

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL, ALTONA NEWSLETTER 2016

95A Railway Street North, Altona 3018

Principal: David Kelly Ph: 9398 4842 www.smaltona.catholic.edu.au

Parish Priest: Fr Shabin Ph: 9398 2964 altona@cam.org.au



Dear Parents,

No. 26 26th August, 2016

Once again Insight SRC is conducting a survey on behalf of the Catholic Education Office, Melbourne and our school. Sixty randomly selected parents will receive an envelope containing instructions and the survey next week. You can choose to complete it online or a paper copy.

The online version is open from Monday 29th August until Friday 16th September; the paper version needs to be returned to the school office, sealed in the supplied envelope, also by Friday 16th September as they need to be returned to Insight SRC. Any surveys returned after this date cannot be included. Participation in this survey, while strongly encouraged, is completely voluntary.

If you receive a survey and you do not wish to participate please return it immediately to school and we can offer it to another family. If you haven't received a survey and you would like to complete one we have a few spare copies so please contact the school office and we will send you one.

All staff and our Year 5/6 students will also complete a survey prior to the 16th September.

We are seeking the support of our parents as we believe our parent voice is important to help shape the ongoing improvement of our school. The main aim of the survey is to identify factors that contribute to the organisational health of your child's/children's school and provide valuable information about what is going well, and not so well, and the ways in which this may be improved and built upon. We are consulting families to gather your input to shape the future development of our school. Please remember your individual responses will remain confidential and can only be accessed by Insight SRC. Feedback will be provided to us, based on the collective answers of all parents who participate in this survey.

Thank you in advance for your participation.



YELLOW DAY - SPRING INTO HAPPINESS AND KINDNESS:

YELLOW DAY

THURSDAY 1st SEPTEMBER

To celebrate the beginning of SPRING we are once again running our **SPRING INTO HAPPINESS AND KINDNESS** day. **YELLOW** is the colour we've chosen for the day and we would like everyone to wear a 'SPLASH' with their uniform.

As we know doing small 'kindnesses' for others not only lifts their spirits, but also our own.

Keep in mind the quote from Mary MacKillop to guide you along the way:

"FIND HAPPINESS IN MAKING OTHERS HAPPY!"

St. Mary MacKillop - 1899

We are asking everyone to **think about** how they can Spring into Happiness & Kindness and how they can help others to do the same right through September.

What actions can you do to spread some HAPPINESS AND KINDNESS around amongst family, friends and the wider community?

FATHER'S DAY MASS:

Our special Parish and School Celebration Mass on Father's Day is coming up on Sunday 4th September. We have traditionally had one or two dads share their reflections / thoughts about being a dad (one or two minutes is fine). If you are interested in being involved, please contact either myself or Olive Chodowski (our Religious Education Leader and Year 5/6C teacher). It's not as difficult as you might think and feedback from dads who have been involved previously have said that it was extremely rewarding.



Thursday 1st Sept 2016

It is time to get the hats out again in line with our SunSmart policy, which requires our students to wear their hats from the beginning of September to the end of April.

Check out the SunSmart link on our website for the latest weather and sun protection information.

OPTIONAL PARENT / TEACHER CONTACT:

On Monday 12th September we are holding a Parent / Teacher Contact Afternoon from 3.15 pm. to 5.00 pm. It is an opportunity for parents to meet with classroom teachers to discuss issues related to their child and their learning.

All parents DO NOT have to attend this meeting, only those who have a concern.

Teachers wishing to see parents regarding their child's learning will contact parents to arrange a time on this afternoon.

Parents will need to make a booking online for all appointments. Go to our school website for a direct link. Click on Interviews or go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and follow the simple instructions.

The SCHOOL EVENT CODE is: fafy6

Bookings will open on Monday 29th August and close on Friday 9th September.

Please note - Cathy Sims will not be available on the 12th September for interviews however an alternate date on 5th Sept has been organised. Cathy will send home a note to Prep S parents. Please return the form to Cathy if you wish to meet her.

SCHOOL FEES:

School fees for the 2016 year need to be finalised by Friday 9th September. The **ONLY** exceptions to this are those families who have committed to a direct debit plan and those families who have seen me to make alternative arrangements.

If you are having difficulty with your fees, please contact the School Office as soon as possible to arrange an appointment to see me and discuss the matter. We are always able to come to some mutually agreeable arrangement.

David Kelly
Principal.



