Dear Parents and Families:

Welcome to this week’s newsletter.

**NATIONAL SCHOOL’S TREE PLANTING DAY:**
A big thank you to Mr. Ragdho and his band of student helpers for all the preparations for this most important yearly activity. Approximately 300 trees and plants will be placed into our garden beds on the day. We are certainly hoping for good weather. Parents and family members who are available to help should register their interest at the front office please. The more help the better more fun to be had by all.

**WAKAKIRRI:**

Thank you to all from within our community who took the time to attend the dress rehearsal on Tuesday afternoon. Unfortunately, I was unavailable but I did get to see a dress rehearsal yesterday morning. It was a captivating performance, which certainly carried a strong message to the audience. Chookas to our team as we move into the final countdown for next Monday evening.

**MOBIL BRIGHT FUTURES:**

This morning we hosted the **MOBIL BRIGHT FUTURES** presentation ceremony at ANPS in our hall foyer. 15 schools and their special guests were present and our students and staff showed their video/pictorial presentation on the construction and purpose of our Rain Garden.

I would like to thank our 3 / 4 students and all of our staff for the splendid work that went into the preparations for this event.

**CAMP BAANYA BIAMI:**

Planning is now complete for our camp and there will be a compulsory information evening for parents and students to attend on Wednesday the 31st of July at 5.00pm. I look forward to seeing you all there.

**ROAD SAFETY:**

Parents / guardians, please ensure you do not drive off until all passengers in your car are safely secured in seat belts and/or car seats. Please also make sure you never let your children get into or out of the car on the traffic side. Always park on the correct side of the road, against the curb, so your children can use the “Safe Side”, (kerb side), of the car.

**LATE ARRIVALS & ABSENCES:**

Parents are reminded to please walk your child/ren into the school and sign them in at the front office if they are arriving at school after 9am. We have many students arriving at school past this time unaccompanied by an adult.

We also ask that you telephone the office if your child is going to be absent for any reason. If you are unable to telephone us, a written note explaining the absence handed to the class teacher upon your child’s return to school is required.

**CHOIR / SPORT / PEER LEADERS / CAPTAINS:**

Families of children involved in these positions/teams are encouraged to take the time to have a look at the group photos which were taken on the day of our School Photos. These photos are on display in the side and rear windows of the office. Copies are available for purchase at a cost of $16 each. These are a lovely addition to your child’s portfolio of keepsakes.

Orders, along with correct payment, are due in by next Friday, 2nd August.

**Thought for the Week:**

“You can’t live a perfect day without doing something for someone who will never be able to repay you.”

I see so many positive acts of kindness by students at our school. Our senior students have demonstrated time and time again their interest and support in helping younger students in the yard when they need assistance. Keep up the great work students.

**RESILIENCE:**

Building children’s resilience to deal with the challenges life present them with is often a bigger challenge for parents and teachers than it is for the child themselves.

**TRY THIS:**

“Make their problem, their problem!”

Sometimes we can take too much responsibility for issues that are really up to children to work out or decide. Here’s a clue if you are wondering what I am getting at; “A jumper is something a parent puts on a child when they are cold!!”

In essence the child can decide for themselves when they need a jumper and put it on.

**Have a great week.**

Brendan O’Brien. Principal.
SCHOOL DISCO: Get ready for our FUNKY IN FLURO themed whole school disco on Friday 23rd August 2013 6:30pm– 8:00pm. Gloware on sale from 6:30pm. The ticket price is $7 per student. If there are 3 or more ANPS students within an immediate family, a family ticket is available for $15. Tickets must be purchased in advance.

ONLY CURRENT ANPS STUDENTS CAN ATTEND THIS DISCO.
The disco will be held in the Hall starting at 6:30pm and finishing at 8pm sharp. There will be a live DJ with all the latest music, great lighting, cool prizes and groovy glow-wear which will be for sale on the night. Please note, we will not be selling entry tickets on the night - pre-purchase of tickets only.
Full details, along with the ticket order form, will be sent home with students on Monday 5th August.

PARENT OPINION SURVEY:
As mentioned in last week's newsletter, our computer system has randomly selected 40 families to participate in this most important survey.
Mrs Gregson will be distributing these surveys on Monday 29th July, to students of the selected families. Please be assured, all information received is strictly confidential. Please take the time to fill them in, and by all means, ask for help if you do need it. These are to be completed and returned to school by Friday 2nd August.

WAKAKIRRI UPDATE:
If you would like to watch our 5/6 students perform in Wakakirri on Monday evening at the Clocktower Theatre in Moonee Ponds, but have not yet purchased a ticket, you will need to contact the Clocktower Box Office on 9243 9191.

SCHOLASTIC BOOKCLUB:
Catalogues for Issue 5 of Bookclub went home earlier this week. Orders, along with payment are due back at school by next Thursday, 1st August. Make sure student's name & grade is written on the top of the order.
If paying by cheque, please make payable to SCHOLASTIC AUSTRALIA. If paying with cash, please enclose correct amount as it is not easy for us to issue change.

