



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. 28 9th September 2016

It was wonderful to see some 30 families attend our Maths night during the week. Thank you to Lisa Said, our Maths Leader and all the staff who not only prepared the activities but remained after hours to make the night so successful (Hopefully!). There were lots of positive comments placed on the Graffiti Board on the night. It's on display in the TRI Centre please go and check out the comments or add some comments if you didn't get the chance on the night. You are also encouraged to email Lisa with any comments lsaid@smaltona.catholic.edu.au

FOOTY FUN DAY

It was fantastic to see, hear and feel all the excitement around the school this morning, even in spite of the rain, as everyone was arriving in their footy jumpers and colours. The face painters relocated to the hall and were worked overtime as so many children wanted their team colours on their face. Somehow teachers survived in their classrooms until 11.00 am. After recess all the children gathered in the hall in their footy teams. As usual the Bulldogs were clearly the best represented but most of the teams had at least one representative. Each of the teams took it in turns to sing their team song and answer questions as well as finding out who won prizes from the many competitions that the children had entered.

We were joined in the hall by Jack Johnstone from the Williamstown Football Club and the familiar face of Mrs Burnett – she just couldn't stay away!!! These people with the help of Mrs Hamilton, our Performing Arts teacher & Mrs Molloy, our Prep HM teacher voted on each team's supporters singing of their team song. All of the teams did a fantastic job.

Congratulations to **Collingwood** for winning the team song competition. Congratulations to **Carlton** who came second & **St Kilda** who came third.

Check out our School Website and Facebook Page to see some of the great photos.

Thank you to Mrs Masseni, Mrs Ryan, Mrs Mithen & Mr Lappin for their organisation and co-ordination of this great day. Thank you also to the Junior School Council members who assisted in the co-ordination and running of the day. Thank you to Maree Ryan who assisted with the organising of all the prizes as well as attending on her day off. Thank you to the teachers, parents and children who assisted with the face painting. Thank you to Ellie Corbo and the many parents who assisted her with the supply and distribution of the footy lunches from Subway. Thank you to all staff and students who enthusiastically participated throughout the day. All money raised from Footy Fun Day will go toward our Sponsor Child Win Naing. A Great Day Had By All!

SCHOOL FEES 2016:

School fees for the 2016 year were due and payable today, Friday, 9th September. If you have not finalised your account, please do so as soon as possible.

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.

St. Mary's Altona Newsletter -

.../1.

"Caring Catholic Community in Education"

AFTER SCHOOL SUPERVISION:

Commencing next term we are trialling a change to our After School supervision procedures. NO children are to go directly to the foyer area of the office once they have been dismissed from class. If their parents are not present to collect them they are to report to the teacher on Playground Duty. They remain under the supervision of this teacher either until their parents arrive to collect them or the teacher closes and locks the gates. At this time the teacher will take any children who have not been collected to the Office Foyer.

INSIGHT SRC SURVEYS:

Thank you to those parents that have already completed and returned their Insight SRC Surveys in a sealed envelope to the office or have completed the online survey. The online surveys and/or paper copies need to be completed by next Friday 16th September. We will then send the sealed envelopes to Insight SRC. Thank you again to those parents who received a survey and have completed it.

SCHOOL CLOSURE DAYS:

The first one is Tuesday 25th October. The staff will be updating their First Aid qualifications. The second one is Monday 31st October. The staff begin preparations for end of year Report writing. There is NO SCHOOL on these days.

Out of School Hours Care will operate if there are sufficient numbers. Online bookings are now being accepted for Tuesday 25th October so please act now if this is required.

