Principal’s Corner

Thank you to all of the families who attended our ‘Starting the Educational Partnership ‘meetings with teachers yesterday. We had over 90% of families attend. A common understanding and shared plan between teachers and parents is the perfect beginning for a successful year for all students. We had terrific feedback from teachers who spoke very positively about the rapport built with parents.

This week we had the sliding doors between the rooms in our new building fixed and serviced. The tradesmen, from Lotus doors, came to see me after they had finished and expressed their admiration for APS students and staff. They were amazed by the way they were treated and how the learning just continued uninterrupted while they worked in the room.

We had the pleasure of hearing Cleo from grade 5/6 sing before a large crowd at assembly on Monday. Cleo has an amazing voice. It was one of those magic moments in a school. Congratulations to all of the students chosen in the school rock bands and all those who tried out.

The large tree on the western corner of the synthetic soccer oval will be removed shortly and the one at the northwest end trimmed. The arborist who examined the trees said the trunk was full of borer, dangerous to students and needed to be removed. We will plant new trees and shrubs along the fence line now that the oval is finished. This will be funded from the funds raised from the obstacle a thon last year. Our gardener Sarah, can’t wait to start the planting.

We will be having a working bee on Saturday March 22\textsuperscript{nd} from 9:00 am until 12:00pm. We will then have pizza and a soft drink together to celebrate our work. Please fill in the form below if you can attend. We will clean up around the entire site including the nature strips, grounds and buildings. I really enjoy the working bee and the chance to work alongside parents. An orderly and a stimulating environment are two of the preconditions for effective learning.

We now have 567 students. It is quite extraordinary that we do not have any major behavioural issues in the entire school. It is very rare that students are sent to the office. The students are so well behaved, considerate of each other and look after each other. Students are very connected to their peers, the staff and the school.

The St Arnaud P.S. staff are visiting our school on Monday. They will be observing the learning and teaching and talking with teachers and students. They are very keen to learn how we teach students.

If you have any issue you would like to discuss feel free to contact me or any of the leadership team at any time, even in the school grounds before or after school. I am very appreciative of any feedback or suggestions.

Have a great weekend.

Kevin Enright

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WORKING BEE ATTENDANCE 22\textsuperscript{nd} March 2014 – PLEASE RETURN SLIP TO THE OFFICE</th>
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<tr>
<td>FAMILY NAME: ...................................................................... CHILD’S GRADE: ..................................</td>
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<td>NUMBER OF PEOPLE ATTENDING: ........................................</td>
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DATES TO REMEMBER 2014

**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

LUNCH ORDERS
Please make sure that you are ordering from the 2014 price list for lunch orders. Some people are still going by the old list and not putting enough money in to cover the lunches. 2014 price lists are available from the office and online on our webpage.
Sports Corner

ADSSA Swimming Event

On Tuesday of this week a group of 37 kids took part in the Altona District School Sport Association swimming carnival. The students were extremely committed to their training last week and were rewarded with some terrific results. All who competed gave their all and represented the school well. I thank you all for your amazing efforts!

I would also like to thank all of our helpers including Mr Gilpin, Mr Mac, Peter Sutcliffe, Scott Coombes, Sally Leung, Linda Birthisel, Joy Wang, Nean McKenzie, Kara Dadswell, Liana Galea, Sue Balfoort. I would also like to say a big thank you to Wendy Buckner, Monique Prassinos, Lynette Bushell, and Tracey Buckley who are all leaving the school at the end of the year with kids moving on to highschool. They have all been regular volunteers for the swimming sports over the years and it has been great to have your support, thank you.

Cross Country Helpers

Thank you for all of the notes that I’ve been receiving for Cross Country Helpers, it has been great to have so many people willing to volunteer their time. I’m sure it will make the day run as smoothly as possible. I will be getting some information out with what role you will play on the day a little closer to the date.

Cross Country Training

If you would like to get involved in some running training to help you get fit for the cross Country event I will be running some training sessions as of next week right up until the event. I will be training students on the big oval on Tuesday and Thursday Mornings from 8:15am right up until 8:45. Not only is it a great way to get fit for the Cross Country Day, but also a bit of fun with students from across the school.

Bat Tennis Bats

In the past I have given students the opportunity to purchase a bat tennis bat through the school. If you would like a bat tennis bat with a handle I will order one for you at the cost of $12 per bat. Just put $12 in an envelope and put your name on it and I will let you know when it gets in.

Altona Swimming Club – HB Primary School Swim Carnival

Once again the Altona Beach Festival will be taking place later in the term. The date for the event is Friday the 28th of March starting at 7:15pm. Notes and posters have been distributed to us from the Altona Swim Club and have been placed at the office for students who wish to take part. If you do want to get involved, just take a note, fill it out and then bring it back to Mr Clarke.

