

# St. Mary's School, Altona Newsletter 2015

95A Railway Street North, Altona 3018

Phone: 9398 4842

[www.smaltona.catholic.edu.au](http://www.smaltona.catholic.edu.au)

No: 9. 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2015



Dear Parents

## Welcome back to Term Two.

The Annual General Meeting of the Parents & Friends Association will be held in the staffroom next Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April commencing at 7.30 pm. All parents are invited and encouraged to come along and share a wine and some nibbles and find out if there is some way that they can become more involved in their child/rens school. The small number of existing Parents & Friends members are willing to continue their involvement and remain on the Committee but I know they would love some extra assistance. The Parents & Friends have two key roles:

1. Continuing to enhance our strong sense of community.
2. Fundraising.

**Don't leave it to someone else, come along and get involved – you might be surprised how much enjoyment you will get out of it.**

## PREP 2016 INFORMATION SESSIONS & SCHOOL TOURS:

We are now accepting Enrolment Applications for Prep 2016. **Information Sessions and School Tours will be held on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April at 9.05 am, 11.35 am and 7.30 pm upstairs in the TRI Centre. Please pass this information onto any people that you think might be interested.**

Parents with siblings already enrolled at St. Mary's will need to complete an Application for Enrolment form and return it to the School Office but you do not need to attend the above sessions unless you choose to do so. Anyone interested in attending St. Mary's but unable to attend any of these sessions is encouraged to contact the School Office and an individual appointment and school tour can be arranged.

## SUNSMART SCHOOL:

To continue our certification as a Sunsmart School hats are required to be worn when outside until the end of April and from the beginning of September. The children were reminded of this by our School Captains at the School Assembly last Monday. They were also reminded that for Terms Two & Three the correct Winter Uniform is expected to be worn. If you are unsure what this involves it can be accessed from our school website. Thank you for your co-operation.

## FOOTY TIPPING:

Thank you to those that have joined our St. Marys Footy Tipping Competition. Can I remind people that all monies were due and payable by today Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April - \$23 per person or \$40 for two.

## YEAR SIX CAMP:

Our Year Six children have returned safely from a very successful and enjoyable camp. Their behaviour, manners and willingness to involve everyone was again exemplary. They were a credit to themselves, the school and to you their parents. Thank you to the staff involved in the planning and participation at the camp – Mrs Olive Chodowski, Mrs Lisa Vella and Mrs Nicole Singleton.

## ANZAC COMMEMORATIVE SERVICES

The Altona RSL will be holding two commemorative services to mark ANZAC Day. These Services will take place at the cenotaph in front of the Council offices on **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April** and on **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2015**. Both services will include a March from the Altona RSL to the cenotaph, and as a result there will be road closures in place. For further information contact the Altona RSL. [Secretary@altonarsl.com](mailto:Secretary@altonarsl.com)

David Kelly.  
Principal.

## IMPORTANT DATES FOR NEXT WEEK

### APRIL

Saturday 18	Preparation for Reconciliation & First Eucharist Rite of Acceptance Mass – 6.00 pm
Sunday 19	Preparation for Reconciliation & First Eucharist Rite of Acceptance Mass – 10.30 am
Monday 20	Assembly 1/2D – 2.30 pm
Wednesday 22	Walk / Ride to School Day Parents & Friends AGM – 7.30 pm
Thursday 23	Prep Information & School Tours 9.05, 11.35 am & 7.30 pm
Saturday 25	<b>ANZAC DAY</b>

## EDUCATION IN FAITH

### Reconciliation & First Eucharist

Thank you to all parents & guardians who attended the Information and Registration session on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March, run by Richard Hallett, Pastoral Associate for St Mary's Parish- a wonderful response.



Just a reminder that this weekend we will continue our preparations for Reconciliation and First Eucharist, with your attendance at a Rite of Acceptance Mass.

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April at 6.00 pm

OR

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April 10.30 am

– St. Mary Help of Christians Church.

DON'T FORGET TO TAKE YOUR

CHILD'S NAME CARD TO CHURCH.

### Congratulations

to **Melinda Engler** (Mother to Susannah-PrepS).  
on the joyful occasion of her Baptism during the  
Easter Vigil mass at St Mary's Altona.  
We welcome Melinda as a baptised member of the  
Catholic Church and support her  
in her faith journey ahead.

### Easter Blessing Prayer

This beautiful blessing prayer is prayed over those who are preparing for baptism at Easter. It is a reminder that, through baptism, we **ALL** belong to Christ.

*Receive the sign of the cross on your ears,  
That you may hear the voice of the Lord.*

*Receive the sign of the cross on your eyes,  
That you may see the glory of God.*

*Receive the sign of the cross on your lips,  
That you may respond to the word of God.*

*Receive the sign of the cross over your heart,  
That Christ may dwell there by faith.*

*Receive the sign of the cross on your shoulder,  
That you may bear the gentle yoke of Christ.*

*Receive the sign of the cross on your hands,  
That Christ may be known in the work which you do.*

*Receive the sign of the cross on your feet,  
That you may walk in the way of Christ.*

Amen

**Year 1/2HK will be attending  
the Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April Parish Mass at 9:15am.  
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.

