Principal’s Corner

What an amazing term we have had. The school Robotics teams competed at the state championships last week. Both teams did exceptionally well. One of our teams came second in Victoria winning the silver medal. The team will go on to compete at the National Championship later on this year. They achieved this with the ‘older’ model robot. We will purchase the new model for the national championship. Mr. Corroon and the teams have worked extremely hard to achieve this. Thank you the families and Ms Thompson who came along to support the teams. Mr. Corroon did an extraordinary job.

Thank you to staff, students and parents for a fabulous Literacy and Numeracy week last week. There were so many highlights but most importantly it reinforced the strong community bond and partnership between the home and school. Congratulations to our grade 3 / 4 Hooptime teams and Mr. Macpherson and Mrs. Kenny for coaching team. We were very proud of the way the teams competed last week.

The detailed note for the Grade Four 2015 netbook program went home yesterday. We are able to purchase the Lenovo Thinkpad 11e Netbook at a reduced price through the Education Department. It is similar to the laptops the teachers lease. The Dell netbooks we purchased last year have had a significant price increase. Students buy out the netbook after three years for $1. Please contact me at school (9398 2925) if you require further information or clarification. The Lenovo is 11.6 inches and will fit into a smaller hard case than the Dell. Any netbook used at school has to be leased through the school and not brought from home. Netbook problems are repaired at school or students are given a replacement netbook while the netbook is sent to be repaired under either warranty or insurance. We will send the remaining forms home to sign in term 4.

At the Farmers Market on October 19th we will be having a Parents vs Staff soccer challenge. The teachers’ team will be: Mrs. Mathrick, Mr. Gilpin, Mr. Marshall, Ms. Jaimee Floros, Mr. Fava, Mr. Corroon and Mr. Enright.

Mr. Craig is going to be the umpire. Ed Geraghty is going to captain the parents’ team.

Our students represented the school at the District athletics. We were again very proud of their endeavour, enthusiasm and manners. We have 21 students going on to represent the district at the regional finals. Thank you to the parents who attended and Mr. Clarke for all of his wonderful work.

Thank you to Mr. Macpherson for his role as Acting Assistant Principal for the past 2 weeks. Ms. Thompson will be Acting Assistant Principal for the next 2 weeks.

Thank you to all of the families who attended the 3 way conferences. The teachers were very proud of all of our students, their presentations of their work and their achievements.

I will be taking two weeks long service leave from Monday. Mrs. Fridey will be the acting principal.

See you at the start of term 4.

Have a great weekend,

Kevin Enright
DATES TO REMEMBER 2014

Friday 19th September 2014
End of Term 3 – early finish 1.30pm

Monday 6th October
First day of Term 4

Monday 3rd November
Curriculum Day – pupil free

Tuesday 4th November
Public Holiday Melbourne Cup

Thursday 20th and Thursday 27th November
Prep Transition for 2015

Thursday 4th December
Prep 2015 information evening

Thursday 4th and Thursday 11th December
Prep 2015 and whole school Transition

Friday 5th December
Curriculum Day – Student free day

Friday 19th December
Last day of Term 4 – early finish 1pm

PREP ENROLMENTS
Prep enrolments for 2015 have now closed.
After School Art and Craft Classes

I'm stuck on you!

After school art and craft classes will be held in the art room on a Friday afternoon between 3.30-4.30pm in term 4, 2014. **The focus is fun fridge magnets!**

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 (17/10/14):** Creating fabulous framed fridge magnets

**Session 2 (24/10/14):** Designing and painting wooden magnets

**Session 3 (31/10/14):** Continue wooden magnets

**Session 4 (07/11/14):** Making and baking sculpey magnets

**Session 5 (14/11/14):** Drawing own designs on magnetic materials

**Session 6 (21/11/14):** Designing and stitching felt magnets

**Session 7 (28/11/14):** Magnificent Christmas magnets

**Session 8 (05/12/14):** Continue with Christmas magnets

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 3 (15/9/14) 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 4, 2014.

I’m stuck on you!

