A message from Lisa

Parent/Teacher Interviews
Thank you to all of the parents/guardians who attended Parent/Teacher Interviews this week. Formal meetings are a great way for us to share information about your child/children so that we can all work together to form a strong home and school partnership.

School Leaders
This year we have introduced school captains. It is with great pleasure that I formally announce our School Captains – Jorja and Xavier and our Vice Captains – Violet and Mason.

We are currently in the process of electing our 2017 JSC representatives and house leaders.

Altona Green Parents & Friends
This week we had our first Parents and Friends meeting for the year. Thank you to the people who came along to support the group and volunteer their time. There are a number of exciting activities planned for the year including special lunch days, Easter raffle, Mothers Day morning tea, big boys BBQ, Mothers’ and Fathers’ Day stalls, trivia night, disco and end of year Christmas market. Please keep an eye out for when the planning meetings are for these events. If you are able to help out in any way it would be very much appreciated.

Specialist Program
We are very fortunate to have a wonderful team of dedicated teachers in our specialist area. – they are Suada in Physical Education (P.E.), Annie in Performing Arts Carla in Visual Art and Hayley in Indonesian

This year our grades prep to grade 2 will have 1 hour of P.E., 1 hour of Indonesian and 1 hour of The Arts (1 semester each) per week. Our grades 3- 6 children will have 1 hour of P.E., 1 hour of Visual Art and 1 hour of Performing Arts.

On top of our regular classes we also have a number of exciting extra-curricular activities planned for the year. These include:

- Interschool sport
- Swimming
- Cross country
- Running Club
- Tennis
- Athletics days
- Choir
- Whole school Bollywood incursion
- Hobson’s Voice
- Festival of Performing Arts (FOPA)
- Performing Arts presentations at assembly
- Visual Art displays
- Local Visual Art competitions
- Christmas Concert

These are just a snapshot of the exciting year ahead. I look forward to sharing the results of these activities with you as they happen. As always if you have any feedback or recommendations for particular events or programs please let me know.
Facebook
Our official Facebook page is now up and running. Please like our page so that you can see the wonderful things that are happening around our school.

www.facebook.com/AltonaGreen/

Permission notes will be going home this week. Please return the note ASAP saying whether you give permission or not for your child to appear on the facebook page. Please be reassured that no names will be posted with pictures. Once I have consent I will begin to upload photos to the page.

Lisa Conibeer

GRADE 3/4 CAMP 2017: PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

This year the grade 3 and 4 students are very fortunate to have the opportunity to attend our school camp at ‘Camp Oasis’ in Mount Evelyn, in the Dandenong Ranges. It will be a fun filled camp with many exciting activities for the children including a flying fox, low ropes course, crate climb, candle making, archery, initiative games and a reptile house. The camp is a wonderful chance for the students to develop independence, teamwork skills and friendships within our 3/4 Learning Community.

The 3/4 Camp will be held in Term 2, from Wednesday 14th June to Friday 16th June – three days/two nights. Notes and information regarding the camp will be sent home throughout Term 1 and Term 2.

We will be holding a Parent Information Session on the evening of Tuesday 7th March so you can learn more about our 3/4 Camp. This will be held in the school staffroom, starting at 6:00 pm. Notes about the information session have been sent home with all Grade 3/4 students. Please return the reply slip to your child’s class teacher as soon as possible.

Tennis Club will run every Tuesday (weather permitting) from 8:20am to 8:50am on the Tennis Courts adjacent to the school. This is not a coaching session but an opportunity for families to come along and have a hit with their child/ren or alternatively students are welcome to come along and have a hit with other students. Racquets and balls will be supplied; students are welcome to bring along their own racquets if they would like.

Running Club will run every Wednesday (weather permitting) from 8:30am on the oval. Families are welcome to come along and run/walk with their child/ren.

Swimming Trials for the District Swimming Team will be held at Laverton Swim Centre on Tuesday 21st from 1:30pm. Thank you to all the students who have come to see me and have collected a note to attend. If your child was born in 2008 or earlier and can confidently swim 50m without stopping but has not brought home a note, please come and see me asap as there are a small number of vacancies for the trials.

Looking forward to seeing you there!
Suada Dzaferovic
Physical Education Teacher
Congratulations to the following students who received Achievement Awards last week.

- Prep D  Addison
- Prep F  Noah
- Prep V  Abigail
- 1J   Cooper
- 1L   Emily
- 1N   Leanne
- 2A   Rania
- 2D   Steve
- 2R   Ella
- 3/4B   Imran
- 3/4C   Will
- 3/4S   Maria
- 3/4T   Harry
- 5A   Pooja
- 5N   Ellie
- 6E   Daniel
- 6S   Charlotte

**SCHOOL PHOTOS**

School photo envelopes have been given out to the students. Packs are between $26 (Group photo) and $52 (Group photo and individual photos).

If you would like a sibling photo, Family Envelopes are available at the office.

Please complete your child’s envelope and return to school **before Friday 3rd March**.

*Please put correct money in the envelope as the school does not open the envelopes the photographers take them.*

**MEDICATION AT SCHOOL**

We still have a large amount of students who have not returned their medication to school eg: ventolin & spacers, Epi Pens. Please return your child’s medication to school and complete the ‘Medication Request Form’ at school as we are unable to supply any medication without written consent.

If your child does have asthma, we also require an up to date Asthma Management Plan.

