A message from Karen…..

FAMILY BUSH DANCE NIGHT
What a great night was had by all who attended our first Altona Green Primary School Family Bush Dance last Friday night. The weather was kind to us and despite traffic problems experienced by the band causing our late start, we managed to have plenty of fun, dancing, food and entertainment. The feedback from the event was overwhelmingly positive. Many parents and staff commented to me about the great sense of community during the night.

Having our students learning the dances at workshops at school the previous week proved to be very successful. Thankyou to all who organised or assisted on the night and of course to the wonderful ‘Blackberry Jam Bush Band’ who were terrific.
SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS:

Our first School Council meeting was held on Monday 23 February and our council and its executive was established. We congratulate the following members on their election to our 2015 School Council:

- **School Council President:** Trent Anderson
- **School Council Vice-President:** Jo Tyers
- **School Council Secretary:** Annette McQuarrie-Kearton
  - Chris Trimbonias
  - Susan Campbell-Wright
  - Janine Gardiner
  - Executive Officer: Karen O’Dowd
  - School Council Minutes Secretary: Tracy Henderson
  - Sue Downey
  - Nathan Arundell
  - Nola Byrne
  - Daniel Robson
  - Nancy Di Tello
  - Sarah Bergin

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Congratulations to our House Leaders and House Vice Leaders who will be presented with their badges at assembly next week. Our Junior School Councillors have held their meeting yesterday. We look forward to hearing of the work of all our student leaders in the school this year and their reports in future newsletters.

DISTRICT SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The District Swimming Carnival will be held next Thursday at the Werribee Outdoor Pool. We congratulate the following students for being selected to represent our school and wish them well in their efforts in doing their personal best in their events:

- Kai Logan – 12/13 YO Boys 50m Freestyle & 50m Breaststroke
- Gabriel Nicolas – 12/13 YO Boys 50m Breaststroke
- Bella Kolodziej – 12/13 YO Girls 4x50m Freestyle Relay
- Sara Nicol – 12/13 YO Girls 4x50m Freestyle Relay
- Shanae Downey – 12/13 YO Girls 4x50m Freestyle Relay
- Emily Siljanovski– 12/13 YO Girls 4x50m Freestyle Relay

Over the past fortnight all of our students have been actively involved in either our swimming trials, our Swimming Carnival, the Bush Dancing incursion, Clean Up Australia Day or the Responsible Pet Owners’ Program.

CURRICULUM DAY- next Tuesday 10 March

Next Tuesday is our Curriculum Day – a pupil-free day. Our staff will be undertaking a day of professional learning supported by Jeni Wilson, a consultant in INQUIRY learning. Jeni will lead our staff in reviewing our approach in this area to ensure we are structuring curriculum around through-lines. These through-lines are supported by a curriculum map, outlining the topics, disciplines and understandings to show depth and breadth of conceptual knowledge and skill development in a model of learning. That is, when we revisit concepts from prep to year six they may be through different content but they will also be at a deeper level due to the growth experiences and developmental stages of the child.

BYOD- iPAD PROGRAM IN PREPS THIS YEAR

It is wonderful to report that we have had a 100% uptake of the Prep BYOD program which was introduced this year. Our School Council and staff put a great deal of time in planning, communicating and policy preparation work. I congratulate all involved in making the implementation of this program such a positive one.
Here at Altona Green Primary School, our year 5/6s have been thinking hard about who they want to represent them as their House Leaders. After much deliberation they voted for their leaders and vice leaders. The following representatives for each house were elected:

**Green House Leaders** – Ella Hickmott & Peter Trimbonias / **Vice Leaders** - Kai Pennings & Alice Law

**Red House Leader** – Adam Andreevski & Yvonne Doan-Nguyen / **Vice Leaders** - Iris Christke & Petar Culic

**Blue House Leaders** – Shanae Downey & Ethan Cole-Missen / **Vice Leaders** – Ryan Gatt & Beyonce Palavi

**Yellow House Leaders** – Sara Nicol & Danil Plekhov / **Vice Leaders** - Stephanie Challinger & Sukhman Rai

The students are looking forward to representing the school and have already picked up where the previous House Leaders have left off. Our leaders have explained the house points system at the junior assembly and will be introducing a new token system in the coming weeks. This will be used to reward students in the yard for behaviour that represents our school values. Congratulations to all of our new House Leaders!

Absent: Ryan Gatt
BOOK TALK
Over the past few weeks we have had a number of students who have written book reviews on books read from our library. Each book has also been given a star rating and all reviews have been beautifully illustrated. Please come and look on our Book Review wall for these. Also as we are now approaching the end of Term One, next week will be the last week for library borrowing.

