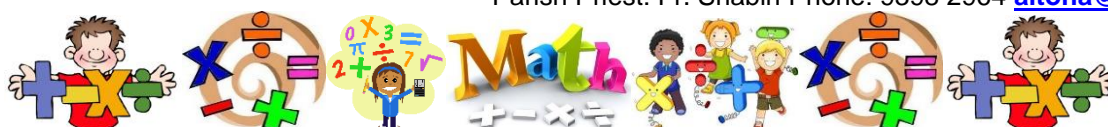


St. Mary's School, Altona Newsletter 2017

95A Railway Street North, Altona 3018

Principal: David Kelly Phone: 9398 4842 www.smaltona.catholic.edu.au

Parish Priest: Fr. Shabin Phone: 9398 2964 altona@cam.org.au



Dear Parents,

No. 4 24th February 2017

Next Friday 3rd March there will be some construction work taking place at the front door of the school and there will be **NO ACCESS IN or OUT** the front gate and front door all day. You can still enter from the front of the school through the side gate near the Mary MacKillop Garden then through the glass door into the Year 5/6 corridor near the Uniform shop or use one of the other 3 entrances to the school. Thank you for your co-operation.

ON PSYCH – Psychologists in Schools

Do you find that your child is displaying emotional or behavioural issues?

OnPsych are a team of fully qualified and registered psychologists who specialise in child and adolescent services working in primary and secondary schools in both individual and group settings.

Services are performed at **NO COST** to the school, student or parent through Medicare bulk billing. We are fortunate to have an OnPsych staff member at St. Mary's.

Our OnPsych psychologist works with both children who are experiencing a range of psychological issues such as anxiety and mood disorders, Autism Spectrum Disorders, interpersonal, learning and behavioural disorders, and adjustment difficulties (social & situational). They use a collaborative approach, working with you and the school staff, to aim to produce the most successful outcomes for your child.

If you believe that this might benefit your child, please contact Marg Masseni (Wellbeing Leader) for further information.

PREP & YEAR 6 BUDDY FAMILY NIGHT:

This is on next Friday night from 6.00 - 8.00 pm. BYO food and picnic rug or grab a table and chairs from the hall.

The Parents & Friends will be selling beer, wine & soft drink. Our school leaders will have some fun activities organised for the children to participate in once they have eaten. It is important that **all families RSVP** to your child's class teacher **ASAP**. If you have any questions please talk to or email your child's teacher. Looking forward to seeing you on the night.

FOOTBALL TIPPING COMPETITION:

IT'S BACK! Yes we will be running our St. Mary's Footy Tipping Competition again this year. **Go to** www.footytips.com.au/comps/St_Marys_School_Altona For members last year you will be asked to reactivate your account. **For new members:** Please fill in your personal details and you are in. You will receive an email welcoming you to our competition. As well as being great fun and an opportunity to win prizes it is also a fundraiser for our school. Half of the money raised goes to the school and the other half is distributed in weekly prizes and at the end of the season. Anyone can join **"The More the Merrier"**! It's \$25 per person or \$45 for two tippers. Once you have joined please send your money to school in a clearly marked envelope "Footy Tips" and your name/s. Any difficulties please contact me at school or via email dkelly@smaltona.catholic.edu.au

SCHOOL EDUCATION BOARD:

The first meeting of the School Education Board for 2017 will be next Wednesday 1st March commencing at 7.30 pm in the school staffroom. The Board members are: Fr. Shabin, Katrina Haby, Carol Hicks, Diane Howell, Paul Kruger, Paul Moore, Janice O'Connor and myself.

SCHOOL FEE STATEMENTS:

These have been sent home to each family today. A School Fee Timeline has also been attached to this week's newsletter email and can also be accessed from our school website in "News, Notes & Forms".

