



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: 25/02/2009

Principal's Corner

Grade 5/6 sport has started very well. I have the pleasure and privilege of coaching and taking the cricket team. Their sportsmanship and manners were impeccable last Friday.

Congratulations to our school and house captains. The staff were very impressed by their election speeches and the fact that so many capable students put themselves up for election and delivered their election speeches. **The**

captains are:

Tyler Tipitsidis and Arlie Den Ouden.

House Captains:

Red: Bradley Maynard and Hannah Spelic

Blue: James Agius and Tomasina Dimopoulos

Yellow: Isaac Corvo and Jessica Bosnar

Green: Jesse Zammit and Laura Costa

Purple: Jordan Mounthey and Ina Anacov

The Education Department (DEECD) directed all funds raised by out of uniform days in schools across the state into the one fund with the Red Cross. We raised \$1515.75 which was a fabulous effort. We are advised by DEECD that donations under \$10 can be claimed back on tax without a receipt.

We have four nominations for School Council: Mrs. Sandra Wilson, Ms. Amira Maleken, Ms. Tracey Habgood and Mr. Chris Young.

Unfortunately, there are only 3 positions available. An election will be held next week.

Ballot papers will be sent home to all families on

Monday February 23rd with a return date by Monday March 2nd. Parents will be asked to place the numbers 1-3 against the candidates' names and either place the ballot paper in a returns box at the office or post their ballot paper to the school. All ballot papers must be returned in an envelope containing the ballot paper. This envelope must be inside another envelope which has the voter's name and address written on the back. The office will keep a register of the voters. Each candidate has been invited to write a brief statement about themselves to be distributed with the ballot papers.

I look forward to counting the votes next week and forming our new 2009 School Council.

Absenteeism:

The more children are at school the more they learn. Children who are absent often miss out on the introduction of new learnings or have their learning interrupted. Of course if children are sick they should remain home. We are attempting to have the maximum number of children at school at all times to increase the learning across the school.

After 14 days there has been 118 absences. Some grades have had a total of up to 15 children away; one child per day every day. We ask your help in keeping absenteeism and late arrivals down to a minimum.

Have a great weekend

Kevin Enright
Principal.



DATES TO REMEMBER

Tuesday 17th – 25th February

Somers Camp

Wednesday 25th February

Parent/Teacher Interviews

Early finish – 1pm

OSHC will be running from 1pm

School photos

Thursday February 26th /Friday 27th

School photos

Thursday 5th – 23rd March

Life Ed begins

Monday 9th March

Labour Day Public Holiday

Friday 13th March

Bayside Festival

Sunday 15th March

Bayside Festival Parade

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE

ALLOWANCE

The EMA is provided to assist eligible families with the costs associated with the education of their children.

To be eligible for the EMA you must:

- Be the holder of a Health Care card or a pension card. Your card must be current as of 28th January 2009.
- The EMA application must be submitted to **school by 27th February 2009** for the 1st instalment.

If you have not already seen Kathy regarding the EMA, please do so as soon as possible.

ROAD SAFETY

Please adhere to road safety regulations around our school. These are there to ensure the safety of all students.

The Council will be monitoring all parking areas for those not complying with the regulations.

PAYMENT ENVELOPES.

When sending payment for excursions etc., please ensure that if possible the correct money is placed in the envelope and the form stapled to the outside.

Thank you

O.S.H.C NEWS

Welcome back!

Things have started off well in the Before and After School Care room.

Numbers are high at the moment so I remind everyone if their child/ren does not need to attend a session to please let myself or someone in the school office know. It helps us out because we do look for them if they haven't shown up.

The first lot of invoices will go out next week. Sorry it has taken so long.

If your child care benefit is not showing on the invoice it is possible I haven't received the note back from you asking for your date of birth. If you could return that as soon as possible I will be able to change your account.

We have started a homework club every Monday (with one of our staff in 4/5 M) and Wednesday (with Miss Holgate in her room). Active After School Care sports begins tonight with the 3-6 group going first. Prep- 2 will be next Thursday and they will then rotate every week.

It would be greatly appreciated when you come to pick your child/ren up if you could remind them to pack away whatever they are playing with. It gets quite hard to clean up at the end of the night when there is so much stuff everywhere. We have been talking about it but if you could remind them also it would be a great week.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to come and see me.

Laura and O.S.H.C Staff

UNIFORM NEWS

We now have stock of purple and grey rugby shorts. Bootleg pants are also in stock. The uniform shop is open every Tuesday morning 8:45am-9:30am and afternoon 3:15pm-3:45pm.

An order form can be collected from the office and correct money and order placed in an envelope and left at the office.

GREY VEST

If you are interested in purchasing a grey polar fleece vest please send a note stating that you would like to buy one and the size required. These were a big hit last year, but we need to have an order for 50 as that is the minimum the

TRANSITION SURVEY

Dear Parents,

In 2008, APS trialled a program to improve the transition of students from one grade level to the next. To evaluate the effectiveness and improve its application, we would like your feedback.