Trish

The BFG by Roald Dahl - by Lachlan Kearton 2E

This book is about a little girl and the BFG who must stop all nine giants with help from Her Majesty the Queen. My favourite characters were the BFG, Sophie and the head of the air force. My favourite part was when the BFG and Sophie run to Giant Country. People should read this book because it has a great sense of humour, action packed and is deep in adventure.

Interesting facts about Roald Dahl— He wrote the screen play for the James Bond Film ‘You Only Live Twice’. He went to the USA to work and his first adult story was published. He wrote his first story for children called Gremlins. Walt Disney started working on turning it into a film and Roald went to Hollywood.

PIE DRIVE
Hi my name is Aimee from 2C and I am a girl guide.
I am selling pies to raise money for fire proof blankets.
If you would like to buy any pies, the forms will be at the office.
Please return the forms and money to the office.
From Aimee Webb 2C

CLASSROOM CLIPINGS
Year 3 and 4 Community
Thank you so much to those families who attended the Bush Dance on Friday night. The children have not stopped talking about it.

For the next two weeks we will be working on addition. It would be great if you can support us by practising basic number facts at home. Live maths on Mathletics is a great game to build on these skills.

The 3/4 Camp to Lady Nelson is fast approaching and the staff are busy with the final arrangements - we are still waiting for outstanding Medical Forms which need to be returned promptly.

The national ride to school day is on again this year. As the emblem suggests, it takes place on Friday the 13th of March. Students are encouraged to ride, walk, scoot or skate to school on this day. A great idea last year was seeing some children who usually get driven to school stopping the car 100 to 200 metres away from AGPS and being part of the day by either walking or scooting the rest of the way.

Healthy Together Victoria Achievement Program Team
PARENTING TIPS:
Helping kids deal with rejection

One of the keys to functioning socially and emotionally is the ability to deal with disappointment and rejection.

Most children experience some type of rejection from their peers throughout childhood. One study found that even popular children were rejected about one quarter of the time when they approached children in school.

Paradoxically, children’s experience of rejection and disappointment at school is good for them, as long as it’s balanced with successful experiences too. They learn that they can cope and solve problems in their own way and that bad experiences don’t last forever.

They learn that sadness and disappointment can be managed too, which is an important lesson to learn to take into adolescence and beyond, when life is full of ups and downs.

To help children handle rejection and disappointment try the following four strategies:

1. Model optimism. Watch how you present the world to children, as they will pick up your view.

2. Tell children how you handle disappointment and rejection. Not only is it reassuring for children to know that their parents understand how they feel but they can learn a great deal by how their parents handle situations.

3. Help children recognise times in the past when they bounced back from disappointment. Help them recognise those same strategies can be used again.

4. Laugh together. Humour is a great coping mechanism. It helps put disappointment in perspective. It helps them understand that things will get better. They always do.

The stronger the wind the stronger the trees is the notion here. Supporting kids to handle life’s hurdles helps them to develop a lasting sense of resilience, which is essential for good mental and emotional health.

By Michael Grose

English Conversation Club 2015

Would you like to practice your English speaking skills in a relaxed setting and make new friends? Then join the English Conversation Club which is a great way to meet people and enjoy conversations on a range of topics. The English Conversation Club is a weekly group for adults who speak English as a second language. Sessions are free, morning tea is provided, and everyone is welcome including children.

Every Monday from 2 March until 30 November (excluding school & public holidays) 10am to 11.30am held at the Laverton Community Hub 95-100 Railway Avenue

For further information contact Paula Morgan on 9932 1212
Altona Green Primary School

CAR BOOT SALE

Come and grab a bargain!
Lots of new and used items to purchase
plus fairy floss, popcorn and ice-cones!

WHEN:
21 March 2015  9am - 2pm

WHERE:
Altona Green Primary School
240 Victoria St, Altona Meadows

Stalls $15 each (Indoor or Outdoor)
Reserve your space now!
(new products & secondhand stalls available)

for more information please contact Altona Green Primary School 9360 0777
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
We will be holding a second hand uniform sale in the office foyer on Tuesday 17 March at 3.00pm. All items will be $2.00.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED
We are looking for 5 more 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 5 more 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. Thanks

CHANGE OF CLOTHES
Just a reminder for families to put a change of clothing in your child’s school bag. We have limited supplies in sick bay to change children so this would be appreciated.

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
We will be holding a second hand uniform sale in the office foyer on Tuesday 17 March at 3.00pm. All items will be $2.00.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED
We are looking for 5 more 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 5 more 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. Thanks

CHANGE OF CLOTHES
Just a reminder for families to put a change of clothing in your child’s school bag. We have limited supplies in sick bay to change children so this would be appreciated.

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.
Altona Green Primary School | 4th March 2015

The CAMP AUSTRALIA program promotes a healthy and active lifestyle, encourages friendships and supports children to develop new skills – all while having fun!

