Dear Parents and Families:

BREAKFAST PROGRAM: Please be aware that we will not be running the Breakfast Program tomorrow morning - Friday 1st November. The program will run next Wednesday morning, 5th November as usual.

REMINDER!! Next Monday the 4th of November our school will be closed. Staff will all be busy preparing/writing reports for the end of the year. Tuesday is the Cup Day Public Holiday which means we will be starting the week on Wednesday 6th Nov.

SWIMMING SUCCESS: Over the past two weeks 100 students from Grades Prep to 4 participated in the school swimming program at the Laverton Leisure Centre. Once again the program was a great success with all the students who participated developing a range of water safety skills. I would like to congratulate all of those students for their participation, the teachers for their excellent supervision of the students and the parents who attended in support of this program.

This year, 26 Grade 5/6 students participated in the Life Saving Victoria Beach Program. This program was held at Altona Beach with the students involved in activities such as body boarding, rescues, beach flags, life jackets and iron-man relays. A most enjoyable and beneficial program which we look forward to being a part of in 2014.

2014 PREP TRANSITION: Yesterday was a very exciting day at ANPS. A special welcome to our new Prep families.

Our 2014 Preps all arrived for their first transition session with Mrs Paterson and Mrs Kam. All students settled in superbly and were provided with an engaging program.

Staff take this opportunity to get to know our new students and to allow them to make friendships before they start school in earnest next year.

2014 CLASS PREPARATIONS: A reminder to all families and friends that preparations are well under way for developing class models for 2014.

If you have a family member, friend or neighbour that is wanting to enrol at ANPS for 2014 please tell them to get enrolments in quickly as grades are filling up.

WORLD TEACHERS’ DAY: Last Friday we celebrated World Teachers’ Day. A huge “thank you”, on behalf of all ANPS Staff, for the wonderful goodies and treats received from students and families.

CONCERT PREPARATIONS: Tuesday night we held our first “Prop Making Workshop” which was attended by all teaching staff. Class teachers’ need parents to make sure all of the concert class costumes are prepared as per the notes which have already gone home. All costumes are due at school as soon as possible. If you would like to help or know more, please speak with your child’s classroom teacher.

STAFFING: It is with a very sad heart that we inform our community of the passing of Colin, Mary Day’s husband, who passed away yesterday.

Mary and her family have been highly regarded members of the ANPS community for many years. Mary was a student here herself, both her children attended ANPS and Mary is an admired and much appreciated staff member having worked across the school for the past 18 years.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Mary, Brendan, Kelly and their extended family.

Take care and enjoy the Long Weekend, Brendan O’Brien, Principal
REPORT PREPARATION DAY:

REMINDER!! Next Monday the 4th of November our school will be closed. Staff will all be busy preparing/writing reports for the end of the year.

SOCIAL SERVICE UPDATE:

Annual K-Mart Wishing Tree:
This is an ongoing fundraiser throughout the term. Children are asked to start donating some of their loose change towards the purchase of a gift to be placed under the K-Mart Wishing Tree. The gifts will be collected by the Salvation Army and distributed to families or individuals who may not receive a gift at Xmas.

PARENTS & FRIENDS:

LIVING FUNDRAISER: Orders, and payment, are due back to school by TOMORROW - Friday 1st November. Parents and friends are offering Australian-made organic herb, vegetable and flower kits for only $6 each. These kits are not available in stores. Each kit contains everything you need to grow your own seedlings or herbs. Just add water to grow these fun and easy kits. Full information and order forms have been sent home will the eldest child in each family. A selection of the items available to order is displayed in the cabinet behind the office or visit www.livingfundraisers.com.au to find out more.

SHOPPING TOUR: On Saturday 16th November we will be departing ANPS at 07:30am for a fun filled day of shopping at various outlets around the Richmond / Brunswick area. The cost is $40 per head. If you would like to know more, please contact Corie via the office.

AUSSIE THE MONTH:

Joseph is a kind student that always looks out for others. He encompasses all of the values that Altona North Primary School upholds. He demonstrates these values through his positive attitude to learning, his willingness to assist others (peers and staff) in any way he can and is always friendly and considerate. Joseph is a valued member of 5/6O and his classmates are very appreciative of his caring and selfless nature. Well done, Joseph.

SCHOOL BANKING UPDATE:

Redeem your tokens this year!
In 2014 the School Banking program will be launching a new set of exciting reward items for students to redeem their tokens for. Each reward item will continue to be valued at 10 tokens (i.e. 10 deposits) and there will be two new reward items for students to choose from each term. Please be aware that the Dollarmites moneyboxes will no longer be available next year. To avoid any child missing out on claiming their moneybox, please let your children know of this change and encourage them to redeem their moneybox this school year.

Tokens collected in 2013 CANNOT be carried over to 2014 so please select and order your rewards by Tuesday 3rd December.

If you have question please call at the office and speak with Bev or contact Susan Brailsford – Commonwealth Bank School Banking Specialist Phone 0422 116 040 or email susan.brailsford@cba.com.au

Treasure Chest Competition: Students can enter a competition in Term 4 to win one of 60 Apple IPods 16GB or DVD packs. Simply make two or more deposits between 21 October and 30 November to automatically go into the draw. Saving regularly is an important habit to get into, whether you are saving a little or a lot. Keep up the great work and remember to bring in your deposit book each Tuesday.