



Shepherd Spy

WEEK 3 TERM 3

9 AUGUST 2018

Good Shepherd Catholic School Amaroo is a companion school to Holy Spirit School Nicholls, and Mother Teresa School Harrison and St John Paul II College Nicholls. Together we serve and are served by Holy Spirit Parish Gungahlin.

Parish Mass is held every
Saturday 6.00pm
Sunday 8am;
9.30am and 5.30pm
All are welcome to join us.

School website
www.goodshepherd.catholic.edu.au

Email
office.goodshepherd@catholic.edu.au

Phone
6255 7888

Parish Home
Fr Mark Croker
6242 9622

Dear Community,

Congratulations to our teachers, students and parents on a fantastic Wakakirri performance last night at the Canberra Theatre. We are very proud of our students who performed in front of a full-house at The Canberra Theatre.

Obviously an enormous amount of work has gone into this performance- backdrop painting, choreography, rehearsals, make-up, ticketing, costuming, music, props delivery of props etc etc. I am very proud of our teachers who have done so much to ensure the students perform on stage in front of a sell-out audience at Canberra Theatre. Many staff have gone beyond the call of duty! Big thanks to our our Coordinator- Vanessa Ross and her Wakakirri team.

Congratulations students! I am extremely proud of you! This is something that you will never forget. Our school won a couple of awards last night which is also a fantastic achievement.

School buses

On Tuesday, I attended a meeting for Catholic school principals at Transport Canberra. At the meeting we discussed our concerns regarding the proposed changes to the Canberra bus system and in particular the proposed reduction to dedicated school buses. I know a number of families have already completed the survey, and I urge those of you who have not done so to have your say before the 12th August.

These proposed changes will affect Good Shepherd. We will no longer have a dedicated school bus route for Amaroo, Bonner, Forde or Moncrieff. Instead, children wishing to catch a bus to school, will have to catch a public bus. Other suburbs will have to get off at Gungahlin and re-route.

If these proposed changes go ahead, we cannot guarantee the pick-up or drop off time for students, nor can we guarantee that students will be dropped off on the school-side of the road.

Principals at the meeting raised their deep concern for student safety, and in particular that:

- Students would no longer be on dedicated school buses with only children and a bus driver with a WWVP card, but instead, with members of the general public who have not necessarily had a WWVP check;

In some instances, students will have to swap buses at bus interchanges unsupervised. In the case of some catholic schools, including primary schools, this means changing buses at the Tuggeranong, Belconnen, Woden or even the Mawson interchange which is on a major road;

- Students will no longer be dropped at the dedicated school bus stop, but at the local bus stop.

If these changes do go ahead, it will be virtually impossible to offer sufficient supervision for students as they wait for their bus from the school, and absolutely impossible to monitor students at bus interchanges.

To be together

I urge everyone whose children catch a bus or who think they may catch a bus to school in the future to have a look at the Canberra Buses website and the proposed changes.

<https://canberrabus.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/>

[Good Shepherd Primary School Guide.pdf](#)

Then please, either complete the survey <https://www.yoursay.act.gov.au/rapid-bus-network> or, email Transport Canberra TCCS.MyRapidNetwork@act.gov.au or, the Minister for Transport and City Services, Meegan Fitzharris MLA, fitzharris@act.gov.au.

I thank those who have already completed the survey and/or emailed Transport ACT and/or the Minister.

I encourage those who have not already done so to voice your concerns before the feedback period ends this Sunday.

Community Council News

Earlier this week, our Community Council met to discuss a range of issues. Here is a brief run-down of the main points we had on our agenda:

Traffic Study

Our school has just received a draft report of the Traffic Study conducted by RD Gossip Pty Ltd and included the drop-off, pick-up and parking arrangements at both Amaroo School and Good Shepherd Primary School. The final report will be available soon and I will make this available to the whole community. There are many recommendations included in the report to improve the safety and flow of traffic in and out of Good Shepherd. More information to follow.

