



# ST. MARY'S SCHOOL, ALTONA NEWSLETTER 2016

95A Railway Street North, Altona 3018

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Parish Priest: Fr Shabin Ph: 9398 2964 [altona@cam.org.au](mailto:altona@cam.org.au)



Dear Parents,

No.33 28<sup>th</sup> October 2016

I greatly appreciated the very warm welcome back I received from children, parents and staff. I had a very enjoyable break.

A very special Thank you to Mrs Margaret Masseni who did an excellent job as Acting Principal in my absence and to all the staff that supported her in this role.

## SOCIAL MEDIA:

It has come to our attention that many of our students are using the social media platform **Instagram**. This app is ONLY recommended for people over the age of 13. We are not in a position to tell you whether your children can access this app at home however there are a few tips we would like to share with you to ensure your children remain safe if you are allowing them to use Instagram.

- Please ensure your child's account is set to private. This means that if other users wish to 'follow' them that the user needs to be approved by your child before they have access to their photos.
- It's a good idea to go through the list of people who are 'following' your child (users who can see your child's photos) and who they are 'following' (the other users whose photos your child can see). A lot of people follow celebrities like musicians, actors and even football players. You will need to use your discretion as to whether you are happy with that as some of these accounts do contain inappropriate content. When going through people who are following your child it is a good idea to ensure that EACH user is someone your child knows (relatives, neighbours, friends etc). There are many 'spam' accounts out there and if these accounts are following your child they have access to all your child's photos.
- If you come across users that are following your children that they don't know or you are not happy with, that user can easily be blocked so they will no longer have access to your child's photos.
- It's important to discuss with your child what photos and comments are appropriate to be posting online. What you think is inappropriate the children might think is okay, so make sure they understand your expectations.

This social media world (the world in which your children are growing up in) is ever evolving and changing. It is important to keep your finger on the pulse with what your kids are up to online! This can be quite tricky sometimes so if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact our ICT Leader Ronnie Tucker via email:

[vtucker@smaltona.catholic.edu.au](mailto:vtucker@smaltona.catholic.edu.au). She is also available on Tuesdays if anyone needs a quick Instagram lesson on some of the tips mentioned above.

## CLASS GROUPINGS FOR 2017:

We are about to begin organising children into their class groupings for 2017. 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 Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November.

**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](mailto:principal@smaltona.catholic.edu.au) and is of a valid and relevant nature.** I thank you for your support in this matter. Thank you to those parents that have already contacted me. For a detailed description of this process please check 9<sup>th</sup> September Newsletter.

## SAFETY:

It has been brought to my attention that some parents are parking in the **NO PARKING AREAS** adjacent to the exit gates in McBain & Sargood Streets. These areas have been specifically parked **NO PARKING AREAS for SAFETY REASONS**. The local Parking Officer has been informed so please do not park or stop in these areas.



**CONGRATULATIONS** to our Physical Education Teacher Mr Tim Lappin and Nicole on the birth of their daughter Macy May.

### PARISH STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM:

Each school family has today received an envelope containing information about the Parish Stewardship Program which is about to commence and inviting them to contribute and participate.

**David Kelly**  
**PRINCIPAL**



### WALK / RIDE TO SCHOOL

Thanks to everyone who came to school in an active way yesterday!

Our MOST ACTIVE CLASS was 5/6C

A special thanks to the parents (Tania, Anette, Julian, Mike, Cheri & Peter) who supervised the Walking School buses and to those who jumped on board. Well done.

### NORMIE THE GNOME

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**



### RED DAY

Well done everyone who wore a splash of **RED** today to highlight the importance of Child Safety. We had an assembly before lunch. Ella and Luke talked to us about keeping children safe and then a representative from each class read their safety message. These messages were attached to red balloons which we then released into the sky, to send our messages far and wide. Thanks Ella and Isabella for organising the day and putting together our display of children's work. Come along into the foyer outside the staff room to see some great poems and stories written by our children.

