Dear families

I do hope our families enjoyed the Melbourne Cup celebrations. It was certainly a momentous occasion in history. That weekend certainly signifies that the year is approaching at a rapid pace and the increase in Christmas advertising also means that holidays are not far away.

At the college our students are remaining focussed on their learning programs and continue to display our values of respect, learn and care. At this time of the year we can certainly begin to celebrate each student’s learning over the year. I met with our early year’s team on Tuesday evening and the achievement levels of the students are certainly testament to our strong curriculum focus throughout the year. Our middle year’s students are to be commended for their leadership of our eLearning program. This week I received some amazing examples of kids teaching kids with our year 8 students creating videos to promote stranger danger with our younger children. It is always pleasing to see our students supporting and mentoring each other.

Remembrance Day was a poignant occasion with our Year 9 students taking the lead. They took over the office at recess and narrated a moving tribute of remembrance via the public address system. Our school captains Anthony and Tia travelled into the Shrine with Mr McGee and laid a wreath on behalf of our college. The students were provided with a tour of the shrine following the ceremony. David and Luke, supported by their peers, have done an amazing job selling memorabilia to our community on behalf of the RSL.

Simone, our administration assistant, has provided an update of planned events for the remainder of the year and the associated costs for parents to plan.

Our Steps to Prep program this week saw Mrs Taylor spend two hours getting to know her new charges. I met with the parents for a question and answer session over morning tea. Mr Kelly was certainly able to share his experience as a Prep parent this year in sending his youngest off to school. The way the children are settling into our community is testament to the success of the program. We had some tentative children early in the program and they now meet me at the gate with huge smiles. It was also lovely to see a couple say goodbyes to their parents this week and spend some time with their new classmates after initially wanting their parents in the sessions for support.

The staffing for 2016 is being finalised along with class structure as per the last newsletter. In December we will welcome our new Year 7 students for an orientation visit. Mr Moore, Mr Kelly and Mrs Neville will begin visiting those children in their current school next week. Today four of our Year 7 students travelled back to their primary school to talk to the current Year 6 students. They were so positive about their experiences to date at our college which was lovely to hear prior to their departure. We will be facilitating a transition session for all students later in the term so that they can meet their 2016 teacher. If your child will not be returning to our college in 2016 could you please notify the administration office.

Book pack orders will close shortly. Families should have received their 2016 book list and charges information via their child and email. These were also posted on the website for ease of access.

Our staff are beginning the end of year reporting process. Written reports will be posted on our school information portal where they will be able to be accessed and printed. Families each have an individual access. If there are families who do not share access to the portal login and require a copy to be emailed or posted please email the college.

Have a lovely weekend

Julie Krause (Principal)
Altona P-9 College is excited to announce that we are launching a Smartphone app called **Updat-ed** that will make connecting with you so much more convenient.

**Using our interface couldn’t be easier.**

Short messages from the college are pushed out to the App in the ‘Updat-ed’ section. This stores the 25 most recent messages and deletes any older than that.

Event alerts are sent. These can be synced instantly to your smartphone calendar from a simple prompt.

Access relevant links for online purchasing such as JB Education Laptop Portal, Booklists and Uniform Ordering.

Access college newsletters

Access XUNO Parent Portal

To download the **FREE** app just visit the App Store for iPhones or Google Play for Android’s. Search for **Updat-ed** and from the menu select our college. We’ll receive your registration request and will need to approve you before your app is up and running.

We hope you enjoy being **Updat-ed**.
Year 8 Art

Year 8 Stencils. By Matthew, Rachel, Josh and Hayley.
Camp Wilkins. By Keelie Phillips

One of my favourite things I liked doing at Camp this year was Archery, Flying Fox and the night walk.

I really liked Archery because it was fun trying to get the arrows in the bullseye.

Flying Fox was fun because at the end when you hit the tyres, you fly up and it feels like your upside down.

The night walk was so cool when we went to the lookout the view was beautiful.

