Dear Parents

ST. MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP DAY
On Tuesday this week all students and staff went to St Leo’s Primary School in Altona North to celebrate the feast of St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop. (Feast Day - 8th August) In 2012 the staff and students of St Leo’s came to our school. The purpose of the day is to highlight the work of St Mary MacKillop and build unity between the two schools as we are all part of the one parish community.

It was a great event which started by celebrating Mass in the church with over 490 children and 40 staff present. Both schools had morning tea together and then worked with students from the same year level on a variety of different fun and engaging activities focused on St. Mary MacKillop. Children made murals, puppets and Year 5/6C students did a very informative and well presented play about her life.

The students will present the play again this coming Monday at assembly. We finished the day with a short prayer session and a chance to thank our gracious hosts who presented each child from both schools with a medal of St. Mary MacKillop. Special thanks needs to go to Mrs Olive Chodowski for her planning and coordination of the day, Mrs Morag Zun for preparing the music and our school captains Jasmine and Warren who confidently and competently thanked St. Leo’s staff and students on our behalf. The day was a wonderful success!

FIRST EUCHARIST FAMILY PREPARATION WORKSHOP
Students making their First Eucharist and their families attended a workshop on Wednesday evening as part of their Eucharist preparation. This evening is an integral part of the Eucharist program and offered new insights for parents and valuable time for students and their families to talk and work together. Presenters from the Presentation Family Group conducted the session and we had very positive feedback from families on the night acknowledging what an informative and interesting session it was. The next step in the preparation is the Family Workshop and Meal on Wednesday 11th September, which you will receive more information about. Thank you to the Year 3/4 staff and Mrs Olive Chodowski for your input into this event. Please keep these children and their families in your prayers as they continue in their preparation for this significant Sacrament.

WALK - RIDE 2 SCHOOL AND FAMILY SKIP ALONG
Come along in an active way to school on Thursday 22nd August and join in at 8.30 am with the skip along on the basketball court. It’s great fun so be part of it.

SCHOOL CLOSED FRIDAY 23rd AUGUST.
As you have been notified earlier there is a SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY on Friday 23rd August. Our staff professional development is being held off site so that there will be NO STAFF working on this day.

SCHOOL SCOUT RAFFLE
A HUGE thank you to parents who have sold their raffle tickets and returned the money to school, your support for this fundraiser is greatly appreciated. If you have not returned the money for sold tickets or were unable to sell tickets please return these immediately.

BOOK WEEK / LITERACY WEEK & NUMERACY WEEK
Over the next two weeks we will be celebrating Book Week / Literacy and Numeracy Week. There are many things happening in classrooms, across year levels and at home. One of the very popular events is dressing up as your favourite book character which will take place on Tuesday 20th August. In the Literacy section of the newsletter you can read about many of the things that will take place.

LONG SERVICE LEAVE
Mrs Morag Zun will be taking Long Service Leave from Tuesday 20th August until the end of Term Three. We wish Morag and her husband Henry a wonderful holiday overseas. Ms Jessica Galea, who has taught most of the students, will be replacing her.

CONGRATULATIONS
To Shevaun Pope a past student of St. Mary’s (sister of Kate in 1/2H) who was recently awarded an Academic and Music scholarship at Presentation Girls College for Year Nine and Ten.

To the Pittas Family (Zaii Prep S) on the safe and healthy arrival of their beautiful daughter Constance.

FOOTY TIPPING
Sorry tipsters there were no winners for Round 20 so the prize money is now $30 for Round 21. Good luck.

Mrs Gwenda Burnett.
Acting Principal.

PRINCIPALS AWARDS:
Congratulations to the following children who received Principals Awards on Monday: Hayden Thompson, Tahlia Srbinovski, Marcus Kruger, Ava Robinson, Giles Mercer, Jessica Offen, Destiny Mizzi, Alannah Briffa, Chante Mullins and Noah Luppino.
Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
On August 15, we celebrated the Feast of the Assumption of Mary. This feast celebrates the departure of Mary from this life and the assumption of her body into heaven. It is the principal feast of the Blessed Virgin.

With all my heart I praise the Lord and I am glad of God my Saviour. He cares for me, his humble servant. All people say God has blessed me. God All-Powerful has done great things for me and his name is holy. Amen.

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

Olive Chodowski
Religious Education Coordinator

ALTAR SERVICE ROSTER
Saturday 17th August at 6.30 pm
Grace Bosnar and Maddison Azzopardi
Sunday 18th August at 9.00 am
Wubit Tsegay and Brianna Mercuri

DATES TO NOTE

AUGUST
19th Assembly 5/6C – 2.30 pm
National Book Week

20th Book Week Literacy & Numeracy Day
Come dressed as Your Favourite Book Character. Parade at 9.00 am

22nd Walk/Ride and Skip Along to School Day

23rd School Closure Day

26th School Assembly - Book Week Literacy & Numeracy Week

29th Father’s Day Wrap 1.00 pm – 3.20 pm
Year 5/6 Excursion to Writer’s Festival Melbourne

