



St. Mary's School, Altona Newsletter 2015

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www.smaltona.catholic.edu.au

No: 15. 29th May, 2015



Dear Parents

We congratulate and pray for the following children who will celebrate the Sacrament of Penance next Wednesday, 3rd June at 7.00 pm.

Mia Attana, Daniel Armeri, Anthony Briffa, Erin Cucanic, Tyson Dobbyn, Samuel Dowling, Dwight Fenech, Lucas Galea, Lachland Green, James Hills, Nikita H, Emma Hussey, Marcus Kruger, Gene Manguiat, Isla Manton, Grace Moon, Bridget O'Connor, Ciara O'Connor, Monae Sepsic, Jordan Schembri, Sienna Tanti, Jacob Yacono, Chloe Zuvela.

LETTER FROM A NEW PARISHONER:

I received this letter yesterday and I thought I would share it with our whole school community.

"Dear Sir. As a relative newcomer to Altona, I attended my first whole-school Mass on Friday for the feast of Mary, Help of Christians. I would like to commend you and your staff for the outstanding way the children participated in the liturgy. They were quiet when necessary, they sang and responded enthusiastically, and the choir led with great skill. Thank you to everyone who had a hand in preparing the children, and thank you to the children for making the occasion such a joy for other parishioners to attend. In my previous experience, school masses can be somewhat of an ordeal, as the rest of the congregation may not be able to hear, and there is often a degree of distraction because of poor behaviour. On Friday the children at St. Mary's rose to the occasion. It was a joy to be there."

BIKE SHED:

Our new Bike Shed has now been completed. We sincerely thank Peter Azzopardi (Peter in Year 4/5G and Gabriel in Year 1/2D) for very generously offering to lay down the crushed rock, compacting it and then asphaltting the whole area FREE of CHARGE. Thank you also to his half a dozen helpers who came along to assist. To Peter and his helpers, your generosity, kindness and assistance was greatly appreciated. We have temporarily installed our old bike racks but we will install our new bike racks once our maintenance person, Tony Grima returns from Leave.

SCHOOL REVIEW:

External Reviewer's Final Report was presented to staff Tuesday afternoon and to the School Education Board in the evening. There were many positives that came out of our School Review but also some clear challenges that will guide our direction forward over the next four years.

St. Mary's Altona Newsletter

"Caring Catholic Community in Education"

SCHOOL BLOG:

Our 2015 Student Wellbeing Leaders, Emily Kakoullis and Isabella Pisani, have started a school blog. They are going to showcase events that happen in the school and invite other students to participate. They hope to provide an insight into school life from the students' perspective to share with our school community. There is a link to access the blog on the school website. Please take some time to have a look at the first couple of blog posts and perhaps 'Follow by email' to receive email notifications when a new blog post is uploaded.

ONLINE BOOKING FOR STUDENT/PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS:

These interviews will take place on **Monday 22nd June from 1.30 – 8.00 pm. and Tuesday 23rd June from 3.40 – 5.00 pm.** Please go to our school website and click on the **"INTERVIEWS"** button and put in the code **DZEDP** and select your appointment times.

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY:

Our 2014 Annual Report to the School Community has been ratified by the Catholic Education Office, Melbourne and will be uploaded to the State Register in a couple of weeks and is part of our compliance requirements to the State Government. This Report is a summary of our achievements and challenges in the 2014 school year, specifically in the five spheres – Education in Faith, Learning & Teaching, Student Wellbeing, Leadership & Management and School Community. A copy can be accessed from our school website. There are also a couple of hard copies in the school office that can be borrowed.

FOOTY TIPPING:

Again nobody correctly tipped all nine winners so the Jackpot this week is \$ 35.00. Good Luck!

ACTING PRINCIPAL:

Next week, beginning Monday 1st June, myself, Gwenda Burnett (Deputy Principal & Literacy Leader) and Veronica Tucker (ICT Leader) will be attending the EduTech Conference in Brisbane. Mrs Olive Chodowski will be Acting Principal in our absence.

There will be NO NEWSLETTER next week.

David Kelly.
Principal.

.../1.

CONDOLENCES

Our condolences go to the Guerrero family (Porsha 3/4M) and (Allegra 1/2ST) on the recent death of their grandfather. Please keep this family in your prayers.



EDUCATION IN FAITH

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Next Wednesday 3rd June, 7.00 pm
Mary, Help of Christians Church, Altona.

WANTED

ANY INTERESTED PARENTS/PARISHIONERS TO HELP CO-ORDINATE OUR SCHOOL CHOIR ON THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH-- NO MUSICAL SKILLS REQUIRED, ONLY PASSION IS ALL THAT'S NEEDED! PLEASE SEE ANGELA HAMILTON.



SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS

Thank-you to all classrooms who have donated \$138.40 towards WIN NAING, our WORLD VISION SPONSOR CHILD. The winning classroom was Year 5/6VT (a big thank-you to Dakota K, who donated all his pocket money - \$65.50 towards this worthy cause). Our next money box collection will be in three weeks, so start saving! Thank-you.

On Friday 12th June we will celebrate the feast of the **Most Sacred Heart Of Jesus** with a whole school mass at 9:15 am. All families and friends are welcome to attend. In conjunction with the mass, we are also seeking donations for our local St Vincent de Paul organisation. This Eucharistic celebration is sometimes referred to as a "Poor Man's Mass", and our act of giving is a physical sign of Jesus' unconditional love for others. Each classroom has been provided with 'bags' to fill with non-perishable food items; e.g. canned tuna or soup, cereals, pasta... These 'filled' bags will become part of the Offertory Procession. Thanks again for your assistance.

Maired F & Marie H

Please pray for:

- * All members of our community who are sick or in need of our prayerful support.
- * All students who are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Penance next week.

Olive Chodowski – REL

"I leave myself at all times in the hands of my good God."

Mary MacKillop 1869

This year our school, along with thousands around Australia, will participate in NATIONAL BUDDY DAY on Friday 12th June. Buddy Day is a national initiative developed by NAB and The Alannah and Madeline Foundation to celebrate friendship and help raise awareness of bullying in Australian primary schools. Teachers, students and parents can all get involved; it is a great way for our whole school to come together. Wear a splash of PURPLE on the day and look out for information about our other special activities.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR NEXT COUPLE OF WEEKS

JUNE

Monday 1st Assembly Prep HM – 2.30 pm
Wednesday 3rd Sacrament of Penance
7.00 – 8.00 pm
Friday 5th World Environment Day

Monday 8th Queen's Birthday Holiday
Tuesday 9th Year 4 Emmanuel College Tour
9.00 am – 12.30 pm

Friday 12th **National Buddy Day**
Wear A Splash of PURPLE

LITERACY NEWS



Congratulations to our latest Premiers Reading Champs

YEAR LEVEL	STUDENT
Prep S	Oscar F
1/2HK	Aidan L Daniel C
1/2ST	Gigi F Lachlan M Toby D
2/3S	Jesse L
3/4M	Livina P
4/5G	Kyle E
5/6C	Ella L

WE HAVE 52 STUDENTS WHO ARE CHAMPS BECOME ONE TOO!

Photos of our champs are on the Literacy Board outside the staff room.

There is plenty of timeas the Challenge finishes on the 11th of September.

So **START READING TODAY!!!**

For more information about the Challenge, visit the following website: www.education.vic.gov.au/prc/
Or forms are available from our School Office or School website under "News, Notes & Forms."

NEED 2 READ—COME ALONG and Read in the Library before school every Tuesday and Thursday. EVERYONE is welcome.....mums. dads, little brothers and sisters. It starts at 8.20 am.

ALTONA LIBRARY IS CELEBRATING 50 YEARS.

.....visit the library website, check the flyer sent home last week or read the information boards outside the staff room foyer. It's a great way for children and families to be involved in our local community.

GARDENERS WANTED

We are looking for helpers to work on planting and maintaining our School Vegetable Garden. If you are able to help please complete the form at the end of this Newsletter and return it to the School Office.

Gwenda Burnett

Deputy Principal & Literacy Leader.

gburnett@smaltona.catholic.edu.au

TUCKSHOP HELPERS - Week beginning 1st June

Wednesday Caroline C
Friday Rosemary C

TUCKSHOP HELPERS - Week beginning 8th June

Wednesday Karoline F
Thursday Shirley P
Friday Lilia S



Manager: Eva Coppola Tel: 9315 0799

Parents and Friends News

COCKTAIL PARTY

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday 10th October

This year's donations are even bigger & better!

We have sourced and received some wonderful donations over the past week for our Cocktail Party. We'd like to thank the following businesses for their generous contributions: Altona Veterinary Clinic; AMF Highpoint; Bayplay Adventure Tours; Book and Paper Williamstown; The Comfort Inn Lady Augusta; Greencross Vet Williamstown; Inspirational Fitness; Pioneer Settlement; Provet; Portsea Village Resort; Rhurc's Pet Supplies; Salt n Pepa Cafe; Schots Homewares Emporium; Strut Hair & Make Up; and Swimwear Galore.

