Dear Parents and Families:

Thank you parents for the extremely smooth start to the year. We really do appreciate you getting your children to school on time, (a number a little too early at times), and collecting them in a timely manner in the afternoon.

It is most important that parents remember to sign children into school when running late in the morning and out of school when picking up early to attend appointments. Students must also be accompanied back into school by an adult when returning from an appointment and signed in. These notifications are a legal requirement. Please sign in and out at the school office.

Our school grounds are supervised by staff from 8.30 am until 3.30 pm. Outside of these times we have the Out of School Hours program run by Camp Australia to assist you. Parents are fully responsible for their children before 8.30am and after 3.30pm unless they are registered and attending the Camp Australia program.

SWIMMING TRAINING & CARNIVAL:
Special thanks goes to Mrs Soto and Miss Shiels along with our very keen swimmers for their attendance and training over the last two weeks. The ADSSA swim carnival is being held next Tuesday 17th at the Werribee swimming pool and all parents of swimmers are invited. It has been pleasing to see a good number of parents at the sports over the last few years and we do hope many can attend next week.

Good luck team, swim well.

SCHOOL COUNCIL and ELECTIONS:
Election details were sent home with the eldest child in each family yesterday. If you would like to know more about School Council, please don’t hesitate to make contact with either myself or a member of School Council. Nomination forms are available from the office. We have FOUR parent and one DET vacancy for the coming two year period.

On behalf of our community I would like to acknowledge the excellent ‘behind the scenes’ work that our Councillors undertake on behalf of our community. Thank you.

50th ANNIVERSARY of ANPS:
Pleeeeeeease keep the week of the 16th to the 20th of March free to join in our celebrations. You may be able to help us by spreading the word, supporting one of the week’s events OR by simply attending in support.

So far we have planned for:
- An Open session on Monday 16th with a family picnic lunch.
- Student performances.
- A Car Boot sale with stalls and fun activities on the Friday evening.
- An historical display of photos and other memorabilia—do you have any old photos/flags or similar you can share with us?????
- Our CAR BOOT sale and 50th Anniversary is going to be promoted through letter drop — Are you available to walk and deliver to a couple of house blocks?
- Our students are going to be discussing ways in which they can support and also participate over the coming week. We look forward to their valuable input.
- If you have any ideas to help with the celebrations then please drop by the office, attend a Parents and Friends meeting (Mondays after assembly) or send us a note and we will see if it is possible.

- Life Education Program commences the same week and we are anticipating parents will see the importance of involving their children in this program

MURRAY to MOYNE:
The team of riders and supporters will be holding their first meeting next Tuesday 17th at 7.00pm in the staffroom. Last year we received enormous support from our community and we are hoping that the same level of assistance can be achieved for the 2015 ride.

Thought for the week:
“ A good teacher is one who makes themselves progressively unnecessary”

Thomas J. Carruthers.

Oh how true this is of ALL adults in order to progressively build the confidence and ability of young children.

Have a lovely week.
Brendan O’Brien - Principal.
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.

**ESSENTIAL EDUCATIONAL SUPPLIES** - final payment due tomorrow, Friday 13th Feb: Most families have paid for their supplies or made arrangements by claiming Family Assistance. This is a great start to your child’s school year. Teachers will allocate supplies once they receive notification from the office that payment has been made. If you have not as yet made a payment, please do so by Friday 13th February. Families who made part payments in 2014 also need to pay the balance by 13th February 2015. If you have any queries or need assistance please contact Mr. O’Brien or Mrs. Gregson on 9391 4233 during school hours please.

**FAMILY ASSISTANCE CLAIMS NOW BEING PROCESSED:** If you hold a Heath Card or Pension Card, valid as of the 28th January 2015, you may be eligible to claim Family Assistance for the 2015 school year. Forms are available at the school office. If you require more information about Family Assistance please speak to one of our office staff.

**STUDENT PAYMENTS:** All monies paid by students for supplies, excursions, fundraisers etc. must be placed in a sealed envelope with the student’s name, grade and the purpose of the payment. **Envelopes should be given to the class teacher at the beginning of the school day.** Payments will then be sent to the office for processing. Correct money would be appreciated as the teachers do not open the envelopes and will not be able to give change.

**50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS:**

Please keep the week **Monday the 16th to Friday the 20th of MARCH** free to help us celebrate 50 years of serving the community in Altona North. Past members of our community are encouraged to join with us in this celebration. Students will be planning activities for the week as will our staff, Parents and Friends and School Council teams. We are organising special commemorative ANPS pins for everyone, there will be a twilight function and Open Day, the opening of our 25 year old time capsule and the securing of our 2015 time capsule.

This will be a real celebration for EVERYONE to participate in.

**PARENT/TEACHER INFORMATION SESSIONS:**

**Parent/Teacher Information sessions** will take place during the afternoon & early evening of Wednesday 4th March

Please place this most important date on your home calendar and take the time to meet your child’s 2015 teachers.

Full details will be sent home with children shortly.

**VISIT OUR WEBPAGE:**

Families are invited to subscribe to receive our weekly newsletter via email. Subscribing is a great way of ensuring you always receive the newsletter—you will never miss out on important information again!

Please take the time to visit us at www.altonanorthps.vic.edu.au and familiarise yourself with our site.

**STUDENT BANKING**

Altona North Primary School has been involved with The Commonwealth Bank School Banking program for many years. **TUESDAY** is Student Banking Day and many of our students bring their banking to school every week (you can make deposits of as little as 5 cents.) This program teaches children lifelong money skills and also rewards them for their healthy savings habits. In return for the deposit into their very own Youth Saver account, they receive a token. Once 10 tokens have been collected, the tokens can be redeemed at school for a reward. The 2015 rewards are “Space” themed and are pictured above. Our 2015 Preps should receive an information pack today. Grades 1 to 6 can collect a pack from the office.

