Principal's Corner

Our 2014 Prep students have their first induction session today. We will have 5 grades of 21 students.

Can I remind all students and families that the back sliding gate and car park are out of bounds. We have had a small number of students coming in through the gate recently. This week, one of our staff members had an accident with the gate while trying to avoid pedestrians.

I have been reading reports and seeing student work this week. It is amazing the work that students are doing across the whole range of subjects. On Tuesday Three boys from 4S; Tyler, Oscar and Monty, showed me their answers to the open ended problem: fraction + fraction + percentage + decimal =1¼. They had challenged themselves to have the most complicated answers they could work out. Here are their answers: 1/9+1/3+5.5556%+0.75=1 ¼ (Tyler), 393/1,000+1,965/5,000+36.9&+0.023=1¼ (Oscar), and ¼+ (8/20 +1/10) +24.9426826%+ 0.25057318=1 ¼ (Monty). See if you can work out if their answers are correct! Student effort plus the level of challenge of the task are a powerful learning combination and motivating force.

The excavation work for our soccer has been completed. I met with DEECD and Tiger Turf today to begin the process of laying the synthetic turf. The trucks will start bringing in the foundation base next week.

The ceiling for the number of students at Altona P.S. has been raised from 500 to 575 students due to our new building. We have 3 more classrooms than we originally did. With 5 grade Prep classes in 2014, we are now at our new ceiling. 575 students are enrolled for 2014. The school zone and catchment area apply once again.

Induction for grades 1-6 is beginning in 2 weeks. Students will be in their new grades with their new teachers. It is an exciting time.

If anyone has any time during the week or after school, the school nature strips need mowing. Our ride on mower is in being repaired at the moment. Come and use the school mower or bring your own if you have some spare time.

We welcome Mr. Gilpin back this week after 3 weeks of paternity leave. His new daughter Polly has been keeping him busy.

This is the last 4 weeks for our grade 6 students. They have been a fantastic group. We look forward to their continued leadership for the rest of the year. Now is the time for our grade five students to be thinking about nominating themselves for house and school captain positions in 2014.

I would like to thank our school councillors for all of their work and time this year. There is a lot of work that goes on behind the scenes to run a good school. There will be 4 parent positions vacant next year. We are looking for parents willing to attend the 8 meetings, be a member of a subcommittee and to be actively involved in school council work.

On Monday 25th November we are holding a thank you morning tea in the staff room for all of the volunteers who have helped at the school this year. Volunteers make a huge difference in schools and we greatly appreciate the help we get.

Teachers really value parent helpers in their grades and students benefit from an extra person helping them.

Have a great weekend

Kevin Enright
**Dates to Remember – Term 4**

**Thursday 21st November**  
Prep 2014 Transition 2.15pm-3.10pm

**Friday 22nd November**  
Grade 4 Melbourne Zoo Excursion

**Thursday 28th November**  
Prep 2014 Transition 2.15pm-3.10pm

**Wednesday 4th December**  
Prep Incursion – Responsible Pet Ownership

**Thursday 5th December**  
Prep 2014 and whole school Transition 2.15pm-3.10pm

**Thursday 12th December**  
Altona Primary School Christmas Concert 6pm-8pm  
Prep 2014 and whole school transition 2.15pm-3.10pm

**Friday 13th December**  
Grade 6 Mystery Tour

**Tuesday 17th December**  
Grade 6 Graduation – Altona Theatre

**2014**

**Thursday 30th January**  
1st day of term one for all students

**Grade 3/4 Camp Wilkin**  
Grade 4’s will attend Monday 16th – Wednesday 18th June  
Grade 3’s will attend Wednesday 18th June – Friday 20th June
Wanted - old android smartphones!

I would like to put out a call for any old smartphones that run android for a programming project I am doing with the grade 56 students next year. If you happen to have an early model smartphone that you are no longer using and would like to donate it would be very, much appreciated.

Which phones are suitable?
- Any HTC, Nexus or Samsung branded smartphone will most likely be running Android, but if you are not sure ask your kids!
- It doesn’t matter which network the phone is on so long as it turns on.
- The accompanying USB cable/charger would be great too if it is available.

Thank you,
Mr Corroon

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Victorian Junior Chess Championships: Kayson’s Report Grade3H

During Term 3 I went to Canberra to compete in the Victorian Junior Chess Championships. I drove with my mum and dad. We competed in a big building next to where we were living. It was a nine round tournament and there were lots of strong players in the U/10’s. I was eight years old and got a good result. We had one hour and 30 minutes on the clock and every move we got an extra 30 seconds. I had to spend a lot of time playing to win these games. Next year, I will be competing in Sydney. I hope to come 3rd or 4th depending on my play.

