**From the Principal**

**Dear Parents and Families:**

Welcome to our second newsletter for 2016. We have had a lovely time settling back into school. The students have been fabulous and very keen to get into the learning mode.

**WATER DAMAGE:**

To give you an update on our water damage the Department of Education has been sent all of the costings for the damage and we are now waiting for repairs to begin.

**SWIMMING CARNIVAL:**

Congratulations to all those students who tried out for the swimming sports. I was amazed at the talent we had for swimming. The students at the pool were also very well behaved and were showing their style in the pool. Thankyou to the parents who came along to watch and support the kids. A big thankyou to Mr. Clark and Ms. Shiels for their expertise in running the trials and for managing the extremely hard job of choosing the students for the team. We would like take everyone who tried out, but unfortunately we can’t always do that.

**SCHOOL COUNCIL and ELECTIONS:**

School Council election information was sent home yesterday along with the timeline for this process. Please think about if you would like to become a member of our school council. We meet at 7:00pm on a Monday night usually twice a term: more if needed. There are 3 parent vacancies. Please speak to myself or any of our school councillors if you would like further information.

**SUNSMART:**

A friendly reminder to all in our community that we live in an environment that has great potential to do damage to our skin. Our school Sunsmart policy requires children to wear polo shirts, collared clothing and Sunsmart hats during school hours. We encourage the use of sunscreen but DO NOT allow students to share this at school as it may cause rashes to other students. We also encourage students to be Sunsmart out of school hours and are pleased to see our students wearing their school hats before and after school.

**UNIFORM SHOP:**

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.

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**REMINDER:**

Parent/Teacher Information Session: Wed. 24th February

Prep students do not attend school on Wednesday for the month of February

Canteen CLOSED every WEDNESDAY

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**Term 2 STARTS**

**MONDAY 11TH APRIL**
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.

ESSENTIAL EDUCATIONAL SUPPLIES: Most families have paid for their supplies or made arrangements for payment plan. 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. Families who made part payments in 2015 need to pay the balance. Unfortunately, several payments are now well overdue. We do understand the financial pressures that some families are experiencing, however assistance is available. Please contact Mrs. Gregson or Mrs. Blunt on 9391 4233 during school hours please.

CAMPS, SPORTS, EXCURSION FUND: The Victorian Government provides payments for eligible students to attend camps, sports, excursions and incursions. $125 per child is paid to eligible families. Once processed, the CSEF payments go directly to the school and are tied to the student. If you hold a Health Care Card or Pension Card, valid as of the 27th January 2016, you may be eligible to claim CSEF for the 2016 school year. Forms are available at the school office. Applications must be completed by 29th February. If you require more information about CSEF please speak to one of our office staff.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CANTEEN:

Please be aware that the Canteen is closed every WEDNESDAY. Please send your child/ren to school with morning tea and lunch on this day as the school is unable to provide food for them. For a full canteen price list check on our webpage. http://www.altonanorthps.vic.edu.au

Please Note: The canteen is unable to run accounts for families. Payment must be included with orders. All orders must be placed in the classroom lunchbox at the start of the school day. Telephone orders will not be accepted this year. The canteen is NOT OPEN BEFORE school.

STUDENT BANKING

A representative from the Commonwealth Bank will be attending the school on Monday 15th Feb from 8:45 to 10:00 am. to assist parents to open Dollarmite Student Banking Accounts.

PLEASE NOTE:
MONDAY 15th 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

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 2016 rewards are “Outback” themed and are pictured above. They are also on display in the cabinets in Block A corridor. Our 2016 Preps should have receive an information pack last week. Grades 1 to 6 can collect a pack from the office.

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.
HOCKEY CLINIC REFLECTIONS

Yesterday my class and I had a hockey clinic. We played octopus and for hockey we had hockey sticks and a hockey ball. We passed the ball to each other. Evangellea (12J)

At the hockey clinic I played hockey and I was happy. We played a game and then we played with the hockey balls. Ali M (12J)

I noticed that hockey was harder than I thought. Like holding the stick and dribbling along the lines. But I did love the hockey clinic and it was fun especially hitting the ball. Hockey is now my 2\textsuperscript{nd} favourite sport. Gideon (12J)
Do you hold a valid concession card OR are you a Foster Parent or an Asylum Seeker?

Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF)

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund will ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities.

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance will be paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions, or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student will be:

- $125 for primary school students
- $225 for secondary school students.

How to Apply
Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Closing Date
You should lodge a CSEF application form at the School Office by Monday 29th February 2016