Dear Parents and families,

Welcome back to Term 3. Another busy term is in store with plenty on the agenda. This week we invited families into the school to speak with classroom teachers about the progress their children are making. Many positive conversations were had and strategies discussed to further their individual learning. As teachers we always welcome the opportunity to communicate with parents as it undoubtedly aids in supporting the needs of every student. Thank you to the many families that supported their child by attending an interview.

We welcome some new staff Mr Jayson Cooper (Middle Years Music), Cathie Staunton (Kitchen Garden Specialist, MY Food Technology teacher), and Carolina Cordeiro who, in Week 4 will begin as a garden specialist working in our fabulous new garden.

Breakfast Club is up and running again, twice a week on Tuesdays and Thursdays. It's a community service and run by Mrs Elmer and School Nurse Jayne Altermatt. It's vital our students have breakfast in the morning so it is certainly there to be used.

**Pre-Prep**

The 'Kinda Kinder Program' continues this term on Tuesday mornings from 9am - 11am. Pre-Service teaching students from Victoria University run the program that aims at Kinder-age kids who would benefit from social play, storytelling and pre-literacy activities. In Week 4 of this term, Altona P-9 College will begin to host a 'Steps-to-Prep' Pre-Literacy Program. **It will run each Thursday morning from 9-11am.** See flyer for details.

If you know of any families with Kinder-age children that might like to be involved please send them down or ask them to contact the college.

In our quest to grow our college we have again invited Year 5 students from local primary schools to visit. On Tuesday 5th August, Year 5 students from Altona Primary and Seaford Primary will visit for a ‘Year 7 Experience Day.’ They’ll participate in a range of activities, just like a Year 7 student including cooking in Food Tech, constructing something in Wood tech, a workout in Phys Ed and conducting an experiment in the Science Lab among other things. Our Middle Years students have recently completed a Scaffolding Numeracy assessment which helps determine the type of and level of strategies students are using when faced with solving maths problems. There is a particular focus on Multiplication strategy development to aide in the understanding of pattern and algebra from an early age. The program kicks on in week 4 from Year 5-8 and will run for 5 weeks.

As you will be aware we have the next Garden workshop set for Saturday 2nd August. The focus this time is installing an irrigation system under the guidance of specialist Craig Castree and the team from the Smart-Water Shop in Hoppers Crossing. If you want to learn about irrigation for gardens, please come down at 9am. The college working bee will follow at 12:30pm with a BBQ for all involved at around midday. See flyer and website for details. We hope to see you all there.

Mr Matt Kelly
Acting Principal
STUDENT WELLBEING NEWS

Welcome back after a much deserved break. Downtime from regular, sometimes hectic, routines is an important tool in managing stress and anxiety in children. The ability to just 'be', rather than trying to be many different things all at once, serves much in the role in the wellbeing of individuals.

BREAKFAST CLUB

With Winter well and truly upon us, Breakfast Club (Held Tues and Thurs mornings in the Dining Hall), is a fabulous chance to warm and fuel up for the day. What a great sight it has been observing some of our Senior students modelling studious habits to their younger peers! **September 4th will see us host a Fathers’ Day Breakfast**, serving a warm breakfast for all of our dads. In the next few weeks we will be calling for volunteers to help prepare and cook on this day.

STEPS TO PREP

Altona P-9 College is proud to announce the commencement of its **STEPS TO PREP**, pre-prep literacy program. The program will begin August 4th and continue each Thursday morning from 9-11am until the end of term for all interested children who will be begin Prep in 2015. STEPS TO PREP aims to prepare students for their transition to school, in particular, developing sound literacy skills. If there are interested siblings, or if you know of individuals beyond our school community, please encourage them to visit our website, call or drop into the office and express their interest. Places are limited.

GRATITUDE

In light of recent global events, I would like to encourage our community members to draw on their strengths of hope and gratitude. Hope is the trusting that good things will happen. Gratitude is being thankful for good things. The challenge lies in looking for the good, when, at times, life appears to be far from good. That said, start small and pay attention to the things that bring you happiness. Learn to look for the good and acknowledge your gratitude for such experiences, people and possessions.

Stay Well,
Mrs Amanda Elmer
Do you:

- Have a child starting Prep in 2015?
- Want to give them the best start to school?
- Want to be confident that they are school literacy ready?

If so, contact us @ Altona P-9 College to sign up for our free pre-prep program. Starting August 7th and running each Thursday morning from 9-11am for the duration of Term 3 & 4. Places are limited so act now.

