



St. Mary's School, Altona Newsletter 2017

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. 38 8th December, 2017

What a SPECTACULAR evening we had last night at our 2017 ARTS SPECTACULAR. I have received many, many personal compliments as well as numerous Facebook postings that last night was at least one of the best nights we have had if not THE BEST! Various teachers have also passed onto me the very positive comments they also had received from many, many parents. All of the children gave 110% and had a great time doing it. We are extremely proud of each and every child as I'm sure you are.

While all of the above is about the "Play" our ART SHOW should not be forgotten. It again was an OUTSTANDING DISPLAY of our magnificent Creative Arts program here at St. Mary's with every child having some artistic work displayed. It also seems to be getting more impressive each year.

Such a successful night as this doesn't just happen without a lot of effort from a lot of people. A very, very, sincere THANK YOU to the following people who made a significant contribution to this wonderful evening:

- Mrs Angela Hamilton for her creation and organisation of the Play 'A Christmas Story: The Original & the Best.'
- Mrs Anthea Zimmerman for her Art Show organisation and presentation.
- All of the staff at St. Mary's School.
- To the Parents & Friends Association, in particular - Andrea Herd and Ben London plus all the parents that helped with cooking, serving, setting up and packing up.

This has traditionally been a very successful evening, and thanks to YOU and our wonderful children it was again an absolutely fantastic evening. THANK YOU and WELL DONE TO ALL INVOLVED.

PARENT THANK YOU AFTERNOON TEA

Thank you for your help and support during the year. We would like to invite you to join the staff for Afternoon Tea on **Monday 12th December from 3.10 – 4.00 pm** in the school hall (children will be supervised outside). This will take place after our final assembly for the year to be hosted by our School Captains.



Tuesday 12th December is our next **Walk / Ride to School Day**.

Our Walking School Buses will run on this day.

Please complete the Google form included with this newsletter if you can supervise or you are going to participate.

PLEASE NOTE: OUR SCHOOL YEAR ENDS WEDNESDAY 20th DECEMBER. CHILDREN WILL BE DISMISSED AT THE USUAL FINISHING TIME OF 3.20pm

David Kelly,
Principal

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**



EDUCATION IN FAITH

2018 Sacrament Dates



TERM ONE: Confirmation: Friday, 23rd March, at 7pm.

(The Sponsor must be a baptised Catholic over the age of 16)

TERM TWO: Reconciliation: Wednesday, 20th June, at 7pm.

TERM THREE: First Eucharist: Sunday, 19th August, at 3pm.

(Dates for all Sacramental Family Workshops - T.B.A.)



All families and friends are invited to celebrate the Advent Liturgies and other special celebrations in the coming weeks:

Week 3: 3/4M & 5/6K – Friday 15th December at 1pm.

Week 4: 3/4V & 3/4HK– Monday 18th December at 1pm.

Year Six Graduation Mass – Tuesday 19th Dec at 6pm.

End of Year Mass - Wednesday 20th Dec at 9.15am.

Weekly Class Mass:

On Friday 15th Dec Year 3/4HK will be attending the 9:15am parish mass. Family and friends are invited to celebrate and join the children in prayer.



"May our good God help us all"

3/1/1876

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- *The O'Connor Family (Bridie5/6K&Ciara5/6C) on the death of their Grandfather-Resting in the God's care.
- * All members of our community who are sick or in need of our prayerful support.



Today is the *Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary*. This date is set aside to celebrate Mary – a woman of faith and a woman of trust. We recognise Mary's holiness from the very first moment of her existence.

*Hail Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with you;
blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of death. Amen*

Social Justice News

**DURING ADVENT OPPORTUNITIES
FOR WORKS OF CHARITY ABOUND!!**

EACH CLASSROOM AND THE STAFFROOM HAVE A BASKET TO FILL AS A CHRISTMAS HAMPER FOR ST VINCENT DE PAUL, ALTONA & JOSEPH'S CORNER, YARRAVILLE.

PLEASE MAKE AN EFFORT TO SEND SOMETHING ALONG WITH YOUR CHILD FOR THE HAMPER.

THANK YOU.

Sara and Kyle - Social Justice Leaders

_Dear Friends

"It's time to slow down a bit".



We live in a go go go culture and we are on the run run run... to accomplish our goals. But at a certain point we realise that we can't do it. Then we should say "it's time to slow down a bit". Liturgically we come to the Holy season of Advent, a season of anticipation of "HOLY WAITING".

We wait and take some time with God to recharge ourselves. Our daily prayers, participation in the Advent Masses, other liturgies, and to do something extra for those less fortunate, are important steps in our spiritual journey. As we approach the season I joyfully invite all families to come and celebrate our faith through Sunday Eucharist, Children's Liturgy, Nativity Play and Christmas Day Masses as one parish community.

We are a welcoming community here in our parish, so let us together prepare ourselves to welcome the Child Jesus in our lives. I pray for you and for your families and friends during this beautiful season. God bless you all.

Fr. Shabin

Parishioners are invited to **an Inauguration Mass for the Year of Youth on Sunday, 17th December at 10.30am** at St. Mary's Church. Host: Alive –Altona Youth. Enquiries: Jude Johnson, 9398 2964.

