Principal’s Corner

We had a fabulous start to our 100th year celebration with a special assembly and the release of 100 purple and yellow balloons by our grade Preps with the assistance of the grade 5/6 students. Our big event in March is Muddy Madness which involves students, staff and parents. Join in and get muddy on the obstacle course.

Congratulations to our School and House Captains. We had 40 grade 6 students make ‘election’ presentations last Friday. Listening to the individual presentations was a very rewarding and moving experience. We were so proud of them all. I would have happily had any one of these students as school captains.

Our 2015 School Captains are: Tiarn Zanna, Zac Molnar,
House Captains: Red: Iona O’Toole, Ethan Ross,
                   Green: Melissa Ang, Monty Price,
                   Yellow: Greta Tredinnick, Logan Hehir
                   Purple: Maddison Charter, Alex Gatt
                   Blue: Taylah Clydesdale, Zayne Galea

Next week on Wednesday February 18th we have our ‘Starting the Education Partnership’ parent teacher meetings. Please book your time on line. Details are in this newsletter. Students will finish at 1:00 p.m. on this day.

I am working out the quotes and details of the ‘Purchase an Engraved Brick’ pathway at the front of the school and will release details shortly. If you know a good concreter and paver please let me know.

The grade 4 students received their new netbooks yesterday. A big thank you to Leigh, Chi and Ti, our IT technicians, who worked so rigorously to have the 100 netbooks all ready. It was a huge job within a short timeframe.

Thank you to our Mr. Clarke and the parent volunteers for their help with the swimming program and breakfast this week. The breakfasts were delicious. Good luck to the swimming team next Tuesday.

Our Parent Education Program starts tomorrow morning. It is such a valuable opportunity for parents to learn how we teach literacy and numeracy and use this as classroom helpers or at home.

I walked through the whole school this morning and was so proud to see how well all students in all grades were working. The preps were amazing considering they have been at school for such a short time. The students are very lucky to have such awesome teachers.

Have a great weekend,
Kevin Enright
DATES TO REMEMBER 2015

Monday 16th -20th February
Grade 5/6’s Social Media program – Internet safety

Tuesday 17th February
ADSSA Swimming Carnival

Monday 23rd February
Whole school photo day – no assembly

Thursday 19th / Tuesday 24th / Thursday 26th February
APS Cross country training

Tuesday 3rd / Thursday 5th March
APS Cross country training

Wednesday 4th March
Whole school Japanese Cultural Day

Monday 9th March
Public holiday

Wednesday 11th March
APS Cross country

Thursday 19th March
Whole school Muddy Madness fundraiser for Centenary Playground

Monday 23rd March – Thursday 26th March
Grade 5/6 camp

Friday 27th March
End of Term One

Monday 13th April
First day of Term 2

Thursday 17th September
APS Concert

Monday 19th October
Centenary Week Celebrations
HARD COPY NEWSLETTER –
We encourage all parents to view the newsletter online, however if you require a hard copy to be sent home every Thursday please fill in the slip below and return to the office. You must send in your request even if you requested one last year. **This will be the last hard copy sent home to all children unless requested.**

Hard copy newsletter requested:

Eldest Child’s name...........................................................................................................

Grade..............................................................................................................
Dear Parents,

SAVE THE DATE

ALTONA PRIMARY SCHOOL MUDDY MADNESS
Thursday 19th March 2015

As part of our Centenary Year Celebrations and to raise funds for our planned New Centenary Playground, Altona Primary School is hosting a sponsored 'Muddy Madness' fundraising event to take place Thursday 19th November. Add this date to your calendar as it will be one of the events of the year.

The fundraising event “Altona Muddy Madness’ is a ’Tough Mudder' style obstacle course set around the school grounds. It will be a fun filled event where the participants are guaranteed to get wet, dirty and have lots of laughs. Students of Altona Primary School will be asked to seek sponsorship for their participation in the event.

The obstacles will be of varying difficulty to meet the needs of all our ages from Prep-6, however it is designed to be challenging and for the students to test themselves.

On the day of the event we will be opening the course to our parents, staff and sponsors to take on the Altona Muddy Madness challenge, so everyone can be involved.

The Obstacles are able to be sponsored by businesses. More sponsorship information will be sent out in the coming weeks.

Save the date, come along as a participant or to cheer on our participants. This is bound to be an event to remember.

Thank you

The Centenary 'Muddy Madness Focus Group'
Nicole Fridey
Adam McPherson
Thashnee Ramkilawan
Hannah Wilkinson
Erin Douglas
Tiffany Verwoert
Simon Clark
WHAT HAPPENED IN 2014?
CATS has now been going for 3 years—wow, how time flies! 2014 was a great success. Our team had lots of fun visiting you all at school, at the Royal Children’s Hospital and at your homes. In total, 1117 students, 902 parents and 1093 teachers took part in 2014. Thank you for your help—we are really grateful that so many of you are involved. Your involvement means CATS can make a real difference.

