Principal’s Corner

Happy New Year to everyone. I hope 2014 brings health and happiness to all of our families.

Congratulations to Ms. Gatt who was married during the holidays and is now Mrs. Wendt.

Ms. Hanna Beckman, who has been teaching Prep W, will be taking maternity leave from Friday February 14\textsuperscript{th}. We wish her all the very best for the birth of her first child.

We welcome Ms. Natascha Hruschka (Grade 2), Ms. Jess Nichols (Prep), and Ms. Shonelle Kent (Grade 5/6) to Altona P.S. We also welcome back Ms. Christine Sperling (Grade 5/6) and Mrs. Helen Xinomilakis (Grade 5/6) who have both returned from leave. The staff list is attached to this newsletter. You will notice a number of teachers have changed year levels and roles.

We will be interviewing for a Japanese teacher when applications close in 2 weeks’ time. Ms. Mamiko has returned home to Japan for a year.

It had been very exciting watching the Australian T20 team play cricket this summer. One of our past students; James Muirhead, is now playing in the Australian team. James played in the school cricket team in 2004. I have attached a Local sporting champions grant information flyer for parents to consider.

The Preps have been fantastic. They started as if they had been here for weeks. All of the staff and students have had a fabulous start to the school year. I look forward to another very successful year. We have the best students!

Our 2014 Annual Implementation Plan will be posted on the website in the next fortnight. Our Strategic Leadership team, which includes our Assistant Principals; Mrs. Fridey and Mrs. Galvin and our Leading Teachers; Mr. Macpherson and Ms. Thompson, will be finalising the AIP during an all-day planning day today.

Strategic planning and intent is vital in a high performing school.

School council elections will occur in the next few weeks. We are looking for parents willing to take an active part in the governance of the school. The school council and subcommittees both meet 8 times a year.

Our new purple school hats have the cord above the rim of the hat. Students, with the yellow hats on, need to be careful when climbing and make sure the cord around their neck doesn’t get caught.

One of the most important factors on student learning is student effort. We are very proud of the effort and enthusiasm Altona P.S. students apply to their work.

Ride2 School Day will be held throughout Australia on Wednesday 19 March 2014. Consider riding to school on this day.

Have a great weekend

\textbf{Kevin Enright}
DATES TO REMEMBER 2014

Wednesday February 19th
“Starting the Learning Partnership Meetings”
(Adult/Teacher/Student Interviews) 1.30pm-7.30pm
All children dismissed at 1pm

Tuesday 11th March
Marvelous Me Incursion - Preps

Wednesday 12th March
APS Cross Country Prep – 6 (9am – 11am)

Tuesday 18th March
School Photos
(whole school)

Thursday 20th – 31st March
Life Ed Van

Friday 4th April
Last Day of Term 1

Tuesday 22nd April
First day of Term 2

Friday 25th April
Anzac Day – Public holiday

PLEASE REMEMBER:
- To sign your child in the Late Arrivals book if they are late
- To sign the Early Leavers book if taking your child home early for any reason
- To advise the teacher of when your child is absent from school
- All money to be sent to the classroom teacher
## 2014 Staff List

### PREP
- **PW**: Melissa Wendt (Team Leader)
- **PS**: Christina Sakellarides
- **PM**: Joanne Mathrick
- **PN**: Nicole Nicolin
- **PJ**: Jess Nichols

### Grade 1
- **1B**: Kate Beckman (Team Leader)
- **1F**: Megan Farrow
- **1L**: Robyne Luketic
- **1PR**: Athena Petalas & Tim Rouse

### Grade 2
- **2F**: Stephen Fava (Team Leader)
- **2B**: Lainee Barwise
- **2H**: Natascha Hruschka
- **2K**: Jodi Kenny

### Grade 3
- **3M**: Kerryn Massey (Team Leader)
- **3AL**: Martina Aird & Marie Lynch
- **3H**: Tim Hargreaves

### Grade 4
- **4M**: Jess McDonald (Team Leader)
- **4C**: Ash Craig
- **4J**: Kaela Johnson

### Grade 5/6
- **56G**: Andrew Gilpin (Team Leader)
- **56M**: Laura McKendrick
- **56K**: Shonelle Kent
- **56SC**: Christine Sperling & Eoin Corroon
- **56XO**: Helen Xinomilakis & Trish O’Driscoll

### Specialist Teachers
- **Japanese**: TBA
- **Art**: Pam Barry / Brooke Cain
- **Music**: Tim Rouse / Julie Enright
- **ICT**: Eoin Corroon
- **PE**: Simon Clarke
- **Reading Recovery**: Claudia Robinson
- **Specialist**: Shelly Golz

