Dear Parents and Carers,

3rd February 2016

Last week we welcomed sixty-five Foundation students to Good Shepherd School. For many of the families it was their first time at Good Shepherd. There are a number of families who have siblings already in the school or they have siblings who are past pupils of Good Shepherd School. Several parents of the new Foundation students were students at Good Shepherd themselves. We also welcomed twelve new students in Years One to Six.

We hope that in 2016 all in our community, those who are new and those who are ongoing, enjoy a fulfilling and happy year.

We were delighted today to open four boxes containing the items we received as a result of your commitment to collecting 'Woolworths Earn and Learn Stickers’. Karen De Wilde was particularly thrilled as there were a large number of musical instruments. Karen was also impressed with the quality of the instruments. The sounds of the musical instruments made it a very noisy office area. Boxes of unifix cubes were also included in the prize. The extra resources will benefit the children.

Thank you again to Julie Gifford for co-ordinating the program and to our school and parish communities who collected so enthusiastically.

Many thanks to Liam, Caitlin, Adrian and Leanne Grima (pictured above right) who spent two days digging, weeding, trimming and mulching the area in front of the Performing Arts Building in the heat over the Australia Day weekend. Thank you also to Roger Hoareau who came along and helped them on one of the days. The area looks so much better and makes an amazing difference to the appearance of the PAB. It also contributes to an attractive environment that improves the wellbeing of students and teachers.

The car park seems to be working more effectively in the mornings. It really helps if those parking and taking their children to classrooms leave as quickly as possible and clear the way for others to park.

On the following page there is an invitation for you to visit the school on Monday 15th February with your children. Parent Teacher Meetings will be held in seven weeks.

If you have a specific issue relating to your child that you need to pass on to your child’s teacher before the Parent Teacher Meetings, a list of appointment times for Wednesday 17th February will be available in the office.

On the evening of the 15th February, the children will have a list of questions – one for each classroom. As they visit each of the classrooms, they will seek a solution to the question for that classroom. As they leave they can place their completed answers in the blue barrel in the office for an opportunity to win a prize the next day.

If you know anyone who is thinking of enrolling their child at Good Shepherd School in 2017 and would like to tour the school before the Open Day on the 15th March, they are most welcome to come. We will have staff members available to show them around.

God bless, Ruth

2016 Good Shepherd School Fees:
The single family fee for 2016 is $1,350 + a $200 levy.
The family fee for 2016 is $1,715 + a $200 levy per child.
You are invited
to an open evening with your children
on Monday 15th February from 6pm to 7pm.

You will have the opportunity to meet the 2016 teachers and to visit the classrooms. During the visit the children will share with you their start to the 2016 school year.

If you have information you wish to pass on to your child’s teacher, you will be able to make an appointment at the office as you are leaving.

We have set aside Wednesday 17th February for these appointments.

Parent Teacher Meetings will be held on Monday 21st March and Tuesday 22nd March.
GOOD SHEPHERD CAR PARK

For the safety and wellbeing of all users, parents and family members are asked to observe the parking directions and restrictions in our car park area.

Take care at the crossing in front of the office.

Remember that you must not leave your car in the drop-off zone.

All drivers are asked to follow car park directions:

No Parking in the Drop-Off Zone - If you choose to stop in the drop-off zone, even for a short time, this lack of consideration for others can cause traffic congestion, place people and cars at risk, and generate some frustration for other motorists.

Turning Right at Academy Avenue – This causes congestion in the car park when you have to wait for the opportunity to turn right and, at peak times, creates a dangerous situation for cars travelling along Academy Avenue when they are faced with cars travelling on the wrong side of the road.

The signs on the right were placed near the exit kerb and on the back of the hall by Monash Council.

Use the two gates near the shelter when in the Drop-Off Zone, to drop off or pick up your children. When dropped off or picked up, children enter or exit via these gates.

Entry and exit for parents is through the side gate at the end of the footpath.

Park your car and use the crossing when walking your children into the school.

The disabled parking spaces are for people who need them. We have children with physical disabilities enrolled at Good Shepherd School.

Please do not drop off or pick up your child in front of the administration area or church at any time. It creates a hazard for other drivers. Please park your car and walk with them.