Dear Parents

The Parents & Friends are running a BBQ and drinks stall at Bunnings in Millers Road this Saturday 30th November from 8.30 am – 4.00 pm. This is a fundraiser for the school and usually raises more than a thousand dollars. It is very sad that with 280 children in the school and 187 families we can only get 11 people to help for an hour or so. The Parents & Friends desperately need at least another six helpers. If you can assist please call either Garry Hills on 0400 971 101 or Jarrod Pye on 0428 502 815.

PREP BREAKFAST:
It was wonderful to see our 48 Preps turn up in their pyjamas for breakfast in the hall yesterday morning. The one thing that stood out to me was the wonderful manners that I consistently heard eg. “yes please”, “thank you”. Everything was eaten and drinks were emptied. It was all very civilised. Well Done Preps. They then moved off to get dressed ready for school, which is when I made my exit but I believe it all went smoothly. Thank you and congratulations to Cathy Sims and Carol Hicks (our two Prep teachers) for their organisation of the morning and to the many other staff who came to assist.

HEALTHY FAMILY CHALLENGE BREAKFAST
On Wednesday morning 70 of our children enjoyed a wonderful breakfast of home-made muffins, fruit smoothies, and fresh fruit. DELICIOUS! Huge thank you to Marg Masseni for organising the event and all the parents who helped, especially Penny Ealem.

ARTS SPECTACULAR & FAMILY GET TOGETHER:
TUESDAY 10th DECEMBER:
Hopefully you have this date marked in your diary as it is definitely not to be missed. All children will be involved in a concert in the church commencing at 6.00 pm. and concluding around 7.15 pm. Then all families and friends are invited into the school grounds for a picnic meal. Tables and chairs will be set up but there is never enough so bring your picnic rug. Beer, wine and soft drink can be purchased from the canteen. The Art Show will open at the conclusion of the concert, where you can view what our amazing artists have been producing during the year. The Art Show will be in the TRI Centre both upstairs and downstairs. The Children’s art will remain up for a number of days afterwards and anyone is welcome to come in and have a look especially if you weren’t able to make it on the night. Looking forward to seeing you there.

PARENT THANK YOU AFTERNOON TEA:
I invite all parents / carers to join the staff for a THANK YOU Afternoon Tea on Monday 9th December in the school hall from 3.00 – 4.00 pm. Children will be supervised on the playground. All parents are welcome to attend. We hope you will be able to join us.

A very sincere thank you for your thoughts, comments, cards and prayers on the recent passing of my dad. It has been greatly appreciated.

David Kelly.
Principal.

CONGRATULATIONS
To the LeRoux family on the safe arrival of Keanu LeRoux brother to Ethan (Prep H).

This Sunday 1st December, we begin the season of Advent. Advent means coming. This is the season that we wait for the coming of the Lord. As Jesus tells us in the Sunday readings, not only do we sit and wait, but we get up and get ready. We must prepare ourselves by living and being the good Christian that Jesus showed us how to be. We don't need to be doing extraordinary things. We just need to be doing the ordinary things well. Then we will be ready. Then we will be prepared. The purple colours of the liturgy announce a mood of waiting and anticipation. Loving God, as we begin the season of Advent we pray that we will be ready to meet your son. We ask this in Jesus’ name.

Amen.

COME ALONG AND SHARE WITH YOUR CHILDREN IN OUR ADVENT PRAYER CELEBRATIONS OVER THE COMING WEEKS

WHO & WHEN:
2. Fri: 6th Dec.  1.10 pm in the church. 5/6L, 3/4F, 1/2M.
3. Fri: 13th Dec.  2.30 pm in the church. 5/6G, 3/4T, 1/2H.
4: Mon: 16th Dec.  11:30 am in the church.  3/4H, 1/2M.
Both Prep classes.
Please Pray For:
• A challenging and reflective start to our 2013 Advent season and the Catholic Church’s Liturgical Year.
• All members of our community who are sick or in need of our prayerful support.
*David Kelly and his family on the death of his father. May he find eternal rest in the love and peace of our God.

CELEBRATION OF FR. PAUL’S TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS ORDINATION.
The parishes of St. Mary's Altona and St. Leo's North Altona invite you to attend this joyous occasion to be celebrated on Sunday 8th December 2013 at the 10.30 am Mass at St. Leo's Church, North. Altona. A sausage sizzle will follow. A free bus will be organised to take parishioners from St. Mary's to St. Leo's Church and return them after the occasion. If you would like to attend by bus please place your name and phone number on the sheet provided in the Narthex by Sunday 1st December, 2013. Please join the parish in making this a memorable occasion.

