



# St. Mary's School, Altona

## Newsletter 2017

95A Railway Street North, Altona 3018

Principal: David Kelly Ph: 9398 4842 [www.smaltona.catholic.edu.au](http://www.smaltona.catholic.edu.au)

Parish Priest: Fr Shabin Ph: 9398 2964 [altona@cam.org.au](mailto:altona@cam.org.au)



Dear Parents,

No. 35. 17<sup>th</sup> November, 2017

Our Annual ARTS SPECTACULAR is fast approaching. Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December. This is definitely one of the highlights of the year. This year's concert is called, "A Christmas Story: The Original & the Best". It commences at 6.00 pm. and involves every class and child in the school including our school choir. Like last year it will take place on our school oval. We have booked a stage and an audio company to handle the sound. The concert should finish around 7.00 pm.

All families are then invited to join us for a BBQ organised by the Parents & Friends. They will also run a bar where beer, wine and soft drink can be purchased. During this time our Art Show will open. Don't miss seeing the amazing art work your children have produced throughout the year. This is all displayed both upstairs and downstairs in the TRI Centre.



This year we will set up the BBQs and the bar on the oval so that people working in these areas will also be able to see & hear the concert. We need a number of people to organise and/or assist at the BBQ. Please contact Marilyn Fischer ([merilynfischer@optusnet.com.au](mailto:merilynfischer@optusnet.com.au)) or the school office. *"Remember many hands make light work"*. You can help for a short time or a long time.

### IMPORTANT:

Unfortunately there are a large amount of school fees which are still outstanding. The deadline for all payments other than direct debit was the second last week of last term. The total amount owing is: \$71,118.15. A number of families have met with me and we have been able to come to a mutually agreeable arrangement. They are not included in the above outstanding amount. In discussions with Fr. Shabin and in fairness to the majority of families that have settled their accounts any families that have not met with me to make some mutually acceptable arrangement regarding their school fees or they are still outstanding by Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December we will pass their details onto a debt collecting firm.

### PARKING:

Can I ask all parents to be considerate of others when parking around the school, particularly at pick up times. Please be aware to leave enough room for another car/s to park either in front or behind you without blocking a driveway. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

### PSGs

This term we have opted to hold our PSG meetings over two school days. Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November and Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December. A note went out to relevant parents via CareMonkey this week. I urge you to please make an appointment ASAP so these days can be fully utilised.

**PREP – YEAR 2 SWIMMING** starts on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November and is on Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday for the next 3 weeks. Remember bathers, underwear, towel and hairbrush, also your goggles if you like to wear them.

School or Sports uniform can be worn, depending on the weather. School hats must be worn on the way to and from the pool. **If you can help out, be sure to contact your child's class teacher.**

### EDUCATION BOARD

There will be an Education Board meeting on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November at 7.30pm

David Kelly  
Principal

## EDUCATION IN FAITH

### 2018 Sacrament Dates



(The

**TERM ONE: Confirmation: Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March, at 7pm.**

*Sponsor must be a baptised Catholic over the age of 16)*

**TERM TWO: Reconciliation: Wednesday, 20th June, at 7pm.**

**TERM THREE: First Eucharist: Sunday, 19th August, at 3pm.**

*(Dates for all Sacramental Family Workshops - T.B.A.)*



Last Saturday was Remembrance Day, November 11th, which marked the end of World War 1. We remembered all those who died in that war and all those who have died in wars and conflicts since then.

*God of peace, you show us how to be people of peace.*

*On this day we remember those who have made our land a place where we can enjoy freedom and justice. May we always be grateful to those who gave so much so that we can have so much. Help us to be people of peace who strive to show true compassion and understanding to everyone we meet. Amen.*

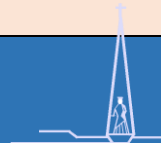


### Weekly Class Mass:

**On Friday 24<sup>th</sup> Nov Year 3/4M will be attending the 9:15am parish mass. Family and friends are invited to celebrate and join the children in prayer.**



*"There where you are you will find God." 1871*



**NATIVITY PLAY** Once again, as part of the Christmas Vigil Mass this year we will be having a Nativity Play. Rehearsals will take place on **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> December from 11.30am to 12.30pm** in the Church. We would like children to attend all rehearsals, however if this is a problem, please let one of our team members know. Permission Forms are available from the Narthex, School Office or Parish House. Completed forms may be left in the box provided in the Narthex, School Office or placed in the Parish House letterbox (marked attention Lucy) by no later than **Sunday 19th November, 2017.** Please note, children will be given their parts in the play on **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November after the 10.30am Mass.** Please gather in the Church.