David Kelly,
Principal



PRINCIPALS AWARDS 20th Feb 2016

PREP D	Jayden O'Halloran for being an enthusiastic member of Prep D.
PREP S	Silas Holland for the enthusiastic and happy way he joins in all our activities.
YEAR 1/ 2HT	Alison Misquitta for beginning to read with more fluency.
YEAR 1/ 2S	Lorenzo Jimena for his great attempt at writing a recount.
YEAR 1/ 2N	Finian Mercer for his excellent ideas in writing.
YEAR 1/2G	Charlotte Le-Faucheur for completing all tasks to an excellent standard.
YEAR 3/4M	Ava Denys for her attentive listening and productive contributions to group tasks.
YEAR 3/4HK	Isabella Armeri for her great persistence and care with all tasks.
YEAR 3/4V	Leon Bitaks for staying on task and completing his work within the given time.
YEAR 5/6C	Lynda Azzopardi for her detailed and productive Persuasive Writing piece.
YEAR 5/6L	Thomas Chan for settling into our class and school routines with a positive attitude.
YEAR 5/6K	Erin Cucanic for her fantastic participation during the STRIDE leadership day.

IMPORTANT DATES

Date	Event	Time
27/2	Class Assembly 3/4M	2.20pm – 3.00pm
1/3	Ash Wednesday Mass	9.15am–10.15am
1/3	School Education Board meeting in staffroom	7.30 - 9.00 pm.
3/3	Inter school sports Rd 3 @ Home Vs Williamstown G	9am – 11am
3/3	Prep & Year 6 Buddy Family Night	6pm - 8pm
6/3	Prayer Assembly 3/4 HK	2.40pm – 3.00pm
7/3	School Photos	8.30am – 1.30pm
8/3	Reconciliation Family Workshop	7pm – 8.30pm
10/3	Inter school sports Rd 4 @ away Vs Seaholme	9am – 11am
13/3	Labour Day Holiday	
14/3	School Closure Day	
16/3	Divisional Swimming	9am – 3.30pm
17/3	Inter school sports Rd 5 @ Home Vs Williamstown Nth	9am – 11am
20/3	Class Assembly 1/2S	2.20pm -3.00pm
22/3	Sacrament of Reconciliation	7pm – 8pm
24/3	Inter school sports Round Robin Final	
27/3	Class Assembly 1/2N	2.20pm – 3.00pm
27/3	Parents & Teacher conferences	3.15pm – 5.30pm
28/3	WMR Swimming	9am – 3.30pm
31/3	End of Term One	2.30pm



Have you got a green thumb? Can you help our Year 3/4 gardeners?

Kristen (Summer & Maggie's mum) is looking for parents, grandparents, friends who can help out in the garden on Friday afternoons 2.30 – 3.15pm. Jobs include working with a beautiful group of 3/4 students to do some planting or harvesting, watering and general garden maintenance.

Really no matter the colour of your thumb, we'd love to have you along! Please contact the office or see Kristen in the garden on Friday afternoons.



Thanks to everyone who came to school in an active way yesterday. It was also great to see so many people join our Walking School Buses.

Look out in next week's newsletter for Our MOST ACTIVE CLASS.

Our Next Walk / Ride to School Day will be on Friday 17th March – NATIONAL RIDE TO SCHOOL DAY. Our Walking School Buses will run on that day.



School photographs will be taken on Tuesday 7th March.

If paying online, please follow the instructions on the envelope carefully. Please include child's correct name & correct class. If you intend to purchase a package, please ensure that your child's envelope is handed in on photography day. If you have more than 2 children attending this school, the 3rd and subsequent children's packages, are free of charge.

Sibling photograph envelopes, must be picked up from the office and handed in on the day of photography.

Note: All students will be individually photographed but sibling photos will only happen on request.

EDUCATION IN FAITH

Reconciliation Dates:

Rite of Acceptance Masses weekend Sat 25th Feb 6pm or Sun 26th Feb 10.30am

Reconciliation Family Workshop Wednesday 8th March 7pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION Wednesday, 22nd March at 7pm.

