

ALTONA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Knowledge and Nurturing by the Bay



MOTTO:

Be True

VISION:

Knowledge and Nurturing by the Bay

MISSION:

To provide a positive, challenging, innovative, caring and safe environment for our children, enabling them to learn academically, creatively, socially and emotionally in all aspects of life.

Principal's Corner

The whole school leadership team met yesterday to review last year's data and finalise the Strategic Plan and the 2017 Annual Implementation Plan. We also met with Lisa Sperling, a private consultant, to plan our 3 Curriculum/Professional Development days. The three days will be based on John Hattie's work on 'High Impact Instructional Strategies'. The aim is to build on and refine the high quality consistent instructional practice we have in every grade for every student.

One of the noticeable areas for improvement from 2016 is student absenteeism. The 2016 data indicated that 21% of students had 20 or more days absent. This equates to a 'rostered day off' every fortnight. It is also equal to missing one month or more per year and a complete year by the end of year 9. The average number of days absent across the school is 14 virtually one every 3 weeks. I urge parents to work with us to decrease absenteeism. Obviously if students are sick they need to remain at home. Absenteeism is directly related to a decrease in achievement and engagement...

The shade sails on the back playground that were ripped apart by high winds last year, were replaced yesterday.

Congratulations to our swimming team. Mr. Morris and Mr. Jenkins were really pleased with the trials and the team effort at the inter school swimming competition. Thank you to all of the parents who attended and assisted.

This year will be my final year as principal of Altona Primary School. It is my intention to retire at the end of the year. I have thoroughly enjoyed my role working with so many wonderful students, teachers and families. I am extremely proud of what we have achieved together. Retirement will allow me to spend more time with my family and do some of the things I have been too busy to enjoy.

Have a great weekend,

Kevin Enright

ASTHMA UPDATE

If your child has asthma, please return the new plan for 2017 that was sent home. Thanks you to those parents who have already returned them.



SCHOOL COUNCIL PARENT ELECTIONS

Please come to the school office to collect a form if you are interested in being on School Council. Nominations close next Friday 24th February 2017.



2017 WHOLE SCHOOL CALENDAR 7/2/17

After School Activities: To be advised

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Week 1	30 th Jan	31 st Jan	1 st Feb	2 nd Feb	3 rd Feb
	CURRICULUM DAY	CURRICULUM DAY	Students commence		
WEEK 2 FFC Icy pole day Wednesdays all term	6 th Feb	7 th Feb	8 th Feb	9 th Feb	10 th Feb
		Swimming Trials FFC – meet and greet before school at the flagpole		FFC – meet and greet after school at the flagpole	Summer Sports R
WEEK 3	13 th Feb	14 th Feb	15 th Feb	16 th Feb	17 th Feb
		Altona District Swimming Carnival	School Council	Parent Education Program Session 1 – Literacy FFC – 3:15-4:15 Afternoon tea for Preps and their parents	Summer Sports R2
WEEK 4 Japanese Homestay Students all week	20 th Feb	21 st Feb	22 nd Feb	23 rd Feb	24 th Feb
		FFC – 1 st meeting of the year (Staff room)	Parent Education Program Session 2 – Literacy		Summer Sports R3 GRIP Student Leadership Program (House & School Captains) Grade Prep & Grade 1 “Marvelous Me” Incursion
WEEK 5 Japanese Homestay Students all week	27 th Feb	28 th Feb	1 st March	2 nd March	3 rd March
		Japanese Cultural Day- whole school Shrove Tuesday	Parent Education Program Session 3 – Literacy Starting the Learning Partnership Meetings Grades 1 – 6 1pm – 7.30pm	APS Cross Country	Summer Sports R4
WEEK 6 Shonelle & Jayme Somers Camp Finalised EOL Gr 1 & 2	6 th March	7 th March	8 th March	9 th March	10 th March
		Somers Camp	Somers Camp Parent Education Program Session 4 - Numeracy	Somers Camp	Somers Camp Summer Sports R5
WEEK 7 Shonelle & Jayme Somers Camp	13 th March	14 th March	15 th March	16 th March	17 th March
	LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY	Somers Camp	Somers Camp School Council	Divisional Swimming	Summer Sports R6
WEEK 8 Planning Week	20 th March	21 st March	22 nd March	23 rd March	24 th March
	CURRICULUM DAY		5/6 Sovereign Hill Excursion	WHOLE SCHOOL PHOTOS	Summer Sports Round Robin Finals
WEEK 9 Planning Week	27 th March	28 th March	29 th March	30 th March	31 st March

