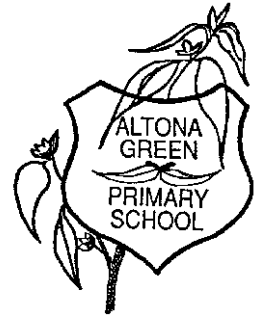


Altona Green Primary School

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NEWSLETTER

Issue 17/09
11 June, 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 Mackay...

Another week flies by and teachers are incredibly busy with the half year assessment and reporting aspects of our curriculum while continuing to provide a rich and engaging program across the school.

As it nears the time for myself and the leadership team to read through the half year reports I am often a little disturbed by the high absence rate I find recorded on some children's reports. It makes it so difficult for them to have the same learning opportunities as the other children as well as impacting on them socially.

In the past we have informed the school community on why 'It's Not OK to be Away' but equally important is why 'It's Not OK to Be Late to School'.

Students being continually late to school (or leaving early) can have an effect on the teacher, program, other students in the class and themselves in the following ways.

- Miss out on playing and socialising with their peers before school
- Miss out on organisation time at the beginning of the day.
- Miss out on hearing what's happening for the day.
- Are often unsure about what they have to do in an activity.
- Can arrive in their classroom, find their class has moved and then waste time wandering around trying to find them.

- Can find learning becomes disjointed and difficult.
- Tend not to see being late as a problem.
- Can distract others when they arrive late.

TEACHERS--:

- Find they need to repeat instructions or organise the student before they can begin working.
- Can be expected by parents/guardians of the latecomers to be available although teaching has begun.
- Have to find extra time to communicate their concerns to parents/guardians about unexplained absenteeism and late attendance by phone, note or meeting after school.

I don't want to move into lecture mode, however I can't emphasise enough how important it is for your child not only to be here but also to be here **ON TIME**.

Tomorrow is a little different as they **don't** have to be here at all so begin the punctuality practice on Monday 15th.

Karen Mackay



School will be closed tomorrow

- Friday 12th June

World Environment Day 2009

Congratulations to A.G.P.S for raising \$396.15c last Thursday when we had our out-of-uniform day.

Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden



In the new orchard area the seating circle has almost been finished, and look out for the bed edgings and paving happening next. A big thanks to Marcus from MLR's dad Adrian for this work.

We are still in need of any old pavers that people come across or would like to donate to the school - if you know of any or have some, please contact Zanni at the school.

A great big thanks to all who have brought in leaves for the compost, cuttings for the garden, and animal manure! It's been great having so many much needed contributions. We have enough watering bottles now for the next 6 months or so - thanks for all who brought some in.

There will be a produce stall out the front of the school on the last Wednesday of term for all the produce from the garden that's ready before the holidays. Bring some change and a bag and grab some organic vegetables, seedlings and herbs that the kids have grown and help us raise some money for more seeds!

Zanni and Julie

Lost Property

The lost property tub will be cleared out during the next week and any clearly named items will be returned to the children.

Keep warm this Winter

The uniform shop has a full range of windcheaters, jackets and vests to keep everyone warm during the cold winter months.



Windcheaters	Navy or Green	\$19.50
Bomber Jackets	Navy	\$34.00
Polar Fleece Vest	Navy	\$24.50

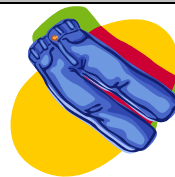
Please Note: There will be a price rise from the beginning of Term 3 due an increase in the manufacturing costs of our supplier.

Library Links

Next week will be the last week for borrowing books from the library for this term. As I write this there are in excess of 100 books overdue which is unacceptable. Please return all overdue items to school on Monday. All other books must be returned on or before class library day.

We have a number of terrific new books available including the second book in the 'Rondo' series. Of course these books are only available to students who do not have outstanding books against their name.

Spare Clothing Needed



Our supply of spare tracksuit pants has been depleted. If you have any old navy trackpants at home that could be donated, please send them to the office.

Classroom Clippings

Preps

Just another reminder about sending along a change of clothing for your child eg; pants, underpants and socks in case of an accident. The office has no spare pairs of pants at this time.

Juniors

The weather at the moment is very cold!!! Just a reminder that all children need to wear the appropriate warm clothing to school. Children do go outside for two breaks and it can be a long day if they're not warm enough - please be aware of the weather forecasts for the day and make sure your child is prepared for the day ahead.

Middles

In the middles we are finding that we are having wonderful support in the kitchen which is enhancing the students' benefits greatly. We would also welcome this support while your child has gardening as this will also impact on the learning that goes in the garden. If you are available to help in the garden please let your child's teacher know. We would greatly appreciate your support. Lastly, thank you to all the parents who helped at the middles excursion to the Botanical Gardens. It was a wonderful day and your help was greatly appreciated by staff and students.

Seniors

Wanted! Our S.A.K.G program for seniors urgently needs volunteers for Term 3. Please contact your child's class teacher to choose your preferred days. Next Monday 15th June there will be a presentation by Connex about safe travel on public transport.

Community Notices

Hobsons Bay Library - Holiday Activity **Cosmodome 3D Film- Secret of the Cardboard Rocket**

Turn an old cardboard box into a rocket and blast-off on an awesome adventure with a close-up tour of each planet. Land on Venus and Mars, see the stormy clouds of Jupiter and the thrill of dodging particle swarms in the rings of Saturn. See what makes each planet unique and why Earth is such a special place to live. The cosmodome is a mobile movie dome shaped theatre with visual effects.

Wednesday, 1st July

Session one: 11.00am - 12.00pm. Five to eight year olds

Session two: 12.15pm - 1.15pm. Nine to 12 year olds

Altona Meadows Library and Learning Centre Bookings Tel: 9932 3020

Altona Gate Shopping Centre - Holiday Fun



Expressions of Interest

Commencing 2010 - Three Year Old Kindergarten

Option 1 -1 x 4 hour session 8.30am- 12.30am
Thursday

Option 2 -1 x 4 hour session 8.30-12.30am
Friday

Option 3 -2 x 4 hour sessions 8.30-12.30
Thursday & Friday

ALL SESSIONS WILL BE RUN BY A TEACHER WITH BACHELOR OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

To express your interest please contact the Kindergarten on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday or other times leave a message with your contact details 9398 2839 or altona.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au