Good Shepherd Newsletter Term 4— 2020

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Somebody once said: "I've always loved the first day of school better than the last day of school. Firsts are best because they are beginnings. Let us remember: One book, one pen, one child and one teacher can change the world. Education is the key to unlocking the world, a passport to freedom."

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

SPORT NEWS

IMPORTANT LETTERS TERM 1

Wi-fi extender

Installation of Wi-Fi Extender

The Good Shepherd School was experiencing difficulties with connection to the Wi-Fi Router on the new building. The router is installed on the one side of the building, on the first floor. It resulted in the classes on the other side of the building, and especially on the ground floor, having difficulty connecting to the Wi-Fi.

A request was made to Sifunda Kunye to assist with the procurement and installation of a Wi-Fi Extender to ensure the entire building is connected. The request was heeded to by Sifunda Kunye, and the extender installed on the problematic side of the building, resulting in constant connectivity in the entire building.

Cami 2020

Grade R learners enjoying their time in the lab—Cami 2020

In loving memory of Mrs Eleanor Christian

On 6 April 2020, Mrs Eleanor Christian, HoD and Gr3 teacher, passed away after a short battle with pancreatic cancer. The entire Good Shepherd community were saddened by the devastating news.

Tribute to Mrs Eleanor Christian

It is with a great deal of sadness that we learnt of the passing of our beloved teacher, Eleanor Christian. At the time of her hospitalization, she was Head of Department (HOD) at Good Shepherd Primary School, where she spent 25 years as a dedicated teacher. Her professionalism, passion, love and care for her Grade 3 learners will always be remembered with fondness. She was also a very committed and dedicated member of the School Governing Body for a number of years. Such a humble, hardworking and unselfish Educator, an anchor and stalwart serving as SMT, SGB, Educator and Leader for years at Good Shepherd. A person with a heart of Gold.

Ella was a dedicated and loving mother and family member. She gave practical expression of these qualities in her career and community life as well. Her quiet and unassuming demeanour masked her determination and resilience in tough situations. These traits stood her in good stead in various leadership roles. She was a team member, but relished individual assignments as well. Christian always executed her profession and the Batho Pele Principles with pride, passion and distinction, always going the extra mile for the school, putting the learners first and continued striving for excellence.

We are devastated by the loss of a remarkable member of our community and send our condolences to her children and family. A memorial service for her will be held after lockdown.

We as the SGB, Trust, Staff, Learners, Parents and the broader Good Shepherd Community will surely miss you Ella.

Written by Chesley Daniels

Valentines day competition

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Maphelo Gr. 2 was our winner for the best dressed learner on Valentine's Day.

Best dressed

Grade 3 - Number sense

Mrs. Christian with her enthusiastic Gr. 3 learners. We introduced Maths Number Sense to the Foundation Phase from January 2020. This is a remarkable program to encourage the learners to enjoy Maths.

Our learners played in a rugby and netball tournament on 7th of March 2020 In Grahamstown. Our learners played against P.J. Olivier/Frans Erasmus u/13 rugby and netball tournament.

Thank you !!!!

Good and quality food by our meal servers every day, all learners receive on a daily basis breakfast and lunch

17 January 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians

Somebody once said*: "I've always loved the first day of school better than the last day of school. Firsts are best because they are beginnings. Let us remember: One book, one pen, one child and one teacher can change the world. Education is the key to unlocking the world, a passport to freedom."*

Please allow me to wish you prosperity, happiness and good health in 2020. My wish is that all stakeholders will work in harmony together to achieve our main educational aim: **QUALITY LEARNING AND TEACHING THROUGH QUALIFIED TEACHERS IN A SAFE ENVIRONMENT.**

From this year there will be more focus on the neatness of books; please cover all books on/before Monday 3 February. Cursive handwriting with a blue pen or pencil is compulsory, the educational value of cursive writing is very important and cannot be measured in money! All educators have received a document on the importance of cursive writing and will explain it to their learners. There are still outstanding textbooks from 2019, this is unacceptable and these learners will not receive a new text book unless they bring their old text books back or pay R200 for each new text book. We urge parents to see that their children bring Irish Lines writing books and Nature Study books for Gr. 4 as well as Nature Study books for Gr. 5-7. The Department of Education did not supply these books.

Welcome to all new parents, you are now part of the Good Shepherd Family and your child is in one of the best no fee schools in the country. Use this opportunity to encourage your child to be present every school day and prepare them to consistently work hard. Remember discipline and education starts at home.

