Thank you to all parents who attended the “Starting the Educational Partnership” interviews yesterday. It is critical that parents, students and teachers form a positive relationship and work together. We value your input and the opportunity to learn more about each and every child.

The presenter of the Grade 5/6 Social Media program was extremely impressed with our grade 5/6 students and the school. It is pleasing to get such positive feedback from people coming into our school.

Please be careful when stopping in the car drop off zone at the front of school. This area is for dropping off only. The council have been fining parents who have parked in this area.

Our grade 4 students were very excited to receive their netbooks. Please handle the netbooks very carefully and look after them. Replacing a broken netbook through insurance can take up to a month. The majority of students never need to have their netbook repaired.

Viruses and illegal downloads are two other issues that occur at times. Students need permission from our technician to download items, unless the game/program is on the school’s list of downloadable items. If you have any questions or concerns about anything regarding the netbooks please contact me directly.

Make sure you look your best for the school photos on Monday. There won’t be an assembly due to the photos.

Don’t forget this weekend’s Farmers Market. Come along and support the school. Thank you to our committee for all of their hard work.

Congratulations to our swimming team. The school team came 3rd in the district Swimming Carnival. Thank you to Mr. Clarke for organising the district event.

Muddy Madness is on March 19th. It will be a totally unique school day. Organise your sponsors and help fund our 100th anniversary playground.

Ms. Karyn Lyon is retiring at the end of this term. We thank Karyn for her wonderful work and friendship and wish her all the best in the future. The business manager job has been advertised on the DEECD website in the recruitment on line section. Applications close in the next week. Follow this link to apply http://www.education.vic.gov.au/hrweb/careers/Pages/advacsSCH.aspx#link12

Thank you to Peter Sheehan, Stacey Gould, Nic Pouaka, Chris Gianatti and Nicole Harper who all finished on school council last night. We thank them for their commitment and hard work on the council. We now have 5 vacancies for the 2015 school council. Please consider joining and making a difference to all students at Altona P.S. Nomination forms are available at the office. Currently we have no applications.

Have a great weekend

Kevin Enright
DATES TO REMEMBER 2015

20th February
Last chance to order Centenary t-shirt
(there will be another chance in Terms 2 & 3)

Friday 20th February
Book club ORDERS due

Monday 23rd February
Whole school photo day – no assembly

Thursday 26th February
Parent Education Program 9:15am

Thursday 19th / Tuesday 24th / Thursday 26th February

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

Wednesday 4th March
Whole school Japanese Cultural Day

Thursday 5th March
Parent Education Program 9:15am

Monday 9th March
Public holiday

Wednesday 11th March
APS Cross country

Thursday 12th March
Parent Education Program 9:15am

Tuesday 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
Dear Parents,

After the success of last year’s “DANSING” program, I will again be offering this program in 2015. **This class is open to children from grades 1, 2 & 3.** Semester one will commence on **Wednesday March 4th** (once the hot weather fades and the children are used to their school routine). The first semester will run through until **Wednesday June 10th** culminating in a concert that night held in the PAC centre at the school. This class will be for 1 hour and will commence straight after school and will finish at 4.20pm in the Data/Reading recovery room which is in between the Tan Bark area and the Grade one classrooms.

The classes offer singing tuition and vocal technique, developing skills in singing Harmony.

Children will learn basic dance steps and simple movements to perform whilst singing. They will sing a variety of songs from different styles of music to develop their appreciation of a wide range of music.

Children will learn to sing using a microphone and will have the opportunity to sing on their own if they are confident and capable.

These classes are designed to develop confidence and self-esteem in a non-threatening environment.

The free concert at the end of the program is very low key with very little costuming and cost to families.

**Each session will cost $10 and can be paid weekly when children attend. I would appreciate the money being enclosed in an envelope that the children can hand me at the beginning of the lesson or at the end if you are collecting your child.**

The expectation is that once children commit to the class that they will participate for the whole semester to enable us to put on a quality performance at the end of season concert. If your child is not confident about performing they can simply attend classes and enjoy singing and dancing as long as this is expressed a few weeks before the performance.

Please fill out the form below if your child wishes to participate in the program and drop it in at the office.

I will be taking the first 25 children who return their notes.

Children can commence the program in 2nd half of the year.

Sincerely

Julie Enright 0409366607

--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

**“Dansing”**

My child..................................................................................................................................................Grade..............

Wishes to attend the after school song and dance class beginning **Wednesday March 4th 2015.**

Signed..........................................................................................................................................................