PRINCIPALS AWARDS 22nd August 2016

PrepHM	William Bainger
	Isabelle Manguiat
PrepS	Luca Devetak
	Isobelle Appleby
Year 1/2HK	Oscar Fischer
	Georgia Rada
Year 1/2S	Augusta Georgiadis
	Oscar Devetak
Year 1/2D	Lucas Giardina
	Maggie London
Year 1/2G	Dhriti Amin
	Isabel Rodrigue
Year 3/4M	Jett Porter
	Samuel Molinia
Year 3/4S	Lucas Galea
	Isla Manton
Year 3/4VH	Sebastian Molinia
	Olivia Charalambous
Year 5/6C	Luke Cooper
	Sienna Cutajar
Year 5/6L	Mark Misquitta
	Kate Pope
Year 5/6M	Lauren Wakfer
	Alessia Abate

EDUCATION IN FAITH

Celebration of First Eucharist:

Congratulations to all our students who celebrated their First Eucharist last weekend.

A major step in their faith life and in their journey with Jesus.



St Mary's Altar Servers

SPECIAL INVITATION

I would like to invite **ALL FIRST EUCHARIST** children to **CONSIDER** training as Altar Servers at Mary Help of Christians Parish, Altona. I would like to encourage their parents to allow their sons and daughters to join in this very special service. It will take **time** and **commitment** from students and parents. However, it is a beautiful way for the children to express their active support in the life of the Church and to learn how to become more responsible in their own year level.

Please see Mrs Chodowski for a form.

Fr. Shabin



Altar Servers

GO FORTH

Loving God,
Call us to be compassionate,
Call us to be merciful,
Call us to the way of humility and service.
Call us to be people of justice,
Call us to be witnesses of your word,
Call us to the way of peace and love.
In the name of the Father, and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- * All members of our community who are sick or in need of our prayerful support
- * And thank the Lord for the safe return of our Year 4 students from camp



Social Justice News

We are continuing to collect items for our Year 5/6 Social Justice stalls later this term. We are after books or toys (in good condition) that can be donated towards our senior stalls. A big thank you to all those families who have already donated. Please drop off any items to Room 11 -Year 5/6C or the Office

Kate Ealem & Tahlia Sepsic - Social Justice Leaders



"God will protect and work with us".

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, 1885

IMPORTANT DATES

29/8	Year 1/2G Assembly	2.30pm
2/9	Father's Day stall	
4/9	Father's Day Parish Mass	10.30-11.30am
5/9	Prep S & Prep HM Prayer Assembly	2.40pm
6/9	ADSSA Athletics	
7/9	Family Maths Night	6.30-7.30pm
9/9	Footy Fun Day	
12/9	Year 5/6M Assembly	2.30pm
16/9	Term 3 Finishes	2.30 pm.



Thanks for coming along in an active way on Monday. Our Most Active Class was Year 3/4VH. Our next Walk / Ride to School Day is Wednesday 14th September.



Well done to the following children who have completed the Premiers Reading Challenge recently: Charlotte L, Alana V, Anthony B, Gabrielle M, Georgia L, Justin N, Olivia D, Jade A & Tam N

PARENTS AND FRIENDS NEWS

FATHERS DAY STALL – HELP NEEDED!

Father's Day Wrap will be held on **Thursday 1st September** from 1.30 pm and the Fathers' Day Stall will be held on **Friday 2nd September** between, 9.00 – 11.00 am in the school hall if you are able to help please see Helen McAvoy, or complete the google form available through the link with this newsletter email.



FAMILY MATHS NIGHT



A reminder that our St Mary's Family Maths Night will be held on Wednesday, 7th September. Teachers have planned some great maths experiences for you and your family to enjoy. You will have the opportunity to wander through rooms and participate in different maths investigations. There will be guessing competitions a chance to win prizes. It will be a fun and interactive experience for all our families.

Please RSVP via the link in our newsletter. Hope to see you there.

Church News :

Annual Father's Day Appeal for Retired & Sick Priests – 3&4 September. This important Appeal helps raise funds to enable the Priests Retirement Foundation to care for approximately 90 of our priests in retirement, one of which is our past parish priest Fr. Clem Cafarella. While many of these priests no longer hold official appointments in our parishes, they continue with great generosity to serve the people of the Archdiocese and their brother priests in parishes through regular supply and chaplaincy work. A collection will be taken up next weekend.

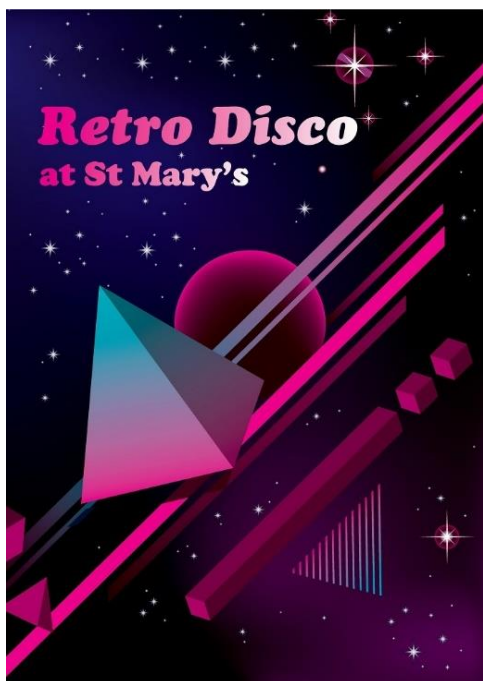
Extraordinary Year of Mercy 7pm Friday 2nd September 2016. Theme: St. Padre Pio – led by the Capuchin Fathers. All welcome to attend.