**SCHOOL BANKING PROGRAM**

*‘A SAVINGS JOURNEY INTO THE FUTURE’*

School Banking is each Tuesday

If your child doesn’t already have a youth saver account with the Commonwealth Bank, parents can open a Youth Saver Account online by visiting: commbank.com.au/schoolbanking and click on the link to open a Youthsaver Account. Alternatively, parents can visit any branch.
CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)
If you have a Health Care Card that is valid on the first day of term (30th January, 2017) 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 child. If you haven’t already completed the application form, please come into the office with your health care card so we can copy it. This form needs to be completed every year.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED
We are looking for 10 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 10 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 leave your name with Jenny in the office or email on armstead.jennifer.m@edumail.vic.gov.au.

A BIG THANK YOU TO MARGARET (Aiden & Zane’s grandmother) for washing them at the end of last year and this year as well.

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

If you have changed your telephone numbers (home/mobile/work) or address could you please advise the office.

EXCURSIONS/CORRESPONDENCE
When returning excursion money or notes to school, please have your child hand it to their classroom teacher not the front office. Please write your child’s surname on ALL correspondence, as you can appreciate with over 380 students in the school it is difficult to remember every child’s surname and there are also quite a few students with the same first name.

ABSENCES & APPOINTMENTS
If your child is absent from school, please either call the office on 9360 0777 or email Jenny directly on armstead.jennifer.m@edumail.vic.gov.au (please not the school email).

When making appointments could you please try to make them out of school hours as this will stop disruptions to their learning and the 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 are only able to make an appointment during school hours could you please collect your child just before the breaks at 11:00am or 1:30pm.

EFTPOS
Just a reminder that the minimum amount that can be purchased on eftpos is $20. Any sales under this amount must be paid in cash. Unfortunately we do not have Paypass.
Hello Altona Green Primary Families,

Welcome to Term 1 of 2017 at Outside School Hours Care. We are excited to welcome back Kimberly and introduce myself Melinda Gomez, as the new coordinator.

I have been with Camp Australia for over 5 years, coordinating Westbourne Grammar OSHC for 4 years. I also worked as a Regional Manager for a short period, but found my passion was with the children.

This term in OSHC we are excited to implement a range of changes.

We will be working towards a more environmentally sustainable program; creating a range of tasks the children can nominate themselves to be responsible for, such as feeding the chickens and weeding the garden. We will be growing a variety of our own seedlings to take care of and hopefully grow in a nearby garden. We would like to work together to brighten up the outdoor play space for everyone to enjoy.

We have already made improvements with our routine and delivery of operations. We have a daily Leadership chart; the children have been very keen to appoint themselves leaders. These roles give children the responsibility of leadership encouraging positive engagements and team work.

Our group time discussions are now productive and allow children to share ideas and contribute to service decisions. We have seen lots of really positive changes.

We will also extend on our creativity with personal exercise books for each child, this can be used for all art and creative work; this collection can be taken home at the end of the year.

We look forward to providing a fun and engaging OSHC program, encouraging your children’s interests and leading a safe and rewarding experience.

Please ensure you have updated all your details and your child’s details on the Camp Australia Parent Portal so we have all the current information to care for your children.

We look forward to a fantastic term, filled with fun and enthusiasm.

Please feel free to provide your ideas or suggestions to us at any time.

Thank you

Melinda
Altona Green Primary OSHC Coordinator

visit www.campaustralia.com.au
Safer Internet Day was celebrated across Australia on February 7. At Altona Green we endeavour to make everyday a Safer Internet Day, so throughout the year we continue to engage students in lessons that encourage them to be smart, make good choices and follow our KEFAR values when using digital technologies at school and at home. We ask that families continue to promote exemplary behaviour when using digital technologies. Some things to think about when students are using digital technologies at home are:

- How much time do they spend on their device?
- Is the device being used in a shared area where they can be supervised?
- Does my child know what to do if something goes wrong?

All these are important to making sure children stay safe.

The Herald Sun has launched a Kids News page where it adds two news stories each day. The news stories are written for students and would make great conversation starters around the dinner table each night. It can be accessed at www.heraldsun.com.au/kids-news

Thank you to all the parents in Prep to Grade 2 who have ensured that their child has their iPad at school each day. **An Apple iPad is expected for each child in Prep to Grade 2 and encouraged for students in Grade 3-6.**

Please remind your child that it is their responsibility to:

- Make sure the device is charged and ready for school each day.
- Have their photo set as their lock and homescreen. (Could you, please help them complete this task. It is easier to identify who the iPad belongs to if they leave it behind at school.)
- All recommended apps have been downloaded.
- It comes to school in a protective case.

If you have any questions with regards to iPads please feel free to call or come and see me.

Suada Dzaferovic  
Digital Technologies Coach
Come have a yarn with William Glenbar about what Reconciliation means to you. Council is holding three consultation sessions specifically for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members to have their say on the draft Reconciliation Action Plan.

Get along to any of these sessions for a yarn and a feed at Laverton Community Hub:

**Tuesday 14 February**
5pm to 7pm

**Thursday 16 February**
1pm to 2.30pm

**Tuesday 21 February**
5pm to 7pm

**Where**
Laverton Community Hub
95–105 Railway avenue, Laverton

**Contact**
For more information contact Dani Bero
dbero@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au
0417 584 750 or 9932 1000

Council acknowledges the peoples of the Kulin nation as the Traditional Owners of the lands and waterways of the area known as Hobsons Bay.
Building a positive future by developing lifelong learners who value themselves and others

Childcare available
RSVP 9360 0777

School tours also available every Tuesday @ 9:30am - please call the office to book.

Don't know which questions you should ask before making a decision about the school that will best suit you and your child?
Find out what Altona Green can offer your child!

Monday 20th March
6:30—7:30pm

Altona Green Primary School
240 Victoria Street, Altona Meadows 3028
9360 0777
www.altonagreen.vic.edu.au
Kindness-Encouragement-Fairness-Acceptance-Respect