

Altona Primary School Newsletter

JUNE 2025: TERM 2 WEEK 10



Principal's Report

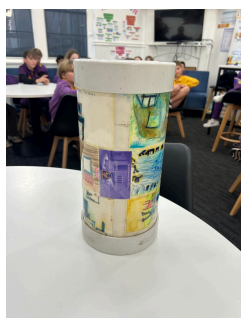
Hard to believe we are already near the end of June and the end of Term 2 is creeping up on us. This month has been a busy one at APS, with one of the highlights being the opening of our play space. I want to commend our students for being so patient while almost half of our yard space was fenced off. It has been so rewarding to see students (and our community) react to the space with so many new opportunities for play and gathering.

MATHS OLYMPIADS

This term we have seen our Maths Olympiad teams sit two competition tests. We have a group of Grade 5 and 6 students participating in two teams and a group of Grade 3/4s participating in the Maths Explorer competition. This opportunity is a great one for our students to extend their mathematics and problem solving skills and we look forward to seeing their progress over the next two tests. You can see further information about this by visiting www.apsmo.edu.au

TIME CAPSULE

In 1999, all local schools were invited by the Rotary Club and Hobsons Bay City Council to contribute to a Millenium time capsule that was buried at the 100 steps for the last 25 years. Early in May, Mrs Mathrick and Mrs Petalas attended the unveiling of the time capsule and recently have opened up the APS contribution with our Student Voice Leaders. Contained inside were letters written by all students who were enrolled at APS in 1999, a copy of the graduation program from 1999, and a tea towel that was produced to honor the retirement of the principal at the time, Mrs Faye Bromley. Our voice leaders enjoyed seeing what students in 1999 thought they might be doing in 2025. We are currently working on a way to best share this with our community and connect with students who were here at the time.



Dates to Remember

23rd and 30th June

School Tour 2026 Preps @ 9.30am

30th June – 3rd July

SHOWCASES OF LEARNING:

Prep: Tuesday 1st @ 2.45pm

Grade 1: Thursday 3rd @ 2.45pm

Grade 2: Tuesday 1st @ 9am

Grade 3/4: Monday 30th @ 2.45pm

Grade 5: Wednesday 2nd @ 9am

Grade 6: Thursday 3rd @ 9am

4th July

Out of Uniform Day

CANTEEN DAY

Last Day of Term 2: 2.30 dismissal

21st July

Curriculum Day

Parent Teacher Interviews

22nd July

Term 3 commences

25th July

Prep 2026 Enrolments Due

28th July

Grade 5 and 6 swimming commences

20–22nd August

Grade 4 Camp

19th September

Last Day of Term 3

2.30 dismissal

See our whole school calendar
on our website for all dates

We acknowledge the Bunurong People of the Kulin Nation as the traditional owners of the land.

We pay our respects to elders past, present and emerging.

We are grateful for the land that we live, learn and play on every day.

www.altonaps.vic.edu.au





ENROLMENTS FOR 2026

We are currently accepting enrolments and applications for enrolment for Prep 2026. If you have a younger child commencing school next year, or you know of anyone who does, a reminder that now is the time to enrol. Families residing within our zone and students with siblings already enrolled need to fill out an enrolment form, while those outside of our zone can submit an application for enrolment. Applications for enrolment must be submitted by the 25th of July.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

A few weeks ago, our Student Dress Code policy was shared with parents. We are again seeing items being worn to school that are not aligned to our policy. Of particular mention are branded tracksuit pants that are not grey or purple. Our uniform provider (DCS) has ample stock of a variety of pants and all children should be wearing the correct colour. If you are unaware of our policy, this is accessible on our website and your cooperation with this is appreciated.

BIKE SAFETY

We have had a number of reports in recent weeks of students riding to school who are not abiding by road rules. Descriptions of children riding across roads directly into the path of traffic, travelling on the wrong side of the road and not wearing helmets. Our local community can only identify children based on their uniform, so we are unable to have discussions with specific children. Please, if your child is travelling to school on a bike ensure they have an understanding of the safe path of travel and an awareness of road safety. If you are not sure that they do, then an alternative way of travelling to school may need to be something that you consider.