Child’s name_________________________________________ Grade__________________

Parent/Guardian___________________________________________

Contact Number:___________________________________________

Thank you, Mrs Barry and Mrs Cain
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<tr>
<th><strong>WEEK 1</strong></th>
<th><strong>WEEK 2</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Monday 22nd September</strong></td>
<td><strong>Monday 29th September</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Kids in space</strong></td>
<td><strong>Camping day – Lunch provided</strong></td>
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<td>Greetings earthlings! We welcome you to join us on planet OSHC for a day where we will be creating funky space objects, and making gooey space monster slime and flying saucer quiches. Be sure to bring your outer space brains for galactic trivia and dress up as the aliens, astronauts, space cadets or space monsters that you are!</td>
<td>Come camping with OSHC! We will be exploring how to be a true camper, from pitching a tent to ‘roasting’ marshmallows. Whilst enjoying the outdoors we will be undertaking an epic scavenger hunt. For lunch we will be treating ourselves to some delicious bush tucker...YUM!</td>
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<td><strong>Tuesday 23rd September</strong></td>
<td><strong>Tuesday 30th September</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>We’re going to the zoo</strong></td>
<td><strong>School of ROCK!</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>We are going to the zoo...and you can come too! Melbourne bound. Lions, tigers, elephants and meerkats are just the beginning. Don’t forget your walking shoes as there is lots and lots to see and do that you wouldn’t want to miss.</td>
<td>Rock and Roll around OSHC! We will be creating bands to have a rock off!! Making our own guitars and making rockstar videos. This is a day that will give everyone a chance to bring out their inner rockstar! Jam sessions with Mr. Rouse and Michael our very talented musicians it’s a show that will definitely keep us on our feet!</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday 24th September</strong></td>
<td><strong>Wednesday 1st October</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>All things crazy</strong></td>
<td><strong>Picnic @ Cherry lake – Lunch provided</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Today at OSHC we are embracing all things crazy...From crazy hair, to face paint and even designing our own T-shirts. We are having a day of madness and mayhem. So come along with your craziest outfits and let loose with us! There will be prizes for the best dressed!</td>
<td>What better way to spend a spring day down by the local lake. Spending most of our day enjoying the park, playing games and indulging in our sandwiches that we will make before we venture off. We will also be making our own kites that we hope will soar in the wind!! Walking shoes are a must as we will be trekking down from school.</td>
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<td><strong>Thursday 25th September</strong></td>
<td><strong>Thursday 2nd October</strong></td>
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<td><strong>African day</strong></td>
<td><strong>Dinosaur day</strong></td>
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<td>Hakuna Matata, what a wonderful phrase. African hand drums, bells, shakers and tribal dress-ups and traditional dance moves will be brought to us by Melbourne Djembe. We will also be making African instruments to take home and exploring the animals that live in Africa.</td>
<td>Let’s go back to the dinosaur days. Discovering Altona Primary’s prehistoric days by going on a fossil hunt and even making our own fossils. We will be getting a visit from the dinosaur experts themselves with a dinosaur incursion. We will be running around in the PAC with our personalised dinosaur feet.</td>
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<td><strong>Friday 26th September</strong></td>
<td><strong>Friday 3rd October</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Kick em’ high</strong></td>
<td><strong>OSHC sleepover</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who has the biggest kick? Getting our own Football player to come take us for some training skills on the AFL basics will be sure to turn us into professionals. It will be a day fulfilled with competitions and awesome prizes to accompany the winners. We can’t forget our all-star round robin and arts and craft activities for those who are feeling a tad on the exhausted side!</td>
<td>PJs and your favourite teddy is a must on a day like today. We will be making our own pillows and organising our own rest area. Eye masks, popcorn holders and personalised glow torches are just a few of the items we will be making to help make our “sleepover” SLEEP-TASTIC!!</td>
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**COSTS INVOLVED:**

- **Daily rate:** $50.00
- **Incursion:** $60.00
- **Excursion:** $65.00

- Please note that in the event an Excursion or an Incursion is cancelled due to do unexpected circumstances, the activity will either be postponed or an alternative activity of equal value will be provided.
- Days that involve incursions/excursions children are required to be at the program by 9am.
- All toys and technology devices are not to be brought to the program.
Dear Parents,

A proforma is available at the office for you to complete if you wish to inform the school of any educational, social and/or emotional information relevant to the needs of your child prior to the school beginning the process of grade selection for 2015.

This proforma needs to be completed and returned by the 17th SEPTEMBER 2014. Please Note: Requests after the grade placement process has commenced cannot be accepted.

Altona Primary School prides itself with having a dedicated, motivated and supportive staff. We have every confidence that each of our teachers is able to cater for the needs of all the children at APS. Therefore we ask that you do not nominate a specific teacher for your child. There are teachers on leave from APS that may return, teachers on short term contracts and teachers changing year levels thus it is impractical to give assurance for placement with particular teachers. The emphasis should be on the educational, social and emotional needs of your child. Relevant information will be considered by the grade teachers in consultation with team leaders when grade lists are completed for 2015.

