



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.38 9th December, 2016

As mentioned in last week's newsletter, next year we will be introducing the online application CareMonkey. As a parent/guardian you will receive an invitation to join CareMonkey and enter details for your child/children. By following the instructions you can create your own free CareMonkey account and control all data about your child/children. The CareMonkey system stores the information on your behalf and you will be able to grant (or deny) access to your data with our school. You are able to share this data with any other groups or individuals you choose (eg. your child's grandparents, their child-minder, their sports club, even your child's secondary school etc).

You can use a PC, laptop, tablet or smartphone to enter the details including:

- emergency contacts
- medical contacts
- medical checklist including asthma, allergies, seizures, diabetes
- health and ambulance insurance details
- notes and other care instructions from you
- and more . . .

From the school's perspective, this information will only be visible by the relevant staff for your child and will be managed in accordance with the Privacy Act.

You don't need to do anything until you receive the email requesting the information. However, it is important to note that as of 2017 we will no longer be using paper forms to collect information from you (especially signatures for excursions and camps) so you will need to ensure that you follow the instructions in the email before the new school year begins. Please feel free to contact our Digital Technologies Leader: vtucker@smaltona.catholic.edu.au or you can visit the CareMonkey website for more information: www.caremonkey.com

CONGRATULATIONS:

Thank you to the wonderful efforts of our Parents & Friends Association, our amazing students and your tremendous support of our recent WALKATHON. We raised \$11,002.05. An outstanding effort by all involved. WELL DONE!

SCHOOL REWARDS PROGRAM:

There is a brochure being sent home tonight explaining The Athlete's Foot School Rewards Program. Every time you purchase any pair of shoes from the Athlete's Foot \$5 will be donated back to our school. This applies to the whole family and across the entire footwear range, including school, athletic, work and casual shoes.

JUNIOR SWIMMING PROGRAM:

The second week of this program will take place in the week beginning Monday 6th February, 2017. This is for children in Year One, Two and Three in 2017. You will receive more details in the first week next year.

PLEASE NOTE: OUR SCHOOL YEAR ENDS NEXT FRIDAY 16TH DECEMBER. CHILDREN WILL BE DISMISSED AT THE USUAL FINISHING TIME OF 3.20pm

**David Kelly,
Principal**





PRINCIPALS AWARDS 5th December 2016

PrepHM	Kade Fenton
	Segolene Houlihan
PrepS	Sophie Belton
Year 1/2HK	Shiloh Cucanic
Year 1/2S	Jack Curran
Year 1/2D	Angus Herd
Year 1/2G	Toby Thomson
Year 3/4M	Marcus Kruger
Year 3/4S	Thomas Pye
Year 3/4VH	Mia Attana
Year 5/6C	Gabrielle Montebello
Year 5/6L	Maria Nguyen
Year 5/6M	Tanvi Arora



NORMIE THE GNOME is awarded to the House Team who keeps their part of the yard the cleanest. This week's winner is: **Green**



Our final **Walk / Ride to School Day** is **TUESDAY 13th DECEMBER**.
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.

IMPORTANT DATES.

12/12	School Captain & Staff Assembly	2.30pm
	Advent Liturgy Week 4	2.30pm
13/12	Walk to School Day / Walking School Bus	
	Orientation Day Year 1-6	11.30 - 1.30 pm.
	Year 6 Graduation Mass	6.00pm – 7.00pm
	Year 6 Graduation Dinner - RSL	7.30pm – 10.00pm
16/12	End Of Year Mass	9.15am – 10.15am
	End Of School Year	3.20pm



HELP NEEDED BY PARENTS AND PAST STUDENTS

On **WEDNESDAY 14TH DECEMBER** from 9.00 – 11.00 am we are taking on the mighty task of **cleaning 300 classroom chairs and 150 tables....**and YES we need help. All cleaning products and materials will be provided.

This annual event is open to all past students who usually have a great time catching up with each other and do a little...sorry lots of cleaning too. We would also welcome parents to come and help with cleaning the tables. If you can assist please contact School Office or myself. Thank you in advance for your help.

mmasseni@smaltona.catholic.edu.au



UNIFORM SHOP 2017

Uniform Shop hours for 2017 will be Monday 8.30am - 9am and Thursday 2.30pm-3.10pm. We are still looking for volunteers to help out. Please email if you are willing to help.

