Dear Parents

We had lots of smiling faces at school today as the children walked from the hall after purchasing those wonderful gifts for their dads (or the significant male in their lives). Thank you to Helen McAvoy for her organisation of the Father’s Day Stall on behalf of the Parents & Friends. Thank you also to the many parents who assisted at the preparation afternoon and/or with the selling on the day.

FATHER’S DAY INVITATION:
A special invitation for all St. Mary’s families to attend our Parish celebration of Father’s Day on Sunday 7th September at 9.00 am. A wonderful way to start the day and say thank you to all our Dads, Granddads, Uncles and to remember and pray for all Fathers who may be sick or who have gone before us to rest in God’s care. So let’s gather as a school and parish community and say thank you to those special men in our lives. A couple of children will speak about their dads.

Thank you to Olive Chodowski for her preparation and organisation of this mass and to Morag Zun for her organisation of the music and our school choir.

PARENT/STUDENT/TEACHER CONTACT AFTERNOON:
On Monday 15th September we are holding a Parent/Student/Teacher Contact Afternoon from 3.15 pm. to 5.00 pm. It is an opportunity for parents and students, if appropriate, to meet with classroom teachers to discuss issues related to their child and their learning.

All parents and students DO NOT have to attend this meeting, only those who have a concern.

Teachers wishing to see parents and students regarding their learning will contact parents to arrange a time on this afternoon. Should you have any questions please contact either myself or your child’s classroom teacher.

ONLINE PROCESS: Parents will need to make a booking online for all appointments. Go to our school website for a direct link. Click small black arrow above Contact Us, Click Interviews or go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and follow the simple instructions.

The SCHOOL EVENT CODE is: 99LQP

For parents who cannot make a booking online you are welcome to use a designated computer in the TRI Centre. Bookings Close this Thursday 11th September.

Important Announcement:
It was announced in the Parish Bulletin last Sunday that: “The Archbishop of Melbourne has appointed Fr. Shabin Antony Raphel as Parish Priest of St Mary Help of Christians Parish Altona effective 1st October 2014”.

NAPLAN:
Parents of children in Years Three and Five will receive with this newsletter an envelope containing their child’s NAPLAN 2014 test results and a Student Report Information Brochure. If you have any questions about these results please contact your child’s teacher.

Footy Tipping:
Thank you to everyone who was involved in our Footy Tipping Competition this year. Congratulations to our three winners who tied in First Place on 145 points: Jim Rees, Antoinette Dobbyn and Ronnie Tucker. They each receive $114.00. This can be collected from the school office. The school received $346.00 as its half share from this fundraiser. Again thank you to all involved.

Long Service Leave:
Mrs Morag Zun has taken the last two weeks of this term and the first two weeks of next term as Long Service Leave. She will return to work for week three of term four. Mrs Zun will be replaced for her music lessons.

“KAIROS” Catholic Journal:
We have been asked by Catholic Education Office Melbourne to promote the above Catholic Journal. It can be accessed at www.cam.org.au/kairos

ST. MARY’S IS PLANNING FOR 2015
To help us with planning for 2015 please complete the form at the end of this newsletter and return it to the School Office as soon as possible. Copies of this form will be available under News, Notes & Forms on the School Website or in the School Office Foyer.

Happy Father’s Day!

David Kelly.
Principal.
**EDUCATION IN FAITH**

**Father’s Day Invitation**

A special invitation for all St. Mary’s families to attend our Parish celebration of Father’s Day on Sunday 7th September at 9.00 am. A wonderful way to start the day and say thank you to all our Dads/Granddads/Uncles etc and to remember and pray for all Fathers who may be sick or who have gone before us to rest in God’s care. So let’s gather as a parish community and say thank you to those wonderful men in our lives.

**Father’s Day Prayer**

We give our thanks, Creator God, for the fathers in our lives. We ask for Your blessings for them all – and forgiveness where it is needed. This Father’s Day we remember the many sacrifices fathers make for their children and families, and the ways – both big and small – they lift children to achieve dreams thought beyond reach. So too, we remember all those who have helped fill the void when fathers pass early or are absent – grandparents and uncles, brothers and cousins, teachers and coaches – and the women of our families. For those who are fathers, we ask for wisdom and humility in the face of the task of parenting. Give them the strength to do well, by their children and by You.

May our Heavenly Father bless all earthly fathers on Father’s Day and every day. Their influence as teachers and role models should never be underestimated.

In Your holy name, O God, we pray. Amen. ~ Rev. C. Currie

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

* All members of our community who are sick or in need of our prayerful support.

Olive Chodowski  REL

"The greatest gift I ever had came from God; I call him Dad!" ~ Author Unknown.

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**ALTAR SERVICE ROSTER**

Saturday 6th September at 6.30 pm
Madison Azzopardi and Grace Bosnar

Sunday 7th September at 9.00 am
Father’s Day Mass
Brianna Mercuri, Rowan Cucanic and Megan Whatman

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**IMPORTANT DATES FOR NEXT WEEK**

**SEPTEMBER**

Sunday 7th  Father’s Day Mass – 9.00 am
Monday 8th  Assembly – 3/4M – 2.30 pm
Tuesday 9th  School Education Board Meeting 7.30 pm.
Friday 12th  Year 3 Activity Camp – Sovereign Hill
Year 4 Girls visit to MSJ

**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

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**TUCKSHOP HELPERS** - Week beginning 8th September

Friday  Elaine Stewart
Manager: Eva Coppola  Tel: 9315 0799

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**UNIFORM SHOP OPEN**

WEDNESDAYS 8.30 – 9.00 AM AND 3.00 – 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.

