Principal’s Corner,

Don’t forget the art show is about to occur. It is a fantastic whole school event similar to the school concerts. If you have never attended an art show it is a show not to be missed. The opening night is a lot of fun and a chance to view all of the art work. We turn the grade 4 -6 building into an art gallery. Tickets are on sale at the moment.

On Wednesday at a meeting with Mobil at Newport Gardens P.S, I had the pleasure of meeting Hope, a former student, who is now school captain at Newport Gardens P.S. She is a very confident, articulate student who escorted Mrs. Galvin and I into our principals’ meeting and engaged us both in conversation. She is clearly an excellent choice as school captain.

This week we have been meeting with all teachers and working through the new department performance and development plans for performance appraisals. I have been impressed once again by the enthusiasm, time and energy our staff devote to providing the best possible education for each and every student. The plans incorporate current work, achieving the Strategic Plan targets, and aspirational goals for improved teacher performance and leadership development.

Our Prep enrolments are filling up very fast. If you have a 2015 Prep child please enrol them ASAP.

This term we have the art show, Hooptime, Altona’s Got Talent, a film club, farmers markets, and Robocup; the robotics state championships. We also have athletics practice every Friday for grades 3-6 culminating in the school athletics day. Good luck to our Robotics teams in this weekend’s competition.

We are trying to reduce the amount of plastic bags, wrappings and chip packet at school. Please consider a lunch box as an alternative and help keep our school and environment rubbish free.

Student absenteeism; Every Day Counts

So far this year we have had 3,628 students absences: grade 5/6 (5 grades);839, grade four (3 grades);436, grade three (3 grades);535, grade two (4 grades);458, grade one (5 grades);581 and grade Prep (5 grades);779. This equates to 36 absences per day or 1 ½ students per grade per day every week. Students who are sick should remain at home. Keep in mind the ongoing and cumulative effect of absenteeism. Regular school attendance is vital and missing school days can have a big impact on a child’s future – a student missing one day a fortnight will miss four full weeks by the end of the year. By Year 10 they will have missed more than a year of school.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes. This is one area of our school that we must improve and can improve very quickly and easily. We ask for your help as parents to make sure our student attendance improves dramatically.

Have a great weekend,

Kevin Enright
DATES TO REMEMBER 2014

**Art Show Grand Opening**

**Wednesday 13th August**
7.30pm – 10pm – *Adults only*

**Thursday 14th August**
Art Show 3.30pm – 7pm - *All welcome*

**Friday 15th August**
Art show 3.30pm – 6pm – *All welcome*

**Saturday 16th August**
Art show 10am – 12pm – *All welcome*

**Tuesday 19th August**
Athletics day Grades 3-6

**Thursday 28th August**
Festival of Performing arts (FOPA)

**Wednesday 3rd September**
**Curriculum day**
3-Way Student Led Conferences

**Friday 19th September**
End of Term 3

**Wednesday 29th October**
APS Obstacle-a-thon
PARENT OPINION SURVEY

Could the families that have been randomly selected to participate in the 2014 Parent Opinion Survey please return your completed survey to school by Tuesday 5th August.

OSHC NEWS

OSHC will be available on our Curriculum Day Wednesday 3rd September.

Bookings are essential.
“3 WAY STUDENT LED CONFERENCES”

When: Wednesday 3rd September 2014 (10:00am – 7.30pm)
Where: Classrooms
Who will participate: The student, parents/carers and the classroom teacher

It is crucial for every family to participate to support your child’s learning

Dear Parents/Carers,
On Wednesday 3rd September 2014 “3 Way Student Led Conferences” will be held for all students from Prep – Year 6. As this is a Curriculum Day students will not be required to attend school, other than their scheduled conference time with their parents.

At Altona Primary School we aim to give the learner increasing responsibility and ownership for their learning so they can develop into independent, life-long learners. A ‘Student-Led Conference’ is a way to encourage students to take responsibility for their own learning, actions and decisions. It also demonstrates that, together, we will support their learning and celebrate their achievements.

