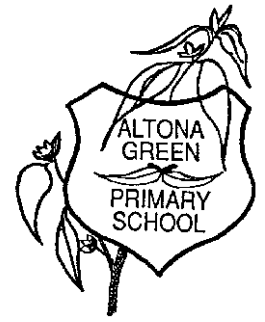


Altona Green Primary School

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NEWSLETTER

Issue 08/09
26 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...

Everyone Belongs at Altona Green Primary School

Last Saturday was Harmony Day- a day that celebrates the inclusive nature of our country and promotes the benefits of cultural diversity. At last count, Altona Green Primary School had 27 different cultures and we like to focus on the things that we have in common rather than concentrate on our differences. We also like to celebrate the customs and traditions that are brought into our school community by people from many different backgrounds. Our Kitchen Garden Program is one where cultural diversity is discussed and enjoyed....the Mexican Menu has been a great hit over the last 3 weeks!

It is evident in our school community that our students respect each other regardless of background and have a sense of belonging to our school. We can all live in harmony and respect and learn from each other.

Building the Education Revolution

As you may be well aware, the Rudd Government is investing unprecedented capital into the upgrade and modernisation of schools across the nation. Whilst our school is attractive and well maintained, we have always lived in hope of replacing our portable classrooms with permanent buildings. I was never confident that I would ever see it happen in my lifetime; however the stimulus package could make it a reality. Funds are available on the proviso that projects will be completed within given timeframes:

Round 1 schools need to be able to have completed their projects by June 2010 if not earlier whilst Round 3 schools need projects completed by March 2011. This week, on behalf of our school community, I submitted an application to be part of Round 1 as we have been ready to build those rooms for as long as I have been here- so, fingers crossed, I hope to have good news for you shortly!

Earth Hour

On Saturday, 28th at 8:30pm to 9:30pm, all electrical appliances are to be turned off at the wall for Earth Hour. This is to stress the effect of global warming. We encourage the Altona Green Primary School Community to participate in this global event.

Karen O'Dowd

Notices sent home this week!

- Seniors - Museum and IMAX excursion

The Lunch Spot

To assist parents/caregivers in the choices they make for their children's lunches, we have clarified the meat contents we offer. The only pork/ham choices are on our Hawaiian and Supreme pizzas. Margharita has cheese and tomato only. The other pork/ham choice is fresh sliced ham.

All other choices such as lasagne, spirals and spaghetti bolognese contain beef and/or mutton. This also includes dim sims, sausage rolls and party pies. The burger is 100% flame grilled beef and the fried rice is vegetarian. If you wish to omit ham for the meat and salad place, simply request this on your child's lunch bag and we will add extra chicken or tuna. - *Carol and Nola*

Lost Property

The lost property tub will be cleared over the next week and any named clothing will be returned to the children.

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? There's nothing more guaranteed to make you feel like a dinosaur than to wonder what this is all about!

What is a blog?

A Blog is a type of website that is like an online diary. It is usually maintained by an individual to add comments, personal anecdotes, photos or videos that are relevant to that person. The blog is open to anyone to read. You cannot change what has been written by the "blogger", but you can comment. Blogs may be of a personal nature or corporate or run by interest/hobby groups. To find a blog that may be of interest to you, you need to use a search engine, Google and Yahoo being a good start.

Many educational blogs have been established and children can create their own to write about topics they may be studying, books they are reading or anecdotes on what's happening around their school.

If you are still confused about blogs, an excellent website to learn more is www.comoncraft.com

This website shows a quick 3 minute video explaining blogs in "plain English". You can also access this video on You Tube.....what's You Tube? More on that next week!

Website of the Week.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/bitesizeprimary/>

Explore this website to find a range of educational activities and games for all ages.

Melissa Tinkler

Easter Raffle



We are still collecting easter egg donations for our Raffle, if you can help please send donations to the office. Raffle Tickets have been sent home today. The raffle will be drawn on 2nd April

Maths Bags 2

I was talking to some students in Middle L and they told me they had all had a go at the maths activities I had placed in last week's newsletter. Here are some other activities to do with items in your maths bag-

1. Type $1+=$ into your calculator to count by ones, $2+=$ to count by twos, you can practise any tables, your threes, fours, sevens etc by typing the correct number first.
2. Roll a dice twice and record the numbers. So if you get a six and a four the largest number you can make is 64, the smallest is 46. Take the small number away from the large number, what do you notice about the answers after you have done this six or seven times? Try the same activity rolling the dice three times, or even four times. What happens when you do this subtraction activity?
3. For younger children practise the numbers before and after eg roll a die and say the number before the number you rolled.
4. Practise doubling. Roll a die and say double the number eg roll a four and say eight.
5. Put a small collection of counters together and work out whether you have an odd or even number of counters. Numbers are even if every counter has a partner. Even numbers are also counting by two numbers.
6. Play a game of Snakes and Ladders (if you have one at home) roll two dice and add or multiply the numbers before moving your marker

Just a reminder that if you go to the school website and enter Maths Matters, there are some excellent Maths sites for all children to use.