After Hours School Care

Our current provider for after hours care 'Camp Australia's contract expires at the end of this year. After Hours School Care has gone to tender and closes later this month. A committee will be formed to review all tender applications.

Canteen Sub-Committee

We are looking for some parents to join the 'Canteen Sub-Committee'. The terms of reference include reviewing our current arrangement. Please contact me if you would like to be on this committee.

Father's Day

Our Fathers' Day afternoon is planned for Friday 31 August. We are looking forward to this day with plenty of activities for staff, parents and families. Information is being disseminated now and more information to follow. Please RSVP via the app and thank you to those who have offered their assistance with the BBQ.

Communication

We discussed communication with parents and the wider community. We acknowledged we are a very large school (the largest ACT Catholic Primary School) and it is always challenging to ensure that communication from the school (and vice versa) is clear and timely. Sometimes it doesn't always work and we acknowledge that. I assured the Community Council I will raise it with the School Leadership Team this week and look at ways we can continue to improve in this area.

Working Bee

Because of our building project and First Communion Sunday, we are postponing our planned Working Bee in our Calendar on Saturday 22 September.

...the heart of God.

Cheerleading

Best wishes to all our Cheer boys and girls participating at the ACT Regionals this Sunday. This is a competition run by the ACT cheer clubs for our cheerleaders. Good luck!

Wishing God's blessing on you and your families,

David Austin



Principal



STEM FAIR

The time is near! We are so excited and can't wait to see all the STEM Fair projects on Tuesday 14 August. Parents are more than welcome to come and help celebrate some wonderful learning with the students! It will run from about 9.30am—10.30am.

For our children choosing to participate, they may bring their projects to school on Tuesday morning. They can then head to the Hall and set up, from 8.45am. The students will stay with their project for the duration of the Fair.

Stars of the Week...



Mia (KE)	Elijah (1C)	Koby (2CT)	Indi (3D)	Siena (4F)	Sebastian (5DD)	Ethan (6A)
Joanna (KK)	Valentino (1H)	Dominic (2F)	Tyler (3T)	Maged (4JO)	Mackenzie (5H)	Sophia (6B)
Brayden (KMS)	Aarush (1M)	Maira (2K)	Justin(3W)	Mikayla (4P)	Lachlan (5R)	Liana (6M)
		Arpanjot (2K)				
Christopher (KT)	Aleisha (1R)	Charli (2M)	Grace (3Wh)	Emerson(4Z)		Morgan (6T)

Father's Stall will be held on Wednesday, 29 August. Children will attend the stall with their class during the

Departing Families

We are aware that some families will be moving out of the area at the end of this year. To help us with staffing and class structure for 2019, we would really appreciate knowing which children (apart from Year 6!) will not be returning to Good Shepherd next year. If your child/ren will not be returning, please fill out the slip and return it to school as soon as possible.



Departing Families

My child/ren



_____ will not be returning to Good Shepherd School in 2019.

The school my child/ren will be attending is

Date _____

Signed _____

To be together



‘To be the Heart of God through connected hearts, inspired minds, flourishing students.’



Please keep students receiving the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist in your prayers as they are welcomed more fully into the Church and into a Christian life.

A reminder to parents and children to attend Mass and receive your third jigsaw puzzle piece this weekend. Reminder to also bring your *Precious Memories* to offer at Mass this weekend. Students will receive a special blessing before offering their precious memories ribbons at the offertory procession.

Sacrament of Reconciliation liturgies are coming up in Week 5, Tuesday 21 and Wednesday 22 August, at 1pm and 6pm. For the 1pm liturgies, parents will need to come and collect their children before going to the Church. The liturgy usually goes for 1 hour.

Next Friday, 17 August 6 Thornton and 6 Brotchie would like to invite everyone to join them in the Prayer Celebration at 9.15 am in the hall.

Congratulations to Will in 3 Donnelly for being received into communion with the Catholic Church at Mass last Thursday.

During the school term each class celebrates Mass with the parish at 9:15am on Thursdays. A warm invitation is extended to all families to come and celebrate Mass with the children.

