Dear parents, students and friends of Good Shepherd,

Kindergarten Interviews
Kindergarten interviews have commenced for the 2017 school year. With places filling fast, please encourage those in the wider community who may be thinking of sending their child to Good Shepherd to contact the school to ensure they secure a position. Enrolment forms are available on the school website or via the office on 9495 1622.

Cross Country Carnival
The Faction Cross Country Carnival will be held this Friday starting at 1pm. All students in years 1 to 6 will participate in the event and wear their faction sport shirts on the day. Students have been training in the lead up to the event and have been prepared for the course. All students are expected to take part in the event as part of the school PE program and those absent will have the opportunity to complete the course under timed conditions upon their return.

A letter from Mr Johnson was sent home yesterday detailing information for the event and seeking assistance from our parent body for course marshals. Please offer your support for Mr Johnson on this his first carnival at Good Shepherd if you are able. All assistance is greatly appreciated. The Canteen will be operating as usual on Friday.

Parent Volunteers
Thank you to members of our garden volunteer group Peter Nelson and Michelle Budd for donating their time in our garden, completing weeding and general maintenance. The front of the school is looking much tidier and I appreciate the involvement of our parents in creating a beautiful environment for our students and staff to work in.

The Real Cost of In-term Holidays
Over recent years all schools are reporting an increase in absenteeism due to families taking holidays during term time. Parents often email me to “seek permission” for such holidays. As Principal I cannot give or deny permission for such activities. The final decision is always with the family. The Education Act stipulates students must attend on the days the school is open for instruction and the Principal must be informed if this is not the case. The Act stipulates students are excused from attending for: temporary physical or mental incapacity, or any other reasonable cause.

As the parent is the person who, at law, has responsibility for the day-to-day care, welfare and development of the child, it is the parent who makes the judgement as to the reasonable cause for such absences. Obviously we understand acceptable grounds include family and compassionate considerations, health complications or the commitment of elite athletes.

A recent study in the Sydney Morning Herald on 2 August 2014 has quantified the effect of absence on progress. According to the study the average public school student in NSW misses almost three weeks of school each year. At this rate a student would miss nearly a year out of thirteen years of schooling between Kindergarten and Year 12. Australian students miss school more frequently than any other developed country except Turkey and Italy.
Stephen Zubrick from the University of Western Australia commented “A 10-day period of unauthorised absence in a year is sufficient to drop a child about a band in the NAPLAN testing.”

The study also noted that while poor attendance is a problem across the socio-economic spectrum, families in affluent areas often interrupt schooling for overseas holidays.

While we now have electronic assistance where students can log on and communicate while not at school, absence from the learning environment and social group has an impact. Just as missing netball training or music lessons will slow progress, academic progress will also be affected by absence.

In this week’s newsletter I have included an article on school attendance. Whilst I can very much appreciate the costs of holidays in peak time and the difficulty for some working families to secure holiday times that coincide with the school holiday period, it is worth considering the other impacts of in-term holidays as food for thought.

God bless,
Andrew Colley
Principal

Year 6 Leadership Coordinator Messages

We would like to congratulate all Year 3 and Year 5 students who sat their NAPLAN last week- Well done!

Mother’s Day Service

This year, we held our first Mother’s Day Prayer Service at school. We would like to thank all the beautiful mothers and grandmothers for coming, it was very well attended. We would like to also thank Mrs Newman for helping set up and organise the service.

Honour Certificates

Congratulations to the following students who received honour certificates at last weeks assembly: Corrado Sciarrone, Abel Sijo, Lilly Morrow, James Clune, Caleb Harris, Zoe Daly, Nash Attewell-Tomson, Casey Hellemens, Jaxon Flockhart, Lachlan Fenwick, Ellie Power, Morrison Hall, Grace Boardman, Makayla Sims, Michael O’Shea, Angus Gibsone, Ben O’Shaughnessy, Codi Dewhurst, Mali Morgan and Samantha Wood.
LIBRARY NEWS
For the love of BOOKS!!

Welcome to our first article on the Library!!
As the Library Teacher my AIM is to promote a LOVE of Literature and inspire all children to become life-long readers. READING is for pleasure and information. All students visit the Library once a week for a Library lesson and borrow books each Thursday with Mrs Archibald. The Library is open on Mondays and Fridays at Lunchtime and the children are always welcome!! Books, games and puzzles are some of the Lunchtime activities which the children love to explore and enjoy. The month of MAY is National Family Reading Month. I encourage students to read with a family member for at least 10 minutes every day. HAPPY READING!!

Phyllis Greaves
LIBRARY TEACHER

Sacramental News

The Year Four class is working well in preparation for the Sacrament of First Communion on Sunday, 29 May. Please find listed below some details with regard to the Retreat Day and the Mass.

First Communion - Year Four Class

Retreat Day – Friday 27 May – Students dropped at the church by parents ready to start the retreat by 8.45am. Please wear sports uniform for the day. Students will return to school by 11.00am to complete the Retreat Day. Retreat Day finishes at 3.00pm.

First Communion – Sunday 29 May, 10.00am Mass. Photographer available for family photos in the Parish Centre from 9.00am. Please be seated in the church by 9.45am.

The Year Six class is also preparing for their Confirmation which will take place on Saturday, 11 June at 6.00pm.

May Gods special blessings be with our students as they prepare for their Sacraments. Thank you parents for supporting your child on their very special Sacramental journey.
On Sunday, 29 May, students in Year 4 will be receiving the Sacrament of First Communion at the Good Shepherd Church, Kelmscott. Two weeks later on Saturday, 11 June, the Year 6 students will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Year 4, 5 and 6 students will be part of the choir at these Masses. Confirmation and First Communion are special occasions in our school’s sacramental calendar. Your support at the Masses would be much appreciated.