We are also extremely excited to announce that we have had a couple of family accommodation packages donated for our live auction component of The Cocktail Party this year:

1. MORNINGTON PENINSULA FAMILY GETAWAY:

2 nights' accommodation for 4 people at The Portsea Village Resort; a family pass to The Enchanted Adventure Garden; & an adventure pass for Bayplay Adventure Tours.

2. SWAN HILL FAMILY ESCAPE: 2 night accommodation

at The Comfort Inn Lady Augusta; and a family pass to the Pioneer Settlement including a 1 hour Riverboat ride.

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UNIFORM SHOP OPEN WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS 2.30 – 3.00 PM

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



WELLBEING ARTICLES

Look out on the school website home page for **WELLBEING NEWS THIS WEEK.**

You'll find a link to a short YouTube clip about **BUILDING RESILIENCE IN YOUR CHILD.**

Worth watching. There's also a link on our Facebook page.



Our Most Active Grade was Year 5/6VT (for the 3rd time in a row!) Congratulations everyone – great work. Our next **Walk / Ride to School Day will be on Wednesday 17th June.**



DIVISIONAL CROSS COUNTRY

Congratulations to Ryan, Ben and Emma who ran at the Divisional Cross Country Championships yesterday. Ryan came 5th, Ben came 7th and Emma came 22nd. Ryan and Ben will go on to the Regional Carnival on the 11th June.

INTERSCHOOL SPORT– 22nd MAY

	St Mary's Altona	Seaholme PS
Football	0	116
Soccer	6	2
Netball Girls	0	14
Netball Mixed	9	4
TeeBall	11	21

Today we played Altona College / Bayside P-9.....watch out next week for results.

Next week we play against Williamstown Gold. Good Luck everyone!

MOUNT ST. JOSEPH GIRLS' COLLEGE

MSJ OPEN MORNINGS 9.30 -10.30 am (Thursday)

18th June, 13th August, 10th September & 12th November

MSJ OPEN DAY 2015

Sunday 11th October, 11.00 am – 2.00 pm

MSJ COLLEGE PRODUCTION

Beauty and the Beast is coming to MSJ. Keep the following dates free:

Friday 19th June @ 7.00 pm

Saturday 20th June @ 12.30 and 7.00 pm

MSJ 2016

Limited places are available for 2016. Further information can be found at our website www.msj.vic.edu.au or by contacting the College Registrar at registrar@msj.vic.edu.au or Ph: 8398 2007.

OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE AT ST. MARYS

Access for users of OSHC is via the McBain Street gate.

Camp Australia

WE MAKE KIDS SMILE!

Phone: 1300 105 343 / (03) 9398 4065

www.campaustalia.com.au

1731 Malvern Road, Glen Iris, Victoria 3146

info@campaustalia.com.au

Fax: (03) 8610 2044

For Out of School Hours Care at St. Marys (CAMP AUSTRALIA) bookings or cancellations please contact them direct.



JUNE SESSION 2015 Mini "Gator"

Basketball Is Coming

Would you like to Learn Basketball?

Who: 5-10 year old Girls & Boys

When: Friday afternoon, – 4.15 to 5.00 pm

Where: Altona Sports Centre Queen St , Altona Meadows Melways 208 K1.

Duration: Eight Weekly sessions of 45 minutes.

Cost: \$60.00 per participant.

Includes Coaching, plus a Basketball for each participant. Commences Friday 19th JUNE 2015.

Registration must be made on Friday 12th JUNE between 4.30 to 5.00 pm to reserve a place.

For further info, contact Altona Sports Centre on 9360-9288. Form, plus Cheque or Cash can be sent prior to registration to PO Box. FORMS AVAILABLE

SCHOOL WEBSITE: NEWS: Notes & Forms

Margaret Masseni

(Wellbeing and PE / Sport Leader)

GARDENERS WANTED – Please complete this form and return to the School Office as soon as possible

Each Friday afternoon from 2.30 – 3.15pm a group of our Year 3/4 students work on planting and maintaining our School Vegetable Garden.

They would **LOVE the HELP** of two or three parents each week.

YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE AN EXPERT! YOU DO NOT HAVE TO COME EVERY FRIDAY.

If YOU are able to help the students please fill in the form below. **THANK YOU**

VEGETABLE GARDEN HELPER

RETURN note to School Office or email gburnett@smaltona.catholic.edu.au if you can help.

I _____ am able to help on a Friday 2.30 – 3.15 pm.
(name)

Please Circle Date /s if YOU can help.

Friday 5th June

Friday 12th June

Friday 19th June