Dear Parents and Families:

STOPWORK:
On Monday notification went home to all families with regard to TOMORROW’S STOPWORK ACTION. The following staff will be participating in this stopwork and as a result, classes and programs usually taken by these staff WILL NOT be able to operate ‘normally’ on THURSDAY 14TH FEBRUARY. Students who do attend school tomorrow will be catered for in a modified arrangement.

Mrs Paterson - Prep P
Mrs Kam - Prep K
Mr Henry - 1/2H
Miss Stephanie Kehoe - 1/2K
Mrs Myszka - 1/2M
Mr Jaggard - 3/4J
Mrs Sipthorp - 3/4S
Mrs Touma - 3/4T
Miss Ousley - 5/6O
Mrs Morgan - Art & Craft
Miss Shiels - Phys. Ed
Mrs Blunt - Leading Teacher
Support Staff - Mr Avolino, Mrs Day, Mrs Kapp, Miss Gibbon, Mrs Hardman

Programs for 5/6R will operate as normal on this day.

SCHOOL COUNCIL and ELECTIONS:
On Monday the 25th February at 7.00pm, we will be holding the first Council meeting for this year. Parents interested in ‘observing’ this meeting in progress should call by the office and inform one of our office staff please.

School Council Election Timeline information went out this week and nominations close on Tuesday the 19th Feb. If you are interested and want to know more about Council please drop by the office and we can discuss this important role in our school community. There are 4 Parent Member vacancies as declared in the information which went out to families.

This is a great opportunity for parents to get involved in a positive way to support all of our students. Please visit our website to view the Election Timeline document in its entirety.

PARENT/TEACHER Interviews:
On the 27th of February we will be expecting to see all parents at school to meet their children’s teacher for 2013. This is a wonderful opportunity to ‘share’ information so that your child’s time at school can be maximised.

REMINDER:
Please remember to send current medication and authorised medical plans to the Sick Bay.

From the Principal

If you have not already made a time with your child’s teacher please do so.

SWIM TRIALS / TRAINING:
Last Friday we had 26 students try out for the ANPS Swim Team which will be competing in the district Swimming Carnival next Tuesday 19th February. To date we have a team of 19 students organised to represent our school. Thankyou Miss Shiels, Mrs Blunt and Mrs Kapp for organising and assisting with the two trial sessions.

NEW families to ANPS:
I have been thoroughly impressed with the delightful manner in which our Preps and new families have settled into our School community. Please feel welcome to drop by the office and say hello, to ask any questions you may have and to also offer your assistance to help our school continue to improve.

CURRICULUM:
Staff have been very busy undertaking a range of student assessments across the school in order to ensure your children are placed at their correct learning standards. Specialist teaching staff have been supporting this testing in the classrooms. Special thanks to our Prep parents who have been bringing their children to school for testing on Wednesdays. Every effort you make is appreciated.

INTER SCHOOL SPORT:
Sport commences this Friday with a home match against Williamstown Primary’s Red team. Parents and families are most welcome to come along in support. Please sign in at the front office (we are required to have a record of all people on site at all times, so that we can account for everyone in the case of an emergency). Best of luck to our teams and coaches. Rule number one: “Have fun”.

Thought for the week:
"The mind grows by what it feeds on"
J.G.Holland.

Have a Great Week,
Brendan O’Brien.
Principal.

ART SMOCK:
All children are required to bring an Art Smock to school for use during art sessions. An old over-sized shirt is ideal for this purpose.
A REMINDER THE OFFICE:

STUDENT PAYMENTS:
All monies paid by students for supplies, excursions, fundraisers etc. must be placed in a sealed envelope with the student’s name, grade and the purpose of the payment. Envelopes should be given to the class teacher at the beginning of the school day.

Payments will then be sent to the office for processing. Correct money would be appreciated as the teachers do not open the envelopes and will not be able to give change.

ESSENTIAL EDUCATIONAL SUPPLIES:
Most families have paid for their supplies or made arrangements by claiming E.M.A. This is a great start to your child’s school year.

