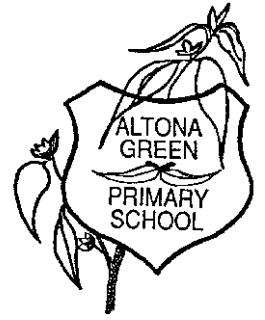


Altona Green Primary School

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NEWSLETTER

Issue 09/09
3 April, 2009

Our newsletter is being sponsored by those advertising within. They have entered a commercial contract with the school for this advertising. We have no other direct links with them, and our policy is not to encourage or direct our school community to use a particular product or company.

A Message From Karen...

As part of our preparation for our school's review School Council, spent some time reflecting on the things that Altona Green Primary School does well. We compiled quite an extensive list and then began to project where we would like Altona Green Primary School to be, in 5 years time. What things will be important? What kind of emphasis do we want placed on our students' learning? The last task we undertook was working out what we need to do to get our school to be that 'place of learning' in those 5 years? For those on School Council, there was all round agreement that we need to continue to focus on literacy and numeracy, as well as maintaining the programs that are special to Altona Green Primary School. Eg. our Kitchen Garden Program and our Prep Learning Centre. We talked about prioritising and really keeping the focus on our goals.

For the past several years, we have been holding a School Concert every alternate year. This year, was to be the Concert year. Many parents would not perhaps realise the time that is taken away by classroom learning through concert preparation. It has been in the past, a whole term's preparation; the time for organisation and practice has to come from somewhere during the day and it usually is the reading or maths programs that suffer. Therefore, we will be doing things a little different this year. With our usual venue Williamstown Hall out of action through refurbishments, it provided us with the opportunity to re-evaluate our priorities and re-focus.

In 2009 our Arts and Performance focus centres around offering varied presentations and opportunities for children to be part of:

- Michelle Yacoub, our Music teacher will continue to explore avenues for groups of students to perform
- We will involve classes in the local festivals eg. Festival of Performing Arts (FOPA)
- Our Singing and Performance Program (SAP) will see children in the Middles perform on the stage at the Concert hall in the city as part of Westside Arts
- We hope to have a 'celebration' at the end of the year where all children can be involved- maybe a 'Carols Night'?
- Junior School Council is about to launch their 'AGPS has Got Talent' series.

On Friday we farewell Stephanie Di Sante as she begins her family leave. Our best wishes are with her and James during this special time in their lives. Mrs Michelle Bohatko will commence next term with Middle S.

We also farewell Rhys Thurston, who has worn many 'hats' over his time with us since last May. Rhys has recently been taking Senior B's class whilst Barb Holmes has been on long service leave. Thanks Rhys, we hope you enjoy sunny Queensland.

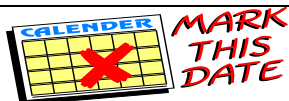
This term has been one of the busiest I have ever experienced in my time in this role, with many demands on our staff, high expectations of our students and many parents getting involved in our new School Council teams. I hope everyone has a safe and relaxing first term holiday break.

Karen O'Dowd

**SCHOOL FINISHES AT
2:30PM TOMORROW FOR
END OF TERM ONE.
HAVE A HAPPY HOLIDAY**

Notices sent home this week!

- Middles - Westside Arts Performance



APRIL

3rd - Last day of Term 1 - 2:30pm Finish

20th - First day of Term 2

27th - 9:00am Parent Information session on Interactive Whiteboards

27th - School Council

29th - School Photo Day

MAY

1st - Junior excursion to Melbourne Zoo

1st - L.P.S.S.A Basketball Round Robin

8th - L.P.S.S.A Cross Country Championships

15th - Winter Interschool Sport - 1st round

18-22 - Education Week

20th - Open Day

20th - 2:30pm Victoria Police Showband

20th - 7:00pm Prep 2010 Information Night

Maths Matters

So it's the holidays and what are your maths plans?

Make sure you engage your child/children in some mathematical pursuits.

You could make a time to investigate some of the activities on the School Web Site, look in Maths Matters.

Senior Students could use the compass in their maths bags to investigate circles in circles, circles overlapping circles and various patterns with circles.

Younger students could play counting games on a number board, begin counting from various numbers eg start at 7 and count to 28 etc. You could do the same activity going backwards.

Build with boxes and construction kits. Keep a calendar of holiday events. Do some jigsaw puzzles.

Play dominoes. Draw a map of your bedroom or garden. Look at a Melways, plan a neighbourhood walk.

Investigate the numbers in your phone number, so the school phone number is 93690777, in this I can see 9, 7, 36, 77, 369, 777, 9369 etc. Practise saying two, three, four digit numbers.

• **Australian Mathematics Competition**

Early next term I will be sending out a notice with Middle and Senior students to find out how many wish to be involved in the Australian Mathematics Competition 2009. There is a minimal cost involved. The competition will be held on Friday 7th August.

Further details next term.

Maria Micallef

Public Profile

At our first Public Profile meeting this year we have decided to install a Suggestion Box which will be situated in the foyer of the Office and it is open to the school community. Please be encouraged to provide ideas on anything that you feel will improve the school or its profile within the community. We ask that you please put your name to your suggestions as we may need further clarification of what you have in mind or invite you to be involved in the actioning of your suggestion. We will look at the suggestions at each public profile meeting.

