



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: 02/04/2009

### Principal's Corner

I thought I might share some points of interest concerning independent reading from recent principal meetings that I have been required to attend. The research underlines the importance of reading both at school and at home:

- The average higher-achieving students read three times as much each week as less proficient students, not including out-of-school reading."(Allington, Richard. 2006)
- The research shows that our more proficient fourth-grade readers engage in reading at least two and one-half hours a day whereas less proficient readers read for about a half-hour a day, if that – a 500% difference.

Variation in amount of independent reading

Percentile Rank	Minutes reading per day	Words read per year
98 <sup>th</sup> (Highest ranking or most proficient readers)	67.3	4,733,000
90 <sup>th</sup>	33.4	2,375,000
70 <sup>th</sup>	16.9	1,168,000
50 <sup>th</sup>	9.2	601,000
30 <sup>th</sup>	4.3	251,000
10 <sup>th</sup>	1.0	51,000

Two decades of research on effective classrooms and schools documents that schools with rich supplies of engaging, accessible, appropriate books are schools that are likely to teach many students to read and develop thoughtful, eager, engaged readers. We are lucky to have excellent reading resources, highly skilled teachers and motivated students.

Given the above research, reading is a must for all children. At times it is very difficult with our busy lives but is it very important.

Thank you to all of the parents who attended and helped with the cross country on Tuesday. It was a terrific day. Congratulations to all the children who ran in the races.

Unfortunately we were broken into again on Monday night at 11:00 p.m. If you see anyone in the grounds particularly in the evening or at night please call Shield Security on 9974 1488 and they will attend immediately. Luckily nothing was stolen. A window at the back of the Multipurpose room was broken into on both occasions.

Thank you to every Altona P.S. student for a fabulous term one. Even though it has been extremely busy you have been fabulous and made our jobs so much more enjoyable. The leadership of the grade 5/6 students in particular has been fantastic.

Have a relaxing and safe holiday

**Kevin Enright**  
**Principal.**

**Early finish Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April – end of Term 1**

The office will be closed on this day to enable end of Term procedures to be completed.  
 Thank you.

## DATES TO REMEMBER



### Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April

Last day of Term 1 - **early finish 2:30pm**

### Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April

First day of Term 2

### Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June

Curriculum Day - Pupil free Day

## OFFICE CLOSED FRIDAY

Please note that the office will be closed on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April to enable Kathy and Maree to finalise the end of Term procedures.

## BULLY BUSTERS PRIMARY

Dear Parents

We have organized an incursion for the whole school to tie in with our "You Can do it" program and the launch of the Purple key "Resilience".

This incursion will take place on Wednesday the 29<sup>th</sup> of April. The cost of the incursion is \$4.00 per child.

A permission note will go out during the first week of term 2 giving more details regarding the program.

Money will need to be collected during the first week, once the notes go home.

The name of the incursion is "Bully Busters". This program will generate a lot of discussion and learning about the issues relating to Bullying. This program talks about the victim and the Bully, giving clear messages and strategies for us all to consider. We hope all children will be able to attend this incursion.

**Thanking you**

**APS Welfare Committee.**



## LUNCH ORDER PRICE LIST

A new lunch order list has been sent home with this Newsletter.

This amended list includes food types and recommended intake of certain foods.

## Commemorative Sunday March April 19<sup>th</sup>

The tradition of ANZAC Day began with the First World War over 90 years ago, men from Australia and New Zealand fought together at Gallipoli.

That's what **ANZAC** means;

*Australia and New Zealand Army Corps.*

On **April 19<sup>th</sup>** (the last Sunday of the holidays), it is **Commemorative Sunday**; this is always the Sunday before ANZAC Day. It is one of the special days in the RSL's calendar.

Our Scout Pack, (4<sup>th</sup> Altona Sea Scouts) is going to meet at 1:45pm at the Altona RSL. The Commemorative Sunday March commences at 2:00pm and travels down Pier Street to the eternal flame at the Civic Centre. We will march with RSL members, Cadets, other Scout Packs and Girl Guides to remember the service men and women who have and are fighting to protect Australia and the world.

