

# St. Mary's School, Altona

## Newsletter 2015

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No: 30. 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2015



Dear Parents

Fr. Shabin has asked me to invite all parents who are parishioners for a meeting titled 'Our Parish: Past and Present' on the evening of Thursday 22 October in the St. Mary's School Hall commencing at 7.00 pm. The aims of the meeting are to hear something of the history of our parish as a basis for preparing for the future, and to provide an opportunity for members of our parish community to express their views on the present state of the parish and its needs, as well as their hopes and aspirations for the future. We hope that this will provide a useful context for the work of the newly formed Parish Pastoral Council. Congratulations to the following people who have agreed to be members of the Parish Pastoral Council: Rita Barbara, Danielle Fairthorne, Richard Hallett, Marite Mercer (Finian Prep S, Giles Yr 4/5G), Ray Pisani (Isabella Yr 5/6C), Anne Playnsek and Jason Price (Anthony Yr 4/5G).

### COCKTAIL PARTY:

While there is a comprehensive summary of the Cocktail Party later in this newsletter it would be remiss of me to not make a couple of brief statements. It was a fantastic night both socially and financially so a very sincere thank you to everybody who attended and/or supported by contributing donations. Thank you also to the team of organisers who put in many hours over many months organising the night: Sandra Camilleri, Patrice Cassar, Emma Denys, Andrea Herd, Diane Howell, Nancy Machado, Anthon4 4 y Molinia, Cheri Steen. **A very special THANK YOU to Madeline Didenkowski without whose leadership, drive, enthusiasm, creativity, optimism, persuasive & organisational skills the night wouldn't have been such a reasoning success. WELL DONE Madeline.**

### SCHOOL SPORTS:

Our School Sports are to be held on **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November** (Week 5, Term 4) at the Altona Little Athletics Track in Sugar Gum Drive (behind the Altona Hockey Club). The children will leave school at approximately 9.00 am. to walk to the track. If you are able to walk with your child's class please contact your child's class teacher.

Events will begin at approximately 9.20 am with a welcome and will continue throughout the day, concluding with the chant / song competition and the presentation of the school sports shield to the winning house. The children will walk back to school at approximately 2.30 pm. You may take your child home from the track but you must sign them out with your child's class teacher before leaving. If your child is going home with an adult other than you please contact your child's class teacher before the 6<sup>th</sup> November. Local permission notes will cover this excursion. To participate fully in our sports day your child will need to be wearing their sports uniform, including their hat. They will need to bring their lunch, play lunch and drink in disposal containers in a plastic bag / small backpack labelled with their name and class. **NO CANTEEN** facilities will be available. Sunscreen will also be needed as it is going to be a beautiful, sunny day. **If you are able to help out on the day could you please complete the form available on the school website - NEWS: Notes & Forms and return it to school as soon as possible.**

Thanks to those who have already returned their form. Letters with details of activities will be sent home in the coming weeks. Please contact Mrs Masseni via email [mmasseni@smaltona.catholic.edu.au](mailto:mmasseni@smaltona.catholic.edu.au) if you don't receive yours by Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> October.

### SWIMMING PROGRAM:

Our Prep to Year 2 Swimming / Water Safety Program commences on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November. A letter containing all the details is accompanying this newsletter. Please read it carefully. All parents need to sign the Permission Form and return it to school ASAP. If you are able to help in any or all classes please complete the Parent Assistance Form and return it to school ASAP. Thank you.

### SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY:

Is Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> October. We have responded to requests for OSHC to be available but so far there is only one booking. Bookings will close next Tues 20<sup>th</sup> October.