Please Note: The use of parent requests may take precedence over your child’s choice of friendship group.

Friendships

Early Term 4 your child will have the opportunity to complete a friendship list in his/her class. The teacher will refer to this list, as well as any completed proformas and current knowledge of the children, before allocating your child to a class for next year.

Our aim is to create a learning environment in each classroom that promotes optimal learning. Teachers spend considerable time and effort creating grades which cater for the educational, social and emotional needs of all children.

You will be contacted should there be a need to clarify any of the information you have raised.

Regards,

Kevin Enright
Principal.
CREATE AN A3 POSTER THAT WILL PROMOTE SMART USE OF OUR PRECIOUS (AND EXPENSIVE!) RESOURCES – POWER AND WATER.

YOUR POSTER NEEDS TO FIT INTO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:

- “Lights Out” (to remind us to turn off the lights around classrooms and other learning spaces)
- “Stay cool” (to help reduce the cost of staying cool in summer and warm in winter)
- “Save water” (to help reduce wasting water – for ‘wet areas’ around the school)

THINK ABOUT COMBINING A SIMPLE MESSAGE WITH IMAGES SO EVERYONE WHO IS A PART OF THE APS COMMUNITY IS ABLE TO UNDERSTAND WHAT WE ARE TRYING TO ACHIEVE!

DUE DATE: Wednesday 17th September (Week 10)

Please attach the entry form below to your poster and hand it to Miss Kent or Mr Hargreaves. A shortlist of posters will be displayed early Term 4, with the winners having their posters copied for use around the school.

POSTER COMPETITION ENTRY FORM

Name: ___________________________ Grade: _______

Category (select one)

Lights Out  Stay Cool  Save Water

Attach this entry form to your poster and give it to Miss Kent or Mr Hargreaves by Wednesday 17th September.
Sustainability Update

This term our sustainability focus has been on finalising the transport audit and thinking about how to efficiently use classroom heaters and lights over the cold winter months.

Transport Audit Results
Students and staff have participated in the first annual APS transport audit. This audit was conducted as part of our commitment to becoming a Resource Smart School.

The findings of our 2014 transport audit are as follows:

- 317 students who responded say that they travel to school by car.
- Walking was also a popular mode of transport with approximately 100 students saying they walk to school most days.
- The average distance students travel to school is 4km.
- Most of our staff travel to school by car and the average distance staff travel to school is 20km!

Talk about how you get to school and consider if there is a more efficient mode of transport – you could try carpooling with other families who live close by, or now that we are starting to see some spring weather why not walk to school or ride a bike, scooter or skateboard?

Energy Saving Tips

Before the end of term, each classroom will be appointing ‘Energy Monitors’ to ensure that lights and heating/AC are turned off when they are not needed, or when our learning spaces are empty. Also keep your eyes peeled for the new energy saving posters around school!

Here are some tips to save on energy bills:

- Turn out the lights when you leave the room.
- Only turn on one light switch, instead of ALL switches.
- Open curtains and blinds to let in natural light and heat.
- Set the thermostat on your heater to 21 degrees to maintain a constant temperature.

Miss Kent and Mr Hargreaves
(and the Resource Smart Sustainability Group)
FIRST AID IN SCHOOLS PROGRAM

The St John Ambulance First Aid in Schools Program will deliver free First Aid training to 100,000 Victorian Primary School Students in 2014 at no cost to schools or parents. In 2013, the first full year of operation, the St John First Aid in Schools Program trained 72,000 primary school students. By 2017, St John Ambulance aims to train 200,000 students each year.

The knowledge and skills gained in the First Aid in Schools Program will develop First Aid awareness in school children and contribute to building a more resilient community. This learning is age-appropriate and integrates with the Victorian Essential Learning Standards (VELS) curriculum.

This free Program is delivered by St John Ambulance Professional Trainers, teaching primary school students on the importance of First Aid and what to do in an event of an emergency.

Each grade will be involved in a 45 minute session on either Thursday, October 9th or Friday, October 10th.

The CATS study: The Childhood to Adolescence Transition Study

The CATS study recently visited Altona Primary School!

We hope your child enjoyed taking part. If your child was away we may contact you soon to organise another way to catch up with your child.

Look out for the parent questionnaire in your email inbox or in the post!

If you have any questions about the study please contact the study team on (03) 9345 6732 or email cats@mcri.edu.au.

Thank you for participating in CATS!