### Leadership Team
- **Principal**: Kevin Enright
- **Assistant Principal**: Nicole Fridey
- **Assistant Principal**: Debbie Galvin
- **Leading Teacher**: Tammie Thompson
- **Leading Teacher**: Adam McPherson
- **PA**: Liz Brown

### Office
- **Business Manager**: Karyn Lyon
- **Office**: Marie Wilson
- **Office/Library**: Lee Ogden

### Integration Aide
- **Susie Solarino**: Leanne Davies
- **Lisa McKay**: Briony Walker

### Out Hours School Care
- **Felicity Mayes**
Dear Parents,

This year Altona Primary School will once again be offering parents the opportunity to take part in our **Parent Education Program** (Literacy & Numeracy)

This program is designed for parents/caregivers who wish to assist in classrooms within the Literacy and Numeracy block and/or who wish to learn some strategies for helping their own children with Literacy/Numeracy at home. Please be aware that this Education Program is a requirement for all parents who wish to assist with Literacy and Numeracy within our classrooms. Participants will have the opportunity to explore how children learn and how, together with classroom teachers, parents/caregivers can continue to support their children’s Literacy and Numeracy development. The program focuses on Literacy and Numeracy learning of all students; however it is particularly beneficial to parents/caregivers of Prep – 2 students and/or new families to the school.

Previous participants have ranged from Mums and Dads to Grandparents and/or other persons supporting student learning at home. Feedback from previous participants indicated that the program gave them a valuable insight into how students learn within the current educational context and strategies they can utilise at home.

The program will run over four weekly sessions the dates being:
- Friday 28th February 2014
- Friday 7th March 2014 (Numeracy)
- Friday 14th March 2014 (Literacy)
- Friday 21st March 2014 (Literacy)

These sessions will be held at the Altona RSL (31 Sargood Street, Altona) Sessions will commence at 9:15am and conclude at 11:15am.

If you are interested in participating, please fill in the expression of interest below and return it to your child’s class teacher no later than Thursday 12th February 2014.

Please note: Unfortunately we are unable to cater for children (Toddlers and babies) during these sessions at this venue. We apologise if this causes any inconvenience.

We look forward to meeting and working with you.
Thank you
Strategic Leadership Team

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**Parent Education Program – Expression of Interest 2014**

I wish to participate in the Parent Education Program commencing on Friday 28th February 2014

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Participant Name: _____________________________________________
Child’s Name: ________________________________________________
Child’s Grade: ________________________________________________
Contact phone number: _________________________________________
‘STARTING THE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP’ MEETING

**Wednesday 19th February from 1.30pm – 7.30pm**
(Students will be dismissed at 1pm)

The purpose of these meetings is for you to meet your child’s teacher and to provide the teacher with feedback regarding your child’s social, emotional and learning needs.
Research supports that strengthening the home-school partnership has a positive impact on improving learning outcomes for students.
We pride ourselves on the successes achieved through a positive home-school partnership and believe these meetings are a crucial element.

**Students will be dismissed at 1pm from school.**
If you are unable to pick your child up we have arranged for the After School Care service to be available from 1pm to 6pm.
Numbers are limited and **pre-bookings are essential** (charges will apply).
After School Care Phone: 9398 8310

Please note: All children need to be picked up at 1pm unless they are attending After School Care.

Thankyou,

Leadership Team
Parent(s) ___________________________ Student: ______________________

Please complete the sections of the proforma below that are relevant to your child and return to the classroom teacher by the **Friday 14th of February**. This will provide your child’s teacher with information that will help form a positive home-school partnership to best facilitate your child’s learning.

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<th>Any other information eg: interests, strengths</th>
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Dear Parents and Carers,

Altona Primary School “Starting the Learning Partnership” (Parent/Teacher/Student) interviews will be held from **1:30pm to 7:30pm** on **Wednesday 19th February 2014**

You can now book interviews at times that suit **YOUR FAMILY BEST**.
Go to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) and follow these simple instructions.

**BOOKINGS CLOSE TUESDAY 18TH FEBRUARY 2014 AT 3:15PM**

Enter the school event code. Then follow the 3 simple steps.

When you click **finish**, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically - check your junk mail folder if you do not receive your email immediately. You can return to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) at any time, and change your interviews - until bookings close.

For parents that don’t have access to the internet at home, at work, at a friend’s house or on their phones, please contact the school office and we can help you. Interviews are strictly 10 mins and spaces are limited. If you require more time, please contact your teacher directly to make alternative arrangements for another day.

