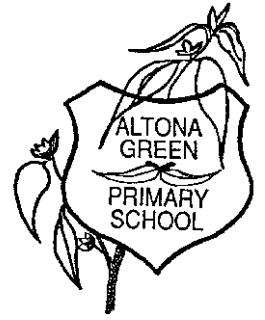


Altona Green Primary School

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NEWSLETTER

Issue 06/09
12 March, 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...

I usually write my section of the newsletter on a Wednesday night. That's my routine, usually watching a favourite TV show with laptop balanced on my knee. However, last night I sat down to do the newsletter quite late, after arriving home from attending our daughter's graduation ceremony at Melbourne University. I dragged my laptop out and thought... 'what can I write about?' 'what have I got to say that is relevant' and then it hit me..... where I had just been was relevant, both from my perspective as an educator but more so from a parent's perspective.

As I waited for her name to be called at the ceremony, I reflected on the journey that we had all been on to get to this day. The passion for learning was all evident as she took to the stage. As a mum I thought of that 1st day in prep, the numerous parent/teacher interviews attended, the homework dramas, the graduation from primary school, the anxious VCE period and then the hard slog through uni. She had done her 'bit', the hard work and as parents we looked on proudly as we saw that we had done ours in these foundation years. The rest now is up to her.

For those parents reading this, you are still going through the first phase with your children, but I can tell you to stick to it and keep being involved in their learning because the outcomes are worth it!

Karen O'Dowd

Public Profile

"Do you have ideas about how to raise Altona Green Primary School's name, status or profile within our local community or beyond? Can you think of an event that occurs at A.G.P.S. that doesn't get the publicity or acknowledgement it deserves and/or you have new ideas to achieve this? Are you enthusiastic about what our school does and stands for and want to share that enthusiasm with people who don't know? If you answered "Yes" to any of these questions then the Public Profile Team needs to hear from you. The first meeting will take place Thursday 26th of March at 3.40pm and meetings will be swift.

Lunch Spot

We have now exhausted the last of our flavoured mineral water supplies. All flavoured mineral water is no longer available.

The Lunch Spot now offers a variety of fruit flavoured spring water. These drinks are available in the following flavours: Raspberry/Blueberry Splash, Orange/Pash Splash, Lemon/Lime Splash, Fruit Fix and Lemon Aid. Please note these drinks have added electrolytes, calcium, Vitamin C and are not carbonated. They are 350mls and are priced at \$1.60 per bottle.

We are also in the process of replacing our current Big M flavoured milk with a product from the Fonterra 'Dairy for Life' group. 'Calcium' chocolate and strawberry milks have 50% more calcium with no artificial colours or flavours. They are also \$1.60 each.

Library Links

I would like to remind students that books must be returned to the library on or before your library day. It is also preferable that books are returned prior to 9.30am by classes so that books can be 'checked in' before borrowing commences for the day.

We have a number of lovely new books available including the **Olivia** picture story series, the final two books in the **Max Remy Superspy** series and the three books in Melbourne's own young author Alexandra Adornetto's **The Strangest Adventures** trilogy.

Reading is a great way to pass time in the heat of Summer or the cold of Winter and can transport you anywhere you would like to go!

Classroom Clippings

Preps

The prep grades are collecting empty boxes, such as cereal boxes and cardboard rolls, to use during construction activities. However we cannot use toilet rolls or egg cartons.

The preps and their teddy bears had an enjoyable day at school on Wednesday. The bears and children were involved in a parade and sang some bear songs together.

Juniors

Please make sure the Grade 1/2's Camp notes that are going home today are returned promptly so we can go ahead and organise food and supplies. We are also planning an excursion to The Melbourne Zoo in Term Two for all the Junior students - look out for dates and details soon.

Middles

Students have taken home notes for Maths Bags, please return these to your classroom teacher as soon as possible so Maths Bags can be allocated for the year. It's great to see so many children bringing in water bottles and a fruit or vegie snack each day.

Please remember that only water is allowed to be consumed in class. Notes are being sent home this week for Term 2 Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden helpers. Please fill in your name next to your child's class if you are able to be a helper and return to your child's teacher. We especially need helpers for the garden, you don't have to know anything about gardening to help, so please put your name down if you are able to volunteer.

Assembly Awards

Congratulations to these children who have received an award at assembly this year.

- SB** Lochlan - for his enthusiasm, co-operation and teamwork on Senior Camp Night.
Kristian - helping his prep buddy at lunch time when he needed help
- SD** Daniela - her willingness to lead others in small groups.
Andrew - working hard on addition strategies.
Stefan - outstanding effort showing his personal best in his homework.
- SH** Chloe - a positive and productive start.
Kevin - great effort in all his work.
Kymani - excellent co-operation and supporting others.
- SN** Mohammed - showing great initiative at Senior Camp night and great dance moves.
Maryanne- fantastic homework efforts - Great Start.
Monika - fantastic reporting back in share time.
Tam - great leadership shown in organising your group to complete body projects.
- SS** Tim - improving his listening skills.
Brooke -making new people welcome
- MI** Ary - using fantastic descriptive words in his work and looking them up in the dictionary.
Hanin - trying hard to improve in maths activities.
Christopher - showing excellent leadership in reading group activities.
- MJ** Bradley - settling down and really concentrating in class.
Kauri - trying hard to improve in your reading.

