



St. Mary's School, Altona Newsletter 2014

95A Railway Street North, Altona 3018

Phone: 9398 4842

www.smaltona.catholic.edu.au

No: 4. 21st February, 2014



Dear Parents

TEACHER / PARENT FORUMS:

Hopefully you have marked the following dates in your diary. All parents are invited and encouraged to attend. We hope, and it is certainly our intention, to make the sessions as relevant and informative as we can.

WHAT WILL YOU HEAR / SEE: Teachers at each Level of the school: Prep (including Specialist Teachers), Year One/Two, Year Three/Four and Year Five/Six will explain in some detail about how we go about improving the educational development of your children at each of these levels. We hope these sessions will give you a greater understanding and insight into your child/rens' education.

WHEN:

Tuesday 25th February.

Prep: 6.45 – 7.30 pm.

Year One/Two: 7.45 – 8.30 pm.

Wednesday 26th February.

Year Three/Four: 6.45 – 7.30 pm.

Year Five/Six: 7.45 – 8.30 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 being offered downstairs in the TRI Centre (4 year old onwards). Please notify the School Office by Monday 24th February if you wish to use this service so we can cater for numbers. We haven't had any requests as of today

PREP & YEAR SIX BUDDY FAMILY NIGHT:

This will be held on Friday 14th March from 6.00 – 8.00 pm. Prep families should have received their Family Invitation today. Please check with the Prep teachers on Monday if you didn't receive one.

SCHOOL FEES:

Thank you to all those families who have made a payment on their school fee account. A reminder that if you have not contracted to a direct debit plan with the School Office, you will need to pay your families Curriculum Levy and Excursion Levy by Friday 28th March 2014. Forms for direct debit arrangements are available at the School Office.

FOOTY TIPPING COMPETITION:

Yes we will be running our St. Mary's Footy Tipping Competition again this year so start rounding up family and friends to be involved. The AFL Season begins in 3 weeks so **ACT NOW**. For new families to our school and a reminder to others, you can win weekly cash prizes throughout the season as well as significant cash prizes at the end of the season, depending on the number of participants. **The more the merrier!** This is a great way to support our school financially (as half of the money generated goes directly to the school) as well as having a lot of fun along the way. The cost is: \$23.00 per person (\$1.00 per round) or \$40.00 for two people. Please send the money in a sealed envelope clearly marked "Footy Tipping" with the names of the tippers to the School Office. How to register: Go to www.victeach.footytips.com.au and reregister if you were involved last year and you can remember your log in details. You will have received an email from victeach. footytips inviting you to rejoin.

*Remember once you have confirmed your details, Click on Competitions (at the top of the page) and select **St. Mary's Primary School**. For people or families who weren't involved last year you need to go to the above site and select **Join**. Complete the Registration details and then click continue and select **St. Mary's Primary School** as the competition you wish to be involved in.

Please make sure you are in the St. Mary's Primary School Competition and not the overall Victeach footy tips competition. It is not as complicated as it may seem, if you have any issues please contact me and we will sort it out.

David Kelly.
Principal.

PRINCIPALS AWARDS:

Congratulations to the following children who received Principals Awards on Monday: Jamison Lehrer, Keyon'Dre Fallace, Lachland Green, Gemma Deller, Noah Ligudzinski, Zach Perry, Ben Clowes, Thomas Jones, Grace Bosnar and Maxim Warby.

EMA

Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided by the Victorian Government to lower-income families to help with education-related costs. If you have a child under 16, and you hold a valid Health Care Card, Pension Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible to receive EMA. The allowance is paid in two instalments, one in March and one in August, usually directly to the school for credit against school fees.

In 2014, the annual EMA amount per student is:

- \$200 for prep students
- \$150 for students in years 1 – 6.

Please contact the school office to obtain an EMA application form, this form **MUST be returned NO LATER than Friday 28th February**. The Government will not accept late applications.

EDUCATION IN FAITH

Confirmation

Just a reminder to ALL Confirmation Candidates and parents about our Rite of Election Mass weekend. Notes were given out to the Year Six students with regards to attending ONE mass this weekend. Either Saturday 22nd at 6:30pm or Sunday 23rd at 9am.

