



**GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC  
PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL  
NEWSLETTER**

**11th September 2017**

**New Year.  
New Goals.  
New Successes!**

**Dream big, because  
dreams do happen.**

Alex Morgan

**Dear Parents/Carers**

*Congratulations to all our Nursery and Reception children who have made an excellent start to their life at Good Shepherd School. They appeared confident and looked wonderful in their uniform. I look forward to seeing them grow over their time with us. A warm welcome to all our new families.*

**LETTERS AND CLASS INFORMATION**

*Please do make sure your child has given you current letters and class information about topics and skills to be taught this term. There will be key letters going out this week so please do check with your child or look inside their book bags. Class newsletters give valuable information on how you can support your child and your involvement and home learning is key to their success in and outside of school.*

**MEDICAL FORMS**

*Thank you to everyone who has already returned medical forms sent out last Wednesday. It is vital that information relating to medical needs is up to date and contact numbers for all parents are up to date. Please do return them as soon as possible if you have not done so.*

**SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR 2017-18**

*The start of the year is always exciting as it brings new opportunities and a chance for us to embed our strengths and improve on areas of development. One of the main areas of our School Development Plan for 2017-2018 will be maths, reading and working on improving our percentages of attainment in these areas. Further details will be sent out shortly and you will be able to see actions to be taken, expected outcomes to achieve and most important your involvement in supporting your child and the school. Please note that we will be holding a Curriculum Evening on Thursday, 28th September 2017 at 5.30 p.m. in the Junior Hall. Apologies for having to change it from the original date advertised in last week's Newsletter (21.9.17). The focus will be on practical ways to support your child with maths, particularly with reasoning skills.*

*Reading continues to be key to success across the curriculum and our aim this year is to ensure that our pupils have access to a wide range of quality texts. It would help them considerably if you regularly take them to the library to choose books. Sharing a book with your child, regardless of how old they are, is an important part of developing reading for pleasure and extending comprehension skills. The more we read the more we know! Please look at the attached sheet for advice.*

*Current Affairs continues to be a big part of our school curriculum and children are keen to discuss events in the news. Please do talk to them about the news and encourage them to watch BBC Newsround and read First News which is a newspaper specifically for children. We have copies in school and children love them!*

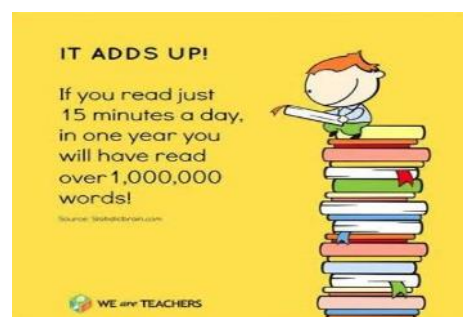
**FUTURE DATES**

*Please refer to published newsletter dates for events this term. Our Welcome and Thanksgiving Mass will be on Friday, 6th October at 9.15 a.m. so please do try and attend. Clubs will begin on Monday, 25th September 2017 and a letter will be sent out shortly.*

**VOLUNTEERS**

*We would be delighted to hear from any of you who can spare time to support in school. We particularly need helpers to accompany classes to swimming on a Monday, Thursday and Friday afternoon. A letter will be sent out this week so please do complete the form and return it to the office. Thank you in anticipation for your help and support.*

**Mrs Fernandes - Headteacher**



# STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE TOGETHER AS ONE

## CELEBRATION OF BIRTHDAYS

*Please remember that we no longer allow party bags or cake to be brought into school because we have an increasing number of pupils with severe allergies. Birthdays are celebrated at our Thursday School Assembly and children are invited to come up to receive a birthday sticker. If you wish to treat your child's class please send in some fruit or donate a book for the class. Do ask your child's class teacher for ideas about appropriate books to donate.*

## CONGRATULATIONS

*Congratulations to our Reception teacher Miss Harvey who got married in July and is now Mrs Geal. She looked beautiful and it was a very proud moment for her family and of course the happy couple Mr and Mrs Geal. We wish them a lifetime of happiness.*

*I would like to thank Mrs Saunders who organised the school choir to sing at the wedding and to all the children who gave up their Saturday to sing at this special occasion. The children did us proud and looked smart and sang like angels. We had many compliments from the congregation on their positive behaviour and angelic singing. My thanks to all the staff who accompanied the children.*



## WELCOME TO OUR NURSERY AND RECEPTION PUPILS





# STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE TOGETHER AS ONE

## Uniform—The school uniform is.

### Boys

Good Shepherd logo jumper  
Grey trousers  
Black shoes (**not trainers**)  
White shirt (not a polo shirt)  
Good Shepherd School tie  
Black/grey socks.

