Principal’s Corner

On Monday we will announce the School and House Captains for 2017. We had so many worthy applicants, their speeches were tremendous. We have so many leaders throughout the school. It makes the process a real celebration but very difficult. The Captains are chosen exclusively via student votes. We believe this is a verification of the qualities our students, enables student voice and demonstrates how the school values all students.

I thought I would clarify the grade 3/4 class for 2017. We have well over 60% of the 2016 grade 2 students who are more than 6 months ahead academically. A large percentage of these students are 12 – 18 months ahead. The grade 2 students going into the grade 3/4 next year are a small group of this larger sub set. Each of next year’s grade 3 classes will contain a significant group of student 6 – 18 months ahead. The program for the grade 3s and the grade 3s in the grade 3/4 will be planned to continue to increase and improve the education of all of these students. The 3/4 is not an accelerated grade. The primary reason for forming this grade is to lower the numbers in each grade 3 and grade 4. A by product is the opportunity to have some students work alongside the grade 4s. The grade 4 students within this grade also need to be and will be academically challenged at their level. Every grade within the school has a large percentage of students 6 – 12 months ahead academically and therefore must have learning and teaching targeted at this higher level, catering for the needs of each individual student. A challenging, stimulating environment is one of the key pre conditions for effective learning.

Yesterday we spent the day with the Leadership team, our reviewer, our critical friends; Sue Vermezovic, Principal of Albanvale P. S., and Sally Naylor, Principal of North Melbourne P.S. and the reviewer. We wrote the first draft of the 2017 – 2020 Strategic Plan incorporating student, parent and staff input. The reviewer commented on how difficult it was to review a school which was performing so well. The panel was also very impressed with the staff and their input. It was very evident how knowledgeable, committed and enthusiastic our teachers are. What motivates all of the staff is creating the best possible education for all students. Can all families please check and/or treat their child ren’s hair for head lice and this weekend. We have had cases of head lice recently particularly in grade Prep.

The Indigenous art project is almost complete. The six large art works are very impressive. A big thank you to Jenna Galvin, Pam Barry, Brooke Cain and Irene Lutze for donating their time and effort to make this happen. The students involved have been fantastic. The six art pieces will form a large display near the seating behind the assembly area.

Vanessa Vermezovic worked her final day at after school care (OSHC) yesterday. Vanessa has completed her university course and heads to Mildura for her new job. On behalf of all families I would like to thank Vanessa for her leadership and 5 years work at the OSHC. I know the staff and students will miss her.

Have a great weekend

Kevin Enright
### 2016 WHOLE SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR FAMILIES

**After School Activities:**

- **Dan sing** Monday & Wednesday 3:20pm-4:20pm  Mrs Cains **Art Class** Thursday 3:30pm-4:30pm
- Mr Corroon **Robotics** Wednesday 3:30pm-4:30pm  **Guitar** with Tim R, Andrew G & Leigh E Wed & Thurs. 3:15-4:15pm
- **Music Production** with Tim R Tues 3:15-4:00pm. **Singing** with Tim Henwood Tuesdays 3:15-4:15
- Carl Manuel **Drums** (also during school) Thurs & Fridays until 4:30pm.
- **Mr Corroon Robotics** Wednesday 3.30pm-4.30pm
- **Guitar** with Tim R, Andrew G & Leigh E Wed & Thurs. 3:15-4:15pm
- **Music Production** with Tim R Tues 3:15-4:00pm. **Singing** with Tim Henwood Tuesdays 3:15-4:15
- **Science Program** with Mrs Kenny & Miss Hruschka  each Thursday in Term 4 from 3:15 – 4:30pm
- **Fitastic Kids Club** Mon, Wed & Fridays 3:15-4:15pm
- **Ukulele Group** Friday’s 3.15pm with Mr Rouse