Mr Clarke
Challenge Cup:

9th Altona College (16 points)

= 7th Altona North and Seaholme (113 points)

6th Newport Gardens (115 points)

5th St. Mary’s, Altona (126 points)

4th Altona Primary (214 points)

3rd St. Mary’s, Willy (255 points)

2nd Willy North (258 points)

1st Willy Primary (316 points)

Handicap/Small Schools Trophy

9th Altona College (79 points)

8th Altona Primary (248 points)

7th Willy North (258 points)

6th Altona North (265 points)

5th Seaholme (281 points)

4th St. Mary’s, Altona (284 points)

3rd Willy Primary (317 points)

2nd Newport Gardens (347 points)

1st St. Mary’s, Willy (443 points)
Dear Parents

As part of our drug and health education this term we are having the Life Education mobile classroom visit our school from: **20th March - 31st March, 2014**

Life Education has been visiting our school for many years and is always a highlight of the children’s year, and helps to facilitate the development of the life skills in students to prevent and minimise the harm of drug misuse.

Lessons are always age appropriate and the children will be covering a wide range of drug and health related topics, ranging from the human body and how it works, healthy eating and nutrition, medicines and drugs, bullying, resilience and social skills. Healthy Harold, the much loved Life Education giraffe mascot is always a much anticipated element of the Life Education visit. The sessions are always fun, interactive and really extend and develop the children’s understanding of the topics covered. We will be further broadening these topics in class both prior to and after the Life Education visit with the student workbook which is included in the cost of the visit. It is important that your child attend this session.

As a charity, Life Education relies heavily on the generosity of local organisations to keep its fleet of mobile classrooms on the road delivering positive health and life messages to over 200,000 children in Victoria alone.

**The cost for this incursion is $5.00 per child. Parent’s Club has subsidised this costing. (Usual cost is $9.00)**

Please fill out the attached permission slip and payment and return both to school by: Thursday 6th March.

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**Life Education Victoria 2014 Visit Permission Slip & Payment**

| Child’s Name: |  |
| Grade: |  |
| Amount enclosed: $ |  |
| Signature (Parent / Guardian) |  |
Dear Parents

As part of our drug and health education this term we are offering you the opportunity to visit our Life Education mobile classroom, while it’s here at our school.

Have you ever considered the following?

- What is my child learning in Life Education?
- Have you seen inside the Life Education mobile classroom, or know of Harold?
- What drug education is appropriate for primary school students?
- Why do we have health and drug education?
- How is health and drug education integrated into your school’s curriculum?

**Want to know more?**
**NOW IS YOUR CHANCE.**

The Life Education mobile classroom will be at our school: In week 8, 9 & 10 of Term 1.

**Parent Session is on Thursday 20\textsuperscript{th} March, 2014 at 2.30pm – 3pm**

Please return the slip to your child’s classroom teacher by Thursday 6\textsuperscript{th} March if attending.

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**Life Education Victoria – 2014 Parent Information Session Attendance Slip**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I / We will be attending the Life Education Parent Session.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Names:</strong></td>
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The Parent’s Club can be contacted anytime by email: APSParentClub@altonaps.vic.edu.au

THURSDAY
20th February, 2014

Whole School Disco – Coming Soon!
Dust of your dancing shoes and get ready to dance the night away at the APS Whole School Disco.

Hot Cross Bun Fundraiser – Coming Soon!
We will again be running our Hot Cross Bun Fundraiser! Watch the newsletter for order forms.

Farmers Market Dates.
15 March, 19 April, 17 May, 21 June, 19 July, 16 August, 20 September, 18 October, 15 November and 20 December
Volunteers are always needed and welcome. Please contact Anne Sheehan: warehouse@secon.com.au or mobile 0435 130-355 for further information.

ICY POLES – Every Friday!!
The icy poles have returned and will be for sale every Friday 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 located in your classroom.

AUSSSIE 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!

NOTICEBOARD

PARENTS CLUB MEETINGS
The Minutes of our meetings are now available on our website. All are welcome to attend.
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 NEW Shoppers cards are now available for ordering at a cost of $15 each. These are full of great new and old offers. Just fill in an order form and return with payment to your class teacher.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY
Parents Club Meeting
4 March, 2014 2pm
Farmers Market
15 March, 2014
Whole School Disco and Hot Cross Bun Fundraiser.
Coming Soon!
Altona Swimming Club Presents

HOBSONS BAY PRIMARY SCHOOLS

2014 ANNUAL SWIMMING CARNIVAL

FRIDAY 28nd MARCH 2014
From 7.15 pm for 7.30pm

www.altonaswimmingclub.org