



St. Mary's School, Altona Newsletter 2014

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www.smaltona.catholic.edu.au

No: 32. 24th October 2014



Dear Parents

PARENT SEMINAR ON BUILDING RESILIENT CHILDREN:

On Tuesday night there were 94 parents from St. Mary's and local schools within the Western Zone who attended a very informative and engaging session presented by psychologist Therese Sheedy. The main focus of the presentation was on skilling parents so that they could assist their children on how to become more resilient and cope with disappointments, peer relationships and managing their emotions. Therese also spoke about the importance of parents 'modelling' to their children acceptable behaviours and values as well as teaching the essential NEW 3 'R's' – Resilience, Responsibility and Respect.

Several issues raised were challenging but very thought provoking. The presentation was very well accepted by those in attendance. A **HUGE thank you** to Margaret Masseni for organising this event.

YEAR FOUR CAMP:

Our Year Four children are getting very excited as their Camp comes closer. The children, their class teachers as well as myself will leave for 'Wombat Corner', which is situated at Emerald, on Wednesday 29th October returning to school Friday afternoon 31st October. I am sure that we will have a wonderful fun filled and energetic time. I know you will be looking forward to hearing all about our great adventures when the children return.

YEAR 5/6 PARENT & CHILD WONDER OF LIVING PROGRAM.

On Wednesday 29th October we are holding a session for ALL Year 5/6 parents and their children on Growing and Changing. The purpose of the session is to encourage good communication amongst families about this topic. I STRONGLY encourage all parents and their children to attend. It will be held in the TRI-Centre (Downstairs) starting at 7.00 pm. The program will be presented by personnel from the Open Doors organisation.

CONGRATULATIONS:

To the Tsegay Family on the safe and healthy arrival of their son Samuel.

PREP 2015 INFORMATION NIGHT:

This will be held upstairs in the TRI Centre next Tuesday 28th October. All parents of children commencing Prep at St. Mary's in 2015 are required to attend. As well as being presented with information about next year, parents will need to select times that suit them for their child to participate in our Transition Program commencing on the 11th November and concluding on the 2nd December. This meeting is for parents only. There will be babysitting available at school but you will need to contact the School Office by Monday 27th October if you require it. Parking will be available in the school grounds on the netball court or in Sargood Street. You can access the TRI Centre from the netball court or the small gate in Sargood Street. There will be no access via the main entrance to the school. Please pass this reminder on to any new families you know.

RED DAY – PROMOTING CHILD SAFETY – FRIDAY 31ST OCTOBER

Next Friday students and staff are asked to **wear a splash of RED** to school to highlight the importance of CHILD SAFETY.

The key messages we will be talking to the students about are:

- building good relationships
- belonging and connectedness
- child safety
- ways to develop good mental health.

Children will identify people they can go to if they want to talk about not feeling safe. Please take this opportunity to initiate discussions with your child and other family members about ways to keep safe, the importance of good relationships and to seek help from friends and family when they are 'down' or feel 'unsafe'. These are ALL vital parts of 'Good Mental' health.

Whilst we are all eating lunch together we will hear from our Wellbeing Leaders, Kathleen and Leah, on ways we can keep ourselves safe.

OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE:

May be operating on our next School Closure day which is Monday 3rd November (Monday before Cup Day) dependent upon numbers. If you require OSHC on this day you will need to contact Camp Australia as soon as possible at www.campastralia.com.au or phone 1300 105 343.

SWIMMING PROGRAM – PREP TO YEAR 2

The Year Prep, One and Two students will take part in the school Swimming and Water Safety Program during Weeks 8, 9 and 10 of this term at Sweeney's Swim Centre in Pier Street, Altona. Swimming staff from the centre will take the lessons. A note has been sent home to all children in these year levels outlining the dates, times and what students need to bring and wear. We need as much parent help as possible to assist with smooth running of the program so if you are able to help once or several times please complete the form that has been sent home with the swimming information letter and return to your child's teacher as soon as possible. (Forms are also available on School Website under Notes & Forms) Please note that you must have a Working with Children Check if you are going to assist. A brief outline of dates and times is also included further in this newsletter.

Gwenda Burnett
Deputy Principal.