Contact No...............................
**SONGBIRDS**

“Songbirds” are looking for new members to join our Ladies singing group that meets at Altona Primary School at 7.30 - 9.00 Wednesday nights. This program is run by Julie Enright (music teacher and professional musician, with more than 40 years experience in the business of entertainment and music education). The Songbirds program has been running for 5 years and the ladies have performed in various venues in the local area. Our most recent performance was at the 2014 Xmas Carols in Logan Reserve Altona. The program is about coming together and enjoying singing a range of songs in different musical styles.

You will learn basic singing techniques and also develop your ability to sing in harmony. You will also experience singing on a microphone in front of a small audience. Singing is good for the soul, so if you have always wanted to learn to sing and experience a choir with a difference!!! then come along and enjoy the fun!!!!!!! The cost is $15 per week to be paid when you attend. You can contact me on 0409366607. Cheers Julie

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**SCHOOL PHOTO DAY ON MONDAY 23rd February**

As it is our Centenary Year we have arranged to have the grade photos at the front of the school, as they were taken in the early years. Where possible please use one of the other entrances to the school rather than the gate directly in front of the main office.

**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 (14200) 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.**

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PO Box 5222, Hallam VIC 3803
Ph: 1300 766 055
Email: info@schoolpix.com.au
**Sports Corner:**

Summer Sport:
Last weekend saw the start of our Grade 5/6 Summer Sport fixtures. All students had a great time playing against Newport Gardens and Bayside College. The yellow volleystars and bat tennis teams started with a win, and the Yellow softball and cricket teams had a loss. In the Purple teams, Cricket, Volleystars, and Bat Tennis all had wins whilst Softball suffered a loss to last year’s champions. Well done to all students on having a great attitude at sport.

ADSSA Swimming Carnival:
On Tuesday this week a number of students represented the school at the Altona District Swimming Carnival. The day was a great success with Altona Primary finishing 3rd overall. All students gave their best effort in the events and had a great time doing it which is the main thing. As an organiser of the event, I would like to thank all of the parent help I received on the day. The carnival really could not have gone ahead without your support. Thank you also to Mr Mac and Ms Johnson for organising the students for their events and for taking them to and from the pool. Well done on a great day everyone.

**APS CROSS COUNTRY**

As you will be aware, our school cross country will be taking place on **Wednesday the 11th of March**
It is a great morning every year with all students in the school taking part in the event.

The day could not run without the invaluable support of our parents. So if you are available on that morning between the hours of 9:00am and 10:45am your help would be greatly appreciated. This is also a good opportunity to cheer on your child from different areas around the course.

As the event is coming around quite soon, it would be great if you are to complete and put the below slip in my pigeon hole by **Friday the 27th of February**

**APS CROSS COUNTRY - HELPERS NOTE**

11th March 2015

PARENT NAME:……………………………………………………………….

Contact number:…………………………………………………………

Time: (Please Circle)

9:00am – 9:45am
9:45am – 10:45am
or
9:00am-10:45am (whole morning)

Mr Clarke
After School Art and Craft Classes

CLAY PLAY! HOORAY!

After school art and craft classes will be held in the art room on a **Thursday afternoon between 3.30-4.30pm in term 2, 2015**.

The opportunity to participate is offered to children from grades 2 – 6 with a maximum of 20 children in the group.

The cost will be $30 to cover materials and $10 per session, making a total of $110.

- **Session 1** (23/04/15): Create a decorative clay bowl
- **Session 2** (30/04/15): Polymer clay play
- **Session 3** (07/05/15): Ceramic wall art (PART ONE)
- **Session 4** (14/05/15): Make your own clay and form shapes
- **Session 5** (21/05/15): Paint and decorate clay shapes
- **Session 6** (28/05/15): Paint and finish clay bowl
- **Session 7** (04/06/15): Paint and frame up wall art (PART TWO)
- **Session 8** (11/06/15): Finish all clay pieces

Please complete the attached form to indicate interest in attending. You will be notified as soon as possible if you are successful. Payment will be expected by the last week of term 1 (23/03/15) to allow time for purchase of materials.

We are thrilled to be able to offer this opportunity out of school hours and look forward to working with children who enjoy art and craft as much as we do.

__________________________

Thank you, Mrs Barry and Mrs Cain

After School Art and Craft Classes. Term 2, 2015.

CLAY PLAY! HOORAY!

Child’s name__________________________Grade_______

Parent/Guardian______________________________

Contact Number: ______________________________

Thank you, Mrs Barry and Mrs Cain
2015 ASTHMA ACTION PLANS

Asthma is a condition that can be serious and may require emergency treatment while at school. It is important therefore, for us to have up to date information about the management of your child’s asthma.

Any student who suffers with any degree of asthma requires an Asthma Action Plan. Asthma Action Plans must be completed and updated annually or whenever a student’s asthma or medication changes significantly.