	2017 TERM 2 WHOLE SCHOOL CALENDAR (PARENTS)				
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
WEEK 1	17 TH April	18 TH April	19 TH April	20 TH April	21 ST April
	EASTER MONDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY	Commence Term 2			
WEEK 2	24 TH April	25 TH April	26 TH April	27 TH April	28 TH April
		ANZAC DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY	State Swimming		
WEEK 3	1 ST May	2 ND May	3 RD May	4 TH May	5 TH May
	CURRICULUM DAY				Winter Sports R1
WEEK 4	8 TH May	9 TH May	10 TH May	11 TH May	12 TH May
		Altona District Cross Country			Winter Sports R2
WEEK 5	15 TH May	16 TH May	17 TH May	18 TH May	19 TH May
	APS Athletics Carnival at Newport		School Council	Backup Day APS Athletics Carnival at Newport	Winter Sports R3
WEEK 6	22 ND May	23 RD May	24 TH May	25 TH May	26 TH May
					Winter Sports R4
WEEK 7	29 TH May	30 TH May	31 ST May	1 ST June	2 ND June
			Divisional Cross Country		Winter Sports R5
WEEK 8	5 TH June	6 TH June	7 TH June	8 TH June	9 TH June
	APS Junior Athletics Carnival	5/6 Camp Group 1	5/6 Camp Group 1	5/6 Camp Group 1	5/6 Camp Group 1 Winter Sports R6
WEEK 9	12 TH June	13 TH June	14 TH June	15 TH June	16 TH June
	QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY	5/6 Camp Group 2	5/6 Camp Group 2	5/6 Camp Group 2	5/6 Camp Group 2 Winter Sports Round Robin Finals
WEEK 10	19 TH June	20 TH June	21 ST June	22 ND June	23 RD June
			School Council	WMR Cross Country	
WEEK 11	26 TH June	27 TH June	28 TH June	29 TH June	30 TH June
	CURRICULUM DAY				End Term 2

	2017 Term 3 WHOLE SCHOOL CALENDAR (PARENTS)				
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
WEEK 1	17 th July	18 th July	19 th July	20 th July	21 st July
	Commence Term 3			State Cross Country	
WEEK 2	24 th July	25 th July	26 th July	27 th July	28 th July
WEEK 3	31 st July	1 st Aug	2 nd Aug	3 rd Aug	4 th Aug
WEEK 4	7 th Aug	8 th Aug	9 th Aug	10 th Aug	11 th Aug
WEEK 5 APS Gaelic Football Comp	14 th Aug	15 th Aug	16 th Aug	17 th Aug	18 th Aug
			Robotics State Finals School Council		
WEEK 6 APS Gaelic Football Comp	21 st Aug	22 nd Aug	23 rd Aug	24 th Aug	25 th Aug
			ART SHOW Opening night (adults only)	ART SHOW After school	ART SHOW After school Sat 26 th Aug ART SHOW am
WEEK 7 APS Gaelic Football Comp	28 th Aug	29 th Aug	30 th Aug	31 st Aug	1 st Sept
WEEK 8 APS Gaelic Football Comp	4 th Sept	5 th Sept	6 th Sept	7 th Sept	8 th Sept
		Altona District Athletics		Backup Day Altona District Athletics	
WEEK 9	11 th Sept	12 th Sept	13 th Sept	14 th Sept	15 th Sept
			Divisional Athletics		
WEEK 10	18 th Sept	19 th Sept	20 th Sept	21 st Sept	22 nd Sept
			School Council		End Term 3

