A message from Lisa.....

Last Friday our students took part in a Bush Dance incursion so that they could learn some dances ahead of this Thursday’s Family Bush Dance Evening. The band were incredibly engaging and I heard lots of positive feedback from staff and students. As a staff we are all very much looking forward to sharing the Bush Dance Evening with our families. Please come along and bring a picnic dinner and join us for a fun evening. We will have a limited number of sausages and drinks for sale from 5:30pm, however, we will stop selling these when the Bush Dance starts at 6:30pm so no one misses out on the dancing. See you all there! This Friday will be the Prep, Grade 1 and Grade 2 Assembly. The assembly will start at 3pm. All parents are reminded that they can have a ‘cuppa and chat’ with me in the staffroom from 2:30pm.

Parent/Teacher Interviews
Our first parent/teacher interviews for this year are on Tuesday 23rd February from 2:00pm – 7:30pm. These initial interviews are 10 minutes in duration. These are a great opportunity for you to meet your child’s teacher and share important information. These interviews don’t have an academic focus as teachers are still finalising their beginning of year assessments. More formal interviews will take place mid-year when semester one reports are completed. Details for booking in to see your child’s teacher are included in this newsletter.

School Tours
We will be holding school tours every Tuesday morning at 9:30am for families looking at enrolling their children for 2017. If you know any parents who are thinking of enrolling their children please ask them to call the office and register their details for a school tour and to collect an information pack.
Dear Parents,

Parent/Teacher/Student interviews will be held between 2.00pm – 7.30pm on Tuesday 23rd February. You can now book interviews at times that suit your family best. The purpose of these meetings are:-

- For the teacher to introduce themselves to parents and for the parents to become known to the teacher.
- To offer information about your child to the teacher which might be relevant in their academic and social growth.

These meetings are not intended as a progress report on your child, as early timing prevents accurate education assessments being given.

For parents that do not have access to the internet at home, work or on their phones, computers will be available in the school library from Thursday 18th February until Monday 22nd February between 8.45 – 9.15am and 3.00 – 3.15pm, so that parents can still make their own bookings. Staff will be available to assist. Alternatively parents may send a note to school with the approximate times they require or phone the school on 9360 0777. Interviews are strictly 10 minutes duration and all families are expected at attend. If you require more time, please contact your teacher directly to make alternative arrangements.

Please click on the link below to book. Bookings are now open.

BOOKINGS CLOSE MONDAY 22ND FEBRUARY AT 4 pm

Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and follow these simple instructions.

1. Enter your details
2. Select the teachers you wish to see
3. Select the appointment times that suit your family best

When you click FINISH, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically. If you do not receive your email immediately – Check your junk mail folder AND make sure you have spelt your email address correctly

You can return to www.schoolinterviews.com.au at any time, and change your interviews - until the bookings close.

You may change your bookings, any time prior to the closing date, by re-visiting the www.schoolinterviews.com.au website, and using the event code. Remember to use the same name and email address, you used when you made your original booking. Parents wishing to change their interview times after the closing date, should contact the school directly on: 9360 0777.

Simply enter the code and press "Go"
TO GET THE LATEST SCHOOL NEWS AND EVENTS ON YOUR PHONE DOWNLOAD THE FREE ‘KONNECTIVE’ APP.

Follow these simple instructions.

KONNECTIVE

Registering and logging in to Konnective

Step 1: Download the Konnective app from the Appstore or GooglePlay

If you don’t have an Apple or Android smartphone you can register on the Konnective website and choose to receive messages via email.

Step 2: Register with Konnective

When you open the Konnective app tap on the Register button.

Enter your email address, first name, last name and setup a password that you will remember (phone number is optional). In addition to getting notifications to your phone, you can also choose to receive each message as an email.

You will be sent an email asking you to click on a link to verify your email address. Check your spam/junk folders if it does not arrive.

Step 3: Login to Konnective

Open up the app. Make sure you select OK to receive Push Notifications from Konnective (iPhone only). This will ensure you get a notification whenever you receive a new message.

Tap on the Login button.

Enter your email address and the password you set when you registered.

You will now see the Konnective Welcome page. Click “Search for a business” and follow the instructions to connect to feeds relevant for you (you can also access this via My Connections in the menu).

You can automatically connect to any public feed (those with a Connect button) or ask for approval to be added to any other feeds that are relevant to you. Upon Requesting Approval, the connection will remain in a pending state until you can be reviewed and approved onto that feed by the school or business.