The Victorian Government Schools Reference Guide for Emergency Treatment of an Asthma Attack will be followed in the case of an emergency, following best practice treatment. If your child’s treatment differs from this, there is space on the plan for the preferred treatment, but this **must be signed by a qualified practising Medical Practitioner.**

If there is no Asthma Action Plan provided to school, staff will follow emergency treatment for an asthma attack.

School staff also reserve the right to call an ambulance. Please ensure your child is covered by ambulance cover if you do not have a health care card.

For further information about asthma management visit this website: [www.asthma.org.au](http://www.asthma.org.au)

Asthma Action Plans were given to parents/carers at Parent Interview Meetings on Wednesday. Please see your child’s classroom teacher if your child has asthma and you did not receive the Action Plan and information. *(If you are a prep parent and completed an Action Plan for 2015, you do not need to complete this again.)*

Please help us to responsibly care for your child while at school by completing and returning your child’s Asthma Action Plan, medication and spacer by the end of March.

If you have any queries, please don’t hesitate to contact Debbie Galvin.

Thankyou for your ongoing support.

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**Japanese Cultural Day**

**4th March, 2015**

Dress in your best Japanese attire.

More details to follow in the next newsletter.
Last chance this term to order
CENTENARY SHORT SLEEVE POLO SHIRTS
All orders must be paid in full by tomorrow 20th February 2015
for delivery in late March – only $20

We will be placing more orders in Term 2 & 3
Term 2 closing date Friday 22nd May
Term 3 closing date Friday 21st August.

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.................................................................
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.

Further important information will be coming home in a few days.

Thank you

The Centenary ‘Muddy Madness Focus Group’
Nicole Fridley
Adam McPherson
Thashnee Ramkilawan
Hannah Wilkinson
Erin Douglas
Tiffany Verwoert
Simon Clarke
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

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 product is $1:00.

Easter is fast approaching.
Don’t forget to get your Cadbury Easter Egg orders in for our fundraiser by the deadline 23rd Feb.
Altona Primary School Farmers’ Market

Please come along to our Farmers’ Market this Saturday, 21st February 2015, at Altona Primary School. Money raised through Gold Coin Donation on entry to the market goes directly to the school and therefore directly benefits all the pupils. There will be fresh fruit and veg, eggs and other freshly baked goods to buy and enjoy whilst supporting our school.

All Prep children have received a colouring competition to colour in and we would like to invite you to come along to the market, drop your colouring into the box provided on the gate to enter the competition. Come along and see what the market has to offer, settle down with a coffee and maybe a fresh baked croissant or ice cream from one of our stalls. Relax while the children have a 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.

You are in for a treat when you visit an In Season Farmers Market; fresh seasonal produce, a great atmosphere and friendly people all around. It makes shopping for your groceries or that special treat an enjoyable and positive experience. In Season Farmers Markets give local communities the opportunity to experience an authentic farmers market. We create farmers markets with a positive and welcoming environment and focus on sustainable living.
Dear Parents and Guardians, as part of our plan to improve facilities and resources for Altona Primary School we are running a fantastic Cadbury Fundraiser Drive.

I am pleased to announce that for this drive we have mixed bags of Cadbury Easter eggs for sale. Selling at $4 per bag this represents excellent value to the buyer and our profits will go towards building a wonderful new playground for our children.

For those of you unfamiliar with the process, we provide you with a carry box with a variety of 20 bags of small Cadbury eggs. Each bag contains 125-130g of Cadbury eggs that you will sell for $4 per bag.

You will be able to collect your special Cadbury fundraiser carry boxes of Easter Eggs from the school on 02/3/2015. We will provide you with an envelope to collect the money raised. We suggest you sell to colleagues in the workplace, family members, friends or neighbours. We do not recommend involving children in selling, but if they are involved they must do so under adult supervision, especially if selling door to door.

We ask that the money collected be returned to school in the envelope provided no later than 16/03/2015.

We urge you to sell the box quickly however if you are experiencing difficulties selling, or require additional boxes please contact Justine at dalyjustine@hotmail.com

You have the chance to opt-in, so you must return the slip below completed by 23/02/15 if you wish to order a box. Please try to make the effort to order one or more boxes, every bit helps and we really appreciate your help.

Fundraising activities such as this make a vital contribution towards improving facilities for the benefit of the children at our school.

In anticipation of a successful fundraising drive we thank you for your support.

Family and Friends Committee, Altona Primary School.

I .........................................................., parent/guardian of ..........................................................Grade ........,

wish to offer my support by ordering .................. box/boxes of Cadburys eggs. Contact No..............................

I am aware I need to collect my carry box on 2\textsuperscript{nd} March and return the envelope with the money ($80) collected by 16\textsuperscript{th} March.

Signed ......................................................................