



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: 31/03/2009

### Principal's Corner

The Department of Education and Early Childhood has placed a ceiling of 500 students for our school effective 2010. The DEECD criteria for new enrolments include: students within the school boundary having first priority, followed by siblings of students already enrolled at our school. Following this criteria we will be looking at student distance from the school and date enrolled. We do not anticipate that there will be any concerns for parents wanting to enrol their children at Altona Primary School as 70% of our students come from outside our boundary area. We are however, encouraging parents of preps for 2010 to get their enrolments in early. Please forward this information to any family or friends that may be thinking about enrolling their child at APS.

Unfortunately we have had a number of break-ins at the school resulting in laptops being stolen and damage to property. We have engaged the services of Shield Security to provide extra protection over the weekends and holiday periods. We are asking families to assist us in minimising damage to our school by calling Shield Security if you witness any suspicious activities within the school grounds. They can be contacted on: 9974 1488.

With the new government grants being offered, it is an exciting time for our school as we may be eligible to receive three separate grants which will significantly improve our buildings and grounds. Mr Enright has worked tirelessly during and after school hours in order to meet short timelines, capitalise and maximise opportunities for our school. We thank Mr Enright for his on-

going commitment and dedication to improving the facilities and teaching and learning at Altona Primary School.

We thank parents for their support in assisting us to ensure students are adhering to our school dress code. We are pleased to see our students wearing the APS uniform with pride. Please refer to the APS Dress Code attached to this newsletter.

We are pleased to welcome new members to APS School Council, Chris Young, Tracey Habgood-Drake & Johanne Ford; and welcome back Sandra Wilson who was re-elected as the School Council President for 2009.

Congratulations to all the parents who completed the Literacy Parent Helper's four week course. We look forward to your assistance in the classrooms. Thank you also to the parents who attended the Developing Literacy Partnerships evening program. We hope that you have been able to utilise some of the strategies learnt when assisting your own children at home. A big thank you to Mrs Fridey and Mrs Galvin for sharing their passion and enthusiasm for literacy in the delivery of the respective programs.

As I will be on leave next week, I would like to use this opportunity to wish the school community a happy Easter and a safe and enjoyable holiday.

**Sue Vermezovic**  
**Assistant Principal.**

## DATES TO REMEMBER



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

Last day of Term 1

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

First day of Term 2

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

Curriculum Day - Pupil free Day



## **EDUCATION WEEK 17<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> MAY... THEME - HELPING**

### **YOUR CHILD SHINE...**

Watch this space for information on the exciting activities planned for Education Week at Altona Primary School

Sue Vermezovic

### **LOST UNIFORM**

Billie Leeds has lost her size 10 jacket. It is clearly named. If found please return to Room 2.

## Sports Corner

### **INTER-SCHOOL SPORTS RESULTS**

Last Friday we played Hobson's Bay PS away. The results were:

Team	ALTONA PRIMARY	Hobson's Bay Primary
Cricket	68 runs	48 runs
Newcombe	3 Set	0 Sets
T-Ball	20 runs	12 runs
Bat Tennis	54 games	4 games

THIS FRIDAY WE ARE PLAYING ALTONA COLLEGE/ALTONA GATE PRIMARY AWAY. THIS IS OUR LAST ROUND OF THE SUMMER INTERSCHOOL SPORTS COMPETITION. GOOD LUCK TO ALL TEAMS.

### **Altona Primary Cross Country**

The Altona Primary School cross country running event will be held on the 31<sup>st</sup> of March at Altona Primary School. The event is taking place between 9.00 am and 11.30 am and involves the whole school. Grade 5/6 children will be running approximately 2.4kms, 3/4 children will run 1.8kms, grade 1/2 children will run 1.2kms and the prep children will run 0.6 of a km.

The cross country course will be slightly different to previous years due to the construction of the ITC Centre. I have placed a map of the course on the sports corner pin-up board, which is situated outside the staffroom. The order of cross country races are as follows:

1. Open boys followed by open girls
2. Grade 2 boys followed by grade 2 girls
3. 11 year boys followed by 11 girls
4. Prep boys followed by Prep girls
5. 8/9/10 boys followed by 8/9/10 girls
6. Grade 1 boys followed by grade 1 girls
7. Teacher VS House/School captains sack race

All parents and friends of the family our welcomed to attend.

Finally, well done to all the children that attended the cross country training morning sessions. We had an excellent amount of children turning up each morning and running a number of laps along with parents and teachers. It was a fabulous sight watching all of the APS children running around the school oval, which is now looking a little worn. Also, a big well

done to our house/school captains who did an awesome job each morning warming up the children. Great leadership.