CLASS GROUPINGS FOR 2017:

We will begin organising children into their class groupings for 2017 once I return from Long Service Leave. The following guidelines are used to assist us in creating the most effective classroom structures possible so that all children are given the opportunity to succeed and to achieve their full potential educationally, socially, spiritually, emotionally and physically. Things we consider are: Friendship Groups, Academic Ability, Behaviour, Gender Balance, Immediate/Extended Family, Maturity Level, Number of children on SWD Funding, Personality, Prior History (eg. Previous Teachers, Oldest or Youngest in the group) and Social Skills. If you have any important information that you think will assist us in this process then please put it in writing or email me by Friday 28th October. **Please do not make verbal or written requests to teachers as this places unfair pressure on them. The only information that will be considered at all is the information I receive in writing or by email principal@smaltona.catholic.edu.au and is of a valid and relevant nature. I thank you for your support in this matter.**

RETURNING TO SCHOOL:

If your child/ren currently in Prep - Year 5 **WILL NOT BE RETURNING** to St. Mary's in 2017 could you please notify us ASAP principal@smaltona.catholic.edu.au

INVITATION:

Two past students of St. Mary's (Sam Currie & Warren Rozario) are in a band called "Cadillac Drifters". They play a rockabilly type music. They are performing at Mosaic's in Pier Street this Sunday 11th September from 2.30 - 5.30 pm.

LONG SERVICE LEAVE:

I am taking some Long Service Leave commencing this Monday 12th September. My wife Pat and I are doing a tour of Turkey, spending a few days in Athens and then some time on one of the Greek Islands. I'll return to work on Monday 24th October. Mrs Margaret Masseni will be Acting Principal during this time.

David Kelly
Principal.

CASUAL CLOTHES DAY

Next Friday, 16th September the students and staff are invited to wear casual clothes to school.

No coin donation is needed however we do ask the children still wear a **SUNSMART** hat and **sensible shoes**.



CUPPA AND CHAT

Remember our final cuppa and chat for Term 3 is next FRIDAY 16th September @ 9am in the staff room.

We would love to see you there! Bring A Friend!

St. Mary's Altona Newsletter -

.../2.

"Caring Catholic Community in Education"

EDUCATION IN FAITH

Social Justice Week

Just a reminder to all students, parents, families and friends that the dates for our Year 5/6 Social Justice fund raising stalls will occur next week starting on

- **Tuesday** 13th Sept,
- **Wednesday** 14th Sept &
- **Thursday** 15th Sept

- To raise funds for our *local* St Vincent de Paul Society.



Each year 1.8 million Australians facing hardship are helped by the St Vincent de Paul Society. They are committed to actively and passionately speaking out against the causes of poverty and inequality on behalf of the people they serve.

We have been busy preparing for next week and we would love to have the support of the whole school community. Please assist our industrious efforts by purchasing items from our stalls.

Kate Ealem & Tahlia Sepsic - Your very enterprising Social Justice Leaders!

A Prayer for Eradicating Poverty

Creator God, your image is alive in every human person
giving to each of us an inviolable dignity.
Create in us a desire to act in solidarity, the ability to work together,
and a willingness to share with others
our time, our energy, our skills and talents and our wealth.
As we share and enjoy the fruits of your creation,
restore in us your vision of a world made whole,
and inspire us to commit ourselves to the common good.
Gracious God, give us ears to hear, eyes to see and hearts to love,
so that we reflect you in our way of life,
and in our choices, words and actions.
Jesus is the good news to the poor.
As his followers, may we recognise the call to be the same.
Amen.



The Australian Catholic Social Justice Council.

St Mary's Altar Servers **SPECIAL INVITATION**

I would like to invite **ALL FIRST EUCHARIST** children and older 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. Thank-you.

Fr. Shabin



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

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



"So great is the strength we possess in our unity."

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, 1874

St. Mary's Altona Newsletter -

.../3.

"Caring Catholic Community in Education"

FAMILY MATHS NIGHT 2016

The family Maths night was a great success. Many families came along and experienced Maths activities that showcased what we do in classes and also some designed to stretch our minds.

Thanks Mrs Said for coordinating the evening and to all the staff who organised and ran the activities. Prizes will be awarded at assembly for those who correctly guessed the weight of the pumpkin, the length of the string and the number of lollies. Remember some Maths Night passports will be drawn out to also win prizes. Below are some fantastic websites that we use at school to assist children with Mathematics.

Computers and the internet are great tools that teachers and parents can use to enhance and practice mathematical skills, knowledge and understanding.