Ash Wednesday.

On Ash Wednesday, we receive a cross of ashes on our foreheads. This cross of ashes signifies that we are ready to change, and to make efforts to set out lives firmly on the way of Christ.

*Merciful God,
You claimed us for Christ
in the waters of baptism.*

*Look upon us as we enter these forty days bearing
the mark of ashes.*

*Bless us as we journey through the desert of Lent to
the font of rebirth.*

*May our fasting be hunger for justice;
our alms, a making of peace;
our prayer, the chant of humble
and grateful hearts. Amen.*



"We must take things quietly
and just do what our
Good God enables us,
and no more."

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop 1875

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- * All members of our community who are sick or in need of our prayerful support.
- * Filomena Rubino (Mia Attana's Nonna) as she continues her recovery in hospital.

Weekly Class Mass

On Friday 3rd March Year 3/4M will be attending the 9:15am parish mass. Family and friends are invited to sit with, celebrate and join the children in prayer.



Parish News

Lent Studies 2017 – With You Always.

Studies on the Sunday readings from Matthew's Gospel.

- Do something really positive this Lent! Join with members of other Christian Communities in Altona in preparation for the celebration of the Lord's Death and Resurrection. Put your name on the sheet provided in the Narthex, indicating which meeting you would like to attend and whether you would like a booklet. The Study books cost \$12 and payment can be made to your group leader. There will be three groups meeting each week commencing **Wednesday 8th March** at:

St. Mary's Church -	10.00am
Trinity Uniting Church	2.00pm
St. Eanswythe's Anglican Church	7.30pm

Bulletin deliveries - We have quite a few streets that still need deliveries, if any parishioner can spare some time during the week delivering to any of the following streets, it would be very much appreciated: Akuna; Bell; Belmar; Burt; Cambridge; Chorley; Civic (part of); Cowra; David; Dove; Emery; Emu; Frazer; Grieve; Hammond; Kearney; Kookaburra; Lark; Lowe; Lugg; MaAlpine; McBain; McIntyre; Millers; Purnell; Queen; Rayner; Romawi; Sussex; Upton; Waters & Stewart Ave. Please ring Lucy at the parish house if you can help out. Thank you

Ash Wednesday 1st March 2017

Mass times: 9.15am & 7pm

**Mass for families & Youth
commences at St. Mary's parish on Sunday 12th March
at 5pm.**

ALL WELCOME

Lent is a penitential season of prayer, self-denial and helping others. In this way, the whole Church prepares for Easter with those who are to be baptised. **Ash Wednesday and Good Friday** are days of fast and abstinence from meat. The law of fasting binds those who have completed their eighteenth year, until the beginning of their sixtieth year. The law of abstinence binds those who have completed their fourteenth year. Catholics are reminded of their obligation to receive Holy Communion at least once a year – between Ash Wednesday and Trinity Sunday.

The next Music Ministry will be on Sunday, 5th March at the 10.30am Mass. Music led by Genevieve Bryant. Please come and join in. New members are welcome!

Dear parishioners, I invite our parish community to participate in a unique opportunity - An opportunity to help a group of our young seminarians as they dedicate some time to discern God's will in their lives. In June /July 2017, Catholic Vocations Melbourne Assistant Director, Fr Nicholas Pearce will lead a group of young seminarians as they walk the ancient pilgrimage route of the CAMINO DE SANTIAGO to the tomb of ST. JAMES the Apostle. Each day the pilgrims will have the opportunity for Mass, Confession, spiritual direction and prayer. Our parish is one of the twelve parishes of the Archdiocese of Melbourne who have been invited to support this initiative by providing sponsorship to twelve pilgrims. Our contribution to this project is \$1,200.00. I am therefore seeking twelve families from our parish to consider donating the amount of \$100.00 per family to support this worthwhile initiative. If you think you can help, please contact me or ring the parish office. Fr. Shabin

World Day of Prayer Philippines. Am I being unfair to you?
Friday 3rd March 2017 at 10am includes morning tea. Salvation Army, 108 Queen St. Altona. All Welcome.



