

St. Mary's School, Altona Newsletter 2015

95A Railway Street North, Altona 3018

Phone: 9398 4842

www.smaltona.catholic.edu.au

No: 2. 6th February, 2015



Dear Parents

Our Beginning of the School Year Mass and Family Get Together will be held next Wednesday 11th February commencing with Mass in the church at 6.00 pm. Our new Preps will sing a special Reflection song after Communion and our School Leaders will be presented with their Leadership Badges. All families and friends are then invited to join the staff for a sausage or hamburger generously cooked by the Parents and Friends (\$2.00 each). Soft drink beer and wine can be purchased from the canteen. Please assist us with the success of the evening by offering to help for even a short period of time, "Many hands make light work". This is a great opportunity to renew established friendships and hopefully meet someone you haven't met before or someone who is new to our school. Parking is available on the Netball Court (enter via Sargood St) or in McBain, Railway or Sargood Streets. Looking forward to seeing you there.

TEACHER / PARENT FORUMS:

Teachers at each Level of the school will talk in some detail about how we go about improving the educational development of your children at each of the levels. We hope these sessions will give you a greater understanding and insight into your child/rens' education.

WHEN: Tuesday 17th February.

Prep: 6.30 – 7.15 pm. Year One & Two: 7.30 – 8.15 pm.

Wednesday 18th February.

Year Three/Four: 6.30 – 7.15 pm.

Year Five/Six: 7.30 – 8.15 pm.

WHERE: Upstairs in the TRI Centre. Parking is available on the Netball Court for parents who are attending both sessions on the one night. Parking is also available in Sargood and Railway Streets. Pedestrian entry is via the double or single gates off Sargood Street or the gate between the church and the school.

Babysitting is available downstairs in the TRI Centre (4 year old onwards). Please notify the Office if you wish to use this service so we can cater for numbers.

We encourage all parents to attend the session/s that are relevant for your child/ren.

ALL VISITORS: To the school must sign in and receive a **VISITOR** sticker to wear and sign out when you leave. This includes parents helping in classrooms, visiting teachers and tradesman.

PARKING: Please observe all parking and speed signs around our school as they are there for the safety of all. It's not good enough to say "I'm only going to be a minute". A lot can happen in a couple of seconds. Double parking is never safe or legal!

Thank you for your co-operation.

ANAPHYLAXIS:

We have a number of students in our school that are anaphylactic, which means they have **serious** allergic reactions. In our particular case many of our students have an allergy to nuts but also eggs, shell and white fish, peas among other things. If these students eat any food products that contain any of these foods or traces of these foods they could be put into a life threatening situation. We are asking for your co-operation particularly if one of these students is in your child's class, that NO sharing of food takes place. These students are well aware of what they can eat but if you reinforce with your own child that these children are not able to 'eat' everything that other children can and to please not share their own food with them.

On special occasion days e.g. birthdays, class teachers will have a 'treat' that these students can eat.

Daniel Ciavarella - Prep HM, Oscar Devetak - Year 1/2ST, Samuel Pelns - Year 1/2ST, Christian Galea - Year 1/2HK, Andrew Sougleris - Year 1/2HK,

Lucas Giardina - Year 1/2D, Jamison Lehrer - Year 1/2D,

Ava Clowes - Year 2/3S,

Nicholas Christodoulou - Year 3/4M,

Chloe Zuvela - Year 3/4M,

Mackenzie and Livinia Pace - Year 3/4M,

Grace Moon- Year 3/4M, Olivia Charalambous - Year 3/4M,

Tahlia Sepsic - Year 5/6C, Dominic Azzopardi - Year 5/6C,

Mia Vuleta - Year 5/6VT.

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

Every child in the school will have received today an important double sided Information Sheet to take home. On one side is some General School Information and the other some specific information pertaining to your child's classroom eg. Email contact for teachers, where children will be dismissed from etc.