We are still in need of Year Six parents/guardians/friends to help with the placement of Names on the Confirmation Stoles. Please see Nicole Singleton.

Your assistance would be greatly appreciated.

Prayer Assembly

*This Monday Year 5/6G will present their Prayer Assembly at 2:40pm in the church. The children spend a lot of time and effort preparing for Prayer Assemblies and it would be wonderful to see lots of parents and friends present. Everyone is **WELCOME** in our church.*

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

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



Olive Chodowski - REC

"There where you are you will find God."

St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop-1871

IMPORTANT DATES FOR NEXT WEEK

Monday 24th February

Prayer Assembly 5/6G – 2.40 pm

Tuesday 25th February - Parent / Teacher Forums

Prep: 6.45 – 7.30 pm

Year 1/2: 7.45 – 8.30 pm

Wednesday 26th February - Parent / Teacher Forums

Year 3/4: 6.45 – 7.30 pm

Year 5/6: 7.45 – 8.30 pm

Thursday 27th February

Year 5/6 Excursion – Sovereign Hill – 8.30 am

Friday 28th February

Walk / Ride to School Day – Walking School Bus

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 24th February



Friday

Elaine Stewart

Manager: Eva Coppola Tel: 9315 0799

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

Our Uniform Shop Co-ordinator Penny Ealem and Assistant Linda Wakfer will be retiring at the end of Term Three this year. So we are looking for someone or a couple of people to take over. Please chat with Penny and/or Linda to see what is involved. If you are interested then please put in an Expression of Interest to myself at the School Office or by email – dkelly@smaltona.catholic.edu.au

UNIFORM SHOP OPEN

WEDNESDAYS 8.30 AM – 9.00 AM & 3.00 PM – 3.30 PM

If you are unable to visit our shop, order forms can be collected from the School Foyer and complete with payment left at the School Office. Orders will be filled on the next open day and can be left for collection at the School Office or sent to your child's classroom.

**Penny Ealem Co-ordinator and
Assisted by Linda Wakfer**

Parents and Friends News

PARENTS AND FRIENDS MEETING

The Parents and Friends first meeting will be held on **Wednesday 5th March at 7.30 pm in the staffroom.**

Drinks and nibbles will be supplied. Bring a friend, come along and see what is involved. We think you will be pleasantly surprised. Your attendance does not mean any commitment. We look forward to seeing you.



Australian Primary Schools
Mental Health Initiative

DOING IT RIGHT: Week 3 Term 1

Many children have been seen Doing It Right around the school this week. They were **seen** walking bikes to the bike rack, being good friends, collecting sports equipment from around the yard before school, sharing with others, helping others, being responsible and doing lots of good things!!! Great job everyone!

Prep S: Oscar, Christian

Prep H: Isabella D, Stella L

1/2H: Michael D

1/2K: Anna, Ntino, Chloe, Lucas, Kilian

1/2D: Samuel

3/4M: Mitchell, Layland

3/4L: Sara A

5/6C: Xander, Laura

5/6V: Riley, Angelique, Olivia L, Marcus

5/6G: Verity, Cadel, Brianna



FUN AND FITNESS

Starting Wednesday 26th February

Fun fitness games & activities!

Come along and join in!

Kids & Adults ... All Welcome!

Wear your runners and bring a water bottle.

Held on the school Basketball Court.

8.00 – 8.30am

Every Wednesday morning!!!

INTER SCHOOL SPORT

Our Year 5/6 students played their first game of Interschool Sport last week at Home V Williamstown Gold.

	St Mary's Altona	Williamstown Gold
Cricket	29	101
Newcombe	1	1
Bat Tennis	1	54
Softball	10	19

Today we played Williamstown Red. (Scores next week) and next week we will play Altona Yellow at home.



DISTRICT SWIMMING TEAM – CONGRATULATIONS!

