Dear Parents

A reminder that there is NO SCHOOL TOMORROW, Friday 23rd August. This is a SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY, our Staff Professional Development is being held off site so there will be NO STAFF at SCHOOL ON FRIDAY.

Thank You, Congratulations and Well Done to all the students and staff that made the effort to Dress Up as a Book Character and participate in our Parade in the hall from 9.00 am – 9.30 am last Tuesday. There were so many interesting and varied “characters”. Thank you to those parents who spent the last few hours last night (or the last couple of days in some cases) putting together costumes for the day. Your willingness to be involved and supportive is greatly appreciated.

Everyone loved seeing all the different book characters from each of the classes. From 9.30 am – 12.15 pm all children then participated in three different book activities. The children enjoyed working with different teachers and children from other classes. Thank you to all staff for your organisation and participation in the day. A Great Time Had By All!

FOOTY TIPPING:
No one picked all 9 winners last week so the Jackpot this week is $40.00. With 2 rounds to go there are still 10 people within 4 of the lead. Good Luck!

SCHOOL FEE STATEMENTS:
Up to date school fee statements will be sent home next week.

Thank you to those families who have settled their accounts in full and to those who have committed to a regular direct debit plan. If you are not one of these families or one that has a special arrangement with me, this Statement is a timely reminder of your school fee balance which will be due and payable IN FULL by Thursday 5th September.

If you are experiencing difficulties with your fees, please contact me to discuss the matter.

David Kelly.
Principal.

PRINCIPALS AWARDS:
Congratulations to the following children who received Principals Awards on Monday: Hayden Thompson, Nathan Caruana, Layland Pappas, Kyle Escober, Dwight Fenech, Trent Michelli, Justin Nguyen, Mia Vuleta, Bethany Cutajar, Scarlett Davidson and Elizabeth Paone.

WORKING WITH CHILDREN APPLICATION FORMS
Applications for Working with Children Checks have recently changed. They are now to be completed online then printed and taken to the post office for processing, the website is www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au. If anyone does not have access to the internet or a printer at home, please contact Mrs Pedley in the School Office.

DATES TO NOTE

AUGUST
23rd  SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY
26th  School Assembly - Book Week Literacy & Numeracy Week
29th  Father’s Day Wrap 1.00 pm – 3.20 pm
30th  Year 5/6 Excursion to Writer’s Festival Melbourne

SEPTEMBER
1st   Father’s Day Parish Mass – 9.00 am
2nd   Prayer Assembly Father’s Day
       Prep S & Prep H – 2.40 pm
4th   Parents & Friends Meeting – 7.30 pm
5th   Final School Fee Payment Due and Payable
6th   Year 5/6 Hoop Time
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
ALTAR SERVICE ROSTER
Saturday 24th August at 6.30 pm
Florence Nourdin and Lana Fenech
Sunday 25th August at 9.00 am
Megan Whatman and Scarlett Davidson

LITERACY NEWS

PREMIERS READING CHALLENGE WE HAVE 66 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!!
1/2H – Taj, 5/6C – Daniel, 5/6L – Alice

PREMIERS READING CHALLENGE – YOU CAN STILL MAKE IT! The Challenge finishes early September so GET READING!

CELEBRATING BOOK WEEK, LITERACY & NUMERACY WEEK

DRESS UP AS YOUR FAVOURITE BOOK CHARACTER – We had Harry Potter, Doroth, witches, Dr. Suess, Pirates, Little Red Riding Hood, Miss Chaterbox, Specky Maggie, and MANY, MANY more book characters.

Thank you to the ALL students and parents who came dressed as book characters. Not only did we have a fabulous assembly looking at the different characters that came but also a fun and wonderful learning time working on books from Alison Lester and Margaret Wild.

You can see the fabulous work completed on this day displayed in the corridors and library. Don’t forget to also check out the Weird and Wonderful places our students like to read, their photos are on display in the TRI Centre.

D.E.A.R. = DROP EVERYTHING AND READ. Put your last forms in by Monday 26th August and then listen out for how many points you helped you House Team earn.

Gwenda Burnett
Literacy Leader.

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:

YELLOW TEAM

ST. MARY’S ALTONA NEWSLETTER
Gwenda Burnett
for how many points you helped your House Team earn.

Drop Everything And Read
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.

PREMIERS READING CHALLENGE

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Celebrating Book Week,
Literacy & Numeracy Week

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Gwenda Burnett
Literacy Leader.
**WALK / RIDE TO SCHOOL DAY & FAMILY SKIP ALONG**

Thanks to everyone who joined in today.

Most Active Grade will be announced next week.

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**LITTLE ATHLETICS – SEASON 2013/14**

What has Simon Black (AFL), George Gregan (rugby), Alisa Camplin (aerial skiing) and Geoff Ogilivy (golfer) all have in common? Like so many of our elite sports people, they all started their sporting careers in Little Athletics, which is as truly Australian as Aussie Rules, pavlova and the Hills Hoist!

As well as providing children with the opportunity to try a full range of events, from running, jumping and throwing, Little Athletics often provides the spark for many children to pursue other sporting interests. For some, this can lead to the very highest levels! Currently, the Altona centre has several state champions.

As well as participating in the weekly programs, athletes will have the opportunity to compete in our end of season Centre Championships as well as compete in the regional and state competition.

If you would like your child to realise their ‘personal bests’ then why not consider joining the Altona Little Athletics Centre, where the key objectives are family, fun and fitness. For more information please go to [www.altonalac.com.au](http://www.altonalac.com.au) or call Kylie on 0439 366 199 from Altona Little Athletics Centre.

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**AUTISM VICTORIA**

Amaze (Autism Victoria) is a member-based not-for-profit organisation and is the peak body for Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs) in the state of Victoria. They represent around 55,000 Victorians who have ASD and work for the benefit of all individuals and their families and to promote better understanding of ASD in the general community.

**AMAZE will run an information session about their services on**

**Tuesday 10th September 2013**

**7.00 pm – 8.00 pm in the TRI Centre**

The session is open to all St Mary’s Parents / Guardians / Relatives & Friends.

If you know of someone who might benefit please invite them along.

RSVP: mmasseni001@smaltona.catholic.edu.au
Or complete the following

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**AMAZE INFORMATION SESSION – 10th SEPTEMBER, 2013**

**PLEASE RETURN to MARG MASSENI**

- I / We will attend the AMAZE session
- Number Attending: ______________________

NAME: ______________________________________

PHONE: _____________________________________