PREP / YEAR 6 BUDDY FAMILY NIGHT.

Will be held on Friday 27th February from 6.00 – 8.00 pm. Prep families will receive their invitations next week.

David Kelly.
Principal.

SPECIALIST CLASSES:

Art, Music and Physical Education

Children wear their sports uniform on this day:

Tuesday – Year 1/2

Wednesday – Year 4/5 and 5/6

Thursday Prep, Year 2/3 and 3/4.

EDUCATION IN FAITH

NEW SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil Mass: 6.00pm

Sunday: 8.30am & 10.30am

Sacramental Dates for 2015.

CONFIRMATION: Sunday, 22nd March 3.00 pm

RECONCILIATION: Wednesday, 3rd June 7:00 pm

FIRST EUCHARIST: Saturday, 22nd Aug – 6.00 pm

Sunday, 23rd Aug – 10:30 am

(Further information for the relevant year levels will follow closer to each date)

Confirmation

Any Year Six parent who is able to help with the placement of Names on the Confirmation sashes please see Nicole Singleton. Your assistance would be greatly appreciated.

ST FRANCIS PEACE PRAYER

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.

O, Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love; For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; it is in dying that we are born again to eternal life.

On Friday February 13th Year 3/4M will be attending the



9:15am morning Mass.

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.

* All victims of violence and terrorism. Comfort their families and all who grieve for them.

Olive Chodowski – REL

“God has done wonders for us”

St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop-1890

IMPORTANT DATES

PLEASE REGULARLY CHECK OUR ST. MARY'S CALENDAR ON OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE AS IT CONTAINS ALL RELEVANT DATES.

MONDAY 9th February

Assembly 5/6C – 2.30 pm

WEDNESDAY 11th February

Beginning of the School Year Mass and Get Together Walk / Ride to School Day

These are in addition to the important dates listed in last week's Newsletter

17th February: Parent / Teacher Forums
6.30 – 7.15 pm: Prep

7.30 – 8.15 pm: Year 1&2

18th February: Parent / Teacher Forums
6.30 – 7.15 pm: Year 3&4

7.30 – 8.15 pm: Year 5&6

27th February: Prep / Year 6 Buddy Family Night

15 – 17th April: Year 6 Camp



ACTIVE TRANSPORT

Our first WALK / RIDE TO SCHOOL DAY for 2015 will be held next WEDNESDAY 11th FEBRUARY!

Come along in an active way and earn some points for your house team.

Charts will be on the netball court as usual.

We are looking forward to seeing lots of bikes, scooters and people walking along!

NORMIE THE GNOME



Normie the Gnome is awarded to the House Team who keeps their part of the yard the cleanest. Each week at assembly Normie is awarded and the team earns 100 points. Normie has been awarded to

GREEN TEAM this week. See how many Normies your house team has won throughout the year on the House Team boards.

TUCKSHOP HELPERS - Week beginning 9th February



Wednesday
Friday

Maria Charalambous
Alicia Galea

Manager: Eva Coppola Tel: 9315 0799



LITERACY RESOURCE HOME HELPERS

To assist us in the making of resources for Literacy we would like the help of our parents. If you are able to help with any of the following tasks at home it would be greatly appreciated. Usually items are sent home three/four times per year, via your child.

Please select the items you can help with, complete the form at the end of this newsletter and return it to the School Office.

Thank you.

Gwenda Burnett
Literacy Leader

ATTENTION ALL WRITERS

- **The Friends of Williamstown and Newport Libraries 2014 – 2015 Summer Writing Competition Prep to Year 12.**
Young writers are invited to enter their short story and / or poem into the competiion. Perhaps you could enter something you have written this year at school. There are LOTS of prizes for ALL year levels. Let me know if you enter and how you go!....**YOU** have to be in it to **WIN**. Submit your entry at any Hobsons Bay Library branch or go to <http://libraries.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au> Entries must be in by Monday 16th February. **GET WRITING.**



Our KELLY SPORTS programs started this week.