Well done to all of the children who competed at the District Swimming Carnival last Tuesday. Everyone swam their hardest and showed great sportsmanship. We had many children come home with ribbons and some will go on to represent the Altona District and St Mary's at the Divisional Swimming Carnival on 13th March at the Werribee Pool. Overall we came 5th and we came 4th in the "small schools" trophy.

Congratulations to **Olivia Y** – 3rd Freestyle, 1st Fly and Backstroke, 3rd Medley Relay, **Megan W** – 1st Freestyle, 2nd Breaststroke, 3rd Medley Relay, **James C** – 3rd Freestyle, 3rd Fly, **Mia M** – 3rd Backstroke, 3rd Medley Relay, **Maria N** – 2nd Backstroke, **Nicholas Y** – 3rd Backstroke, **Quan N** – 2nd Backstroke and **Scarlett D** – 3rd Medley Relay.

Thank you to the many parents who came along to support the children. A special thank you to Nicole Singleton who helped to supervise and organise the children on the day.

MINI GATORS

Liam from the Altona Basketball Stadium came along this week to work with our Year 3/4's on their basketball skills. He will be back next week to work with our Prep – Year 2 students. The Mini Gators basketball program will be starting at the Altona Stadium very soon. The children will (or already have) bring home a flyer about the program. Next week this flyer will be available on the school website.

LAVERTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

Laverton Community Centre is running many programs during Term One, including Parenting Adolescents, CPR, Anger Management for Men, Self Esteem & Assertion for Women.

If you are interested in finding out more, contact the centre.

95 – 105 Railway Ave, Laverton

(8368 0177 / email: reception@lcis.org.au)

Margaret Masseni

Physical Education / Student Wellbeing Leader



Emmanuel College Enrolment for Year 7, 2015

The closing date for applications for Year 7, 2015 at

Emmanuel College is **Friday 28th February, 2014.**

Application forms and a copy of the College prospectus can be obtained by contacting

Donna Grech (Registrar) on 83255119 or email

enrolments@ecmelb.catholic.edu.au.

Alternatively copies of the College prospectus and application form can be downloaded from the website on

www.ecmelb.catholic.edu.au

Congratulations to College Dux for the Class of 2013, John Huynh (ATAR 99.3), on his reception of the \$3000 College Brophy Scholarship for his undergraduate studies in Chemical Engineering at RMIT. Well done also to St. Paul's College Year 7 students and staff on the very successful camp held at Portsea. We look forward to an equally successful camp for Notre Dame College students in two weeks.



There are currently limited vacancies at some year levels.

Applications for Year 7, 2015 must close 28th February, 2014.

Enrolment application forms can be obtained from the website www.msj.vic.edu.au or by contacting the school

on 8398 2000 or emailing the College Registrar at

registrar@msj.vic.edu.au or visit 133 Maidstone Street, Altona.



CHILD DENTAL BENEFITS SCHEDULE

Seaholme Dental Surgery

54 Millers Road, Seaholme 3018

Telephone: 9398 2080

Bulked Billed Dental Treatment.

If you receive Family Tax Benefit A and you have received a letter from Department of Health, Seaholme Dental Surgery will bulk bill for dental treatment to eligible children.

Please contact the surgery on the above number.



Term 1

Walk to School Days

Use our WALKING SCHOOL BUS...

FRIDAY 28TH FEBRUARY

WEDNESDAY 19TH MARCH

We are encouraging St Mary's families to **Walk to School** together.

Please complete the form below and return it to school as soon as possible so we will know how many children and adults are joining in.

WALK TO SCHOOL in TERM 1 (Return to Mrs Masseni)

We will be there!!!!

CIRCLE YOUR DATES: 28th FEBRUARY / 19th MARCH

- Esplanade and Corner Sargood Street (beach side of the road)
- Corner of McIntyre Drive & Civic Parade (North side of Civic Parade)

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

Family name: _____ Contact Phone No.: _____

No. of children: _____ No. of Adults: _____

I CAN HELP TO SUPERVISE –

NAME:

Do you have a working with Children Check? Yes or No

If not, please go to the Post Office to inquire. We'd love your help

A note was sent home yesterday featuring more information about our Walking School Bus.
A copy is available on the school website.