



St. Mary's School, Altona

Newsletter 2016

95A Railway Street North, Altona 3018

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No 4 19th February, 2016

Dear Parents

Thank you to the many families and friends that attended our Beginning of the School Year Mass and then joined us in the school grounds for a BBQ. Hopefully our new families experienced the welcoming community that is St. Mary's.

To come together as a school community and celebrate the Eucharist is always a special occasion. This was even better with the performance of the Preps who did such a magnificent job with the Reflection at the end of Mass. It was a pleasure to present our School Leaders, House Captains, Choir Leaders and Junior School Council Representatives with their respective Leadership badges.

A successful night like this doesn't just happen but is the result of a lot of planning and preparation by a number of people. A very special THANK YOU to:

Mrs Olive Chodowski (our Religious Education Leader) for her planning and overall co-ordination of the Mass.

Mrs Angela Hamilton (Performing Arts Specialist) for her co-ordination of the music for the Mass as well as the Prep Reflection song. Thanks also to our Prep teachers, Mrs Carol Hicks, Mrs Dani Molloy and Mrs Cathy Sims for their assistance.

Thank you to the staff for their work and support in preparing for the night.

Again to all our school families who made the effort to come along and be involved.

A Special Thank You to Andrea Herd & Patrice Cassar who on behalf of the Parents & Friends organised the BBQ. Thank you to the other members of the P & F who assisted as well as the parents who assisted with the preparing and cooking the BBQ, selling of the drinks and helping to pack up at the end of the night.

Many hands made light work. Thank you.

I believe we have something special here at St. Mary's but we do need to continue to build on it. I look forward to strengthening this partnership with you throughout the year.

THANK YOU:

To Stephen & Anne Cooper (Daniel Yr 1/2S) for their generous purchase for the school of two chair trolleys. They were put to very good use last Wednesday.

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 and 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.

Zoe DeBono - Prep S

Daniel Ciavarella & Andrew Sougleris - Year 1/2 HK.

Oscar Devetak & Samuel Pelns - Year 1/2 S.

Jamison Lehrer & Lucas Gardina - Year 1/2 D.

Christian Galea - Year 1/2 G.

Grace Moon, Nicholas Christodoulou & Chloe Zuvela - Year 3/4 VH.

Mackenzie Pace & Tahlia Sepsic - Year 5/6 C.

Livinia Pace - Year 5/6 M.

COMING HOME TODAY:

Is some Important Information about the school and specifically your child's class. Please read it carefully and perhaps keep it somewhere safe where you can refer back to it when needed.

SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS CLOSE:

FOR YEAR 7 in 2017

Friday 26 February - Applications for Year 7, 2017.

Friday 22 April 2016 - Offers of places to prospective Year 7, 2017 students are posted.

SCHOOL FEES 2016:

School fee statements will be sent home on Monday; as costs for all year levels have now been finalised. **However the Curriculum Levy (\$220 per child) and the Excursion Levy (\$60 per child) are due and payable by Friday 11th March.** Payment can be made by cash, cheque, credit card or direct bank transfer to the school account.

BSB: 083347 Account Number 644450867, please put your child's name as reference.

Regular payments are an increasingly popular way to pay your school fees, Direct Debit forms for bank accounts or credit cards are now available from the School Office. If you had a direct debit arrangement last year, you **MUST** fill out a new authority for 2016. Please contact Mrs Pedley in the School Office if you have any questions.