<http://nrich.maths.org/frontpage>
<http://www.mathplayground.com/>
http://www.learninggamesforkids.com/math_games.html
<http://www.kidsmathgamesonline.com/>
<http://www.primarygames.com/math.php>
<http://www.coolmath4kids.com/>
<https://www.studyladder.com.au/> (Years 3 – 6)

DISTRICT ATHLETICS TEAM

Congratulations to the 46 students who competed at the District Athletics Carnival on Tuesday. They were great ambassadors for our school. Three students, Mickayla N, Michelle N and Madeline M, will go on to compete at the Divisional Championships next week. Good luck girls.

Thanks to Mr Lappin for organising the team, to Mrs Mithen for helping out and supervising the students on the day and to the many parents who gave their time as well.

HOBSONS BAY JUNIOR COUNCIL

Thanks to the students who represented us at the council meeting this week. Alessia A spoke on behalf of the school letting those present know about our Yellow Day, Footy Fun Day and the Year 5/6 Social Justice stalls. Justin, Aidan, Amber, Zali, Hannah, Tahlia and Dominic also attended to observe the meeting. They heard about the importance of looking after the environment from a guest speaker.

WALK / RIDE TO SCHOOL DAY – WEDNESDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER

Come along in an active way!



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS:



Prep HM	Alegra		
1/2D	Isabelle	Lucas	
1/2G	Dhriti	Isabel	Toby
1/2S	Daniel	Jeremy	Keely
3/4VH	Shannon	James	
5/6C	Elizabeth	Tegan	
5/6L	Millie		

TUCKSHOP HELPERS Week beginning 12th September



Monday	
Tuesday	
Wednesday	Cynthia Bitaks
Thursday	
Friday	Paula Luppino

Manager: Eva Coppola Tel: 9315 0799

St. Mary's Altona Newsletter -

.../4.

"Caring Catholic Community in Education"



Less than 1 week left to obtain 1 free wrist band (per booking) for unlimited access to the Photobooth all night.

BUT WAIT! There's more. **Buy your tic before the 15th of September** & you will go into the draw to win one of 5 Double passes to Melbourne Leisurfest on from the 6th - 9th Oct. It's Australia's biggest Caravan, Camping, Fishing, & 4x4 Show! Passes will be drawn on the last day of term.

We would like to extend a very special thank you to the following families & local businesses who have made substantial contributions to our Retro Disco.

HUGE thanks to:

- ★ the **Da Silva Family & Ray White Laverton** for fully sponsoring our Photobooth from *Big Day Little Booth*. We're sure this will provide heaps of fun & hilarity on the night.
- ★ The **Herd Family & Bradrod Building Services** for fully sponsoring our DJ & lighting for the night from *Absolute Class Productions*, we couldn't have a Retro Disco without it.
- ★ **Local Lawyers** for their very generous \$300 cash donation

We are still looking for a business to sponsor our Coin Toss on the night. You would simply need to supply 3 premium bottles of spirits or champagne. Please contact Marelize (pmagius@bigpond.com) or Madeline (madeline@madelinewishart.com.au) if you're interested. The Coin Toss will be named after your business.

The sponsorship of these aspects of the event, means that aside from the catering and some incidentals, the large majority of funds raised on the night will go directly back to St Mary's. So please support our school & grab your tix at <https://www.trybooking.com/MBPR>

We have had a HUGELY successful week sourcing donations for our **Disco Ball Bonanza & Best Dressed Competitions**. This week we would like to thank the following businesses for their donations & ongoing support of our school:

- ★ Anytime Fitness: Partner \$200 Vouchers, for 3 Personal Training sessions, 21 days gym membership & orientation EACH!
- ★ *Awesome Nail Bar & Beauty*: manicure, pedicure & polish
- ★ *Between 2 Buns*: \$50 gift voucher
- ★ *Caravan Trade & Industries Association of Victoria*: 10 passes to Melbourne Leisurfest
- ★ *Harmony Vietnamese Cuisine*: 4 x \$25 gift vouchers
- ★ *Mai Nice Nails*: voucher for a polish
- ★ *Phoenix Hotel Point Cook*: \$50 Bistro Voucher
- ★ Salt n Pepa Café: 2 x \$25 gift vouchers
- ★ *Sea View Chinese Restaurant*: \$25 gift vouchers

St. Mary's Altona Newsletter -

.../5.

