A message from Karen…..

Thankyou to the parents and guardians who attended our first formal ‘Parent/Teacher’ contact on Tuesday. We hope that the sharing of information and expectations will lay the foundation for strong partnerships between home and school for each child this year. We look forward to seeing many of our families at next week’s Family Bush Dance where our students will proudly show off their moves. Hope you have put it in your diaries. No cost, just come along with your family.

HELP! Communication problems!

- If you have visited our website recently, you may have noticed something strange of late? Yes, you are right; it hasn’t been updated since the end of last year. We are currently in the process of a complete re-build of our website. We have a website design company on the job and although we would like it completed by the end of February, we know that that is just not possible if we want to get things right. We hate to have a website sitting there without anything happening, as it looks quite unloved, however, behind the scenes there is a lot happening. Please be patient and understand that if there are forms or notices that you were in the habit of accessing from here, you may need to contact our office for hard copies. We will let you know when our new site is ready to be launched.

- What is happening to the newsletter and notices that have been emailed out recently? We have heard that they have not landed in people’s inboxes. We think that maybe our new Admin manager, Jenny Armstead’s email has landed in some families junk mail as they did not recognise the email address. Can everyone please add Jenny’s email to their safe senders list: armstead.jennifer.m@edumail.vic.gov.au.

If you see that name in the sender’s line you will know it is from Altona Green PS.
With our website down it is now so important for as many families as possible to sign up to KONNECTIVE so you are always in the know about what is happening at your child’s school. See the details about how to connect at the end of this newsletter if you haven’t already signed up.

10 March Curriculum Day – No Students
- On Tuesday 10 March the school will be holding a Curriculum Day. Teachers will be participating in some targeted Professional Learning about Inquiry Learning. Students are not to attend school on that day.

Before and after school care will still be operating.

9 March Public Holiday
- Monday 9 March is the Labour Day Public Holiday. Students are not to attend school on that day.

Junior School Council
Congratulations to the following students who are our new Junior School Council representatives and their deputies:

- Jorja Hickmott
- Ben Gerada
- Joseph Gaudiano
- Gabrielle Trajkoski
- Cole Degenhardt
- Nathan Stewart
- Alex Bray
- Jacob Bergin
- Selby Rose-Kormos
- Angelina Sok
- Alaa Elferjani
- Layla Duraku
- Panda Papoutsis
- Pooja Kamath
- Natalie Marchione
- Admyra Palavi
- Ethan Chachs
- Jackson Manders
- Abbi Young
- Emily Joveski
- Sam Young
- Daniel Graham
- Isabella Slavik
- Addis Phan
- Flora Campbell-Wright
- Eleni Geysen
- Peter Trimbonias
- Ayush Lal
First Aid in schools program:
The St John Ambulance First Aid in Schools Program is a free First Aid training to Victorian Primary School Students at no cost to schools or parents. The knowledge and skills gained in the First Aid in Schools Program will develop First Aid awareness in school children and contribute to building a more resilient community. This learning is age-appropriate and integrates with the Victorian Essential Learning Standards (VELS) curriculum. The Schools Program consists of three modules:

- Module 1 (45mins) - Prep to Year 2. Emphasis is on how to recognise an emergency situation and how to call for assistance.
- Module 2 (45mins) - Year 3 to 4. Emphasis is on how to recognise someone is unconscious and how to maintain a clear airway.
- Module 3 (45mins) - Year 5 to 6. Emphasis is on how to recognise someone is unconscious and not breathing.

Some of our classes were fortunate to have had the benefit of this program on Tuesday. This free Program was delivered by St John Ambulance Professional Trainers, teaching primary school students on the importance of First Aid and what to do in an event of an emergency.

