Dear Parents

It was wonderful to arrive for my first day back on Wednesday and have so many excited children come up and ask me how my holiday was and did I have a great time and welcome back. I had no trouble saying that I had a tremendous time but that I was struggling with the weather since I had returned as I had been used to temperatures between 30 and 40 degrees for the last five weeks.

The main reason for our trip initially was to surprise our middle daughter (Elise) who was travelling with her older sister (Siobhan), during their University Mid-Year Break for her 21st Birthday on the 8th July in England. Our youngest daughter (Bridget) was also going to be in England at the same time. Elise got quite a surprise to see Pat and myself. We spent the day together – a very special time.

Pat and I then spent a bit over a week in Paris, flew to Rome and spent four days there. We then hired a car and spent the next couple of weeks travelling to: Positano, Cinquant Terre, Florence, Venice and Milan. It was a fantastic holiday.

Next week I will be attending along with 30 plus other Western Zone Principals’ the 6th International Conference on Catholic Educational Leadership hosted by The Australian Catholic University in Sydney. Mrs Gwenda Burnett will again be Acting Principal in my absence.

FOOTY FUN DAY:

Again, one of the highlights of the year. There is so much excitement around the school and so many happy, smiling faces. The day commenced prior to 8.30am, with children heading to the hall to have their faces painted in their favourite team colours. Then somehow teachers survived in their classrooms until 11.00 am.

After recess all the children gathered in the hall in their footy teams. As usual the Bulldogs were clearly the best represented but most of the teams had at least one representative although the two new teams haven’t won over any supporters yet. Each of the teams took it in turns to sing their team song and answer questions as well as finding out who won prizes from the many competitions that the children had entered.

We were joined in the hall by recently retired Collingwood legend, Simon Prestigiacomo and Carlton legend Alex Jesaulenko as well as Craig from Williamstown Football club.

It was also great to welcome back Mrs Arna Culinas- Donohue. These people with the help of Warren Rozario (a Year six non-football supporter) voted on each teams supporters singing of their team song. All of the teams did a fantastic job.

Check out our School Website and Facebook page to see some of the great photos.

Thank you to Mrs Gwenda Burnett for her organisation and co-ordination of this great day. Thank you also to the Junior School Council members who assisted Mrs Burnett in the co-ordination and running of the day.

Thank you to the teachers, parents and children who assisted with the face painting. Thank you to the Parents and Friends Association and the many parents that assisted with the supply and distribution of the footy lunches from Subway. A great day had by all!

David Kelly.
Principal.

FOOTY TIPPING:

Nobody selected all 9 winners last round so the jackpot this week is $20.00. With 3 rounds to go Good Luck!

CHICKENPOX

Please be aware that we have had a number of reported cases of Chickenpox at the school.

St. Mary’s Altona Newsletter
“Caring Catholic Community in Education”
FEAST OF MARY MACKILLOP
Living God, animating presence in our world, with gratitude we remember the life of Mary MacKillop, her influence in our world and her legacy in our Josephite spiritual homeland and school. Inspire us, to be fully alive in your mission and faithfully kind among your people. We ask this in the name of Jesus, friend of the poor, and the Spirit, filling us with confidence.

Amen.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:
* All members of our community who are in need of our prayerful support.

Olive Chodowski
Religious Education Coordinator

DATES TO NOTE (Cont.)

DECEMBER
2nd Assembly Prep S & Prep H – 2.30 pm
9th Assembly 5/6G – 2.30 pm
10th Walk/Ride to School Day
16th Staff Assembly

HOW TO RAISE HAPPY AND RESILIENT GIRLS PD
Please be advised that Dr Michael Carr-Gregg and Dr Ian Lillico have been secured to deliver a series of parent seminars in relation to raising teenagers. These sessions are targeted at parents and teachers of boys or girls. Teachers attending will be issued with a certificate of participation for 2 PD Hours.

Dr Michael Carr-Gregg presents How to Raise Happy and Resilient GIRLS! 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm
26th August, Lowther Hall, 17 Leslie Rd, Essendon.

As Australia's most high profile adolescent psychologist, Dr. Michael Carr-Gregg draws on the latest psychological research to deliver the key skills, knowledge and strategies needed by parents and teachers caring for teenage girls in 2013. He will focus on the latest research on how to create happy and resilient girls and will host a Q&A session at the end. Cost $20.00.

Secure your place! Email rick@criticalagendas.com.au
Include your NAME, and No. Tickets required. Collect and pay for tickets on the night (No EFTPOS).

FREE PARENT & TEACHER WORKSHOP
When: Sunday 18th August
Where: St. Mary’s Altona
Time: 11.00 am – 3.00 pm

*****Please bring your lunch****

This workshop is being held by Read Australia. It’s focus is on helping every child to read and spell with confidence based on their Reading and Spelling Brain Training program.