"Caring Catholic Community in Education"



ST. MARY'S CHOIR NEWS

A big thankyou to all the members of the choir, and to their families, for making our Father's Day mass so joyful. We have had a lot of positive comments about their participation. It was also wonderful to have some of our past students and choir members, Mia V, Isabella and Marie join us in the choir.

We at St. Mary's certainly have a choir to be proud of!!

Mrs. Angela Hamilton
Performing Arts Specialist
ahamilton@smaltona.catholic.edu.au



KIDS + BOATS = FUN

TACKERS at Altona Yacht Club

A "Learn to Sail" program for kids over the summer in a safe & fun environment on Saturday mornings.
All equipment, protective clothing & snacks are provided.
Commencing 8th October and 28th January

10 weeks for \$205 (includes free club membership & a Tackers T-shirt)

Discounts apply for families in training courses at AYC.

25% for 1 adult & 1 child. 50% for 1 adult & 2 children.

Further information contact Gail on M: 0412 043 207 E: commodore@altonayachtclub.org.au

Registration on-line at <http://www.altonayachtclub.org.au/tackers>

Regards,

Gail Lines

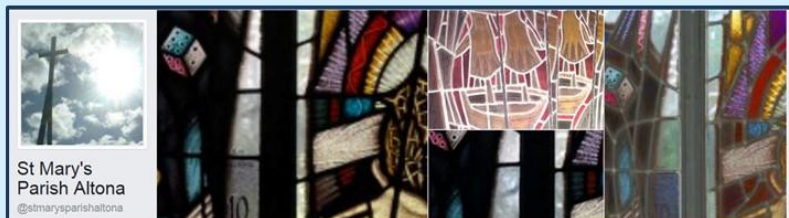
Commodore

Altona Yacht Club

10 Beach St

Seaholme

St Mary's Parish Altona Facebook Page is here!



Our official page is: St Mary's Parish Altona.

You can find it easily by typing **@stmarysparishaltona** into the search bar in Facebook.

Select "Like" on the page to make sure you get all our updates.

If you want to use the "Check in" option when visiting the church, please use:

@stmarysparishaltona to find the right location

St. Mary's Altona Newsletter -

.../6.

"Caring Catholic Community in Education"



YOU ARE INVITED...



Hugh's presentations emphasise the value of gratitude, empathy and mindfulness

to attend a presentation focused on **developing resilience in school age children.**

The night will be conducted by Hugh van Cuylenburg the founder of the Resilience Project on behalf of Emmanuel College. The Resilience Project helps young Australians to be mentally healthy by inspiring students, empowering teachers and engaging parents. Hugh is an inspiring speaker who brings a powerful message for all.

When: Thursday 8 September, 2016

Time: 7.00 pm

**Where: NOTRE DAME CAMPUS
Bordeaux Building (Gathering Space)
2-40 Foxwood Drive
POINT COOK**

RSVP: 8325 5100

"I've never been so enthralled, engaged and inspired. I could have listened to Hugh speak all night...So grateful to the school for realising the importance of involving the parents in this wonderful program. My kids have not stopped talking about it!" (parent feedback)



TEACHING YOUNG AUSTRALIANS TO BE
mentally healthy

Celebrating 50 Years Sunday 11 September

St Paul's Campus

12.00 - 3.30 pm

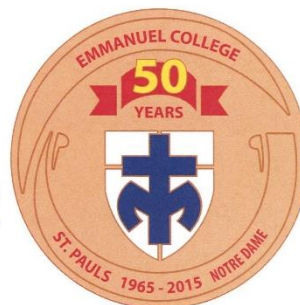
All former students, staff and friends of St Paul's College and Emmanuel College are invited to celebrate 50 Years of Marianist Education at the St. Paul's Campus.

- Take a guided tour of the campus
- View photos and memorabilia from the College Archives
- Reconnect with former classmates and teachers
- Light refreshments will be provided

For further information:

Email alumni@ecmelb.catholic.edu.au or call Michael Pichner, Leader of Community Relations on 8325 5197

RSVP by Monday 5 September, 2016



St. Mary's Altona Newsletter -

.../7.

"Caring Catholic Community in Education"