



GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

PRE-KINDERGARTEN to YEAR 6

LEARNING THROUGH FAITH LOVE & LAUGHTER

Newsletter 19 Week 7 Term 4

22 November 2023

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

The last month of the school year is always the busiest month of the year, but it is also filled with Christmas spirit which makes it very enjoyable as we prepare for Christmas. I was just mentioning this morning to the ladies in the canteen how lovely it was listening to the Christmas concert rehearsal in the undercover area after morning recess today. There are lots of things for us to look forward to in the last 2 weeks of the year as the children share their Christmas cheer with us.

School Tie

Thank you to all the families who completed the survey regarding the future of the school tie here at Good Shepherd, we had 105 families complete the survey which reflects a really good cross-section of our community. There was a marginal majority who chose to not continue with the school tie as part of the winter uniform, but the consensus was that it was not enough of a majority to make this significant change to the school uniform. Thank you again to all families who contributed to this decision, the decision made in consultation with our School Advisory Council was that the school tie will remain.

Science Week

Science week, a couple of weeks ago now seemed to be a great success. A number of incursions related to: Mini Beasts, Bee Houses and Nature Drawing were really enjoyed by the children along with the range of “buddy lessons” organised for the children with focuses on Sherbert Making, Lego Masters, Dinosaur Digging and the Boat Challenge. The lunch time activities for the children added to the focus to the week as well. It is always great to lift the profile of different subject areas and Science is no exception. Thanks again to Kristy Maher for the extra opportunities and learning experiences she provides through the Science program for the benefit of the children.

Year 6 Girls Compete in Triathlon

We recently had three Year 6 girls compete in a Triathlon held at Champion Lakes. Congratulations to Emily Buckingham who swam 200M, Celia-Lee Nicholls who cycled 4km and Eva Gilchrist who completed the team event by running 2km. It is great to see the girls challenge themselves and participate in a community sporting event of this nature, being part of this competitive environment would have been a great experience, well done girls!

Fathering Project Camp Out

We had another very successful Camp Out coordinated by the committee of the Fathering Project group. This is one of the major events of the year, it was attended by 75-80 members of our community. The children enjoyed a combination of structured activities which they enjoyed and some free playing and socialising

time for the children and their father figures to build connections and enjoy each other's company. There always seems to be a strong level of excitement for the children about being at school at night as well. My sincere thanks again to Dylan Teicher who coordinated the event with the assistance of some helpers – Mat Hyland, Clary Powell and Ciaran Shannon. It is events like these that the children build some special memories associated to their time in primary school.

Staffing for 2024

Each year we go through a process where we formally ask all staff if they are returning the following year and ask them to provide their preferences about the year levels they would prefer to work with. As the Principal of our school, it is about creating the right balance across the school.

We have a few changes to our staffing for next year:

- Tracey Marsden will be leaving our community at the end of 2023 after being at our school for one year. Tracey has secured an Assistant Principal position at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Hilton. Tracey has been replaced in the Assistant Principal role by Deborah Glorie who is currently in the Assistant Principal role at St Joseph's, Waroona. We thank Tracey for all the contributions she has made in our community throughout 2023 and wish her well in her new role.
- Fiona Redden has requested Leave Without Pay for 2024, and will be replaced by Georgia Franco. Georgia comes to us as a graduate teacher from Notre Dame university.

- Phyl Greaves has requested Leave Without Pay for 2024, and will be replaced by Nicola Burns in Year 3 on Tuesdays.
- Barbara Stone has reduced her role to 1 day each week from the start of 2024 which will be facilitating the Gifted and Talented program on Fridays, which leaves Sarah Cooper in Year 5 full-time.

The staffing for 2024 will be:

Pre-Kindy teacher – Hollie Summers-Johnson assisted by Jenny Marion-Clark

Kindy teacher – Sabrina Roberts assisted by Sue Deckert and Hannah Lake

Pre-Primary teacher – Georgia Franco assisted by Renae Lanternier

Year 1 teacher – Lauren de Souza assisted by Sam Anton

Year 2 teacher – Brittany Smith assisted by Gail Player (0.4) and Georgia Curulli (0.4)

Year 3 teacher – Keiron Throssell (0.8) and Nicola Burns (0.2) assisted by Gail Player (0.4) and Georgia Curulli (0.2)