I had a lot of fun at Camp and hope to go back soon.
Day for Daniel
## Upcoming Excursions and events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Excursion</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 7 Carlton Restaurant excursion</td>
<td>Thursday November 19th</td>
<td>Bring Myki card, Money lunch ($25 suggested), Water bottle, Water sports uniform</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 7 Scienceworks excursion</td>
<td>Tuesday 8th December</td>
<td>$10 Due Monday 30th November to the Office, Lunch and water bottle</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 9 Adventure Park excursion</td>
<td>Monday December 14th</td>
<td>$35 Due Monday 7th December to the Office, Lunch and water bottle, Optional spending money, Swimwear and towel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 7-9 Wyncity Bowling excursion</td>
<td>Tuesday December 15th</td>
<td>Bring Myki card, $11 for bowling on the day, Extra spending money for snacks/games</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 6 Luna Park excursion</td>
<td>Tuesday December 15th</td>
<td>$25 Due Monday 7th December to the Office, Packed lunch &amp; water bottle, Spending money optional, Wear full uniform and hat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9 Graduation dinner</td>
<td>Thursday 17th December</td>
<td>$26 per person, Due Friday 4th December to the Office</td>
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***REMINDER***

Book packs need to be purchased online by Thursday November 19th
Altona P9 College students respecting Indigenous Culture

On Thursday November 12, Four Altona P9 College student leaders from year 6 visited Newport Lakes Primary School to find out more about Aboriginal history and culture. We met with students, teachers, parents and a special guest Mr Ron Murray, a Wamba Wamba man, cultural educator, storyteller, musician, didgeridoo maker and artist. Mr Murray gave us some insight into some important Aboriginal historical figures, stories and culture.

The main reason for our visit was to get some ideas for some Indigenous cultural activities that we could introduce to our school. We were challenged to create our own ‘acknowledgement of country’ to be used at school assemblies. We all look forward to further developing plans for an Altona P9 College Indigenous culture program in 2016.

By David, Luke, Hope and Ashleigh
On Monday the 9th of November boys and girls in 5/6 learnt about physical changes that will happen to our bodies in the near future. Jane the nurse came in and talked with different gender groups (males and females), and showed us 2 different videos about becoming an adult. Jane described all the changes you will come across from the ages of 10-17.

In Inquiry, Year 6 students have been designing a project based on physical health. The task was to create a game/activity for Altona West Kindergarten. Some people's Projects were: mini relays, egg and spoon races, sack races, get the gold, ball race and a normal race. Next week the Year 6 students will hopefully do test runs of these activities with our Preps.

Year 5-8 are learning how to make their own slam poems about anti-bullying, they are all being taught by EZB. Some poems are outstanding and very impressive. Today Year 5/6 will present their wonderful poems in class, so the teachers can decide the best four to share in front of the 7 and 8s.

Today Year 6’s had a fire lesson from the MFB. They taught us about fire safety, and how to recognise possible fire starters such as: overloading powerboards, leaving the kitchen unsupervised and clothing close to heat.

By Jake Fox & David De Las Cases

**School News**

**Uniform alterations and repairs**

One of our new school mums is able to alter and mend school uniforms.

Hems $10
Repairs quoted

Phone Kelly 0431 234 314
Christmas Book Fair

Once again it’s Book Fair Time!

This year we are having our Christmas Book Fair from Monday 30th November to Friday 11th December. The theme is:

‘Under the Sea – Explore an Ocean of BOOKS!’

Everyone is invited to come along and visit the Book Fair located in the Prep to Year 4 Early Years Building. Books will be on sale between 3.05 p.m. and 4.00 p.m. after school each day of the Book Fair.

Once again, we hope to see everyone supporting the Book Fair as the proceeds from book sales go to increasing our Literacy resources for the students. This means we can offer a variety of new books to improve the range of Picture story books, chapter books and Information texts, plus other reading material.

Through community support, sales commission from our May Book Fair benefited the school with a variety of reading resources, to the value of $400.