	2017 TERM 4 WHOLE SCHOOL CALENDAR (PARENTS)				
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
WEEK 1	9 th Oct	10 th Oct	11 th Oct	12 th Oct	13 th Oct
	Commence Term 4				
WEEK 2	16 th Oct	17 th Oct	18 th Oct	19 th Oct	20 th Oct
		WMR Athletics	School Council		
WEEK 3	23 rd Oct	24 th Oct	25 th Oct	26 th Oct	27 th Oct
WEEK 4	30 th Oct	31 st Oct	1 st Nov	2 nd Nov	3 rd Nov
	State Athletics WMR Summer Sports Finals 30 th – 3 rd Nov				
WEEK 5 APS European Handball Comp	6 th Nov	7 th Nov	8 th Nov	9 th Nov	10 th Nov
	CURRICULUM DAY	MELBOURNE CUP DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY		WMR Hot Shots Final	APS House Colour Day
WEEK 6 APS European Handball Comp	13 th Nov	14 th Nov	15 th Nov	16 th Nov	17 th Nov
			School Council		
WEEK 7 APS European Handball Comp	20 th Nov	21 st Nov	22 nd Nov	23 rd Nov	24 th Nov
WEEK 8 APS European Handball Comp	27 th Nov	28 th Nov	29 th Nov	30 th Nov	1 st Dec
WEEK 9	4 th Dec	5 th Dec	6 th Dec	7 th Dec	8 th Dec
WEEK 10	11 th Dec	12 th Dec	13 th Dec	14 th Dec	15 th Dec
WEEK 11	18 th Dec	19 th Dec	20 th Dec	21 st Dec	22 nd Dec
					End Term 4



School Council Update

Nov 2016 – Feb 2017

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- School Council Elections

Council meeting insights

- Hot topics from our last meeting
- Next meeting

2016 School Council Dates

1. 11th May
2. 15th June
3. 17th August
4. 14th September
5. 19th October
6. 16th November
7. 15th February

2017 School Council Dates

1. 15th March

Contact Us

altona.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

School Review

Every 4 years schools review their performance and set a new 4 year plan. The purpose of a review year is to evaluate and diagnose our performance, prioritise and set goals and then develop a plan that we can implement and monitor each year.

The DET Improvement Model: Framework for Improving Student Outcomes (FISO) provides a common language for school improvement across the Victorian government school system. It is structured around four state-wide priorities that are proven to have a strong bearing on the effectiveness of a school:

1. Excellence in teaching and learning
2. Professional leadership
3. Positive climate for learning
4. Community engagement in learning

Following a review, schools are expected to focus their improvement activity on one or more of the **six evidence-based initiatives**. *(These were described in detail back in our July update)*

1. Building practice excellence.
2. Curriculum planning and assessment.
3. Building leadership teams
4. Empowering students and building school pride
5. Setting expectations and promoting inclusion
6. Building communities

As you all know, the school review started last year with a **self-evaluation process**. This involved feedback from you, the students and staff as well as our results and student performance data all of which was then reviewed independently by an external panel.

In **November we began the 2 day formal review** and whilst Kevin and the leadership team will share the final strategy and annual implementation plan at the appropriate time, I would like to give you some insight from my perspective as to what it was like to participate in the review process.

The **review panel** included the accredited reviewer, Kevin, Debbie, Nicole, our leading teachers Adam, Tammie and the newly appointed Tim Jenkins and we also had 2 principals from other schools, our Senior Education Improvement Leader from the department and I was fortunate to attend as the School Council President.

On the **first day** we reviewed the self-evaluation report focusing firstly on our **student performance data**. This was a great discussion utilizing the NAPLAN and **Teacher Assessment** data over the last 3 years across all areas. (Grammar & Punctuation, Numeracy, Reading, Spelling and Writing).

This data shows us that the school performs very well overall and consistently well over the last 3 years. It also shows that for each period where there has been a focus on a specific skill such as reading or writing we have seen bigger improvements in those areas. As hoped, where the effort was needed and focused it has produced improvements.