George Patton (Project Director), Lisa Mundy (Project Manager) and the CATS team

HandsUp! Count – Wed 10th September

Altona Primary is now part of the Bicycle Network Ride2School program. This program is designed to get children more active and facilitate active transport to and from school.

We will be conducting a monthly HandsUp count, in which data is collected and compared over time and to other schools (and registered on Bicycle Network). Similarly to Ride2School Day, children will be asked to “Put their hands up” and be counted, if they: rode, walked, skated, scootered, caught public transport or were driven to school. Bicycle Network has donated a small class trophy which will be awarded to the most active class. Grade 6 students will be assisting with the counting.

Simon Clarke

Little Athletics – Season 2014/15

At the recent Australian Cross Country Championships in Albany, WA, local athletes

In the U20’s, ex-Altona little athletics member Jack Rayner won gold. Competing over 8km, Jack took control of the race with about 1km to go and never looked in danger to win by 100m.

In the U14 boys, current Altona little athletics member Matthew Hussey repeated his performance of 12 months ago to win silver. In the closest race of the day with only half a second separating the first two runners, it gave the 2,000 plus spectators an exciting finish.

If you would like your child to realise their potential then why not consider joining the Altona Little Athletics Centre, where the key objectives are family, fun and fitness.

Simon Clarke
100 YEAR CELEBRATION AFTERNOON TEA
We have begun our preparation for the 100 year celebration with an afternoon tea to gather the stories of past students who attended Altona Primary School prior to 1950. It was a wonderful celebration and a chance to reunite after many years. It was a brilliant start to our 100 years celebrations. Our oldest visitor, who we believe is our oldest past student, is Marjorie Scully. Marjorie attended Altona Primary School in the mid 1920’s. She is 98 years old. Our grade 6 students interviewed our visitors and filmed their responses in order to collect and collate their recollections of school life.
My trip to National Cross Country Championships for Team VIC

On Thursday 21\textsuperscript{st} August, Team Vic’s Cross Country team left Melbourne to travel to Albany, Western Australia. It was a long flight and by the time we had reached Albany everyone was tired.

The next day was the opening ceremony at Great Southern Grammar and time to walk the course. We were given 8 Victoria badges to swap, and we had fun trying to swap with other states. At the opening ceremony all of the states were there, as well as New Zealand.

Finally the day of the race came. It was a flat, fast track.

Zoe’s race was first and she had to do 3kms. Zoe raced very well coming 8\textsuperscript{th} in a tough field of very fast NSW competitors taking 1\textsuperscript{st}, 2\textsuperscript{nd} and 3\textsuperscript{rd}. Her team won bronze for their aggregate placing.

The 10 year old girls were the 5\textsuperscript{th} race and we had to run 2km. I raced very well coming equal 6\textsuperscript{th}. After my race I vomited but that just shows that I raced my best. My team aggregate were placed 3\textsuperscript{rd}, gaining us the bronze medal too!

On Sunday, Team Vic juniors went to Whale World for an excursion. It was very interesting but also sad to learn about whaling. We spent the afternoon swimming and running around on Middleton beach.

Soon Monday came, the relays day. My relay consisted of 4 x 1km legs. I lead off as 1\textsuperscript{st} runner. I had a great run coming in 3\textsuperscript{rd}. Our last runner managed to pass Queensland, and we won silver medal to NSW! Zoe’s relay team came home with a bronze medal for Victoria!

We had a great trip with excellent results, as well as seeing beautiful clear blue beaches, an amazing blowhole and some whales out to sea. We would like to thank all those people that gave donations, bought raffle tickets and those who supported us. Also thank-you to Mr. Clarke, we couldn’t have done it without you. (Well we probably could have)

By Lucinda Rourke 5/6G
The Ice Bucket Challenge for ALS/MND is a social media campaign that was initiated by Pete Frates, a former Boston College captain who is living with motor neurone disease (MND) in the US. Since Peter Frates posted his challenge online, the Ice Bucket Challenge quickly went viral and is now spreading across Australia’s MND, sporting and entertainment communities.

Facts about MND

- MND is a progressive, terminal neurological disease
- There is no known cure and no effective treatment for MND
- Each day in Australia two people die from MND
- Each day in Australia two people are diagnosed with MND
- People with MND progressively lose the use of their limbs and ability to speak, swallow and breathe, whilst their mind and senses usually remain intact
- Average life expectancy is 27 months
- An estimated 1,900 people have MND in Australia
- For every person diagnosed with MND it is estimated that a further 14 members of their family and their friends will live with the effect of MND forever

A few of the staff from Altona Primary School have been nominated for the Ice Bucket Challenge, so we thought what better way to raise awareness and money for MND than at assembly! Given that a number of people with in the Altona Primary School community have been affected either directly or indirectly from MND, we also thought it was something worthwhile to be involved in and raise awareness about.

