Dear Parents and Families: I do hope you like our new style newsletter, we have had some good feedback from the students and some of our parents. It’s lovely to be able to see the photos of your children in colour rather than yellow and black. Thankyou to those parents who are listening at assembly and also listening to their children about road rules and safety outside of our school. The children are very good at remembering so I hope you are too.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WORKER: Josh has been settling in and getting to know our students and staff. He will get to know parents as well as he sees you around the school. Don’t forget Breaky Club started today. Please see Mrs. Gregson if you would like to come to breaky club on a Thursday and Friday morning.

SCHOOL COUNCIL and ELECTIONS: It is a very exciting time as we have more parents than places for the first time in many, many years. Thankyou to those parents who nominated for school council. Ballot papers went home Tuesday and need to be returned by 4pm Tuesday 1st March to the front office. I look forward to working with all of these parents.

PARENT/TEACHER INFORMATION SESSION: Thankyou to all parents who came for Parent Information meeting yesterday. It was lovely catching up with so many parents and hearing all the great news. There were a number of very proud parents walking out the doors after hearing how well their children were doing.

MURRAY 2 MOYNE BIKE RIDE: Our Murray 2 Moyne Bike Ride is getting closer with our team training very hard. They are all excited to be helping our school raise funds for our Student Welfare Programs. To donate please visit: www.murraytomoyne.com.au All donations are passed onto ANPS and a tax receipt is given to you by Moyne Health Services. Sponsorship information will be coming home soon but if you wish to be able to claim your donation on your tax at the end of the financial year, you need to donate via the M2M website. Let’s see if we can beat last years’ effort!!

EMERGENCY EVACUATION DRILL: Next Wednesday March 2nd, we will be holding our Emergency Evacuation Drill, which will see us leaving the school site and heading to Langshaws Reserve, which is located across the road. Every school in Victoria is expected to have Emergency Drills at least once a Semester. In light of recent events we are pre-warning our Community so that there will be no panic when this takes place. If you have further questions about this please don’t hesitate to contact me.

HOUSE CAPTAINS: I would like to congratulate our newly appointed House Captains. I am sure they will do a wonderful job. We look forward to seeing what activities they can come up with during lunch and recess times and during our special day activities. I know they are very proud to be wearing their badges and well done.

There were a number of great students who all made wonderful speeches. All students were worthy of being elected House Captains but unfortunately we cannot all be chosen and these students showed maturity and acceptance as they graciously acknowledged the students chosen. I do hope now they look at applying for the Peer Leader roles coming up soon.

PREP 2015 FAMILY PICNIC: WELCOME to all of our Prep families. Next Wednesday 2nd March we have our annual Prep Family Picnic. We have loads of fun and get to meet other families from the Prep year level. Meet other teachers and share your picnics, it’s a fun night and a nice time for the children to play together.

STUDENT SAFETY: For all of our students’ safety: All parents and visitors to our school must be signed in at the office and receive a visitors badge. We must know at all times who is on the premises, where and why.

Whilst I am speaking of student safety, NO PARENT IS TO CONFRONT ANOTHER CHILD WHILST ON SCHOOL PROPERTY OR WITHIN THE SURROUNDING AREA. If there is any issue please see the teacher on duty, (Mrs. Blunt and Myself are on duty afternoom), or contact the school. We look into issues and address them straight away without parents stepping in and making students and parents feel uncomfortable.

PARKING: Please note for the safety of all students NO parents are to park in the staff car park. We aim to keep all students safe at all times and have strict rules on cars driving on school premises. Please do not walk through the car park either - all access must be via the Cresser Street entrance.

WORKING BEE: Next term, Sunday 17th April, we will be having a working bee to tidy up the gardens around the school. Please put this date in your diaries and come and join us.

I hope you all enjoy your weekend with family and friends. Robyn Gregson - Principal.
CALLING ALL LIBRARY BOOKS: Thank you to those families who have found and returned missing Library books. There are still a number missing, so if all families could keep looking we would really appreciate it.

STUDENT BANKING: A representative from the Commonwealth Bank will be attending the school on Tuesday 1st March from 9:00 to 9:30 am to assist parents to open Dollarmite Student Banking Accounts.

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 - NEXT MONDAY. If you require more information about CSEF please speak to one of our office staff.

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. Information Packs can be collected from the office.

PREP NEWS:

Enrolments are now open for Prep 2017. If you have any children ready for school next year or know of family and friends that have Prep aged children please contact the office for further information.

There will be a Prep Information night early in Term 2. Date to be announced.

WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECKS:

All adults wishing to assist Altona North Primary School in 2016 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.

Applications can be made online at http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/ there is no charge for Volunteers. These checks are valid for 5 years and replace the old system of police checks.

PARENTS & FRIENDS EASTER RAFFLE:

NO TICKETS PLEASE

Child’s Name: ________________________________________________ Grade: ___________________________

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

Parent/Guardian Name: _______________________________________________________

PARENTS & FRIENDS NEWS:

Easter Raffle - DONATIONS WANTED: 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. If you do not wish to sell tickets for our raffle, please complete the tear off slip below and return it to the office immediately.