**David Kelly.**  
**Principal.**

## IMPORTANT DATES FOR NEXT WEEK

### OCTOBER

Monday 19<sup>th</sup>

Assembly Prep HM

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup>

Walking School Bus

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup>

Morning Fitness



## LITERACY NEWS

### YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR SCHOOL BOOK FAIR!

During this week all students have been over to the school hall to look at the AMAZING range of books for sale suitable for ALL ages. Most students have written their personal 'wish list' of books they would love to have. Books can be looked at and purchased from **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October. TIME: 8.30am – 9.00am or 3.00pm -4.00pm in the hall.** EFTPOS is available. Orders can also be placed online at [www.scholastic.com.au](http://www.scholastic.com.au) Please send the wish list to school with a note of your receipt number.



Anyone wishing to buy books for Christmas can have them delivered to and then collect them from, the School Office. In these cases, please ensure your name and contact number are clearly marked on the order so that we can contact you when the books arrive. ALL purchases will benefit the school.

A special book character will be at our school assembly on Monday....watch out for him!

**A HUGE thank you** to Beryl Henry for organising the book fair.

### IGNITE EXCITEMENT AROUND READING!

#### CHILDREN'S WEEK PICNIC

On Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> October the annual Hobsons Bay City Council Children's Week Picnic will take place at Logan Reserve in Pier Street. There will be LOTS of FREE and FUN activities for children of all ages. The time is 10.00am to 1.00pm. **Our WONDERFUL SCHOOL CHOIR will sing** at the picnic at approximately 11.00am. If there is wet weather it will take place in the Altona Library.

#### Gwenda Burnett

Deputy Principal & Literacy Leader.

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

#### TUCKSHOP HELPERS - Week beginning 19<sup>th</sup> October



Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup>  
Caroline Cassar

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Rosemary Ciavarella

Manager: Eva Coppola Tel: 9315 0799

## EDUCATION IN FAITH

### Term 4 Dates to Remember

Our Advent Liturgies are as follows: Make this a special preparation time for the Coming of the Messiah.

Week 1: Year 5/6C

- Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November at 2:40pm.

Week 2: Year1/2HK, 3/4M, 5/6VT

- Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December at 2:30pm.

Week 3: Year1/2D, 3/4L, 4/5G

- Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 2:30pm.

Week 4: Prep HM, Prep S, Year1/2ST, 2/3S

- Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 12:30am.

**Year 6 Graduation Mass: Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm.**

**End of Year Mass: Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December**  
**Time: T.B.A.**



Creating God,

Your loving kindness powerfully yet gently guides  
all the moments of our day.

Go before us in our pilgrimage of life,  
Anticipate our needs and prevent our falling.

Send your Spirit to unite us in faith,

That sharing in your service,

We may rejoice in your presence.

Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Adapted from *Be Our Freedom*, Lord  
Terry Falla



**Year 5/6VT will be attending  
the Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct Parish  
Mass at 9:15am.**

**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.

## UNIFORM SHOP OPEN WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS 2.30 – 3.00 PM

Due to wholesale cost increases beyond our control, School Summer dresses and Winter Tunics will now cost \$45 each and Short Sleeved Polo tops will cost \$23 each

### NEWS FROM THE ART ROOM

Thanks to all of our students for contributing to their class canvasses for the recent parents' cocktail evening. I was very proud of how everyone did their best and took it very seriously!

The results were **AMAZING!**

Our annual calendar fundraising drive is now on again. This year we are offering prints of the class canvasses. There are examples of the options in the P and F display window next to the Prep entry door.

**HELP!** We need more egg cartons as we have finally run out after the great response we had last time! Thank you, Mrs Zimmerman.



### WELLBEING ARTICLES

Look out for the latest Wellbeing Article on the School Website (Home page & WELLBEING: Resources for Parents) and also on our Facebook page. New article: THE MANY FACES OF INDEPENDENCE – how to give you children skills, encouragement and support in their quest for independence.

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

### ST MARY'S SCHOOL SPORTS – Friday 6th NOVEMBER 2015



**WE'VE HAD A FEW REPLIES  
BUT HELP IS STILL  
NEEDED.....**

Please complete the form on the school website **NEWS: Notes & Forms** or email

[mmasseni@smaltona.catholic.edu.au](mailto:mmasseni@smaltona.catholic.edu.au) letting Mrs Masseni know what time you can help.