David Kelly
Principal



PRINCIPAL AWARDS

8th February

PrepS	Daniel
Year 1/2HK	Zali
Year 1/2S	Susannah
Year 1/2D	Fernando
Year 1/2G	Toby
Year 3/4M	Ava
Year 3/4S	Lucas
Year 3/4VH	Nicholas
Year 5/6C	Luke
Year 5/6L	Kate
Year 5/6M	Madeline

15th February

PrepHM	Natalie
PrepS	Mason
Year 1/2HK	Jessica
Year 1/2S	Tilly
Year 1/2D	Tom
Year 1/2G	Xavier
Year 3/4M	Noah
Year 3/4S	Joel
Year 3/4VH	James
Year 5/6C	Thomas
Year 5/6L	Kyle
Year 5/6M	Angelo

EDUCATION IN FAITH

New School Year Mass

A big thank you to all school staff and students who planned, prepared and participated in our Opening School Mass. Special thanks to our wonderful choir and their inspiring conductor Angela Hamilton - great skills on display.

CONFIRMATION NEWS:

A reminder that our Confirmation Family Workshop will be held next Wednesday 24th Feb at 7pm in the School Hall. Our presenter is Sr Lorraine Testa.

Thank you also to the wonderful parents who have already contacted Nicole Singleton about being able to help with the placement of Names on the Confirmation Stoles. She still needs helpers please at 1.30pm on the following dates; Tues 23/2, Fri 26/2 and then Tues 1/3 (only if needed). Your assistance is very much appreciated.



On Friday 26th February 3/4VH will be attending the 9:15 morning mass. Please come, celebrate, sit with and join your children in prayer.

***Lord God, you give us all that we need.
You love us and care for us.***

You are our shelter and refuge when we are afraid.

***You feed us and nourish us with your Word.
You are faithful to us and keep your promises.***

***O Lord, you are our home.
Amen.***

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

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

Condolences to the Shute Family (Angelo 5/6M & Nicolina 5/6L) on the passing of their Grandfather.

Also to the Charalambous Family (Olivia 3/4VH) on the passing of her Grandfather.

Olive Chodowski - REL

"Today God has been so good to me."

- St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop-1874



School photograph day is TUESDAY 8th MARCH. Photo envelopes were sent home this week. If you wish to order a family photograph, please

contact the School Office for a family envelope. **Photograph envelopes should be returned to your child's teacher on Photo day**, please ensure that envelopes contain the EXACT MONEY. **NO CHANGE** is held at the School Office.

All children should wear full summer uniform on that day. Those students who have sport on this day can bring their sports uniform to change into or alternatively just bring along their runners.

Please DO NOT WEAR your runners to school. 3 46

TUCKSHOP HELPERS - Week beginning 22nd February



Wednesday Caroline Cassar

Thursday

Friday Rosemary Ciavarella

Manager: Eva Coppola

CSEF

Families who hold a valid means-tested concession card or who are temporary foster parents are eligible to apply to the Victorian Government Camps, Sport and Excursion Fund.

\$125 per year will be paid for eligible primary students.

A CSEF Application form can be collected from the School Foyer.

I strongly encourage ALL FAMILIES THAT ARE ELIGIBLE FOR THIS FUNDING TO COMPLETE AN APPLICATION FORM AND RETURN IT TO SCHOOL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

Further information on the fund can be viewed at the Victorian Government Department of Education and Training website.

PARENT CONTACT DETAILS

If your contact details have changed recently, please speak to or email Mrs Pedley in the School Office with the updated telephone numbers/addresses.

vpedley@smaltona.catholic.edu.au

EMAIL ADDRESSES

To help with effective communication between the School Office and families, could all families please forward their current email addresses to vpedley@smaltona.catholic.edu.au



UNIFORM SHOP

Open Wednesday Afternoon 2:30 -3:00pm

The Uniform Shop now has a dedicated email address. You

may complete and scan an order directly to them. You may also simply write a clear list of your requirements including size etc. Always include the name of your eldest child, their class, your contact details and the method of payment you have used. Payment can be made by direct bank transfer or cash or cheque left at the School Office in a clearly marked envelope.

The email address is

stmarysaltonauniforms@gmail.com

The Uniform Shop is run by parent volunteers who are aware that not all families can visit them during their opening hours. This is an initiative that they hope will be helpful to all. Any feedback is welcome, please direct it to Mrs Pedley in the School Office.