At the eternal flame and cenotaph we will hear different people speak. Some people will place flowers at the base of the eternal flame and cenotaph in memory of the Army, Navy and Air force men and women who died in the wars.

After the service we will march back to the RSL.

If you wish to come to the march and the service at the eternal flame please arrive at 2:00pm at the corner of Civic Parade & Pier Street.

**Lest We Forget**





### **Entertainment Books – Worth their weight in Gold!**

The new 2009/2010 Entertainment Book will be made available to all families in Term 2.

Selling for \$65, a portion of the proceeds from the sale of the Entertainment Books will help **Altona Primary School** raise much needed funds.

Entertainment Books contain hundreds of 25-50% off and two-for-one offers from popular restaurants, cinemas, hotel accommodation, the arts, and sporting events. There truly is something for everyone, with high value offers from:

- AFL - 2 for 1 tickets to games at the MCG,**
- Coles – 5% Off when purchasing a Coles gift card**
- Souvlaki Hut – 2 for 1 deal**
- Puffing Billy - 2 for 1 deal**
- Village Cinemas - \$11.00 tickets**
- Crust Pizza – 2 for 1 deal**
- Luna Park – 2 for 1 deal**
- and many more.**

For more information please contact **Sandra Wilson** on [sandra.wilson@optusnet.com.au](mailto:sandra.wilson@optusnet.com.au) or phone **83078914**.



### **Make a Difference - join a Sub-committee of School Council**

If any parents would like greater involvement in school at a strategic level and have skills and experience that could support the school, joining a sub-committee of School Council could provide a rewarding experience.

There are a number of sub-committees that meet once or twice a term to work on school related projects and then report back to School Council. These sub-committees usually meet just after school or out of school hours, so parents who work could find this a way of being involved with the school, getting to know other parents and making a contribution to the school.

The sub-committees are:

**Buildings & Grounds** – first meeting scheduled @ 6 pm on Tuesday 21 April, and thereafter on the first Tuesday of each month. Projects include working with our Principal, Kevin Enright on developing some of the exciting school building opportunities.

**Curriculum & Policy** – meeting times not yet decided. This sub-committee will set a timetable for reviewing and developing school policies, together with other parents and teachers.

**Out of School Hours Care** – meeting times not yet decided. If your child / children are in after / before school care, you can contribute to the program development and support our fabulous Laura Kane.

**Sustainability & Community** – this is a teacher committee, but parents are welcome to contribute to discussion and initiatives that are earmarked for action. The next meeting is on Monday, 11 May @ approx 3.30 pm. Current activities are water

collection and garden watering, encouraging active transport to school, reduction of litter. Having a committed and active parent community adds great benefit to our school and our children's well-being.

If you would like more information or are interested in being involved in a school sub-committee, contact either Kevin Enright, Principal or Sandra Wilson, School Council President.

## Tim Nelson Music Introduction to Piano/Keyboard

SPACES ARE AVAILABLE FOR GROUP LESSONS IN TERM TWO FOR CHILDREN IN PREP, 1/2's

Lessons will be held during lunchtime or recess (either Tuesday or Thursday). Limited spaces are available. There will be 3 to 4 children per class.

Payment must be made for the whole term before lessons can begin. Fees can be left at the front office.

Please call Tim (9398 4464) for space availability and to arrange a lesson time, or if you have any enquiries.

Individual lessons are also available.

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I wish to enrol my child in term two for **Introduction to Piano/ Keyboard** lessons.

Name of child \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact no.  
(home) \_\_\_\_\_ (mob) \_\_\_\_\_

10 lessons at \$10 per lesson: cheque cash  
Total \$100.00

*(Cheques can be made payable to Tim Nelson)*



### **GLASSES FOUND**

A pair of prescription glasses have been found in the playground. Please call at the office if your child has lost a pair of glasses this week.

### **SLAPPED CHEEK (Parvo 19 Virus)**

There has been a case of suspected "Slapped Cheek" in the school.

While this has not been confirmed, if you are pregnant it would be wise to check with your doctor regarding any potential risk.

### **Drybodz Poncho**

If you would like to order a Poncho there is one on display on our uniform mannequins.

There is an order form attached to this Newsletter.

Please place order and correct money in an envelope and leave at the office.