Hot Cross Buns: Order forms will soon be sent home for our upcoming Hot Cross Bun Drive. Routley’s Bakery will be our supplier this year.

A MESSAGE FROM THE LIBRARY:

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BEFORE / AFTEERSCHOOL CARE:
Situated on site at ANPS this 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.

Medical Information/Phone numbers etc:
It is imperative that parents keep our staff completely up to date with any new or changing family information. Too often we phone families to only find a number has been disconnected or changed. As you can well imagine your children can feel extremely stressed at these times as can our staff.
Asthma and other medical details are also essential for student safety and well being. We have trained staff to care for students who are ill or injured. Our staff’s capacity to undertake the correct treatment is often limited by the available information supplied from home. Please ensure that we have all important information at school regarding your children’s medical needs.
The best place for an unwell child is at home. If your child does not appear to be well in the morning, please do not send them to school. You are required to telephone the office, enter their absence via our webpage or send a

WHAT’S COOKING AT THE ANPS CANTEEN?

Monday: Delightful Homemade Muffins - $0.50
Tuesday: Delicious Fruit Salad - $1.50
Wednesday: CANTEEN CLOSED
Thursday: Chicken Goujons - $0.50
Friday: Tasty Homemade Garlic Bread - $0.50

Coming Soon - Our new look Canteen Price List!

2016 ANPS HOUSE CAPTAINS:

Congratulations to our 2016 House Captains

MILLERS: Mikaela and Jack
CRESSER: Shakille and Cindy
BLACKSHAW: Vicky and Mohamad
MASON: Chloe and Ahmed
Each year the Grade 6 students have the option to have a design printed onto the back of their school polo shirt or bomber jacket. The design for these prints has already been decided upon by all Grade 6 students. In order to be prepared for this, please speak with your child as to whether or not you need to purchase new uniform items or whether you have existing uniform they can use. Order forms for the printing will be going home with students in the coming week.

If you require New Uniform, please order this now so that there are no hold ups with the process.

The uniform shop is open Tuesday and Wednesday mornings 08:45-09:00am or Thursday afternoons 3:00-3:15pm.

You are welcome to leave your order and payment at the office outside of these hours.

Please also remember that uniform must be paid for in full before it can be collected as we are unable to run accounts for the uniform shop.

Altona North Primary School will be holding a Working Bee and Sausage Sizzle on Sunday 17th April.

We would love as many volunteers as possible to help us out on this day. If you have any skills working in gardens or just enjoy weeding and planting plants, you are welcome to come along on the day.

Please contact the office for more details and to let us know if you’re interested.

Kellogg's is giving away free books when you buy 2 Kelloggs products in one transaction. So if you buy any 2 packets of Rice Bubbles, Just Right, Corn flakes, or Coco Pops, for example, and then go online to www.freebooks.kelloggs.com, Kelloggs will send you a free book of your choice. The free books include all your favourites, for example, Diary Of a Wimpy Kid, Juliet Vet, Pippa's Perfect Picnic, captain Stella, Sporty Kids, and Stuff Happens. So make sure you eat a healthy breakfast, go online to Kelloggs, and enjoy reading your new free book. You can get up to 8 free books and if you don't want the book, you can give it to someone as a gift or donate it to your school Library. But be quick because this special finishes April the 10th.

Help me shave for a cure

Donate at
http://worldshavetohave.com
Click on ‘Spirit’
Search for ‘PARK MORGAN’

The shave is to take place at the
Laverton Community Hub
95-105 Railway Ave
Laverton
21/03/2016 at 12:30

From ‘Head to Nose’
I am willing to shave, however I would like to raise a minimum of $100.00.

Please donate directly on Worlds Greatest Shave or talk to me.

BARNSTONEWORTH UNITED JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB
"The Barnies" are inviting boys and girls between the ages of 5-18yrs to register for the 2016 season.
Based in Williamstown, the "Barnies" is a family-friendly, FFV-affiliated soccer club with members coming from across the Western suburbs.

WHERE: J.T. Gray Reserve, Kororoit Creek Rd, Williamstown
WHEN: Registrations now open
Pre-season: JK Grant Reserve, Sugargum Drive, Altona
SEASON: Sunday 10th April to 4th Sept
COST: U7's $120, U8-11's $200, U12-16's $250
MORE INFO: www.bujfc.com
It’s exciting!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

On the 1st of 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 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.

Last year we were able to subsidise buses for excursions, camps and assist with a number of incursions. This is done behind the scenes adding to the special events and times we have here at ANPS.

On the 2nd and 3rd April 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 2016 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. What money we raise all goes to the 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.

To keep our riders feed during the ride and 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
- Chocolate
- jube lollies
- nuts
- dried fruit
- snack packs of chips/ biscuits etc.
- 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.

If you prefer there is the opportunity to go on line and sponsor our team through a donation. ANPS gets this money paid to us when the ride is completed. The website to visit is www.murraytomoyne.com.au  All donations made via the website are fully tax deductible.

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

Regards
Robyn Gregson
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