LIBRARIES & YOUTH SERVICES
PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

CYSERSMART - INTERNET SAFETY AWARENESS
THURSDAY 3 MARCH 2016

Young people today are immersed in digital technologies. They use the internet and mobile phones to socialise, study, exchange ideas and play. While online activity has many benefits, there are also risks.

To help your children stay safe online we are hosting a Cybersmart Outreach - Internet Safety Awareness presentation provided by the Office of the Children’s Safety Commissioner as part of a national program of Cybersmart initiatives.

This free presentation is for parents and carers, conducted by Cybersmart trainer Greg Geishart, and will cover:

- the role of the Children’s Safety Commissioner
- the ways children use the internet and emerging technologies
- potential risks for children online, such as cyberbullying, identity theft, inappropriate contact and exposure
- tips to help children stay safe online

Libraries & Youth Services
Hobsons Bay Libraries

Altona Meadows Library and Learning Centre

10th Birthday

Everyone is invited to celebrate 10 great years of Altona Meadows Library and Learning Centre in February 2016.

When: Tuesday 23 February to Saturday 27 February
Where: Altona Meadows Library and Learning Centre

On Tuesday, 23 February, 6.30pm to 7.30pm
Introducing Sheila Hardy, a world-renowned equine social worker with a thirst for social justice, good food, and alcohol.
Bookings: via library website or phone 03 935 242
Birthday party on Friday 26 February, 9.30am to 11.15am
Birthday birthday party on Saturday 27 February, 10.30am to 11.15am
Birthday special
Ability to provide
Libraries and Youth Services

Hobsons Bay Libraries
3000 452 442
Libraries.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au

Altona Meadows Library and Learning Centre
BANG!
And we’re off and running for the 2016 school year!

Term 1 for Physical Education is always a hectic one.
The term is short and there’s lots to organise, so please read carefully:

**When does my child have Physical Education?**
Each class has PE for an hour each week which are detailed below:

Tuesday: 2E, 2L, Prep V, Prep J & 5/6A
Wednesday: 1T & 1S
Thursday: 5/6C, 5/6T, 5/6M, 2C & 1N
Friday: 3A, 3S, 4D, 4A & Prep D

**Good Running Shoes**
Parents are requested to please ensure that their children wear good running shoes whenever they have Physical Education. Good running shoes should have a good amount of cushioning in the heel as well as a smooth transition to the toe to assist unimpaired running. Shoes such as Converse or Dunlop volleys are not suitable for running as they are very flat and provide little or no stability and support for growing feet. Good quality running shoes are an insurance policy against foot, ankle, knee and hip complaints later in life. If you have any queries or require advice, please see Gareth McLean.

**Running Club is back for 2016!**
Running Club at AGPS takes place every Wednesday morning at 8:30am at the oval. There are no special requirements to join other than to be there and start running. If it is your first time at Running Club for 2016 please see Gareth at the oval to get your Running Club card. Whenever you complete a lap of the oval you will receive a stamp on your card to show that you’ve just completed 400m. Fill all 25 spaces on your card and you will be presented with a 10km milestone certificate at assembly.

In 2015, Lachlan Farrington of Grade 4 completed over 70km throughout the year! Who will be our lead runner in 2016?

**LPSSA Swimming Carnival 2016 – 29/02/16**
Congratulations to all of the students who tried out to be part of the AGPS swimming team at Bayfit Leisure Centre on Thursday last week. The results have been tallied and 23 of our students will now go on to represent AGPS at the Laverton District Swimming Carnival on 29th February. We wish them all the best in their endeavours.
VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED
We are looking for 7 more volunteers 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 7 more volunteers, it would mean that you would only have to wash the linen 4 times a year. We would really appreciate your offer to help. Please drop by or phone the office to leave your name with Jenny on 9360 0777. Thank you

A.G.P.S.—WHERE YOUR OUTBACK SAVINGS ADVENTURES BEGIN!
This year School Banking are giving you the chance to win a family trip to Australia Zoo, where you’ll meet Bindi & Robert Irwin. To enter you simply make 15 or more deposits by the end of term 3 and you will automatically receive an entry into the competition.

School Banking day is each TUESDAY

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SALE—1st MARCH
We will be holding a second hand uniform sale in the library on Tuesday 1st March at 3pm. All items of clothing will be $2 per piece. If you have any items you no longer need, can you please send them to the office prior to the 1st March. Thank you

SAKG PROGRAM REMINDER
Isn’t it wonderful to see our Kitchen/Garden flourishing in the summertime? The corn is growing tall and the fruit trees are really coming along. All students from Grades 3 to 6 participate in this fantastic program for the entire year by planting and taking care of the garden – then they harvest it and cook with it in the Kitchen. Can I just remind all adults and students that are regularly in the yard before and after school that the food growing in our SAKG orchards and vegie patches are for this program and not to be eaten or taken home with them.

CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)
If you have a Health Care Card/Pension Card that is valid on the first day of term (27th January, 2016) you are eligible to apply for the Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund. The CSEF is an annual payment to the school to be used towards camps, sports and/or excursion expenses for your children. If you haven’t completed the application form this year please come into the office with your health care card so we can copy it. This form needs to be completed every year.

ITALIAN LANGUAGE CLASSES
Lumen Christi Primary School, 260 Point Cook Road, Point Cook are conducting Italian language classes each Saturday commencing Saturday 13th February. The classes run for 2 1/2 hours from 1.30pm to 4pm. Teaching includes writing, reading, listening and speaking and an appreciation of the Italian Culture. For further information please telephone 9898 4707 or visit the school website www.lauroraschool.com.au

BAYWEST MUSIC
Baywest Music School is a low cost music school located at Altona Meadows Community Centre. We teach both adults and children keyboard, guitar, violin and singing for $15 per lesson and drums for $18 per lesson.

For further information or bookings, please contact Stephen on 0425 797 390
Preps
The prep students have settled in well and are establishing their school routines. It has been great to see them developing their independence by carrying their own school bags into the classroom and placing them in their lockers.

The prep team would appreciate any donations of craft materials, such as fabric or ribbon.

Grade 1
What a busy start we have had to the year! The Year 1s had a fantastic education session with the Life Ed Van, learning about making healthy choices and being safe in the community. We also got to put on our dancing boots for the Bush Dance incursion last week.
Just a reminder, don’t forget to book in your time for Meet the Teacher next Tuesday.

Grade 2
All students who are new to bringing their iPads to school this year must have the Bring Your Own Device Policy signed and returned to their classroom teacher before they use their iPads in the classroom.
This year the Grade 2 students will be using the Kids A-Z app (formerly known as Raz Kids) for reading which is free to download.
We recommend students with iPads download the app for classroom and home use.
Specialist days (Music, Art and Sport) are on Tuesdays and Thursdays and Garden sessions are held once every 3 weeks.

Grade 3
Thank you to all the families who have downloaded the grade 3 recommended apps to their child’s iPad. These are essential and will be used throughout the year. We would appreciate if these apps are downloaded before the end of February if you haven’t done so already. If you are experiencing any difficulties or have questions please see your child’s teacher.

Grade 4
All the Year 4s enjoyed participating in the Life Education workshop. In class, we are reflecting and following up on issues covered in the van.
The grade 3 & 4 Communities will be participating in a special incursion run by the Melbourne Markets on March 10. We are asking for some helpers to cut up fruit and vegetables in the morning. Please contact your child’s classroom teacher if you can assist on this day.

Grade 5/6
The 5/6 students are settling in to their classroom routines with specialist programs and homework activities having started last week. Students need to return their completed homework, along with their Student Diaries, on Friday 19th February. The big event for the 5/6s this term is the Roses Gap camp. Students need to return the expression of interest note, along with the $100 deposit if they are attending, this week. Permission notes and medical forms will be sent home soon with those students who are attending the camp.
Please write your child’s surname on ALL correspondence to the office, as you can appreciate with over 350 students in the school it is difficult to remember every child’s surname and also there are quite a few students with the same first name.

When returning notes/excursion money to school, please have your child hand it to their class room teacher rather than the front office.

If your child is absent from school, please either call the office on 9360 0777, complete an absence note at the office or write a note to your child’s teacher. Most parents are already doing this, so a BIG THANK YOU TO YOU.

All excursion notes, including a generic permission form are on our website.

When returning notes/excursion money to school, please have your child hand it to their class room teacher rather than the front office.

Please check parking signs around the school as the Council has advised us that they will be making surprise visits and booking any cars parked illegally.

When making appointments could you please try to make them for out of school hours as this will stop disruptions to their learning and their class. If your child is not in their classroom, then we are interrupting the whole school’s learning if we need to page them.

If you have moved or changed your telephone numbers (including emergency contacts) please advise the office.

If your child has a Dollarmite account, can you see the sample below and please complete your deposit slip accordingly … information that is required on the deposit slip is written on the inside cover of the deposit book. If you have the student number written on the deposit slip there is no need to write the account number as well.