Principal’s Corner,
The grades have been busy recording our Christmas CD at the recording studio in Pier Street. One of Mr. Rouse’s friends owns it. It has been an exciting process. Thank you to Mr. Rouse and Mrs. Enright for their work in organising this project. The teachers sing one song on the CD! Julie and Tim have also organised So You Think You Can Dance, which began this week.

One of the pleasing aspects of our work is the improved learning of students who have had some difficulties with Literacy and/or Numeracy. This is the group who make significant progress each year through their effort and persistence. Well done and keep up the hard work.

The resounding message from our end of year staff appraisals and student data has been that hard work by students and their families, along with the teachers, has resulted in marked improvement. Our vision is that all students are literate and numerate.

We will have 5 grades of Preps next year. One hundred and one Preps have enrolled for 2014.

We have the 5/6 boys Hooptime finals, graduation, reports, excursions, the Christmas carols, 3 induction sessions and lots more to finish the year.

Zoe will be representing Victoria in the national primary schools championships. She will have raffle tickets to sell to raise some money towards airfares etc to represent Victoria. Contact the office if you would like to buy a raffle ticket.

Could I remind all families to consider our local residents at drop off and pick up times. There have been complaints made to the local council regarding some of our parents ignoring both civility and parking restrictions as well as the safety of all students.

We had a very poignant ceremony for Remembrance Day on Monday. Congratulations to Mrs. Mathrick and her grade for organising and presenting the ceremony to the whole school. Thank you to the Leeds family; Sian, Billie, Boadie and Riley for their moving tribute to Sian’s brother Blaine Diddams.

The staff would like to invite all of our 2013 parent helpers and volunteers to a morning tea on Monday 25/11/13 at 9:30 in the staffroom. We are very lucky to have such wonderful parent support.

The soccer oval redevelopment began again yesterday. The excavation should be finished within a week. The soil has been given clearance by a soil hygienist. Kennedy Plumbing, the excavators, will be entering and exiting through the rear gates and staff car park. The synthetic turf will then be laid over the next 4-5 weeks.

If you have any questions, comments, concerns, issues or ideas you are most welcome to come and talk with me at any time. Many parents chat with me before, after or even during school hours. My role as Principal is to listen empathetically and work collaboratively with all parents to do the very best for all students and their families.

There are scholarships available at www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/scholarships if any families qualify and are interested. I am happy to support applications.

Have a great weekend,

Kevin Enright
Dates to Remember – Term 4 2013

Saturday 16th November
Farmers Market

Wednesday 20th November
Grade 3 – Local beach walk (weather permitting)

Thursday 21st November
Prep 2014 Transition

Friday 22nd November
Grade 4 Melbourne Zoo Excursion

Thursday 28th November
Prep 2014 Transition

Friday 29th November
Whole school Disco

Wednesday 4th December
Prep Incursion – Responsible Pet Ownership

Thursday 5th December
Prep 2014 and whole school Transition

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

Friday 13th December
Grade 6 Mystery Tour

Tuesday 17th December
Grade 6 Graduation – Altona Theatre
ICT NEWS

In the coming weeks prep to grade 2 students will be working with the free Lego Digital Designer program. This program allows children to create their own Lego designs or work with imported Lego designs.

I asked the students this week what makes digital Lego better than ‘real’ Lego?

“My mum can’t suck up the pieces with the vacuum cleaner”

“My baby brother can’t eat them and I can’t get told off”

“I don’t have to share one single piece with my brother”

“You don’t have to clean up”

“They’re free”

“My dad won’t yell at me when he steps on the pieces”.

I encourage you to load the free program onto your computer and let your children have fun creating their own designs. The Lego program also prepares students for the senior grade’s Lego digital robotics program.

The program can be downloaded from here: http://ldd.lego.com/en-us/download/

Any queries please feel free to contact me Wednesday to Friday.

Mrs Robyne Luketic
ICT specialist teacher.

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BOOKCLUB ISSUE 8

This is the final order for 2013. All orders are due by Friday 22nd November.

If your order is for a gift, please write this on the envelope and your it will be left at the office.

TIM NELSON’S STUDENT CONCERT

Congratulations to all students who played at or piano concert on Wednesday 13th November.

Billy Bui, Alexis Cottingham, Tamar Storey, Sam Hall, Lily Szigeti, Isabelle King, Domenic Borg, Zhana Taipi, Baily McDougall, Lucinda Rourke, Max Birthisel all played beautifully!

For lesson enquiries please contact Tim Nelson 0450 904 464.
TRANSITION
The purpose of transition is to provide time for students to become familiar with their new environment, develop their confidence and develop relationships with their new teacher and new peers. Adapting to change is a key feature during the transition period. All students need to feel secure and happy during this time. Families can support their children through positive conversations.

PREP TRANSITION
Transition for our new 2014 preps will commence on Thursday 21\textsuperscript{st} November for 4 consecutive weeks at 2.15pm – 3.10pm. Whilst the preps are in classrooms, we invite parents to meet with the Leadership Team during the first session in Room 1 and meet in the staffroom over the following 3 weeks for afternoon tea.

WHOLE SCHOOL TRANSITION
Transition for grades Prep – Year 5 will commence on Thursday 5\textsuperscript{th} December for 2 consecutive weeks at 2.15pm – 3.10pm.
Year 6 – Statewide Orientation Day is Tuesday 10\textsuperscript{th} December, independent schools will vary.
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.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS
Order forms for the 2013/2014 books have been placed in the office for your perusal. If anyone requires a book please contact Fraser Thomas by email. ta78@optusnet.com.au or order online.

GRADUATION BEARS - $5 each
The Parents Club are currently selling Grade 6 Graduation Bears for $5 each. You can get all your friends to sign these bears and they are dressed in a black graduation hat & cloak. One will be on display in the Office.

GRADUATION BEAR ORDER FORM

Name: ..........................................................
Class: ..............
Quantity: ........ Amount $ ............
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 CHARCTER 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.

6.15pm - 7.15pm JUNIOR DISCO 7.30pm - 9.00pm SENIOR DISCO
6.15pm - 9.00pm BOTH DISCOS

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:-
1st: ..............................................................................

Print Name: ......................................................... Date: .........................
2nd: ..............................................................................

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

PLEASE FILL IN AND RETURN TO THE PARENTS CLUB VIA THE OFFICE.
Altona Primary School Farmers Market Parent Survey

The school farmers market has now been in operation for over a year. The working party would like to get your feedback and explore if school families are in support of continuing this event in 2014.

1. Have you or your family attended the Altona Primary School Farmers Market in 2013?
   - Yes  Please comment why you attend
   - No  Please comment why you do not attend

   Work/commitments  sport/kids activities  too expensive  no interest
   not enough choice of produce  not happy with quality

   Other __________________________________________

2. Do you support the school continuing with the farmer’s market in 2014?
   - Yes
   - No

   Why? __________________________________________

3. What improvements could be made or how could we build on current success?

   __________________________________________

4. Have you ever volunteered at the market?
   - Yes
   - No  Comments __________________________________________

5. Are you interested in volunteering at future markets?
   - Yes (please add your details below)
   - No  Please remove my name from current mailing list

   Name __________________________________________

   Child’s Name __________________________________________

   Phone __________________________________________

   Email __________________________________________

Many thanks for your feedback. Please return this form to school by FRIDAY 28th NOVEMBER 2013