CBA Banking Specialist, Susan Brailsford, will be at our school to address our whole school assembly and open up accounts on:

**MONDAY 23rd February 8.45am-10.00am**

No Child I.D Required......Only parent’s drivers licence and 2 minutes of your time.

Please call at the SCHOOL OFFICE and chat with Susan. Enquiries: susan.brailsford@cba.com.au M: 0422 116 040
It’s exciting!!!!!!!!!!!!

In March 2015 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.

On the 28th and 29th March our riders 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 26 years. In 2015 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 money raised 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. Sponsorship forms will be sent home with students shortly.

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

Some people may find this way of supporting the bike ride easier and ANY assistance is appreciated. Donations can be left at the school office.

The total amount raised under the Murray 2 Moyne banner in 2014 was $5813.00. A wonderful achievement which supports all of our students in many ways. If you would like to know more about the M2M ride please don’t hesitate to ask.

Regards Robyn Gregson

ANPS VALUES:
RESPECT. EXCELLENCE. ACCEPTANCE. COMMUNITY. HONESTY.
PARENTS & FRIENDS NEWS:

**Twilight Car Boot Market:** Friday, 20th March, 2015
4pm-8pm
To help celebrate the school's 50th birthday, we will be holding a car boot sale within the school grounds. As well as stalls selling an assortment of clothes, food, home decor and much more, there will be something to interest both young & old. Craft tables, school tours, Halal sausage sizzle, coffee, popcorn, fairy floss, ice cream, face painting, bake stand, balloons, jumping castle and much more.

To hold a stall, it will be $20 per car or $30 per car & trailer. We would appreciate more volunteers to get involved on the day. If you can assist with set up, spinning some fairy floss, BBQing a sausage or two or perhaps offering some expertise in running a kids’ craft activity centre or helping with pack up, WE NEED YOU! Any time between 3pm - 8.30pm. Please fill in the slip below or just drop in at the office to express your interest.

Watch out for flyers and posters over the next few weeks for more on the planned 50th birthday celebrations leading up to the market.

**Easter Raffle**
We are asking for any donations towards our annual Easter raffle. Nothing is too big or too small, but all is greatly appreciated. Donations can be left at the office.

**Murray 2 Moyne Family BBQ & Bike Ed:** Early Term 2
Team BIOYA will once again be participating in the annual 520kms cycle relay. Spearheaded by Mrs Gregson, they will be flying the ANPS flag riding to raise much needed funds towards our student health & well being programs. The team will be running a bike education session. So remember to bring your helmet & bike & join in. Get to meet & talk to the riders themselves!!

On sale also during this event will be Halal Sausage sizzle, ice cream, coffee & M2M merchandise. Watch out for more information over the next few weeks.

2015 HOUSE CAPTAIN SPEECHES:

Upon enrolment into ANPS every student is assigned a House Colour. They remain in this House for the duration of their educational years at ANPS. Each House, Red, Yellow, Blue and Green is Captained by a Boy House Captain and a Girl House Captain.

At the start of each year Grade 6 students are given the opportunity to run for HOUSE CAPTAIN. The students wishing to stand for this position are invited to make a short speech at assembly to staff and students. From these speeches, students and staff then elect the most suitable candidates to hold these positions for the duration of the school year.

Next Monday, 16th February, Grade 6 students from BLUE and RED Houses will be making their speeches.

The following Monday, 23rd February, Grade 6 students from GREEN and YELLOW houses will be making their speeches.

Good luck to all candidates.

ENVIRO CORNER:

**SAVE ENERGY, SAVE MONEY**
Wednesday 11 February 6.30pm to 7.30pm
Altona Library 123 Queens Street, Altona
Hobsons Bay Libraries and Environment Victoria will be holding this interactive workshop that will save you money and will inspire you to think green towards your daily energy consumption.
Cost: FREE
Hosted by Hobsons Bay Libraries

**ARE SMALL FARMS ENOUGH? SUSTAINABLE FOOD FORUM**
Thursday 12 February 7pm to 8.30pm
The Chamber Williamstown Town Hall
104 Ferguson Street Williamstown
This ‘Hypothetical’ style event is based on the paper *Wake Up Before It’s Too Late*, published by UNCTAD. The paper includes views of 60 organic farming experts from around the world in support of the potential for organic farming methods to not only feed the world, but also to reverse climate change. Our forum brings together a range of speakers from the Food Production System, including small to large producers, transporters, wholesalers, retailers and consumers in a facilitated discussion.
Cost: $10
Bookings: Essential [https://www.facebook.com/events/569874963146001/](https://www.facebook.com/events/569874963146001/)
Hosted by Sustainability Education Initiatives
If you would like to know about how our school supports sustainable living, please speak with Mr Raghdo.

**WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECKS:**
All adults wishing to assist Altona North Primary School in 2015 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.
there is no charge for Volunteers. These checks are valid for 5 years and replace the old system of police checks.

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.
Altona North P.S.

CAR BOOT SALE

Friday, 20th March, 2015
4pm to 8pm

Cresser St, Altona North

We are celebrating 50 years!

*School Tours
*Sausage Sizzle
*Craft
*Bargains

*Face Painting
*Baked Goods Stand
*Balloons
*Jumping Castle

*Clothes
*Popcorn
*Fairy Floss
*Coffee & Cold Drinks

Stalls Available: $20/car or $30/car & trailer

Stall Bookings: Maggie 0432 167 870 or School Direct 9391 4233