Monday Lunchtime: Dance – Hip Hop

Friday After school: Summer Sports –Soccer, Athletics, Gymnastics and Tennis.

It's not too late to book in.

Registration forms are on the school website – NEWS:

Notes and Forms or contact TIM – 0417 500 970 or email tim@kellysports.com.au

DISTRICT SWIMMING

Thanks to everyone who has been coming along to before school swim training. Our team for the Altona District Swim Carnival (17th Feb) will be announced next week.

MINI GATORS BASKETBALL

Registrations for the March sessions of Mini Gators will be taken on 6th March. Sessions start on Friday 13th March.

Forms available on the school website

– **NEWS: Notes and Forms.**

Representatives from Mini Gators will do clinics for our Prep to Year 2 students on the 17th and 19th February.

Children will receive flyers to bring home.

Margaret Masseni (Wellbeing and PE / Sport Leader)

PARENTS & FRIENDS COMMITTEE:

WHAT WE'RE ALL ABOUT:

The Parents & Friends is a volunteer group of parents who meet approximately once a month on a Wednesday night in the School Staffroom. The Parents & Friends is not just about fundraising, we also organise and facilitate many social and community building events, such as the Welcome Morning Tea, The BBQ at the Opening Mass, the upcoming Parents 80s Disco, Feast Day and The Mothers' and Fathers' Day Stalls. So we have a lot of fun along the way and often go out for a drink together after the meetings.

However, fundraising is not a dirty word, last years combined fundraising efforts raised over \$15,000. These funds are injected directly back into our school to purchase new equipment or update existing infrastructure. The fundraising function of the Parents & Friends has recently become increasingly important since the government has decreased the financial support offered to Catholic Schools.

We have only had a small but dedicated core group of parents driving the Parents & Friends for the past few years and these parents all work and /or study and have additional commitments. We need the continued support of families in our school community to keep the Parents & Friends going. You can just attend the occasional meeting. So grab a friend and come along to the next meeting. It's a great way to get to know some other parents and become more familiar with and engaged in your children's school. Meeting dates will be posted under this column in the future Newsletters.

OPENING SCHOOL MASS AND BBQ:

We look forward to seeing you all at the Opening School Mass on Wednesday 11th February and hope you can join us for a BBQ on the grounds afterwards. To make life a little easier, leave your picnic hampers at home this year as the Parents & Friends will be having a BBQ on the night. You can purchase a sausage / hamburger in bread for \$2.00 each. We'll even have drinks, as we will have the bar open to buy soft drinks, wine and beer. We will need helpers on the night to set up, cook the BBQ, run the bar & pack up, so grab a group of friends and pick an activity, then complete the form at the end of this newsletter and return it as soon as possible or email Madeline.

madeline@madelinewishart.com.au

80'S DISCO: SATURDAY 21ST MARCH

Hopefully you've noticed the ace, ad and totally hip (I'm exhausting my 80s lingo) posters advertising our 80s Disco around the school. A HUGE thanks to Emma Denys (Ava and Liam's mum) from Evolve Graphic Design for designing them and the flyers. So organise a group of friends, get your costumes sorted and grab some tickets. There will be 80s inspired cocktails, like The Electric Smurf and Purple Rain for only \$10 and finger food to nibble on. Dance until midnight and Get Into The Groove to tracks from Blondie; The Cure; Culture Club; Duran Duran; Wham; Madonna; Cyndi Lauper; New Order; Earth, Wind & Fire; The Village People and other iconic bands of the 80s. To purchase your tickets please complete the RSVP slip on the flyer sent home today and return to school with cash payment by the 5th of March. No tickets can be sold after the 5th of March for catering purposes at the venue.

