



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: 28/05/2009

Principal's Corner

Thank you to all staff, students and parents for a fabulous education week. The staff were very appreciative of the number of parents, grandparents and relatives who visited the school last week. The concert organised by Mrs. Enright was a terrific showcase of the music program here at Altona P.S.

I would like to thank all the staff for their extra efforts during the week. We certainly have a lot to celebrate.

The children are a delight to teach and work with. They make every day an enjoyable day for the staff here at the school. I have the pleasure of taking prospective preps for 2010 around almost every day. It really makes my day to see all the grades working so well and the children engaged and enjoying their learning.

A big thank you to the parents who have been helping to put the library back together. The books needed to be dusted, wiped and then placed in the right order before going back on the shelves. If you have any time to spare there is still a lot to do so contact Lee Ogden at the office and arrange a time to help.

Some of our families and some staff visited Mount Saint Joseph Girls' College on their open day last Sunday. Staff members were very proud to see former Altona P.S. students doing the public speaking and leading the tours around the school. They were particularly impressed with Emma Fenech's presentation.

On Tuesday nine of our grades attended an exciting science show by Victoria University students.

This weekend is the end of the month so we ask all families to check their children's hair for head lice and treat them if necessary. We have had several cases in some classes this week.

If all families check this weekend we could start June head lice free.

Thank you to the families who have volunteered to help Sarah look after the school grounds and gardens. It is a huge job so we appreciate every bit of help.

Our grade 5/6 students have been fantastic leaders and role models so far this year. I have been very impressed with their attitude to their learning and their behaviour. This may well be the best grade 5/6 group I have seen at Altona P.S. Keep up the good work!

Kevin Enright
Principal.

O.S.H.C News



On Monday the 1st of June we are having an O.S.H.C committee meeting at 5.30pm in Kevin's office. All parents are more than welcome to come along.

Please remember that Before School Care doesn't start till 7.15am and After School Care finishes at 6.15pm.

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

Laura and O.S.H.C Staff

DATES TO REMEMBER



Monday 8th June

Queen's Birthday – Public Holiday

Friday 12th June

Curriculum Day – Pupil Free Day

Thursday 18th June

Grade 5/6 Sovereign Hill Excursion 8am-5pm
money and permission slip due Monday 15th June

Friday 19th June

School Choir performing at Westside Arts
Hamer Hall

Wednesday 24th June

Parent/Teacher Interviews

Friday 26th June

Last day of Term 2

Monday 13th July

First day of Term 3
Grade 5/6 Hooptime

Monday 20th July – Wednesday 22nd July

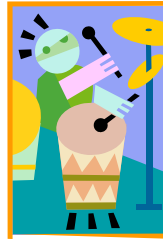
Grade 5/6 Lady Northcote Camp

Thursday 6th August

Grade 3/4 Hooptime

Friday 14th August

APS Athletics Carnival



MUSIC NEWS

Dear Parents,

Unfortunately this year's Concert Extravaganza due to be held in October at the Melbourne Convention Centre will not be going ahead due largely to the huge building works due to start at APS very soon. The building works will affect all of our rehearsal spaces and severely limit areas and storage for sets etc.. . The music room may have to operate out of the staff room, and several senior grades will be moving out of their classrooms. The school is going to be under a lot of stress with all that is happening.

We will still be having a School Concert, but this will organized on a smaller scale and will be run through the music program not through the classrooms.

At this stage we will be having it in the school grounds and will hire a stage and seating. The children will be in costumes and we will endeavour to put on a wonderful nights entertainment.

The event is scheduled for the end of November.

Please see Mrs. Enright if you have any questions.

The School Choir will be performing at the Westside Arts Concert at Hamer Hall on Friday the 19th of June.

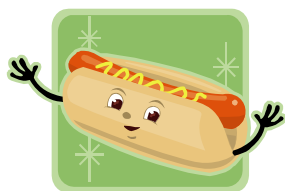
This is a public event and well worth going to. The concert is a showcase of music programs across the Western Metropolitan area. We are very thrilled to be a part of such a spectacle. Tickets are \$20 adults and \$12 for children.