\* All students who are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Penance.

\*A rewarding and successful Term Two for staff, students and families.

\*And thank God for the happy and safe return of our Year 6 campers.

*Olive Chodowski – REL*

“Let your gentleness be known to everyone.

The Lord is near.” (Phil 4:5)



**ARE YOU READY TO TAKE  
UP THE CHALLENGE.....?  
THE 2015 VICTORIAN  
PREMIER'S READING  
CHALLENGE**

Children who have participated in previous Challenges will know that there are **many benefits** in taking part. As well as the intrinsic rewards of reading, each student who completes the Challenge will **receive a Certificate**.

### How to Meet the Challenge

There are rules you need to follow to meet the Challenge.

- register as a Challenger and make sure you keep a record of your reading on the Challenge website (How?...further on in note)
- read the following number of books during the Challenge.

Year level	Number of books	Number from the Challenge book list
Prep – Year 2	30 books	20 or more
Year 3 – Year 6	15 books	10 or more

### If you are in Prep, Year 1 or Year 2

You can read books by yourself or with someone else.  
You can read books with your:

- parents
- teacher
- brother or sister
- buddy or friend.

They can help you or read the book to you if you are just learning to read.

There is plenty of time ....as challenge finishes on .....11<sup>th</sup> September.

So **START READING TODAY!!!**

For more information about the Challenge, visit the following website: [www.education.vic.gov.au/prc/](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/prc/)

Or forms are available from our School Office or School website.

## NEED 2 READ

**IS BACK .....**

Every **Tuesday and Thursday** from **8.20 to 8.40** am in the Library we have our **Need 2 Read Club**.

All school children and their family members are welcome to come along and enjoy reading. As a way to encourage children to come they will have a N2R card and each time they come will receive a stamp. When they reach 5, 10 and 15 they can choose a prize from our Lucky Prize Box. Children need to be in the library by 8.30 am to receive a stamp. See you there.



## PARENT THRASS COURSES –

**Beginners and Advanced.**

**Come along and learn about THRASS so that you can help your child with both their reading and spelling. More information is available at the end of the newsletter.**

**Gwenda Burnett.**

**Deputy Principal & Literacy Leader.**

**TUCKSHOP HELPERS -** Week beginning 20<sup>th</sup> April



Wednesday  
Friday

Maria Charalambous  
Alicia Galea

Manager: Eva Coppola Tel: 9315 0799

**UNIFORM SHOP OPEN  
WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS 2.30 –  
3.00 PM**



## AUSSIE OF THE MONTH

**Amber S** for being a great and caring friend to all.

**Chloe Z** for always trying her best during classtime, even during difficult tasks. She constantly makes good choices both inside and outside and is a great friend to others.

**Luke C** for his polite manner and for the positive attitude he displays towards his learning. Luke approaches class activities with enthusiasm and determination. Keep up the great work Luke!



## CROSS COUNTRY

Cross Country trials will be held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April for those students who have been attending training sessions. Meet at 7.45 am at the football oval on Civic Pde near to Sargood St.

Wear your runners, bring a change of shoes and socks.

Bring a water bottle.

Students will walk back to school with Mrs Masseni

See you there.



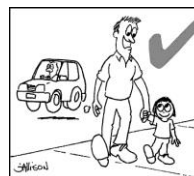
**WALK / RIDE TO SCHOOL DAY –**

**THIS WEDNESDAY 22ND APRIL**

**Dates for your diary:**

**FRIDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> MAY – Walk Safely to School Day (With Walking School Bus)**

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> JUNE – Walk / Ride to School Day**



## Always hold their hand

When in traffic **always** hold a young child's hand.

**ROAD SAFETY AROUND SCHOOLS  
BEGINS WITH YOU!**



## DOING IT RIGHT

**Week 1 Term 2**

Thanks to everyone who has been Doing It Right around the school but especially to the following children who were awarded a Doing It Right card in the final weeks of Term 1.

Prep HM: Christos, Fernando

1/2D: Eliza, Bianca,

2/3S: Ava C, Shannon, Nikita,

3/4M: Daniel, Gabby,

4/5G: Alannah, Lauren

5/6C: Mairead,

5/6VT: Olivia,

They received their awards for taking pride in the environment, being inclusive and caring, making good choices - handing in money that was found, helping Mrs Vella, caring for our school by picking up rubbish, getting along well with others and loads of other great things!



Thanks to Tom Delahunty (Football Development Manager - South West Region) and AFL Victoria for providing coaches (Daniel and Tayla) to work with our Prep and Year 1/2 students on their football skills for 4 weeks last term. The children enjoyed their time with Daniel and Tayla and improved their skills greatly.



"NAB AFL Auskick is once again kicking off in the local area. If your child is interested in giving AFL a go, then head to [www.aflauskick.com.au](http://www.aflauskick.com.au) to find your nearest centre.

**Register and Pay online before 19<sup>th</sup> April to receive 4 FREE tickets to an AFL game in the 2015 season!"**

### ON PSYCH – PSYCHOLOGIST SERVICES

We have a new psychologist, Brooke Fielke, who comes to our school on Mondays this year to counsel children in need.

