

Altona Primary School Newsletter



26th FEBRUARY 2024: TERM 1 WEEK 5



Principal's Report

We are already at the mid point of Term 1 and I am immensely proud of how our learners are working through this term. Our school values are being displayed both in and out of the classroom every day and we have had many students representing our school with pride at various sporting events, camp and when engaging with local community members. We are seeing great connections being developed and strengthened across the school, with our Preps being allocated a Grade 6 buddy and our lunchtime and recess clubs providing a chance for various cohorts to enjoy experiences together.

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

This week families have received a ballot paper for our school council election. We have 7 nominees for the 5 vacancies in the parent category of our council, which is very pleasing to see this interest from our community. I strongly encourage everyone to consider these candidates and submit ballot papers to the office before 4pm on Monday, March 4th. The outcome of the election will be published once votes are counted.

NEW SANDPIT

With the addition of the new toilet block, we unfortunately had our sandpit removed. Alongside the Friends and Families Committee, we are currently looking at developing a new sandpit space at the rear of the Cling and Climb playground next to the soccer pitch. If you are, or you know of, a landscaper who may be able to provide us with much needed assistance in planning this project, I'd love to talk with you. We are very eager to get some plans in place quickly and work to fundraise to make this a reality for our students in the near future.

Dates to Remember

11th March
Public Holiday

12th March
School Photos

13th March - 22nd March
NAPLAN

14th March
Grade P-2 CROSS COUNTRY

20th March
School Council AGM

21st March
Grade 3-6 CROSS COUNTRY

22nd March
CANTEEN DAY

25-27th March
TERM 1 SHOWCASE OF LEARNING
Year level dates further in
newsletter

28th March
Last Day of Term 1
2.30 Dismissal

15th April
Curriculum Day - no students

16th April
Term 2 commences



PARENT HELPERS

It has been wonderful to see so many parents take up the opportunity to attend our parent helper sessions which have been run over the past fortnight. My thanks to our Assistant Principals Tim and Nicole for facilitating these sessions. We welcome any parent/carer or community member who has completed these sessions (either this year or in previous years) to support in our classrooms at times that have been allocated by the teachers.

If you have not completed the sessions, but would like to support in classrooms, please contact our Assistant Principals for the necessary information. Supporting on excursions, incursions, school events, or with administrative or resourcing tasks does not require the course to have been completed. However, anyone supporting or volunteering must have a Working with Children's Check.

COMMUNICATING WITH TEACHERS

Our teachers pride themselves on maintaining a positive partnership with parents/carers. Staff at APS can be contacted via email through Compass. Please be aware that these emails/messages cannot be attended to immediately. Beyond their classroom time, our staff have allocated duties and meetings through the day that may mean they are not able to attend to the email within the same day. Should you require information to be relayed with a greater urgency, please phone the office during school hours and our administration team will be able to support. Please also be aware that while some of our staff may choose to respond to an email outside of hours, there is no expectation for this to occur, so, respectfully, this should not be expected. We appreciate your understanding around this.

CLASS WhatsApp GROUPS

A number of classes have WhatsApp groups that have been set up by parents as a way of connecting with parents/carers from your child's grade. These platforms provide a great opportunity to communicate with one another, however please be aware that these are not official forms of school communication. Parents/carers do not have to join the groups that are established, but they do provide a good platform to share information and establish connections across the school.

NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be conducted from the 13th – 22nd of March. All students in Grade 3 and 5 will complete 4 separate assessments: Writing, Reading, Language Conventions and Numeracy. All tests will be completed online this year, except for the Grade 3 Writing test. Further information has been communicated through Compass to Grade 3 and 5 families and our schedule of assessments is below:

March 11th	March 12th	March 13th	March 14th	March 15th
PUBLIC HOLIDAY	Final Preparations	Writing Grade 3 Grade 5 (Online)	Reading Grade 5 (Online)	Reading Grade 3 (Online)
March 18th	March 19th	March 20th	March 21st	March 22nd
Language Grade 3 (Online) Grade 5 (Online)	Maths Grade 3 (Online)	Maths Grade 5 (Online)	Make Up Tests	Make Up Tests

As always, I welcome the opportunity to chat with members of our community at any stage and welcome feedback and suggestions. Catch me in the yard before or after school, or feel free to contact the office to arrange a meeting at any time.

Have a great fortnight ahead.

Sarah.



VALUES AWARDS - WEEKS 2, 3 AND 4



COMMUNICATION AT APS

COMPASS: Ongoing communication. Newsfeed items contain reminders and timely information. All payments and consent for events and activities are made through Compass.

NEWSLETTER: Reports what is happening and coming up at APS. Published fortnightly via Compass and the school website.

YEAR LEVEL NEWSLETTERS: Outlines the learning program of each year level. Published twice per term.

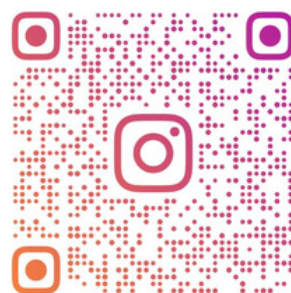
SCHOOL WEBSITE: Information about the school, parent info and whole school calendar.