### 2016 TERM 4 WHOLE SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR FAMILIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>WEEK 6</strong></td>
<td><strong>WEEK 7</strong></td>
<td><strong>WEEK 8</strong></td>
<td><strong>WEEK 9</strong></td>
<td><strong>WEEK 10</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>7th Nov</strong></td>
<td>7th Nov</td>
<td>21st Nov</td>
<td>28th Nov</td>
<td>5th Dec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>8th Nov</strong></td>
<td>Indigenous Book Swap</td>
<td>Netbook Information evening Grade 3/4 &amp; 4 6:30pm in the Learning Street</td>
<td>Family &amp; Friends AGM for Family to be held at 2 Brothers Cafe7pm</td>
<td><strong>12th Dec</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>9th Nov</strong></td>
<td>Indigenous Book Swap</td>
<td>Softball State Finals</td>
<td>Family &amp; Friends AGM for Family to be held at 2 Brothers Cafe7pm</td>
<td><strong>13th Dec</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>10th Nov</strong></td>
<td>P – 2 Swimming Remembrance Day Service (run by Grade 3)</td>
<td>P – 2 Swimming 1st Prep Transition 2.15 – 3.15 Transition Information evening 6:30pm (current Grade 5s)</td>
<td><strong>14th Dec</strong></td>
<td><strong>Merry Christmas</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>11th Nov</strong></td>
<td>P – 2 Swimming Remembrance Day Service (run by Grade 3)</td>
<td>P – 2 Swimming 1st Prep Transition 2.15 – 3.15 Transition Information evening 6:30pm (current Grade 5s)</td>
<td><strong>15th Dec</strong></td>
<td><strong>2017 – Term 1 Students return Wednesday 1st February 2017 Whole school photos Thursday 23rd March 2017</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**WEEK 10**

- 2017 School & House Captains announced at assembly
- **Bunnings visit** -Grade 6 students Individual name plaques on 2 new bench seats
- **APS PRODUCE SWAP** 8.20am – 8.45am 3.15pm – 3.45pm Basketball Court
- **School Council**
- **SRC Coin Trail** Casual Dress day (gold coin donation) Chromosome 18 Research
- **Grade 6 Mystery Tour** 3rd Prep Transition 2.15 – 3.15 Whole School Transition 2.15 – 3.15

**WEEK 11**

- **Grade 6 Graduation 6:30pm**
- **End of Term Finish 1.00pm**

**WEEK 12**

- **Grade 6 Graduation 6:30pm**
- **End of Term Finish 1.00pm**

**2016 TERM 4 WHOLE SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR FAMILIES**

**MONDAY**

- Indigenous Book Swap

**TUESDAY**

- Indigenous Book Swap

**WEDNESDAY**

- Indigenous Book Swap

**THURSDAY**

- Indigenous Book Swap

**FRIDAY**

- Indigenous Book Swap
Thank you to all of our fabulous sponsors

GOLD LEVEL

FUTURE TECH WINDOWS & DOORS

ALTONA BOWLING CLUB

ALTONA Veterinary Clinic

Tom Sarros Pharmacy

SILVER LEVEL

Diamond Hand Cash Wash & Cafe

Altona Community Bank® Branch

Bendigo Bank

SECON

BRONZE LEVEL

THE DAVIDSON FAMILY
We would like to thank our Sponsors for their support with the Girls Night Out event. Their generosity is greatly appreciated within our school community.

**Platinum Sponsors - $1500**

Sweeney Real Estate Altona

**Gold Sponsor - $500**

Rams Home Loans

Mandy Couzens photography & styling

KGC

**Sliver Sponsor - $250**

Uccello Jewellery & Watches

Double "C" Jeanery

Brasilian Butterfly

Honda

Makeup by Diana
On Thursday 8th December 2016, Altona Primary School will be having a coin trail to see which grade has the longest line of coins. Each grade will be given a jar on Monday to start collecting coins for the coin trail. The grades will then line up their coins on 08/12/16 and measure the length of their trails. The winning grade will get a trophy for their fundraising efforts.

On this day, students who have donated coins are invited to wear casual clothes to school.

All money raised will go towards the Chromosome18 Research and Registry Society to support families affected by chromosome abnormalities.
ALTONA PRIMARY SCHOOL
Presents
2016 GRADE 6 GRADUATION

When: Monday, December 19th, 2016
Time: 6:30pm – 9:00pm (Student arrival 5:15pm)

Altona Primary School invites families of the ‘2016 Grade 6 graduating class’ to attend our Graduation Ceremony at the Wyndham Cultural Centre. The graduation begins at 6:30pm sharp, so make sure you don’t miss a second. We ask that families drop students who are graduating off at 5:15pm (where their teachers will be waiting for them). Feel free to grab a bite to eat or a drink nearby while you wait.

**Extra Graduation tickets now available for sale – hurry only a few left**

This year tickets will be sold online at the following website: [http://www.wyncc.com.au/whats_on/schoolsandcommunities](http://www.wyncc.com.au/whats_on/schoolsandcommunities)

Wyndham Cultural Centre can also take personal bookings at their Box Office counter or phone bookings (8734 6000) if you are unable to book online. Both VISA and Mastercard are accepted.

