



St. Mary's School, Altona Newsletter 2014

95A Railway Street North, Altona 3018

Phone: 9398 4842

www.smaltona.catholic.edu.au

No: 5. 28th February, 2014



Dear Parents

Thank you to those parents who made the effort to attend our Teacher / Parent Forums held this week. There were 60 families out of the 192 families we have at St. Mary's. There has certainly been very, very positive comments from parents who did attend about how relevant and informative they were. Thank you to those parents that have personally congratulated and thanked individual teachers for the quality of the presentations.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank and congratulate the teachers on all the work that went into preparing their presentations and the professional manner in which they were delivered. Well Done!

We would appreciate some written feedback:

From those who did attend:

- Your comments about what you heard and saw.
- What you would like to have heard about and didn't.
- Comments on how we could do it better.

From those who didn't attend:

- Why did you not attend?
- What could we have changed that might have assisted you attending, eg. time, place, content.

Please email your comments and suggestions to principal@smaltona.catholic.edu.au or drop them into the School Office. Thank you.

MICHAEL GROSE ARTICLES:

A number of interesting articles by Michael Grose have been uploaded to our **School Website: Wellbeing, Resources for Parents**. I encourage you to check them out.

ADVENTURE PLAYGROUNDS:

There seems to be some confusion about who can play where and when.

Junior Adventure Playground: Before School, Recess Times, After School – ONLY Prep and Year One/Two children.

Senior Adventure Playground: Recess Times – ONLY Year Three /Six children. Before School and After School – ONLY if your parent is physically present to supervise you.

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. 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 by the end of Round One – Monday 24th March.

How to register for new Tippers: Go to

www.victeach.footytips.com.au and "Click, Join" on the right hand side of the screen and complete the Registration details and select **St. Marys Primary School**. The **Password is "Mary"**. You will receive an email welcoming you to our competition. Please contact me if you have any difficulty.

People who were involved last year you have been automatically rolled over into this year's competition. You simply need to send the money with your names to the School Office. If you haven't paid by the end of Round One you will be removed from our competition.

SCHOOL FEES:

Thank you to all those families who have made a payment on their school fee account and especially to those families who have committed to a direct debit arrangement. These arrangements began yesterday **BUT IT IS NOT TOO LATE** to begin an agreement, please contact Mrs Valda Pedley for further details.

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.

David Kelly.
Principal.

EDUCATION IN FAITH

Confirmation

Thank you to all our Confirmation Candidates and parents for your attendance and participation in last week's Rite of Election mass. 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 Sacraments of Confirmation.

HELP NEEDED

We are still in need of **EVEN ONE** Year Six parent/guardian/friend to help with the placement of Names on the Confirmation Stoles. Please see Nicole Singleton or myself. ☺ Your assistance would be greatly appreciated.



ASH WEDNESDAY & LENT

Next Wednesday 5th March we begin our **Lenten** celebrations of the Church's Liturgical year. All students from Years 1 to 6 will have the opportunity to receive the ashes, a symbol of our humanity and mortality before God. **Ash Wednesday** marks the beginning of Lent and is

celebrated by a ritual where ashes are placed on our foreheads. These ashes were created from burning palms which were used on Palm Sunday 2013. Lent is a time of turning toward God in preparation for Easter. Throughout these 40 days, the whole Church prepares by *praying, fasting, and giving alms.*

ALL FAMILIES are invited to attend our special Ash Wednesday mass at 9.15 am.

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 prepare to receive the sacrament of Confirmation.

* An enlightened Lenten journey towards Easter.

Olive Chodowski – R.E.C.

"God is all powerful and can do all things."

St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop-1873



IMPORTANT DATES FOR NEXT WEEK

Monday 3rd March
Assembly 3/4L – 2.30 pm

Tuesday 4th March
School Education Board - 7.30 pm in Staff Room

Wednesday 5th March
ASH WEDNESDAY
Whole School Mass 9.15 – 10.15 am
Parents and Friends Meeting – 7.30pm in Staff Room

Thursday 6th March
Year 1/2 Camp Activity
World Book Day

Monday 10th March
Labour Day Holiday – No School



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

PARENT SEMINARS BY CRITICAL AGENDAS

Each seminar will start at 7.00 pm and run for approximately two hours.

\$15.00 per person (at the door) NO EFTPOS
Includes Free Tea/Coffee from 6.30 pm.

Secure your place!

