How amazing does this look! And what a feat of organization.... 600 excited children and 40+ staff all working together to form “100”.

Working together has been the theme for this year, the staff and children have worked together to make our Centenary Celebration week one we hope no one will ever forget. The wider school community has been amazing; we have had so many visits and phone calls. Ex Principals have driven past the school and seen the signage and popped in with their recollections, we have had 80 year olds stopping by giving us memorabilia for us to display throughout the week and have chatted with us recalling their memories. We cannot have too many artefacts or stories so please have a look around your homes to see if you can lend or donate us any Altona Primary School memorabilia or jot down your memories for us to use throughout the school during our Celebration week.

We look forward to meeting you.
It is an absolute privilege for current staff and students to be a part of this Centenary year and we warmly invite past students, families, staff, local community and anyone connected to APS to join us, to be part of and share in our celebrations.

Ninety-nine years in the making brings us to our Centenary year. We encourage everyone involved in our history to be part of Altona Primary School’s Centenary celebrations. A year of planning and numerous celebratory activities throughout this very special year will culminate in a week of celebrations.

In order for all those connected to APS both past and present to be part of these celebrations, we are opening up our school. We warmly invite you to attend as many of the events planned throughout the week or maybe take a wonder through the school during our open afternoons. This is a one-off opportunity to share in such a momentous occasion. For some families there are 4 generations of history with the school. We wonder when the school began in 1915 if the Fleming family could have foreseen the school of today.

Staff have been digging through school and personal archives to uncover amazing photos, memorabilia and historic items. We have had a steady stream of past students and parents dropping off artefacts and sharing their stories, all of which will be combined to create the most magnificent display of our history and our journey to date. This display will be an opportunity to relive the past, reminisce, tell stories and share in our rich history.

Take a trip back in time to your own school days and see how school has evolved throughout the years. Along with photos and memorabilia on display we have a variety of centenary mementos available for purchase. We even have an opportunity for you to be part of our building history by purchasing a named paver to be laid in our Centenary path. We are capturing our history and our year of celebrations on a DVD which will be available for purchase after the Celebration week.

A Centenary Week timetable is included with this note and is updated regularly on our website, so put the dates in your diary. We would like as many people as possible to join us throughout the week during each of the events.

Altona Primary School is honoured to reach its milestone of one hundred years. This significant milestone will bring our community of the past, present and future together. Recording and preserving the history and story of Altona Primary School and sharing experiences, will enrich the lives of our school community and shape the direction of the school’s future.

Past – Learning about our history and what schooling was like through the eyes of the wider community.

Present – Showcasing how children learn today, sharing changes to our school through the decades.

Future – Bringing the past and the present together to shape our future.
ALTONA PRIMARY SCHOOL
CENTENARY WEEK
MONDAY OCTOBER 19th - SATURDAY OCTOBER 24th

MONDAY 19TH
OPENING CEREMONY
- Starts at 9:30am
- Speeches from dignitaries
- Performances from our Centenary Concert and School Choir
- Official opening of the 'Kevin Enright Centenary Playground'

DISPLAY AREAS OPEN
1:30pm - 3:30pm

TUESDAY 20TH
"WHERE ARE THEY NOW?"
Past students visiting grades to share stories of their time at Altona Primary
Are you a past A.P.S Student? If so, please get in contact with us, we would love you to share your story

DISPLAY AREAS OPEN
1:30pm - 3:30pm

WEDNESDAY 21ST
"BACK IN TIME"
The staff and students are stepping back in time to experience what life was like in 1915. Alphabet and arithmetic reciting, dictation and other old favourites, plus a milk and cookie snack for the kids.

DISPLAY AREAS OPEN
1:30pm - 3:30pm

THURSDAY 22ND
VINTAGE ACTIVITIES
Kids involved in activities of the past
REUNIONS
1:30pm - 3pm: Senior’s
5:30 - 7pm: Under 18’s Reunion
7:30pm - 9:30pm: Adults Reunion
Tickets for U18 & Adult Reunions at:
http://www.altonaps.vic.edu.au
DISPLAYS OPEN 1:30pm - 3:30pm

FRIDAY 23RD
CLOSING CEREMONY
- Starts at 2:15pm
- Speeches from dignitaries
- Performances from our Senior Sing Group
- Official burial of Centenary Time Capsule

DISPLAY AREAS OPEN
1:30pm - 3:30pm

SATURDAY 24TH
OPEN DAY: 10AM - 1PM
Miss anything during the week? Now is your chance to look around and relive some of the activities of the week and watch some of our kids in some special performances

DISPLAY AREAS OPEN
10am - 1pm

http://www.altonaps.vic.edu.au OR CALL 9398 2925 for details
I am unsure of the history of the Altona PS School Oath, when it was first written or first performed. However, in 2015 as APS celebrates 100 years of educating children and Australia commemorates 100 years of ANZAC, I believe it is even more important that the current students of APS understand what our oath means.