Leah Byrne Co-ordinator

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**Parents and Friends News**

**ANNUAL SCHOOL DISCO**

The Annual St. Mary’s School Disco will take place on Friday 19th September for more see last week’s newsletter or on the School Website ‘NEWS’, ‘NOTES & FORMS’. Please note for VIP Priority access pass forms must be returned by Wednesday 10th September.

**ATHLETICS TEAM**

Congratulations to our Athletics Team who competed at the Altona District Athletics Carnival on Monday 1st September. We had a great day despite the rain and managed to compete all of the carnival events. St. Mary’s came 6th overall and 5th in the handicap trophy. Some of our students won ribbons on the day and will go on to compete at the Divisional Carnival on 17th September. Congratulations to Quan – 2nd discus, Mickayla – 2nd shot put, Olivia Y – 1st 800m, 200m, & long jump, Megan – 1st hurdles, 100m and 2nd long jump and high jump and Grace – 2nd 200m. Also congratulations to our 12 year girls relay team who came 1st. Thanks to our staff and parent helpers on the day – Rachel Norman, Dijana Mickovski, Maria Hussey, Graeme Norman, Erin Logan and Leon Milligrad.

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**KINDNESS CHALLENGE**

1st September to the end of Term Three

Thanks to everyone who has been participating in our kindness challenge. If you’re not sure what it’s about then check out our Facebook page, the school website home page, the notice boards outside the staff room and Prep S and 1/2H classrooms or listen out for a PA announcement each morning.

Many studies support the belief that kindness can change the way a person – both the giver and receiver of the kindness - feels!

So will you and your family take up the challenge to make someone else’s day and your own a little happier?
KELLY SPORTS HOLIDAY PROGRAM
A flyer was sent home this week advertising the Kelly Sports Holiday Program which will be held at Lumen Christi Primary School from the 22nd September to 3rd October.
Two ways to enrol or find out more information – Online: www.kellysports.com.au or Call Tim – 0417 500 870

PARENT INFORMATION SESSION
Promoting Resilience in Girls
Date: Tuesday 9th September
Our Lady of Sion College, 1065 Whitehorse Rd, Box Hill
Cost: $15.00 per person
Enquiries: 0433 616 771 or email Rick – rick@criticalagendas.com.au

Margaret Masseni (Wellbeing and PE / Sport Leader)

Well done to our musicians, singers, choir and dancers selected to perform in the Time to Shine and ACCent productions to be staged at Hamer Hall in coming weeks. Well done also to Thomas Benning on his selection by Rotary to attend the National Youth Science Forum to be held in Canberra. A reminder that the College Open Day will be held on Sunday 14 September.

MSJ NEWS
Our next OPEN MORNING will be held on THURSDAY 11th SEPTEMBER. For more information contact Sherri Collins 8398 2007 or registrar@msj.vic.edu.au

MSJ OPEN DAY 2014
Sunday 12th October, 11.00 am – 2.00 pm

OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE
AT ST. MARYS
Camp Australia
WE MAKE KIDS SMILE!
Phone: 1300 105 343 / (03) 9398 4065
www.campaustralia.com.au

ST MARY’S SCHOOL ALTONA - PLANNING FOR 2015
Dear Parent/Guardian,

To help us with planning for 2015 please complete the form below and return it to the School Office as soon as possible. Thank you.

FAMILY NAME: ..............................................................................................................................................................

CHILD/CHILDRENS NAME/S: ...............................................................................................................................................

2014 CLASS/ES: ........................................................................................................................................................................

Please tick as appropriate

My child/children will be returning to St Mary’s in 2015 [ ]
My child/children will not be returning to St Mary’s in 2015 [ ]
I am still undecided if my children are returning to St Mary’s in 2015 [ ]

Signed......................................................................................................................................................................................

Date / / 2014.

Joseph’s Corner are hosting a Mattel Toy Sale, Toys at warehouse prices
Date: Saturday 11th October, 2014
Time: Two Sessions either: 11.00 am – 12 noon or 12 noon – 1.00 pm
Venue: Mattel, 70 Park West Drive, Derrimut
Entry Fee: $10.00 per person (All entry fees will be going to Joseph’s Corner)
For all bookings please contact Tania on 0439 165 660.

PLEASE NOTE: NO CHILDREN ARE ALLOWED IN THE WAREHOUSE

ALTONA FARMERS MARKET
Saturday 20th September
3rd Saturday of every month 9.00 am – 1.00 pm

ALTONA’S GOT TALENT – Saturday 20th September
Hey Kids, show off your talent to friends and family at a concert for the Market 2nd Birthday Celebration. The Concert will run from 10.00 am till 12 noon and be staged outdoors, so bring along a chair or a blanket to sit on. If you or someone you know would like to perform, please pick up a copy of the registration form from the School Office (St. Mary’s) and email it to warehouse@secon.com.au or call/text Anne 0435 130 355. This form must be completed/emailed by Saturday 12th September.

Altona Primary School
109 Blyth Street, Altona

ALTONA BEACH MARKET
Altona Beach Market 10th Birthday Celebration
Date: Tuesday 23rd September
Time: 10.00 am – 3.00 pm
Free Event Pier Street and Logan Reserve
Face painters, Giveaways, Slide, Paint Pot People, Cake, Jumping Castle, Roving Music, Trader and Stall holders Specials
Altona Village Traders Association and Hobsons Bay City Council
Enquiries: 0409 822 076 / info@visitaltona.com.au / Facebook: /altonavillage.tradersassociation

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