It's Not OK to be Away

The absenteeism for all grades so far this year is 1369

The grade absences for last week are as follows:

Preps	17
Grade 1	1
Grade 2	7
Grade 3	11
Grade 4	4
Grade 5	8
Grade 6	2



HOT DOG SPECIAL LUNCH

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our parent helpers for their organisation of the hot dog lunch during Education Week. The students (and teachers) really appreciated the special lunch.

The hot dogs provided were 97% fat free thus an 'amber' food and consistent with the Go for Your Life Healthy Eating Policy. The 97% fat free hot dogs are also listed on our canteen list as an amber food. Amber foods are foods that should be selected carefully and offered to children only on certain days of the week.

Other foods that are in the amber category include full fat dairy foods such as milk, yoghurt & cheese. Foods are categorised according to the total kilojoule criteria limit (indirectly limiting the amount of fat and sugar that can be included in a food).

Further information on all the food categories can be found at:

www.education.vic.gov.au/goforyourlife

Regards

Sue Vermezovic

Assistant Principal



Working with Children Check

Dear Parents/ Volunteers,
In accordance with the *Working with Children Act 2005* all educational institutions require a Working with Children Check for all employees and volunteers who have regular, direct contact with children.

The Working with Children (WWC) Check is one of a range of government initiatives designed to help keep Victoria's children safe. (Please read the attached information leaflet) To obtain a WWC Check, volunteers are required to complete and submit a WWC form along with proof of identity and a passport sized photo to any Australia Post outlet. The WWC Check is free for all volunteers.

We are requesting that all APS volunteers assisting in classrooms and / or Parents' Club complete the Working with Children (WWC) Check by the end of this year.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sue Vermezovic

Assistant Principal



ICT NEWS

For Grade 3 to 6 students SuperClubsPLUS is now being used within the ICT classroom. If your child is NOT registered they will be asked to return a signed permission slip before they can join.

SuperClubsPLUS can also be used at home and I would encourage all students (Grade 1 to 6) to join this safe online community to learn, communicate and share skills and knowledge.

This site is recommended by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. It covers most elements of the Victorian Essential Learning Standards in ICT and is also monitored and advised by Education Department Psychologists. This site is for children aged 6 to 12 with a sister site 'Gold Star Cafe' for early secondary school students.

After recently attending professional development for this program, I would like to inform parents of important and useful information;

- All emails are sent through a BLT (bad language tool), which checks for any combination of bad language (including those bad spellers), any 'boyfriend/girlfriend' wording, any questions regarding personal information and any bullying terms! Any emails that fall into the BLT are kept in a holding area until a mediator approves them or blocks them. If they are blocked then an email is forwarded to the sender giving a warning or suspension and I am also notified via email. Excessive emails between students or teacher/student are also flagged for assessment.
- APS teachers are able to view and access all of the students' emails and WebPages.
- All images and articles for uploading are also kept in a holding area until approved by teachers or mediators.
- Numerous mediators are always online to observe students and some are '*visible online mediators*' available for the students to ask questions at any time of the day or night!
- A Tech Team member is also available online for students to ask questions. These are often students who themselves have reached their 5 star awards and can help our students earn their awards.
- Forums are held regularly within SuperClubsPLUS and I encourage your child to participate in these. Current and recent forums include Andy Griffith (Children's writer), Davida (Qantas

Pilot), Jason Kimberley (Antarctic Explorer), Cosentino (Magician and Illusionist) and many more. Students within Altona Primary school will use their own forums to discuss their integrated topic.

- NEVER use your child's login to address any issues. All queries or concerns can be directed to their contact page which includes email and telephone access.
www.superclubsplus.com.au/i/contact

Please contact me if you have any questions about SuperClubsPLUS. I am available Wednesday to Friday. All of our students can enjoy a new safe online community.

Mrs Robyne Luketic.



Reminders

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