The program combines active games with planned and unplanned play, quiet time, homework time and a healthy snack. We are on a mission to bring smiles to kid’s faces.

Please contact Tugba on 0424 596 859 if you would like any further information OR visit www.campaustralia.com.au

If you are interested in booking your child in our Pupil Free Day Program for Tuesday 10th of March Curriculum Day we will be providing care from 7am – 6pm. Please see Tugba in the OSHC room or ask the front office for more details.

HOW TO GET STARTED
Before using our programs register online for an account. This enables you to make bookings, view your statements and manage your details anytime of the day. Registering is quick and easy. Visit www.campaustralia.com.au/newparents

Once registered
You can make bookings and cancellations, view your statements and manage your details anytime of the day.

Save on Care
Save 50% or more on Before and After School Care with the Child Care Rebate. Almost all families are eligible. To find out more call our Customer Service Team on 1300 105 343

Holiday Clubs
Don't forget about the Camp Australia Holiday Clubs these school holidays. Use the Holiday Club Finder on the website to find the nearest program; www.campaustralia.com.au/holidayclubs

Healthy Snacks
Afternoon tea is served daily. Menus are tailored to children’s tastes, developmental and nutritional needs. Afternoon tea includes a selection of yummy sandwiches and fruit. Children may also engage in fun cooking activities.

we make kids smile
www.campaustralia.com.au
We like playing on the playground.

Things we like to do at school.
By Prep V

We like playing football.

We like playing with the ponies.

We like number games on the iPad.
Maksim from 1M and Oliver from 1N played T-ball at a Gala Day at Williamstown Baseball Club. Here they are with their participation certificates.

I got to bat. I hit it far and high. I chased the ball and I threw it to first base. The person got out. My favourite thing of the day was batting.

By Maksim

I had fun playing T-ball. I liked hitting the ball softly off the stand so it didn’t go too far. My friend from last year was there too. My grandparents came to watch me play.

By Maksim Andreevski 1M and Oliver Bergin 1N

---

**CLEAN UP DAY**

Thankyou to all grades for cleaning up the school.

The school grounds looked fantastic without any rubbish.

At the next clean-up day, it would be terrific if there was no rubbish in our grounds.

You can help to keep our school yard tidy by bringing only nude food lunches and snacks to school.

By Emily, Natalie and Bella.
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.

SO YOU WANT TO BE A STAR?

OR MAYBE YOU JUST WANT TO HAVE THE MOVES AND THE FUN OF THE STARS!

With a fusion of different musicals like ‘The Lion King’, ‘Mary Poppins’, ‘The Sound of Music’, ‘Cats’ ‘Grease’, ‘High School Musical—Musical Theatre will take you to new heights—The spotlight is on you!"

Altona Meadows Community Centre 4.45—5.30pm
Normal rates apply after free trial at only $12 per class
Bring a friend and you get your second class half price
For further information call 0412 984 143 or email ldacademy84@gmail.com

www.artinpublicplaces.com.au
www.facebook.com/artinpublicplaces

Laverton Community Centre
(Located in new Community Hub)
95—105 Railway Avenue, Laverton
Telephone: 8368 0177—Bookings essential

FOLK ART (for beginners)
Mon 2 March; 10am—12 noon for 2 weeks
$10 per session

CELEBRATING WOMENHOOD (Free)
Tues 10 March; 10am—1pm
Gentle Exercise, Meditation & Pampering

SAVING & SPENDING WORKSHOP (free)
Tues 21 April; 1—3.30pm

EVERYDAY BANKING WORKSHOP (Free)
Tues 5 May; 1—3pm
The iPad made easy!

Are you a beginner with the iPad? Have you been using it a while but have lots of questions?

Do you want to unlock the potential of using this device for searching the internet, writing emails, and pursuing leisure activities?

Do you find it difficult to access the iPad due to difficulties with arthritis, low vision or just general technophobia (fear of technology)?

Come along to this course and explore the iPad in more detail. You will leave with skills in the following areas:

- A basic understanding of the device hardware and iOS operating system
- How to organize the content on your device including loading, storing and deleting apps.
- An understanding of how to search the internet, send emails, and purchase and manage apps, music and more.
- Explore some of the accessibility settings which may assist you to use the iPad more effectively if you have physical, literacy or communication difficulties including low vision, arthritis, aphasia (post stroke), or just general fatigue.
- Where to go for further support after the training

You will be the envy of your friends and family with the skills you will learn!

Date: Wednesday 11th March from 9.30am until 2.30pm

Cost: $60. $30 - SPECIAL!! - For the first to enrol

Book early - training is limited to 20 places.
Please note: this is a “Bring your own iPad” session

Phone: 9391 8504

Outlets Co-op Neighbourhood House, 43 Mason St, Newport