



St. Mary's School, Altona Newsletter 2015

95A Railway Street North, Altona 3018

Phone: 9398 4842

www.smaltona.catholic.edu.au

No: 4. 20th February, 2015



Dear Parents

A very sincere Thank You to those parents that attended our Parent / Teacher Forums on Tuesday and Wednesday evening this week. Hopefully you found them as interesting and informative as both myself and the teachers had hoped they would be. There was certainly some very positive comments from parents present on the night/s. I would like to acknowledge and Thank all the teachers for the time and effort they put into preparing their presentations and obviously their attendance on the night (for some teachers both sessions and/or both nights).

I would appreciate any feedback from parents that attended on what was of value and perhaps any suggestions for improvement. I would also appreciate feedback from parents who didn't attend eg. they weren't available on that particular evening, they didn't see a need, or whatever.

Any feedback would be appreciated, it can be handed into the School Office or emailed to me, principal@smaltona.catholic.edu.au

PARENTS & FRIENDS 80's DISCO:

Hopefully you are organising a group of friends (not necessarily parents of the school) to attend the Parents & Friends Disco on Saturday 21st March. Tickets need to be purchased by Thursday 5th March. For more details please read the Parents & Friends section later in this newsletter.

PREP & YEAR 6 BUDDY FAMILY NIGHT:

This is on this Friday 27th February from 6.00 – 8.00 pm. A reminder to parents of children in Prep and Year 6 to please return the reply slip so that no children are disappointed or upset on the night.

SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY:

Is Tuesday week 3rd March. Staff will be working on our Self-Reflection Report as part of our four yearly Catholic Education Office Melbourne, School Review in preparation for our External Reviewer's week in our school early next term. Out of School Hours Care will only be available if they receive enough Expression of Interest Forms completed. This needs to be done online to Camp Australia by this Tuesday 24th February.

SCHOOL FEE STATEMENTS:

Were sent home this week with a Timeline and Fees Summary. Please be aware the Curriculum Levy (\$220 per child) and the Excursion/Incursion Levy (\$60 per child), are due and payable by **Friday 13th March, 2015**. Your School Fee (\$1200 per family) plus other costs outlined by Class Level in the Fees Summary can be paid in full or in part payments with final settlement by **Friday 11th September**. All of the above can be paid by Direct Debit instalments. Instalments will commence on the 5th March 2015, and can be paid on a bi-monthly, monthly or fortnightly basis.

David Kelly.
Principal.

PRINCIPALS AWARDS:

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

PREP HM	Thomas Hicks
PREP S	Lucas Zun
1/2HK	Isabella Ameri
1/2ST	Isabelle Nelson
1/2D	Donovan Sarai
2/3S	Summer London
3/4M	James Hills
3/4L	Sienna Tanti
4/5G	Jack Dowling
5/6VT	Tam Nyugen
5/6C	Tahlia Sepsic

IMPORTANT DATES FOR NEXT WEEK

FEBRUARY

Monday 23rd Assembly 2/3S – 2.30 pm
Parent Helper Course 9.00 – 10.00 am
Kelly Sport Dance 1.30 – 2.30 pm
Thursday 26th Parent Helper Course 9.00 – 10.00 am
Friday 27th Prep/Year 6 Buddy Night 6.00 – 8.00 pm

MARCH

Monday 2nd 5/6 VT Prayer Assembly – 2.40 pm
Tuesday 3rd **SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY**

EDUCATION IN FAITH ASH WEDNESDAY & LENT

On Wednesday 18th February we began our **Lenten** celebrations of the Church's Liturgical year. **All** students from Years 1 to 6 had the opportunity to receive the ashes, a symbol of our humanity before God. **Ash Wednesday** marks the beginning of Lent. Lent is a time to reflect and make choices. That's why Jesus went into the desert. He went to commit to what his life was going to be about. He needed time away to think and pray. He chose to stand for God's compassion and justice.

We need Lent. We need time away to realise that our lives can make a difference. Will I take risks in order to do the right thing?

Join Jesus in the desert this Lent. Add time to your daily prayer. Make a weekly service commitment. Look honestly at your strengths and weaknesses.

Bring the kingdom a little nearer to your neighbour this LENT. Be just. Show mercy. Give forgiveness. Live peacefully. Walk humbly.

Confirmation

Thank you to all our Confirmation Candidates and parents for your attendance and participation in last weekend's Rite of Election masses. This is a moving process beneficial to the whole parish community. As parents and the parish community assisted the candidates through their prayers and support, the students affirmed their intentions to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

HELP NEEDED

Thank you to those parents who have approached Nicole to offer help with the placement of Names on the Confirmation stoles. Nicole will run TWO workshops for this activity on Thursday, March 12th and Thursday March 19th at 1.30 pm in the TRI Centre.

On Friday February 27th Year 3/4L 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.
- * Our Year 6 Confirmation candidates as they begin preparations to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.
- * An enlightened Lenten journey towards Easter.

Olive Chodowski - REL

"God has done wonders for us"

St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop-1890

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:

GREEN TEAM



LITERACY NEWS

CLASSROOM HELPERS COURSE – IT'S NOT TOO LATE PREP AND YEAR ONE / TWO

We invite all parents to attend one of our two Classroom Helpers Courses being held on either **Monday 23rd February or Thursday 26th February at 9.00 to 10.00am.**

You **DO NOT** have to have a child in one of these classes to help. If you have been to a course before you are most welcome to attend again but it is not necessary.

