Dear Parents and Families,

Thankyou to the parents and family members who have been turning up to our Gardening and Cooking Program on Mondays after assembly. The parents and grandparents who I have spoken to are having a great time together. It is a wonderful way to meet new people and develop friendships through a common interest. I know I have gained from it, I now have Jerusalem Artichokes in my garden; I can't wait for them to grow. Others have swapped seedlings and knowledge. Next week we have a food expert coming in looking at healthy eating and using the vegies from our gardens. Come along and share your recipes and cooking tips. With our multicultural community we all have a lot to learn from each other.

CANTEEN:

A couple of families did forget this week that the canteen is closed every WEDNESDAY until the end of the year, please make sure that you send your child/ren in with food for both morning tea and lunch.

2016 CLASS PREPARATIONS:

Class preparations are well underway, if you will be moving schools next year please let the office know as soon as possible. If you know of anyone who is looking at coming to ANPS in 2016 please ask them to hand their enrolment forms in ASAP.

PREP TRANSITION:

We have one transition session left which is next Wednesday 2nd December. This will also be a Parent Information Session. We have enjoyed having out 2016 Prep students coming in once a week and it’s amazing how comfortable they have grown with each other and the school.

CONCERT TICKET ORDERS, DVD ORDERS & COSTUME REQUIREMENTS:

Our school concert is nearly here with only TWO WEEKS remaining!!!! Please have all ticket and DVD orders in ASAP to avoid disappointment. Seating is issued on a first in, first served basis and seating is limited, so please complete your paperwork now if you haven’t already done so.

NO tickets will be issued on the night. We will be offering DVD’s for $25.00 each and will contain both concert performances. These need to be ordered prior to the concert night.

ALL COSTUMES ARE NOW DUE AT SCHOOL.

Thank you to those families who have already handed theirs in.

STUDENT REPORTS:

Staff are in the process of finalising student reports for Semester 2. These will be sent home on Monday the 14th December. This is a great opportunity for parents to sit down with their children and discuss their children’s successes and to then work out ways of how you might be able to support them with setting goals to address areas of need.

Student portfolios will be sent home with reports. It would certainly be beneficial for parents and their children to spend time going over the portfolio.

Parents are able to make appointments to meet with teachers to discuss report outcomes in the final week of school. Details will be in next week’s newsletter.

MURRAY TO MOYNE:

Once again we are privileged to be able to partake in this iconic event. There will be a number of ways families can help support this valuable ‘fundraising event’ for our school. Please take note that we will be planning activities to support this event early next year. For ways that you can help us see, the back page of this newsletter.

LAST DAY OF TERM 4:

The end of the school year is fast approaching with only 3 weeks remaining. All students will be dismissed from school at 1pm on Friday 18th December. Please put this in your diaries and make arrangements to have your child/ren picked up at this time.

SAFETY:

At this time of year everyone seems to be in a festive time of year. With this comes the risk of simple mistakes being made. Please take your time, stop and think before you act, slow down when you are driving, make sure your children enter the car from the curb side, ensure they have their safety belts on, park in the correct spaces and enjoy this often festive time of year.

Have a great weekend;
Robyn Gregson - Principal
This year, our Annual Concerts will be held on the evening of Thursday 10th December 2015. The Junior Concert will be held at 5.15pm and the Senior Concert at 7.30pm. Ticket order forms have been distributed. Tickets are $8 each plus $2 for non-performing ANPS students. Seating will be allocated on a first in, first served basis. Entry is by pre-purchase and presentation of tickets only. Envelopes to order the Concert DVD have also been distributed along with the ticket order form. The cost of the DVD is $25 each.

The School Council has determined the cost of the 2016 Essential Education Supplies to be $170.00 per child. This covers essential education items and materials for learning and teaching for next year. Notes were distributed last week. A discount of $5 will be given for FULL payment on or before Monday 14th December 2015. Families who made a successful claim for 2015 Family Assistance, will have any remaining credit automatically allocated to 2016 Essential Education Supplies. Unfortunately, Family Assistance is not available in 2016. Families who qualify for Family Tax Benefit Part A will receive $215 per child directly into their bank accounts in January and July 2016. The Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund can once again be claimed by families with a Health Care or Pension Card in June 2016. State Schools’ Relief is also available to families in serious financial difficulties. Follow this link for further information http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/financial/Pages/families.aspx

Please contact the office if you have any questions or make an appointment to speak with the Principal or Assistant Principal should you need to make alternate payment arrangements.

If you wish to buy school uniforms for the beginning of 2016 can you please put in an order, along with a 50% deposit, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. This way it will be ready for you to collect on Thursday 28th January between 10am-12pm when the office is open. If you don’t place an order now, we cannot guarantee stock will be available.

