



ALTONA PRIMARY SCHOOL
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MOTTO: Be True

VISION: Knowledge and Nurturing by the Bay

MISSION: *To provide a positive, challenging, innovative, caring and safe environment for our children, enabling them to learn academically, creatively, socially and emotionally in all aspects of life.*

NEWSLETTER

Date: 05/12/2008

Principal's Corner

We are tying up so many loose ends for 2008 and organising for 2009 that it is impossible to keep everyone informed of everything that is occurring. As stated last week we still have staff to appoint and there are portables to arrive during the term 4 holiday period. There is still a possibility that some staff changes will occur before the end of year. We will continue to do our very best under the circumstances. The grade 5/4 is a necessity given the numbers of students in grades 3 -6. The alternative is higher numbers of students in each grade and one less grade. The school does not believe this to be a good educational option. The grade 5/4 will not be an extension grade but simply another grade within the school but with a different combination of year levels than we normally have. We did have a grade 5/4 a couple of years ago for the same reason. Children in all grades in all year levels are taught according to their own individual level of achievement. Teachers do move year levels for their own careers, knowledge and for a new challenge. Careers in schools are no different to private enterprise. Teachers have a union negotiated career structure and a state-wide workplace agreement that governs their conditions of work. My leadership of the school is based on these agreements alongside the government's policies on equal opportunity, anti discrimination and merit and equity. Parent requests for their children are requests and influenced by the same career and year level movements by teachers. We cannot guarantee what year level teachers will be in until the decision is made in fourth term after consideration of teachers' requests for the following year. By the end of next week we hope to have our staffing in place for 2009. This will depend on the interview processes occurring during this period of time.

Students are requested to return all school resources they may have at home tomorrow. With two weeks left of the school year it is important that we are able to stocktake all the resources in preparation for next year. We have a large number of resources and it is quite a massive task. Classroom programs will continue to run as usual with teachers utilising the resources available within their own classroom. Students are encouraged to borrow books from local libraries and keep up their reading over the holidays. Thank you to all of the parents who attended the parent information evenings for next year's grades; these were very well attended. We hope that the information presented assists parents in supporting their children in the transitioning process between grades.

Congratulations to our girls' cricket team who won all their games yesterday at the Regional finals. This is such a wonderful achievement given some of these girls have never played cricket before. The girls gave up many of their lunchtimes to train and should be commended for the hard work and persistence they have shown. Thank you also to Steve Puhar for his time and enthusiasm shown in coaching the girls. The team are now through to the State final which will be held at the MCG on Monday 8th December. We wish them all the very best!

Kevin Enright
Principal.

DATES TO REMEMBER



Thursday 4th December

APS students Grade Transition at school –
2:15pm-3pm
Parents Information Evening for APS students
Grade Transition – 6:30pm-7pm -3/4 Team 2009
7:15pm-7:45pm-5/6 Team 2009

Wednesday 10th December

Preps 2009 Orientation program and
APS students Grade Transition to 2009 Grades
2:15pm-3pm

Thursday 11th December

Christmas Carols at APS – on the synthetic turf
area

Tues 16th December

Grade 6 Graduation – Altona Theatre

Friday 19th December

Last day of Term 4 – **early finish 1:30pm**

Grade 5/6 children to wear casual clothes
and a Santa Hat
**A carols songbook will be available for
\$2.**

Looking forward to seeing you all there
Julie Enright

International Volunteer Day – 5th December

Altona Primary School is fortunate in that it has
many willing parents and friends who volunteer
their energy, talent and skills to support the
school community.

They are amongst 5.4 million Australians who
volunteer their precious time each year, which
adds a value of about \$70 billion to the
Australian economy.

Sports & Recreation and Education & Training
are the top two types of organisations where
people volunteer. 35-44 year olds are the group
with the highest volunteering participation rate.
Perhaps this tells us something about the
influence of children on their parents? But the
reverse is also true; people who volunteer often
report that their parents volunteered – sustaining
the culture of volunteering is important for all of
us and our community.