If you would like to attend this course please complete the form at the end of this newsletter or on School Website. "News", (Notes & Forms) indicating which of the sessions you wish to attend and return as soon as possible. We will meet in Building Two outside Prep HM room.

Please see me if you have any questions OR cannot make either of these times but are interested in helping in the classrooms.

Gwenda Burnett
Literacy Leader



TUCKSHOP HELPERS - Week beginning 23rd February

Wednesday
Thursday

Caroline Cassar
Melanie Barry

Manager: Eva Coppola Tel: 9315 0799

TUCKSHOP NEWS

Please note that Chicken Goujons are **NO LONGER AVAILABLE.** Please cross them off your Tuckshop List.



ST. MARY'S UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop is now open on **WEDNESDAY**

AFTERNOONS 2.30pm – 3.00pm. We are still looking for

volunteers who would like to join us in running this service for our school community. Please leave your name with the School Office if you are interested and one of us will contact you for a no obligation chat!

With Term One quickly disappearing, we are turning our attention to Winter Uniforms. To ensure we can order in a timely manner for Term Two, please visit our shop to order your winter uniform. If you are sure of your sizes, simply leave an order form at the School Office. To ensure you receive your uniform items before the start of Term Two, **orders MUST be placed before Friday 6th March. We are unable to guarantee order delivery times after that date. Thank you.**

St Marys Uniform Shop Co-Op

DOING IT RIGHT - Week 3 Term 1

1/2HK: Isabella A,
1/2ST: Sam,
1/2D: Joshua,
3/4M: Mackenzie, Livinia
5/6C: Justin, Isabella, Jade, Amelie, Mulunesh, Ella

For: helping to tidy the bat tennis equipment without being asked, solving a problem well, helping someone, taking pride in the environment and loads of other great things!
Great job everyone!



WEDNESDAY FUN AND FITNESS

Starting Wednesday 25th February

Fun fitness games & activities!

Come along and join in! Kids & Adults ... All Welcome!

Wear your runners & bring a water bottle.

Held on the School Basketball Court.

8.00 – 8.30 am Every Wednesday morning!!!

DISTRICT SWIMMING TEAM

Congratulations to our swimming team who competed at the Altona District Swimming Carnival this week.
Great Job!

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.

MSJ NEWS

Representing Australia in Lacrosse

Congratulations to Stephanie Kelly (11 Francis) on being named in the final team to represent Australia in the FIL Rathbones Women's 2015 Under 19 Lacrosse World Championship to be held 23rd July – 1st August at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland.

Mount St Joseph Girls' College Extraordinary Open

Morning Thursday 26th February 2015, 9.15 am –

10.15am Due to popular demand, we have scheduled an extraordinary open morning on **Thursday 26th February**
Limited places available for 2015.

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 2000.

Applications for **Year 7, 2016** are due by

Friday 27th February 2015.

Parents and Friends News

80s DISCO: SATURDAY 21st MARCH

Dust off your leg warmers, get out your leggings and tease up your hair. Dudes, don't forget your muscle tees, acid wash jeans or shiny pants. Dressing up not your thing? That's OK, come as you are, but you'll miss out on the chance to win prizes for the best dressed.

HUGE thanks to Melissa Gielnick (Noah and Stella's mum) from Smart Lending for generously sponsoring an open style Photo Booth for the entire night. So bring along your family and friends to capture some hysterical pictures. You can take as many photos as you like, at no cost.

Don't feel like *busting a move* on the dance floor, they'll be plenty of table and chairs to kick back and catch up with friends over a few drinks whilst listening to classics from the 80s.

To purchase your tickets please complete the RSVP slip on the flyer. You can download it from our School Website under "News" then Notes & Forms (or you can pick one up from the School Office) and return it to school with (exact) cash payment **by the 5th of March**. Please note: no tickets can be sold after the 5th of March for catering purposes at the venue.



8 WEEK BEGINNERS NETBALL

AT: ALTONA SPORTS CENTRE, Queen St, Altona
MONDAY EVENING 5.30 UNTIL 6.30 PM

THIS IS A BEGINNERS PROGRAM FOR GIRLS & BOYS
AGED FROM:-5 -10 YEARS.

Participants must already be 5 years old at the commencement of program and not turn 11 in 2015
THIS IS A 8 WEEK COURSE FEATURING SKILLS LEARNING AND COURT PLAY.

COST: \$70 PER CHILD (8 WEEK COURSE)

ENQUIRIES TO SUE BRAKEY 9360.9288 or EMAIL:

sue_asc@bigpond.com

Enrolment forms are available on our school website:

NEWS: Notes and Forms

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.

Thank you.

Gwenda Burnett
Literacy Leader

LITERACY 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.

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CLASSROOM HELPERS COURSE – 2015

Return to Mrs Burnett –Or email: gburnett@smaltona.catholic.edu.au

Name: _____

Child's Name _____ Year Level _____

I would like to attend the following Classroom Helpers Course.

(Please Circle)

Monday 23rd February

or

Thursday 26th February

9.00 – 10.00 am

9.00 – 10.00 am