A special Book Reading - Activities session with afternoon tea is planned for Thursday 3rd December. Everyone is invited to come along to the ‘Early Years’ building from 3.05 to 4.00pm, to enjoy this session with P – 4 teachers, plus some of our Year 9 Students and our special ‘Mystery Book Fair’ guest!

Other special features include a drawing competition, a guessing competition and a lucky door prize, plus a ‘Mature Reads’ section, stocked with a great range of books suitable for upper primary and secondary years students.

Eftpos credit card facilities will be available for Book Fair sales.

Come along, enjoy the Book Fair and support your child’s interest in reading. It’s a great opportunity to select some early Christmas gifts.

Hope to see you there! Merry Christmas!
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<td>2</td>
<td>Curriculum Day</td>
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<td>Melbourne Cup Day</td>
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<td>Remembrance day</td>
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<td>19 Year 7 Carlton Excursion</td>
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Any transition period is a critical time for a young person, often evoking a variety of emotions, behaviours and concerns for both young people and their parents. For many, these transition periods are considered a major stepping stone on the way to becoming an adult. Secondary school can be marked by several changes; young people interact with many other young people, in different classrooms, with more teachers and often with different expectations for both performance and responsibility. A well supported transition can maintain the strong sense of belonging and enable young people to continue to enjoy and succeed in school and everyday life.

Presented by Sharon Witt, a dynamic educator, author and speaker. Sharon has authored 12 books for young people including the best selling Teen Talk Series and Girlwise series. She is also the author of Surviving High School.

This Parenting Forum is free for all parents, guardians and workers who live, work or study in Hobsons Bay.

ADD TO YOUR CALENDAR

Wednesday 2 December 2015
6.45pm to 8.30pm
with a 7pm start
Altona Civic Centre
115 Civic Parade, Altona

RSVP

Friday 27 November 2015
Hobsons Bay Youth Services
(03) 9932 4000
UNDERSTANDING AND IDENTIFYING DYSLEXIA
FOR TEACHERS & PARENTS

Dyslexia is the forgotten learning difficulty. The incidence of dyslexia is more widespread than realised and it is estimated that there are between 3 – 5 students with dyslexia in every classroom.

Outside the Square is a series of three education documentary films aimed to increase awareness and understanding of dyslexia in our education system.

FILM ONE will be shown and discussed on this evening.

THE FILM WILL:

* provide the knowledge needed to identify children at risk.

* share personal experiences of students and parents to help understand daily school and home struggles.

* discuss the nature of dyslexia, key indicators and associated difficulties directed by Australia’s leading researchers and educators

********** Time will be provided for personal questions and discussion. **********

WHEN: Tuesday 24th November 2015
TIME: 7.00 – 8.30pm
WHERE: ST. MARY’S PRIMARY SCHOOL – TRI CENTRE
  95A Railway Street Altona (Enter via Sargood Street - Melways:Map S4 G 10)
SESSION IS CONDUCTED through ST. MARY’S PRIMARY SCHOOL & BY
GUEST SPEAKER Kristin Anthian (Dip.T(EC), B.ED(P), PGDip.Ed.St(ECI), M.Ed(SE.I&EI))
Educational and Developmental Consultant / Supporting Diverse and Exceptional Learners Learning Difficulties Australia (LDA) Consultant and Council Member.

RSVP: Gwenda Burnett at gburnett@smaltona.catholic.edu.au or phone St. Mary’s P.S. on 9398 4842 leaving name, number of attendees & phone number.

COFFEE & TEA PROVIDED - GOLD COIN DONATION on ENTRY.
PLAYERS WANTED!