We are standing with friends we care for and respect.
We must do what we know is right.
The flag reminds us that Australia is our home.
We must do what we know is right to make Australia safe and fair for everyone.

We're standing with friends we care for and respect.
100 years ago the Anzacs did this, as the stood side by side with their friends and comrades in the trenches of Gallipoli or the battle fields of the western front and today our servicemen & women do this on their peace keeping mission in conflict areas. We encourage our student to care for and respect all members of our Altona PS community.

We must always do our best.
We ask our student every day to respect each other and care for each other in the playground and always do our best, both academically and socially.

The flag reminds us that Australia is our home
Each Monday morning when we stand at assembly and each day as our flags fly proudly in front of our school, we remember that Australia is the home to many people from wide and far, who have come together under the Australian flag.

In the Anzac spirit and of that of all diggers currently serving; We must do what we know is right to make Australia safe and fair for everyone. As servicemen and women are doing all over the world today and we must do it in our playground, in our community and across Australia to keep the spirit alive.

Each Monday morning at assembly our students recite our school oath. We hope that they will remember these words and what they mean on their journey through life as they grow and become productive members of our community, Australia and the world, that they make their world safe and fair for everyone.

Joanne Mathrick

Memories from Roger Blair (born in 1937, at the Old bush hospital in Pier Street – where the petrol station is now)
We lived in Queen Street, there were only a few roads, from Pier Street to Millers road was all sand dunes and prickly bushes. I walked to school being a small community there was never any trouble. My favourite games were marbles, tunnel ball, cricket and a game called Branders (dodging a ball). Punishment was either the strap or a ruler.

Roger Blair
“Back in Time”

As part of our centenary celebrations in Term 4, we will be having a ‘Back in Time’ day. On this day, we are encouraging all current students and staff to wear something that would have been worn to school at APS in 1915.

Children’s clothes 100 years ago

Boys clothes
Boys wore shirts, buttoned jackets, vest and shorts. They wore long socks and leather boots. Ties wore worn. Boys also wore woolen page boy caps.

Girls clothes
Girls wore cotton dresses, skirts and blouses. Dresses and skirts were gathered or pleated from the waist. Sometimes dresses had frills on the bottom. Dresses and skirts were below the knee in length and worn with stockings and leather boots. Girls wore hats called bonnets. These were tied under the chin. Sometimes aprons were worn.

There were no stretch fabrics and therefore no tee shirts, track suits. However they were hand knitted woolen jumpers.

Memories from Beryl Arnott.....

“I attended the Altona State school as a pupil from 1937 to 1940 in grades 3 to 6, and later, I was a student teacher there in 1950. From Prep to Grade 2 (1934-1936) I attended the Seaholme Infant department of the Altona School, which was held in a multipurpose hall known as Marion’s Hall near the beach at the end of Queen Street. As all children walked to school in those days it was considered that the mile and half distance to the Altona School was far too far for the small children so this temporary arrangement was made until a school was built at Seaholme – but from Grade 3 onwards we walked to Altona School in all weathers.

These were the depression years – School milk. The government supplied every child with a half a pint of milk every morning recess, it was a regimented affair, we had to sit down until it was finished. Of course some children complained but I loved it. It was always icy cold and as we had no cooling (fridge or ice chest) at home, it was quite a novelty.

We went swimming to the beach near the pier. Mostly we just splashed about and had fun, but I did gain a junior swimming certificate somehow! Sometimes, when it was very hot (air-conditioning then) the teachers would decide to take those pupils who could go home at lunchtime to get their batters down to the beach for the afternoon. Of course I could. I remember my mother being amazed at me arriving home for my batters, having run the mile and a half in over 100degrees (40C) then running the same distance back, just to go swimming!

Playtimes weren’t organized by teachers but by the children themselves. Games seemed to come in cycles (Craze). There were spinning tops, hopscotch, skipping, marbles, jacks, chasing games like “What’s the time Mr. Wolf?”, knitting (in the winter for girls and crochets or football for boys)
ALTONA PRIMARY SCHOOL
CENTENARY REUNION

Reunion 2015
October 22nd

Altona Primary School is inviting all past Staff and Students to attend our Centenary Reunion Celebration. A night of live entertainment, Memorabilia Displays and reminiscing!