ANNUAL REPORT

Each year, government schools prepare an Annual Report to provide an opportunity to share the school's achievements and progress with the school community. This report was presented and endorsed through our school council earlier in the year and now that it has undergone a quality assurance process through the Department of Education, it is available on our [school website](#) for everyone to view. The report details the school's performance from the past year (2024) and trends over time.

SEMESTER REPORTS and PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Our teachers are currently assessing and reviewing students learning growth against the Victorian Curriculum in preparation for their Semester 1 reports. These will be published to parents/carers in the last week of term. Next term, we will conduct parent teacher interviews on Monday the 21st of July. This is a designated curriculum day, so while students will not attend school on this day, families are invited (and encouraged) to book an interview on this day to discuss the end of semester report and next steps for learning. Further information about booking an interview will be posted through Compass in the coming weeks.

FRIENDS AND FAMILIES COMMITTEE

Our FFC continues to do amazing work to provide experiences for our students and community. Upcoming events have been posted to Compass, including Canteen Day on Friday the 4th of July and the Winter Coat Drive. The FFC creates a great opportunity for anyone who'd like to support our school to join a group of like-minded parents and help to plan and run events that engage and enrich the school experience for our students and connect our community. I encourage anyone who is interested in joining or volunteering any amount of time to get in touch with Emma Hamilton our FFC president to find out about how you can contribute.



PARENT PAYMENTS UPDATE

Each year parents are invited to contribute a payment to cover the cost of some of the resources all students will use to support their daily learning. We seek payment for these through our 'curriculum contribution payment' through Compass and have worked with school council to ensure we are seeking the minimum contribution required to cover the cost of the book pack items every child receives along with consumables used every day. Over the last few years, we have seen quite a large decline in the amount of parents attending to these payments. While these are voluntary, payment of these is of great support to our overall school budget. With reduced curriculum contributions, the capacity of the school to allocate adequate funds across all budgets is significantly impacted, with the direct result being a reduction of resources we are able to purchase and provide. If you are yet to pay your curriculum contribution for this year, it will still be visible on Compass. This is different to the School Saving Bonus which can only be allocated to excursions and uniforms. If you have any questions around this, please contact our office. Your contributions are received with appreciation and have a great impact on the school experience.

DEDUCTIBLE GIFT RECIPIENT FUND (DGR)

The school has two DGR funds; Building Fund and School Library Fund. If you have contributed towards these as part of your Curriculum Contributions this year, you are able to claim the contribution as a tax deduction. Information about accessing this will be provided through Compass. These are funds that you are able to donate to at any time. If you'd like to find out more about this, or make a donation in time for the end of financial year, please contact our office.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING – Victorian Teaching and Learning Model

Over the last few weeks, our staff and leadership team have been involved in a number of professional learning opportunities focused on the new Victorian Teaching and Learning Model. From 2025, Victorian government schools are updating their teaching and learning programs to align with contemporary evidence about how students learn. This includes refreshing teaching practices, to provide the most effective support for student learning.

While there is a lot happening in education at the moment, our outcomes and results remain strong, but we remain committed to ensuring our practices align with current research and the mandated department initiatives.

On our curriculum day on Friday the 6th of June, all of our staff engaged in a day of learning to explore elements of learning aligned to Cognitive Load theory and the Science of Learning.

Over the last two years we have aligned our literacy practices in Grade Prep-2 to include daily phonics instruction using the Sounds Write program with great success. We have also fully implemented the new Mathematics Curriculum from Grade Prep-6 this year and will be reporting against this, this Semester.

If you are interested around what is happening in 'the Education State', further information can be found [online](#)

As we near the end of the term, I thank everyone for your support over this term. I look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming Showcases of Learning next week.

