



St. Mary's School, Altona

Newsletter 2016

95A Railway Street North, Altona 3018

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Dear Parents,

No.15 27th May 2016

Recently at our School Leadership Team meetings and the School Education Board meetings the topic of our Homework Policy has been raised. So it is felt we are at a stage where we need to review our current Homework Policy to ensure that our expectations are relevant and appropriate to our children and families today and in the future. We also want to know what you think about homework as well. So, starting this week and for the next few weeks I will publish a link to two conflicting articles (or extracts) regarding homework for you to read and discuss as a family. Staff will also be immersed in the research surrounding homework. Early in Term Three we will put out a short survey for you to complete so that we can understand your opinions and thoughts on homework. We will also survey our children. The information gained from this (and that of the research) will be used to develop our new homework policy moving forward. If you are aware of an interesting and/or informative piece of research on homework I would be happy to receive it. Our current policy can be viewed on our school website.

<http://www.kidspot.com.au/the-must-read-evidence-against-homework/>

<http://education.cu-portland.edu/blog/news/the-homework-debate-benefits-of-homework/>

FAMILY FILM NIGHT:

The Parents & Friends have organised a **"FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT" - "Ice Age: Collision Course"** for Friday 24th June, (last day of this term) 7.00 pm. at the Sun Theatre, Ballarat St, Yarraville. Adult ticket - \$18.00. Child Ticket (17 and under) - \$18.00 each (includes small drink & popcorn). Children must be accompanied by an adult. You can book online at www.trybooking.com/LQFK or send cash in a clearly marked envelope to the school office. Tickets purchased before Thursday 17th June will go in a draw to win a Sun Theatre Family movie pass for 4 and a Wyncity \$100 family fun voucher. Drawn Monday 20th June.

PARENTS & FRIENDS:

The next meeting of the P & F will be next Wednesday 1st June commencing at 7.30 pm. in the staffroom. Please come along to meet the committee and see what the P & F committee is all about.

SCHOOL EDUCATION BOARD:

The Annual General Meeting of the School Education Board was held last Tuesday. Congratulations to Katrina Haby (Amelia in Yr 1/2G) who was elected onto the Board as one of the five Parent Representatives. The ongoing Parent Representatives are; Diane Howell, Paul Kruger, Paul Moore and Janice O'Connor. Carol Hicks is the Teacher Representative.



Diary Date....WEDNESDAY 15TH
JUNE is **BETTER BUDDIES DAY**.
Wear a **SPLASH OF PURPLE** with
your uniform.

REQUEST:

A past student of St. Mary's, Jade Said (presently a Year Nine student at Emmanuel College Notre Dame Campus) is participating in "Live Below the Line" charity fundraiser where she will be living on \$2.00 a day for five days, the equivalent of the extreme poverty line. If you would like to support Jade in this cause please donate by clicking on the following link: www.livebelowtheline.com.au/me/jadesaid

EXCITING LIBRARY NEWS:

The Library system for borrowing, returning and searching for books is being replaced with a new system called Access-It. This will be much easier and quicker for staff and students to use, as well as being a lot more colourful and interesting. While we are changing over systems, we will be unable to borrow books, so next week will be the last week for borrowing this term. Last day will be Friday 3rd June. Any books borrowed next week will not be due until Monday 18th July (second week of term 3), so you'll have the whole of the holidays to read them.

PREP 2017 PARENT INTERVIEWS:

These will take place next Wednesday 1st June (9.00 - 10.50 am., 5.00 - 5.50 & 7.00 - 7.50 pm.) and Thursday 2nd June (9.00 - 10.50 am, 11.30 - 1.20 & 4.00 - 5.50 pm.). Currently we have 31 applications from new families and 22 from families that already have children enrolled at St. Mary's. All families need to book an interview time so please contact the school office ASAP to book a suitable time. Children are welcome to attend but they are not required. It is only a brief 10 minute interview.

FOOTY TIPPING:

The Jackpot for round 10 is \$15.00. Good Luck!

SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY:

Is next Tuesday 31st May. There is **NO SCHOOL** on this day. Unfortunately there weren't sufficient numbers for OSHC to operate.

David Kelly
Principal

EDUCATION IN FAITH

RECONCILIATION

Our Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated on Wednesday, 8th June 7pm.



The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Next Friday 3rd June we will celebrate the Feast Day of

The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus with a mass for Prep-Yr.4 - 9.15am.

All families and friends are welcome to come along and join their children in prayer.

ONE LORD, ONE FAITH, ONE HOPE

There is one body and one Spirit,
just as there is one hope held out in
God's call to you;

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism;
There is one God, who is over all,
and through all and in all

In your life together, and in your attitude
toward one another,
be the same as Christ Jesus,
your servant Lord.

For this is what God in Christ wills for you.
God has called you, and God will not fail you.

Amen

*Extracts from Paul's letters to the
1st Century Christians.*

SOCIAL JUSTICE MESSAGE:

St. Vincent de Paul Society 'Winter Appeal'

Each classroom has been provided with a small blue shopping bag to fill with non-perishable food items to support the work of St. Vincent de Paul Society in our local community. They are also looking for blankets, doonas and clothing ~ so if you are having a 'spring'(autumn) clean out and have extra donations please bring along to the school office or Yr 5/6C. Due date is Fri 3rd June.