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@campaustralia.com.au

Fax: (03) 8610 2044

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



EMMANUEL COLLEGE INFORMATION MORNING

An information morning for prospective parents, including tours, will be conducted at Notre Dame Campus, Pt Cook at 9:00am and St Paul's Campus, Altona at 10:30am on Saturday 7 February. For further information, or to obtain a copy of the College Prospectus, please contact the College Registrar, Donna Grech, on 83255119. The closing date for applications for Year 7, 2016 is Friday 27 February 2015.

MOUNT ST. JOSEPH GIRLS' COLLEGE

Twilight Open Evening – Year 7, 2016

Tuesday 17th February, 3.00 - 7.00 pm

Parent Information Evening

7.00 – 7.45 pm

Applications must Close 27th February, 2015

Join a student leader for a College tour

Meet Staff and hear our Principal

133 Maidstone Street, Altona

Phone: 8398 2000

www.msj.vic.edu.au

Education Today. Shaping Tomorrow.

ITALIAN LANGUAGE CLASSES

Italian language classes will commence at Queen of Peace Parish Primary School, 62 Everingham Road, Altona Meadows, on Saturday 21st February and will run for 2.5 hours from 9.00 – 11.30 am. Students from Year Prep to Year 12 are welcome. The Tuition Fee for the year is \$200.00 per student. If you require further information, please phone: 9898-4707 or visit.

www.lauroraschool.com.au

Learn music

here at school

Come and join in the fun of learning to play keyboard, here at St. Mary's Altona.

Creative Music for Schools conducts a music program here at school each week.

Small group classes or one-on-one lessons give children an excellent grounding in music where they will learn to read music and play their chosen instrument.

Tuition costs from \$16.20 per lesson and enrolments are now being accepted for limited places in term 1, 2015.

Interested parents should call Marika during office hours on 9818 2333

 **Creative Music**
www.creativemusic.com.au



Living Resiliently Now


A five week group education program presented by Joseph's Corner

Are you interested in ...

- learning how to live resiliently, mindfully and gratefully?
- moving toward valued life directions?
- enhancing your sense of well-being?

Program overview

In this 5 week program experienced group program facilitator and psychologist Charles Thermos will focus on the following five topics, drawing on insights, strategies and practices from the fields of Acceptance & Commitment Training (ACT), Mindfulness and Positive Psychology.



Who is this program for?

Any person who is interested in learning to live resiliently in the present and in alignment with what deeply matters to them.

Session 1
Creating meaning and purpose: valued living

Session 2
Connecting with the present moment: being here now

Session 3
Recognising and allowing what is: thoughts and emotions

Session 4
Living with gratitude and appreciation

Session 5
Developing meaningful relationships

Program fee


\$50.00. Other options available if this is unaffordable.

Session dates / times

- Tuesday 24 February; March 3, 10, 17, 24, 2015
- All sessions are from 930am-1230pm

Venue

The Laverton Community Hub
95 - 105 Railway Avenue, Laverton



Enquiries and Enrolments

Contact Joseph's Corner:

T 9315 2680

E contact@josephscorner.org.au

Joseph's Corner

A counselling service for families living with alcohol and drug addiction

LITERACY & MATH RESOURCE HOME HELPERS

Name _____

Child's name _____ Year Level _____

All items below

☐

Colouring in pictures/objects

☐

Cutting around objects

☐

Covering books

☐

Please return to Mrs Burnett via the School Office. Thank you.



OPENING SCHOOL MASS AND BBQ VOLUNTEER FORM

Please complete and return to Parents and Friends via School Office or email Madeline Didenkowski madeline@madelinewishart.com.au by Tuesday 10th February.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Eldest Child's Name: _____ Year: _____

I am available to help during the Opening School Mass and BBQ on **Wednesday 11th February**,
Please tick:

- ☐ Set Up (3.15 pm)
- ☐ Bar: selling soft drinks, wine and bottled beer
- ☐ BBQ: cooking the BBQ during the School Mass, starting at 6.00 pm
- ☐ Pack Up at the end of the night