EMA: 2nd Instalment Claims now DUE!
The 2nd instalment of EMA for 2013 will be processed shortly. Successful applications made at the beginning of 2013 will automatically be rolled over to receive the 2nd instalment.
Families who have a current Pension or Health Care card and have NOT made a claim at ANPS must complete the application by Friday 2nd August. (New Pension or Health Care cards must be valid as of 15th July 2013.)
Please present your card at the school office and complete the application form. Late applications are rarely accepted.
The 2nd instalment is a payment to the parent of $60 for Prep Grade Students and $45 for Students in Grades 1 to 6. Please note: As with the 1st Instalment, the school does NOT receive an equal portion.
Payment can be made to the parent in the form of a cheque or a direct deposit. Alternatively you can elect to direct the payment to the school and your EMA can be used to pay for this year’s swimming program, school uniform or allocated to pay for some of the booklist/class supplies for 2014.
If you have any queries please contact Bev at the office.

ALTONA NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL
Prep 2014 Enrolments now being accepted.
The Life of a Cake by Mal  5/6R

In the outback there lived a farmer. He was very old with grey hair and wrinkles on his face, his name was Jo. Jo was very lonely with hardly anyone to talk to. He wasn’t married, he had no siblings and his parents were no longer alive.

Jo had many animals such as Sheep, Chickens, Ducks, Cows, Horses and a couple of Pigs.

Jo had been living at the same old rusty farm since he was a child. The next morning Jo decided to make a change to his life. He built a big beautiful house for his animals to live in. Next he needed to paint the big beautiful home, so he went down to the shed and found some paint. He painted it red and white, but mostly red, because it was his favourite colour. Finally after much hard work he finished it. He called it a BARN.

His animals loved it, his life changed in many ways. The Chickens laid lots more eggs than they used to, the Cows made lots more milk than they ever did and the sheep were happy for Jo to shear their wool off.

Overall he made enough money to live his life the way he wanted to, and to celebrate he walked downstairs, went to the refrigerator and found the Cake that he leaves inside it just in case of an emergency. (Even though it wasn’t an emergency he still ate it because he was happy).

From that moment on he had the best life he could ever wish for.

ALTONA North Primary School could have created the story of the year. The school is preparing for their upcoming performance in the Wakakirri primary school story dance challenge on 29 July.

Wakakirri celebrates learning via the creation and sharing of stories. To be in Wakakirri, schools create stories using dance, song, film, art and writing to be performed, screened and displayed to audiences across Australia. The school will then wait to see if it is crowned ‘storyteller of the year’. Altona North Primary School has participated in the event for the last 10 years.

This year the school’s seven minute story focuses on the choices surrounding the decision to wear fur. One of two music performing art teachers running the show is Jedda Davis. Ms Davis said Wakakirri was about sending a positive message to the audience, and thinking about issues relevant to the school in terms of sustainability. “Our school strongly values sustainability, we feel it’s a great organisation and a valuable performing arts competition to enter,” she said.

“We really enjoy the process of connecting sustainability into the performing arts,” Ms Davis said, “audiences can expect to see a lot of colour, lots of magic and some really funky dance moves”. Approximately 60 students aged 11 to 12 years old will take to the stage after the last four to five months of preparation. She said that with a good track record, that includes the school being announced as the national winner of the competition in 2007, this year's performers will do their bit and hope for the best. “I think they will go really well, they’ve been rehearsing really well, working really hard towards it and ultimately I think they will have a successful day.”

Picture: JOE MASTROIANNI
Last Friday the students from grade 5/6 participated in the Lifesaving Victoria Resuscitate a Mate Program. This was a free program offered to the school aimed at building first aid knowledge and caring for a person in need.

The children learnt the principle of DRSABCD and how to accurately communicate with the 000 emergency officers before undertaking CPR training. Using a CPR dummy, the children were taught the correct mouth to mouth and compression technique. I can confidently say I was suitably impressed with the progress that the children made while undertaking this training.

If there are any students or families who are interested in Lifesaving Victoria program’s please feel free to chat with me - Vanessa Shiels.

ANPS Students involved in this morning’s MOBIL BRIGHT FUTURES PRESENTATION:
L-R: Manwa, Hannah, Tia, Cecilia, Fatima, Liam, TaiPan and Zane.

The students used iPads to record photos and videos of the 3/4 students involvement in the setting up of our new Rain Garden.

The purchasing of both the iPads and the Rain Garden was made possible through the MOBIL Bright Futures Grants that we were fortunate to received in 2012 & again this year.

Buckle them in every time
Your child needs to be correctly restrained even when travelling a short distance. Most crashes happen close to home!
ROAD SAFETY AROUND SCHOOLS BEGINS WITH YOU!