PRINCIPALS AWARDS:

Congratulations to the following children who received Principals Awards on Monday:

PREP H	Jeremy Cassar and Stella Ligudzinski
PREP S	Isabel Rodriguez-Canache and Hugo Fischer
1/2H	Thomas Williams and Isabella Merola
1/2K	Lucas Mickovski and Caitlyn Green
1/2D	Caitlin Kelly and Rachel Currie
3/4M	Mackenzie Pace and Gabrielle Montebello
3/4S	James Curran and Michael Pye
3/4L	Mark Misquitta and Kate Pope
5/6C	Laura Attana and Keith VanZyl
5/6V	Marcus Simpson and Stella Clowes
5/6G	Rowan Cucanic and Jelena Huynh



ALTAR SERVICE ROSTER

Saturday 25th October at 6.30 pm

Grace Bosnar and Alannah Briffa

Sunday 26th October at 9.00 am

Rowan Cucanic and Faith Kissassi

IMPORTANT DATES FOR NEXT WEEK

OCTOBER

Monday 27th Assembly Prep H – 2.30 pm
State Athletics Championships

Wednesday 29th Year Four Camp

Thursday 30th Year Four Camp

Friday 31st Year Four Camp
Red Day for "Child Safety"

NOVEMBER

Monday 3rd School Closure Day

Tuesday 4th Melbourne Cup Day – Public Holiday

EDUCATION IN FAITH

2015 SACRAMENTAL DATES

Confirmation: Sunday 22nd March – 3pm

Reconciliation: Wednesday – 3rd June – 7pm

First Eucharist: Saturday 22nd August – Time-TBA

First Eucharist: Sunday 23rd August – Time-TBA

Dates for all Family Workshops and Rite of election masses-TBA

*Dear God,
Help us as parents
to have time for our children;
providing time to listen to them
and playing our part
in training them in the ways of the Lord.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen*

**PREP H will be attending our Parish Mass at 9:15am
on Friday 31st October.**

**Please come, celebrate, sit with
and join your children in prayer.**

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

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



Olive Chodowski - REL

"Have courage no matter what your crosses are."

St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop-1890

LITERACY NEWS

SOMETHING NEW!!

At our Junior School Council meeting students put forward the idea of 'Rewarded for Reading' (R4R) When students have completed reading a book, during class or at home as part of their home reading or personal interest they complete a form and place it in their house team collection box.

The aim is to encourage students to read and be REWARDED for their reading. HOW are they REWARDED?

They -

- Become better readers
- Build a great word vocabulary
- Discover great joy and pleasure in reading
- Develop imagination
- Extend their knowledge
- Improve skills in other subject areas
- Earn HOUSE team points.

We are going to trial this initiative during October and November and then get feedback from students and staff on its success. Representatives will speak to classes about R4R and leave forms in classrooms for students to complete. You can also find a copy of the form on the website and in this week's newsletter.....**START** being REWARDED for your READING.



REWARDED 4 READING

NAME: _____

YEAR LEVEL: _____ HOUSE TEAM: _____

NAME OF
BOOK: _____

SIGNED BY: _____
(PARENT / CLASS TEACHER)

SUMMER READING LIST

To WIN your Summer Reading Wish List all you need to do is log onto www.scholastic.com.au/competitions LOOK through Issue 7 Book Clubs and pick what you'd like to win for your reading summer back. Make sure you choose books to the value of \$100. You can choose products from one Club or across the range. Entries **close by 14th November.**

SCHOLASTIC SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

Lodge your **READING MINUTES EVERY WEEK** for an automatic entry to the weekly prize draw. Every week you have a chance to win \$50 from the Scholastic Store. Registration for the challenge **opens on 1st December.**

Get reading for 10 minutes or more every day! REMEMBER children who read for at least **10 MINUTES** a day over summer school holidays have a better start to the new school year than children who spend little or no time reading. GO TO www.scholastic.com.au/competitions to join.

Gwenda Burnett
Deputy Principal & Literacy Leader

PREP, YEAR ONE & YEAR TWO SWIMMING / WATER SAFETY PROGRAM

The Year Prep, One and Two students will be commencing their Swimming and Water Safety program on Monday 24th November. It will take place at Sweeny's Swimming Pool located in Pier Street, Altona.

DATES:

WEEK 8: Monday 24th, Tuesday 25th & Wednesday 26th November.

WEEK 9: Monday 1st, Tuesday 2nd & Wednesday 3rd December.

WEEK 10: Monday 8th, Tuesday 9th, & Wednesday 10th December.

LESSON TIMES:

PREP H	PREP S	YEAR 1/2D	YEAR 1/2K	YEAR 1/2H
11.30 – 12.10pm	12.10 – 12.50pm	12.50 – 1.30pm	1.30- 2.10pm	2.10- 2.50pm

ALL CHILDREN in Prep, Year One and Two have received a letter outlining the details for the swimming program and asking for assistance. Please read this letter and return forms to school.

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:

RED TEAM

CANTEEN NEWS

The Canteen has a new item effective immediately. Why don't you try them? They are Chicken Goujons for 0.60 cents each.