On Monday the 8th of September, we will be completing our Ice Bucket Challenge at assembly. We are asking each student to bring a gold coin donation to raise money for motor neuron disease.

As a bonus incentive, the grade that raises the most money will get a free choice of teacher to challenge at assembly!

Please bring your coins in by tomorrow (Friday the 5th of September) so we can count the coins and choose a winner.

For more information about MND or to make a personal donation, please visit MND Australia (http://www.mndaust.asn.au)
The Parent’s Club can be contacted anytime by email: APSParentClub@altonaps.vic.edu.au

THE PARENTS CLUB

Altona Primary School Parents Club....
“Always there with a helping hand”

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Father’s Day Stall  
5th September, 2014

Farmers Market  
20th September, 2014

Obstacle-a-thon  
29th October, 2014

Farmers Market Dates.

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.

Father’s Day Stall - Friday 5th September

The Parent’s Club are again holding the Father’s Day Stall on Friday 5th September. We will have our usual beautiful gifts for your children to choose from. If you would like your child to participate please send them to school with some spending money and a shopping bag to help get their purchase home.

Items will be priced from 0.50c to $5.00.

 Helpers will be required for the day, so if you are able to lend a hand please fill in the attached form and return to your classroom teacher, indicating which time would best suit you.

Obstacle-a-thon: Wednesday 29th October, 2014

The new date for the Obstacle-a-thon has now been confirmed. If you were unable to collect sponsors the first time around, now is your chance. Please collect as many as you can and return them to your classroom teacher by Monday the 27th October.

GENERAL NEWS

SHOPPERS CARDS
Our Shoppers Cards are being revamped. Watch out for the new and improved cards available soon!!

ICY POLES
Return in Term 4.

SCHOOL BANKING
Every Friday.
Please limit deposits to $10 or under.

AUSSIE FARMERS DIRECT
Want to sign up? Fill in the form available at the Office or call Rohan Day on 0419905544. Please also consider nominating Altona Primary School for a percentage of any orders you currently have with Aussie Farmers Direct!

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.
The Parent’s Club are again holding the Father’s Day Stall on Friday 5th September. We will have our usual beautiful gifts for your children to choose from. If you would like your child to participate please send them to school with some spending money and a shopping bag to help get their purchase home.

Items will be priced from 0.50c to $5.00.

Sadly we are running low on parent helpers that are required for the day, so if you are able to lend a hand please come to the PAC tomorrow morning.

**Father’s Day Stall Helpers Form**

Name: …………………………………………………………………

Child’s Name: ………………………………………..Class: ……………

Yes, I am able to help on FRIDAY 5 September, 2014. Please circle which time you can help with:

- 9:00 – 11:00
- 11:25 – 12:30
- BOTH

**OBSTACLE-A-THON   PARENT HELP**

Yes, I am able to help on Wednesday 29th October

Obstacle-a-thon 10:30am to 1:30pm

Name: ………………………………………

Child’s Name: ………………………………………………………

Grade: ………

Please return this form to your class room teacher.
OBSTACLE-A-THON

WEDNESDAY 29th October, 2014

SPONSORSHIP FORM

PLEASE RETURN BY 27th October, 2014

STUDENT NAME: ______________________

STUDENT GRADE: ______________________

OTHER SIBLINGS:

Name: ______________________
Grade: ______________________

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>AMOUNT OF SPONSORSHIP</th>
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Our wonderful community farmers market is turning 2 this month and we are celebrating with lots of free family fun including bouncy castle, petting zoo, face painting and more......

It has been a great 2 years and the market has raised lots of money for kids and classrooms.

To keep the market going we need more helping hands as many of the families who initially helped have now left the school as their children have moved on to secondary school.

We are a big school with lots of families and we want to invite everyone to come on board to help as it is good fun and a great way to meet new faces, while raising money for our kids.

We know people are busy but if you or other family members are willing to help out for an hour once a month, every few months or even once a year it would be welcomed.

We would love to hear from you so please fill in this form and return to classroom teachers or office 😊

Your name/s ____________________________________________________________

Childs name/s and grade/s ________________________________ ______________________

Email ___________________________________ phone no __________________________