30th Father’s Day Stall

SEPTEMBER
2nd Prayer Assembly Father’s Day
Prep S & Prep H – 2.40 pm

5th Final School Fee Payment Due and Payable

6th Year 5/6 Hooptime

9th School Captains Assembly – 2.30 pm

13th Walk/Ride to School Day

16th Assembly 3/4S – 2.30 pm

20th End of Term Three

OCTOBER
7th Assembly School Captains – 2.30 pm

14th Prayer Assembly – 1/2H, 1/2K & 1/2M – 2.40 pm

16th Victoria Walks/Ride to School Day

21st Assembly 3/4T – 2.30 pm

28th Assembly 3/4F – 2.30 pm

NOVEMBER
4th School Closure Day

5th Melbourne Cup Day – No School

11th Assembly 5/6L – 2.30 pm
Swimming Program – Prep, Year 1 & 2

18th Assembly School Captains & Guitar Group – 2.30 pm

21st Walk/Ride to School Day

25th Prayer Assembly 5/6C – 2.40 pm

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

THE MS READATHON
2013 is the National Year of Reading and the MS Readathon team is inviting students to celebrate this very special event by taking part in Australia’s premier reading- based fundraiser in August. Money raised goes to finding a cure for Multiple Sclerosis.
If interested go to: www.msreadathon.org.au
P.S. Remember, the MS Readathon goes hand in hand with the Premiers’ Reading Challenge. If you are involved in the Premiers Reading Challenge this year, simply count the books for both programs.

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 theTRI Centre. Hope to see your name and face there soon. Congratulations to our NEW Premiers Reading Challenge Champs….great job!!!
1/2H Ava, Mila, 3/4T Mia, 5/6C Kathleen, Leah, Lyneal, Megan, Mikey, Amy C, Bethany, Jayden, Nicole and Sam.

PREMIERS READING CHALLENGE- YOU CAN STILL MAKE IT! The challenge finishes early September so GET READING!

CELEBRATING BOOK WEEK, LITERACY & NUMERACY WEEK
AT SCHOOL

Week 6
Tuesday
20th August

DRESS UP AS YOUR FAVOURITE BOOK CHARACTER – Children / Staff come dressed as a character from a BOOK (not movie) 9.00 am PARADE OF CHARACTERS

AT HOME

WEEK /S ACTIVITY / EVENT

Weeks 5 & 6

PHOTO OF YOU READING.
Children take a photo of them 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”

St. Mary’s Altona Newsletter
“Caring Catholic Community in Education”
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

WALK/RISE TO SCHOOL DAY & FAMILY SKIP ALONG
N.B. – CHANGE OF DATE DUE TO BOOK WEEK DRESS UP DAY

NOW - - - THURSDAY 22ND AUGUST

DOING IT RIGHT
Congratulations to the following children who have been getting along well with others, being great leaders, helping people and doing loads more great things……
Prep S: Eliza P, Samuel M
1/2M: Emma H, Jasmin W, Madeline M
1/2H: Noah D, Isla Mc A, Taj
3/4F: Kate, James F

Parents and Friends News
FATHER’S 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 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. If you are able to assist please contact Madeline or Michelle or any other member of the Parents and Friends Committee. Alternatively please complete the form located at the end of this newsletter and return it to the School Office as soon as possible.

FOOTY FUN DAY
Thank you to those who helped organise and run Subway orders last Friday for Footy Fun day. A big thank you to the teachers and staff who organised the activities and ran such a successful and fun day for our kids.

ALTONA FARMERS MARKET
“INTO YOUR HAND FROM THE LAND”
Altona Farmers Market is on this Saturday 17th August 9.00 am – 1.00 pm and on every 3rd Saturday of each month held at Altona Primary School 109 Blyth Street, Altona.

WILLIAMSTOWN BASEBALL CLUB
The Williamstown Wolves
Williamstown Baseball Club is now recruiting new junior players and their families to join the wolf pack. The Baseball season runs over the summer months and is open to all ages and genders.
Programs Offered: Aussie T-Ball Ages 6 – 8
Junior Baseball Ages 8 – 17
Come and try Clinic on Saturday 31st August from 10.00 am – 12.00 pm
Open to Boys and Girls U8, U10, U12, U14 and U16
Greenwich Reserve, The Strand, Newport
For more information www.williamstown.baseball.com.au or Email: juniors.wbc@gmail.com
Mobile: Ray 0419 750 916
Flyers are also available outside staffroom foyer.
HELP NEEDED AT FATHER’S DAY WRAP AFTERNOON
THURSDAY 29TH AUGUST

Please return this completed form to Parents & Friends Committee via School Office as soon as possible.

There will be a Fathers’ Day ‘Wrap Afternoon’ on Thursday 29th August starting at 1.00 pm. It would be great to have as many helpers as possible to assist us in organising the gifts. It is also a great opportunity for parents to catch up with each other over coffee and cake.

Yes, I _________________________________ am able to help at the Father’s Day Wrap afternoon

Contact Phone Number: __________________________________________________________

1.00 pm – 3.20 pm 1.00 pm – 2.00 pm 2.00 pm – 3.20 pm
(Please circle one)

HELP NEEDED AT FATHER’S DAY STALL
FRIDAY 30TH AUGUST

Please return this completed form to Parents & Friends Committee via School Office as soon as possible.

The Father’s Day Stall will be held on Friday 30th August starting at 9.00 am please complete the form below if you are able to assist.

Name: _________________________________ Mobile No. _________________________________

Email: _______________________________________________________________________

9.00 am – 11.00 am 9.00 am – 10.00 am 10.00 am – 11.00 am
(Please circle one)

Do you have a working with Children’s Check? YES (Please circle) NO

If you do not have a working with Children’s Check and would like to help at the school in the future you can collect a form at your local post office.