Email rick@criticalagendas.com.au

Include **Date of Seminar**, your **NAME** and **Number of Tickets** required. (No obligation)

Collect and pay for tickets on the night.

Enquiries: Freecall 1800 638 012

Tuesday March 4th, De La Salle, 1318 High St, Malvern
Dr Ian Lillico presents **Understanding Adolescent Boys**

Thursday March 6th, 2014, Camberwell Girls Grammar School, 2 Torrington St, Canterbury
Brett Lee presents **Keeping Children Safe Online.**

Tuesday March 11th, 2014, Strathcona Baptist Girls' Grammar School, 34 Scott St, Canterbury
Greg Mitchell presents **Developing Positive Adolescents!**

Wednesday March 12th, 2014, Salesian College, 10 Bosco St, Chadstone
Greg Mitchell presents **Developing Positive Adolescents!**

Wednesday March 19th, 2014, Sacred Heart College Geelong, Retreat Rd, Newtown
Sharon Witt presents **Guarding and Guiding our Girls!**

TUCKSHOP HELPERS - Week beginning 3rd March



Tuesday
Wednesday
Friday

Pauline Luppino
Karoline Fanjek
Cathy Hills

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.



PARENTS AND FRIENDS EASTER RAFFLE

The annual Parents and Friends Easter raffle is on again this year. All money raised in the raffle assists with the purchase of equipment and resources for the school.

How it works:

We ask each family to donate an Easter egg or plush toy (dairy and gluten free eggs are appreciated). The eggs/toys are left in the Easter boxes in the classrooms and are collected each morning by the Easter Bunny's helpers. *Through the magic of Easter, these eggs and toys become the raffle prizes!*

We give each family a book of raffle tickets to sell (ten tickets x \$1 per ticket). On the last day of term the raffle is drawn! We usually end up with enough prizes for most children to win one.

Raffle tickets will be sent home with the eldest child next Friday 7th March. Easter donations can be brought to school starting the following Monday 10th March.



DOING IT RIGHT: Week 4 Term 1

Many children have been seen Doing It Right around the school this week. They have been helping people, packing sports equipment away, following school rules by moving safely inside, sitting down to eat, generously helping a teacher, being observant and loads of other great things.

Prep S: Dominic

Prep H: Allegra, Isabella A, Amber

1/2H: Gabriel

1/2D: Mia, Lucas, Tjay, Emma

3/4M: Nicky, Isla, Mulunesh, Liam, Jasmin

3/4L: Lizzy, Luke, Teegan

3/4S: Isabella C, Issabella L, Emma K

5/6G: Ethan P



FUN AND FITNESS

Every Wednesday

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 – 8.30am

Every Wednesday morning!!!

St. Mary's Altona Newsletter

"Caring Catholic Community in Education"

INTER SCHOOL SPORT

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

	St Mary's Altona	Williamstown Red
Cricket	53	33
Newcombe	3	0
Bat Tennis	34	27
Softball	21	0

Today we played Altona Yellow. (Scores next week) and next week we will play away at Altona North PS, Cresser St Altona North .



WALK / RIDE TO SCHOOL / FAMILY SKIP ALONG

Thanks to everyone who participated in today's Walk / Ride to School Day and family SKIP ALONG. It was great to see so many active, happy people. A number of students and parents (and toddlers and dogs) joined our Walking School Buses. Thanks to the many parents who helped to supervise the children along the way.

More information about the MOST ACTIVE CLASS and HOUSE POINTS next week.

OUR NEXT ACTIVE TRANSPORT DAY IS NATIONAL RIDE TO SCHOOL DAY ON WEDNESDAY 19TH MARCH



The **Hobsons Bay Schools Swimming Carnival** will be held on **Friday 28th March 2014 – 7:15 PM** at the Bayfit Leisure Centre, Mason St, Altona North.

We would like to encourage all students from Prep to Year 6 to participate in this event.

There are **Entry forms** and **further information** available - on the **school website** NEWS: Notes and Forms, on the **table outside the staff room** and from **Mrs Masseni** (mmasseni001@smaltona.catholic.edu.au).

All children will be made aware of the carnival in their PE lessons next week.

Entry forms must be returned to Mrs Masseni by THURSDAY 13th MARCH.



SWIMMING TEAM – CONGRATULATIONS!

Well done to Megan Whatman and Olivia Yacono who will represent St Mary's and ADSSA at the Divisional Championships on the 13th March at the Werribee Outdoor Pool. Megan will compete in the 50m breaststroke and Olivia in the 50m butterfly and backstroke. Good luck girls.