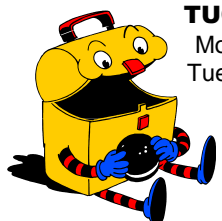
We will be open the day before school starts for children, Monday 30th January **11am - 12.30pm ONLY** for last minute supplies. Please ensure that you have enough uniforms, in the correct sizes prior to the end of Term 4.

A reminder that any uniform order can be sent through to stmarysaltonauniforms@gmail.com. Payment can be made via direct deposit or cash in an envelope dropped off to the school office. Uniforms once ordered and paid will be sent home in your child's school bag. Items can be ordered and paid for during the school holidays and will be available for pick up from the school office on the first day of school for children, Tuesday 31st January 2017.

Please note that the last day the Uniform Shop will be open this year is Wednesday 14th December.

PAST STUDENTS HELPING IN FINAL WEEKS - If your child has finished secondary school and is interested in helping in school 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



TUCKSHOP HELPERS

Week beginning 12th December 2016

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday Caroline Cassar

Thursday

Friday

Manager: Eva Coppola Tel: 9315 0799

EDUCATION IN FAITH

SACRAMENTAL DATES FOR 2017

Reconciliation: Term 1. Wednesday, 22nd March at 7pm.

First Eucharist: Term 2. Sunday 18th June at 3pm.

Confirmation: Term 3. Friday, 18th August 2017 at 7pm.

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

Final Advent Liturgy.

Make this a special preparation time as we wait for the Coming of the Messiah.

Week 4: Prep HM, 5/6L, Year1/2D

- Monday 12th December at 11:30am.

Year 6 Graduation Mass: Tuesday 13th Dec - 6pm.

End of Year Mass: Friday 16th Dec - 9.15am.

Yesterday was the *Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

This date is especially set aside to celebrate Mary as a woman of faith and a woman of trust.

This feast recognises Mary's holiness from the very first moment of her existence.

This was a very special gift from God and was God's way of preparing for the birth of her Son, Jesus.



*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*



"The will of God is a very dear book which I never tire of reading".

St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop, 1873



Parish News

Mass for Youth and young families All welcome to join us for a follow up **MASS. Sunday, December 18th, 2016 at 5pm** Followed by food and activities at St. Mary's Altona. Music lead by Genevieve Bryant.

Nativity Play – Thank you to the parents and children who attended our first rehearsal last Sunday. Most roles have now been filled, however we are still short of 'Wise Persons' (Kings), so if your child/children are happy to fill in this role and are able to attend rehearsals on the next two **Sundays - 11 & 18th December** from **11.30am to 12.30pm** in the Church please bring them along. More Angels and Shepherds welcome! Please note the next rehearsal on Sunday 11th December, will be a dress rehearsal so please ensure you attend so your children can take home their costumes. Many thanks.

ADVENT PREPARATION - FOR CHRISTMAS 2016

Sun 11 Dec 7.30pm Carols by Candlelight
Logan Reserve, Queen St Altona
Tue 13 Dec 6.00pm St. Mary's School Graduation Mass
Wed 14 Dec 7.00pm Ecumenical Advent Service
Thurs 15 Dec 9.15am End of Year School Mass
Fri 16 Dec 6.00pm Volunteer Thankyou Mass

