

Altona Primary School Newsletter



28h August: TERM 3 WEEK 8



Principal's Report

It is hard to believe that we only have 3 weeks left of Term 3. In the past fortnight, we have acknowledged Science Week and Book Week. Our STEM team did a great job organising a variety of experiments for our students to engage their Science Inquiry skills, while the whole school 'bottle rocket' challenge brought year levels together as we launched each class' rocket. Our Book Week parade was a great success, with our students and staff enjoying the opportunity to dress up as a variety of characters. My thanks to our community for your support in preparing your child/ren for this event, and to those of you who were able to attend.

SCHOOL VALUE IN FOCUS: COLLABORATION

For the remainder of this term, we will be focused on our school value of collaboration. Classes will look closely at the behaviours connected to this value and how it supports them to learn and work with others.

Collaboration at APS is:

- working together on common goals
- being an effective and active team member
- being inclusive and encouraging
- giving and accepting feedback



HOUSE MASCOT HUNT

Our school and house captains have been exploring ideas to build house pride across the school. Each Friday, the captains will be running a 'mascot hunt'. At recess, house mascot cards will be hidden around the school for students to find. The first house to find all their mascot cards will be awarded the 'house cup' at our assembly. Our first mascot hunt on Friday was a great success, with a large group of students participating. It was great to see the captains enabling this activity for all students to enjoy.

BLYTH - BROMLEY - BORRACK - ENRIGHT - FLEMING

Dates to Remember

29th August

Junior (P-2) Athletics Day

29th August, 6th, 14th September
Prep 2024 Early Transition Sessions

31st August

Fathers Day Stall

1st September

Grade 3/4 Excursion
P-2 Father's Day Picnic

6th September

Grade 1 Excursion

15th September

End of Term 3
2.30pm Dismissal

2nd October

First Day of Term 4

6th November

Curriculum Day

7th November

Cup Day Public Holiday

24th November

Student Free Day



STUDENT FREE DAY – FRIDAY NOVEMBER 24th

A student free day has been approved and encouraged by the Department of Education to cover teaching staff for their entitled Professional Practice Day on a common day. Coverage for this day (that all teaching staff have to be allocated) would be incredibly challenging (with the current staffing situation in schools) if we were to cover staff for an individual day each. It would be an ongoing disruption over the course of at least 6 weeks.

All teaching staff have to be allocated a professional practice day, free from allocated duties each semester, as part of the Victorian Government Schools Agreement. Following approval from our School Council and in consultation with our staff, Friday the 24th of November will be a student free day. Their Care will run a program on this day to support families who need to access this service.

2023 PARENT/CARER/GUARDIAN OPINION SURVEY

The Parent/Caregiver/Guardian Opinion Survey is an annual survey offered by the Department of Education that is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of families' perceptions of school climate, student behaviour, and student engagement. The survey is optional, but we encourage all families to participate. Our school will use the survey results to identify our strengths and help inform and direct future school planning and improvement strategies. All families are invited to participate in the survey.

The Parent/Caregiver/Guardian Opinion Survey is open until Friday 8 September 2023. Information around accessing the survey, along with log in details will be provided to our community via Compass.

MORNING AND AFTERNOON DROP OFF AND PICK UP

School drop off and pick up can be a very busy time around our school. With limited parking options at the front of the school on Blyth Street, please be reminded that parking spaces have an allocation of 10 minutes at drop off and pick up times.

2024 PREP TRANSITION

This week we commence early transition sessions for all enrolled 2024 Preps. The three sessions this term will be run by the Principal team and will provide an opportunity for our newest learners to become more familiar with our school. Further transition sessions will be held in November and December. If you know of anyone who is yet to enrol their child for school next year, please let them know that it isn't too late.

2023 PAYMENTS

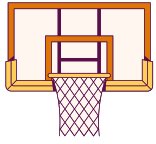
This is a reminder that families can still pay for 2023 Curriculum Contributions through Compass. This will appear on your Compass Newsfeed if you have not attended to this already. These payments are greatly appreciated and support the school to ensure that students have access to necessary resources to enable and enhance the learning experience in the classroom and in their specialist subjects.



VALUES AWARDS WEEK 5 AND 6

FOCUS VALUE: RESPONSIBILITY





HOOP TIME



Last week, 6 teams of students participated in the Hoop Time event.

Our Grade 3/4 teams made it to the grand final on the day, but were narrowly defeated. Our Grade 5/6 girls team won their final and progress to the next round.



