



# St. Mary's School, Altona Newsletter 2017



95A Railway Street North, Altona 3018  
Principal: David Kelly Ph: 9398 4842 [www.smaltona.catholic.edu.au](http://www.smaltona.catholic.edu.au)  
Parish Priest: Fr Shabin Ph: 9398 2964 [altona@cam.org.au](mailto:altona@cam.org.au)

Dear Parents,

No. 39 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2017

As some of you already know Fr. Shabin has been informed by Archbishop Denis Hart that he will be transferred to St. Mary's Parish, Thornbury on the 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2018. We are very sad about this decision as Fr. Shabin has had a very positive influence on the staff, the students and parents of St. Mary's. A fitting farewell is currently under discussion and you will be informed as soon as we have finalised details.

We welcome our soon to be new Parish Priest, Fr. Michael Kalka, who has for the last 8 ½ years been Parish Priest of Sacred Heart, Kew. He was baptised at Sacred Heart, Newport and raised in the Parish of St. Mary's Williamstown. He has strong family links in Altona.

There is a message from both Fr. Shabin and Fr. Michael Kalka in the Education Faith section of this newsletter.

#### **MULTI - CULTURAL DAY:**

Thank you to all the children and staff that made the effort to dress in either their cultural clothing or the colours of their countries' flag. All of the children paraded around in front of everyone else on the netball court. Thank you to our two Social Justice Leaders, Sara Adani & Kyle Escobar who initiated and organised the whole thing. Money raised was donated to Win Naing our World Vision sponsor child.

#### **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 18<sup>th</sup> December from 3.10 - 4.00 pm. in the staffroom (children will be supervised outside). This will take place after our final assembly for the year hosted by our School Captains.

#### **TRANSITION DAY:**

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December, from 11.30 - 1.30 pm. all children from Prep to Year 5 will move into the classroom, with the other children that will be in their class, with the teacher they will have next year. We have 6 new children joining our school next year in different levels who will also be here during this time.

#### **YEAR 6 GRADUATION MASS:**

This will take place on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December, commencing at 6.00 pm. in St. Mary Help of Christian's Church.

#### **END OF SCHOOL YEAR MASS:**

This will take place on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December, commencing at 9.15 am. All parents and friends are invited and encouraged to attend.

#### **CHILDREN DISMISSED:**

Children will be dismissed at 3.20 pm. on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December.

David Kelly,  
Principal

## EDUCATION IN FAITH

### 2018 Sacrament Dates



**TERM ONE: Confirmation: Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 final Advent Liturgy and other special celebrations next week:**

**Week 4: 3/4V & 3/4HK– Monday 18th Dec at 1pm**

**Year Six Graduation Mass – Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> Dec at 6pm.**

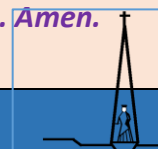
**End of Year Mass - Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> Dec at 9.15am.**



"May our good God help us all." 3/1/1876



*God, you sent your son to be with us  
on our earthly journey,  
let us turn to the light of Jesus  
to fill our hearts with giving and caring.  
May we be thankful for all our gifts,  
especially our faith.  
We make this prayer in Jesus' name. Amen.*



**From Fr. Shabin:** After 3 years of service at St. Mary's Altona, Archbishop Denis Hart has transferred me to St. Mary's Thornbury. This transfer will take effect on February 11<sup>th</sup> 2018. I have had a great time here with you and you have made me feel at home in this beautiful parish of Altona. Thank you very much for your great support, prayers and friendship. Please welcome Fr. Michael Kalka.

**From the new Parish Priest:** I am delighted to be your new Parish Priest, and I look forward to meeting you sometime after February 11<sup>th</sup>. For the past 8 ½ years I have been the Parish priest of Sacred Heart Kew. I was baptised at Sacred Heart, Newport and raised in the parish of St. Mary's Williamstown. Some of you know I already have strong family links to Altona. The next few months will be a time of transition as we prepare for Christmas, the January holiday break, and then, a change in leadership. May God continue to guide us and bless us!  
Archpriest Michael Kalka.

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

You are invited to the final **Ecumenical Advent Service** for the year, to be held at 7pm on Tuesday December 19<sup>th</sup> 2017 at the Uniting Church. Altona.