Surveys will be available for parents to complete before or after parent/teacher interview on February 25th and place in the box provided by each class teacher. We request you complete a survey for each child

If you are attending an interview at another time and would like an opportunity to complete the survey, a copy of the survey may be obtained at the office.

Thank you in anticipation for your feedback
Regards

Sue Vermezovic
Assistant Principal

Visual Arts 2009.....an over view

The art program at APS aims to be an enjoyable and exciting one. Throughout the year the children will work with a large range of materials, exploring and creating, producing art pieces which are appreciated by all.

While the children are being taught appropriate use of materials and the endless applications

many of these have, they are also developing their artistic talents. As part of the program the children are also taught the more formal elements of art. A further component of the program consists of looking at the art of others and so developing an art appreciation.

This semester many of the art activities will be linked to the classroom integrated topics. Preps will have an introduction to the art room, learning safe and appropriate behaviours while completing numerous art works.

Many of the grade 1/2 activities will be based on their classroom a colour mixing activity which should create a fabulous display.

As a link with their studies on 'the brain' grade 3/4 are currently working through a variety of activities related to that topic. They will shortly be exploring a range of modelling materials.

While studying the elements of tone and line, the grade 5/6 will complete a range of art pieces through which they can explore and develop their skills with paints, collage and modelling. Exploration of the work of other artists will be included. Class room topics as well as current events may be the starting point for some of their works.

Please remember it is important for your child to have an art smock for art sessions.

If your child should get paint on their clothing soaking and gentle rubbing should remove it.

Parent Helpers Course 2009

Thankyou to all the parents who have expressed interest participating in Altona Primary School's Parent Helpers Course for 2009. I am pleased to confirm that the 4 week course will commence on Thursday February 26th. The course will be held at Koorngal Golf Club, Queen St Altona commencing at 9:30am. If there are any parents who would like to participate in the course and have not yet expressed interest please contact me, no later than Monday.

I look forward to working with you.



Yours sincerely

Nicole Fridey

P-6 Literacy Coordinator

CONGRATULATIONS

Best wishes to Niamh Gow from 1/2L and her family on the safe arrival of a baby boy. Mother and baby doing well.

LOST GLASSES

Madeline Brajkovic from 1/2H has lost her reading glasses. They have a purple frame. If found, please return to Madeline in Room20.

NETBALL

Would you like to come and play netball on Saturday afternoons? Seaholme Netball Club are looking for players aged between 7,8, or 9, male or female to join our club. No experience necessary as we train on Wednesday afternoons from 3:45pm until 4:30pm at the Altona Netball Stadium and our coaches will teach you to play. For more information call Julie Magowan 9315 7057.

Grade 6 Parents – Transition News **(Important!!!)** **Westbourne Scholarships**

Westbourne Grammar School is offering Academic and Music Scholarships to young students with academic and music potential. These scholarships provide a significant reduction in tuition fees and Music Scholarships receive free tuition on two instruments.

Academic Scholarships will be awarded to Grade 6 students who perform exceptionally well in the scholarship test to be held at Westbourne Grammar on ***Saturday 28th February 2009.***

Applicants for both Academic and Music Scholarships will be required to sit the scholarship exam on ***Saturday 28th February 2009.*** Applicants for Music Scholarships will be auditioned on either ***Wednesday 4th March*** or ***Thursday 5th March.***

All students wishing to enrol in the school for Year 7 **MUST** sit this Placement Test.

All applications and payment for academic scholarships is via the Internet at www.westbournegrammar.com, then click on 'Apply for a Scholarship'. Applications close on Friday 20th February 2009 at 4pm.



4th Altona Sea Scouts Pines Scout Camp, Altona Road

'Scouts' - Joeys, Cubs and Scouts

The **4th Altona Sea Scouts** would like to invite the boys and girls in our community to come and try Scouting.

'Joey Scouts' – For boys & girls aged 6 to 8 years old
Tuesday Nights 5:45 to 6:45pm

'Cub Scouts' - For boys & girls aged 7½ to 11 years old
Tuesday Nights 7:00 to 8:30pm

'Scouts' - For boys & girls aged 11 to 15 years old
Wednesday Nights

Please feel free to come along and participate in a Pack Meeting and experience the exciting activities and games 'Scouts' have to offer. During a Pack Meeting the children participate in a range of activities as they work towards their badges, venture on excursions around our local community or into Melbourne and occasionally attend camps.

For more information call Sandra Stone – Cub Scout Leader (9398 – 3893)

NEWS FROM ST. MARY'S ALTONA

Note to Parents and Guardians of Catholic children in Year 3 or higher.

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Religious Education and preparation for Sacraments for children attending State Primary Schools.

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Information and Enrolment Sessions will be held on
*Thursday 19
February* for parents and guardians of children attending State Primary

Schools who wish their children to prepare for the celebration of the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Communion or Confirmation, or who wish to further their child's religious education.
These sessions will be held at 2.00pm and again at 7.30pm on Thursday 19 February at St. Mary's Church, Altona. This will be the only time to enroll in the preparation program this year. If you are not able to attend either of these sessions or if you have any questions on this matter, please contact Richard Hallett on 0421 471 073.