Zena - trying hard to increase your confidence.

- ML** Johari - being a positive role model and trying his personal best.
Chloe - looking after new students and her fantastic work.
Rylee - a wonderful start at a new school and always trying her personal best.
Jordon - improving his attitude to work and his excellent handwriting skills.

- MLR** Tyler - being focussed and doing his personal best.
Lale - attentive listening and contributing to class discussion.

- MS** Thomas- being a super organised and focused role model, always ready to learn.
Amanda - always demonstrating our class agreements and being a fantastic role model.
Chloe - being an excellent learner and role model during reading groups.
Mick - always doing his PB and having an excellent approach to learning.

- JA** Jake - always trying his personal best, whatever he is working on.
Caitlyn - always listening attentively and doing her personal best. Well done Caitlyn

- JD** Kai - being a helpful member of the grade.
Daina - being a helpful and friendly class member.

- JC** Mohammed - being a polite and helpful class member who treats others with respect and kindness.

Natalie - fantastic recount writing.

- JJ** Khaleah - being a very helpful and co-operative class member.
Rachael- being a wonderful role model and helper.

- JM** Jasmine - 'stepping up' and being an excellent role model for our new Juniors.
Matthew - doing his personal best and being a great listener.
Bridget - making an excellent effort to listen and learn.

- JS** Tyla - continued improvement with his writing.
Rosa I - fantastic story writing during investigation sessions.

- JV** Sarah - being a responsible class member.

Isabel - being a helpful and friendly student.

MUSIC

Evan (JS) - composing and performing his own rhythmic chart.

Dylan - showing great improvement in his recorder playing and helping others.

- PE** Shoshi (MS) and Marcus (MLR) - a terrific effort at swimming and doing extra events.

KITCHEN

Jasmine - fantastic helper in the classroom.

Community Notices

The **Little River Primary School** is holding their annual **Country Fair** on Sunday 22nd March. The open air market will have a large variety of stalls, Karate, Dancing and Art & Craft Displays. Jams & Produce for sale as well as Devonshire teas, White elephant stall, a Jumping Castle and BBQ all day. A Monster Auction will also be held from 10.30am with loads of great items. Come along and be part of a fun day for the whole family from 10.00am to 3.00pm.

Western Suburbs Badminton Association will be holding a "Come and Try Day" on **Sunday March 15th**. Bring a friend along or invite your family to come and "Try Badminton"

Come in and enjoy the opportunity of a free session of badminton.

Come and Try Day will start at 11.30am until 3pm all equipment and a sausage sizzle will be provided free of charge.

Altona Badminton Stadium, Paisley Park
Mason Street Altona North

Altona Meadows Auskick - 2009 Season

The Altona Meadows Auskick football clinic program for all primary school age children are having their registration day on: Saturday 21st March at Comben Reserve Central Avenue Laverton 10:00 - 11:30am.

All registered Auskick participants will receive on the day a backpack which includes a football, cap, drink bottle and CD Rom. Each child will be insured and will receive other benefits throughout the season. Registration Fee is \$55.00. For further information contact Joe Bonnici on 0409 559383



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The Select Entry Learning Program at Werribee Secondary College

The S.E.L.P. has been developed to address the special learning needs of high ability students who are capable of high levels of achievement. Beginning from Year 7, a specially modified curriculum challenges students, stimulates their interests, and broadens their horizons.

The S.E.L.P. is the only DEECD accredited Select Entry program in the Wyndham region. The College is very accessible to students from a wide area, being conveniently situated just several minutes walk from Werribee Railway Station, and serviced by many school bus routes.

In order to enter the program in year 7, students need to sit for an entrance test at Werribee Secondary College. This will take place in early May, (pre-registration is essential). For more information and to obtain an application form to have your child enter the program, contact Werribee Secondary College on 9741 1822 and ask the office for an information pack to be sent out to you.

William Hatzis - Assist Prin & Program Co-ord
Angela Callea - Special Programs and
SELP Assistant Co-ordinator

The Pirates' Fun Day will be held on Sunday April 5th, from 10am-4pm, at Seaworks, 82 Nelson Place Williamstown. Seaworks is part of Melbourne's rich maritime history and is located on the waterfront in Williamstown. Roam amongst the heritage-listed sheds and outside spaces full of



kid's entertainment, activities and market stalls. Enjoy circus and drumming workshops, zany buskers, the Pirate

Show, rides, a family bush dance and more. Enter the Best Dressed Pirate competition to win great prizes. All money raised from the Pirates' Fun Day, goes directly to support the Mekhala House Project providing opportunity for underprivileged girls in Cambodia. All activities covered in the entry cost of \$15 per child (3 and under enter FREE), and by gold coin donation for adults. Visit <www.fdcc.org.au> for more information.



Opening on 14th March 2009 in Hoppers Crossing Manufacturers and Distributors of authentic Indian Sweets and Snacks

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Phone/Fax: 9369 6694
www.sweetindia.com.au

Japanese Student here now and looking for a place to stay.

If you are able to assist immediately, please contact the office at Altona North Primary School. One of our staff members currently has a male Japanese Secondary School student staying at their home. He is looking for somewhere to live for the remainder of his stay.

Please phone 9391 4233 and ask to speak with Paula Morgan for more information about this student or telephone 1300 135 331 Student Exchange Australia