Parents can change their interview bookings, any time prior to the closing date, by re-visiting the [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) website, and using the event code. **Remember to use the same name and email address, you used when you made your original booking**. Parents wishing to change their interview times after the closing date, should contact the school directly on: 9398 2925.
SPORTS CORNER

Welcome back to another year in sport at Altona Primary School. Both myself and Mrs Golz are very much looking forward to teaching all of the students at APS in PE.

As you know we do have a very full calendar for the year, so here are some dates to keep in mind:

6/2/14 – Grade 3-6 Swim Trials at Bayfit
11/2/14 – Swim training at Bayfit
13/2/14 – Swim Training at Bayfit
14/2/14 – Summer Sport Round 1 and Badminton week 1
18/2/14 – ADSSA Swim Carnival at Werribee outdoor pool
21/2/14 - Summer Sport Round 2 and Badminton week 2
28/2/14 - Summer Sport Round 3 and Badminton week 3
7/3/14 – Summer Sport Round 4 and Badminton week 4
12/3/14 – APS Cross Country Morning at APS
13/3/14 – Divisional Swim Championships
14/3/14 - Summer Sport Round 5 and Badminton week 5
17/3/14 – ADSSA Winter Sport Trials
20/3/14 – ADSSA Winter Sport Trials
21/3/14 – Summer Sport Round 6 and Badminton week 6
28/3/14 – Summer Sport Finals

As you can see, there is lots going on. So please stay up to date in the newsletter and on the website where permission notes and fixtures will be posted regularly.
APS CROSS COUNTRY - HELPERS NOTE

As you will be aware, our school cross country will be taking place on Wednesday the 12th of March. It is a great morning every year with all students in the school taking part in the event.

The day could not run without the invaluable support of our parents. So if you are available on that morning between the hours of 9:00am and 10:45am your help would be greatly appreciated. This is also a good opportunity to cheer on your child from different areas around the course.

As the event is coming around quite soon, it would be great if you are to complete and put the below slip in my pigeon hole by Friday the 28th of February.

APS Cross Country Helper Form

PARENT NAME:…………………………………………………………………………………..

Time: (Please Circle)

9:00am – 9:45am

9:45am – 10:45am

or

9:00am-10:45am (whole morning)

Mr. Clarke

BOOKCLUB ISSUE 1

Bookclub orders are due next Friday 14th February.

Please send all orders to the classroom teacher with the money in a sealed envelope.

If the order is a gift, please indicate this on the envelope.

tim nelson music

Piano, keyboard and guitar lessons available at Altona Primary School
Contact Tim on 0450 904 464
After School Art and Craft Classes

After school art classes will take place again in the art room in term 1, 2014. The opportunity to participate is offered to children from grades 3 – 6 with a maximum of 20 children in the group. The cost will be $30 to cover materials and $10 per session making a total of $110.

Classes will be held in the Art room on **Friday** afternoons from 3.30 – 4.30pm.

**Session 1** (07/2/14): Fancy finger puppets.
**Session 2** (14/2/14): Decorative windsock.
**Session 3** (21/2/14): Complete finger puppets.
**Session 4** (28/2/14): Construct windsock.
**Session 5** (07/3/14): Felt ball making.
**Session 6** (14/3/14): Paper bird mobile.
**Session 7** (21/3/14): Easter chicks from felt balls.
**Session 8** (28/3/14): Easter creations.

Please complete the attached form to indicate interest in attending. You will be notified as soon as possible if you are successful. Payment to be made by 14/2/14.

Mrs Cain will be taking the classes this term, please feel free to see Mrs Barry or Mrs Cain if you have any questions.

Thank you.

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**REQUEST FOR HARD COPY OF NEWSLETTER**

This is the **only** Newsletter that will be sent out to the whole school.

The newsletter is available online and we would like all families to access the newsletter this way if possible. All the information you need re activities, forms etc. can be found at our website [www.altonaps.vic.edu.au](http://www.altonaps.vic.edu.au)

All families requiring a hard copy of the newsletter sent home every Thursday please fill in and return the slip below.

I require a hard copy of the Newsletter sent home:

Eldest Child’s Name: ...........................................................................................................

Grade.....................................................................................................................................

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**NO HAT – NO PLAY**

All children are required to wear a school hat. Double C Jeanery in Laverton now has a supply and they apologise for the shortage just before the school year began. The issue was beyond their control.

We are a Sun Smart School and if your child does not have a school hat, they will not be able to play outside in the sun. All children without hats will have to sit in the designated shade area.