IMPORTANT DATES

22/2	Year 3/4S Assembly
24/2	Confirmation Workshop – Sr Lorraine Testa 7-8:30pm
27/2	Confirmation Rite of Election Mass 6 – 7pm
28/2	Confirmation Rite of Election Mass 10:30 – 11:30am
29/2	Year 5/6L Prayer Assembly
6/3	Confirmation
8/3	School Photos
14/3	Labour Day Holiday
19/3	National Day of Action Against Bullying
21/3	Walk to School Day
21/3	Year 5/6M Prayer Assembly
24/3	Holy Thursday - End of Term One

OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE AT ST. MARYS

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.

CBC / PCW OPEN DAY

Sunday 28th February 12.00 – 3.00pm

Enquiries: 9529 6611

Email: admin@cbcstkilda.com

Website: CBC St. Kilda

www.cbcstkilda.com.au

FREE EVENT AT BUNNINGS ALTONA

Meet and greet The Octonauts who will be visiting Bunning's Altona

20th February between 11am-2pm

Also on day we will have face painting, a jumping castle, popcorn and craft for kids.

PARENTS & FRIENDS

Thank you to all the parents that assisted in one way or another at our Beginning School Year Mass & Family BBQ. Your assistance and participation was greatly appreciated.

We would like to acknowledge the following businesses, for their kind and generous donations towards our BBQ:

Proficient Packaging (Jason & Patrice Cassar) for their donation of all the meat.

Coles Altona for a gift card.

Bakers Delight Altona.

Bakers Delight Altona Meadows.

Bakers Delight Borrac Square Altona North

Holy Bread Crème Altona.

CYBERSMART - INTERNET SAFETY AWARENESS

Thursday 3rd March 2016

Young people today are immersed in digital technologies. They use the internet and mobile phones to socialise, exchange ideas and play. While online activity has many benefits, there are also risks.

To help your children stay safe online we are hosting a Cybersmart Outreach – Internet Safety Awareness presentation provided by the Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner as part of a national program of Cybersmart Initiatives.

This free presentation is for parents and carers, conducted by Cybersmart trainer Greg Gebhart, and will cover:

- The role of the Children's eSafety Commissioner
- The ways children use the internet and emerging technologies
- Potential risks for children online, such as cyberbullying, identity theft, inappropriate contact and exposure
- Tips to help children stay safe online

APOLOGIES

Last week when we listed our swimming team a name was left off the list....we are so sorry Eliza P. You did a great job at the carnival too getting 3rd place in the 50m Breaststroke.

District Swimming

Last Tuesday, students from 3-6 represented our school at the Altona District Swimming Carnival. Congratulations to everyone who swam at the Carnival. What a wonderful job they all did. A special well done to the following children who received ribbons in their INDIVIDUAL RACES:

Mila F – 3rd 25m Backstroke

Liam C – 1st 25m Freestyle / 3rd 25m Backstroke

Thomas W – 2nd 25m Freestyle

Eliza P – 3rd 50m Breaststroke

James C – 3rd 100m Freestyle

Justin N – 3rd 25m Freestyle

Thanks to Mrs Singleton, Mr Lappin, Mrs Masseni and all the parents who helped to supervise the children on the day.

Well done everyone!!!

INTER-SCHOOL SPORTS

Our Summer Sports began last Friday with our 5/6s competing in the following sports; T-20 Cricket, Basketball, Volleyball and Softball. The Summer Sports competition will run for the remainder of Term One followed by a Round Robin competition in the last week of term. It is a great way to have the students represent our school and participate in a team sport.

Results from Round 1 vs Altona Nth at Home

Volleyball	won	2 sets to 0
Softball	won	14 - 2
Basketball	won	26 - 22
Cricket	lost	48 - 67

Well done to all participants, great start to the competition. This week's 19th Feb **vs Seaholme at Home.**