WHEN IS THE NEXT CATS VISIT?
CATS will be back to visit students in Terms 2 and 3 of 2015. We’ll have our much-loved iPads, measuring stations and saliva kits in tow! Teachers will be invited to complete a short questionnaire. This year the parent questionnaire will also be much shorter—just 5 mins! iTASTS, our sister study looking at brain development, will also be coming back in 2015 for those students who are a part of this.

50% of children have 3 or more serves of veggies a day
75% of parents help their children with homework
65% of children play a team sport

“Wow, you guys are really quick and efficient!”
—Quote from principal

DURING THE WEEK:
HOURS PER DAY WATCHING TV
- 12% 1 hour or less
- 38% More than 1 but less than 3 hours
- 50% More than 3 hours

ON WEEKENDS:
HOURS PER DAY WATCHING TV
- 12% 1 hour or less
- 35% More than 1 but less than 3 hours
- 53% More than 3 hours
MEET ANNE — 'SALIVA CUSTODIAN'!

Watch our video here: www.mcrl.edu.au/truthaboutcats

Reporter Katy Ramage meets Anne, the CATS 'Saliva Custodian' at the lab. Katy goes to the lab and gives Anne the sample she has just collected. Anne puts the sample in a machine called a centrifuge...

ANNE: After a few minutes in here, all the solid matter will be separated from the gunk. The solid stuff is what we’re going to look at in the microscope.

KATY: So what can you see from my sample?

ANNE: Actually Katy, I can't tell you that...

KATY: I’m sorry, that is my sample, right?

ANNE: Maybe... When you gave it to me, it only had a number on it. I can’t actually tell from any of the numbers which individual person they belong to.

KATY: You mean you’re hiding something?

ANNE: Well in a way... yes... and also no. We don’t have anything to hide — but we can’t tell you your results, or anyone else’s. The names are hidden to protect your privacy.

Next, Katy meets Professor George Patton, Principal Investigator of CATS.

KATY: I just took part in the study, but I can’t see my results, why is that... George?

GEORGE: That’s a really good question. Taking your saliva sample is like taking some of your personal information. We have to make sure it stays private. The best way of keeping it private is by not sharing that information with anyone else. We put your results together with everyone else's and we call that data. The data has none of your personal information, just the scientific information we're looking at. That data will help teachers and doctors and improve health for children. The middle years are really important for getting your health right for the rest of your life. So what you’ve done is really important. And we hope that you’ll help us again in the years to come!

FUN CATS FACTS!

Q1. How many iPads does the CATS study own? A) 30, B) 52, C) 105, D) 80

Q2. How many different countries in the world do CATS kids live in? A) 1, B) 2, C) 3, D) 4

Q3. How many kilometres did the CATS team drive in 2015? A) 8057, B) 399, C) 6730, D) More than 10,000

Answers at bottom of page.

CONGRATULATIONS to those parents who won vouchers or movie passes for completing their questionnaires! One of the unique and important parts of CATS is that we hear from the parents and teachers, as well as the children, so thank you for your involvement.

PLEASE STAY IN TOUCH!

Even if you move schools we’d still love to see you each year. This year we tried something new, and visited students at the Mount Martha Community Centre during school holidays. We had so much fun catching up with you down on the sunny Mornington Peninsula! We hope to run a few more sessions at local community centres in 2015.

Grade 6 will be the last primary school visit. However, we hope to see you all again in 2016 when you’re at high school. If you already know where your child will be attending high school, or if you have any questions, please do contact the CATS team. To stay up to date with CATS news, you can also check out our website.

P (03) 9345 6732
E cats@mcrl.edu.au
W www.mcrl.edu.au/cats

If you’d like more information on the transition from childhood to adolescence check out

http://raisingchildren.net.au/

The video is fantastic! It really explained a lot of questions we had and made my child feel special to be part of a study like this!  ~ Parent
The Footpath Library

Epic!
Short Story Competition

Short STORY COMPETITION
For primary & secondary school students

Write your short story to WIN awesome prizes!

This year’s theme,
‘Home is…’

Competition opens on the 1st day of Term One 2015
Closing date 2nd April 2015

For more information head to footpathlibrary.org
or email comp@footpathlibrary.org
Double “C” Jeanery
2 Aviation Rd Laverton VIC 3028, Australia
03 9369 4307

Altona Primary School Centenary short sleeved gold polo top
with special Centenary emblem

ORDER FORM

Price size 4-16 $20

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Please note only the SHORT SLEEVED POLO is available with the
Centenary Emblem.

ALL ORDERS MUST BE PAID IN FULL
LAST date for Term 1 orders 20th February 2015
for delivery in late March
There will be another order placed in Term 2
Cash total amount: $

Credit card payment: Name: ________________________________________________

Card Number ___________ ___________ ___________ ___________ Expiry Date: ___/___

Signature: ____________________________________ Total Amount to be charged: ____________

APS staff member: ___________________________ Date: __________


MSJ Year 12 Jubilarians Shine

Congratulations to all our girls, their teachers, and their parents for another strong, academic year at MSJ. We congratulate Kathryn Hovenden (ATAR 99.2), Jessica Daley (ATAR 97.75) and Emily Moloney (ATAR 96.4). We are proud of our Year 12 Jubilarians.

