Dear Parents and Families:

INTERNAL TRANSITION took place on Tuesday of this week whilst our Grade 6 students were off at their 2014 Year 7 transition day. It was lovely to see our students step up a level to get a feel for next year’s curriculum. Everyone seemed very settled as well as engaged across the school.

GRADE 6 BIG DAY OUT: Next Tuesday, 17th December, our current grade 6 students are venturing off to the Docklands and also to Yarraville for a film. This is a time of celebration and friendship. A time when our grade six students can make stronger bonds with their cohort and firm up relationships with students they may be going to school with in 2014 in year 7. It is also a time when staff can enjoy the company of our grade six students in a more relaxed manner as the time to say goodbye is nearing.

GRADE PREP PLAYSHACK: Our two Prep classes head off to the local PLAYSHAK in Blackshaws Rd next Wednesday as part of their ‘end of year’ celebrations. They will then return for their class party.

SEMESTER 2 REPORTS: Reports will be sent home with students tomorrow, Friday the 13th, in the afternoon. We have set aside time next week if parents want to meet with their child’s teacher. Parents/guardians who would like to meet with teachers to discuss reports should drop off a message at the front office so staff can call to make arrangements for the meeting to take place.

LIFE SAVING: The president of St Kilda Life Saving Club, Jeanette, called by the school this week to receive a donation from ANPS in appreciation of the surf boat they gave to the school, which is now safely mounted in the Junior Adventure playground for the children’s enjoyment. Jeanette was most appreciative of our donation and asked me to pass on the club’s thanks to everyone in our community. The boat has provided many of our students with a great alternative piece of play equipment. We have inserted two photos in this week’s newsletter of the occasion.

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL 2013: Next Friday, 20th December, will be an out of uniform day to support MURRAY RIVER MARATHON. The YMCA runs this event and any sponsorship raised goes to them. This year we have three principals paddling in a full distance relay team. They are Mr Reid (Altona Meadows), Mr Moss (Newport Lakes) and myself. We are hoping for mild weather to help get through the 404km on water. Students are asked to wear casual SunSmart clothing and please bring a gold coin to donate to this very worthy cause.

EARLY FINISH REMINDER: Remember we will be having an early dismissal on the last day of school for 2013 - Friday 20th December.

A whole school assembly will be held at 12:30pm and all students will be dismissed at 1:00pm. The children will not be required to bring lunch to school on this day. It would be a good idea for students to bring a bigger morning snack.

THANK YOU PARENTS & FRIENDS and SCHOOL COUNCIL: Many parents contribute in extra ways to school life, none more than the P & F and School Councillors. On behalf of the school community I would like to pass on our special thanks to you all for your outstanding service to our students - well done.

Thought for the week:

“The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires!”
William Arthur Ward.

Have you ‘inspired anyone” lately????????

Have a great week,
Brendan O’Brien, Principal
If you wish to buy school uniforms for the beginning of 2014 can you please put in an order, along with a 50% deposit by Tuesday 17th December. This way it will be ready for you to collect on Tuesday 28th January between 12:30-2:30pm when the office is open.

If you don’t place an order now, we cannot guarantee stock will be available.

Photographs by John Palermo Photography

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE: Raffle tickets ARE DUE BACK NOW. The raffle will be drawn on Tuesday 17th December. Parents and friends would like to thank all families who contributed donations to the 2013 Christmas raffle and the following businesses: Collingwood Children’s Farm, Science Works, Coles Altona Gate, Woolworths Borrack Sq, Bunnings Altona North, Master Hardware, Hoyts Highpoint, National Sports Museum, Enchanted Maze, Puffing Billy Railway, Paul Sadlers’ Swim Land Yarraville, Fun Fields Whittlesea, Luna Park, Australian Shark and Ray Centre, Phillip Island Parks, Melissa Cakes and Sun Theatre Yarraville.

ALL RAFFLE TICKETS, SOLD & UNSOLD NEED TO BE RETURNED TO SCHOOL. It is a legal requirement that we account for each and every raffle ticket distributed.

ST. KILDA LIFE SAVING CLUB SURF BOAT: FRIDAY 20th DECEMBER EARLY FINISH: Please be aware we will be having an early dismissal on the last day of school for 2013.

A whole school assembly will be held at 12:30pm and all students will be dismissed at 1:00pm. The children will not be required to bring lunch to school on this day.

Please contact Camp Australia on 1300 105 343 or visit www.campaustralia.com.au if you are unable to collect your child from school early on this last day for 2013.

Camp Australia also run School Holiday Programs which will be held during the Christmas break.