Maria Micallef

Assembly Awards

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

- SB** Lucas and Eadith- being chosen as a Junior School Councillor
- SD** Krystelle - making connections with the world during reading groups.
Charlize - improving her personal best in themework.
- SH** Emily -trying her best & always smiling.
- SN** Patricia - amazing efforts and application to school and homework.
Jack - always being polite and positive towards others.
- SS** Mary-Lene - putting fantastic effort into her work.
- MI** Eden - making some fantastic choices in team building.
Beniam- always taking risks in maths activities and having a go.
- ML** Giulietta- trying hard to improve her reading.
Klaudia - being enthusiastic in everything that she does.
- MLR** Georgia - supporting her own and others learning.
Mohamad- persevering with his work
- MS** Sydney - settling in well to Altona Green Primary and your new class.
Mohamad - having a fantastic and enthusiastic approach to learning.
- JA** Gerald - displaying excellent attentive listening skills.
- JC** Jackson - very neat handwriting with correctly formed letters.
- JD** Angelina - great letter writing to her friends.
Ahmad - good counting to 10
- JJ** Christian - trying very hard with his reading and writing.
Raidah- her imaginative projects made during play investigation.
- JM** Ben - working extensively and creatively on his Jet project.
Bridget - being a great attentive listener and participator.
- JS** Liam - fantastic progress in writing.
Trent - excellent story writing.
Rhys - being very creative and making a Ferris Wheel.

- JV** Phet - a wonderful effort with writing.
Sara - always listening attentively and doing her personal best.

SPORT

- Gabriel (JJ) - always giving his best at sport.

Classroom clippings

Preps

All take home books and library books need to be returned next week, as they need to be collected, thank you.

If your child is absent from school, please notify the school or send a note explaining their absence when they return to school.

Juniors

What a great Camp Night we had last night. A big thank you to everyone who helped out the school especially City Fresh Wholesalers very generous donation of salad ingredients and also the parents who helped us out with packing up the tents at the end of the night. It was very much appreciated by the teachers!

Middles

This is the last week of middles homework and so far the standard has been excellent. All take home readers need to be returned to class by tomorrow so that we can have them organised for next term. Please encourage your children to read as much as possible over the holidays; a visit to the local library will encourage your children to choose books that they are interested in.

A Book Review

Hi, my name is Ross and I am here to review the book Volunteers Begin at Home. This book is written by Sally Odgers and illustrated by Betty Greenhatch.

The characters are Mum, Dad, Gran, Mia, Alice and Troy. The problem in this book is when Troy and Alice wanted to clean up Australia on clean up Australia day, but their parents keep giving them housework to do. The resolution is when Troy and Alice clean up their bedroom and their parents let them clean up Australia. This book made me feel happy because Troy and Alice got to clean up Australia. I highly recommend people to read this book. I give it 5 stars, excellent.

Ross, Middle L.

Library Links

This was the last week of borrowing for the term and we ask that all library books be returned promptly to the library next week. There are quite a large number of items overdue and some reminder notices have been ignored. Please return **overdue books tomorrow** to avoid accounts being sent home to assist with replacement costs.

On a brighter, note when you return next term you will see that we have a new range of beautifully written and illustrated picture story books for all ages. For our keen **Zac Power** fans we have two new titles in the *Mega Mission* series and the first four titles in the new *Test Drive* series for younger readers. These will all be kept in the **Zac Power** box in the book case where our 'series' are kept. Girls, we haven't forgotten you so keep checking the 'What's New' display outside the library office.

I'd like to take this opportunity to remind students that due to the laminator now being housed in the library office it is no longer safe for children to wander into the office due to the hot equipment and fumes. Thank you for your understanding.

Top 50 Children's books

Angus & Robertson announce that on-line voting is open to children to vote for the top 50 children's books in Australia. By voting you have the chance to win prizes for yourself and your school. If you are interested you can visit www.kidstop50.com.au between March 25 and April 29. The completed will be available in September.

Special Book Club Easter alert!

Book Club has put out a special Easter clearance edition with most items half price or less. Some fantastic bargains that you may never see again. Hurry, hurry orders and money need to be returned to school by Monday 30th March for delivery later in the week. Orders received after Monday can still be processed but delivery will not be until the beginning of Term 2.

Community Notices

Williamstown festival '09

27 - 29 March 2009 @ Commonwealth Reserve - Melways 56 D9 www.williamstownfestival.com.au for the full program

Join PANDA for our 7th Annual Ladies Only Event
Night Off Night Out!
On Friday 8th May from 7pm - Midnight
at The Powerhouse, Lakeside Drive, Albert Park
Tickets \$85.00 per head inc. 3 course meal, beverages, entertainment & prizes
Special performance by Melbourne International
Comedy Festival Comedian Nelly Thomas
Contact Amanda Driscoll on 0401 774 053 for bookings & more information

Panda
Post and Antenatal
Depression Association Inc.

CIRCUS OLYMPIA presents an all new 2 hour show. Featuring four amazing animal acts that have to be seen to be believed.

Easter Holiday Spectacular with shows at 2pm & 7:30pm from Wednesday April 1st until Sunday April 19th. Performing in Hoppers Crossing, Cnr Heaths & Derrimut Rd.

Phone bookings 0427 513030 or online www.aladdinstitix.com.au

Tickets prices: Adult \$35 - \$20
Child (3-13) \$20 - \$12
Family \$90 - \$50

Amazing humans*wonderful animals*see it to believe it*circus of sensations

School Holiday Programme

Hey kids r u bored? Mums/dads do u need a babysitter or a break?....

Come down & have a blast at
The Dream Academy...

3 Days of fun learning various skills in dance, acrobatics, cheerleading, singing, drama & modelling as well as games, arts/crafts & more!

ALL THIS FOR ONLY \$50 A DAY!

\$150 for 3 days Wed 15th, Thurs 16th, Fri 17th April 10am-3.30pm.

Limited Places - Bookings Essential

Call 9399-2502.

Studio 22a Tennyson St Williamstown.

the dreamacademy