Teachers will allocate supplies once they receive notification that payment has been made. If you have not as yet made a payment, please forward dues immediately. Families who made part payments in 2012 also need to pay the balance immediately. If you have any queries or need assistance please contact Mr. O’Brien or Mrs. Gregson on 9391 4233 during school hours please.

EMA CLAIMS NOW BEING PROCESSED:
If you hold a Heath Card or Pension Card, valid as of the 29th January 2013, you may be eligible to claim Education Maintenance Allowance during the 2013 school year.

Forms are available at the school office. All completed claims must be received by the office before Thursday 28th February 2013.

If you require more information about EMA please refer to the information on the last page of this newsletter or speak to one of our friendly office staff.

BLUE LIGHT DISCO for ages 9-15 years:
The first Williamstown Branch Blue Light Disco for 2013 will be held this Friday, 15th February @ 7:30pm - 9:30pm at the Newport Baptist Church Hall, 26 Mason Street Newport. The theme for this disco is “Summer Time”. For further information regarding Blue Light Discos, please contact L/S/C Scott Sutton 9392 3272 or email willibluelight@yahoo.com.au.

Future dates for Williamstown Branch Blue Light Discos are; March 15th, April 19th, May 17th, June 21st, July 19th, August 16th, September 20th, October 18th and November 15th.

ALTONA MAGIC SOCCER CLUB:
The Altona Magic Soccer Club is seeking Juniors and coaches for teams Under 7 to 18 years of age. If you are interested please contact the club via email: altonamagic@hotmail.com or telephone 0411 023 661

A family day will be held on Sunday 24th February (12pm start) at Paisley Park Complex, Corner Ross Rd & Mills St Altona.

PARENTS & FRIENDS NEWS:

EASTER RAFFLE: Parents & Friends will be holding a huge Easter Raffle and we are now seeking donations of eggs / Easter goodies to allow us to make up various raffle prizes. Donations can be left at the front office. Raffle tickets will be sent home with the eldest child in each family on Monday 11th March. These will be in books of 10 tickets with each ticket selling for 50 cents.

If you DO NOT wish to receive a book of raffle tickets to sell, please complete the tear off slip below and return it to the office by Friday 1st March.

Please supply your child/ren with one large box of tissues for use in their classroom.

NEWS FROM THE UNIFORM SHOP:

EXCITING NEWS!! The Uniform Shop has Moved to the Rear of the Library.

If you need to order uniforms please either visit the uniform shop during the below hours or alternatively you are welcome to leave your order along with the correct payment in an envelope clearly marked with your child’s name & grade at the office.

As of the 18th February the Regular Opening Hours will be:
Tuesday & Wednesday Mornings
08:45am - 09:00am
Thursday Afternoons
3:00pm - 3:15pm

Please ensure your child has an ANPS sun smart hat and that all items of clothing are clearly labelled.

Hats must be worn by all students every day of Term 1.

A current Uniform Order form is available to download from our website: www.altonanorth.vic.edu.au

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If you require more information about EMA please refer to the information on the last page of this newsletter or speak to one of our friendly office staff.

All visitors to ANPS must sign in at the office and receive a Visitor Pass. Please do not enter the corridors when dropping off your child in the morning or collecting them in the afternoon.

PREP PARENTS CAN MEET THEIR CHILDREN UNDER THE GREEN SHADE SAIL AT THE REAR OF BUILDING “B” DAILY. Remember also, the car park is for staff only.

These rules are in place to ensure the safety of all students at all times.

PARENTS & FRIENDS EASTER RAFFLE:

CHILD’S NAME: ___________________________ GRADE: ___________________________

Please DO NOT SEND HOME RAFFLE TICKETS for the Easter Raffle with my child.

PARENT / GUARDIAN’S NAME: ___________________________

SIGNATURE: ___________________________

Please return this slip to the office by FRIDAY 1st MARCH. Thank you P&F.