A message from Karen.....

Our students’ reports were distributed on Monday. This semester our staff used a different program to format them. Any change in a school relies on a team approach and I would like to highlight the work and support of the teachers in taking on the new reporting process. Janine, Suada and Celia were instrumental in overseeing the introduction of the new format and they were relentless in following up any ‘glitches’. We hope that parents and guardians have taken time to read and discuss the reports with the children as these will be the basis for the 3-way Parent-Teacher-Student conferences.

Report from last School Council Meeting:
Our last school council meeting was held on Monday 15 June. At that meeting our council:

- endorsed the final pupil-free day in term three- September 9.
- endorsed the OPTIONAL “Bring our own device policy” for Years 1-6. We stress that this is optional.
- endorsed our Gender Diversity Policy- copies of which can be found on our website.
- reviewed our communications across the school.

The Education State
The Victorian Government has a two-month consultation on how we can make Victoria the Education State. Anyone with a passion for education is invited to join the conversation and help shape a shared vision for the future of education in this state. The Premier and Ministers called on students, parents, teachers, principals, employers and members of the community to contribute their ideas, experiences and aspirations to the conversation. The Education State is about more than just traditional education, it includes skills and learning, health and wellbeing, citizenship and social inclusion, creativity and innovation, jobs and prosperity. It’s about maximising the potential of all Victorians, regardless of their background or where they live. This focus will ensure Victoria remains one of the world’s most successful and liveable places in the decades ahead. For more information on the Education State or to find details on upcoming consultations across Victoria visit www.educationstate.education.vic.gov.au
HEADLICE

We have had an increased number of headlice infestations throughout the school recently. PLEASE CHECK YOUR CHILD’S HAIR REGULARLY FOR EGGS & / OR ADULT LICE. There are a number of over the counter treatments available, but these must be repeated 5—7 days after the initial treatment. Headlice do not discriminate and they love clean hair! Everyone is susceptible! Please be diligent with checking as it is the only way to control an outbreak.

Once again, this year we will be participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. Through this program we will be able to get new educational resources for our school if you happen to shop for your groceries at Woolworths. From Wednesday 15 July to Tuesday 8 September, we are collecting Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers. You will get one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every $10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco and gift cards).

The end of term 2 will be Friday 26 June. Students will be dismissed at 2.30pm on this day. We hope everyone has a safe and relaxing semester break.

Karen O’Dowd

Crazy Hair Day

On Friday June 26 we will be having a Crazy Hair Day. It’s a gold coin donation. Only crazy hair, no make up and full school uniform is to be worn. You are allowed to wear a wig or be creative with your own hair! Each grade will be judged on Friday when J.S.C. will come to your grade and give house points to the CRAZIEST hair.

Looking forward to seeing the craziest hair style.

Jorja Hickmott 4D
Student Engagement

At Altona Green student engagement focuses on the following programs:

**The Healthy Together Victoria Achievement Program** – a program encouraging students to be healthy in every aspect of life.

**Student Leadership** – a group of senior students take a role of responsibility in the school community. This role includes organising lunchtime activities, modelling and encouraging students to use KEFAR values, and being responsible for aspects of the curriculum, for example Performing Arts, I.C.T.

**Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden** – this involves students growing and harvesting their own food to use in the kitchen to create healthy meals.

**Environment Group** – involves environment leaders and interested students. They organise events to develop awareness of environmental issues, such as Clean Up Schools Day, Tree Planting Day, and Nude Food Week.

**Sport in Schools** – students are given the opportunity to participate in different sports led by professional coaches at lunchtime, such as tennis, badminton and netball.

**Junior School Council** – students discuss issues that concern the school community and take action where appropriate.

**Bounce Back** – all grades are involved in the Bounce Back Program which promotes resilience and the development of social skills.

*Watch this space in the newsletter to discover more about student engagement at Altona Green.*

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Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability

‘Collection Notice’

All schools in Australia, including Independent and Catholic schools, will participate in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability this year.

The Data Collection is an annual count of the number of students with disability receiving educational adjustments to support their participation in education on the same basis as students without disability.

All education agencies are now required under the Australian Education Regulation 2013 to provide information on a student’s level of education, disability and level of adjustment to the Australian Government Department of Education and Training.* Data will continue to be de-identified prior to its transfer to the Australian Government Department of Education and Training. No student’s identity will be provided to the Australian Government Department of Education and Training.

The collection of this information from states and territories will inform future policy and program planning in relation to students with disability.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Karen or Nola on 9360 0777 or the Victorian Department of Education and Training Data Collection Hotline on (03) 9651 3621. For questions after 7 August 2015, please call the Australian Government Department of Education and Training on 1300 566 046.