TUCKSHOP HELPERS - Week beginning 27th October



Tuesday	Ellie Corbo
Wednesday	Karoline Fanjek
Thursday	Lilia Sougleris
Friday	Cathy Hills
Manager: Eva Coppola Tel: 9315 0799	

UNIFORM SHOP OPEN

WEDNESDAYS AFTERNOONS ONLY 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 anytime. 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

Parents and Friends News

CALENDARS

Calendars for next year are now available for sale. The children have been working hard the last couple of weeks to get their artwork ready for them. These can be ordered by filling the form attached to the newsletter. Each calendar will cost \$12.00. Please complete the order form at the end of this newsletter (please ensure a separate form is completed for each student) and return with your money to the School Office as soon as possible. Please note the last date for orders will be 14th November. No orders will be accepted after this date.

BUNNINGS BBQ

The Bunnings BBQ is on Saturday 15th November at the Altona Store please mark this date in your calendar and come along and support our wonderful school.



DOING IT RIGHT

Many children have been seen Doing It Right around the school recently. They have been demonstrating great leadership, using good manners, solving problems well, holding the door open for Mrs Vella, being willing to assist at assembly, working well, helping others, getting along with others, reading every night, and loads of other great things!

1/2K: Grace

3/4M: Giles, Allanah, Taj, Noah, Mulunesh,

3/4S: Ella, Michael P, Georgia,

5/6C: Keith, Kathleen, Marie, Isabelle P, Joel

5/6V: Zane, Scarlett

5/6G: Rowan



THANKS TO THOSE WHO'VE REPLIED BUT.... WE STILL NEED MORE HELPERS – CAN YOU SPARE A FEW HOURS PLEASE?

ST MARY'S SCHOOL SPORTS –
Friday 7th NOVEMBER 2014

Can you help for part or the whole day?

WE NEED as many parents, older brothers/sisters, uncles / aunties, grandparents as possible to help the Sports Day run smoothly.

WE ONLY HAVE ONE HELPER SO FAR.....CAN YOU PLEASE HELP?

If you can help please complete the form at the end of the newsletter or email

mmasseni001@smaltona.catholic.edu.au

REGIONAL ATHLETICS

Megan (Hurdles) and Olivia (Long Jump & 800m) will compete at the STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS next Monday. GOOD LUCK girls.

MARKET FRESH SCHOOLS – FRUIT AND VEGGIE PROGRAM

WHAT: Fruit and Veg provided to all students by the Melbourne Market Authority

WHEN: Wednesday 5th November 10.30 am – 1.30 pm

WHERE: School Hall

CAN YOU HELP?: YES ----- We need at least 8 parents to help prepare and serve the fruit and veg with the Market Fresh staff from 10.30 – 1.00 pm (approx finish time)

Thanks to everyone who came to school in an active way on Tuesday – despite the great weather our numbers were down a little. But we still had quite a few people on our walking school buses. Congratulations to 3/4L who were the MOST ACTIVE GRADE

To help you come to school in an active way we are running our WALKING SCHOOL BUS on the following days

FRIDAY 31ST OCTOBER / 18th NOVEMBER / 10th DECEMBER

**Margaret Masseni
Wellbeing and PE / Sport Leader)**

Please complete this form and return it to Mrs Masseni as soon as possible.

I AM ABLE TO HELP ON SPORTS DAY

- I can help set up ... 8.00am – 9.00am (all or part of that time)
- I can help on events 9.30am – 11.00am or 11.30 – 1.00pm
- I can help to pack up & clean up1.00pm – 1.30pm and / or 2.30pm
- I can help between and
- I have a Working with Children Check (it's okay if you don't – they are easy to get – we can help!)

Helper's Name.....

Child's Name & Grade.....

Contact No.

Email Address.....

**ACTIVE TRANSPORT in TERM 4 (Return to Mrs Masseni)
We will be there!!!!**

CIRCLE YOUR DATES: 31ST OCT / 18TH NOV / 11TH DEC

- Esplanade & Cnr Sargood St (beach side of the road)
- Cnr of Mc Intyre Drive & Civic Pde (North side of Civic Pde)

Family name: _____ Contact Phone No.: _____

No of children: _____ No. of Adults _____

○ **I CAN HELP TO SUPERVISE – NAME.....**

Do you have a working with Children Check? Yes or No

If not, please go to the Post Office to inquire. We'd love your help

Please complete a separate form for each Student.

ORDER FORM FOR 2015 STUDENT CALENDARS

PLEASE RETURN FORM COMPLETE WITH CORRECT MONEY TO SCHOOL OFFICE

Name of Student: _____ Year: _____

No. of calendars \$12.00 each: _____ Amount Enclosed: _____

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