Dear Parents and Families,
It is always bitter sweet writing the last newsletter for the year. It has been an amazing year with ANPS achieving so many things. I would like to thank our wonderful staff for their dedication and love of teaching, our parents for being fabulous supports throughout the year and having so much input into their children’s learning, our Parents and Friends who just keep working so hard it’s hard to keep up with them. To our fabulous School Council members for those late nights and so many emails, thank you for your guidance and commitment to our school and our students. MOST OF ALL to our amazing students who just love to learn and everyday they make my day with their knowledge, growth and care. The bitter part of the newsletter is having to say goodbye to our Grade 6 students, many of whom have been with us since Prep. To watch them grow and become leaders in the school has been wonderful and I wish them all every success in their future education and careers.

SCHOOL CONCERT: I was so impressed with the extremely high standard of performance, the intricate design and construction of props, the smooth flow of both concerts and the variety of talents on show. Well done to all staff for your contributions in preparing our students for the night. A big thankyou to all helpers; Parent & Friends, parent prop and costume helpers, John Palermo Photography. Michael Cauchi and Dan Curran on the lights, Anthony Paterson on sound and our 2015 and 2016 School Captains and Wayne Berrymann, School Council President, for their speeches, as well as our Grade six graduation class.

STAFFING: At the end of each year we often bid farewell to staff. This year Ms McCawley, Mrs Soto, Mrs Myska, Ms Ousley and Kately Thompson will be taking time off or relocating to different schools. We wish them all the very best for their careers and futures. We also thank them sincerely for their valuable contributions to ANPS in 2015.

We welcome onto our staff for 2016 Miss Pearce, Mr Koutsonikolas and Ms Martino. Mr. O’Brien will not be returning in Term 1 2016 and I will be continuing as Principal and Mrs. Blunt as Assistant Principal for term 1

A full staff list will be sent home tomorrow after students meet their 2016 class teachers.

GRADE SIX 2015: We should all feel extremely proud of our exiting Grade Six students this year. They have been an incredibly responsible group and have served the Altona North Community well. We wish them every success in high school.

SCHOOL CAPTAINS AND PEER LEADERS: Without exception we have had leadership of a high calibre from our student leaders. Well done on your leadership and we do hope it stands you in good stead for the future.

PARENTS & FRIENDS: We have had the good fortune to have a solid group of volunteers supporting us all year. The Christmas raffle had incredible prizes and there were lots of excited students and families heading home with bundles in their hands this week. Thankyou also for the new sports uniforms, that the students are going to be so proud to wear and for the sensational art work in our playground.

K-MART WISHING TREE: Once again our community has shone with generosity through your support of this valuable program. Congratulations and thankyou to everyone for your support of our Social Service. We are fortunate to have the dedication and efficient organisation of Mrs Myska, Mrs Morgan and Mrs Hardman to make this the success that it is.

BIG DAY OUT: I was thoroughly impressed with the attitude and behaviour of this year’s Grade Six group as they enjoyed their Big Day Out. The senior school staff had worked with the students to jointly plan a fun filled experience. How good did the hall smell after all those pancakes !!!!!!!!

LAST DAY OF TERM: The last day of this school term is TOMORROW. If you haven’t already done so please make arrangements to pick your child/children up at 1:00pm sharp from the hall.

Last but not least a very big thankyou to Mrs. Blunt for her support and hard work as always and for always being there for us all. I hope she gives up joke telling for the holidays and puts her feet up. To each everyone, THANKYOU, and I hope you all have a wonderful holiday, a Merry Christmas to those who celebrate it and a very safe and prosperous New Year.

See you in 2016; Robyn Gregson- Principal
**COMMUNITY NEWS:**

**FRIDAY 18th DECEMBER EARLY FINISH:**
Please be aware we will be having an early dismissal on the last day of school for 2015. 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 2014.

**AND OUT OF SCHOOL UNIFORM DAY:**
The Social Service Committee has decided that the final day of school for 2015 will be an Out of Uniform Day. All students are allowed to come to school in casual, Sunsmart clothing, and bring a Gold Coin Donation. All proceeds of the day will go to the ANPS Murray 2 Moyne Bike Ride which raises funds solely for our school’s Student Welfare Program.

If you would like to know more about this program, please speak with Mrs Gregson.

**LAST DAY OF THE SCHOOL YEAR:**
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 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 you can help with donations: 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


**CHRISTMAS RAFFLE:**
Thank you to everyone who supported our school by either purchasing raffle tickets and/or making a donation to our prize pool. We were able to raise $ towards our fundraising total for the year. We would like to congratulate the winners who shared the prizes.

All unsold raffle books need to be returned to school. If you have lost your raffle tickets, please complete the green note sent to you by P&F. It is a legal requirement that all raffle tickets be returned to school.

We would like to thank the following businesses who continue supporting our fundraising efforts by donating goods & services: Westgate Golf Club, Luna Park, Wonderland Fun Park, Living Legends retired horse homestead, Lantern Ghost Tours, Phillip Island Nature Parks, Melbourne Sports Hub, National Sports Museum, Searoad Ferries, Sandstorm Event, Hairhouse Warehouse, Ward McKenzie foods & Masterfoods

Also thank you to all families for the donated goods which made up many of our wonderful hampers!

Our year of fundraising has been a busy one. All our various events from sausage sizzles, trivia night, disco, hot cross bun drive, mothers & Father's Day stalls, Easter & Xmas raffles and more have been very well supported by our school community and beyond.

**MURRAY TO MOYNE:**

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