Here's a sample written by Year 1/2 s & 3/4s

#### ACROSTIC POEM

**B**eing safe is good  
**E**verything has to be safe  
**I**n the community  
**N**othing is better than being safe  
**G**o to someone you TRUST

**S**afety is your right  
**A**ll day and all night  
**F**ind an adult if you are in trouble  
**E**veryone should be safe  
By Allegra

#### 'SAFETY HAIKU'

Don't talk to strangers  
Stop if you see a stop sign  
Cross the road safely  
By Isla

**NO Fun and Fitness** on Wednesday 2nd Nov  
Will be on again from 9th Nov.

**Marg Masseni**  
**Deputy Principal / Student Wellbeing**



**Congratulations** to the Dolman family (Callum 1/2S & Ryan Prep S) on the arrival of their daughter, Tilly.



## PRINCIPALS AWARDS 24th October 2016

PrepHM	Natalie Myers
PrepS	Xavier Azzopardi
Year 1/2HK	Saxon Azzopardi
Year 1/2S	Christos Gionis
Year 1/2D	Maggie London
Year 1/2G	Leon Bitaks
Year 3/4M	Jett Porter
Year 3/4S	Jesse Longaretti-Schreppel
Year 3/4VH	Ciara O'Connor
Year 5/6C	Anthony Price-Cofre
Year 5/6L	Nicolina Shute
Year 5/6M	Peter Azzopardi



### Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who came to our Book Fair last week. We exceeded last year's sales with over \$5,000 of books being sold. This means that we have received books to the value of \$2,600 for our school! A HUGE thank you goes to Beryl Henry, our wonderful and hardworking Book Fair organiser.

## EDUCATION IN FAITH

### ❖ SACRAMENTAL DATES FOR 2017

**Reconciliation: Date Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 7p.m.**

**First Eucharist: Date Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June 3p.m.**

**Confirmation: Term 3. Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> August 2017 at 7pm.**

(The Sponsor must be a Baptised Catholics over the age of 16).

On Tuesday Nov 1<sup>st</sup>, the Catholic Church remembers all the saints who followed Jesus in their own lives. There may be inspiring people in our own lives who we remember today and there are many of our own forebears who followed Jesus in a way that can inspire us.

*Blessing for All Saints Day - Tuesday November 1st*

**May God, the glory and joy of the Saints,  
who has caused us to be strengthened  
by means of their outstanding prayers,  
bless us with unending blessings. Amen.**



On Wednesday Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Catholic Church invites us to pray for our loved ones and the members of the Christian community who have died.

*Eternal Rest Prayer*

*A very old traditional prayer that Catholics pray for those who have died.*



**Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
May they rest in peace. Amen.**

### PLEASE PRAY FOR:

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



**"God won't ask how others do the work ...  
but He will ask you how you have done yours".**

St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop, 1890



## IMPORTANT DATES.

31/10	School Closure Day	
1/11	Melbourne Cup Day	
3/11	Prep Breakfast (Hall)	8.00am – 9.00am
4/11	School Sports Day	
7/11	School Captain & Guitarist Assembly	2.30pm
8/11	<b>Getting A Good Start</b>	2.45pm – 3.15pm
10/11	<b>GAGS</b>	2.45pm – 3.15pm
11/11	Remembrance Day	
14/11	Year 3/4M Class Assembly	2.30pm
15/11	<b>GAGS</b>	2.45pm – 3.15pm
17/11	<b>GAGS</b>	2.45pm – 3.15pm
18/11	Walkathon	
21/11	Advent Liturgy Week 1 Year 5/6C	2.30pm
	Swimming Prep / Year 1/2 21 <sup>st</sup> , 22 <sup>nd</sup> & 23 <sup>rd</sup>	11.00am – 3.00pm
22/11	<b>GAGS</b>	2.45pm – 3.15pm
23/11	Walk to School Day / Walking School Bus	
24/11	<b>GAGS</b>	2.45pm – 3.15pm
	Prep 2017 Group interviews c/room	9.00am – 11.00am
25/11	Year 5 Big Day Out	
	Prep 2017 Group Interviews c/room	9.00am – 11.00am
28/11	Year 3/4S Class Assembly	2.30pm
	Year 6 Transition Day	9.00am – 1.30pm
	Swimming Prep / Year 1/2 28 <sup>th</sup> , 29 <sup>th</sup> & 30 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am – 3.00pm
30/11	Prep Open Week Wed 30/11 Thurs 1/12 & Friday 2/12	9.00am – 10.30am
1/12	Art Spectacular	6.00pm – 8.30pm
2/12	Advent Liturgy Week 2	2.40pm
5/12	Year 5/6M Class Assembly	2.30pm
	Swimming Prep / Year 1/2 5 <sup>th</sup> , 6 <sup>th</sup> & 7 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am – 3.00pm
7/12	Prep 2017 Orientation Day	9.00am – 10.45am
8/12	Prep 2017 Orientation Day	9.00am – 10.45am
9/12	Advent Liturgy Week 3	2.30pm
12/12	School Captain & Staff	2.30pm
	Advent Liturgy Week 4	2.30pm
13/12	Walk to School Day / Walking School Bus	
	Orientation Day Year 1-6	
	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