### Girls

Good Shepherd logo jumper  
Grey trousers or skirt  
Black shoes (sensible, no heels)  
White shirt (not a polo shirt)  
Good Shepherd School tie  
White or grey socks/grey tights

### Nursery

Good Shepherd red logo sweatshirt  
Blue jogger bottoms  
Red Good Shepherd logo t-shirt  
Black trainers

### Coats

Dark warm waterproof coats

### P.E. Kit

Blue shorts  
Red school P.E shirt (with logo)  
Black plimsoles  
Trainers (optional) only for outdoor use  
Plain navy blue (not shiny) tracksuit bottoms (optional)

### School Bag

School Rucksack

### Hairstyles

Long hair should be tied back  
Haircuts should be smart and not have any logos, symbols, patterns or designs. No drastic haircuts

### Earrings

Earrings may be worn but they **MUST** be small gold or silver studs





# STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE TOGETHER AS ONE

## READING OPENS DOORS

### Good Readers Determine Importance!

Good readers **ALWAYS** think while reading.

Good readers take notice of new learning.

Good readers decide what to remember and what to ignore.

Good readers decide what is **IMPORTANT** & what is **INTERESTING**.

Good readers use text features to help them see what is important.

Good readers ask themselves questions while reading.



OTJm Brubaker (TeacherKarma.com)

### The Parts of a Parent Reader

A Smart Mind, to understand the importance of reading with their child daily.

Eyes, for seeing their child and showing how engaged they are.

Ears, to listen to their child's questions.

A Mouth, for reading books to their child, 20 minutes every day.

A heart, to love and desire a good education for their child.

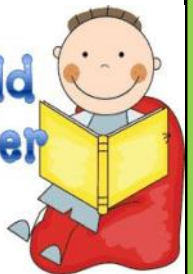
Hands, for hugging their child close while reading a favorite book.

Books, to share every day with their child to build their language and literacy.

Feet, for walking to the library each week to discover new books.



### Help Your Child Become a Better Reader



#### Questions to ask your child while reading fiction text

Who is the main character?

What was the setting?

What was the problem in the story and how was it solved?

What do you predict will happen next in the story?

Why do you think the author chose the title for the story?

Do you like the title of the story? Why or why not?

Can you think of a different title for the story?

Which character from the story would you choose to be your friend? Why?

What part of the story was the most exciting? Why?

Did you like the end? Why or why not?

### Reminders for GOOD READERS

#### Preview

Look over the title, the cover, the pictures, and some of the content to see what it is about and how it is organized.

#### Infer

Decide what the author means by using clues, details, and facts to help you understand characters and events.

#### Picture It

Draw pictures in your mind as you read. Visualize the characters, the setting, and the action.

#### Make Connections

Compare what you have read to what you know about people, events, and the world around you.

#### Ask Questions

Ask, "who," "what," "where," "when," "why," and "how" questions to decide if what you are reading makes sense.

#### Summarize

Use the details, the order of events, and the characters to draw conclusions about what you have read.

#### Predict

As you read, think about what has already happened, and guess what will happen next. Read to find out if you are right.

#### Review and Respond

Look back at what you have read. Discuss or write about your impressions and what you have learned. Explain your responses.



### Head Teacher Award

Congratulations to all the pupils of Good Shepherd for making an excellent start to the start of the Autumn Term

Remember to aim for Gold every day of the week and You will not be disappointed with everything you will achieve.

### ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

*We are striving for 100% attendance and punctuality.*

*Remember classroom doors are open at 8.40 a.m*

*Overall Attendance: 97.9% 100% attendance: No class*

*100% punctuality: Year 3*

### Father Con's reflection

*On Friday of last week, 8th September, our school joined our parishioners for Mass in the church. It was the great feast of the birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary (This coming Friday, the church marks the Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows).*

*In the Holy Family at Nazareth, she was Jesus' "tutor" in his childhood and adolescence. (His foster father Joseph coached him in woodworking).*

*So Mary, who is the highest honour of the human race, is the ideal "patron" for our pupils, staff, parents and Governors at the beginning of this academic year and, of course, beyond.*

*May our parents encourage their children to pray a well-said "HAIL MARY" each morning, entrusting each school day to her motherly intercession.*

### Diary Dates

#### 1st Half of Autumn Term

- 18th September Year 6 Transition parents meeting 5.30pm
- 18th September School Photos
- 25th September Clubs Start
- 27th September KS2 Tag Rugby 1pm to 1.30pm Trinity School
- 28th September Maths Curriculum Evening 5.30pm in the Junior Hall
- 2nd October Bring your Parent to Lunch
- 3rd October Parents Evening Meetings
- 5th October Parents Evening Meetings
- 6th October School Mass 9.15 am (Thanksgiving Mass For Retiring Governors)
- 10th October Yr 5 & Yr 6 Hockey 4pm to 5.30pm Trinity School
- 18th October International Evening 5.45PM

*Parents and Carers of pupils in the Early Years and Years 1 and 2 are encouraged to come into class daily to work with your child from 8.45 to 9.00 a.m.*

*Please do support your child, but I ask that you leave the classroom by 8.55 am., at the latest before the school gate is closed.*