CONTACT US:

ph: 9250 8050
@: altona.p9@edumail.vic.gov.au
www: altonap9college.vic.edu.au
EARLY YEARS NEWS

This term Prep W’s inquiry focus is ‘The World Around Me’. Students will use their senses to explore the world as they investigate day and night, the seasons and living and non-living things. Students will participate in experiments and use their observations to engage in whole class and small group discussions. Later in the term we will make our own ‘Hairy Grass Heads’ to help us write a procedural text and make observations as they grow.

During Term 3, students in years 1 and 2 will be investigating the Science topic ‘Life Cycles’. They will engage in activities where they will observe and describe natural phenomena as it occurs in various cycles of life such as the weather, plants, insects, birds, animals and human beings. Through the study of life cycles students will learn simple scientific vocabulary and develop knowledge of concepts such as temperature, climate change, seed germination and stages of growth from birth to adulthood. Currently we are learning about environmental changes needed to produce rain and we are also observing and recording daily temperature and weather conditions.

This term Year 3 and 4 students are studying 2 areas of Inquiry. For the first 6 weeks their science based unit will involve students investigating the question ‘Why is our Earth so special?’ The key understandings of this unit will include:

- Earth is the only planet where things can live,
- the Earth rotates every 24 hours causing night and day and
- the Earth travels around the sun which causes seasons and takes one year

The second unit of study involves looking at the journeys of early navigators, explorers and traders up to the late eighteenth century, including their contacts with other societies. The key understandings of this unit will include:

- Journeys to different countries were dangerous and people who undertook them were very brave
- the contacts made by explorers with other cultures and societies changed the lives of both groups
- Australia was changed dramatically by the arrival of European explorers.

Ms Caitlin Walker, Ms Megan Penry, Ms Chris Tseriotis, Ms Amanda Vinnicombe
Early Years Teachers

MIDDLE YEARS NEWS

What a great start to Term 3 for the 5/6 students. We are now well under way with our Inquiry topic about Natural Disasters. So far we have looked at the causes and effects of volcanoes and earthquakes. We are looking forward to studying more about tornadoes, cyclones, tsunamis and bushfires. The students are developing their technical language when describing how these natural phenomenon occur. They are identifying the human and environmental impact of these disasters. In preparation for our next Inquiry unit on Key figures in Australian history please remember to return your excursion letters.

Mrs. Jayne Taylor
Year 5/6 Teacher
ART AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Students in Year 9 Ceramics and Painting electives working on their first pieces this term. The ceramics class are making a bottle shape using the coil technique. The painting class are creating an abstract work using rollers and brushes on cardboard.

Mr Ian Venning
Art and Technology Coordinator

FOOD TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Year 9 students have just completed a semester long unit on 'Global Foods'. They began the semester with indigenous flavours and designed their own "Australian Biscuit". They then investigated cuisines from different countries that have influenced our nation’s food culture. Below are some photos of the students making their own pasta as part of their "Homemade Pasta and Sauce" design brief.

Ms Mary Borracci
Food Technology Coordinator
ITALIAN NEWS

BUONGIORNO TUTTI!

This term in Italian, we’ve lots of fun things going on; there are plays being made, fashion shows worked on and sounds being learnt!

We have an Italian Word of the Week – focusing on manners – and these words can be heard on the blog; the words are also presented at assemblies. We have two teddy bears visiting homes families with the Prep and Year One children; look at their photos on the blog.

Please help your children to understand the importance of being open to different languages, use our words of the week and show interest in what they’re learning.
Our Italian blog can be accessed through the school website or by going directly to it:

http://italianatacp9.global2.vic.edu.au

Prep – 4’s homework can be found there on the blog, whilst 5-9s can access their work through Edmodo.

Please remember you are welcome into the Italian Room during any session; just check on the blog (l’orario italiano page) to see when you children are learning Italian and come along! I’m always happy to have helpers and the children really enjoy it too.

Our first two Italian Words of the Week are:

Per favore – please
Grazie mille – thank you very much

Questa è Giulia. Lei visita la famiglia di Prep.
This is Giulia. She visits the Prep families.

Grazie mille,
Simona Costello
Italian Teacher
FUNDRAISING NEWS

Our fundraising committee had a fantastic semester in Terms 1 and 2. Thanks to all our wonderful volunteers who helped cook sausages and hand out lunches at the Athletics Day sausage sizzle; assisted preps with their first experience of buying something for mum at the Mother’s Day Stall (and the rest of the school, too); and stirred hot cocoa, organised Connections groups for photos and came out in their "jammies" to make our first Winter Day such a success. The Winter Day raised over $380 to go towards our goal posts and safety gear.

This term we will be busy organising the P-6 Disco Party on August 28, a Father’s Day Stall on 5 September and Tony’s Pie drive on 16 September (pickup day) - just in time for the footy finals.
Also look for more details soon on our new and exciting Big Ticket Raffle - watch this space...
From the Fundraising Committee

BOOK CLUB

Just a reminder that the Book Club catalogue has been issued and all orders are due Monday 28th July. Don’t miss out to order your favourite books!