### TUCKSHOP HELPERS Week beginning 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Marylinda Abate

Manager: Eva Coppola Tel: 9315 0799



**Book Club** issue 7 was sent home earlier this week. There are many great buys in this issue for families - keeping in mind that Christmas is less than two months away. If any parents would prefer to pick up their order from the office rather than it being sent to a classroom, please send a note (including a contact mobile phone number) with your order and we can send a message when the books are ready for collection. If you pay for your order online, please send a note with your child's name and your contact number to the office stating that you have placed your order online. Buying from Book Club is a great way to shop for Christmas - and support our school at the same time!



**Mass for All Saints Day; Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November: 9.15am (Holy Day of Obligation)**

**Mass for All Souls Day; Wed 2<sup>nd</sup> November: 9.15am**

During the month of November we remember our deceased loved ones. Mass Offering Envelopes will be available in the pews and are also included in your set of Thanksgiving Envelopes. You are invited to place the names of your deceased loved ones on the envelope and place it in the basket provided in the Church. Fr. Shabin will offer Mass for ten deceased persons at each weekday Mass during November.

**ALIVE 2016 Youth Rally** – Live Music, Food, Worship & More. **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2016** at Mount St. Joseph Girls' College, 133 Maidstone St. Altona. Time 5-8pm (starting with bbq). Ages Year 9 to 35 years. Guest Speaker – Fr. Dan Serratore. Featuring ONE Worship. Register Free. Hosted by **St. Mary's Altona** [www.melbournealive2016.e4ventbrite.com.au](http://www.melbournealive2016.e4ventbrite.com.au)  
For more info [dfairthorne@msj.vic.edu.au](mailto:dfairthorne@msj.vic.edu.au)

**Mercy Vigil Service Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at 7pm.**

As this will be the final Mercy Vigil Service for the year we hope to see as many Parishioners as possible attend. Music will be provided by Sharon Misquitta. Stay back for a cup of Tea or Coffee afterwards.



### **Walkathon News!**

All the teachers had an incredibly hard job judging the AMAZING Walkathon Poster Competition Entries. All the Art was of the highest standard. Well done and thank you to everyone who submitted an entry. Of course only one winner per category could be selected. HUGE Congratulations to the following students for their incredible efforts:

**Junior: Daniel S (Prep S) Middle: Mai N & Samantha K (3/4S) Senior: Lauren (5/6M)**

The winners Posters are displayed around the school and you all should have a sponsor book with one of the winning posters on the cover. For every \$20 raised by each student they get a ticket to go in the prize draw. The Parents and Friends have been busy sourcing some incredible prizes for the Walkathon which you have seen displayed at the school.

We would like to thank the following sponsors for their generous donations:

**Amart Sport - Maribyrnong, New Balance, The Athletes Foot - Maribyrnong - Airport West and CBD, Kmart - Altona Gate, Target - Point Cook, Rebel Sport - Point Cook and Designworks.**

The Walkathon is held during the school day in the school premises. It is an event worth attending and supporting. It is great to see the whole school walking around the course – an impressive sight.

Students have now received a walkathon sponsor book. Family and friends can choose to sponsor per lap or a donation amount.

The children walk for an hour around an approximate 400 metre course. The younger years typically manage between 5-10 laps which fill them with tremendous pride. Parents are welcome to join in and offer their children support to keep going. You don't have to walk for the whole hour, just when you want. All walkers will receive "Super Dooper Icy poles" after every 5 laps. **More information next week!**



# Parents and Friends News



## Pencil it in....

- Our next parents and Friends Meeting will on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm in the staff room. We would love you to join us. We have only a small but dedicated core of parents. Come along, bring a friend!
- Thank you to Marelize Agius, Susie Holland and Merilyn Fischer for constructing the Walkathon Books and Posters Monday Morning.
- Once again thank you to everyone who attended The Retro Disco at Kooringal Golf Club. It was ultimately all of you who made it a HUGE success. With your amazing support the Parents and Friends Committee have been able to support the school with the purchase of some **AMAZING New Soccer Goals**. You will see these assembled on the oval in the next couple of weeks (once we receive the nets).