## AUSSIE OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to our September Aussies!

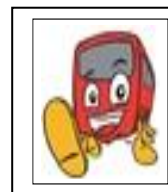
**Gabrielle M** for being a caring classmate who always assists those in need and consistently completing work to a high standard.

**Eleanor B** for always trying her hardest and for being a very helpful classroom member.

**Joel S** for his kind and caring nature, his respectful manners and his positive attitude towards his peers.



To help you come to school in an active



way we will run our  
**WALKING SCHOOL  
BUSES** on the following  
days

**TUESDAY 20<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER &  
THURSDAY 29<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER**

**Two Meeting points:**

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

**Meeting Time:** 8.15am

**Walk Starting Time:** 8.20am

We have organised **parents** to supervise the walk so you can drop your children at the meeting point and know that they will get to school safely

Or

Join in the walk yourself. Parents, grandparents, cousins, aunts and uncles, dogs and prams...everyone welcome! (Have a coffee with some other parents on your way back to get the car!)

**(We do ask that your children don't ride bikes or scooters unless you are with them – this would be much harder for other parents to supervise)**

Please RSVP asap using the form sent home this week or via email

[mmasseni@smaltona.catholic.edu.au](mailto:mmasseni@smaltona.catholic.edu.au) There is a copy of the form on the school website.



## 2015 Cocktail Party

Thank you to everyone who attended The Cocktail Party at The Royal Yacht Club last Saturday night. Whilst a lot of parents, staff and sponsors combined to create this night, it was ultimately ALL OF YOU who made it a HUGE success. It was your enthusiasm and overwhelming generosity that raised the \$13,400 we are so excited to report we made on the night (together with the cash donations). It was fantastic to see our community all out together, dressed up, dancing and sharing a fun night out together. A highlight was seeing a completely packed dance floor doing the Nutbush together as the last dance – hysterical!

The item that raised the most money on the night was the family weekend in Portsea in the live auction which went for \$540, followed by The Chef for a Night from Santorini at \$390 and then the Western Bulldogs Guernsey for \$360. We also received a \$100 cash donation late last week from Ava and Liam Denys' uncle Rob Nowak from Motohub Sunbury – Thank you so much!

Thanks to our Principal David Kelly for kicking off the night with his Welcome Speech and for drawing the winners of our door prizes.

- ★ 1<sup>st</sup> Prize was won by The DeBono Family, which was a family weekend away at The Lady Augusta Comfort Inn at Swan Hill & a pass to The Pioneers Settlement
- ★ The Umana Family won the 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize, a family pass to Sovereign Hill.
- ★ 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize, a \$50 Good Guys voucher was won by Linda Barbara.
- ★ The Staff Door Prize was won by Anthea Zimmerman, who'll be off to Hangar One2one to spend a \$50 Voucher.

Whilst we're on prizes, we'd like to thank Adrian Denys for running The 3 Coin Tosses and David Howell, Peter Pelns and Ben London for assisting him. They were a lot of fun and raised considerable funds. The winners were:

- ★ Bucket of Boutique Beer: Paul Moore
- ★ Bottle of Vodka: Vanessa Jackson
- ★ Bottle of Baileys: Monica Hurley

The Lolly Buffet was a massive hit again and was completely devoured on the night. Thank you to Sandra Camilleri for setting it up so beautifully, Grown Florists Moonee Ponds for the stunning floral arrangements on this and the welcome table; and Ye Olde Suckers in Williamstown; Nicole Umana and Mars or donating the majority of our lollies.

All of the eye catching signage around the room, including the funky cocktail lists, wine pull & table signs were designed by the very talented Emma Denys from Evolve Graphic Design. We are hugely appreciative that she gave so generously of her time and expertise.