Updating our Parish Records

It's been a number of years since we have had a proper census at St. Mary's. It is important that our Census is kept up to date so that we know who our parishioners are, who is still with us and who has left the parish. Over the weekends of **10/11th & 17/18th September** we will be handing out Census Cards to each family at all the weekend Masses. You will be given some time during Mass to complete your Census Card which will then be collected by the Ushers. If you are away on those weekends please collect a card from the Parish Office. Thank you for your co-operation.

St. Joseph's by the Sea (16 Esplanade, Williamstown) – **Introduction to Organic Gardening.** Thursday 8th September & Thursday 13th October. 1 to 3pm. Facilitator Annie Hingston & Carmel Crameri rsj. Enquiries 9397 6012 or 9397 0344.
Email admin.sjbsw@sosj.org.au



RETRO DISCO – Back to the 70s, 80s & 90s

Our major social/fundraising event of the year!

Grab your tix now for the Retro Disco on the 15th October at Koorngal Golf Course. Buy your tix in the next couple of weeks and get one free wristband for unlimited access to the photo booth.

Tickets are now available through

www.trybooking.com/MBPR

Tickets are \$28.50pp and include finger food.

Drinks are at Club prices and \$10 cocktails.

Family & friends are welcome, so grab a group & get creative with 70s – 90s inspired outfits.

A big THANK YOU to Emma Denys from Evolve Graphic Design for our posters.



School Disco

Hurry only two more weeks before ticket sales for the kids disco close **at midnight Thursday September 8th.**

Tickets are \$6 each book your tickets at trybooking.com using the code <https://www.trybooking.com/MHFW>.

The Annual St. Mary's School Disco will take place on the last Thursday of term 3, 15th September. So everybody get ready to BOOGIE! This is traditionally a highlight of the children school social calendar. The children are supervised all evening. Games and competitions will be run throughout the night and glow wear can be purchased.

We have had a few great song suggestions but we need more! Write down your favourite song and place it in the song suggestion box near the office to hear it played on the night.

Junior Prep – Year Two Disco will be from 5.30 – 6.45 pm.

Senior Year Four – Year Six will be from 7.15 – 9.00 pm

Year 3 has a choice to attend either the senior or junior disco

We need your help!

Many hands make light work, to help make this an enjoyable event for all, we would really appreciate assistance on the night. Could you please email discokids@outlook.com with your preferred volunteer duty:

- Set up (1.45 – 3.00pm)
- Junior Disco (5.15 – 7.00pm)
- Senior Disco (7.00 – 9.00pm)
- Packing Up (9.00 – 9.30pm)

TUCKSHOP HELPERS Week beginning



Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday

Marylinda Abate
Anne Cooper

Manager: Eva Coppola Tel: 9315 0799



JOSEPH'S CORNER

**TRIVIA
NIGHT**



Time: 7:00pm for 7:30pm
start – 11:30pm

When: Saturday 15th
October, 2016.

Where: St Mary's Primary
School Hall, 118 Cecil Street, Williamstown

Cost: \$10 per person

Bring your own drinks and nibbles-looking forward to seeing you there!



For bookings please contact Debbie Di Genova on either 9315 2680 or 0413 987 514

All money raised goes to Joseph's Corner - Joseph's Corner is a non-profit support service to families living with alcohol and drug addiction.



Enrolment Deadline 2018

- The closing date for applications for **Year 7, 2018, is Friday 17th February, 2017.**
- Offers will be posted out to successful applicants on **Friday 27th April, 2017.**
- The offer needs to be accepted by families by **Thursday 11th May, 2017**

Important information: Closing dates for 2019 Enrolments

For entry into Year 7, 2019 closing dates for applications have been moved forward to **Term 3, 2017.**

- Applications for **Year 7, 2019 close on 25th August, 2017.**
- Offers posted to families on **13th October, 2017.**
- The offer needs to be accepted by families by **Friday 27th October, 2017.**



Altona

Little Athletics Centre



Voted
6th Best Club
in the State

COME & TRY!

24th September 2016
9am to 12noon
George Nevitt Athletics Track
Sugargum Drive, Altona