Year 4 teacher – Ethan Dias

Year 5 teacher – Sarah Cooper

Year 6 teacher – Renee Guazzelli (0.8) and Diana Newman (0.2)

Literacy Support teacher – Deborah Glorie (0.6)

Science teacher – Kristy Maher (0.6)

Phys-ed teacher – Brent Johnson (0.4)

Italian teacher – Penelope O’Brien (0.4)

Music teacher – Diana Newman (0.4)

Gifted and Talented teacher – Barbara Stone (0.2)

Education Assistants 3-6 – Sue Deckert (0.4) and
Georgia Curulli (0.2)

School Admin Officer – Rose Bridges

School Finance Officer – Jenny Marion-Clark (0.8)

Social Worker – Kate Vandamme (0.3)

Uniform Shop Coordinator – Linda Aldworth

Canteen Manager – Wendy Lazzari

Grounds and Maintenance – Clayton Rickman

Assistant Principal – Deborah Glorie (0.4)

Assistant Principal – Diana Newman (0.4)

Principal – Paul Hansen

Community AGM

A message to all families in our community, we have
our 2023 Community AGM next Wednesday, the
details include:

Event – Community AGM

Date – Wednesday, 29 November 2023

Time – 6pm to 7pm

Venue – Ward House

This meeting will be a great opportunity for us to celebrate the successes we have had throughout the 2023 school year, thank the people in our community who have contributed towards these successes and share some plans for us moving forward as a school community. We also have two positions available on our School Advisory Council for parents who may be interested in joining us and the positions of President and Vice-President remain vacant on our P&F. Nomination forms for these positions are available at the front office. We also like to conclude the meeting with some refreshments and an opportunity for socialising, so please come along and join us if you are available.

Year 5 Christmas Stalls

A reminder to all families that our annual Year 5 Christmas stalls will take place at lunch time on Monday, 4 December. This is a tradition as an important part of the journey for the Year 5 students to launch into their final year as the leaders in our school. Items on sale will start from .50 cents and the children are encouraged to bring no more than \$5. All proceeds from the Christmas stalls will be donated to St Vincent de Paul to ensure some less fortunate people in our local community have a more enjoyable Christmas season.

Dates to Remember

Just to ensure all families are across the events over the next fortnight, please see the list of key events below:

Friday, 1 December – Parish/School Christmas picnic at 6pm at the Church

Monday, 4 December – Year 5 Christmas Markets at lunchtime

Tuesday, 5 December – Year 6 Graduation Ceremony and Dinner

Wednesday, 6 December – K-3 Christmas Concert at 9:30am

Thursday, 7 December – Thanksgiving Mass at 9:30am at the Church

Friday, 8 December – Final Assembly / Year 6 excursion, Canteen is closed today

Class Transition to New Year Level

As part of our preparation for 2024, all classes will transition to their new classrooms for approximately 90 minutes after lunch on Friday, 1 December. This will be an opportunity for the children to meet their new teacher within the context of their new classroom before we begin the week of end of year activities in the final week of the year.

Dates for 2024

Please look out for the important dates for 2024 which will be published in our final newsletter in a fortnight to assist you with your planning for the new school

year. These dates will include term dates and pupil-free days for next year.

Best wishes for the coming fortnight.

Paul Hansen, Principal



Triathlon



Thursday, 23 November - Year 3 Liturgy 9am,
Instrumental Showcases 1.30pm and 6pm

Friday, 24 November - Year 1 Assembly 2pm

Wednesday, 29 November - Community AGM 6pm

Friday, 1 December - School Fees to be finalised,
Parish/School Picnic @ Church 6-8pm

Monday, 4 December - Year 5 Christmas Stall at
lunchtime

Tuesday, 5 December - Year 6 Graduation
Ceremony & Dinner

Wednesday, 6 December - K-3 Concert 9.30am
Undercover Area

Thursday, 7 December - Whole School Thanksgiving
Mass 9.30am @ Church, Talent Show 1.30pm

Friday, 8 December - **CANTEEN IS CLOSED**, Final
Assembly 9am, Year 6 Excursion, Last Day Term 4 -
Students

**Monday, 29 January - Uniform Shop open for pick-
up of orders only 9-11am**

**Wednesday, 31 January - First Day Students Term 1
2024 8.30am**

[Click for the Current Calendar](#)

END OF YEAR FUNCTIONS

Instrumental Showcase Concerts

Date: **Thursday, 23 November 2023** Performance for parents and friends.