So, on International Volunteer Day this Friday,
say a big thank you to all the volunteers you
know – at Altona Primary School - and all the
other places you'll find them – they're
everywhere!

ICT News – SuperClubsPLUS

**UPDATE – All primary school children can be
registered for free before the end of 2008.**

**All students to return the completed form by
Friday 5th December.**

For any questions please contact Robyne
Luketic at school on Wednesdays or view
SuperClubsPLUS online at
www.superclubsplus.com.au

Christmas Carols



Dear Parents,
Hope you are tuning up your voices for the
Carols night, **Thursday 11th of December**
commencing at **6.30**.

Bring a rug or chair and some refreshments
and join the school community in front of the
flagpole area for what should be a wonderful
night of singing.

All grades will be performing 3 Christmas
songs, the night finishing with the choir
leading the school community singing 3
Christmas Carols.

Grade Prep children will need to wear
Pajamas and Reindeer ears

Grade 1/2, 3/4 children to wear a Santa Hat,
Christmas T.Shirt or Red, White or Green T.
Shirt and jeans or skirt or shorts.

LOST UNIFORM

Kirra Nottelmann from 3/4S has lost her hat. It is
clearly marked with her name. If found please
return to Room 19.

KANGA CRICKET

Wednesday the third of December the girl's
kanga cricket went to Werribee Central's home
ground to compete in regional competition. In
our first match we were nervous but ready to
play. With some great batting and bowling from

our team we got off to a great win. With us scoring 223 and them scoring 39. In our second game we played we all felt pretty good. That confidence that we had helped us with our batting and bowling. We won and the scores were 170 to 39. We played one of our best games in the third game with everybody hitting well. We were all bowling very well. We scored 224 and they scored 54. We qualified for the final. In the final we played Lalor west primary school. We won the toss and elected to bat. They started off with some great bowling. We came back and started hitting the ball well. Now it was our turn to bowl. We were getting a lot of runs scored off us but a brilliant over by Laura and we were back on track. In the end we won by over 30 runs. On the 8th of December we will be playing at the MCG. I would like to thank Mr Puhar for taking up his time to train us and Mr Enright for taking us there.

Anyone interested in joining and having some fun call Ann 0415 817 495.



RIDING TO SCHOOL

This morning I was riding to school with a lot of people. I was riding with the school. Ryan, Jordan and I were the only people from our class riding.

We all met at the BMX track and rode to school. We rode along past the hundred steps of Federation, down the bridge, along the lake, down to the beach and to school. Ryan was behind me so we had a chat.

We are riding back in the afternoon so I will have fun again.

Ben B 1/2M

CONGRATULATIONS



Best wishes to our Piano teacher Tim Nelson and his family. They welcomed a baby boy to their family this week. He weighed 3 kgs, Mum and baby doing well.



This morning all the children from Altona Meadows rode their bikes to school because it was "Ride Your Bike to School Day".

Ben, Jordan and I met at the BMX track. We rode around the BMX track, Jordan crashed into Lachy. We all rode along the beach and to school. Ben was in front of us so we had a chat then we went to school.

After school Ben, Jordan and I are going down to the skate park.

Ryan 1/2M

NEWS FROM 3/4H

Do you have any spare keys that you no longer use? Any household keys will do, they are for an activity Ms Holgate is planning for next year.

Also, a huge **thank you** to the Parents Club for our yummy lunch, which was the prize for raising the most money during the Obstacle-a-thon. We had a wonderful time participating in all the activities, while at the same time raising money for APS.

We are very grateful for all the Parents Club do for us throughout the year.

3/4Happy go Lucky.

ALTONA HOCKEY CLUB

You are invited to our summer hockey sessions.

Under 9 and new players,

Tuesdays until 9th December 5pm-6pm

Under 13-17

Tuesdays until 9th December

6pm-7:30pm

For more information contact Steve 0419 036

242 or Karen 0411 107 618

ALTONA PIRATES BASKETBALL TEAM

Girls needed to play in the Under 8's, Under 12's and Under 14's teams.

