



# St. Mary's School, Altona

## Newsletter 2015

95A Railway Street North, Altona 3018  
Principal: David Kelly Phone: 9398 4842 [www.smaltona.catholic.edu.au](http://www.smaltona.catholic.edu.au)  
Parish Priest: Fr. Shabin Phone: 9398 2964 [altona@cam.org.au](mailto:altona@cam.org.au)

No: 36. 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2015



Dear Parents

What a SPECTACULAR evening we had on Wednesday night. I have received many personal compliments as well as very positive emails and Facebook postings. These have all been passed onto our Performing Arts teacher Mrs Angela Hamilton, our Creative Arts teacher Mrs Anthea Zimmerman and the entire staff. It was amazing to see the church packed to the rafters and to see all the children having such a great time performing. Then to walk out onto the school grounds and see so many of our school families having such a great time. I'm sure everyone was impressed with the outstanding quality and variety of the art work that was displayed in the TRI Centre.

Such a successful night as this doesn't just happen without a lot of effort from a lot of people.

A very, very sincere THANK YOU to the following people who made a significant contribution to this wonderful evening:

- Mrs Angela Hamilton for her creation and organisation of the children's concert.
- Mrs Anthea Zimmerman for her Art Show organisation and presentation.
- All of the Staff of St. Mary's School.
- Gary & Cathy Hills and Ben London who organised the bar.
- To our Year 5/6 children and teachers who set up all the tables and chairs.
- To the parents that assisted in the packing up of the chairs and tables at the end of the night.

This has traditionally been a very successful evening, and thanks to YOU it was again an absolutely fantastic evening. THANK YOU and WELL DONE TO ALL INVOLVED.

### FINAL SCHOOL ASSEMBLY:

Our Final School Assembly will take place on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December, commencing at 2.15 pm in the Church (Please note earlier time and change of location). There will be a farewell presentation to Mrs Gwenda Burnett from the Parents & Friends on behalf of the school community at this assembly, so all parents, past and present are most welcome to attend. After this Assembly we will move over to the hall for our Thank you Afternoon Tea for all our Parents Helpers throughout the year but all parents are invited to attend to also farewell Gwenda.

**REMINDER:** Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December – Last day for students – 3.20 pm Finish.

David Kelly.

Principal.

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

### PRINCIPALS AWARDS:

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

PREP HM	Gisella D & Mia T
PREP S	Xavier B & Charlotte L
1/2HK	Isabella A & Samantha K
1/2ST	Toby D & Callum T
1/2D	Sunniva M & Melina M
2/3S	Raf U & Summa P
3/4M	Gabrielle M & Dwight F
3/4L	Georgia L & Jacob Y
4/5G	Issabella L & Kate P
5/6VT	Hannah D & Isabella P
5/6C	Mairead F & James C

### ADVENT PREPARATION - FOR CHRISTMAS 2015

Sun	13 Dec	7.30pm	Carols by Candlelight Logan Reserve, Queen St Altona
Tue	15 Dec	6.00pm	St. Mary's School Graduation Mass
Wed	16 Dec	7.00pm	Ecumenical Advent Service
Thurs	17 Dec	9.15am	End of Year School Mass

### RECONCILIATION

Sat	19 Dec	5.30pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Rite (individual Confessions)
Mon	21 Dec	4-5pm	Maltese & English Confessions
Tue	22 Dec	7.00pm	Reconciliation 2 <sup>nd</sup> Rite

### CHRISTMAS TIMETABLE

Thurs	24 Dec	6.30pm	Carol/Nativity Play
		7.00pm	Family Mass
		11.30pm	Carols
Fri	25 Dec	12.00am	Midnight Mass
		10.30am	Christmas Day Mass

**NATIVITY PLAY** – Once again, as part of the Vigil Mass this year we will be having a Nativity Play. **Rehearsals will take place on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> December from 11.30am to 12.30pm in the Church.** Children are expected to attend all 3 rehearsals, however if this is a problem please let a member of the Children's Liturgy know or phone Lucy at the Parish House on 9398 2964.