Our Student Voice Leaders have also sought input from their classmates and decided that our final day for term 2 (Friday the 4th of July) will be an out of uniform day, with a gold coin donation to raise money for the Royal Children's Hospital. We thank you for your anticipate support of this student led initiative.

Sarah



VALUES AWARDS

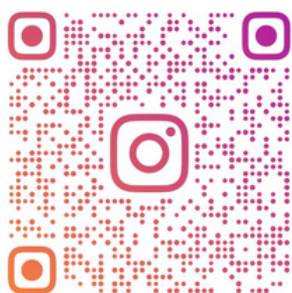


CHECK OUT OUR PLAYGROUND UPGRADE



FOLLOW US ON
INSTAGRAM

@altonaPrimaryschool



ALTONAPRIMARYSCHOOL





SPORT UPDATE

Winter Interschool Sports Wrap Up

The Winter Interschool Sports Competition wrapped up this week with 3 teams making it into the finals which were played at Newport Gardens PS. All teams had fun playing against other schools and learning to work together as a team. Many children now have taken up a new sport outside of school which could turn into a lifelong passion.

Here are the final results.

Girls Soccer team finished 5th.

Girls and Boys Netball teams both finished 6th.

The Boys Softball team finished 3rd.

The Boys ALF team finished 3rd.

Finals Matches/Results

The Girls Softball team finished runners up in a close match and lost the final 12 runs to 13 to Newport Gardens PS.

The Girls AFL team won convincingly, 67 points to 15 against Williamstown North PS and are district champions. They will move to the divisional round next term.

The Boys Soccer team also had a great win, winning 5 goals to 1 against Newport Gardens PS. They will also move to the divisional round next term.

Well done to all teams who represented our school and themselves with pride and showed respect to others. We all would like to thank the coaches Mr Mac, Mrs Aird, Mr Liacopolous and Mr Fava.

Western Region Cross Country Championships

Last Term we had 7 talented children run in the Western Region Cross Country Championships at Keilor Park. The Western Region encompasses students from Torquay to Spotswood to Sunshine and Bacchus Marsh and everything in between. So, it is a massive pool of students and this event is the best of the best in the west!

Our children were well prepared for this event, having trained hard both at school and at home. There were about 90 students in each race category racing with the top 12 progressing to the State Cross Country Titles.

The results were:

10 year old girls – Ava F 18th

11 year old girls – Zoe W 28th and Zara 43rd

11 year old boys – Aaron B 49th and Rory H 65th

12 year old girls – Alula S 53rd and Sophie V 56th

Well done to these students on a great Cross Country season. APS is really proud of your efforts.
Legends!!!!

Altona Primary School



TERM 2 2025 SHOWCASE OF LEARNING

PREP

**TUESDAY
1ST JULY
2.45PM**

GRADE 1

**THURSDAY
3RD JULY
2.45PM**

GRADE 2

**TUESDAY
1ST JULY
9.00AM**

GRADE 3/4

**MONDAY
30TH JUNE
2.45PM**

GRADE 5

**WEDNESDAY
2ND JULY
2.45PM**

GRADE 6

**THURSDAY
3RD JULY
9.00AM**



ALTONA PRIMARY SCHOOL

PREP 2026

Enrolments are now open

School tours are being run for prospective families.
Times and dates are advertised on our
school website.

www.altonaps.vic.edu.au

Enrolment forms are
available online or
at the school.

Enrol by 25th July.
Transition program
commences
in August.



For information regarding enrolment, please contact the school

altona.ps@education.vic.gov.au

9398 2925

109 Blyth Street, Altona



Every day counts

Attending school every day means experiencing what counts - the learning, friendships, fun and opportunities that can shape their future.



APS WARM WINTER COAT DRIVE

Help us spread warmth this Winter!
From now until the end of Term 2, the FFC
is asking you to bring in your second-hand
coats (and other warm clothes) and
blankets which will be donated to and
distributed to those in need by
West Welcome Wagon.
Your kind contributions can make a big
difference in someone's life.



**Donations can
made to the box
at your child's
classroom.**

***Please only
donate items that
are clean and in
good condition.**