

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: 17/07/2008

Principal's Corner

Only one week to go. I think teachers and students have just made it over the line. Two weeks of recharging the batteries will have everyone back in term 3 ready for another term of learning and teaching.

A notice went home yesterday regarding female students being followed to school. There are two other important aspects to consider: making sure that children do not arrive at school before 8:40am (if they do they should be booked into Before School Care) and making sure children go straight home after school (unless they are booked into After School Care).

Reports will be sent home tomorrow and Parent/Teacher interviews begin at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday. Please make sure children have a safe method of going straight home. If children are going somewhere other than home they will need a note so that we know they are safe and have their parents' permission. **School will finish at 1pm on this day.**

Anita Forsythe, our school reviewer, visited the school on Tuesday and spoke with 12 grade 5/6 children, then the staff and later on the School Council. She was most impressed with the children and what they had to say about their education, their teachers and the school. School Council and staff were excited about some of the ideas coming from the self evaluation to improve children's education at Altona P.S.

When the school self evaluation is completed early next term it will be on the school's website. The website now contains the weekly newsletter. At some stage next term we will ask families who would prefer to access their newsletter on the school's website and save paper to let us know.

Have a great weekend.

Kevin Enright
Principal.

DATES TO REMEMBER



Tuesday 24th June

Parents of Grade 5/6 students - Family Life Information Evening – 7:30pm-9pm Performing Arts Centre

Wednesday 25th June

Parent/Teacher Interviews – **early finish 1pm**
OSHC from 1pm. – **no lunch orders on this day**

Friday 27th June

End of Term – **early finish 2:30pm**

Monday 14th July

Term 3 begins

OFFICE NEWS

The office will be closed next Friday 27th June, so that Kathy and Maree can finalise the end of term procedures.

STUDENT ENROLMENT FORMS

The student enrolment forms sent home a few weeks ago need to be returned by tomorrow. If your details have not changed just send the forms back with a note that there are no changes. The forms should go back to the classroom teacher.

SUGGESTION BOX

As school captain lots and lots of people approach me in the school yard and give me suggestions to improve the school. Sometimes I don't always remember their requests, because I am busy playing line tiggly with Capri and Natalia. So, with my forgetfulness in mind I have decided to make a suggestion box. It is located in the 5/6 corridor and is available to all students (great and small) and parents.

TOILETS

I would like to thank the students who have already popped their helpful suggestions in the box it is greatly appreciated. Many of the suggestions are regarding the toilets so I have decided to act. Many of the problems are to do with how yucky they are and that is partly our fault because we don't look after them properly. Some students throw wet toilet paper on the ceiling, litter on the floor etc. . It is our responsibility as students of this school to look after the school and use the toilets the way they are supposed to be used.

I will put signs up around the toilets saying 'TREAT OUR TOILETS WITH RESPECT!'

Thank-you

Regards,

**Irena (School Captain) and Natalia
F.O.S.C. (Friend of school captain.)**

Sports Corner



INTER-SCHOOL SOFTBALL FINAL

Last Friday, Altona Primary played Altona North Primary in the division one final. The children were all excited and nervous approaching the big match. However, all the nerves disappeared as Capri pitched well not allowing Altona North to score. Solid batting by APS gave us a handy lead 6 runs to 0. Once again in the field APS held strong only allowing 1 run and backed it up when batting with Nathan hitting a home run, getting 4 people home. At the end of the second innings, APS 10 to Altona North 1. In the third, Altona North fought back scoring 6 runs but this was not enough as APS all batted well scoring 8 runs. The final scores, APS 18 to Altona North 7.

The softball team will now play against St Mary's Altona (the division two winners) to see who will represent our district in the zone knock out stage in term 4. Good luck Softball team.

Softball Report By Jessie Davies

Last Friday we played Altona North away. We were very nervous. When we got there, Altona North was ready to go. With Capri's bullet like pitching we got them out for zero home runs. We started our batting well with Dylan hitting the ball hard. Our second innings was just as good as our first. In our third innings we lost focus and conceded six runs. In the end the score was 18 to 7, we won! I would like to thank Mr Enright and Leanne for taking us there and Mr Fava for taking up his lunchtimes to train us.

VPSSA State Cross Country Championships

Good luck to Casey Geard and Jordan Mountney, who will both compete in the VPSSA State Cross Country Championships tomorrow. The APS community wishes you all the best. It is a terrific achievement.

Stephen Fava
PE Teacher

WYNDHAMVALE P-9 Specialist College Minindee Road, Manor Lakes, Werribee

Wyndhamvale Prep – 9 Specialist College Stage 1 facilities are currently being constructed and will open in 2009 to accommodate students in Years Prep – 7. Construction of Stage 2 will commence following the completion of Stage 1 and it is anticipated this stage will include some specialist facilities.

The process for selection of a Principal for the college has commenced and it is expected this process will be completed prior to the end of Term 3, 2008. Once the principal appointment is confirmed further information will be disseminated to parents who have children commencing at the college in 2009.

Parents interested in enrolling their children at the college can collect enrolment forms from the sales office of Dennis Family Corporation, Manor Lakes, or by contacting Western Metropolitan Regional Office on 9291 6500, or www.wmr.vic.edu.au.



YOUR IDEAS ARE NEEDED

The Parents Club Committee would like suggestions from parents/carers for activities, events, etc. for the remainder of this year.

During the first half of the year, we had many successful events (the Disco, the Mother's Day stall and Tony's pies), but sadly there has been a poor response to our last few events like the Casino Night - which had to be cancelled. Also, after an initial good response to the Wicked tickets, many people have pulled out.

All of the Parents Club committee know that everyone has busy lives, and often not a lot of spare cash, but we would like to put our time and effort into planning and arranging events that will take place with good support from the school community. It is disappointing when you have made bookings, done the paperwork with replies, and then have had to cancel it all and arrange refunds.

All families were given a survey last year and over 100 replies were received. The Parents Club committee are trying to base our activities on these responses, but we feel that other families may want to offer some other suggestions.

If you have any comment or suggestion for the Parents Club, please drop a note in the Parents Club box or speak with one of the committee members. Activities don't have to be fundraisers, it may be that you would like more social opportunities with other families – please let us know!