**PLEASE DONATE AN ITEM TO
THIS WORTHY CAUSE**

Thank-you

Kate Ealem & Tahlia Sepsic

Social Justice Leaders

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

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

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

Olive Chodowski – REL

*"God understands us better than we understand
ourselves or each other."*

Mary MacKillop, 1877



PRINCIPAL AWARDS

23rd May

PrepHM	Andre Braganza
PrepS	Skye Alghren
Year 1/2HK	Jade McGill
Year 1/2S	Christos Gionis
Year 1/2D	Zara Reis
Year 1/2G	Amelia Papal
Year 3/4M	Jacob Yacono
Year 3/4S	Summer London
Year 3/4VH	Caitlyn Green
Year 5/6C	Georgia Lemanis
Year 5/6L	Michelle Nassim
Year 5/6M	Layland Pappas



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**

IMPORTANT DATES

30/5	Prep HM Assembly
31/5	School Closure Day
3/6	Sacred Heart Of Jesus -Whole School Mass
6/6	Year 3/4S Prayer Assembly
8/6	Sacrament of Reconciliation 7-8pm
13/6	Queen's Birthday (Public Holiday)
15/6	Wonder of Living (parent/child session) 6.30-7.30pm
20/6	Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences 1.30-8pm
21/6	Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences 3.30-5.30pm
24/6	Family Film Night
1/6	P & F Meeting 7.30pm
7/6	School Education Board Mtg 7.30pm

CSEF – APPLICATIONS CLOSE JUNE 2nd

NO late applications can be accepted.

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.



On Sunday 5th June St. Mary's Parish will be celebrating a special Children's Mass at 10.30am.

We would like as many children as possible to be involved in this special celebration. Tea will be served after Mass, we would appreciate it if you would please bring a plate. Looking forward to seeing you there



Farwell to Bishop Vincent Long

Archbishop Denis Hart extends a warm invitation to parishioners to attend a Mass of Farewell and Thanksgiving for Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv who has served as Auxiliary Bishop since 2011 at St. Patrick's Cathedral, on **Wednesday 1st June, 2016 at 7pm**. The Mass will provide an opportunity for the Archbishop on behalf of the Archdiocese, to extend our gratitude to Bishop Long for his faithful Service in the Archdiocese and to seek God's blessing upon him as the Bishop of Parramatta.



MSJ Open Mornings – 9.30am – 10.30am (Thursday) 26th May, 16th June, 11th August, 8th September, 10th November 2016 MSJ Musical ~ Anything Goes Come and see the show on Friday 17th June at 7pm, Saturday 18th June at 12.30pm or 7pm. Caroline Chisholm College Quin Auditorium 204 Churchill Avenue, Braybrook For more information, call 8398 2000, or visit www.tickethost.com.au MSJ Twilight Open Evening – 3pm – 7pm (Thursday) 6th October 2016 Currently Accepting Applications for 2016, 2017 and 2018 Limited places are available for 2016. 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 2007.

TUCKSHOP HELPERS - Week beginning 30th May



Wednesday Caroline Cassar

Thursday

Friday

Rosemary Ciavarella

Manager: Eva Coppola



The Great Moscow Circus opens at APEX Park in Altona on the 22nd of June, 2016. Very cheap tickets are available for opening night. For years now, The Great Moscow Circus have donated tickets for their shows to local charities to sell to help them raise money. They have helped charities all over the country raise over \$700,000 so far!

Love Your Sister (we're a charity raising funds for breast cancer research) has been lucky enough to receive 500 tickets for the show on 22 June, and they're available through our online store (link at the bottom of this email). The entire ticket price goes to our fundraising efforts to find a cure for breast cancer.

www.loveyoursister.org/shop.php



UNIFORM SHOP

Open Wednesday Afternoon 2:30 - 3:00pm & Monday mornings 8:30 - 9:00am

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.

Today's Results from Rd 4 vs Bayside Prep - 9 and Altona

Netball	Girls	Won	14 - 1
	Mixed	Lost	11 - 18
Football		Lost	24 - 28
Soccer	Girls	Lost	0 - 3
	Mixed	Won	6 - 0
Teeball	Girls	Won	10 - 6
	Mixed	Lost	12 - 16

Well done to the winning teams and all other participants

Next week round 5 vs Seaholme **Primary**

Soccer Civic Pde, AFL & Netball school, T Ball Seaholme Kinder



Enchanted Years will be hosting a very special FREE event on Saturday 4th June at 2pm. Lulu Bell author Belinda Murrell & illustrator Serena Geddes will be in store to talk about the Lulu Bell books (reading age 7 years +) AND Belinda will also be talking about her NEW book "The Lost Sapphire" (suitable for ages 9 years +).

This is a FREE event but bookings are recommended. For bookings please call Enchanted Years on 9397 1154.

Music Theatre Boot Camp

Winter Programs 2016

Mon 27 June to Fri 1 July
Mon 4 July to Fri 8 July
9.30am to 3pm Mon to Fri, Carlton location

A fun, inclusive, 5-day program where industry professionals introduce primary aged kids to the skills of Music Theatre through games, group work and a performance at the end of the week!

- Classic and creative programs available
- Discounts for multiple enrolments
- Led by industry professionals

More information and bookings at
www.musictheatrebootcamp.com.au - 9078 3696

"I was privileged to glimpse the possibility of what can be achieved by a boy surrounded by your talent, encouragement and positivity." - Maria

Williamstown Literary Festival: 18 & 19 June 2016

The Willy Lit Fest aims to enrich children's lives by fostering a love of reading and books.

[You can check out the full listing of events online](#), and remember, early bird discounts are available until 11.59pm on 31 May. Tickets will be available online, over the phone (9932 4074) and in person at the Williamstown Library.



Family Movie Night

"Ice Age: Collision Course"

Friday June 24th, 7.00pm

Sun Theatre, Ballarat St, Yarraville

Adult ticket - \$18.00

Child ticket (17 and under) - \$18.00 each (includes small drink & popcorn)

**Cash in envelope to office or book online at
www.trybooking.com/LQFK**

Purchase tickets by Thursday 17th June for your chance to WIN a Sun Theatre Family movie pass for 4 and a Wyncity \$100 family fun. Voucher