**“NO HAT – NO PLAY”**

Due to Department guidelines, we cannot apply sunscreen to your child. Please ensure that you apply sunscreen before they leave home and that they have sunscreen with them to reapply if necessary.
Relationship & Parenting Programs for 2014
LifeWorks is a not-for-profit organisation which is a leaders in providing relationship education skills training for Individuals, couples, families, children and adolescents. All of the programs are led by experienced relationship educators and are designed to enhance and build on essential life skills to promote healthy and positive relationships.

LifeWorks also provides affordable professional relationship counselling, family dispute resolution and mediation.

For further information about programs and services, contact the Melbourne office on 8650 6200.
Dates for 2014 are now live on the website (www.lifeworks.com.au) where registration can also be booked.
A range of brochures are available from the APS office.

Debbie Galvin
Assistant Principal

Asthma Action Plans 2014
New asthma action plans are being sent out to every child who has indicated on their enrolment forms that they are asthmatic. **A new plan has to be completed each year.** Please complete these and return to the office asap.

Emergency Numbers and Medical Conditions
Forms have gone home to be checked for contact numbers. Please return these asap.
We also need to be informed of any new medical conditions that your child has that would not be on their original enrolment form.

Emmanuel College Information Morning

Saturday 8th February 2014 at the following venues:
9am at Notre Dame Campus
2-40 Foxwood Drive Point Cook

10.30am at St Paul’s Campus
423 Blackshaws Road
Altona North
For more information phone Donna Grech 8325 5100

The closing date for applications for Year 7 2015 is Friday 28th February 2014
Are you the next JAMES MUIRHEAD?

I encourage parents, coaches and junior athletes to apply for a Local Sporting Champions grant to help them meet the costs of their involvement in a sporting championship.

The Local Sporting Champions program offers grants of $500 for individuals and $3000 for teams.

Applications for Round 3 close on 28 February 2014.

For more information on the Local Sporting Champions program visit the Australian Sports Commission website:

www.ausport.gov.au/champions

or contact my office on 9317 7077

Tim Watts MP
FEDERAL LABOR MEMBER FOR GELLIBRAND
**D A T E S F O R Y O U R D I A R Y**

- **Farmers Market**  
  15 February 2014
- **Swimmers Breakfast**  
  11 & 13 February 2014
- **Parents Club Meeting**  
  4 March 2014 2pm

**N O T I C E B O A R D**

**PARENTS CLUB MEETINGS**

The Minutes of our meetings are now available on our website. All are Welcome.

Next Meeting: 4th March 2pm in the school canteen.
All parents and friends of APS are welcome to attend.

**SCHOOL BANKING**

Banking is done everyday Friday.

**SHOPPERS CARDS**

Please note that the old cards have expired and the NEW Shoppers cards are now available for ordering at a cost of $15 each. These are still full of great new and old offers.

Orders can be placed by just filling in an order form and returning it with payment to your class teacher.

**SHoppers CARDS**

Please note that NEW Shoppers cards are now available for ordering at a cost of $15 each. These are full of great new and old offers.

Orders can be placed by just filling in an order form and returning it with payment to your class teacher.

**Farmer Market Dates for 2014**

- 15 February
- 15 March
- 19 April
- 17 May
- 21 June
- 19 July
- 16 August
- 20 September
- 18 October
- 15 November
- 20 December

**Swimmers Breakfast 2014**

Volunteers welcome to help serve our Swimmers a hearty breakfast.  
Please meet in the staff room at 9 am.

**ICY POLES**

The icy poles have returned and will be for sale every Friday from next week at a cost of $1 each. All Paddle Pop orders need to be in by the second bell. Please choose your flavour on the order form.

**AUSSIE FARMERS DIRECT**

Want to sign up? Fill in the form available at the Office or call Rohan Day on 0419905544. Please also consider nominating Altona Primary School for a percentage of any orders you currently have with Aussie Farmers Direct!
Altona Primary School Shoppers Card

