REMINDER: Interschool Sport starts tomorrow, Friday 14th Feb. All Grade 5/6 students.
NO BREKKIE CLUB TOMORROW

Dear Parents and Families:

BREAKFAST CLUB: Please be advised that we will NOT be holding BREKKIE CLUB tomorrow morning, Friday 14th February.

MURRAY to MOYNE FUNDRAISER: We are fortunate to have the leadership and skills, combined with the passion, of Mrs Gregson on our side. Robyn has had a long association with the ‘Murray to Moyne’ bike ride and has negotiated to bring this valuable fundraiser to our school in order to support students and families in our community. Please take the time to read more about this school calendar event on page 2.

PREP NEWS/PICNIC: Next Wednesday evening the 19th February we will have all of our Preps and their families at school for our Prep Picnic—such an exciting time. We are looking forward to this opportunity to get to know each other better.

SWIM TRIALS / TRAINING / CARNIVAL: Next Tuesday our team of 30 wonderful swimming champions head off to the District Swim Sports in Werribee. We wish them the best of luck as they compete and represent ANPS. Mr Jaggard and Mrs Soto will manage our team on the day and all parents are welcome to attend and cheer on our swimmers.

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”.

EVERY DAY COUNTS: Every day counts – school attendance.

Missing school can have a major impact on a child’s future – a student missing one day a fortnight will miss four full weeks by the end of the year. By Year 10 they’ll have missed more than a year of school.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Coming to school every day is vital, but if for any reason your child must miss school, there are things we can do together to ensure they don’t fall behind: Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.

Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher early as early as possible.

From 1 March 2014, new laws will mean that parents can be fined for not sending students to school without an acceptable reason.

If you’re having attendance issues with your child, please let your classroom teacher know so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

Thought for the week:
“Every fact that is learned becomes a key to other facts.”
E.L. Youmans.

In education we talk of ‘scaffolding the learning’ for students. The same applies to adults.

It is so important for us to all understand that if something is not initially understood then we may need to go back a few steps in the process to get an understanding of pre requisite facts and knowledge in order to move our learning and factual knowledge forward.

Have a great week.
Brendan O’Brien.
Principal.
It's exciting!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

In April 2014 a team of riders and crew will be riding for Altona North Primary School in the Murray to Moyne Cycle Relay to raise money for our student Welfare and Health and Wellbeing. We endorse that all children have the right to learn and to be their best throughout life and Altona North PS is "where the journey begins". We have a diverse community culture and extensive welfare system across the school which we wish to embrace for all students and their families.

On the 5th and 6th April they will ride from the Murray River in Echuca to the Moyne River in Port Fairy, (520 km), over a 24 hour period to raise much needed money to support our children. Our riders and crew are a dedicated group of people from various backgrounds who are ready to take on the challenge of riding day and night to assist in providing valuable resources to the welfare of children at Altona North Primary School.

The Murray to Moyne Cycle Relay is a well-established fundraising event for health related organisations. This ride has been going each year for the past 25 years. In 2014 there will be 1700 riders participate in the ride leaving from three destinations: Echuca, Swan Hill and Mildura. The ride covers 520 km within 24 hours through the country towns of Victoria and raises money through sponsorship to assist schools and organisations to care for a range of health related issues. All the money we raise all goes to our school.

We are asking for support from our families to get behind Team 101 in getting sponsorship, helping to provide us with the food/ drinks needed during the ride or any other assistance you can give.

A list of items that we will need will come home in next week's newsletter, please help in any way you can.

If you would like to know more about the M2M ride please don't hesitate to ask.

Regards - Robyn Gregson

### Prep 2014 Family Picnic:

We will be holding a picnic on Friday 19th February from 5:00pm - 6:30pm for all our Prep students and their families. This is a wonderful opportunity for the Prep families to come together and enjoy a night of games and great food. Full details regarding this fun event have been sent home with Prep students. Please ensure you check your child’s bag regularly.

### VISITORS TO OUR SCHOOL:

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.

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### PARENT/TEACHER INFORMATION SESSIONS:

Parent/Teacher Information sessions will take place during the afternoon & early evening of Wednesday 26th February.

Please place this most important date on your home calendar and take the time to meet your child’s 2014 teachers.

Full details will be sent home with children shortly.

### SCHOOL COUNCIL and ELECTIONS:

On Monday the 24th 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 last Thursday and nominations close on Tuesday the 18th 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 it’s entirety.

The program promotes a healthy and active lifestyle, encourages friendships and supports children to develop new skills – all while having fun!

This high quality program embraces the schools values and builds on your child’s educational experience and individual interests.

The program combines active games with planned and unplanned play, quiet time, homework time and a healthy snack. Everyday is an adventure led by an enthusiastic Camp Australia staff member who is on a mission to bring smiles to kid’s faces.

Please contact Nicole on 0412 001 589 or visit the room if you would like any further information.
All adults wishing to assist Altona North Primary School in 2013 by either attending school excursions, coming in for class sessions or assisting in the canteen are required to have a valid Working with Children Check. Forms are available at the post office and there is no charge for Volunteers. These checks are valid for 5 years and replace the old system of police checks.

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.

Regular Opening Hours of the Uniform Shop:
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.

Home Doctor Service: This is an important, government funded community service. This service provides doctors for home visits when GP clinics are closed. Every night, weekend and public holidays, anyone within our local community can call to arrange for a doctor to visit at home and bulk billing is generally available.

The call centre is open: weekdays from 4pm, Saturdays from 10am, Sundays and Public Holidays all day and all night. Just call 13 SICK = 13 7425

North Footscray Football Club:
Junior Players Wanted! Registration Day: Sunday 23rd February @12 noon.
Hansen Reserve
Sausage Sizzle
Age Groups 9 or 10, 11, 14 & 16 years.
Contact: Shaun Brown 0418 355 013

Altona Primary School - Farmer’s Market:
It's on again!!! Plus more…
Get your free-range meat, vegetable, apples and honey and fresh baked bread and goodies on this Saturday the 15th of February. Good weather is expected. Come and have a great day with the family. Grab a coffee and cake and relax while the kids have fun colouring in or playing on the jumping castle or in the playground. Browse our selection of cheap, quality, second hand books or pick-up a “natural” doggy treat for your pooch. Hope to see you there.