Our challenge for the future is to consider how we **continue to find areas for improvement** when we have strong overall results. The consensus was to look more into numeracy in the next period and apply some of the learning practices that have been successful in reading and writing to this topic as well. Things like a more integrated and creative approach for delivery, timetabling flexible learning spaces for varied capability and team teaching for math and numeracy. These ideas would be supported through professional development for the teaching staff that will help to deliver that change and be measured to determine how effective it was over time.

In addition to identifying this need, we also discussed how we would continue to focus on the broad guaranteed learning priority areas and maintain those levels. Taking a full view of the requirements is the intention to ensure all areas are maintained and students are continually challenged to grow and extend, even if they are already achieving a high standard.

The way APS approaches individual learning and extension (regardless of ability) is impressive and the knowledge our teachers have about their students and the data they use to analyse and understand their needs is why we are seeing such a high performance outcome for each of our children. **Individual needs and continually extending every student positively so they are each able to see their progress and feel proud of their personal development** is the key.

The discussion around curriculum then expanded to include the **enrichment programs** and the additional opportunities APS provides such as sport, music, choir, art, language (LOTE), and afterschool activities, OSHC, robotics and many more. The extension of the curriculum is very highly regarded within the school community and critical to student engagement. These types of enrichment programs will also be included within the strategic plan to ensure they are maintained in the future and flexible to adapt as needed.

The topic of Student engagement then led to a long discussion about **student wellbeing and the culture of the school**. Student wellbeing takes many forms and the discussion did too. From student behavior to resilience through to effort and achievement, some students need more help in these areas than others and ensuring we provide an inclusive school as well as a safe one is high on the agenda.

Absenteeism was also discussed and systems for improving the management of student attendance through web based or app based systems like Compass was put forward for consideration.

We have a great overall school culture but it is often tricky to articulate that in a simple way. Reviewing our school values, motto, keys to life and overall mission will form part of the next strategic plan. It's a great opportunity given we have just completed the 100 year celebrations and have achieved great success with all these things. We are now in a position to reinvigorate these elements of our school, respecting the past, bringing with us the essence of those traditions and successes and set new ambitions for the future that will all help us describe our school culture in a consistent and simple way. This evolution will involve the students as well as the staff and will give a new focus to school culture over the next 4 years.

The terms of reference for the formal review and report were agreed at the conclusion of the first day and will be the basis for the reviews report against our last strategic plan. This report is then the launchpad for setting up our next 4 year plan where we will clarify the areas of focus over the longer term which was looked at more the second day

On returning for the **second day**, the panel was **joined by the Team Leaders** from each year level and extended the initial thoughts from the first day with insights provided by the leading teachers.

Additional discussions, at a more detailed teaching level included things like the **focus on student growth** between Grade 3 to Grade 5 being a highly important part of the way the teachers set goals for the students.

Setting targets for student learning and student growth was a lengthy topic, considering areas for improvement in **STEAM subjects** (Science Technology Engineering and Math) and balancing this with Spelling Grammar and Writing. Using techniques such as scope and sequence to continue **reinforcing skills throughout Prep – Grade 6** will enable a continued practice of key learning.

Looking at **integrated studies** and considering a concept based approach was an idea to be more explicit about the topics taught. As an example, rather than using "Seasons" or "Weather" as the topic, being more specific that these do include elements of science, change, history etc.

Encouraging more feedback between students, teachers and parents and also student to student feedback was well supported as was lifting motivation and a **growth mindset for learning**.

Maintaining our approach of a **"graduated increase of responsibility"** from Prep all the way through each grade helps the students work towards setting self-directed goals and ongoing self-directed learning after they leave APS. The leading teachers were very passionate about the success this can bring for individual students for their futures, regardless of their path in life.

To support a **consistent approach to classroom instruction**, a number of ideas were discussed and will be a focus for staff Professional Development over the next 4 years. We have a fabulous range of experience and strengths across our teaching staff and working together to leverage these strengths will not only foster peer learning between the teaching staff, it will flow into the classroom and benefit the students.