You are invited to join members of other Altona Christian communities at **three Ecumenical Advent Services to be held at 7pm on the following Wednesdays of December:**

**5.12.17: St. Eanswythe's Anglican Church.**

**12.12.17: St. Mary's Church.**

**19.12.17: Uniting Church.**

Each service will be about 30 minutes in length.

**During the month of November, we remember our deceased loved ones.** Mass offering Envelopes will be available in the pews and are also included in your set of Thanksgiving Envelopes. You are invited to place the names of your deceased loved ones on the envelope and place it in the basket provided in the Church. Fr. Shabin will offer Mass for ten deceased persons at each weekday Mass during November.

**Shalom World TV Team** - Thank you for giving us an opportunity to visit your parish. Shalom world TV is so excited to share the story of Christ's filled life in this modern world with the power of media. To take your next bold step in the faith, to be a missionary in your life, to enjoy variety of high quality commercial free TV to enrich your daily life ... there is a very simple and easy way! Listen to our presentation this weekend (18/19 Nov) after all masses. We will be helping to start that journey and discuss over a cuppa. Come and experience the Christ!

*During Mass this weekend and in our prayers this week, let us pray for the priests and religious who have served in our parish and have gone to their rest in the Lord. 'Let them rest from their labours for their good deeds go with them'. Let us also pray for more vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life from our community.*



## PRINCIPALS AWARDS 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2017

<b>PREP D</b>	Jack M for his willingness to help others. Rush A for his great efforts in reading group.
<b>PREP S</b>	Silas H for the careful way he forms his letter when writing.
<b>YEAR 1/ 2HT</b>	Daniel C for making an effort to make his writing more exciting. Georgia R for being a caring and helpful classroom member.
<b>YEAR 1/ 2S</b>	Maddison B for being a great helper to everyone. Zoe D for her great efforts with revising her writing.
<b>YEAR 1/ 2N</b>	Zara A for her excellent effort with her classwork. Ethan S for his excellent improvement in decoding strategies.
<b>YEAR 1/2G</b>	Aidan K for his excellent reading in the library. William S for his participation in all learning discussions.
<b>YEAR 3/4M</b>	Cooper D for his terrific work identifying parts of speech. Michael M for his excellent email etiquette in thanking the Immigration Museum for our excursion.
<b>YEAR 3/4HK</b>	Keyon'dre F for his perseverance when attempting new tasks. Anna A for her great recount about the year 4 camp.
<b>YEAR 3/4V</b>	Oscar D for being a thoughtful and considerate class member. Summer L for completing learning tasks methodically.
<b>YEAR 5/6C</b>	Mackenzie P for her excellent and consistent participation in class discussions. Lynda A for consistently displaying a responsible attitude to all her learning.
<b>YEAR 5/6L</b>	Kate P for her enthusiasm and great sense of self. Gab M for setting into activities quickly.
<b>YEAR 5/6K</b>	Lucas G for displaying an enthusiastic attitude towards learning tasks. Noah D for his excellent effort as discussion director during reading group activities.



Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November is our next **Walk / Ride to School Day**.

**Our Walking School Buses will run on this day.**

**Please complete the Google form** included with this newsletter if you can supervise or you are going to participate.

### SHOE LACE TYING

Athlete's Foot have arranged for some representatives to run SHOE LACE TYING sessions at school on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November at lunchtime. There will be a marquee set up on the netball court and every child who participates will take home a shoe lace tying template. Remind your children to join in the fun.

Remember for every pair of shoes you purchase at Athlete's Foot, the school receives a rebate...it's a win win!

**Hobsons Bay Libraries** have worked hard to offer exciting programming designed to encourage local children to engage with reading and the library throughout the Summer holidays. This year, we are proud to launch a brand new initiative, **Kid Explorer Quest**. This initiative marks a move away from focusing on and rewarding the quantity of books read over this break, and towards more of a focus on connection, engagement and quality experiences.

