Dear Families

I would like to welcome all our students, staff and parents back to term 3 of the academic year. I trust that our pupils have enjoyed a well-deserved mid-year break and are ready for a busy term ahead.

I would like to welcome three new staff members: Mrs Jayne Taylor, Miss Emilie Wendt and Mrs Rachel Cauchi. Mrs Taylor will be replacing Mrs Haren for the term in year 8. Ms Wendt will be teaching year 5 to 8 music and Mrs Cauchi will also be teaching music in the early years throughout semester 2. Our new teachers are delighted to join the community here at Altona P – 9 and have certainly appreciated the warm welcome they have received.

Students received their mid-year reports in the last week of term. I would like to invite all families to our parent teacher interviews on Tuesday 30th July. Information was sent home this week and details are also on the website. If you do not have access to the internet please contact Kim in the office who will kindly make your bookings for you.

Each year the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development conducts a survey of 15% of the school community. Parents are randomly selected to participate and we use the information to inform and direct our future school planning and improvement. The survey is short and your feedback and opinions play an important role in making our school the best it can possibly be. Surveys will be sent home to those families next week and I encourage you to complete the survey as your opinions are important to us. Please be assured that the survey is conducted anonymously.

Parents will have noticed the damage to the corner fence on Grieve Parade and Civic Parade which was due to a car leaving the roundabout. The driver details were kindly passed to the local Police by a neighbour of the College who obtained the number plate left behind. I thank them for their vigilance. I have been advised that the driver will need to pay for repairs which are underway.

Thank you to the fundraising group who have organised tonight's disco. Unfortunately there was a clash with the Blue Light Disco so the middle year’s event has been postponed. All Prep – 6 children are welcome to attend the disco at 4:00pm tonight. Tickets are $5 and are available for purchase through the office.

Our year 5 to 9 students have completed their first elearning elective that has run over the past 6 weeks. Students have enthusiastically signed up for their second elective which will commence next week. The initiative has been well received by the students. Today our pupils also commenced their first ‘bookclub’ session with books distributed across years 5 to 9. All students have agreed pre-reading to undertake over the week prior to next Thursday’s session.

Finally, I am absolutely delighted to have been appointed as the substantive Principal of Altona P – 9 College. I have certainly relished the role since the commencement of the school year in what has been a very busy semester. It has taken some time to settle in and to develop relationships with our pupils and families but I now feel very much a part of the community. Altona P – 9 can certainly be a leader in the educational community; we have great students, great staff and supportive families who I look forward to working with to grow and develop the college into the future.

One of our first steps will be to begin the implementation of the new Australian Curriculum. It is essential that we have a rich, viable and challenging curriculum if we are to prepare our students for global citizenship. Our curriculum day in August is a vital part of this curriculum development process. We will be reviewing some programming in the middle years to enhance key curriculum areas within The Humanities (History, Geography and Economics) and Science.

Julie Krause (Principal)
Dear Parents

Parent/Teacher/Student interviews will be held from 2.00pm – 6.30pm on **Tuesday 30th July 2013**

You can now book interviews at times that suit **YOUR FAMILY BEST**. Go to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) and follow these simple instructions.

**BOOKINGS CLOSE** Tuesday 30th July at 9am

---

Go to:


Enter THIS school event code. Then follow the 3 simple steps.

---

1. **Enter your details**
2. **Choose teachers**
3. **Choose times**

When you click **finish**, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically - check your junk mail folder if you do not receive your email immediately.

You can return to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) at any time, and change your interviews - until bookings close.

---

For parents that don't have access to the internet at home, at work, at a friend's house or on their phones, please call Kim or Wendy in the office on 03 92968050 and they will be able to assist you. Interviews are strictly 10mins and spaces are limited. If you require more time, please contact your teacher directly to make alternative arrangements.

Parents can change their interview bookings, any time prior to the closing date, by re-visiting the [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) website, and using the event code. Remember to use the same name and email address, you used when you made your original booking.
Welcome to Term 3!
This term holds a number of exciting opportunities for our school in Positive Education and I will share details with you as each occasion approaches. Each year level will continue on with their weekly positive education sessions learning how to develop more resilience and optimism in their daily experience. This term the first topic for Prep – 6 is Emotions, Year 7 – Sense of Humour, Year 8 – Sense of Control and Year 9 – Sense of Self-Worth.

I encourage all students from Year 5 – 9 and their parents to attend the Wyn Bay Ilen Partners in Learning Information Night

The two hour interactive workshop will focus on:

Understanding the personal changes facing young people

Becoming more organised and less stressed

Developing time management skills - "I can" rather than "I don't care"

Setting realistic goals that matter to you!

Connecting learning at home and at school - "Who is responsible for what?"

Creating resilience - not just for school, but also for life outside school

Facilitator - Angie Wilcock from High Hopes Educational Services

Angie is a highly regarded Australian expert and speaker on transitions in education. She has appeared on both radio and TV and has worked on the Generation Next team, offering support to parents Australia-wide on coping with the changes in high school. She is a published author with a strong background in teaching, as well as being a mum of two sons. Her sessions are a mix of humour, anecdotes, information, real-life parenting....but above all, strategies to support families during this very critical phase of education and personal development. Her new book, 'The Transition Tightrope', supports parents in understanding this new phase of education....and life!

Light Refreshments will be provided.