Roles & Responsibilities:
Students:
➢ Student plan and prepare their work for discussion with the support of their teacher. During the conference students demonstrate their learning goals with evidence of their learnings. This enables students to share their work in a confident and articulate manner.

Parents:
➢ Parents are expected to attend the conference with their child. Parents can offer support and encouragement, be active listeners and praising their efforts.

Teachers:
➢ Teachers support students to develop their confidence to share their work and understandings effectively. They play a crucial role in supporting students to plan & prepare the work they choose to present as evidence of their learning. Teachers support students in selecting effective presentation skills. Teachers will also assist with other information for parents regarding their child’s learning.

The conference will take approximately 15 minutes. The structure of the conference may differ across year levels, however, this opportunity allows for students, parents and teachers to meet and continue a partnership that will produce the best possible learning environment for your child and to celebrate their achievements.

With thanks
Leadership Team

The online-booking system for appointments will be opened by 28th July 2014

OSHC will be available on this day. Bookings are essential.
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, you can come to the office and we can book a time for you.

These student led conferences are strictly 15 minutes. If you require more time, please contact your teacher directly to make alternative arrangements.

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.

**BOOKINGS WILL CLOSE at 3:30pm Tuesday 2nd September 2014.**

We would love to hear what you think about online booking. If you get time, click on the “contact us” button on the www.schoolinterviews.com.au website, and leave some feedback - anonymously if you wish, but please include the school’s name and suburb.
**Centenary Celebrations 2015**

If you can help us do a local flyer drop in the Altona area advertising the first of our information gathering sessions - please contact the office.

Many thanks

*The 2015 Centenary Committee*

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**STEPATHON**

Any children wishing to take part in a stepathon for a great cause should look at the below link.  

Not only will you be raising money for a great charity but you will also get your free slap band pedometer which will keep count of your steps for you.

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**ATHLETICS DAY**

Once again I'm calling for help for next month's athletics day on the 19th of August. If you can help out could you please fill in the below form and send back to school as soon as possible.

**PARENT HELPERS**

I am able to attend the Athletics Carnival on Tuesday the 19th August 2014 as a Parent Helper.

Helper’s name:_____________________________________________________________

Email address:_____________________________________________________________

Child’s name:__________________________ Grade:_________________________

Time available to help (please circle one) Full Day (9:30 am-2:30 pm)

9:30 am to 12:00 pm

11:45 pm to 2:30 pm
Celebrating If you or any family or friends attended **ALTONA PRIMARY SCHOOL** before 1950, we would like to invite you to an **AFTERNOON TEA** on Wednesday 27th AUGUST 2014 from 1:30pm until 3:00pm. Please come along and share your stories and experiences over a cup of tea or coffee We would love to hear from you.

Please RSVP to Liz Brown 03 9398 2925

**Learning from the Past..... Exploring the Present....Shaping our Future**

**Centenary Celebrations in 2015**
Altona Primary School will be celebrating its rich 100 year history. Centenary Celebrations during the week of **Monday 19th October to Saturday 24th October 2015** will include a week long program involving the whole school community.

Are you part of the school’s history, but can’t come to the afternoon tea ... We still want to hear from you!
We are collating images, memorabilia and stories of people whose families have been part of the school for generations.

Please contact us at
**altonaprimarcentenary@altonaps.vic.edu.au**

Altona Primary School 109 Blyth Street, Altona 3018 Telephone: 03 9398 2925
The Parent’s Club can be contacted anytime by email: APSParentClub@altonaps.vic.edu.au

**Farmer’s Market Dates.**

16 August, 20 September, 18 October, 15 November and 20 December

Volunteers are always needed and welcome. Please contact Anne Sheehan: warehouse@secon.com.au or mobile 0435 130-355 for further information.

**DEDICATE A BOOK PROMOTION**

This is an opportunity for all families to purchase a book for the APS library and have a dedication note placed inside the front cover acknowledging your kind donation. Prices range from $5 - $20. Forms have gone home, but there is a donation form attached for your convenience.