Kid Explorer Quest is a fun and interactive program aimed at primary-aged children in Hobsons Bay. Children will complete five quests through the program. These tasks encourage them to explore and engage with their local library branch including library staff, collections, website and literature. The children will chart their progress on a map, and each child who completes their map will have a chance to win an epic prize hamper. There will be one hamper drawn per library branch.

For those children who enjoy counting the number of books that they complete over the Summer break, additional reading log sheets will also be available. These logs will give participants extra chances to win.

**Kid Explorer Quest runs from Friday 1 December 2017 to Wednesday 31 January 2018.** This year's theme is Dinosaurs, so expect to see many dino-themed events, programs and mayhem around Hobsons Bay throughout summer!

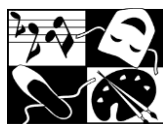


### HELP NEEDED BY PARENTS AND PAST STUDENTS

On **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December** from 9.00 – 11.00am we are taking on the mighty task of **cleaning 300 classroom chairs and 150 tables....and YES we need help.** All cleaning products and materials will be provided.

This annual event is open to all past students who usually have a great time catching up with each other and do a little...sorry lots of cleaning too. We would also welcome parents to come and help with cleaning the tables. If you can assist please contact School Office or myself via email. Thank you for your help. [mmasseni@smaltona.catholic.edu.au](mailto:mmasseni@smaltona.catholic.edu.au)





## PERFORMING ARTS NEWS

The excitement is growing. If your not sure what your child needs to wear for the night, have a chat to your child's teacher and they will be able to help you out.

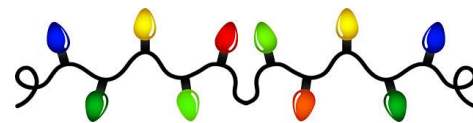
Watch this space for more information in the coming weeks.

Angela Hamilton

[ahamilton@smaltona.catholic.edu.au](mailto:ahamilton@smaltona.catholic.edu.au)



## P & F Christmas Fundraiser



Sunday December 10  
**FOTO FUNDRAISER**  
BOOK A SESSION & HELP US RAISE MONEY

A limited family portrait session of 1 hour (with 15 min of digital photography) and 10 digital images. (Maximum 2 images per person).  
There is no family portrait session in a studio. (Images will be available for you to view and order online).  
Please don't forget to bring along 2 high resolution digital images of your children and a breakdown of all images should you wish to order more. (All 10.10 per image). Images are ordered as soon as possible. Digital images must be sent to the photographer by the end of the session or family. (We have an online system, you can order images online to it and a family photo album).  
And if you can take the opportunity to join our happy family group too!

TO BOOK CONTACT MERILYN FISHER  
[merilynfischer@optusnet.com.au](mailto:merilynfischer@optusnet.com.au)

### TUCKSHOP HELPERS Week beginning 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2017



Monday  
Tuesday  
Wednesday  
Thursday  
Friday

Marylinda Abate

Manager: Eva Coppola Tel: 9315 0799



### 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: **BLUE TEAM**

doing it  
for our kids



# WALKATHON 2017

A big thank you to our amazing sponsors, check out the great Prizes up for grabs at our Walkathon raffle on Friday 17 November...

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4 x Park Lane Holiday Vouchers</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 x Vouchers (\$50, 2 x \$100)</li> </ul> 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Altona City Soccer Club Gear</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sovereign Hill Family Pass</li> </ul> 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 x Skateboards (AMART Sports)</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Puffing Billy Family Pass</li> </ul> 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 x \$20 Salter Cycles Vouchers</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Geelong Football Club Signed (Printed) Footy</li> </ul> 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tent and camping chairs (RAYS)</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adventure Park Geelong Family Pass</li> </ul> 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4 x Koorngal Golf Club, MyGolf Kids Lessons for 1 term</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>19 x Sporting/Games items from REBEL</li> </ul> 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wyncity Games &amp; Dinner Package</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 x \$50 Athlete's Foot Vouchers</li> </ul> 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enchanted Garden Family Pass</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>80kg of Ice</li> </ul> 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Phoenix Hotel Dinner Voucher \$50</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jelly Beans</li> </ul> 