Reconciliation

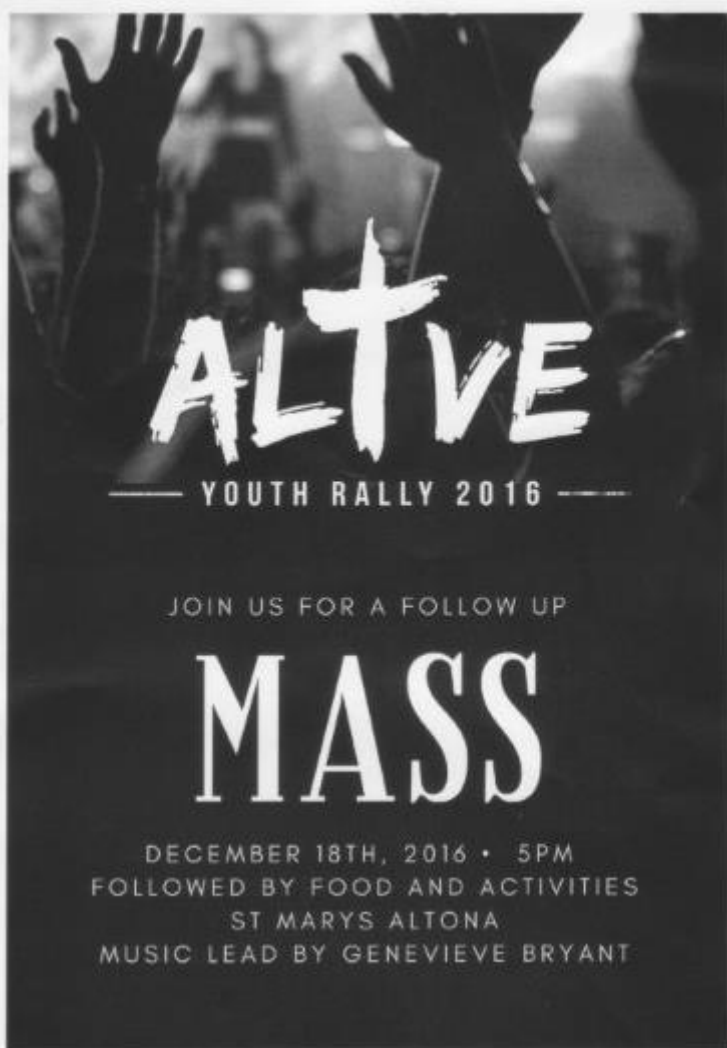
Mon 19 Dec 4-5pm Maltese & English
Tue 20 Dec 7.00pm Reconciliation 2nd Rite

Christmas Timetable

Sat 24 Dec 6.30pm Carol/Nativity play
7.00pm Family Mass
11.30pm Carols
12.00am Midnight Mass



The Koorungal Golf Club Foundation is holding a Family Fun Day on December the 11th. The event starts at 1pm and goes to 6pm. We are inviting the whole of the community to this fantastic event. We have organised lots of free entertainment including live music, free rides and activates for the whole family. As well as cooking demonstrations, there will be food truck on site, wine tasting, PGA hitting practice and Santa arriving at 5pm with a small gift for every child.
<http://www.koorungalgolf.com.au>



Tennis Programs Victoria

www.tennisprograms victoria.com

School Holiday Clinic

Westside indoor sports

Cnr Grieve Pde & Dohertys Rd Altona North

Date: Thursday 22nd & Friday 23rd December 2016

Time: 9am – 4pm

Bring packed lunch & bottle water

Term 1 enrolments for hotshots & junior coaching programs (numbers are limited)

Cost: \$45 one day or \$70 for two days

Paul Mick 0415 511

150 Antonio De Fanis 0402 554
769



ST. MARY'S **CHOIR NEWS**

The St. Mary's School Choir has been involved in ALL of St. Mary's celebrations this year: Opening School Mass, Ash Wednesday, Confirmation, First Eucharist, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Grandparent's Day (both mass and morning tea), Mary Help of Christians Feast Day, Sacred Heart of Jesus Feast, St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop Feast, the Arts Spectacular and will be leading the singing for the End of Year Mass (I think I

may have left some celebrations out!) They prepare for all of this by giving up half their own lunchtime once a week.

To celebrate all that the choir has done we will be having a Celebration next THURSDAY, Dec 15th. We ask that all choir members bring something small to share with each other. Our choir leaders, Jade 5/6C and Lauren 5/6M are coordinating what each member will be able to bring.

I am very proud of our group of singers and I know St. Mary's school is very proud of all they do too!!

Mrs. Angela Hamilton
Performing Arts Specialist

ahamilton@smaltona.catholic.edu.au

Wominjeka Festival 2017 14th – 17th January

Footscray Community Arts Centre

School Holiday Arts Program

- * BLAKflip FROM CIRCUS OZ with DAVEY THOMPSON 17th & 19th January 6-12yrs
- * ILBIJERRI THEATRE COMPANY with KAMARA BELL-WYKES 17th & 18th January 6-9yrs
- * STORIES AND ANIMATION with UNCLE LARRY 17th January 6-9yrs
- * PHOTOGRAPHY with JAMES HENRY 19th January 10-12yrs
- * WEAVING AND BUSH TOY MAKING with BRONWYN RAZEM 18th January 10-12yrs 19th January 6-9yrs

Venue: FCAC

For Further information please contact **03 9362 8888**