Student Engagement and Wellbeing and in particular the **social and emotional wellbeing** for students will be another key focus of the new 4 year strategy. It was agreed that a whole school community approach that is inclusive for everyone is the priority and will continue to strengthen the foundation we already have and broaden its reach.

We completed the second day by narrowing down all the previous discussions and fantastic ideas into a draft strategic plan covering 2 key areas of focus.

1. Optimising student achievement in all areas of the curriculum
2. Developing an inclusive whole school culture that fosters resilience and self-motivation

Once finalised, including goals and measures, the draft plan goes through an approvals process with the Department of Education and is ratified by the School Council. Accompanying this 4 year plan is also an AIP Annual Implementation Plan that breaks the strategy down into yearly activities and measures that the leadership works towards and the school council monitor.

After so much work over these 2 days and more since, I am looking forward to seeing the final version and Kevin sharing this with you. I hope this has provided you with a window and a little more insight into the process as it was my privilege to be part of the review on your behalf.

Watching the inner workings of our leadership team reinforced for me that we have a very passionate group of leaders and teachers at APS who genuinely care for our children and want to see them develop and grow while they are here.

Stay tuned for more details about the Strategy and AIP for 2017.

Councilor Spotlight

Each issue we will feature some of our fantastic Councilors so you can learn more about us.



PRATS CHEBOLU Hello! My name is Prats Chebolu and I have been actively involved with the School Council, this being my second year and I feel extremely privileged to be associated with the School. My daughter Archisha was in Grade 6 last year with Ms. McKendrick and she absolutely adored her. My son Vidyt is now in Grade 3, getting to know his new teacher; Ms. Nikki Farrow, and classmates.

We moved from Germany 3 years ago and just stumbled upon the school's website and fell in love with the school, community and atmosphere on our first tour led by Kevin. We value the keys to life given by APS and use it in our day to day life as well!

Kevin's announcement of retirement

As you will have already read in this newsletter, our wonderful principal Kevin Enright has announced his impending retirement at the end of this year. We were all sad to hear this news however we are confident his legacy in the culture and staff he has created and nurtured through his leadership of APS will continue long after he is on his next round of golf and holidays.

We have the remainder of the year to work with Kevin on transitioning to the new strategic plan and the AIP and he remains dedicated to his position and the school, staff and students he loves until the end of the year.

The School Council will work through a highly structured process under the guidance of the Department of Education and our regional leader to select a new principal for 2018. This process won't happen until Term 4 and we will provide more information to you at that time.

Hot Topics from our last meeting...

Our last 2 meetings have covered a variety of topics. In both meetings we conducted our usual review of the reports from each sub committee and also the Principal's report (which is very similar to the messages Kevin puts into the weekly newsletter). We then also covered a number of general discussion topics, some from the Leadership Team and some that were raised by parents.

In **November:** we were advised of a grant to improve some of the facilities around the school, netball and basketball courts, paths, fences and general grounds that need updating. The Extension of the Data Room to become a functional classroom in 2017 was also progressed.

A new approach to starting times for Preps was discussed, and the trial will begin in 2017. This step has been taken to improve planning and assessment and the transition to full time for our new Preps.

16 students were chosen at random for an opportunity to attend Somers Camp in Term 1, with a waiting list of over 350 in our region, more details will be provided to parents on the selections and waitlist process.

One of our parents, John Butler offered his services to refurbish one of our school signs which the council agreed to as it is indeed in need of repair.

The Friends and Family Committee was discussed for some time, highlighting the fantastic work of the committee and also others who focused on community events during the year. A suggestion to bring these groups together and extend the collaboration between these groups and the school community was welcomed and encouraged by the council and we look forward to working more closely with these groups in 2017.

In **February:** our meeting was very procedural, covering a number of formal processes we need to do at the beginning of each year. Approval of end of year financial reports, ratifying policies that need review annually, volunteer lists and sign in processes and re-approving operational processes like approved signatories, card holders and bank related activities. No changes were made to the current list of approved persons, more a formality to ensure the ongoing smooth running of these activities into the new year.