### **Premiers Active Family Challenge**

The Premier's Active Families Challenge is run by the Victorian Government as part of the 'Go for your life' initiative to improve the physical activity, health and wellbeing of Victorian families.

The Challenge provides an opportunity for families to participate in an inclusive and achievable physical activity Challenge which is fun, easy, accessible and worthwhile.

To complete the Challenge, families register as a team to each do at least 30 minutes of physical activity a day for 30 minutes between 8 March and 19 April 2009. Participants can complete the activity on their own or together as a family, and don't have to be active every day throughout the Challenge – just 30 days over the six week Challenge period.

To help families complete the Challenge, they receive 15 free YMCA passes, 15 per cent off at Rebel Sport, tips and ideas on how to get active, details of events to attend and rewards and prizes to keep them motivated.

Registrations are now open. Families can register through the website of [goforyourlife.vic.gov.au](http://goforyourlife.vic.gov.au) or by phone on **1300 73 98 99** and can also nominate their children's school to win up to \$3000 of sports equipment. The more families from your school who register, the better your school's chances of winning.

**Tip two for this week:** Go for a walk/run/ride up to the 100 Steps Reserve and enjoy the view.

**Stephen Fava**  
**PE Teacher**



### **O.S.H.C News**

At After School Care the children have been working really hard on remembering to pack up after themselves. Before they walk out the doors they are asking themselves "Have I packed up???" It seems to be working well but if you could also remind them when they are picked up it would be greatly appreciated.

Next week is the last week of term. It would be a great help if you could settle your accounts by Thursday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April as I do the banking on a Friday morning.

As many of you would be aware on the last day of term we have a party night with party food. However with the new 'Go for your Life' program we are no longer able to serve these kinds of foods. Friday the 3<sup>rd</sup> will still be party night we will just have alternative foods.

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

**Laura and O.S.H.C Staff**

### **Year 7 Transition News**

Dear Grade 6 Parents,

I just wanted to pass on some information and some reminders regarding your child's transition to high school next year.

### **Williamstown High Accelerated Learning Program**

Williamstown High offers a Select Entry Accelerated Learning Program for high achieving Year 7 students. They will be running the same program in 2010. Prospective students are required to complete a number of forms which can be downloaded from Williamstown High's School Website – <http://www.willhigh.vic.edu.au>, and then by clicking on Enrichment Programs -> Accelerated

Learning. Some forms are to be filled out by parents, others by your child's classroom teacher. The application costs \$85.00 which is non-refundable. If your child makes it through the selection process, an interview will be set up with the high school in July/August.

If this is an opportunity that you think you would be interested in, please visit Williamstown High's website. Also please feel free to speak to your child's classroom teacher or myself.

**Application for Government Secondary Schools in 2010 (Reminder)**

Your child should have received a form a couple of weeks ago regarding applications for government secondary schools in 2010. Even if you are not sending your child to a government school this form needs to be completed, as there is a space to indicate that they are attending a non-government school. Forms need to be given to your child's classroom teacher **NO LATER THAN MAY 18<sup>th</sup>**. This is the cut-off date for sending the forms to all the high schools. If you could hand the forms in **BY THE START OF MAY** that would be even more helpful.

**Your friend,**

*Adam McPherson*



**KANGAROO PHOTOS**

To view your child's school photos go to [www.kangarooschools.com.au](http://www.kangarooschools.com.au) – view photos, password is altonakangaroo

**Parent Education Program 2009**

***'Classroom Helpers'***

Congratulations to the following parents who participated in the Parent Helpers Course. Thankyou all for your time, interest and commitment to the continued development and success of the *'Home-School Partnership'* at Altona Primary School.

Genevieve Faul	Jennifer Molnar
Liza Milan	Katharine Gronow
Jannine Yost	Akiko Yamazaki-
Barb Kearsley	Edwards
Lisa Mineur	Tracey Hansen
Amira Maleken	Liana Galea
Susan Balfoort	Linda Mills
Priya Govender	Lynette Bushell
Myf Powell	Karleen Aleksic
Sally Nettleton	Carol Preston
Melissa Jacobson	Kylie Benedierks
Vivien Karabinas	Biljana Cvetic
Sharyn	Carmel Sanfilippo
Wheatcroft	Onah Lam
Tania Scott	Simona Grippi

**Thank you**

**Nicole Fridey P-6 Literacy Coordinator**

**Barnstoneworth United junior Football Club**

Small sided football is the recommended modified format for junior football for U 6's to U 10's. SSF is all about children learning and experiencing football in a structured way which both meets their developmental needs and above all provides them with lots of fun.

For more information phone Maria 0403 202 955 or Jim 0405 111 007.