The year of KINDNESS

This year’s Yr. 6 students are the first students to have gone through AGPS with KEFAR. They were introduced to our 5 values when they were in prep and are now seniors about to transition to secondary school at the end of the year. This fact did make me realise that our greatest challenge is to keep KEFAR fresh and that the values that it represents are alive within our school community. That is why we are making 2015 the ‘Year of KINDNESS’ at our school and across our school community. We are particularly focussing on the notion of ‘paying-it-forward’. Someone does an act of kindness for you and you in turn are kind to another person. There is no hoo-ha about it. No awards. Just that intrinsic feeling that you have made a difference to another person’s day or week! We hope that it spreads throughout our school this year, not only across our students but across our staff and parents.

This Thursday is Chinese New Year. We send our best wishes to those families in our school community who will be celebrating on this day.

Karen O’Dowd

INDONESIAN

Kenalkan – let me introduce myself. My name is Amanda Lee and I will be teaching Indonesian to the Prep students at Altona Green Primary School. The students will attend a one-hour session of LOTE each week where they will be involved in learning the language and the culture of the Indonesian people. They will be involved in hands on activities as well as participating in conversations to develop their Indonesian language skills. They will make use of technology such as their iPads to practise the language and later in the year will have the opportunity to share their learning with Prep students from Altona Meadows Primary School and Laverton P-12 College through use of the Polycom system.

Sampai jumpa – looking forward to seeing you around!
Amanda Lee – Indonesian teacher.
The Community Support Program will be operating again on Tuesdays and I will be available to speak with parents between 9 and 10am. If you would like to drop in for a chat please let Nola know so she can book you a time. I would love to hear any ideas or suggestions parents may have about topics they would like more information on, or hear how the year has started for your family.

I will continue to work with students individually and in groups on friendship issues and social skills.

I have been really pleased to see how well students have adjusted to the new school year after the long holiday break and it has been great to meet many of the new Preps as they start their journey through school. It has also been good to catch up with old friends and hear about holiday adventures and their new teachers and classmates.

As always I have been very happy to see KEFAR’S smiling face helping everyone to remember to be Kind, Encouraging, Fair, Accepting and Respectful as well as giving fantastic cuddles to anyone who needs one.

If you would like to know more about the program and how it may assist you or your child please speak to Nola.

Janet Greenwood
Community Support Worker

Classroom Clippings Year 5 and 6

The year has started off very well for Seniors. We are busy in our classrooms setting up class routines and expectations. JSC Representatives have been appointed and we are in the process of selecting House Leaders. Leading Senior Constable Scott Sutton came in last week to discuss Cybersafety and the Law. This week class 5/6A had a visit from St. John’s Ambulance where DRSABCD (first aid procedure) was discussed and demonstrated.
Middle Camp 2015
Lady Northcote Recreation Camp

Permission notes, medical forms and packing lists have been sent home with the students, and if you haven’t returned them to the school, can you please do so to enable us to confirm final numbers etc. Final payment for camp is due Wednesday 11 March, 2015. If you have any questions regarding the Middle Camp please see your child’s teacher.

BOOK TALK

Outside our internal library door we have our Parent Library which contains various books targeted at parenting issues which are often raised. Please feel free to browse this library and if you would like to take any of these books away please just write your name in the book located under the checkout desk in the library. Also special thanks to the Challenger and Coso families who have donated a large number of books to our library recently. Your donations have been gratefully appreciated by our whole school community.

IS YOUR CHILD READY TO TAKE ON AN INTERGALACTIC SAVINGS MISSION?

School Banking is back for 2015 at Altona Green Primary School for students who are ‘Outer Space Savers’.

All students have been given a Parent Information pack containing information about the program and how to join. All you need to join the program is a Youth Saver/Dollarmite Account. If your child already has a Youth Saver/Dollarmite Account at home there is no need to open a new one; simply bring their existing book to school every week for banking day and hand it to their teacher.