Time: **1.30pm** and **6.00pm**

Where: Ward House – Good Shepherd School.

Performers: All students who learn an instrument through the Lumen Christi Instrumental Program.

Dress: **Years 1 – 6 Summer uniform.**

School and Parish Christmas Picnic

Date: **Friday, 1 December 2023**

Time: 6.00pm

Participants: The whole school community is invited to attend. Years 1 – 6 will be performing.

Where: Good Shepherd Church, Streich Avenue Kelmscott

Dress: Year 1 – 6 performers: free dress that reflects the spirit of Christmas.

Bring: Picnic dinner, picnic rug or folding chairs.

Families are invited to bring along a Christmas gift for a child to give to the Three Wise Men. The gifts will be donated to St Vincent de Paul to support local families in need at Christmas

Kindy- Year 3 Christmas Celebration

Date: **Wednesday, 6 December 2023:** Performance for parents and friends.

Time: 9.30am

Where: Undercover Area.

Performers: All students in Kindergarten, Pre-Primary, Years 1, 2, 3.

Dress: Costumes will be provided for all students.

Year 1 - 3 are requested to please wear sports uniform

Thanksgiving Mass

Date: **Thursday, 7 December 2023**

Time: 9.30am

Participants: All students, Pre-Primary – Year 6 and families.

Where: Good Shepherd Church, Streich Avenue Kelmscott

Dress: Full Summer Uniform

Final Assembly

(Including the Year 2 & Year 6 Buddy Dance, 2023 Year Six Awards, 2024 Student Leadership Announcements)

Date: **Friday, 8 December 2023** (last day of school)

Time: 9.00am

Where: Undercover Area. The assembly will include the Year Two and Year Six Buddy Dance, the Year Six presentation of the "Reindeer Rap", announcement of 2023 Year Six awards and 2024 Leadership roles.



[Term 4 2023 Canteen Roster](#)

[Canteen Menu](#)

CANTEEN

Thank you to all the parent volunteers who help in the canteen. Your support is greatly appreciated.

CANTEEN IS CLOSED ON FRIDAY, 8 DECEMBER

Wendy, Canteen Manager

[Order Canteen Here](#)

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal

Thank you for your generous donations for this year's Appeal. Tomorrow will be the last day for donations. Donations can be left either at the Library or in the school office.



Good Shepherd Parish & School Christmas Picnic

When: Friday, 1 December 2023
Time: 6.00 - 8.00pm
Where: Good Shepherd Parish 44 Streich Ave, Kelmscott

We will be having a picnic on the grass, please bring rugs and chairs.
You can BYO your own picnic or there will be food for sale on the night.

Highlights of the evening include a pantomime/nativity play,
music and... prepare yourself for the finest in entertainment
as the School Band performs and you are stunned by the unique
vocal talents of the students!

All students from Years 1 - 6 will be performing.

Families are invited to bring a gift, marked with age and gender, to donate to a child in need.

Special Guest Appearance from the Three Wise Men

Enrolments 2024

If you are seeking a place for your child in Kindergarten 2024 or know someone that would be interested in sending their child to GSK, please contact the office for an enrolment pack or consult our website.

Interviews for the 2024 Three Year Old Pre-Kindy Program are being finalised. Please submit your enrolment forms into the school office as soon as possible as places are filling up.

Families with siblings are also required to submit an enrolment form.

Enrolments in other Year groups are also available

Your child's journey starts HERE



Dental Therapy Van

The Dental Therapy Van is now located at Roleystone Community College, 90 Raeburn Road (van is located off Brooks Rd), Roleystone, until further notice. Our phone number is 0428 304 970 . We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

**Camp Australia - Before and After
School Care**

Bookings for Your OSHC program are open.

Registration is **free** for all families. We recommend that all families register so if you ever need or want to attend, all you need to do is book your session as we'll already have all the documentation we need from you. You simply have to login and register through our [Parent Portal](#), also available as a smartphone app, and start booking.

Camp Australia Information

LOST PROPERTY

There is an ever increasing amount of lost property in the office. Please collect your items by the end of this month. This includes uniforms, water bottles, lunch boxes etc. All leftover uniforms will be donated to the Uniform shop.