Parishioners are invited to a **Farewell Mass for Jude Johnson, on Sunday 17th December, 2017**. Please stay behind after Mass to farewell him over a cuppa.

Bulletin Deliveries – last collection from the Chapel will be **Thursday 14th December**. Sincere thanks to deliverers for your dedicated service during the year. Deliveries will recommence on **Thursday 1st February, 2018**

Prepare for Christmas by coming to **Carols by Candlelight** in Logan Reserve Pier St., this Sunday 10th December, from 7.30 to 9.00pm.

You are invited to join members of other Altona Christian communities at three **Ecumenical Advent Services to be held at 7pm on the following Tuesdays of December:**

12.12.17: St. Mary's Church;

19.12.17: Uniting Church.

Each service will be about 30 minutes in length.

ADVENT PREPARATION FOR CHRISTMAS 2017

Tues.	12 Dec	Ecumenical Advent Service	7.00pm
Tues.	19 Dec	St. Mary's School Graduation Mass	6.00pm
Wed.	20 Dec	End of Year School Mass	9.15am

RECONCILIATION

Mon.	18 Dec	Individual Confession. In Maltese & English (Fr. Edwin)	4 to 5 pm
Wed.	20 Dec	2nd Rite with opportunity for Individual for Confession	7:00 pm

CHRISTMAS TIMETABLE

Sat.	23 Dec	Vigil Mass	6.00pm
Sun.	24 Dec	Mass (one Mass only)	9.30am
		Carols/Nativity Play	6.15pm
		Family Mass	7.00pm
		Carols	11.30pm
		Midnight Mass	12.00am
Mon.	25 Dec	Christmas Day Mass	10.30am
Mon.	1st Jan	New Year's Day Mass	10.00am

Music Rehearsals – Christmas Choir Rehearsals for Midnight Mass will take place each **Tuesday at 7pm** in the Church.

The family & Youth Mass this **Sunday 10th December** will be incorporated with the **Feast of the Immaculate Conception Mass at 4pm**. All welcome to attend.



PRINCIPALS AWARDS 8th December, 2017

PREP D	Ivan D for putting more detail into his writing. Keira L for her great decoding skills when reading.
PREP S	Michael C for his wonderful reading. Mackenzie P for having an infectious smile and laugh.
YEAR 1/ 2HT	Zoe N for being a kind and caring class member.
YEAR 1/ 2S	Gisella D for sharing great maths strategies when solving problems. Mason S for using great strategies when reading.
YEAR 1/ 2N	Tiana M for always using her manners. Jade Mc for listening attentively during class discussions.
YEAR 1/2G	Senan D for always treating others with kindness and respect.
YEAR 3/4M	Eyob T for his great work with adverbs and contractions. Samuel M for his excellent computational thinking when coding BlueBots
YEAR 3/4HK	Isabella A for her amazing dedication and attitude to her work. Grace A for her kindness and compassion towards her classmates.
YEAR 3/4V	Lila B for writing a creative and interesting narrative. Gemma D for confidently presenting a clear and logical oral presentation.
YEAR 5/6C	Ciara O for her enthusiastic manner in which she takes part in all learning activities. Anthony P for working hard and striving to achieve his best.
YEAR 5/6L	Nicolina S for participating enthusiastically in all activities during Transition Day. Jacob Y for showing great manners and responsible attitude during Big Day Out.
YEAR 5/6K	Aiden V for putting in a fantastic effort during Transition Day. Livinia P for displaying a mature attitude towards her peers.

YEAR 6 GRADUATION

Invitation to all year 6 parents - join us at Pier 71 restaurant in Pier St after our children's graduation mass on Tuesday December 19th.

A great opportunity for the parents to catch up & reminisce, all welcome.

Please RSVP via email so we have an idea of numbers.

Michelle.pilditch@gmail.com

PAST STUDENTS HELPING IN FINAL WEEKS

If your child has finished secondary school and is interested in helping in school over the next two weeks they **MUST** contact myself or Mrs Pedley prior to coming so that we can let them know if help is needed. We will also ask them for the following details: a time they will be at the school and the time they are leaving and an emergency contact number. Sorry NO children will be allowed to come into the school just to visit friends.

Marg Masseni



UNIFORM SHOP 2018

Next year the Uniform Shop opening times will change.

It will move from Thursdays to:

Monday 8.30am – 9.00am

Wednesday 2.30pm to 3.00pm

Orders via the internet can still be placed at any time.

PLEASE LABEL ALL CLOTHING CLEARLY ESPECIALLY ITEMS THAT MAY BE REMOVED

e.g. hats and jumpers.

The Uniform Shop will also open for 2 hours ONLY between 11am – 1.00pm on Monday 29th January 2018, the day before the children start school. Thank you to Patrice and her helpers who have made this possible.



TUCKSHOP HELPERS

Week beginning 11th December, 2017Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday Lilia

Friday Paula Luppino

Manager: Eva Coppola Tel: 9315 0799

JUNIOR TIGER GOLF COACHING AGES 5-16



**SPECIAL OFFER
FIRST GOLF LESSON FREE**

**TERM 1
Starts 30th Jan**

Altona Lakes Golf Course
www.altonalakesgolf.com.au
Phone: (03) 9399 1029