We endorsed the school investment policy that will enable an improved ability to invest school funds into term deposits generating greater interest with our surplus funds.

School Camps was a topic, both the subsidised funding from school council and the coordination of this year's 5/6 camps. More information will be provided about the camps in the coming weeks with the camps planned for June.

Curriculum Days for 2017 were approved, 6 in total with these days being dedicated to a range of activities across the year. We have already had 2 days in January before school started, where the teaching staff dedicated their days to reviewing Student data, preparing for their new students and reviewing the draft of the strategic plan. They also all completed first aid training which is an excellent initiative of the school. Some schools only have a minimum number of qualified first aiders but for the student safety and wellbeing, APS equips all teaching staff with these skills including an annual refresher. One of the days later in the year is always dedicated to report writing. The other 3 will be for professional development and building instructional practice and consistency in teaching across the school, a key aspect of the draft strategic plan.

Progress on the building and grounds work, mentioned in the November meeting, is continuing and you will begin to see some improvements over the next few months.

The new Facebook group for the Family and Friends committee is gaining momentum and we look forward to a report from the Family and Friends committee at our next meeting about all the plans they have for 2017.

The School Calendar of events was raised as was communication about school events and activities with improvements needed to ensure that consistency and more advanced notice of activities occurs. Ensuring all students are adequately informed and understand selection processes, important dates and adequate equipment and uniforms was highlighted. The intention to move to the Compass System is expected to assist with this process but in the meantime regular checking of the calendar on the school website is encouraged.

We also endorsed a wonderful offer from a parent, Sean O'Flynn who happens to be an arborist to work with the students to learn more about the many wonderful trees we have around our grounds.

Who is on our School Council?

2016 School Council	Finance Committee	Policy Committee	Sustainability, Building and Grounds Committee	Family & Friends Committee
Alexis Beckwith - President	Kevin Enright	Debbie Galvin	Kevin Enright	Kylie Farr Rebecca
Peter Roberts - Vice President	Shelley Golz	Nicole Fridey Karen	Claire Carson	Letson Prats
Claire Carson	Ekrem	Hudson	Karen	Chebolu
Ekrem Jeka	Jeka	Julie Giles	Hudson	Debbie
Karen Hudson	Peter	Liz Brown		Galvin
Prats Chebolu	Roberts			
Rebecca Letson				
Tim Hargreaves				
Nicole Fridey				
Debbie Galvin				
Kevin Enright				

School Council Elections

February was our last official meeting for 2016, and I would like to thank the current School Council for their dedication and enthusiasm this year. Your support has been invaluable to me in my first time as President and I hope to see you all return in 2017.

Kevin has already begun the nominations process. I encourage anyone who is interested in being on the school council to talk to any one of us if you have questions or are considering nominating for a position.

We meet on a Wednesday night every month (except school holidays) and we look forward to starting our new year with a newly established committee at our next meeting in March.

Our next meeting in March...

If you have items you'd like to raise for discussion at our next meeting, we would all be pleased to talk with you.

In the meantime your child's teacher, the lovely ladies in the office, Kevin, Nicole or Debbie can also assist with any questions or enquiries. We are all here to help.

We hope you enjoyed reading more about the School Council and would love to hear any feedback or ideas that you may have.

Kind Regards,

Alexis Beckwith
School Council President



JAPANESE DAY

Tuesday 28th February 2017

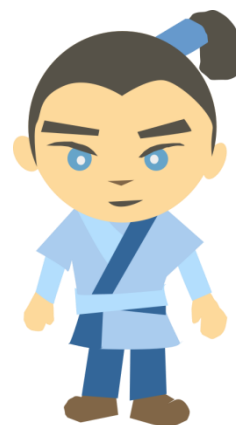


It's time to start thinking Japanese and creating your costume to wear on this fun filled day.

Costume parade will be at 9am – all parents welcome!