The **Altona Lacrosse Club** committee has decided to offer **free fees** to all new junior players for the 2017 season! This is a great initiative to help get children active and encourage them to try a new sport.

Altona Auskick Centre

Altona Reserve, Sugargum Drive, Altona

Saturday Morning, 9am – 10.30am auskickaltona@gmail.com

Head to aflauskick.com.au to register or to find out details of all centres in the area.

Can you Help?

Are there any parents who would be willing to cover books at home? We will send home the contact and the books and you would cover them and return them when they are done.

Please complete the google form via the link attached to this newsletter email.

Thank you very much,

Cathy Sims

P-2 Literacy Leader

Lisa Vella

3-6 Literacy Leader





ALTONA JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB JUNIOR GIRLS TEAMS

2017 TRAINING SESSIONS INFORMATION

Altona Junior Football Club are in full swing building and developing our Girls Program. We still have spaces in our U12 and U15 sides.

Come along for a kick, have some fun while learning to play football.

**Bring a mate or two, the more the merrier.
Be a part of Viking action and Australian sporting history.**



Coach: Abbey Brown
Under 15 Girls



Coach: Kacie Cook
Under 12 Girls

Where: J K Grant Reserve on the oval next to the basketball courts, near the goals on Bluegum Drive end.
When: Every Tuesday and Thursday 4.30pm – 5.30pm

***Wear runners and bring a drink bottle.
EVERYBODY WELCOME**

For more information call or email

Administrator; Naomi 0431 527362 ajfcadmin@gmail.com

Coaches; Abbey 0452 544183 Kacie 0424 126 353

<https://www.facebook.com/AltonaJuniorFootballClub>



SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum. CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students.

HOW TO APPLY

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef
And return to the school office asap.



Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday Cynthia bitaks

Thursday

Friday Paula Luppino

Manager: Eva Coppola Tel: 9315 0799

New Tuckshop list and prices are on school website - **Please take note of the new prices**

PARENTS & FRIENDS NEWS



rebel

Amart Sports & Rebel Loyalty Programs

St Mary's have established loyalty programs with both Amart Sports & Rebel. 5% of any purchases made at any Amart Sports or any Rebel Sport goes directly back to St Mary's. This helps us buy sports equipment for the school. Over the past year we've accrued an impressive \$569.10 at Amart Sports, so it really is a valuable program for our school. Mr Lappin has already used the points accrued at Rebel Sport to purchase equipment this year too.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Next time you're buying the kids new footy boots; runners; or sports equipment, go to an Amart Sports or Rebel & join up as a personal member. Then please ask them to link your membership to St Mary's. Please encourage family & friends to do the same.



Parent Helper Training

Are you interested in helping in your child's classroom? Do you have a current Working With Children Check (or have you applied for one)? Then come along to our training session in the staffroom

Friday March 3rd from 9 – 10am

Please note: If you have previously done this training, you do not need to do it again. Click the link attached to this Newsletter email and complete the google form as an expression of interest.

Hope to see you there.

Cathy Sims
P-2 Literacy Leader.



UNIFORM SHOP

In 2017 the uniform shop will be open: Thursdays 2.30 - 3.00 pm.

With Term One being a relatively short term, we are turning our attention to winter uniforms. To ensure that we can order in a timely manner for Term Two, please visit the shop to order your winter uniform. To receive your winter uniform by end of Term One, orders must be placed by Friday 17th February. For those that are unable to make it to the shop, the order forms are available on the School Website, News, Notes & Forms. These 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 for will be sent home in your child's school bag.

If the sizes are not correct, and the labels are still attached, return them to the office with a note and contact number, and we will endeavour to correct it for you.