



ALTONA PRIMARY SCHOOL
BLYTH STREET,
ALTONA, Vic, 3018
PHONE: 9398 2925
Fax: 9398 5834
E-mail: altona.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
Website: www.altonaps.vic.edu.au

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: 13/08/2009

Principal's Corner

Our buildings are getting closer. We are waiting on a decision as to how the state funding and federal funding mix will work; who will pay for what, when and how? Hopefully this will be resolved very shortly.

When the building starts the 'wooden building' housing the grade 1 / 2s and Prep B will be demolished except for Mr. Gilpin and Ms. Nicolin's rooms. This will mean that, until the end of term 4, all of these grades and the 3 grade 5/6s in the main building will have to be relocated. We will place 2 grades in the PAC, one in the library, one in the I.T. room and one in the art room. The teachers have also decided to give up the staff room and have one grade in the staff room. We will use the old staff room, now the photocopying room, and the corridor outside the office area. Staff felt that giving up their space showed their commitment to the children's education. It also saved splitting a grade and places the grade in a room that will maximise their learning opportunities.

Once the grade 5/6 rooms are renovated and extended the 5/6 grades will move back in (in December hopefully) to their rooms.

We aim to have a small working bee in September to move all of the furniture and classroom materials from the affected classrooms.

Next year we will have to have 2 grades in the PAC and one in the library while the new building is being built. The projected end date for the building works is October 2010.

A reminder that skateboards and scooters should not be ridden in the school grounds. This is purely for legal reasons. There is no reason that these items need to be brought to school and should be left at home.

There have been a very small number of unfounded and defamatory rumours and allegations surface this year. A rule of thumb is that if these rumours sound unlikely they most likely are. Most families know the school well enough to know the great pride we take in our dedication, honesty and integrity. Staff work well above the 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. we are employed to work and that doesn't include the work at home each night and on weekends. I am happy to openly discuss and give an honest assessment of any rumour or issue to any parent at any time even if it is about me. Please feel free to contact or approach me at any time. Our aim is to do the best for all children at all times. Egos, power and personal accolades are irrelevant in our line of work. The children's social, emotional and educational well being are our only priority.

We have had a number of staff unwell over the past few weeks hopefully everyone will be back fit and healthy next week.

I had the pleasure of hearing our choir sing at the Williamstown hall last Sunday. They were magnificent. The hall erupted into applause after the songs. A big thank you to Mrs. Enright and Mrs. Mathrick who gave up their entire Sunday to look after the choir. Thank you to all the parents who also attended.

Tomorrow's 3-6 athletics day will be a terrific community and school event. The teachers are

looking forward to running in the APS gift at the end of the day. Unfortunately I have to attend another compulsory principals' professional development day and will be unable to attend or run in the final event.

Lyn Kosky will be at Altona P.S. along with the author Leigh Hobbs on Friday to congratulate the children on their efforts in reading so many books for the Premier's Reading challenge.

Thank you to Mrs. Mathrick for her efforts in getting so many children to enter the challenge. Jo's aim was to get every child in the school to participate. Our school has one of the highest participation rates in Victoria.

Have a great weekend

Kevin Enright
Principal.



APS BOOKFAIR

Leading up to Literacy Week, we will be holding a Bookfair.

At this stage the Bookfair will begin Monday 31st August continuing until Friday 4th

September (dates to be confirmed). There will be a range of quality fiction and non fiction books available for all age levels. The price of most books will range from \$5 to \$20.

A wish list will come home with each child after they have viewed the books.

Purchasing times will be in next week's Newsletter.

All profit made will contribute to the purchase of new books for the Library.

DATES TO REMEMBER



Friday 14th August

APS Athletics Carnival

Wednesday 19th August

Mathletics Evening Session for Prep-grade 2
parents 6:30pm-7:30pm ICT centre

Monday 24th – Friday 28th August

APS Bookfair

Monday 7th September

3/4 excursion Werribee Zoo

Tuesday 8th September

3/4 Hooptime

Tuesday 15th September

FOPA

Friday 18th September

End of Term 3 – early finish 2:30pm

It's Not OK to be Away

The absenteeism for all grades so far this year is 2560.

The grade absences for last week are as follows:

Prep	11
Grade 1	9
Grade 2	11
Grade 3	9
Grade 4	17
Grade 5	3
Grade 6	6

RESPONSIBLE PARKING

When dropping off or collecting your child from school, please remember to park safely and comply with the 10 minute drop off parking rule. We understand that parents are busy, but the childrens safety is of the utmost importance. The police will be monitoring the parking situation.