* For more information on Schedule 3—Amendments for the collection of data on students who are persons with a disability Australian Education Regulation 2013 see: http://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/F2014L01723/Html/Text#_Toc404934419
**BOOK TALK**

Special thanks this week to Phoebe and Lucas Maltman for their large donation of library books!
Also we congratulate the following students for completing their Reading Challenge:
Ashton Coote 4A    Joseph Solomon 1M    Daniella Lopez 1T
Our total of books read is now 1094!
Well done once again everyone for your fantastic efforts!
Trish

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**Winter school holiday program**

Through stories, art, music and movies, Hobsons Bay Libraries are celebrating NAIDOC Week and ‘Our Country’. Don’t hibernate this winter; you will miss all the fun! Come and join the activities to keep the whole family entertained. Activities include mystery movies, possum hunt puppet show and ochre painting, hand murals, Minecraft, clay jewellery making and scratch board art.

For more information pick up a brochure at your local library branch, or have a look on the library website. [http://libraries.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/](http://libraries.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/)

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**HOUSE KEEPING ITEMS**

**Absences**
Over the past few weeks we have had quite a considerable amount of students off with colds and feeling unwell. Thank you to the parents who have rung or emailed the school as to why their child has been absent.
All absences must be explained to the school and this can be done by sending a note to your child’s class teacher, phoning the school on 9360 0777 or via email altona.green.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au.

If you wish your child to leave school early for dental/medical appointments etc, you must always call at the office first. It is necessary for the children to be “signed out” at the office.

**It’s Not Great To Be Late**
Parents of children who arrive late for school, for whatever reason, are asked to sign the late book at the office. These entries are then monitored and areas of concern are followed up. Class rolls are marked at 9:00am. We please ask if all students are at school on time so students are not disrupting the class, or missing valuable learning time.

**Early Departures - A BIG THANK YOU**
A couple of weeks ago we expressed in the newsletter our concern with an increase of parents picking up students early, perhaps not always for appointments and the students missing out on valuable learning time.
Students leaving early has decreased considerably since then and we appreciate your assistance in this area.

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**SCHOOL TRIVIA NIGHT**

**DO YOU HAVE CONNECTIONS?**
We are looking for prizes for our Trivia Night which will be held on Friday July 31.
If you have any connections with businesses or work for a business that could donate prizes, we would greatly appreciate it….. The more prizes, the more chances for people to win!

If you would like us to send an official letter to your company or if you require more details please send an email to the school on altonagreen.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

Don’t forget to book your table for a fun night with Jenny or Tracy on 9360 0777
Donations Required for Prep Outdoor Learning Space

We are seeking donations of the following: sandpit equipment and transportation vehicles.
If you are able to help please give items to the Prep teachers or office staff. Thank you

Prep
Thank you to all the families who attended Parent Teacher interviews. The children were very excited to share their inquiry and writing work with you. It would be great if children continued reading during the holidays using their iPad Apps, such as, Big Cats, Sunshine online and PM books. Have a relaxing, safe and enjoyable holiday.

Grade 1
This week the grade ones have been engaged in researching their wonderings on living things and publishing their findings in different ways.
We would like to congratulate the year one community for their hard work this term and we hope you all have a relaxing break.

Grade 2 & 3
It is really important that children continue to read over the holidays. Although their take home books have been collected, children should still be encouraged to read books that they may have at home or visit their local library which has a great selection of books. Mathletics is also a great way of reinforcing your child’s mathematic skills.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our parents for their ongoing support over the term. From the volunteers who assist with our programs through to the parents who continue to support our programs at home through home reading and Mathletics. We hope you all have a great break with your children.

Grade 4
Our students have been very busy this term producing pieces of great work. They are looking forward to sharing these at our Parent Teacher Contact this afternoon and this evening. Parents should be proud of their child’s achievements. We wish all families a safe and warm winter break.

Grade 5 & 6
Our 5/6 students presented their Inquiry work this week. Students chose their own inquiry questions and came up with interesting results. Inquiries included famous Australians, Australian disasters, political systems and policies, Australian sports and many more. They showed their learning in many different ways including dioramas, timelines, information, narrative and persuasive texts, maps and illustrations.
TOTALLY RAD

80's TRIVIA NIGHT

GRAB SOME LEG WARMERS, DUST OFF THE AOID WASH DENIM & GET YOUR MULLETS OUT!

Altona Green Primary School

Friday 31 July

GYM DOORS OPEN AT 7:00 PM

Raffle prizes, silent auctions, games, trivia and lots of fun!

BYO nibbles & drinks

TICKETS $15 PER PERSON OR BOOK A TABLE

Tickets available from the office
1M

Living Things
We have been researching living things – we asked questions and found the answers.
How long do pumpkins take to grow? It can take between 4 and 6 months for a pumpkin to grow.

How long do trees take to grow? Trees can take between 30 and 300 years to grow!

Do flowers have bugs? Yes, flowers do have bugs.

How do apples grow? A seed can grow into a tree. Apple seeds can grow into apple trees.

Why do spiders bite? Spiders bite to protect themselves from predators.

How do chickens sleep? Young chickens sleep under their mother.

Phoenix Are stinkbugs red? No, they are brown, grey and dark green.

Why do grapes grow on green leaves? Grapes need leaves to get the sun and water to grow.

Can spiders go into the water? Fishing spiders can walk on water.