For information on the Yarraville Chess club phone Tony 0408 306 063 zugzwang@bigpond.com

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LOST 😊

Tiarn from 4K has lost her Piano music black folder.
If found please return to 4K.
**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

- **Saturday November 16th 2013**
  Farmers Market
- **Friday November 29 2013**
  Whole School Disco
- **Tuesday December 3 2013**
  AGM—Parent Club Meeting
- **Friday November 29 2013**
  Christmas Donation Hampers

**NOTICE BOARD**

**PARENTS CLUB MEETINGS**
The Minutes of our meetings are now available on our website. All are welcome.

**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.

**ICY POLES**
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.

**AUSSIE FARMERS DIRECT**
Want to sign up? Fill in the form available at the Office or call Rohan Day on 0419905544.
Christmas Donation Hampers

It’s hard to believe that Christmas is almost upon us again! Once again the Parents Club would like to invite you to teach your child about the gift of giving. Due to the success of last year’s Christmas hampers we have decided again to donate Hampers to two local charities, one being Altona Salvation Army, the other being Latitude Directions for Young People. Latitude provides direction for young people who are at risk of or experiencing homelessness in the Hobsons Bay and Moonee Ponds area.


From Monday Oct 21rst to Friday Nov 29th we will be placing a box in every classroom. If you can donate then please give your donation to your child so that it can be placed in the box and then forwarded to the charities.

Items needed or in short supply include the following: Non perishables including pasta sauce, long life milk and rice, also sponges, dishwashing liquid, toiletries or perhaps an edible treat! The Salvation Army would love to receive donations of new toys that can be passed on to less fortunate children in our area.

We ask that any items that you may be thinking of contributing could be new and in good condition. On behalf of the parents club we greatly appreciate any donation that we receive. I think you will agree that this project will be equally as rewarding for our children as for the recipients of the hampers!

Many thanks, The Parents Club.
FAVOURITE MOVIE / BOOK CHARACTER DISCO
Friday 29 November 2013

$5.00 per single ticket
or
$10.00 per family ticket of two children or more!

Lower School Disco (Grades Prep thru to Grade 3*)
6.15pm to 7.15pm
Upper School Disco (Grades 3* thru to Grade 6)
7:30pm to 9.00pm

*Grade 3 students may choose which disco to attend, please mark on your order form which disco you will be attending.

PRIMAS & paddle pops WILL BE FOR SALE AT BOTH DISCOS for $1 Each. Water will ALSO BE PROVIDED

Please note that Fancy Dress is not compulsory.

* All children need to be dropped off and picked up by an adult at the PAC.
* No child will be allowed to leave the disco area at anytime.
* Only current Altona Primary School children are allowed to attend.
* NO PARENTS allowed in the PAC. A class will be made available for any parent wishing to stay while children dance the night away.
* Entry through gate on Blyth Street.

PLEASE RETURN THIS SLIP AND MONEY TO CLASS BY Monday 15 November 2013

CHILD’S NAME: ……………………………………………………………………………………………
CLASS:  ……………..
NUMBER of SINGLE TICKETS: ……………………
NUMBER of FAMILY TICKETS: …………………… AMOUNT ENCLOSED: ……………………

Please note how many children require tickets in “Family Ticket” - Number: ……….
*Also if you are in Grade 3 which disco you will be attending – thank you JUNIOR or SENIOR

Yes, I give permission for my child to be photographed.
**DISCO HELPERS FORM**

Name: ........................................................................................................

Child’s Name: ............................................................................................ Class: ................................

Yes, I am able to help on FRIDAY 29th NOVEMBER.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.15pm - 7.15pm</td>
<td>JUNIOR DISCO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.30pm - 9.00pm</td>
<td>SENIOR DISCO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.15pm - 9.00pm</td>
<td>BOTH DISCOS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**PARENTS’ CLUB NOMINATION FORM 2014**

Full Name: .................................................................................................

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

Contact Number: _______________________  Mob: _____________________________

Contact Email: _________________________________________________________

I, ...................................................................................................................., would like to nominate myself for the
.............................................................................................................. position on the 2014 Altona Primary School
Parents’ Club Committee.

Signature: ..........................................................  Date: ..............................

*Official use only:*

1

Print Name: ..........................................................  Date: ..............................

2

Print Name: ..........................................................  Date: ..............................

**PLEASE FILL IN AND RETURN TO THE PARENTS CLUB VIA THE OFFICE.**