

Ram Review

Good Shepherd Catholic School



Principal's Message

January 31, 2012

Dear Good Shepherd Families:

I pray that the New Year finds you and your family well. February reminds us that we are more than half way through the school year, and we eagerly begin preparations for the next school year. I wanted to take this opportunity to provide you with information about tuition and fees for 2012-2013.

After consultation with the Board and the Superintendent of Schools and a good deal of work by the Finance Committee, we have decided on the following changes for tuition for the 2012-2013 school year:

Tuition: (see page 2 for all 2012-2013 school fees)

Kindergarten through 8th Grade: **\$5,760/year (this represents a 3% increase over last year)**

Fees:

Registration fee: **\$500/child** (\$420.00 if paid by April 2, 2012)

*Please consider paying your registration fee by **April 2, 2012**. It helps us to know the number of students who will be returning to Good Shepherd in the fall, and it provides you a 16% discount on the regular registration fee. On the attached sheet is a complete listing of all the fees for 2012 – 2013.*

Even with this modest increase in tuition, Good Shepherd remains an excellent value. In our area, the average private school tuition is nearly **\$10,000/ year** and the average registration fee is **\$1,000/child**. The cost to educate a child at Good Shepherd is approximately \$6,900 per year, so your tuition and fees will cover **84%** of the overall cost. Other fundraisers, Parent Service Hours, and generous donations subsidize tuition and fees for **EVE-RY** student at Good Shepherd, regardless of financial need.

Thank you for your investment in your child's future. There is no better choice than Good Shepherd Catholic School for your child's educational and spiritual development. The best way to grow our school and keep tuition affordable is to spread the word about Good Shepherd.

Yours in our Good Shepherd,

Dan Anderson
Principal

Volume 14, Issue 06

January 31, 2012

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2012-2013 GOOD SHEPHERD K-8 TUITION AND FEES

Annual Tuition Schedule 2012-2013

K- 8	\$ 5,760	One Child
(8:00 am – 2:30 pm)	\$ 10,950	Two Children
	\$ 16,140	Three Children

School Extension Program – 2012 – 2013 (2:30 pm – 6:00 pm)

Available for K through 8th grades only

One child, 20 or more hours per month	\$5.00/hr
Two or more children, 20+ hours/mo.	\$4.50/hr/child

One child, fewer than 20 hours per month	\$7.50/hr
Two or more children, fewer than 20 hours/mo.	\$6.50/hr/child

Available for 3rd through 8th grades only

Homework Club	\$5.00/hr
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Fees

The following fees are required costs throughout the school year. They may be paid in full with your tuition payment on August 1st or they will be billed in the appropriate month.

Application Fee	\$55
Registration Fee	\$500 (\$420 if paid by 4/2/12)
Overnight Field Trips:	
(Approximate) 4th-5th	\$150
6th	\$460
7th-8th	\$2,200
Graduation Fee (8th grade only)	\$100
Athletics Fees (5th-8th)	\$40 per sport
Choir (2nd-8th grades)	\$20 per trimester
Piano Lessons	TBD

Required fundraisers:

The following are required per the tuition contract. They may be paid in advance or distributed over eleven months with your payment plan.

Harvest Festival	\$25
Auction donation	\$100 (or an item worth \$100 value)
Auction tickets	\$100

Optional donations

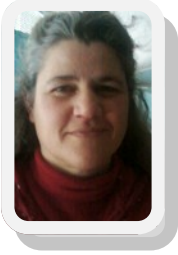
You may be asked throughout the year to contribute to various fundraisers. You may make payments throughout the year or make one payment on August 1st. Please make this a separate payment from tuition and fees.

Financial Aid	\$ _____
Annual Giving	\$ _____
Parent Club donation	\$25 (suggested for auction class project)
Endowment Fund	\$ _____



Classroom Highlights

Pre-Kindergarten, **Mrs. Julia Tani**



We've just finished up mid-year evaluations in our Pre-K classroom. Report cards will be given to parents during Catholic School's Week. For those who will be attending Kindergarten next year, we are especially focusing our attention on enhancing school readiness skills.

Our alphabet quilt continues to fill up with letters. With each new square on our quilt, we enjoy a special activity that highlights the letter we are studying, and at the same time helps the children make connections with abstract written symbols, pictures, and real world experiences. These are some of the skills they will need as they learn to read in the future. Recently, for example, we added the letter "U" and then joined the preschoolers for an umbrella parade in the rain. We were also studying rain and Noah's Ark at the time. A picture of an umbrella went up on our quilt. From the child's point of view, we hope it all adds up to engaging, educational fun. Much of preschool can be described as educational play. That's what I enjoy about preschool, and that's what makes up the best environment for this age group.