A great effort by all students who were chosen for these teams after some competitive trials at school this term.

Thanks to Mr Fava and Mr Mac for running trials during recess and lunchtimes.



Appreciation to Mr Mac and Mrs Verwoert who coached the teams on the day, and sincere gratitude to the parents/ carers who also supported the event.



INTERSCHOOL SNOW SPORTS

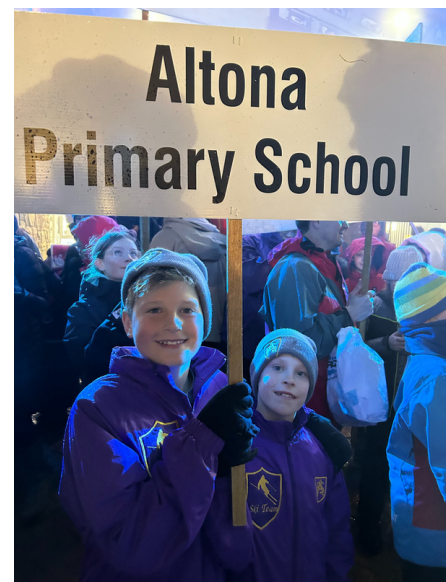


The APS Ski Team had a great couple of days at Mt Buller last week.

Congratulations to Will who competed in Alpine (Giant Slalom) and Alistair who competed in Ski Cross.

Will finished 52nd out of 192 entrants
Alistair finished 103rd out of 210 entrants.

A great opportunity for the boys and we are very proud of their efforts.







Australian Teacher Aide Appreciation Week is an occasion where teachers, parents, and children can show their thanks for all the important work that School Support Staff do every day to ensure our schools operate effectively and staff are supported to help students get the most out of their time at school.

Australian Teacher Aide Appreciation Week is celebrated each year during the last week of August (which is next week).

Our school support staff are our:

Teacher Aides - Thashnee Ramkilawan, Linden Dunbar, Samantha Butterworth, Alyson Cooper, Courtney Comeadow, Alison Van De Brand, Stacey Hartley-Mcgawon and Deanne Cathie

Administration officers (Office Staff) - Liz Brown, Lisa Ismay, Leanne Davies

Business manager - Lisa Romeo

IT technicians - Leigh Enright and Ian George

We are very grateful at APS to have such a dedicated team of Educational Support Staff who go beyond expectation each and every day to ensure all of our students are receiving a high-quality education, contributing to a supportive team culture and positive home school partnership.

Educational Support Staff work really hard all year round, and Teacher Aide Appreciation Week is here to show appreciation for them and all the wonderful work they do. Please join us in celebrating and thanking our amazing support team.

Altona Primary School

TERM 3 **SHOWCASE** **OF LEARNING**



PREP

TUESDAY
12TH SEPTEMBER
2.45PM

GRADE 1

WEDNESDAY
13TH SEPTEMBER
2.45PM

GRADE 2

MONDAY
11TH SEPTEMBER
9.00AM

GRADE 3/4

MONDAY
11TH SEPTEMBER
2.45PM

GRADE 5

TUESDAY
12TH SEPTEMBER
9.00AM

GRADE 6

WEDNESDAY
13TH SEPTEMBER
9.00AM



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Education
and Training

Somers School Camp

A nine day residential outdoor and environmental experience for Year 5 & 6 students

Focusing on developing the Victorian Curriculum Capabilities

- Personal & Social
- Ethical
- Intercultural
- Critical & Creative Thinking

Experience
FOR
a Lifetime



Inspiring optimism and developing the consciousness and care of
SELF, OTHERS and the ENVIRONMENT

Years 5 & 6 Students from Schools in your area will be participating in the Somers Camp.

From: 14 NOV 2023 To: 22 NOV 2023

FURTHER INFORMATION WILL BE SENT SOON

www.somerscamp.vic.edu.au



SCAN TO
REGISTER



WIN!



EARLY-BIRD BOOKINGS made before
04/09/23 will go into the draw to win an
**ELECTRONIC BASKETBALL
SHOOTING SYSTEM!**

2023
**LANARD COPELAND
SPRING
HOLIDAY
BASKETBALL CAMP**

**18-19 SEPT
9am - 3pm**

Open to ALL PARTICIPANTS aged 5 - 16 | \$160 per person

FRUIT SNACKS | PRIZES | GIVEAWAYS | BYO LUNCH, WATER & BASKETBALL
REGISTER ONLINE at altonasportscentre.com.au before 15th SEPTEMBER 2023