IRRIGATION WORKSHOP

Last term we had a very successful Working Bee, which we had an amazing turn out. Over 60 people turned up with their gardening gloves on. On Sunday 2nd August.
Altona P-9 College is holding an Irrigation Workshop. Please see flyer for details.

From the Fundraising Committee
Irrigation Workshop
Saturday 2 August, 2014 - 9:30am-12pm
Altona P-9 College - Crn Grieve and Civic Parade, Altona

RSVP to Tarius McArthur, temcarthur@gmail.com

Come along and be part of a free hands-on workshop. You will learn how to put in a garden irrigation system from Craig Castree who has over 35 years of gardening experience. Special Guest appearance by irrigation experts from Smart Water Shop - Hoppers Crossing. Get all your irrigation questions, answered.

You will learn about every aspect of an irrigation system from design to laying out and connecting the pipes in raised beds, conventional beds and around trees. Don't miss this opportunity of equipping yourself with new skills and ideas.

This is an outdoor activity so please come dressed for the weather. Refreshments provided.

Sponsored by
Hobsons Bay City Council  Community Grants Program

Altona Community Bank® Branch

Bendigo Bank
THE EDIBLE GARDENS PROGRAM

It is with much excitement that I introduce our new Edible Garden Program. As you may be aware, earlier in the year Altona College received generous funding to implement a Kitchen Garden. I have been employed one day a week to facilitate cooking classes for our year 2 to 6 students using our garden produce. There will also be a garden specialist working alongside me.

The Edible Garden program will complement our school values of respect, learn and care. In particular we will be focusing on caring for our environment by growing our own food, caring for our bodies through nutritious eating, and caring for others as we cook with and for our classmates and eat together.

The program will also provide a strong positive healthy lifestyle message and practical strategies for life long healthy living choices. In the kitchen and garden we will enhance learning in a practical environment through measuring, weighing, following instructions and using vocabulary and language skills. The hands on program aims to build our students’ self-esteem, confidence and social skills and allows the children to work with and value volunteers. By preparing and tasting new foods, we also hope to build acceptance of other cultures.

For such a diverse and rich program to be a success and for your child to gain the most from it we will need support and participation from our school community. An essential ‘ingredient’ of the program is volunteers to assist in the kitchen. Parents, carers, grandparents we need your help so the students can start cooking asap. You don’t need to be a Master Chef! Training will be provided and people who are keen to learn alongside our students in small groups are very welcome.

For further information please contact me on 9250 8050 or Staunton.cathie.l@edumail.vic.gov.au. Please note to volunteer for the program a working with children’s check will need to be arranged so please express interest asap.

MEDIA COVERAGE OF DISASTERS: HELPING CHILDREN COPE

This past week has seen us all exposed to unlimited images, stories and news reports on the MH17 tragedy. While Ukraine is miles away the tragic event has been brought closer to home as 18 Victorians have lost their lives through horrific circumstances. I’m sure you would agree that the media coverage has seemed to present more than our heads and hearts can comprehend. It is during these kinds of disasters our children are often exposed to images that they wouldn’t normally see and that they also struggle to understand. I’m sure many of your children have a lot of questions about what they are seeing and hearing about. While we can try to limit their exposure to reports of the event, it’s important we acknowledge what has happened and talk to them about it if they have questions. Of course this is not an easy task. Below are some tips from the Australian Trauma and Grief Network on helping your child cope with the recent media coverage.

Helping your child cope with disaster-related news coverage
The Australian National University’s Trauma and Grief Network says parents and carers can help young people to cope with media coverage after a disaster by:
Limiting the amount of disaster-related media coverage children and young people are able to watch
Being with them when they are seeing or reading stories so you can talk to them about their fears and answer any questions
Distracting your child from coverage by doing something with them – heading outdoors for a game, playing a game or watching something else on TV
Reminding them that there are plenty of good things happening, but these often don’t make the news
Helping them to feel safe, answering any questions they have,
Providing comfort and affection if they are upset

In light of the MH17 tragedy lets take a moment to acknowledge the grief that comes from such an atrocity and to also celebrate and be grateful for our own life and all that it means to us.

Cathie Staunton.
Chaplain.
After School Care provides a safe environment for children to explore and play

About the program

After School Care promotes a healthy and active lifestyle, encourages friendships and supports children to develop new skills – all while having fun.

Altona P-9 College has partnered with Camp Australia, the leading provider of before and after school care in Australia.