At Good Shepherd School, I also enjoy working with our great families every day, and being part of a wonderful teaching team. We, as teachers, are eager to provide our preschoolers with the best facility possible, but we don't want to burden our parents with any additional fundraisers. That's why the teachers began the "Preschool Miracle Building Fund" with recycling money alone as a prayer of faith in action. Our families and staff have teamed up to collect hundreds of pounds of empty beverage cans and bottles. Teachers volunteer their time sorting, and exchanging the materials at the recycling center. We are doing what we can now, and are looking to God to lead us further. If you feel so moved, please help. Any donations of empty plastic and glass bottles, or aluminum cans can be left by the preschool door, or out by the big green storage shed. Thank you!



Preschool Extended Day Program, **Monica Ruane**



This is a new start for the Preschool extended day program and the children have been learning a lot while having fun. Teacher Julia and I work as a team to ensure the lessons that are taught during the day are encouraged in the afternoon. I also integrate extra one on one mini lessons in Spanish, reading and other planned activities. To help promote literacy and classroom interactions everyday a new child goes home with a book, which indicates to parents that they should bring two or more books from home to be read in the classroom the following day. Currently the students are expanding their classroom experience by looking around in the environment to find the gifts God has made for us to enjoy: shapes, colors, and people. We are discussing what are the things that they would like to thank God for and express the reasons why? This helps the children to broaden their understanding of the emotional connections they make in their daily lives. The children respond with such excitement to learning and building friendships it lifts my spiritual happiness everyday which I show by smiling.



Kudos.....

- ◆ ... to all the parents and students who made Catholic Schools Sunday a huge success at each of our three parishes- singers, readers, gift-bearers, ushers, and all in uniform. We extend a special thank you to the adults and students who had the courage to speak or lector at each of the masses: **Carolina Letamendi, Martha Bernal, Ryann Liljenstolpe, Brian Airoidi, Bella Airoidi, Tom Nelson, Jack Watson, and Katie Tripp.**

Please note that "Kudos" can be written and submitted by any parent, staff, student, or community member to recognize the outstanding service that so many give to our community. If you'd like to submit recognition to be written in the Ram at any time during the year, please send an email to achavarria@gsschool.org and write "Kudos for Ram" in the subject line.



Good Shepherd Choir returns after school beginning Tuesday, February 8th!

In response to feedback from the Parent Survey in November, we are bringing back the Good Shepherd Choir. This will be run by Karen Conley and Sydney Irish in Room 7, every Tuesday from 2:45 to 3:30 pm. The cost is a one-time fee of **\$20 per child** to pay for music fees and other incidentals. If you are interested please email Ms. Conley at kconley@gsschool.org to register or call the office for more information.

Parent Service Hours Opportunities

The following are some upcoming volunteer service opportunities. Email the office or contact person listed if you are interested.

Please login to RenWeb and view the number of Parent Service Hours you have completed and how many are left to complete between now and May 1st. Thank you for getting your completed hours into the office at least once per month so that these can be updated.

Calendar Items

- February 1st- Open House, 5:30 pm in the gym for all current AND prospective families. Children are welcome.
- February 3rd- Mass at 11 am with Fr. Patrick Dooling
Minimum Day **with NO SEP**- Staff Appreciation Day
Family Fun Night The event will not be February 10th as originally planned.
- February 7th- Science Fair for Grades 5 through 8
- February 7th- After-school choir will begin for all students in grades 2 through 8. 2:45 to 3:30 pm every Tuesday through the end of May. Sign up with Ms. Conley by emailing her at kconley@gsschool.org.
- February 8th- Science Fair visitation for all community and family members, 8:30 to 12:30 pm
- February 10th- Free Dress Day for students who wore their uniforms on Catholic Schools Sunday



BOX TOPS. FINAL DAYS!!!

All box tops are due to your classes by Friday, February 3rd. Whichever class turns in the most will win a pizza party!!



Announcements

****Paint your tiles for the new play structure***

The new play structure is now complete and you help beautify it by purchasing and painting a 6-inch by 6-inch ceramic tile that will be inlaid into the concrete footing that surrounds the play structure area. Tiles will be for sale for \$25 each and payable via cash or check only at Family Fun Night on **Friday, February 3rd**.

If you cannot make it for that event, please leave a check in the office "Tuition" box made out to: **Good Shepherd School**, and write in the memo line, "**Playground tiles.**" We are able to offer only 260 tiles and they are available on a first-come-first-served basis, so take advantage of this opportunity while available.