After the Graduation Ceremony, light refreshments will be served in the foyer until 9pm.

We are looking forward to a fantastic evening celebrating your child’s time at Altona Primary School.

Kind Regards,
The 5/6 Team.
TERM 4 NETBOOK PAYMENTS DUE
Netbook payments for our current grade 4, 5 and 6’s are now overdue.
If you have not already sent your payment to school, please do so immediately to avoid the removal of your child’s netbook.

New system for all the LOST PROPERTY

Dear Families,

We are constantly inundated with massive amounts of lost property and have put some new procedures in place. Please ensure that all items that come to school are clearly named so if items are lost we can return them. This includes all clothing items and equipment. Lost Property will now be stored for easy access in the undercover area out the front of the Library. We ask families to please check this weekly to ensure items are returned to students. At the end of each week any items not collected will be disposed of (eg. Lunch boxes with rotting food) and any other items will be cleared away and donated. We thank you for your assistance in this area.
Fitastic Kids Club is back in 2017. Multi Sports Program that focuses on additional sports training across a number of different activities and sporting codes. The children currently enrolled have been having a fantastic time developing new skills, practicing and improving their sporting abilities.

Fitastic Kids Club will be returning to Altona Primary School in Term 1 and 2 2017.
The program and activities will vary from week to week, constantly developing and challenging the children’s gross and fine motor skills as well as their sport specific skills.

The Fitastic Kids Club will continue to be offered to students at Altona Primary School (Grade 1-6) on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays (3:15-4:15pm), starting Monday 6th February 2017 (Term 1) and running until Friday 2nd June 2017 (Term 2).
The program will an hour long, inclusive of a 10 min break with fruit provided for participants.
Each session is $10 per child. (Invoice payable in FULL before Term 4 2016 ends for all sessions to be attended in 2017)
If you would like your child to be involved in this exciting and energizing program, please complete the tear off booking form below and return it to school to Friday 2nd December (spots are limited)
You will then receive further information via email to confirm your child's place.
The fee payable for the term will be calculated individually for each child - due to how many sessions per week, public holidays, any school closure days etc. (at $10 per session)

Child's Full Name: ____________________________

Year Level (In 2017):

Gender (Please Circle) Male/ Female

Year Level (Please circle) Year 6 Year 5 Year 4 Year 3 Year 2 Year 1

Day/s of the Week (Please circle) Monday Wednesday Friday

Parent Name: ____________________________

Email Contact: ____________________________

*** Please ensure that your email address and contact number are written clearly above to avoid any confusion or miscommunication.

Phone contact number: ____________________________
Once again, we will be supporting local families in need with our Christmas Hamper collection in conjunction with The Salvation Army and the Community Information centre of Hobsons Bay. Boxes are now in each classroom and will be collected in a week’s time on 9th December. We are asking for donations of non-perishable food such as canned goods, pasta, sauces, sugar or drinks. The leaflet lists requested items for donation. As it is the festive season, as well as the goods listed, sweeter treats such as biscuits, Christmas cakes, chips and lollies are also much appreciated. Please ensure that foods donated are within the expiry date. Thank you very much for your support.

Today we welcomed new Prep parents and told them of the great work that the Friends and Families Committee at APS. We have created a brochure to share what we do and how all family members can get involved. We handed these out today and there is a copy of it in this week’s newsletter. This brochure is an example of how it is possible to get involved and help the work of the FFC. Earlier in the year, a parent with Graphic Design skills emailed to offer her skills which we recently took her up on! She was given the information put together by a sub-committee and produced this fantastic looking brochure. Thank you to Cara King.

If you have a skill that you may be able to offer or just a little time at some point over the year, please consider offering your help – many hands make light work! There is Please take a look at the brochure (sneak preview below!) and by giving us your details, you can be informed of what is coming up and how you may help.

### Christmas Hampers

For the Salvation Army and Community Information Centre

Help the Salvation Army and the Community Information Centre of Hobson’s Bay provide food for families in need this Christmas.

Donation boxes will be placed in classrooms from 18 November to 9 December

#### REQUESTED DONATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Canned Fruit</th>
<th>Pasta Sauce</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tinned Tuna</td>
<td>Long life milk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chips and Lollies</td>
<td>Biscuits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cereal</td>
<td>Fruit juice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sugar</td>
<td>Spreads</td>
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<tr>
<td>Milo/Tea/Coffee</td>
<td>Christmas Pudding/Cake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cordial/Soft Drink</td>
<td>Long life Custard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pasta/Rice</td>
<td>Canned Vegetables</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>