Mount St Joseph Girls' College Twilight Open Evening
Tuesday 17th February 2015, 3pm – 7pm.
All local community members are invited to our Twilight Open Evening on Tuesday 17th February from 3pm to 7pm. Visitors will have the opportunity to speak with our families, students and staff members, and learn about how our College specialises in the education of girls.

Mount St. Joseph Girls' College Year 7, 2016 Parent Information Evening
Tuesday 17th February 2015, 7pm – 8pm.
Applications for Year 7, 2016 will close on 27th February 2015.
Limited places available for 2015.
Further information can be found at our website www.msj.vic.edu.au or by contacting the College Registrar at registrar@msj.vic.edu.au or Ph: 8398 2000.
Dear Parents and Carers, (Grade 1-6)

Altona Primary School “Starting the Learning Partnership” (Parent/Teacher/Student) interviews will be held from 1:30pm to 7.30pm on Wednesday 18th February 2015

You can now book interviews at times that suit YOUR FAMILY BEST. Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and follow these simple instructions.

BOOKINGS CLOSE TUESDAY 17th February 2015

Enter the school event code. Then follow the 3 simple steps.

1: Enter your details
2: Choose teachers
3: Choose times

When you click finish, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically - check your junk mail folder if you do not receive your email immediately. You can return to www.schoolinterviews.com.au at any time, and change your interviews - until bookings close.

For parents that don’t have access to the internet at home, at work, at a friend’s house or on their phones, please contact the school office and we can help you. Interviews are strictly 10 mins and spaces are limited. If you require more time, please contact your teacher directly to make alternative arrangements for another day.

Parents can change their interview bookings, any time prior to the closing date, by re-visiting the www.schoolinterviews.com.au website, and using the event code. Remember to use the same name and email address, you used when you made your original booking. Parents wishing to change their interview times after the closing date, should contact the school directly on: 9398 2925
SCHOOL PHOTO DAY IS COMING

SCHOOLPIX will be visiting us on **Monday 23rd February 2015**

**PHOTO DAY TIPS:**

**Dress:**
Clean and tidy as per school uniform guidelines

**Hair:**
Neat and swept off face

**Manual Orders:**
Complete your order form and return with payment to school on photography day

**Online Orders:**
To pre-order online, take your personal Order and ID Numbers found on your order form and go to [www.schoolpix.com.au](http://www.schoolpix.com.au). Orders can be placed online up to 3 working days after photography. **You do not need to return the order form if you order online.**

**Remember:** All orders placed online will receive a free 20cm x 25cm black and white portrait print.

PO Box 5222, Hallam VIC 3803
Ph: 1300 766 055
Email: info@schoolpix.com.au
Parent’s Club Name Change

The votes are in and the new name of Parents Club is
Friends and Families Committee.

Thanks for voting!

Muddy Madness
19 March 2015

Altona Muddy Madness

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Thursday 5 February
  Friends and Families Committee next meeting
- Thursday 19 March 2015
  Muddy Madness
- Monday 16 March 2015
  Cadbury Fundraiser Drive

Thank you to all the parents that helped out at the swimmers breakfast. The kids really appreciated all your hard work. The veggie Mite toast is always the best seller.

SHoppers cards
If you require our new shoppers card, it can be purchased from the office at the cost of $10.00

School Banking
School banking is done every Friday.

ICY POLES
WEDNESDAY!
This term the parents club have changed the icy poles from paddle pops to Smooze. The cost of the new product is still $1.00.
Altona Primary School Farmers’ Market

Next Saturday, 21st February 2015, we will be holding our monthly Altona Primary School Farmers’ Market. Our markets are held on the 3rd Saturday of every month and are held in conjunction with InSeasons Markets. Money raised through Gold Coin Donation on entry to the market goes directly to the school and therefore directly benefits all the pupils in Altona Primary School. Money raised over the previous few months has paid for an Interactive Whiteboard to be bought and installed in one of the new classrooms; an invaluable teaching resource for the school funded by our markets. Please come along to support our school and get some tasty produce!

There will be a seating area, with tables set up for children to colour in. Perfect for settling down with a coffee and maybe a fresh baked croissant or ice cream from one of our stalls. Relax while the children have a go at the colouring competition, run on our oval or even have a go on the bouncy castle or a pony ride!

**PREP COLOURING COMPETITION**

We would love to see all our new Prep students at our February market and would like to invite your child to enter a special colouring competition! Entry forms will be given out in class to all of our prep students, simply bring along the coloured-in sheet to the market on Saturday 21st or complete one whilst there and place it in the special box. Winners will be announced in the following week’s newsletter and prizes awarded in an assembly.

Older children can also enter into a different draw on the day of the market.
Altona Primary School Farmers’ Market

Colouring Competition
Name...........................................
Grade...........................................
Bring along your completed picture to the Farmers’ market on Sat 21st February and put it in the box or complete one when you visit to enter! Winners announced in next week’s newsletter.