Date: Tuesday 6th August  
Time: 5.30 – 7.30  
Place: Year 9 Building

Please let Kim or Wendy in the office know if you would like to attend by Friday 26th July

Look forward to seeing you there,

Frances Totney,
FUNDRAISING NEWS

Our school will be an official polling outlet for the upcoming Federal Election. The fundraising team will be holding a Market Day and Sausage Sizzle. If you would like to book a stall, please email the school office at altona.p9@edumail.vic.gov.au to book a place. The cost of a stall is $15.00. Further details will be sent home next term once Election details have been finalised.

5 Cent Drive.

For Terms 3 and 4 we are asking students to save their 5 cent coins. Our goal is to raise $1000 and we are asking local businesses to match what the students earn (an additional $1000). If every student saves just $5.00 in 5 cent coins we’ll reach our goal.

Asthma tips for Parents and Carers this Winter

- Winter can be a hard time for people with asthma as could weather, coughs, colds and the flu can bring on more symptoms and attacks.
- The common cold is caused by a virus and it is important to try not to cough and sneeze near other people, and to wash hands properly to prevent passing on the infection. The flu is different to the common cold and can be a much more serious viral infection.
- People with asthma are recommended to have an annual influenza vaccination (the flu shot). Preventing the flu protects people with asthma, as those with asthma are often unwell for longer and have a much harder time recovering from the flu.
- Make sure your child’s asthma is well-controlled; this will help them to bounce back quicker from a cough or cold and will help prevent asthma attacks when they are unwell.
- Some medications and herbal remedies that we use for colds and flu can make asthma worse. Speak to your doctor or pharmacist about any concerns you may have.
- Antibiotics are not normally prescribed for the common cold, or influenza, as these medications will not help a cold get better. Effective medications may include paracetamol and decongestants; however seek advice from your doctor or pharmacist before purchasing them for your child. Suggested remedies for the flu and the common cold are: rest, staying hydrated by drinking plenty of water, staying away from cigarette smoke, using steam inhalation, gargling with salty water for a sore throat and seeking medical advice if concerned at any time.

For more information on the common cold, medications and references used in this article please see the Better Health Channel (State Government of Victoria) - www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au and the NPS website - www.nps.org.au. Contact The Asthma Foundation of Victoria on 1800 ASTHMA (1800 278 462) or www.asthma.org.au

Do your children have asthma or allergies?
Are you a part of the local footy team, scouts club or netball club?
Do you worry about your children’s asthma when they are not at home?
Learn practical strategies for helping your children to live well with asthma each day from people who know.
Join The Asthma Foundation of Victoria’s online forum. Ask a question, share your story, meet with others in your area. Call (03) 9326 7088 for more information or follow the link below.

forum.asthma.org.au

The Laverton Community Centre & Neighbourhood House is running a

7 week “Anger Management for Men” course

Starting date: Thur 8th Aug: 6:30-8:30pm Cost: $100

Why do you get angry? When is anger a problem? Ways to manage your anger and the opportunity to practice your anger management skills in a safe environment with your peers.

Other courses include: Self-Esteem and Assertion For Women, Bookworms (Book group), Grow (Personal Growth) and Grow Better Together (Carers of People with Mental Health Issues), and Sunrise Group (Women with Disabilities). Phone 8368 -0177
Welcome back after the holidays. I hope all the children had a great relaxing and refreshing time after such a long term.

The children have settled in well and are back into routine. Already this week we have played 2-a-side soccer, made jelly and enjoyed the board games and Lego again.

Legend of the Week: This award is given to the children as they express who they are in unique ways. It is a one-time only award for each child. This week it is awarded to Lachlan M who last term created a Lego Game which all children can play. We wrote down the rules so we can play it again.

Curriculum day 12th August
There will be a Curriculum Day on Monday 12th August. Camp Australia is offering a program on that day. This is open to all children, including those not already enrolled with Camp Australia. We have many inside and outside activities planned. These include making chocolate crackles, snow painting, a Lego game, Indoor Hockey, Fire and Ice Tiggy, a Superhero Quest, Kick Ball, and many more.

If you want to find out more please see me at the OSHC room. I am there from 6.30 AM to 6.00PM, but home between 9.00am and 2.30pm.

If you want to enrol your children please see me to sign an Expression of Interest form. We need 18 children enrolled so we can run the program. The total cost for the day is $60.00 and Child Care Benefits and Rebates apply.

You will be notified well in advance if we do not have enough children to run the program.

Natalie MacLachlan, Coordinator
Education Maintenance Allowance - Instalment Two

The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided to assist eligible families with the costs associated with the education of their children. Parents and guardians may be eligible for the EMA if they have a valid Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card. Parents and guardians who lodged an EMA application at the beginning of the year do not need to lodge another EMA application to receive the second instalment EMA payment. Parents/guardians whose children have transferred to Altona P-9 College since 28 February 2013 will need to submit a new EMA application form. Applications close on 2 August 2013.

Open Night

August 7th at 7pm.

Introduction and welcome followed by Subject Expo. Enrolment Expression of Interest completed. Course Counselling appointments arranged. Careers advice available. No booking required.

Please contact the College on 9395 9271 if you require more details.

Breakfast Club
Tuesday & Thursday Mornings—All Welcome

Reports of Headlice have been made in Grade Prep.

A whole school headlice check with the health department from Hobsons Bay Council has been organised for early this term.