Here are some costume ideas:

- Kimono
- Happy coat
- Samurai
- Ninja
- Karate/Judo expert
- Japanese flag
- Sushi roll
- Sumo wrestler
- Headbands/t shirts





"You can do it"

Week 3 – Term 1

Prep Awards		
Grade 1 Awards		
Rinor	1B	Persistence – for being so persistent when identifying the edges, faces and vertices of 3D shapes.
Harvey	1P	Confidence – for a great start at his new school - Welcome
Sai-Tah	1P	Confidence – for suggesting another way of doing an activity.
Naomi	1F	Getting along – for being an amazing role model when it comes to "Whole Body Listening" effort and "Getting Along" We are lucky to have you in 1F!
Chloe	1AV	Confidence – for being an excellent classroom helper in 1AV.
Grade 2 Awards		
Jodie	2N	Getting along – for her fantastic reflection and explanation on the strategies to remember how many days are in each month
Alex	2K	Confidence – developing a fantastic narrative and using lots of detail and imagination. Well done Alex!
Ilka	2W	Organisation – for completing all tasks to an excellent standard. Keep up the great effort.

Grade 3 Awards		
Zane	3F	Persistence – for being fabulous role model to your peers. Your start to the year has been amazing. Keep up the amazing effort Zane.
Chanel	3R	Getting along – for the amazing effort she is putting into all her learning
Donovan	3N	Getting along – for settling into 3N so well and making a fantastic start to the year.
Grade 4 Awards		
Finn	56XV	Confidence – for excellent participation during guided reading groups – Keep it up Finn?
Holly	56J	Organisation – for having such a brilliant work ethic; powering through every task thrown your way.
Cody	56T	Persistence – for his brilliant persistence and excellent success in ordering decimals numbers.
James	56M	Persistence – for persisting with challenging himself during our place value unit and giving every task a “red hot go”.
Mohamad	56XV	Confidence – for excellent participation during our Literature discussion group – Well done
Lola	56F	Organisation – for being organised and focused during each and every task. Great Job!





Starting the Learning Partnership Grade 1-6

1st March 2017

Parent(s) _____ Student: _____

Please complete the sections in the table below that are relevant to your child and return to the classroom teacher by Friday 24th February 2017. This will provide your child's teacher with information that will help form a positive home-school partnership to best facilitate your child's learning.

Social Information:

Relevant Academic Information:

Medical Information:

Any other information eg: Interests, strengths

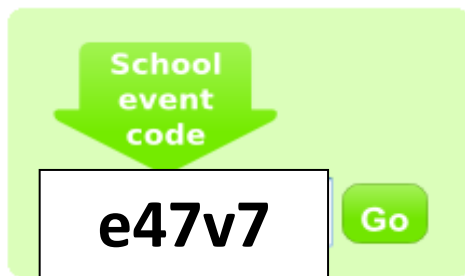
Book School Interviews Online

Dear Parents and Carers, **(Grade 1 to Grade 6)**

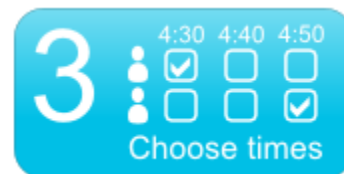
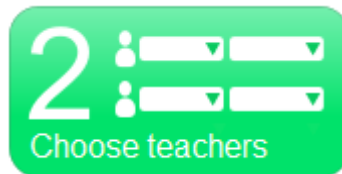
Altona Primary School Starting the Learning Partnership”
(Parent/Teacher/Student) interviews will be held from **11:00am to 7.20pm** on
Wednesday 1st March 2017

You can now book interviews at times that suit **YOUR FAMILY BEST**.
Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and follow these simple instructions.

BOOKINGS CLOSE - Tuesday 28th February 2017 at 6pm



Enter the school
event code.
Then follow the 3 simple steps.



When you click **finish**, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically - **check your junk mail folder** if you do not receive your email immediately.
You can return to www.schoolinterviews.com.au at any time, and change your interviews - until bookings close.

For parents that don't have access to the internet at home, at work, at a friend's house or on their phones, please contact the school office and we can help you. Interviews are strictly 10 mins and spaces are limited. If you require more time, please contact your teacher directly to make alternative arrangements for another day.