**SCHOOL BANKING DAY IS: TUESDAY**

**STUDENT REWARDS**: With each weekly deposit your child will receive a token, when they get 10 tokens they can then redeem them for a reward (see picture above)

**SCHOOL REWARDS**: The school receives $5 for every account our students open PLUS 5% commission on all deposits.

The Friends of Skeleton Creek

*wish to invite you and your family to our working bee and afternoon tea*

**When**: Sunday 22nd February from 1 to 3pm
**Where**: Merton St, Altona Meadows— Map 208 E4.
**Meeting Point**: Walk right where Merton St meets the creek. We will be 100m up to the right at the seat on the creek.
**Parking**: You will be able to park at the end of Merton St.
**Activity Details**: Work may include spreading mulch, planting, weeding and watering.
**Contact person on the Day**: Denice Perryman 9315 8072 or 0429 167 013
**What to Wear**: Hat, sunscreen and sturdy shoes - Work gloves if possible.
**What is the Friends of Skeleton Creek**: Friends of Skeleton Creek is a conservation group doing work along Skeleton Creek and in its catchments.
ICY POLE DAYS
The Parent Group will be selling Icy Poles at the canteen every Friday until the end of Term 1.
Cost— $1.50
Parent Helpers are welcome to add their name to the roster at the office.

STUDENTS WITH ASTHMA
Due to a recent change in school policy stating that spacers cannot be shared amongst other students, any child who has a ventolin inhaler at school must now supply their own spacer.

UNIFORM SALE
Thank you to the parents who have already donated uniform for our 2nd hand uniform sale. We will be having the sale on 17 March @ 3pm in the office foyer. All items of clothing will be $2 per piece.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED
We are looking for 10 volunteers for the First Aid Room. Once a term you will be rostered on to change the linen on the beds in the First Aid Room on a Friday afternoon. The clean linen can then be returned some time the following week. If we have 10 volunteers, it would mean that you would have to do the task only 4 times a year. We would really appreciate your offer of help. Please drop by the office to leave your name or phone number with Tracy or Jenny on 9360 0777.
Year 5 and 6 Cybersafety Talk by Leading Senior Constable Scott Sutton

On Friday the 13th of February, the Year 5 and 6 students were visited by Leading Senior Constable Scott Sutton. We learnt lots of interesting facts about Cybersafety and the Law, and about what is really happening within our own local community regarding children and Cybersafety.

These days rather than talking to someone face to face, young people mainly communicate via social media and online. Young people will often know more about these platforms than their parents but they often don’t have the maturity to deal with issues that arise and they can also be vulnerable. Sometimes they can even commit a criminal offence without being aware of it.

A good way for parents to keep up with their children is to talk to them about what social media and online platforms they are using. There are online resources you can look at yourself to become familiar with and help your children take appropriate precautions.

Have a look at the ACMA website

There is a Parent’s Guide

You can learn About the technology (such as kik, facebook and Instagram)

If you believe someone has committed a Cybercrime i.e. cyberbullying, stalking or sexting the process for reporting is to make the report via ACORN Australian Cybercrime Online Reporting Network.

There are also links to and protect yourself against cybercrime and to learn more about cybercrime. Click on the link report a cybercrime

Emergencies (including incidents where safety or welfare is a concern), incidents relating to online child sex abuse (including child exploitation material), and civil matters must not be referred to ACORN.

If someone is in immediate danger call 000.

Michael – “I learnt that it is really easy to upset people online if you don’t follow Cybersafety rules. There can be big consequences if you do the wrong thing online.”

Ryan – “I was surprised to learn that people have been charged for doing the wrong thing online.”

Beyonce – “I learnt so much about Cybersafety. I would like to thank Leading Senior Constable Scott Sutton for coming to speak to us.”

Layla – “I enjoyed learning about Cybersafety and I was surprised to learn how easy it is for people to hack into your accounts.”

Natalie – “I was surprised to learn that children aged 10 or more can be charged for breaking the law and that you cannot use ignorance as an excuse.”