****New microwave***

Does anyone have a gently used microwave that they would like to donate to our kitchen? The Hot Lunch program is looking to replace the one that is currently in there. If you would like to donate, please contact the office or bring to the kitchen after school.

****Spelling Bee***

The 2012 Spelling Bee finalists for Good Shepherd Catholic School are:

Grades 4-6:	Jacob Shipley	Grades 7-8:	Nate Armstrong
	Clare Tershy		Emily DeFrancesco
	(alternate) Paulina Shearer		(alternate) Emily Knapp
	(alternate) Ryann Liljenstolpe		(alternate) Chloe Tschirky

The Santa Cruz County Spelling Bee will take place at UCSC on Saturday, Feb. 25th, noon to 3:30. Good Shepherd is able to send two spellers in each category.

****Mark you calendars:*** ~You Are Invited to the Good Shepherd Catholic School Spring Auction~

Saturday, March 3rd, 2012

Seascape Golf Course - Aptos, CA

5pm

Silent and Live Auction * Formal Cocktails & Hors D' Oeuvres * Evening Cocktail Attire

Counselors Corner.....By: ***Dr. Monica Esposito Ed.D***



Three ways to guide children without smothering:

1. Use encouragement more than praise. Parents who use encouragement to help children develop a greater internal focus contribute to the development of a strong, healthy self-esteem, according to Bill Corbett, author of *Love, Limits, and Lessons: A Parent's Guide to Raising Cooperative Kids* (Cooperative Kids). Corbett defines encouragement as the action an adult takes to guide children to look inside themselves for an answer. He says it is encouragement—rather than praise—that “sharpens one’s ability to hear a true, inner voice, something we sometimes call intuition. For those of faith, it’s also considered the true voice of God.”

2. Put relationships before rules. While establishing limits and rules is an important part of parenting, rewards and punishments are not primary motivators for children—relationships are. In *Parenting Your Teens with TLC* (Sorin) authors Patt and Steve Saso put it this way: “When kids feel that we genuinely care about them, it prompts them to learn. This relationship is the driving motivation for our teens to want to follow our guidance, accept direction, and strive to be their best selves.”

3. Look for God’s plan. Poetic, congratulatory cards at a child’s birth or baptism remind parents that their child is a gift from God and that God has a special task for that child. As the child grows, though, no one is sending cards reminding you that your 9-year-old’s stubbornness is a gift he will need someday to do what God will ask of him. Parents who consistently work to see God’s handiwork in their children’s personality and talents are better able to guide their children effectively.

—by Annemarie Scobey

February 2012

Su	M	T	W	TH	F	Sa
			1 * Open House 5:30pm Children are welcome *Catholic Schools Week	2 *Catholic Schools Week	3 *11am Mass *Mini Day NO SEP *6pm Family Fun Night	4
5	6	7 *Science Fair Gr 5 - 8 *After-school choir Gr 2-8 2:45 to 3:30	8 *Science fair open to public 8:30-12:30	9	10 *Free Dress Day for students who wore their uniforms on Catholic Schools Sunday *Middle School Dance @ Notre Dame 7pm	11
12	13	14 *After-school choir Gr 2-8 2:45 to 3:30	15	16	17	18
19	 20 *Presidents' Day NO SCHOOL 	21 *After-school choir Gr 2-8 2:45 to 3:30 *Variety Show 12:15-2:30	22 *Ash Wednesday	23 *Feb Birthday's Free Dress Day *Parent Mtg for entering Kinder 6:30pm	24 *Kindergarten Open House 8am-10am	25
26	27 *GS Board Mtg 5:30pm	28 *After-school choir Gr 2-8 2:45 to 3:30	 29 *Mini Day w/SEP 			



Water Polo

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**NEW BOYS AND GIRLS 9-14 YEARS
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UCSC UCI Santa Clara UOP SJSU UC Davis and more.



No Experience Necessary !!!

Just come to the pool and we will teach you!

Age Group Spring Polo 2012 Schedule:

**SOQUEL HIGH POOL: Mon & Wed: Interm/Advance: 5:30-6:40pm
Tue & Thu: Beg/Interm: 5:35 - 6:45pm**

**SANTA CRUZ HIGH POOL: Mon & Wed: Beg/Interm: 5:35-6:45pm
Mon & Wed: Adv/Interm: 6:40 - 8:00pm
Tue & Thu: Beginners/Interm: 5:35 - 6:45pm**

For more Info Call: **831-359-6444**

Email: **Waxempolo@gmail.com**



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