Uniform Shop

Opening Hours

Monday afternoon 2.00 - 3.15pm

Friday morning 8.00 - 9.15am

Orders for Uniforms for 2024 are open now. If you require items please order them now with Linda in the Uniform shop to ensure availability of stock. Orders Forms are available in the school office.

The Uniform shop will be open on Monday, 29 January 2024 between 9-11.00am for pick-up of orders only.

[Click here for the Uniform Policy](#)

School Fees

School fees should be finalised by Friday, 1 December 2023.

Please contact me as soon as possible at accounts@gsk.wa.edu.au or 9496 9292 if you have any queries or concerns about finalising your fees.

Jenny Marion-Clark - Finance Officer



The Important Role of Father Figures and Male Role Models

A father figure can be any positive male role model in a child's life. They can be sports coaches, teachers, uncles, grandparents or even your child's friend's dad.

It's Perinatal Mental Health Week, a time to raise awareness of the importance of looking after your mental health pre and post-birth.

Parenthood is a life-altering experience, bringing joy and excitement alongside unexpected challenges. As a new dad, it's essential to be mindful of the transformative journey, prioritising not only the well-being of your child but also your own mental health and that of your partner.

Recent statistics show that 1 in 5 new mothers and 1 in 10 new fathers or non-birthing partners encounter perinatal depression and anxiety, affecting around 100,000 Australian parents annually.

To foster a positive and fulfilling experience, it's crucial to proactively address these challenges and seek support when needed.

Top Tips

1. Encourage open communication

It's essential for new dads to feel comfortable expressing their thoughts and emotions during this significant life change. Encourage open communication within your relationship and create a safe space for discussing concerns, fears, and even the joys of parenthood.

2. Prioritise self-care

Although you have entered a new stage of your life with different priorities, that doesn't mean you forget to look after yourself! It's important to get adequate rest where possible, regular exercise, and moments of personal time to maintain mental health.

3. Connect with other dads

Building a community of support with other new dads can be invaluable, whether it's a group of your mates or in your workplace. Connecting with others and sharing experiences helps to normalise the range of emotions.

A workplace that has a culture that supports the role of all parents is critical to employee wellbeing, as well as child development.

There are simple ways to start changing the culture to create a more supportive environment.

Whether you're in a leadership position or simply wish to advocate for better support for fathers, we've curated some practical tips for you to explore.

Top Tips

1. Check in

Don't wait for a father to come to you if they are a new dad or the dad of a sick child, for example. Check in with them to see how they are going, if they are going through a transition period, or perhaps struggling with this new load at home or a lack of sleep – offer your support or a listening ear.

2. Lead by example

When senior staff acknowledge and discuss their role as fathers in the workplace and are open about work and family, this creates a supportive environment for fathers to acknowledge that role as part of their lives as well.

3. Know who the fathers are

Including single/separated fathers, stepfathers, grandfathers and fathers as carers are in your organisation. Ask them to sign up to a database as carers along with mums and grandmothers.

[Read More](#)

Lumen Christi College - Instrumental Program

For information and enrolment, please click on the button below

[Lumen Christi Instrumental Program](#)

Community News

City of Armadale - [Twilight Celebration Soiree for Volunteers 5 December](#)

Gosnells Womens Health & Wellbeing Services - [Girl Power Workshop](#)



Good Shepherd Catholic Parish Kelmscott - Fr Pavol Herda

Parish Office: 42 Streich Avenue, Kelmscott

Parish Website: www.goodshepherdkelmscott.com

Parish Email: gskp@iinet.net.au

Phone: 9495 1489 (Office Wed-Fri) **Presbytery:** 9495 1204

Sacred Heart Parish - 1643 Canning Road, Karragullen -
Sunday Mass: 8.30am

Masses at our Parish Church

Weekday Masses: Mon-Wed & Friday 8am, Thursday: 6.30pm

Saturday: 8.00am, 6.00pm
8.00pm: Neocatechumenal Mass

Sunday: 8.30am Latin Mass

Sunday: 10:00am and 6:00pm

Reconciliation - Saturday 5-6.00pm

When attending Mass you are strongly encouraged to maintain physical distancing where possible and not to attend Mass if you are feeling unwell.

 **Share**

 **Forward**

Good Shepherd Catholic Primary School Kelmscott
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