Under 18's
Time: 5:30 - 7:00PM
Cost: $10.00
Entertainment: Musical performances, nibbles and soft drink

Adults
Time: 7:30 - 9:30PM
Cost: $15.00
Entertainment: Musical performances, finger food and one complimentary champagne on arrival.

Purchase Tickets Via APS website: www.altonaps.vic.edu.au

Tickets on sale now!
Julie Enright – My APS Story
I was born in Altona hospital 1954 to parents Linda (Trickey) and Len Findlay who attended Altona Primary School in the 1930’s. Both my parents are alive today and have wonderful memories of Altona Primary School. I have two brothers Trevor and Greg who also attended Altona Primary. I attended Altona kindergarten in Blyth St 1959 and the following year started school at Altona Primary school. I remember my first teacher was Miss Hatley. She was from the country and boarded with a family in Altona.

One of my favourite memories of Altona Primary was the Maypole which was a piece of equipment that you hung onto and whizzed around on. This was quite a dangerous piece of equipment and not that user friendly in winter as there were always puddles and mud everywhere and your stockings became very dirty very quickly.

Other things I remember about APS was the “Love tree” and the Milk bar. We were allowed to go to the milk bar across the road at recess and lunchtime to buy whatever we wanted. I was allowed to have a lunch order once a week and so I loved to go to the shop in the morning and put my lunch order in and then if I had change I could buy some lollies at recess or lunch time!! There was no crossing lady to guide you across the road you just had to have a good look.

I remember when I was in grade one they had a production called “The wedding of the painted doll”. That was my first lead role in a musical production. My main memory of that was that the boy I was supposed to marry got chicken pox so they had to call in an understudy who wasn’t at all keen on marrying me!!! LOL.

Of course I had been learning to sing and dance since I was 3 years old and had already performed at the Melbourne Town Hall with Alice Uren’s Dance troupe!! I sang a solo at the age of 4 with an Orchestra that played the song in a different key to which I sang. (Mum cried in the wings but was promptly told by the conductor that any child that age that could sing a whole song in tune in a different key to the orchestra was going to go places!!!)

I continued dancing and singing and was a member of the Altona Primary School choir. When I was in grade 5 and 6 I had very musical teachers that played piano and took the choir so I became very popular as those teachers recognized that I had a talent in this area. The first ever APS Musical was “Peach Blossom”. In this show I played the part of the nightingale that never actually appeared on stage but sang from the wings!! I was a tad disappointed with that fact but my mother recalls hearing me sing during the show and was overwhelmed by my voice and decided then that I had a talent she would promote and foster.

My best friend then and now Christine Logan played the part of Peach Blossom. She later became an Opera singer with the Australian Opera company. We remain the best of friends to this day!!! (A 56 year friendship). So I do credit my early days at APS with shaping the musical person I am today!!

Later that year when still at primary school I auditioned for the very popular children’s television program “Brian and the juniors” which was a national television show with weekly performances by a group of 20 children. I was appearing on television all over Australia for 2 years with that successful show alongside Jamie Redfern Jane Scali and Rod Kirkham Vicki Broughton, Phillip Gould, all of whom became the founding members of Young Talent Time. I was a little too old for that show but went on to form a duet with Nikki Nichols and appeared on all television stations in shows such as I.M.T, Happening 71, Showcase and New faces along with radio performances on 3DB and corporate and hotel functions.
During this time I attended Altona High School. I also appeared in many of the school Operetta’s that became very popular and provided the school community with a wonderful opportunity to support local musical talent. In my final year of high school I played the lead role in the “Merry Widow” a very demanding role while also studying for my Higher school certificate.

I went on to Teachers college where I met the Enright twins and many other lifelong friends. During this time I played many lead roles in local theatre companies such as Altona city theatre and Williamstown Light Opera Company. My favourite roles were ‘Babe” in Pyjama game and “Winnifred” in Once upon a Mattress.

Once I began teaching at Laverton Primary I realised that children loved music and enjoyed singing along with the guitar. During the school holidays of my first year of teaching I went to audition for the professional company JCW who were putting on a production of “Godspell”. To my surprise I was chosen from 200 girls to be one of the 5 female roles in the show. Not only that but our director and choreographer the very famous Betty Pounder made me dance captain which meant I had to assist the others with the dance routines during rehearsals!! What an absolute thrill and the most amazing experience!!!