INSTAGRAM: Visual reminders and photographic updates. Posts updated weekly.



FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM

@altonaPrimaryschool



ALTONAPRIMARYSCHOOL





DISTRICT SWIMMING

On the 19th of February, our school swimming team competed in the District Swimming Carnival. The event took place at the Werribee Outdoor Olympic Pool. There were 8 schools that competed in our District and our school was impressive, finishing 5th overall, which is a great result.

The swimming team was excited. Once the carnival started, the nerves disappeared and our students swam their best, supporting each other along the way. We had lots of great results, with some possible future Olympians!!

50m Freestyle

Amelie S finishing 1st in the 9/10 girls event
Sam H finishing 1st in the 9/10 boys event
Georgia G finishing 2nd in the 11 girls event

50m Breaststroke

Amelie S finishing 1st in the 9/10 girls event.
Michael H finishing 2nd in the 9/10 boys event
Eileen T finishing 3rd in the 11 girls event.
Leonard A finishing 1st in the 12 boys event.

Backstroke

Amelie S finishing 1st in the 9/10 girls event and Isla F 3rd.
Michael H finishing 1st in the 9/10 boys event and Sam H 2nd
Polly G finishing 3rd in the 11 girls event.
Kiki M finishing 3rd in the 11 girls event.

Butterfly

Amelie S finishing 1st in the 9/10 girls event
Michael H finishing 1st in the 9/10 boys event and Sam H 2nd
Sienna G finishing 3rd in the 11 girls event.
Kiki M finishing 3rd in the 11 girls event.



Also well done to the 9/10 girls 50m Freestyle Relay team (Amelie, Isla, Hannah S and Sumaiyah L) who finished 1st, the 10 year old boys 50m Freestyle Relay team (Sam, Fred D, Kunal S and Michael) who finished 2nd, the open girls 50m Medley Relay team (Polly, Eileen, Kiki and Amelie) who finished 1st and the open boys 50m Medley Relay team (Henry T, Sienna G, Michael and Sam) who finished 3rd.

Finally, a massive well done to Amelie S, who came first in all her four individual events and two relays. She also won the 100m swim which was an outstanding effort. Each school enters their best swimmer in this event and Amelie won this event as a 10 year old girl. One to watch!!

Good luck to all students who qualified for the Divisional Swimming Carnival. Children or teams that finished 1st or 2nd in their event qualify for the next round.

Well done to this awesome team who represented Altona Primary with pride. I also would like to thank Mrs Watts and Tristan who helped out on the day.

Stephen Fava





GRADE 6 MILL VALLEY CAMP

On Monday the 19th of February the grade 6 cohort took a bus down to Mill Valley Ranch Camp located in Tynong North, Victoria. Our amazing teachers split us up into 6 groups; Broncs, Bulldoggers, Cowboys, Mustangs, Roughriders and Rustlers. Over the three days we did six activities: horse riding, frisbee golf, canoeing, archery, crate climbing and the amazing race.

There were 5 boys cabins and 5 girls cabins. Each breakfast, morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea, dinner, dessert and supper was delightful. On the first night we went on a night walk for about 1 hour. We walked up to around 3 to 4 kilometres but it was worth it when we got to see the view from up the top of the mountain. On the second night of camp we watched Shrek number 3. It was a great movie. One of the lovely workers called Cycy introduced us to games called Switch, Capture the Flag and blockbuster. All together it was a very fun experience to have on our last camp here at Altona Primary School.

By Matisse and Kalani



Altona Primary School

SchoolPix is coming to photograph on:

Tuesday, 12 March 2024

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A postage fee will apply for orders placed after this date.

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Altona Primary School



TERM 1 SHOWCASE OF LEARNING

PREP

**WEDNESDAY
27TH MARCH
9.00AM**

GRADE 1

**MONDAY
25TH MARCH
2.45PM**

GRADE 2

**TUESDAY
26TH MARCH
9.00AM**

GRADE 3/4

**WEDNESDAY
27TH MARCH
2.45PM**

GRADE 5

**TUESDAY
26TH MARCH
2.45PM**

GRADE 6

**MONDAY
25TH MARCH
9.00AM**

TERM 1 CLUBS @APS

Tuesday Colouring Club

Come in and do some drawing
and colouring

LUNCH TIME
With Ms Sperling

Grade Prep -2
In the **LEARNING STREET**



Wednesday

DANCE CLUBS!
In the PAC with Ms
Reg



RECESS
Grade P-2

LUNCHTIME
Grade 3-6

Thursday Construction Club

Come and build with Lego and
other construction materials

RECESS
With Ms Afiouni



Grade Prep - 2
In the **LEARNING STREET**

Friday

MINECRAFT CLUB
Bring your computers for some
minecraft education time!

LUNCHTIME
With Ms Sperling

Grade 3-6
In the **LIBRARY**





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