Dear Parents and Families:

**HOUSE SPORT DAY:** Everyone is very excited about our colourful day for tomorrow. Last year was amazing with many great outfits and high levels of enthusiasm. Combine this with fun sport activities and we have a recipe for success.

We have our fingers crossed for good weather and do hope that many parents can come along and join in to support the event which will start at 9:00am. Please sign in at the front office upon arrival.

A big thank you to Mrs Blunt, Matt (pre-service teacher) and Miss Shiels for their preparations for the day.

Students are encouraged to wear comfortable sporting clothes in their house colours.

**PREP 2014 INFORMATION SESSION:**

Yesterday morning we had most of our new families at school. Our staff ran a comprehensive session covering all aspects of school life. Thank you for your preparations. The team was headed by Mrs Paterson and Mrs Blunt. It was nice to catch up, answer questions, listen to our beautiful choir and meet our new Prep students. We are certainly looking forward to joining you in an educational partnership over the next seven years.

**CONGRATULATIONS:** To Mr Henry and Miss Kehoe for their successful appointments at two other schools for 2014.

**CONCERT:** Next Thursday evening, 28th November, all students will be participating in our **ANNUAL GRAND SCHOOL CONCERT.**

Both the Prep - 2 and the 3 - 6 concerts will be held separately **but on the same night.** Seating is currently being allocated and tickets will be sent home with children tomorrow.

Entry is by pre-purchase and presentation of tickets only. Ticket sales are strong, and my advice to all is to get in early as there are limited seats available.

On the morning following the concert, Friday 29th November, we will be allowing students to have a late start to school. Students can arrive up until 10:30am, **no later please.** All staff will be on deck so parents will have the option to select a normal school day start or the later one at 10.30am.

**SUSTAINABILITY:** We have received very positive feedback on the “Living Wall” at the rear of the student toilets. Many thanks to our students for all their design entries for the plants. We had some artistic and creative suggestions: congratulations to Ben Thompson on having his design selected for the display.

Take the time to have a look at the wall and see if you can interpret the design. If the VUT engineers are there working on it, please also take the time to compliment them on their excellent effort.

**KITCHEN GARDENS:** This Saturday the first layer of railway sleepers will be placed for the start of our intricate garden beds. We already have some vegetables growing in the pebbled pots behind the hall and we will be looking for parent assistance over the coming months to continue this project.

**Thought for the week:**

This week’s quotation/thought may provoke some healthy debate in the community and homes:

“Housework is a breeze. Cooking is a pleasant diversion. Putting up a retaining wall is a lark. But teaching is like climbing a mountain.”

I hope that parents can see their role in this quote as teachers, as much as we do.

Teaching is a partnership between schools and homes and if we work together then the rewards will be in the evidence we see on a daily basis.

Have a great week,

Brendan O’Brien, Principal
**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.

**THIS WEEKEND:** Melbourne Cake Expo: 23rd & 24th November at the RASV Centre, Melbourne Showgrounds, Flemington.

Have your cake and…
Raise some money for our school!
Love cake and want somewhere to take the kids for a great weekend?
We know just the place. Treat the family to a fun filled day of everything cake!
Cakes, cake pops, cupcakes, cake demonstrations, cake tutorials, cake schools and a whole lot of other sweet treats. There will also be a huge jumping castle, face painter and plenty of activities for the kids.
Why not come down and get your hands deliciously dirty in some activities or get some of that Christmas shopping out of the way.
Tickets are $12 with 20% from every ticket going to our school and the National Breast Cancer Foundation. Free entry for children under 12!
To purchase tickets, log on to www.cakeexpo.com.au and enter the promotional code Altona North upon check out.

**LIVING WALL @ A.N.P.S.**

**2014 ESSENTIAL EDUCATIONAL SUPPLIES:**

Payment advice was sent home to all families earlier this week regarding the costs involved with the 2014 Essential Educational Supplies.

School Council has determined the cost to be $160 per child for the 2014 school year.

These supplies will be purchased by the school, through a supplier, in individual packs for each student and contain items to meet the school's specific criteria.

Please ensure you read this information thoroughly as there are several payment options.

Payment made by Wednesday 11th December will entitle you to a $5 discount.

**SOCIAL SERVICE:**

**SHOPPING TOUR:** Last Saturday 27 ladies attended our shopping day visiting many outlets and picking up some wonderful bargains. Thank you to everyone who attended and supported this fundraiser. We raised just over $800. A huge thank you to Corie for her outstanding organisation of the day.

**CHRISTMAS RAFFLE:** The next event will be the Christmas Raffle. If you would like to donate non-perishable items to enable them to make up hampers, it would be most appreciated.

**LIBRARY NEWS:**

*It's that time of the year again* where you need to return all books borrowed from the library in preparation for the New Year.

If you have trouble finding overdue books, a good place to look is under your bed or on a bookcase with other books. Perhaps you could ask Mum or Dad to help you find school library books.

Student borrowing has now closed for the year.

**PARENTS & FRIENDS:**

**LIVING WALL @ A.N.P.S.**