## EDUCATION IN FAITH

### 2016 SACRAMENTAL DATES

**Confirmation:** Sunday 6th March - 3pm  
**Reconciliation:** Wednesday 8th June - 7pm  
**First Communion:** Saturday 20th August - 6pm  
**Sunday 21st August-10.30am**

### Advent Liturgies Dates.

**Week 3: Year 1/2D, 3/4L, 4/5G**

**- Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 2:40 pm.**

**Week 4: Prep HM, Prep S, Year1/2ST, 2/3S**  
**- Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 12:30 am.**

**Year 6 Graduation Mass: Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> Dec – 6.00 pm.**

**End of Year Mass: Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> Dec - 9.15am.**

### Year of Mercy

*The declaration by Pope Francis of the Jubilee of Mercy, begins next week on Dec. 8, 2015, and will end on Nov. 20, 2016. It will provide the whole church a glorious opportunity for prayerful preparation and reflection. In light of Pope Francis' declaration, the church is being called upon once more—in a formal and prayerful manner—to celebrate a jubilee as a way of growing together.*

*Proclaiming and practicing the jubilee calls for deeply trusting the Lord who continually shows us his mercy and who provides us with what we need. The jubilee is an invitation to witness to the forgiveness rooted in the cross and resurrection. We can forgive because we have been forgiven.*

*This is a time, as individuals and as communities, to begin discerning areas in our lives in which we need conversion. May we see this jubilee year as an invitation to put our possessions and power into carrying out works of mercy. In these and so many other ways, the upcoming jubilee will be a joyful opportunity for Christians to practice mercy, which is a sure sign that we are God's children.*

*Marc Tumeinski*



### Social Justice News

**AN ADVENT REMINDER FOR ALL FAMILIES TO HELP OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY CHARITIES; ST VINCENT DE PAUL, ALTONA & JOSEPH'S CORNER, YARRAVILLE BY DONATING TOWARDS EACH CLASSROOM'S CHRISTMAS HAMPER.**

**PLEASE SEND SOMETHING; (non-perishable food items, new toys, games or books etc.) TOWARDS YOUR CHILD'S CLASS HAMPER. THANK YOU.**

*Marie and Mairead - Social Justice Leaders,*



**Year 3/4M will be attending our Parish Mass on Tuesday 8th Dec at 9:15am. Please come along to celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.**

### Please pray for:

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

**Olive Chodowski REL**

***"When I could not see my way God kept my heart full of trust to make all come right."***

**St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop, 1883.**

### CONDOLENCES

Our prayers and sympathy go to the Curran Family, James 5/6C, Liam 3/4M and Jack Prep HM on the recent death of their Pop Peter Brennan.

### IMPORTANT DATES FOR NEXT WEEK

#### DECEMBER

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> Walk/Ride to School  
 Prep, Year 1 & 2 Swimming  
 Assembly 5/6VT – 2.30 pm  
 Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> Prep, Year 1 & 2 Swimming  
 Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> Prep, Year 1 & 2 Swimming  
 Creative Music Concert – 4.00 pm  
 Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> Year 1 & 2 Yarraville Cinema Excursion  
 Cleaning Tables & Chairs 9.00 – 11.00am  
 Friday 11<sup>th</sup> School Reports will go home.

# LITERACY NEWS



## PREMIERS READING CHALLENGE

**ALL 182** children who completed the **2015 Premiers Reading Challenge** received a certificate from the Premier of Victoria the Hon Daniel Andrews, a PRC

bookmark and 150 points for their house team. **WELL DONE** to ALL these students. **HOPE** to see **YOU** and **MORE** children **complete** the challenge in **2016**. A very special **THANK YOU** to Mrs Nicole Singleton who did the administration work involved for this event.

## THANK YOU LITERACY HOME HELPERS

A huge THANK YOU to the many mums and dads who have helped the school throughout the year by covering books, cutting out laminated activities and much more, your help has been GREATLY appreciated.

## PAST STUDENTS HELPING IN FINAL WEEKS

If your child has finished secondary school and is interested in helping in school over the next two weeks they **MUST** contact myself or Mrs Pedley prior to coming so that we can let them know if help is needed. We will also ask them for the following details: a time they will arrive the School Office and the time they are leaving plus an emergency contact number. Sorry NO children will be allowed to come into the school just to visit friends.



## HELP NEEDED BY PARENTS AND PAST STUDENTS

On Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December from 9.00 – 11.00 am we are taking on the mighty task of cleaning 300 class room chairs and 150

tables....and YES we need help! All cleaning products and materials will be provided. I suggest you wear or bring thongs.

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. Thank you for your help.

## Gwenda Burnett

Deputy Principal & Literacy Leader.  
[gburnett@smaltona.catholic.edu.au](mailto:gburnett@smaltona.catholic.edu.au)

## 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

## TUCKSHOP HELPERS - Week beginning 7<sup>th</sup> December



Wednesday  
Thursday  
Friday

Pauline Luppino  
Marylinda Abate  
Anne Cooper

Manager: Eva Coppola Tel: 9315 0799

## UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

Our December opening hours are as set out below. Please look through your wardrobes to ensure that you will have uniforms that will fit for the beginning of 2016.