The arrival and conclusion times are listed below for your information.

**First Communion Mass Choir – Year 5 and 6 students.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>Sunday, 29 May</th>
<th>Good Shepherd Church, Streich Avenue, Kelmscott</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arrival Time:</td>
<td>9.45am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pick Up Time:</td>
<td>11.30am</td>
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</table>

**Confirmation Mass Choir – Year 4 and 5 students.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>Saturday, 11 June</th>
<th>Good Shepherd Church, Streich Avenue, Kelmscott</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arrival Time:</td>
<td>5.45pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pick Up Time:</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Students are requested to please meet me inside the church, **wearing full winter uniform**. To ensure your child’s safety in the busy church car park, parents are asked to please collect children from the choir area in the church at the conclusion of Mass. The easiest access to the choir is from the glass doors on the side of the church that face the grassed area.

Thank you very much for your support, having the students of our school singing at the Masses will certainly enhance this special occasion.
We are very excited to share the news with you that Good Shepherd School is about to become a KidsMatter School!

You might be thinking, what is a KidsMatter School?

**KidsMatter** Primary is a mental health and wellbeing framework for primary schools and is proven to make a positive difference to the lives of Australian children.

**KidsMatter** Primary provides the methods, tools and support to help schools work with parents and carers, health services and the wider community, to nurture happy, balanced kids.

**KidsMatter** Primary is a flexible, whole-school approach to improving children's mental health and wellbeing for primary schools. It can be tailored to schools’ local needs.

Through **KidsMatter** Primary, schools undertake a two-to three-year cyclical process in which they plan and take action to be a positive community; one that is founded on respectful relationships and a sense of belonging and inclusion, and that promotes:

- social and emotional learning
- working authentically with parents, carers and families
- support for students who may be experiencing mental health difficulties.

When schools take on **KidsMatter**, they build on the work that they are already doing in these areas.

To help facilitate **KidsMatter** at Good Shepherd we are initiating an **Action Team**.

You are invited to consider being part of the **KidsMatter** Action Team.

The **KidsMatter** Action Team will be made up of a selection of staff representing all areas of our school, a representative from our Admin team, parental representatives and a Parish representative.

Members of the Action Team would need to:

1. Have the time to commit to meeting, up to two meetings each term.
2. Be prepared to undertake professional development.
3. Take on the role of communicating **KidsMatter** information to our community.
4. Be interested in promoting a healthy and positive sense of wellbeing and community at Good Shepherd.

**KidsMatter** will give us an opportunity to celebrate many of the things we are already doing at our school and help us to generate some great opportunities for growth in our community.

Please contact Diana Newman with expressions of interest via email, newman.diana@gsk.wa.edu.au

Many thanks,

Diana Newman
GSK Netball Club

A HUGE thank you to Blackrooke Advertising (Brooke Boardman & Andrew Rooke) for the donation of movie tickets to help fundraise for our netball club. It is very much appreciated.

A big thankyou to the Andrew Colley & the Good Shepherd community for the support of purchasing the tickets and allowing us to sell them. This is a good little boost for our club to help with trophies and our end of year presentation.

Thank you
Rachel Cutri
Club President

Rachel Cutri
0400230913

LOST PROPERTY

Items of Lost Property need to be collected within 14-days as we cannot guarantee that we can keep them beyond this time

Thank you

INTERSCHOOL CARNIVAL CAKE STALL

The P&F will be holding a cake stall at the upcoming Inter School Cross Country 10th June. Donations of baked goods will be greatly appreciated and can be dropped to the parent.

PFFWA CONFERENCE & AWARDS

The Parents and Friends Federation of WA are holding their annual conference and awards evening this Friday 20 June.

The Good Shepherd P&F have nominated two people from our school community for the Awards for Excellence in Building Positive School communities

Parent: Rebecca Boardman and Principal: Andrew Colley

Congratulations on your nominations Rebecca and Andrew.

UPCOMING MEETING

Our next P&F meeting will be held Tuesday 31st May at 6:00pm we hope to see you there!
**Dates to Remember**

**Friday, 20 May**
School Cross Country
Carnival

**Thursday, 19 May**
Year 4 Reconciliation

**Friday 27 May**
Year 4 First Communion
Retreat

**Year 1 Assembly**

**Monday 23 May**
P & F Exec Meeting
9:00am

**Tuesday 31 May**
P & F Meeting
6:00pm

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**Kindergarten Enrolments 2017**

Kindy interviews for 2017 are being held this term. Please contact the office to for an Application for Enrolment Form if you have a child of Kindergarten age: **born between 1 July, 2012 and 30 June, 2013.**

Siblings of students already at school and students in the 3 Year Old Program **must** complete an application form for an interview.

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**CANTEEN**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Name(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon, 16 May</td>
<td>C Todd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed, 18 May</td>
<td>S Tilby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri, 20 May</td>
<td>M Dew, A Catalano</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon, 23 May</td>
<td>Help needed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed, 25 May</td>
<td>C McDonnell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri, 27 May</td>
<td>C Caruso, C Lange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wendy Lazzari,</td>
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<td>Canteen Manager</td>
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**Uniform Shop**

**Opening Times:**
- Monday 2:00pm - 3:30pm
- Wednesday 8:00am - 9:15am
- Friday 8:00am - 9:30am

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Thank you to all our volunteers