Olive Chodowski
Religious Education Coordinator

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE REMAINDER OR THE YEAR

DECEMBER
Monday 2nd
School Assembly Prep H & Prep S – 2.30 pm
Prep Orientation Morning

Tuesday 3rd
Prep Orientation Morning

Monday 9th
School Assembly 5/6G – 2.30 pm
Chair Cleaning Day – 9.00 am

Tuesday 10th
Art Spectacular – 6.00 pm
Walk / Ride to School Day
Bicycle Victoria Incursion in the Hall – 11.30 am

Wednesday 11th
Creative Music Concert in Hall – 2.00 pm

Friday 13th
Pasta Making Day for Year 5/6’s
Reports to go home

Monday 16th
School Assembly Staff – 2.30 pm

Tuesday 17th
2014 Year 1 – 6 Orientation – 11.30 am
Graduation Mass – 6.00 pm

Wednesday 18th
End of Year Mass – 9.15 am

Thursday 19th
End of School Year for Children 3.20 pm finish

Friday 20th
End of School Year for Staff

BOOK FAIR
Thank you to everyone for their continued support with the book fair this year. The school will receive $1,200.00 worth of books.

Parents and Friends News

BUNNINGS BBQ FUNDRAISER IS ON THIS SATURDAY
This Saturday we are holding our annual Bunnings Fundraiser at Altona North Bunnings on Millers Road. WE ARE VERY SHORT OF HELPERS FOR THE DAY! - if you are free for an hour please contact Ellie on 0412 809 116 with name/s and time or email ecorbo@melbpc.org.au to get yourself on the roster. We hope to see lots of our families down there buying a sausage to support our school. Spread the word!

ART SPECTACULAR
The Arts Spectacular is on the Tuesday 10th December. The Parents & Friends will once again be running a bar at the family picnic and organising a scavenger hunt for the children. We are looking for volunteers to spend a little time helping to set up tables, run the bar and pack up at the end of the night. Please fill in the form attached to the newsletter if you are able to help.

CALENDARS
Thank you to everyone who had placed calendar orders. A special thank you to Natasha M who had sold 78 calendars.

Congratulations to students who received Academic and Achievement awards at the Celebration of Excellence Evening held this week. Well done to Darcey den Ouden and Georgia Peterson, and staff members Casey Dwyer and Vince Crimi, on their reception of Marianist Awards for Excellence, and to Emmanuel College Scholarship winners Alexander Martin and Zoe Herrera.

ONE TACKY TREE
A Cabaret by Anthony and Ella Crowley. About fathers and daughters and other strange mysteries.
Date: 19th & 20th December at 8.00 pm
Place: Chapel Off Chapel. 12 Little Chapel Street, Prahran
Tickets: $27.50, Concession $22.50
Bookings: 8290 7000 or www.chapeloffchapel.com.au

TUCKSHOP HELPERS - Week beginning 2nd December

Wednesday
MariaCharalambous

Thursday
Leah Marion

Friday
Tania Mizzi

Manager: Eva Coppola Tel: 9315 0799

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

Ritu Joshi

Emailed: 13/12/2013

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ART SPECTACULAR

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN TO PARENTS & FRIENDS VIA SCHOOL OFFICE

Name: ................................................................................................................................................................

Eldest Child’s Name: ......................................................... Class: .........................................................

I am available to help during the Arts Spectacular on Tuesday 10th December:

Please tick

  o  Bar

  o  Set Up (5.00 pm)

  o  Pack Up

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Learn a language on Saturday morning!

The Victorian School of Languages is a government school committed to the provision of language programs for students in years 1 to 12 who do not have access to the study of those languages in the mainstream schools in all education sectors. The school offers over forty languages through both face to face teaching in centres across the state and through distance education.

The Victorian School of Languages Area West 1 is located at: Footscray City College, Bayside Secondary College and Sunshine College and offers the following languages: Amharic, Arabic, Chin (Hakha), Chin (Matu), Croatian, Dinka, Greek, Hindi, Macedonian, Spanish and Vietnamese.

Classes are held between 9.00 am and 12.20 pm and in order to assist with course costs a small annual charge applies: $70.00 in Years 1 to 10 and $85.00 for VCE. Adults may be accepted in VCE classes only and the annual charge is $210.00.

Enrolments for new students in 2014 are now being taken. For further details please contact the Area Manager on 9 689 1166 or visit http://www.vsl.vic.edu.au