If you believe your child may benefit from counselling sessions with Brooke, please see Margaret Masseni (Student Wellbeing Leader).

Sessions are Medicare Funded and all done at school.

Brooke will also be running a Parent Information session on **Anxiety and Building Resilience in Children**, later in the term. We will provide more information when details have been finalised.

### CAN YOU SEW?

We have 12 calico squares that have been decorated by each class that need to be sewn together and edged with ribbon to make our DOING IT RIGHT BANNER.

If you have a machine and have time to help us with this task please contact Margaret Masseni by email - [mmasseni@smaltona.catholic.edu.au](mailto:mmasseni@smaltona.catholic.edu.au) or via the school office...or catch her when you see her!

**Margaret Masseni.**  
**Wellbeing and PE/Sport Leader.**

### 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@campaustralia.com.au](mailto: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.

### CREATIVE MUSIC

Learn Music here at St. Mary's learn to play keyboard. Creative Music for Schools conducts a music program here at school each week. Small group classes or one-on-one lessons give children an excellent grounding in music where they will learn to read music and play their chosen instrument. Tuition costs from \$16.20 per lesson and enrolments are now being accepted for limited places in term two, 2015. Interested parents should call Marika during office hours on 9818 2333.

## Parents and Friends News

### 80s DISCO

Thank you to everyone who attended the 80s Disco just before the school holidays. It was a great night and the effort you all went to with your costumes was brilliant. Some of the winners for best dressed were Chrissy Amphlett, the biggest & most stunning Afro we've ever seen, several dads disguised as members of The Village People, and a dazzling Solid Gold ensemble. You can spot all of these amazing costumes and gain some insight into the hilarity of the night by scrolling through the photos from the Photo Booth

at <https://m.facebook.com/StMarysAltona80sDisco2015>

Thank you to Diane Howell for ensuring everything ran smoothly in the lead up to the disco & all through the night. Also to Anthony Molinia for being the wonderful MC. Thanks to Emma Denys from Evolve Graphic Design for creating the gorgeous posters, flyers and cocktail menus. Finally, a huge thank you to Melissa Gielnik from Smart Lending for generously sponsoring the Photo Booth from Big Day Little Booth. The night was a fantastic success.

### JOSEPH'S CORNER

Are you interested in....

- Learning how to live resiliently, mindfully and gratefully?
- Moving toward valued life directions?
- Enhancing your sense of wellbeing?

Venue: The Laverton Community Hub  
95-105 Railway Avenue, Laverton

Program Fee: \$50.00. Other options available if this is unaffordable.

Enquiries and Enrolments, contact Joseph's Corner: 9315 2680

Session Dates/times:

Tuesday 26 Mar: 2,9,16 & 23 June 2015

All sessions are from 9.30 – 12.30 pm

Email: [contact@josephscorner.org.au](mailto:contact@josephscorner.org.au)

### HOBSONS BAY CITY COUNCIL

#### FREE EVENT – FOR ALL PARENTS/CARERS IMMUNISATION INFORMATION SESSION

Hobsons Bay City Council Immunisation Service would like to invite you to an immunisation information session which will provide you with current and relevant information around childhood immunisation and the services Council provides. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions.

Two sessions will be run but attendance is only required at one of the sessions, as information will be replicated.

When: Wednesday 22 April 2015

Time: 10.00 – 11.00 am

Where: Laverton Community Hub, 95-105 Railway Avenue, Laverton

When: Tuesday 28 April 2015

Time: 7.00 – 8.00 pm

Where: Seabrook Community Centre, 15 Truganina Avenue, Seabrook

RSVP: Bookings are not required





# St. Mary's School Altona

School Reg. No 1273

ABN 87 486 483 737

## THRASS PARENT INSERVICES

Dear Parents

**Would you like to know more about THRASS – Teaching Handwriting Reading and Spelling Skills program?**

The THRASS program helps students understand the relationship between the 44 phonemes (speech sounds) of spoken English and the 26 letters of the alphabet.

THRASS is strongly focused on in our Junior classes as part of our Literacy program.

If you would like to know more about THRASS and how you can use it to assist your own child with their learning in Reading and Spelling you are welcome to attend one of the following sessions.

These sessions will be held at the school downstairs in the TRI centre.

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 9.00 – 10.00am Or Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 6.30 – 7.30pm**

**YOU HAVE ALREADY BEEN TO A THRASS COURSE and need an UPDATE or MORE ideas. Then fill in the form below to come to the 'REVISITING THRASS' session on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May. Return forms to the school office or your child's classroom.**

Should you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours truly,

Gwenda Burnett  
Literacy Leader

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### THRASS PARENT INSERVICE

**Please return by Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2015**

**RETURN to Gwenda Burnett or email: [gburnett@smaltona.catholic.edu.au](mailto:gburnett@smaltona.catholic.edu.au)**

My Child's name is \_\_\_\_\_ in Year \_\_\_\_\_

I \_\_\_\_\_ will be attending the THRASS Parent inservice  
(name)

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