MINI GATORS

Liam from the Altona Basketball Stadium came along this week to work with our Prep to Year 2 students on their basketball skills.

The Mini Gators basketball program he was promoting will be starting at the Altona Stadium on 14th March. Registration should be made before 7th March. The children have received flyers about the program. This flyer is also available on the school website and on the table outside the staff room.



KIDS IN THE KITCHEN



Get the kids to help cook at home as it will help teach them where food comes from, how to measure, count, read, time and follow directions. It also allows for the introduction of new flavours as kids are more likely to eat food that they have helped prepare. Cooking is an important skill to teach children in this age of increasing take away and convenience eating. Remember to be patient. The mess and extra time needed will be worth it!

One idea is to begin the cooking experience with the food shopping. By encouraging them to help you, they will become familiar with a wide range of foods which will promote variety in their dietary intake. Teach them about choosing fresh fruits, vegetables and seasonal foods.

For more recipes visit www.nutritionaustralia.org

APPLE MUESLI MUFFINS

1 1/2 cup muesli
1 cup self raising flour
1/2 cup sugar
1 cup grated apple
1/2 cup sultanas
1 egg beaten
1/3 cup oil
1 cup milk

Add liquid ingredients to dry ingredients and mix until combined. Spoon into greased muffin tins. Bake at 190°C for 30 minutes or until golden. Makes 12.

TIP: Make mini muffins for little hands and tummies. Mini muffin tins are available from kitchen retailers.





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 today Friday 28 February any outstanding applications should be submitted urgently. Any queries regarding applications should be directed to Donna Grech (Registrar) on 83255119 or email enrolments@ecmelb.catholic.edu.au.

KIDS LEARN TO SAIL WITH TACKERS

Tackers is a Yachting Australia program aimed at getting kids aged 7-12 into sailing. Come and try Tackers. Ask qualified Yachting Australia Instructors about the upcoming April school holidays Tackers program at Altona Yacht Club. Where: Altona Yacht Club When: Saturday 22nd March, 9.00 – 11.30 am. Contact us now! info@theboatshed.net.au Tom Cotter 9686 2571.

ALTONA LOOP PUBLIC MEETING

Thursday 20th March, 2014 at 7.00 pm
Altona RSL, 31 Sargood Street, Altona
Altona Loop commuters still seeing red!
www.facebook.com/groups/167314643318965/



ALTONA CITY SOCCER CLUB

Want to play outdoor soccer in 2014? Altona City Soccer club caters for all, boys, girls, women and men of all age groups. It welcomes all to come and try before joining. **Under 5s to 7s** are starting from 15th March, 10.00 am at H.C. Kim Reserve, Millers Rd, Altona with its Nationally recognised and focussed program for this age group. A player's first session is a free "come and try session". Registration and payment is due the following week only if you decide to return. Other teams (**under 8s to 18s**) have just started and there are some vacancies in some age groups. **Coaches** are also needed in some teams. More information is available on our website.

www.altonacitysoccerclub.com.au or call on 9398 3974.

BARNSTONEWORTH UNITED JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

"The Barnies" are now inviting boys and girls between the ages of 5-16 to register for the 2014 season. Based in Williamstown, the "Barnies" are a family-friendly, FFV-affiliated soccer club with members coming from across the Western suburbs.

WHERE: J.T. Gray Reserve, Kororoit Creek Rd, Williamstown
WHEN: Registrations now open
TRIAL DAYS: Thu 13th, Sun 16th and Thu 20th March, at JK Grant Reserve, Altona
SEASON: starts 26th April to 14th Sept
COST: U7's \$100, U8-11's \$180, U12-16's \$230
MORE INFO: Maria 0487916590 info@bujfc.com

www.bujfc.com

All new members welcome.

U8-14s come and try out this Sunday at JK Grant Reserve, Altona.



Single Parents Active Kids

brings you a **FREE**

Single Parent Family Fun Day!

Sunday 16th March, 2014
12pm – 5pm

Logan Reserve
Pier Street, Altona
Melways reference 54 H11

- ⇒ Free BBQ and drinks
- ⇒ Free kids activities and games
- ⇒ Free face painting
- ⇒ Membership specials
- ⇒ and SO much more!

ENTERTAINMENT FOR ALL!
Please RSVP to Moush on
☎ 0430 504 119
✉ info@singleparentsactivekids.org

www.singleparentsactivekids.org  