A special word of welcome to new members of staff from this year. Ms. Zola Lukwe (Gr. 2 Teacher) is a placement from the Department of Education and was formerly an educator at Clumber Primary Farm School, Bathurst. Mrs. Cindy Bokbaard was appointed as new administrator/secretary, after Ms. Samantha Galada successfully applied for a promotion post at the Fort Beaufort District Office. Ms. Bokbaard come from Graeme College where she worked as an aftercare manager and administrator. We trust that these colleagues will enjoy their new working environment and will be happy at our school. Congratulations must also go to our educators who study part time. Excellent results were achieved in their 2019 exams. Well done to Mrs. Christian, Mr. Accom and Ms. Gongqobe. We are extremely proud of you.

We invite our parents to submit their CV's for the position of meal servers at the school. At this stage there are two positions. The due date to hand your CV in at the Admin Office is 5 February 2020 and successful candidates will start on 28 February 2020.

The athletics season will start from next Wednesday, we will use the Victoria Primary Sport Grounds. From this year we will involve all learners from Gr. 1-7. Practises will be from 14:00-15:00.

Basketball practices will start on Monday 27 January at St. Andrews. Transport will be available, please pack in an extra lunch pack for your child.

The opening of the academic year and the induction of the 2020 Monitors will take place in the Cathedral on Tuesday 21 January. We invite all parents to join us from 12:00 for this special occasion. After the formalities we will come back to school and the learners will be dismissed earlier (13:15).

Although we are a no fee school we remind our parents from Gr. 1-7 to donate R100 per term and to send donations of A4 photostat paper, toilet paper, tissues, etc. to the different class teachers. Gr. R parents must pay compulsory school fees of R350 per month over a period of ten months.

All parents will receive a Code of Conduct to sign, we are worried that some of our learners do not adhere to the rules of the school, for example: untidy and long braids, ill disciplined learners, etc.

Quality second hand clothes will be on sale every Friday from the office. We urge parents to please mark all clothes with a permanent marker.

A special parent afternoon will be held in the last week of January. Parents will visit the different class teachers in their classrooms. We will send an invitation with a date to you.

There will be an inspection on Monday morning during Assembly. Please make sure that your child is neatly dressed in the correct school uniform and their hair, etc. is according to the school rules.

Enjoy the first weekend of the term with your children.

14 February 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians

May all of you have a blessed Valentine's Day and experience once again the power of love. My wish is that all of us experience love every day and not only once a year. Remember three things will last forever: Faith, Hope and Love. St. Basil once said: "He who plants kindness gathers love".

Next will be the start of Week 6 of the Academic Year. Rugby/Netball practices will start next week and the extra-mural programme is now structured and organised. St. Andrews College also promised me earlier this week that they will drop off learners after clubs at the different points. Please see at the back of this newsletter the full extra-mural programme.

Learners must please bring their own spoons for the School Nutrition Program from Monday. They are responsible for looking after their spoons so that they don't get lost.

We urge parents to see that all school clothing is marked clearly, we cannot take responsibility for any clothes. Please make use of our second hand clothing bank where you can buy school clothes at very, very low prices. Please contact our school secretary, Mrs. Bokbaard.

The Code of Conduct will be sent to all parents next week to sign as we have included the PoPI Act in it. The PoPi Act is to ensure that all institutions conduct themselves in a responsible manner when collecting, processing, storing and sharing another entity's personal information by holding them accountable should they abuse or compromise your personal information in any way.

Raffle to win a cake: postponed until 2 March and the draw will take place on 3 March. We ask parents/guardians not to send your children to the streets to sell raffles, rather take responsibility and sell it at your work or neighbourhood.

Other important dates: Ash Wednesday in the Cathedral on Wednesday 26 February at 12:30 and our Big Walk in the Botanical Gardens for all learners and teachers on Thursday 19 March.

WE URGE PARENTS/GUARDIANS TO SEE THAT TRANSPORT IS PUNCTUAL AND THAT YOUR CHILDREN DON'T STAY AT THE SCHOOL UNTIL LATE IN THE AFTERNOON!!!

Kind Regards

M. CRONJE

PRINCIPAL

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GOOD SHEPHERD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Good Shepherd Primary School, Grahamstown is one of the oldest schools in the area, it was built in 1844. Although it is situated in the centre of the business area of Grahamstown, it is populated predominately by disadvantaged learners, they receive their teaching and learning through the medium of English. The School caters for girls and boys from grade 1 to 7 (ages 6 -13). We, Good Shepherd Primary School, shall be a community, nurturing quality education, in a safe disciplined environment for our learners, enabling them to become successful, responsible citizens in life. We shall enable our learners to develop to their full potential through a comprehensive and effective educational experience, with opportunities for achievement in knowledge skills and values.