Email your name to reserve a seat: Emma@ReadAustralia.com Web: ReadAustralia.com.

LITERACY NEWS

OUR CELEBRATIONS FOR LITERACY, NUMERACY AND BOOK WEEK WILL TAKE PLACE DURING WEEKS Five to Seven. There will be lots of activities at school and many opportunities for you to join in and do things at home. Below is an outline of some of the school events and home activities.
BOOK CHARACTER DRESS UP PARADE & LITERACY ACTIVITIES
9.00 am – 9.30 am – Children come dressed to school as their favourite book character e.g Snow White, Harry Potter and parade for other classes.
9.30 am – 12.15 pm – Children involved in Literacy Activities based on the Authors – Alison Lester and Margaret Wild – with children from different classes.

LITERACY ACTIVITIES AT HOME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK /S</th>
<th>ACTIVITY / EVENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weeks 5-Starting</td>
<td>BRING A PHOTO OF YOU READING. Children take a photo of themselves reading ANYWHERE. E.G. In bed, up a tree, in the pool etc. Print off photo and bring to school. These will be displayed under ‘Take Me To Your Reader’ in the school foyer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Starting Mon.12th Aug &amp; Week - Starting Mon. 19th Aug.</td>
<td>D.E.A.R. = DROP EVERYTHING AND READ. Each time a child reads at home during these weeks they fill in a D.E.A.R. sheet. Place sheet into box in foyer and earn points for their House Team. ***First sheet is attached others can be found on the website or in office foyer.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 6 Tuesday 20th Aug 5.30 pm – 6.00 pm</td>
<td>NEAD 2 READ. Evening Session – 5.30 pm – 6.00 pm on Tuesday 20th August. Parents and Students come along and enjoy a book together.</td>
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PREMIERS READING CHALLENGE CHAMPS. Are you one yet? Check the front page of our school website and find out WHO is a CHAMP. AND also see our champs faces on the door to the TRI Centre.

Hope to see your name and face there soon.

Congratulations to our NEW Premiers Reading Challenge Champs….great job!!!

Prep S – Jesse Longaretti-Schreppel
Year 1/2H – Oliver Jeffrey
Year 3/4S – Ella Longaretti-Schreppel

Gwenda Burnett
Literacy Leader.

TUCKSHOP HELPERS - Week beginning 12th August

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Helper</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Elaine Stewart</td>
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</tbody>
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Manager: Eva Coppola Tel: 9315 0799

NORMIE THE GNOME
Normie the Gnome is awarded to the House Team who keeps their part of the yard the cleanest. This week’s winner is: GREEN TEAM

UNIFORM SHOP OPEN
WEDNESDAYS 8.30 AM – 9.00 AM & 3.00 PM – 3.30 PM

If you are unable to visit our shop, order forms can be collected from the School Foyer and complete with payment left at the School Office. Orders will be filled on the next open day and can be left for collection at the School Office or sent to your child’s classroom.

Penny Ealem Co-ordinator and Assisted by Linda Wakfer

Parents and Friends News
FATHERS DAY WRAP AFTERNOON
The Father’s Day Wrap afternoon will be held on Thursday 29th August in the School Hall at 1.00 pm – 3.20 pm.

It would be great to have as many helpers as possible to assist us in sticking the labels on the gifts and arranging them on all on the tables ready for the stall the next day. It is also a great opportunity for parents to catch up with each other over coffee and cake.

FATHER’S DAY STALL
The Father’s Day Stall will be held on Friday 30th August starting at 9.00 am in the School Hall. Gifts will range from $1.00 through to $6.00 and we ask that parents/carers please ensure that all children bring a plastic bag for their purchases.

SCHOOL RAFFLE TICKETS
Please ensure all raffle tickets are returned to the school no later than Wednesday 14th August.

ALTONA FARMERS MARKET – THIS SATURDAY “INTO YOUR HAND FROM THE LAND”
Altona Farmers Market is on this Saturday 9.00 am – 1.00 pm and on every 3rd Saturday of each month held at Altona Primary School 109 Blyth Street, Altona.

ASSOCIATION FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITY
Western Region Footscray
Date: Wednesday 21st August, 2013
Time: 9.30 am – 2.45 am
West Footscray, Neighbourhood House
1/530 Barkly Street, West Footscray 2013
Cost: $20.00 per person – members $40.00 per person – non members

Morning tea & light lunch included
Our parents are presenters are parents themselves, so they understand the issues families face.

Placements are limited so book now at
http://www.trybooking.com/45865 or contacted office on 9818 2000 or 1800 654 013 (rural callers)
Email mail@acd.org.au or visit www.acd.org.au

St. Mary’s Altona Newsletter
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