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

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

### ADVENT PREPARATION FOR CHRISTMAS 2017

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

### RECONCILIATION

<b>Mon.</b>	<b>18 Dec</b>	<b>Individual Confession. In Maltese &amp; English-Fr Edwin</b>	<b>4 to 5 pm</b>
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>20 Dec</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Rite with opportunity for Individual for Confession</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>

### CHRISTMAS TIMETABLE

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



## PRINCIPALS AWARDS 11th December, 2017

<b>PREP D</b>	Leila Z for extending her ideas in writing.
<b>PREP S</b>	Ethan L for the wonderful way he tackles all his work.
<b>YEAR 1/ 2HT</b>	Isabelle M for always being polite and helpful class member.
<b>YEAR 1/ 2S</b>	Jack C for being a kind and considerate classmate.
<b>YEAR 1/ 2N</b>	Tiana M for her excellent effort when learning about money.
<b>YEAR 1/2G</b>	Akelan E for doing an excellent job programming the BlueBots.
<b>YEAR 3/4M</b>	Isabella M for her wonderful team work in a STEM challenge.
<b>YEAR 3/4HK</b>	Ethan L for his great efforts with Maths this term.
<b>YEAR 3/4V</b>	Katie M for being a friendly and calm class member.
<b>YEAR 5/6C</b>	Sunita D for her focus and interest to achieve her best in all areas of learning.
<b>YEAR 5/6L</b>	Chloe C for her enthusiastic attitude while learning about word origins.
<b>YEAR 5/6K</b>	Madeline M for displaying great initiative around the classroom and always leading a helping hand.



### 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 29<sup>th</sup> January 2018, the day before the children start school. Thank you to Patrice and her helpers who have made this possible.

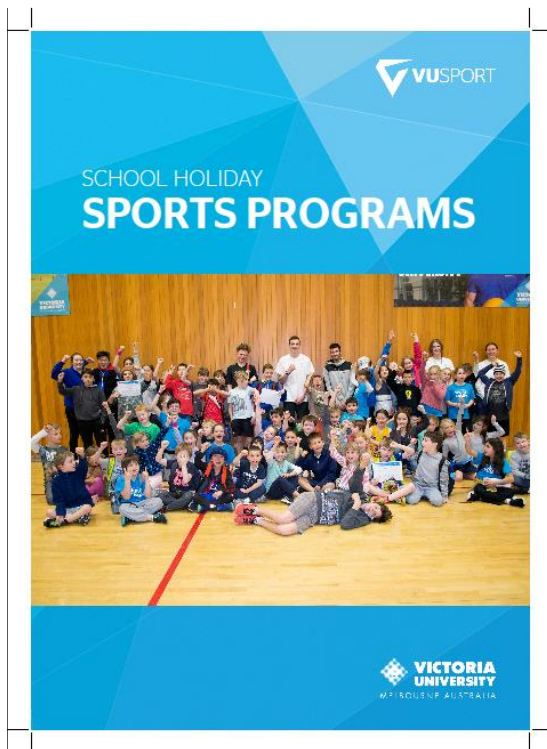


**NORMIE THE GNOME** is awarded to the House Team who keeps their part of the yard the cleanest. This week's winner is: **BLUE TEAM**

## PARENTS & FRIENDS FUNDRAISER

A huge thank you to the very talented local Altona photographer and St Mary's mum, Samantha Georgiadis. On Sunday Samantha raised a whopping \$600 for the school. 20 families gathered on Altona Beach for a personal photo session. It was so much fun, the weather was incredible and the feedback has been very positive. Thank you Samantha and all the families that supported this special day. Here is a sneak look at one of the families. Hope you can join the fun next year!





#### When & Where

#### Multisport & Soccer

15 – 19 January | 9.00am – 3.00pm  
Victoria University Footscray Park Campus  
Cnr Geelong Rd & Ballarat Rd, Footscray

#### Multisport & AFL

22 – 25 January | 9.00am – 3.30pm  
Victoria University Footscray Park Campus  
Cnr Geelong Rd & Ballarat Rd, Footscray

#### Cost

#### Multisport & Soccer

Full Week - \$180  
Single Day - \$ 50

#### Multisport & AFL

4 day week - \$145  
Single Day - \$ 50

Optional After Care available - \$8.50 per day

#### For more information and to register:

[www.vu.edu.au/school-holiday-sports-programs](http://www.vu.edu.au/school-holiday-sports-programs)  
sportscamps@vu.edu.au



Hobsons Bay  
Libraries



## SUMMER 2018 SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

For more information and bookings visit  
[libraries.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au](http://libraries.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au)



*Wishing you Merry Christmas and a happy New Year*