Free Fruit Friday



There will be no Free Fruit Friday tomorrow. Free Fruit Friday will be back again in Term 2.

Keeping Up With Our Cyber-Savvy Kids!



Have you ever thought that your children were speaking another language? Blogs, wikis, twitter? Upload, download, hyperlinks?

Online, podcast, You Tube?

"What is a wiki?"

A **wiki** is a webpage that can be updated, altered or contributed to by anyone wishing to. You have to be a member of some wikis to be able to add or delete information. Last week we learnt that a blog can only be added to or changed by the creator. **Wikis** are a collaborative website that can be edited by anyone wishing to add information. Probably the best know wiki is **Wikipedia**, which is like an online encyclopaedia that has been created by many 'expert' contributors. It is important to teach children that not all information added to wiki's is 100% accurate, so they need to be somewhat sceptical when researching using the internet.

In term 2 I am planning on running a parent information session on our Interactive Whiteboards and how they are used within our classrooms. The session will be on Monday the 27th of April at 9:00am in the IT room.

Website of the Week: www.pbskids.org/go/

Melissa Tinkler

Ride 2 School Day

Last Wednesday, Altona Green Primary School was involved in 'Ride 2 school' day which is an event promoted by Bicycles Victoria. The wet weather did not stop our active community in taking part in such a successful event. We had over half the school participate, whether it was by bike, scooter or a leisurely walk. Overall there were 230 participants, 10 more than last year. What a great effort!

The grade that had the most participants will be announced at the next assembly and will be awarded a class prize. Thank you to all parents and children for taking part and supporting our fitness program.

Liz McNerney

Happy Happy April Birthdays

1 st	Fiona
2 nd	Eadith
3 rd	Michael, Natasha
4 th	Hanan, Lucas
5 th	Chloe
6 th	Eden, Georgia
7 th	Sarah, Victoria
8 th	Terry
10 th	Danny
11 th	Ary, Aaron
12 th	Adam
13 th	Thomas, Daniel
16 th	Bridget, Cuni
17 th	Ben,
18 th	Tristen
20 th	Nathan, Amy, Moussah
22 nd	Jayden, Harmony-Jane
23 rd	Ema, Leon
24 th	Shanae, Ross
25 th	AJ, Travis
26 th	Phakhavat, Michael
27 th	Kimberley, Kiriana, Lois, Leah
28 th	Fatima
29 th	Dylan

Classroom Clippings

Preps

We wish all prep children and their families a safe and relaxing holiday, after having a 1st busy term at school.

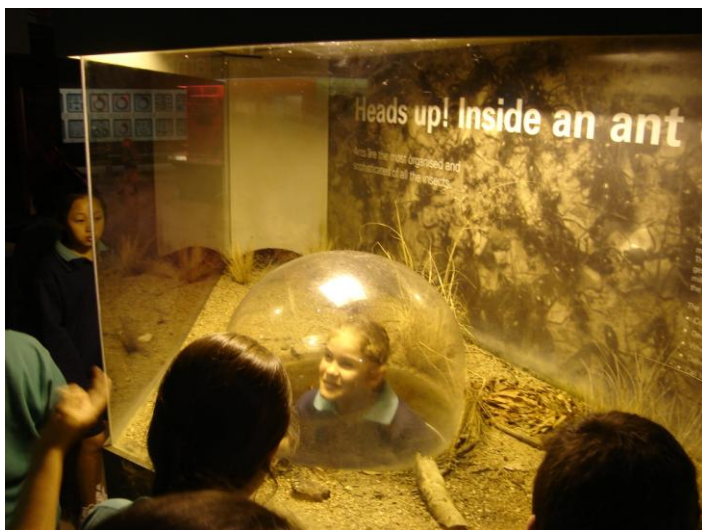
All take home and library books need to be returned to school by Friday, please. Next term all the junior grades, including the preps will be attending an excursion to the zoo. Information about this excursion will go home early next term.

Juniors

A big thank you to everyone who looked under beds and went through the book case to find all the lost library books and 'take home books'. We are always asking children to return all their books to school at the end of every term so we can regularly complete stock-takes - that way we are ready to begin the cycle again Day 1 - Term 2!

Just a reminder that all the Preps and Grade 1/2's will be going on an excursion to the Melbourne Zoo early in Term 2. Notes will be sent out very early next term.

Senior excursion to the Museum and IMAX



Community Notices

Hobsons Bay Libraries eNewsletter

To keep up with the latest news and events from your libraries; including school holiday activities, Premiers Reading Challenge news, children's book week activities, art exhibitions, databases, book groups and lots more subscribe to the Libraries' eNewsletter.

Visit <http://libraries.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au>, click on the eNewsletter icon and subscribe.

Enquiries: 9932 1330 or

library@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au.



WILLIAMSTOWN WOLVES BASEBALL CLUB INC.

Invites you to the

Teeball/ Junior Baseball Come 'n' Try Night
Friday May 1st 2990 from 6.30pm to 8.00pm

Westgate Indoor Sports Complex
Corner Grieve Pde & Dohertys Rd Altona
North

All enquiries to Mick Hurstfield on
0407884980 or email

williamstownwolvesjuniors@y7mail.com

Altona Little Athletics - Cross Country / Fun run season

Commencing: Saturday 4th April 2009

Sat: 9.30am to 10.30am commencing from
Altona Little Athletics Centre - Cherry Lake
Sugar Gum drive Altona.