A warm thank you to all the volunteers that helped on the night:

- ★ Our bubbly door attendants Jess and Matt DeBono for welcoming everyone as they arrived & ensuring everyone's dietary requirements were catered for.
- ★ Our cashiers: Paul and Trish Moore, and Nicole Umana
- ★ The Silent Auction Table Attendants: Merilyn Fisher, Katelyn Dolman and Kristen London.

Nick Didenkowski and Nancy Machado were our official photographers on the night and they did a brilliant job of truly capturing the spirit of the evening. These photos can be viewed @ <https://www.facebook.com/groups/761601113952111/>

A very special thanks to Anthony Molinia from Barlow McEwan Tribe for his highly talented auctioneering skills in obtaining the highest possible bids for our loud auction items, whilst making it fun and entertaining. Anthony was also an integral part of the planning team and secured a great number of the donations for our live and silent auctions.

Thank you to the staff who helped us over the past months:

- ★ Valda and Jane for responding so promptly to countless emails and requests with unfaltering patience.
- ★ Marg Masseni for posting regular updates on our school Facebook page
- ★ Anthea Zimmermann for patiently working with our children to develop the 26 gorgeous art pieces in our live and silent auctions.

Thanks to all the staff who came along and supported our school on their Saturday night, we really appreciated it and it was great to see you all in a social setting.

We were not able to set up the Yacht Club until 3pm on the day, so a BIG thank you to our transport and set up team: Sandra Camilleri, Cheri Steen, Emma Denys, Andrea Herd, Nicole Umana, Tal Adani and Garry and James Hills.

Thank you to our treasurer Cheri Steen for handling all of the financial aspects of the event: pre, post and during.

Finally, to our Cocktail Party Team who made planning this event so much fun over the past 8 months: Emma Denys, Anthony Molinia, Cheri Steen, Sandra Camilleri, Andrea Herd, Patrice Cassar, Diane Howell and Nancy Machado. Your dedication, enthusiasm, positivity and energy was a contagious and motivating force.





## Parents and Friends

### Bunnings BBQ – Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2015



The annual St Mary's Bunnings BBQ is one of the major fundraisers for our school. The more volunteers we have the easier it is for everyone and the more money we can raise for school supplies. Due to the generous organisation skills of some of the parents, we only need volunteers on the day itself.

No experience is necessary in BBQing or money handling. Have a look at the time slots below and the amount of volunteers needed. You can either join up with a couple of mates at a time slot or put your name down and take the opportunity to meet some other parents over a hot grill.

The easiest way to get on the roster is to call or text Jarrod Pye on 0428 502 815 with your name/s, time and contact number. You could also email Jarrod at [Jarrod\\_Pye@firststatesuper.com.au](mailto:Jarrod_Pye@firststatesuper.com.au) or, of course you can take the traditional route of filling in the form below and returning it to the office.

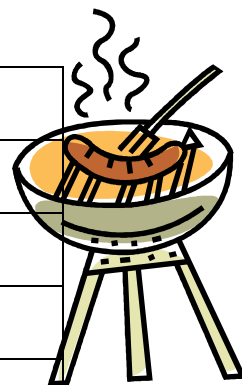
All help is greatly appreciated, if you can only help for part of a time slot, that's ok. You will be contacted in the week leading up to the BBQ to confirm your time.

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**Please fill in the form below and return to the office.**

#### Bunnings BBQ Roster – Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2015

Time Slot	Volunteers Needed	Name/s and Contact number
8.30am - 10.30am	3	
10.30am - 12.30pm	4	
12.30pm – 2.30pm	4	
2.30pm – 4.00pm	3	
4pm – Clean up	3	



#### School Disco

Well done to all involved, \$784 was raised last term.

#### CALENDARS

It's time to order your personalised calendars for next year!! Our kids have been hard at work creating masterpieces that will appear on these, so place your orders now!! The cost per calendar is \$12 and the cut-off date for placing orders will be November 20<sup>th</sup> 2015. No orders will be accepted after this date. Please fill the order form below and send it to the office with the money.

Name of student :	Class:
No of calendars ordered :	Amount enclosed :