Parents can change their interview bookings, any time prior to the closing date, 6pm Tuesday 28th February 2017) by re-visiting the www.schoolinterviews.com.au website, and using the event code.
Remember to use the same name and email address, you used when you made your original booking. Parents wishing to change their interview times after the closing date, should contact the school directly on: 9398 2925

Dear Parents,

We will be running an all-day program on Wednesday 1st March 2017, as this is a student free day for the Starting the Learning Partnership interviews.

The cost for this day is \$40 per child.

If you would like your child/ren to attend on this day please send us an email at apsoshc@gmail.com.

We open at 7.15am and close at 6.15pm, however you are able to drop off and pick up anytime within these hours.

We will be providing breakfast and afternoon tea. Children will need to bring their snack and lunch with them.

If you have any further questions about the day please don't hesitate to contact us.

Thanks
OSHC Team



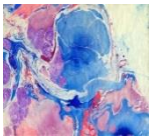
SCHOOL UNIFORM

Please make sure your child is wearing full school uniform at all times.

We have noticed lots of students in casual clothes. School hats must be the purple bucket type or the yellow wide brim hats if you have one.

Uniform items are: Summer dress, pinafore, grey or purple tracksuit pants, grey or purple shorts, gold polo and purple windcheater or jacket.

Girls must wear tights, no leggings are allowed.



Paint and Dyes

After school art and craft classes will be held in the art room on a Thursday afternoon between 3.30-4.30pm in term 2.

The opportunity to participate is offered to children from grades 2 – 6.

The cost will be \$30 to cover materials and \$10 per session, making a total of \$110 for 8 Sessions.

Please note: Permission slips and payments must be directed to Mrs Cain in the art room and not the main office.

Session 1 (27/4/17): Experimenting with marble paints

Session 2 (04/5/17): Acrylic painting/ colour mixing

Session 3 (11/5/17): Make and bake clay creations

Session 4 (18/5/17): Dye blowing fun

Session 5 (25/5/17): Paint a paper mache piece

Session 6 (01/6/17): Decorate and finish papier mache piece

Session 7 (08/6/17): Make a gorgeous garland

Session 8 (15/6/17): Complete pieces to take home

Please complete the attached form to indicate interest in attending. I will contact you as soon as possible. A deposit of \$30 will be required by the last week of term 1 (27/03/17) to allow time for the purchase of materials.

I am delighted to offer this opportunity out of school hours and look forward to working with children who enjoy art and craft as much as I do.

Thank you, Mrs Cain

Paint and Dyes

After School Art and Craft Classes. Term 2, 2017.

Child's name _____ Grade _____

Parent/Guardian _____

Contact Number: _____

Email: _____

Altona Primary School

FRIENDS AND FAMILIES COMMITTEE

APS Family and Friends Committee meeting

Tuesday 21st February at 9am in the
staff room.

Please come and join us for our first
meeting of 2017. All welcome!



Find us on
Facebook

Join the conversation.....

Altona Primary School Friends and Families

Committee now has its own Facebook page. Please read below to find out more about the page, then jump online and join us!

"This group consists of friends and families of students at Altona Primary School in Altona, Victoria.

The purpose of this group is to provide an online forum to discuss matters related to the APS Friends and Families Committee.

The Committee and this Facebook group are open to all friends and family of APS students who wish to get together and contribute to the school community.

The Friends and Families Committee is not a huge commitment. Even if you can only give an hour of your year to supporting the APS school community, we'd love to have you join us.

This Facebook group is used for:

- contributing new ideas for events, fundraisers and other activities that can help students and the school
- reminding APS friends and families about upcoming Friends and Family events
- calling for volunteers to help on occasion with events
- surveying the parent community about ways in which the Friends and Family Committee can enhance students' school experience

This group is managed by members of the APS Friends and Families Committee and is not a forum for discussing matters relating to Altona Primary School administration or staff. Please contact the school directly to discuss these issues."