The show ran for 3 months at the Playbox Theatre and this experience gave me so much confidence and knowledge about the world of Theatre. I soon realized that the life style that went with the theatre was not for me. I needed to have more security than that industry was going to give me. I went back to teaching music at Altona West Primary School. I have been a music specialist for most of my 35 year career. It has been a wonderful journey.

I could not count the number of musical items I have prepared in that time but I have written directed, choreographed and produced some wonderful concerts that I am very proud of. The number of children I have taught to play the guitar over the years is extensive.

Once my own children started school at Altona Primary I became active with teaching after school singing and dancing and guitar groups. I also used to run a very successful Bush dance for the school community. I was also a member of School council at APS.

To return to APS for my final 12 years of teaching has been delightful. We have had some amazing musical productions and performances over that time and I have seen some wonderful young musicians develop their skills and talents

Now at 60 years of age I still have a connection with music and APS, running my “Dancing class” on a Wednesday after school.

I still perform in and around Melbourne in various duos and bands. I am currently rehearsing to perform at the Castlemaine Jazz Festival in June.

I have been on an amazing musical journey through my life which began at Altona Primary School.

Julie Enright (Findlay)
Coasters $12  YoYo $4  Playing Cards $8
Pen & Key ring $15  Mug $12  Chocolate $3

Bag $2.50  $25 (30cm x 20cm)
Please use Schoolpix order form

All of the above items will be available for sale outside the office after Assembly on Monday mornings from 9am - 10am.

If you are unable to come to the office at this time - please use the attached order form and return via your child's class, we will fill the order ASAP. But be quick we only have a limited number of items!!

If you wish to order the "100" whole school photos please fill in the Schoolpix order form
Centenary Merchandise order form

Name: ..................................................................................................................

Childs Name and Grade: ..................................................................................

Contact number: ..............................................................................................

**Payment method:**

Cash: ........................................ Credit card Payment ..........................

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There is a separate order form for the 100 whole school photo and the black and white grade photos.
Have your family’s name immortalised on a paver as part of our Centenary Pathway

As a part of our centenary celebrations we will be constructing a Centenary Pathway. The pathway will run from the footpath on Blyth Street to the front door of the school. The Centenary Pathway will be approximately 10m in length. All proceeds from this project will go towards the construction of the Centenary Pathway and Centenary Playground.

Please write the 48 letters (maximum) to be inscribed on your paver here:

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Simply fill out this form and return along with full payment by cheque, cash or phone to:

Altona P.S. 109 Blyth Street or P.O. Box 127 Altona 3018
(Call (03) 9398 2925

Contact Name

Phone (Mobile preferred)

Street

City

State

Post Code

Our Donation

Offer closes on November 1st 2015

Please copy and pass on to any friends & family
WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!
WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We are looking for any old Altona Primary School artefacts that you may have at home to put on display during our 100th year week-long celebration in October.

We would love any artefact/memento you may have from the past.

These may include things like:
- Sports medals or trophies
- Uniform
- Lunchboxes
- Textbooks
- Sports equipment
- Musical instruments

If you do have any artefacts that you are happy to let us borrow, could you please sign them in at the office, so we can return them back to you.

All artefacts will be treated with the upmost care and respect and will be placed in display units so that they are not handled.

Thank you,
Altona Primary School Staff
Acknowledgements
We would like to give a heartfelt thank you to the following people:

Rowdy Design – Rodney Verwoert – Artwork & 100 Year branding development

Frank Grego - "Custom Ink" – Screen Printing

Lawrie Green – Carpentry and restoration

Vic Webster – Building and Grounds

Michael Darby – photography

Sarah Spry – Grounds

Anne Nolan – Scanning of documents

SchoolPix – 100 Years whole school photograph

Rob Richardson – WYN FM 88.9

Michael Darby – Quantum United Management (Drone Photography)

Peter Weaver, Jim Hervey and Ann Cassar – Altona Historical Society

Peter Weaver – Barlow McEwan Tribe, advertising boards and historical knowledge.

John Butler – Historical time-line mural.

Kathie Karapalidis – ANZAC Centenary Local Grant and Hobson’s Bay Community Grant

Greg Milne – Research and linking local history

Hobson’s Bay City Council – Hobson’s Bay Community Grant

Daniel Bonnici – for his on-going carpentry and Memorabilia contributions

Altona Primary School Staff