giant, or just ready to groove, this magical evening promises to be unforgettable. Expect enchanted décor, glitter galore, and beats that'll keep you dancing well into the moonlight. Don't miss your chance to be part of the most magical night of the year! Buy your tickets on Kindo for \$5 a ticket. A small selection of snacks and drinks will be available on the night. Snacks \$3 each and drinks being \$2.

We look forward to seeing you fantastical and spellbinding creatures at this year's disco!



### GSS SCHOOL FAIR!!!!!!

**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:

🧀 **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!** 🎉 ✨



**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.

SAVE THE DATE! **22 NOVEMBER SATURDAY**

**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)

**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.

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