We have places available for new players for the following age groups:-

For further information contact our Club Registrar: Rebekah Keeghan: 0439 840 805
registrar@altonapirates.com.au

- **Girls Under 10 Div 2 Diamonds:**
  - Year of Birth 2007 and 2008
  - Training – Thursday Nights 5:30 – 6:30 at the Altona P-9 College
  - Games played on Saturday Mornings

- **Girls Under 12 Div 3 Pearls:**
  - Year of Birth 2005 and 2006
  - Training – Monday Nights 6:30 – 7:30 at the Altona P-9 College
  - Games played on Saturday Mornings

- **Girls Under 14 Div 1 Clippers:**
  - Year of Birth 2003 and 2004
  - Training – Tuesday Nights 5:30 – 6:30 at the Altona Stadium
  - Games played on Saturday Mornings

- **Girls Under 14 Div 2 Opals:**
  - Year of Birth 2003 and 2004
  - Training – Tuesday Nights 4:30 – 5:30 at the Altona Stadium
  - Games played on Saturday Mornings

- **Girls Under 14 Div 3 Rubies:**
  - Year of Birth 2003 and 2004
  - Training – Monday Nights 4:00 – 5:00 at the Altona Stadium
  - Games played on Saturday Mornings

- **Boys Under 10 Div 4 Pistols:**
  - Year of Birth 2007 and 2008
  - Training – Monday Nights 5:30 – 6:30 at the Altona P-9 College
  - Games played on Friday Nights

- **Boys Under 12 Div 4 Vikings:**
  - Year of Birth 2005 and 2006
  - Training – Monday Nights 5:00 – 6:00 at the Altona Stadium
  - Games played on Friday Nights

- **Boys Under 16 Div 3 Swords:**
  - Year of Birth 2001 and 2002
  - Training – Wednesday Nights 4:30 – 5:30 at the Altona P-9 College
  - Games played on Saturday Nights

- **Boys Under 18 Div 2 Legends:**
  - Year of Birth 1999 and 2000
  - Training – TBA
  - Games played on Monday Nights
**GIRLS TO THE FRONT** is a new Women’s Circus program focused on providing space for **young women aged 12-17 years old** to move, be heard, share ideas and stories and develop confidence and leadership skills. This program is designed and delivered by Women’s Circus **expert team of Circus Trainers and Theatre Artists** specifically for young women.

**ENROL NOW and join the CIRCUS**

**Contact the Women’s Circus:**
e: info@womenscircus.org.au
t: 9687 3665
w: www.womenscircus.org.au
You’re invited to attend
A workshop: talking with your child about alcohol and drugs

At some point we have all sat down with our parents for ‘the talk’. It’s not always easy, but learning about sex is an important conversation that every parent and child should have. But what about ‘the other talk’—a conversation about alcohol and other drugs?

The Australian Drug Foundation is holding a free workshop to help parents have ‘the other talk’. Parents are still an important and trusted source of information for young people and play a crucial role in children’s future decision making.

The Other Talk workshop discusses real life situations, covers some of those uncomfortable questions and provides you with basic alcohol and drug information so that you can have ‘the other talk’ confidently and effectively.

Who should attend?

- Parents and guardians of children aged 8–15 years.
- Teachers and professionals who work with young people.

Why should I attend?

- Learn how and what age to talk with your child about alcohol and drugs
- Learn how to manage real-life situations involving your child
- Get the facts and learn the myths

How do I register? altonanorthtot.eventbrite.com.au

Workshop details

Date: Tuesday 1 December 2015
Registration: 6.00pm
Workshop: 6.30–8.30pm
Location: Altona North Community Library
Cnr Millers and McArthurs Roads
Altona North 3025
Refreshments will be provided
For more information
Telephone: 03 9611 6100
Email: adf@adf.org.au

The Australian Drug Foundation would like to thank our funders and community supporters

Sponsored by

ExxonMobil
Hobsons Bay City Council

australian drug FOUNDATION facebook.com/australian drug foundation theothertalk.org.au
Join Us at Our
Altona West Kindergarten
Family Fun Day
Saturday 14th November
Fun for all the family
$8 per child unlimited access

Fit Kicks  Face Painting & art activities
Trash & Treasure Stall  Cake Stall
Sausage sizzle  Jumping Castle
Trackless Train

Altona West Kindergarten & Ford Reserve
14 Lindwood Avenue, Altona