Classes	Date
Year 1 & Year 5 Mass	Thursday 6th September
Year 2 and Year 4 Mass	Thursday 20th September



Next Wednesday 15th August, Good Shepherd will be celebrating Mass to celebrate the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into heaven. This Mass will be held in the hall with Fr Jiss at 9:15am. All are very welcome to celebrate this feast with the school community.



The famous **Holy Spirit Trivia and Bingo Night** is on again!
Party time is 7.00 pm on Saturday 1 September in the Hall.
An early celebration of Our Lady, Mary's birthday, this is a night for FAMILIES!!

There will be special prizes for younger players with most of the trivia targeted at **The 'Young at Heart' (do you remember your super-heroes?)**
Yummy finger food and drinks will be available but please bring your own as well.
The evening is a fundraiser – so please bring your cash!

We need: a brave or enthusiastic bingo caller – give it a go!
We also need donations for prizes and a big raffle.
Tickets are \$10 for everyone over 10 years and \$100 a table.

Pre-purchase through Pradeep at pradeepan.pillai@gmail.com.
Enquires and offers to Alison at alisonmweeks@bigpond.com.

...the heart of God.

Last week, Year 6 participated in training for Peer Support on Thursday and Friday. The Peer Support training covered the basic principles of being a good leader as well as showing us different ways we could run a Peer Support session.

The training also covered things like acknowledging ourselves and teamwork. By learning more about things like problem solving, decision making, empathy and assertiveness we improved our leadership and the way we would lead the school.

In our training for Peer Support, we did a lot of practical work that would help us include fun activities in our Peer Support sessions. These activities will help introduce everyone and let everyone get to know each other.

By Adam (6 Abbott)

If your child is interested in learning Irish Dancing please contact Canberra Irish Dance 0422 508 619 or www.canberrairishdance.com.au Lessons are held in Amaroo. Adult beginner classes also available.



The manner of giving is worth more than the gift.

Pierre Corneille

Grasshopper Soccer (Gungahlin) is seeking expressions of interest for our micro age groups (6-12 years old) for a Friday afternoon program running for 7 x weeks in Term 3. We aim to kick off Friday 10th August with sessions running between 3.30pm and 5.15pm if we have sufficient interest. There will be limited class sizes to 16 kids so if you want to get your kids into Australia's Number 1 participated non-competitive soccer program, please act now!

Call or text 0431 986 494 or email lee@grasshoppersoccer.com.au for more details.



Yes, August is Hats ON Again for ACT



We have had a number of students who have borrowed Good Shepherd Uniforms from the Front Office and have not returned them. If you have any of these items, please return them to the Front Office washed and ironed as soon as possible.



Parents please do not send your children to school when they are feeling unwell. This is unfair to their classmates. If your children are suffering from diarrhoea, vomiting or gastro symptoms they must stay at home until 48 hours after the last episode. These guidelines are recommended by the ACT Department of Health. Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

If you are free on a Monday morning and would like to meet some new people while helping out our teaching staff, please come to the Staff Room after morning assembly. While we chat we can start to do any craft prep, laminating, contacting, or other general duties that the teachers need for upcoming classes. It's an informal group so just come when you can. Younger children are also welcome to come along. Morning tea will be provided.



To be together



Book Week Dress up day - 2018

On Monday 20th August (Week 5) we will begin our school Book Week celebrations with a dress up day and conclude it on Friday with Polynesian story telling.

The theme for this year is 'Find your Treasure'. We would like the children to focus on a treasured story from their family. This could be a special story from their family heritage or a character from a treasured story.

Your costume ideas can include the following:

- Traditional costume from your family heritage
- Character costume from your favourite family story
- Treasure hunter/explorer

If possible a copy of the book/story should come with the child for them to hold during the parade. We are hoping that with our large multicultural community that we will see some wonderful national outfits.

We will have a parade in the hall on the Monday after morning assembly.

Yours,

Bernadette Aitken

Teacher Librarian