## UNIFORM SHOP HELPER NEEDED - 2016

The Uniform Shop will be open on Wednesday Afternoons 2.30 -3.00 pm. We are currently looking for volunteers to help out with the Uniform shop if you are interested please contact Mrs Valda Pedley at the School Office.

## UNIFORM SHOP OPEN HOURS FOR DECEMBER WILL BE WEDNESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> 2.30 – 3.00 PM AND FRIDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> 2.30 – 3.30 PM



## WALKING SCHOOL BUSES – 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

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

**Meeting Time: 8.10am Walk Starting Time: 8.15am**

## Margaret Masseni

Wellbeing and PE / Sport Leader

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



**TWO COOL WEEKS  
IN A LONG HOT  
SUMMER**

**11-15 AND 18-22 JANUARY 2016**

**VICTORIA UNIVERSITY - FITNESS AND AQUATIC CENTRE FOOTSCRAY**

**PROGRAMS INCLUDE: BASKETBALL • NETBALL • MULTI-SPORT  
SOCCER • TENNIS • AGES 6-15 WELCOME**

**WWW.STAFF.VU.EDU.AU/SPORTSCAMPS | Ph: (03) 9919 4370**

## HOBSONS BAY CITY COUNCIL

### Altona Early Years Services and Facilities

Hobsons Bay City Council is consulting with the community on future options and recommendations relating to early years services and facilities in Altona.

A recent feasibility study identified a range of benefits of bringing together a number of nearby kindergartens and the Altona Maternal and Child Health Centre into a one-stop-shop facility. *View the feasibility study or download it from*

<http://participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au>

Community and stakeholder consultation will take place from 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2015 to 11 February 2016.

To find out more or to register for one of the public information sessions below please visit

<http://participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au> If you require assistance with your registration please contact Customer Service on 9932 1000.

### How To get involved

For more information please contact Hobsons Bay City Council 9932 1000 or Jenny Denouden, Early Years Development Officer. Email: [jdenouden@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au](mailto:jdenouden@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au)

## 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](http://www.campaustalia.com.au)

1731 Malvern Road, Glen Iris, Victoria 3146

[info@campaustalia.com.au](mailto: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.

## CAMP AUSTRALIA – School Holiday Fun

Camp Australia are providing a Summer Holiday Program at the following schools. For more information

[www.campaustalia.com.au/holidayfun](http://www.campaustalia.com.au/holidayfun)

Stella Maris - 0401 571 286

Westbourne Grammar – Truganina

0419 889 818

Manorvale – Werribee

0405 428 328

Baden Powell College – Tarneit

0401 188 868



## MOUNT ST. JOSEPH GIRLS' COLLEGE

### MSJ 2016

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

## THANK YOU AFTERNOON TEA & FAREWELL TO GWENDA BURNETT

TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP AND SUPPORT DURING  
THIS YEAR AND TO GIVE YOU THE OPPORTUNITY TO WISH  
GWENDA THE BEST OF LUCK,  
WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN THE STAFF FOR



AFTERNOON TEA  
ON  
MONDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER  
AT 3.00 – 4.00 PM  
IN



THE SCHOOL HALL FOLLOWING OUR FINAL ASSEMBLY.

(Children will be supervised outside)

N.B. ASSEMBLY WILL BE IN THE CHURCH

STARTING AT 2.15pm

**The Staff of St. Mary's**



*First Day of School Morning Tea*  
*9.00 – 10.00am*  
*In The School Hall*



The Parents & Friends would like to host a morning tea on behalf of St Mary's School Community to welcome all the new and existing parents of 2016.

So, come along and join us in the hall after drop off on the first day of school and catch up with old friends and meet some new people.

We really need your support to help make this event a success. We'll need helpers to set up and then pack up the hall, and we'll need lots of scrumptious items to serve. So, if you enjoy baking we'd greatly appreciate a cake, slice, biscuits or scones. If you could please bring them cut up and ready to serve and drop them off at the school hall.

If you are able assist with any of the following please complete this form and return it as soon as possible.

If you have any queries please contact Patrice Cassar: [jpc.pec@bigpond.com](mailto:jpc.pec@bigpond.com)

---

I AM ABLE TO HELP WITH THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL MORNING TEA BY

- ☐ I can help set up in the hall ... 8.20 – 8.45 am (all or part of that time)
- ☐ I can bake or purchase a plate of cakes, biscuits or slices and drop them off pre-cut to the hall by 8.45 am.
- ☐ I can help to pack up and clean up ... 10.00 – 10.45 am

Helper's Name.....

Child's Name & Grade.....

Contact No. ....

Email .....