If you wish to donate to our raffle, we would greatly appreciate it.

It’s that time of year again where you need to return all books borrowed from the library in preparation for the new year. If you are having trouble finding overdue books a good place to look is under your bed or maybe on a bookcase with other books. Maybe ask Mum or Dad if they can help you look.

There is no more student borrowing for the rest of the year!! The library will not be open at Lunchtime until next year.

Please contact the office if you have any questions or make an appointment to speak with the Principal or Assistant Principal should you need to make alternate payment arrangements.

2015 CONCERT:
2016 ESSENTIAL EDUCATION SUPPLIES:

Bakers’ Delight Fruit Mince Pie Drive
Order forms were sent home on Monday. Pack of six Fruit Mince Pies for $8.50. All orders are to be returned by Monday 7th December to be distributed on Tuesday 8th December.

Mattel Toy Store
Thank you to everyone who has already purchased tickets. Sat 19 Dec 9-10.30am
Order forms available from the Community Noticeboard behind the office

Christmas Raffle
Raffle books will be sent home with the eldest child on Tuesday 1st December. If you do not wish to sell raffle tickets please fill in and return the form at the bottom of this page. $1 per ticket or $10 per book of 10. Extra books are available upon a signed request from an adult This year our 1st prize is a one year membership to Bayfit, valued at $1,049. Along with loads of other prizes with more being donated each day from our local businesses. If you wish to donate to our raffle, we would greatly appreciate it.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS:

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PARENTS & FRIENDS CHRISTMAS RAFFLE:

Child’s Name: ________________________________________________  Grade: ___________________________

I DO NOT wish to receive a booklet of Raffle Tickets to sell on behalf of ANPS

LIBRARY NEWS:

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 uniform news:

UNIFORM NEWS:

LAST DAY OF THE SCHOOL YEAR:

FRIDAY 18th DECEMBER EARLY Finish:
Please be aware we will be having an early dismissal on the last day of school for 2015. All students will be dismissed at 1pm.

Please contact Camp Australia on 1300 105 343 or visit www.campaustalia.com.au if you are unable to collect your child from school early on this last day for 2015.

Please contact the office if you have any questions or make an appointment to speak with the Principal or Assistant Principal should you need to make alternate payment arrangements.
STUDENT BANKING

Our Student Bankers have been making regular deposits and many now have 10 tokens to redeem for a reward. The last day to redeem your rewards this year, is next Tuesday December 1st. The CBA has advised that some rewards are no longer available. At present, the following items are available.
- Galaxy Glider
- Outer Space Savers Money Box
- Invisible Ink Martian Pens
- Intergalactic Rocket
- ET DVD
- Scented Pencils

Please collect your 10 tokens and redeem before the 1st December to avoid disappointment.

SOCIAL SERVICE

Annual K-Mart Wishing Tree:
This is an ongoing fundraiser throughout Term 4.

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 loose change is collected in the classroom. The gifts are purchased and collected by the Salvation Army and distributed to families or individuals who may not receive a gift at Christmas.

COMMUNITY NEWS:

CONGRATULATIONS!!!!
Tommy and Maison on your academic achievements!

MURRAY TO MOYNE

In April 2016 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 Student Welfare, 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.

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.

To keep our riders fed during the ride, we are asking if people can help with donations of any of the following which will enable us to keep costs down and put more money into the school:
- Tetra fruit boxes, long life Big M, jube lollies, dried fruit, snack packs of chips/biscuits etc. Mayonnaise, peanut butter, Vegemite, nuts, margarine, chocolate bars, cans of drink, Gatorade / sports drinks


STUDENT BANKING

REMEMBER TO CHECK YOUR CHILD’S SCHOOL BAG REGULARLY IN ORDER TO NOT MISS OUT ON ANY IMPORTANT INFORMATION OR UP-COMING EVENTS!!

Visit our webpage regularly at www.altonanorthps.vic.edu.au to stay in tune with what’s going on, in and around ANPS. Our webpage is a great way to keep up-to-date and download forms which may have been misplaced.
There was a great turn out of family and friends at the second of four gardening and cooking workshops on Monday morning. We heard about some great new ideas for encouraging the kids to get out and enjoy the garden with us, and tried our hands at some fun activities we think they’ll love. Next Monday, all members of our school community are invited to join us for a cooking workshop. We’ll learn how we can use the produce we’ve just planted in the school garden to cook Mexican themed meals the kids will not only love but can be involved in preparing as well. Come along straight after school assembly on Monday morning, meet some new people, be inspired to cook something new and enjoy a shared meal. All parents, grandparents, aunties, uncles and friends are welcome to join us.