Libby – “I never knew you could be charged for Cyberbullying.”
In 1H we have been learning about KEFAR Values

K is for Kindness

My friends were kind when they helped me when people were being mean.
—Daniella

My sister is kind when she lets me play with her.
—Shylah

The goalkeeper was kind when he said I could play hockey.
—Lincoln

Sarah was kind when she helped after I fell over.
—Sienna K

My buddies Mia and Ava were kind when they let me play with them.
—Sofia

When my brother helps me do things, he is being kind.
—Tessa

Mohamad was kind when he let me play on the playground with him.
—Quinn

My little sister was kind by letting me play with her.
—Sienna P
It was kind when someone gave me a ball to play with in the playground.

— Frankie

My brother was kind when he shared his toys with me.

- Ellie

Cooper was kind when he asked me to play with him.

- Mohamad

It was kind when Mohamad asked my to play with him.

- Cooper

Ellie was kind when she let me play with her.

- Charlea

Shylah was kind because when I got hurt, she looked after me.

- Leena

My dad was kind to me when he gave me back my ball.

- Oliver

Inglis was kind when he let me play the game.

- Will

Tye was kind to me when he let me play with his toy.

- Jackson

My brother was kind to me when he got my ball off the roof.

- Kaiden
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.

This year the Williamstown Chamber of Commerce will be hosting the first ever **WILLIAMSTOWN FAMILY FESTIVAL**
at Seaworks 82 Nelson Plc, Williamstown on SUNDAY MARCH 1st from 10am - 4pm.
The event is designed to show case the array of Williamstown businesses and community groups that provide goods and services for Williamstown families, by hosting a great day of free, family entertainment and active participation. The event will feature entertainment including live stage shows, interactive events, educational activities, performers, face painting and rides.

---

**MSJ NETBALL CLUB**

Girls & Boys—Want to play Netball? Why not come along to our friendly club. Our coaches are qualified and suit all standards and abilities.

Training Night: Tuesday at Altona Netball Stadium
Under 9’s and Under 11’s : 4—5.30pm
Under 13’s and older : 4.30—6.30pm

For further information contact: Michelle Wood on 0407 939 198 or email hellewood99@gmail.com

---

**L.C.D ACADEMY**

NEW DANCE CLASSES STARTING FEBRUARY 12TH (EVERY THURSDAY)
@ALTONA MEADOWS COMMUNITY CENTRE.

L.C.D Academy is run by a teacher with 16 years experience and offers

**BALLET:** 41/2 to 6 yrs (4-4.45pm) and 6 1/2 to 8yrs (4.45pm-5.30pm)
**HIP HOP/JAZZ:** 7-12yrs (5.30-6 30pm)
**STREETDANCE:** 13 - 20 years (6.45-7.45pm)

DANCE FIT for adults who would like to get fit whilst having fun! 7.45-8 45pm
First timers $8 and by term $13 and NO JOINING FEES!!

For more information check out our website www.lcdacademy.com 0412 984 143

---

**COME AND ENJOY THE FUN IN OUR MLC HOTSHOTS PROGRAM**

LOTS OF LAUGHS AND FUN HAD BY ALL THE CHILDREN

**WHERE :** LAVERTON PARK TENNIS CLUB
**AGES:** 5 to 12 year olds
**WHEN:** Saturday mornings from 8.00am to 9.00am for 5 weeks.
**STARTS 14TH FEBRUARY TERM 1 OF 2015 ENROL NOW.**
**COST:** $40.00
**DESCRIPTION:**
Free tennis racquets for children that enrol for the first time. If you have received a racquet previously please bring it with you.

Plenty of giveaways  At the end of the program children will be taken out for breakfast at no cost.

---

**WYNCITY BOWL Point Cook**

**FREE Birthday Party Offer**

Book a Birthday Party for 12 or more children and the birthday child is FREE! All Parties include: party food, invitations & lolly bag with either tenpin bowling or laser tag.

Party Price pp: 1 game $19.90, 2 games $26.90

**Ph: 1300 783 123**
36 Wallace Ave
Point Cook (just off Palmers Rd exit)
www.wyncity.com.au

Booking must be made by 31/3/15.
Present coupon when redeeming this offer.