Order Form - $15.00 Each

1. Sun Theatre Yarraville - Ticket at Members Prices -
   Up to 2 Adults & 2 Children per card per day.
   Not valid after 5.00pm Saturday. Excludes 3D & stage to screen.
   Excludes Public Holidays.
2. McDonalds Laverton 10% off food purchases.
   Excludes birthday parties & drive through and with any other offer.
3. Altona RSL - purchase 1 adults meal and receive 1 kids meal free.
   One free meal per card per day (i.e. for 2 free kids meals
   two cards must be presented with 2 adult main meals).
4. Bakers Delight Altona - 10% off
5. Just Sweets - 10% off store wide (excludes ice-cream & cold drinks)
6. Video Ezy - Rent 1 get 1 free to equal or lesser value
   (excludes games & TV)
7. Altona Les Fleurs Florist - 10% off Fresh Flowers.
8. Numero Uno - Buy any 2 family pizzas & get a free 2 litre soft drink
10. Runkle Dell Rouge - 10% off total bill
11. Anytime Fitness - 21 day free trial & 1 free personal training session
    (first time users only, must be over 18, other terms & conditions apply)
12. Double C Jeanery - 10% off full price items
    (excludes school uniforms)
13. Cartridge World - 10% off all ink cartridges
    (excludes loyalty program)
14. Kiteboarding - 10% off instore merchandise
15. Harrington Square Fish & Chips - buy a twin pack meal &
    get a free 1.25 litre soft drink

2014 SHOPPERS CARD

Child's Name: ____________________________________________________________
Child's Grade: __________________________________________________________
No. of Cards: ____________________________________________________________
Total Enclosed: ($15.00 each) ____________________________________________
**2014 PARENTS CLUB**

President - Thashnee Ramkilawan  
Vice President - Amanda Sellars  
Secretary - Narelle Simmons  
Treasurer - Catherine Marshall  
Assistant Treasurer - Lynda Giles-Holmes  
General Members – Wendy Buckner, Bev McNab, Katy Crooks, Natalie O’Sullivan, Carol Preston, Karen Hutchison, Karolina Azad, Jenny Marsh, Kelly Mc Laughin, Simone Cassar  

NB: It’s never too late to join. Think about it over the holidays and just drop us a note if you want to sign up. Many hands make light work!

**CHARITY HAMPERS**

Latitude Directions for Young People have kindly thanked the community of Altona Primary School for their donations and generosity to those young people less fortunate. What a GREAT response! WELL DONE! Thank you to Karen Hutchison and her team of volunteers for all their help in collecting and delivering of the hampers.
Altona Primary School Farmers’ Markets:
Saturday 21st December 2013
And
Saturday 18th 2014

Our Farmers’ Markets will continue to run during the summer holidays, we would love to see you there so put the dates on your calendars now!
This month, on Saturday 21st December, we will be celebrating Christmas at the market with Christmas Carols at 10am, so please come along and join in the festive fun. We will also have copies of the School’s CD for sale at $10 each, they would make a great Christmas Present. Why not come along to the market and get some lovely fresh and local produce for your meals over the Christmas week.

Thank you for all your support in 2013, we look forward to seeing you on the 21st.
If you would like to get involved in helping on the gate for an hour, or at future markets, please contact Carol on 0432 862 592.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas.
We look forward to seeing you on January 18th 2014 in the New Year.
Altona Primary School Farmers’ Market

We have held 2 Farmers’ Markets since last term, and were lucky enough to have some great Christmas entertainment in December and even a visit from Father Christmas himself! Thank you to everyone who gave their time and energies to the markets over the summer holidays.

Our markets are held on the 3rd Saturday of each month and are held in conjunction with In Seasons Markets, who aim to “give local communities the opportunity to experience an authentic farmers market and create farmers markets with a positive and welcoming environment and focus on sustainable living”. In Season Farmers Markets follow a strict stallholder participation criteria - All stallholders must be Victorian based and play a part in the production of the product they are selling. All ingredients are also generally sourced locally.

Money raised through Gold Coin Donation on entry to the market goes directly to the school and therefore benefits all the pupils in Altona Primary School. This month we are going to be selling good quality second-hand books and following the success of December’s market, have a sheltered seating area with tables set up for children to colour in, perfect for settling down with a drink and maybe a fresh snack or ice cream from one of our stalls and relaxing while the children have a go on the bouncy castle! There will be a colouring competition for our new Prep students – more info to follow.

Our next Farmers’ Market is to be held on Saturday 15th February from 9am – 1pm and we are looking for volunteers to man the front gate and book sale. We are looking for more people to join our group of volunteers. It is a great way of meeting other parents and getting involved in the school and wider community. If you can give us an hour of your time on any of the following dates, please contact Anne and let her know – thank you!

Upcoming market dates: The remaining market dates for this year are:

15 February  15 March  19 April  17 May  21 June  19 July
16 August  20 September  18 October  15 November  20 December

We need:
*Good quality books* – if you have any to donate, they can be left at the school office
*Entertainment* - If any students would like to busk/perform please contact Anne to organise
*Volunteers* - If you have an hour to spare on any of the dates above, please contact Anne

For any queries/further info please contact
Anne Sheehan: warehouse@secon.com.au or mobile 0435 130-355