**Second-hand Uniform Donations**

Just a friendly reminder that second-hand uniform donations are gratefully appreciated, but please ensure that they are in “good used condition”.

For anyone interested in purchasing items they are located in the cupboard outside the staff room. Items are priced at $1.00 each. Payments are to be made directly to the office.

**Obstacle-a-thon:**

**Wednesday, 29 October 2014**

Unfortunately, the Obstacle-a-thon had to be postponed due to weather conditions. It will now be held in the 4th term.

**Entertainment Books**

**New Book Out Now**

The Parent’s Club are again selling Entertainment Books. Jump online to look at some of the great deals it contains! They are priced at $65 each for either digital or hard copy.
Altona Primary School

Dedicate a Book Promotion

Literacy and Numeracy Week (25 - 29 August 2014)

Order Form

To assist Altona Primary School’s library book collection, the school is running a promotion where you purchase a book for the school library and a dedication will be placed inside the cover of the book acknowledging who donated the book. Your donation will go directly to purchasing a book for the library. Due to families selecting the same book, we have not given the option to select a book. If you would like to choose a book we will be holding stall in literacy & numeracy week (25th – 29th August), where you can select the book(s) you would like to donate. However, if you are unable to make the selection we can do this for you.

Please tick the value of the book you wish to donate:

$5.00  $10.00  $15.00  $20.00

Please tick the age group of the book you would like to donate

Junior
(Grades P - 2)

Middle
(Grades 3 – 4)

Senior
(Grades 5 – 6)

A book will be selected for you to the value of your gift and a note sent home with your child letting you know which book you have generously donated.

Please fill out the dedication below. This will be typed up and placed inside the front cover of the book.

This book has been generously donated to Altona Primary School by:
Names that will appear on the inside cover of Book
(e.g. Family name, individual children's names or your own name.)

If donating more than one book, please fill out a dedication for each book you would like to donate

Please print names to ensure correct spelling when dedication is printed.

Please fill out the following details:

Your Child's Name:

________________________________________

Your Child's Grade:

__________________________

Teachers Name:

________________________________________
Parents, grandparents and friends are all invited to attend the opening of Altona Primary School’s Art Show.

Grand Opening: Wednesday 13th August Time: 7.30pm-10pm
Opening Night Cost: $15.00 Ticket includes light refreshments, finger food and an auction of art works.
Opening night ticket also allows purchaser return entry to any other sessions.

The “Grand Opening” is an adults evening.

There are three other viewing sessions for parents to bring their children.

Session 1: Thursday 14th August Time: 3.30pm-7pm
Session 2: Friday 15th August Time: 3.30pm-6pm
Session 3: Saturday 16th August Time: 10am-12noon (During the Farmer’s Market)
Cost: $2.00 per child $5.00 per adult

During all sessions parents will be able to view and purchase the art work of their talented children.
Families will have first preference in purchasing their own child’s art work.
Art work will be priced at $10.00 per item.

Art Show Ticket Order Form
Complete session applicable and return with money to class teacher.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Art Show Opening Night Tickets:</th>
<th>Wednesday 13th August 2014</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Time: 7.30pm-10pm</td>
<td>Cost: $15.00 per adult (no children for this session)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of tickets required:</td>
<td>Total cost $</td>
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<tr>
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<th>Thursday 14th August 2014</th>
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<tr>
<td>Time: 3.30pm-7pm</td>
<td>Cost: $5.00 per adult</td>
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<td>$2.00 per child</td>
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<td>Number of tickets required:</td>
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<td>Total cost: $</td>
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<th>Friday 15th August 2014</th>
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<td>Time: 3.30pm-6pm</td>
<td>Cost: $5.00 per adult</td>
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<td>$2.00 per child</td>
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<td>Total cost: $</td>
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<tr>
<th>Art Show Session Three</th>
<th>Saturday 16th August 2014</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Time: 10am-12noon</td>
<td>Cost: $5.00 per adult</td>
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