This high quality program embraces the schools values and builds on your child's educational experiences and individual interests. The program combines active games with planned and unplanned play, quiet time, homework time and a healthy snack. Every day is an adventure led by enthusiastic Camp Australia staff who are on a mission to bring smiles to kid's faces. As trained educators, we know lots of different ways to help your child get the most out of their day and feel good about themselves.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Times</th>
<th>Full Fee</th>
<th>Out of Pocket*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Before Care</td>
<td>7:00 AM - 8:45 AM</td>
<td>$14.75</td>
<td>$4.41 to $7.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After Care</td>
<td>3:05 PM - 6:00 PM</td>
<td>$18.86</td>
<td>$4.34 to $9.43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The information outlined above covers the most common program times and fees. For a full listing of all program details and fees for the service, please visit our website. We have over 150 Holiday Clubs. Please use the Holiday Club finder on our website to find the most convenient service for you.

Next step

visit www.campaustralia.com.au and enter your school name in the school finder.

Notes on Fees and out of pocket:

Almost all Australian residents are eligible for some form of government rebate.

1. The Child Care Benefit (CCB) is income tested and scaled, resulting in a reduction of between 0% and 85% of session fees.
2. The Child Care Rebate (CCR) is not income tested and is available to almost all Australian families. It provides a rebate of 50% of fees owing after the CCB has been calculated and considered.

So that the CCB and CCR can be automatically applied to your account, you will need to provide your Centrelink Customer Reference Number (CRN/s) during the registration process. These can be obtained from the Family Assistance Office on 13 61 50.
FREE PLAY GROUP
FOR YOUR CHILD

KINDA KINDER

Enhance your child’s learning and development of literacy, numeracy and socialising skills through play and fun activities:
   For children 0-6 years old
   One hour per week; no need to book
   As a parent, you also participate (and must be in attendance)
   Led by Victoria University students doing the Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood/Primary)
   With the support of primary schools and local government.

**Starting date: Every Tuesday 9:15am till 10:15am.**

To be held at Altona P-9 College:

103A Grieve Parade
Altona
VIC 3018

Faculty of Arts, Education and Human Development
Phone: 9919 2037
Email: natalie.velucio@vu.edu.au

vu.edu.au
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CALL 0448 184 208 TO ORDER
‘Farewell to the Travellers’
Tricia, Jill, Kim & Georgia

Bwindi Sewing Project (Uganda)
Afternoon Tea
Sunday 3rd August
2pm
Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre
5 Sargood Street, Altona 3018

$5 donation
RSVP to Kim on 9398-2511
admin@louisjlcc.com.au

See what the travellers are packing into their cases; video messages to the women in the Bwindi village; put your orders in for Ugandan products and produce; and wish the travellers ‘Bon Voyage’!!
How it all started: Humble beginnings

Following an eye-opening visit to Uganda in 2011 in which Tricia saw first hand the hardships that African women face to survive, she then recruited two friends from the Louis Joel Arts And Community Centre (Altona, Victoria) who volunteered to establish a sewing project in Bwindi, Uganda.

In August 2012, in partnership with the Ride 4 A Woman co-operative (www.ride4awoman.org), a not-for-profit organisation that seeks to empower women in Bwindi, Tricia Salau, Kim Reilly and Jill Bilston started the Bwindi Sewing Project (www.bwindisewingproject.com). "Our aim was to empower the women of Bwindi both socially and economically by teaching them income-generating sewing skills". The women use their sewing skills to produce items tourists who visit the area might buy to take home. The income is used to feed, clothe and educate the families of the women in Bwindi.

"The Bwindi Sewing Project has made a real difference to the lives of the women and their families in Bwindi" - Tricia Salau, Project Leader.

From our Village to their Village: 2012

In 2012, with the invaluable support of the local residents of Hobson's Bay, Service Clubs, LJACC and of the local businesses who donated funds and goods, we were in the position to purchase the necessary equipment: Treadle sewing machines, fabric, storage unit and sewing equipment and materials.

The sewing project initially involved 16 local women to whom we taught a range of sewing skills including machine sewing, hand sewing and embroidery. This group continues to teach other as the skills base broadens.

The women learnt how to make everyday items such as aprons, journal covers and shopping bags for sale. In 2012, Ride 4 A Woman began to generate an income from these sales to tourists that enabled them to pay the women for their sewing work.

Keeping going: 2014-2015 and beyond

In July last year, Tricia and Lynne (a dressmaker) returned to Bwindi to teach the women hand and machine dressmaking skills: skirts, dresses, children's clothes. Many women now make a living for themselves and their families out of the products they make every day at the Ride 4 A Woman Community Centre. In August 2014, we will return to Bwindi to introduce jewellery and card making, along with new tourist products. We run regular fundraising events to keep the project alive. Your support is greatly appreciated. It makes a real difference to people's lives!

In 2014, our fundraising will concentrate on raising funds to finish 'The House of Refuge and Hostel' and provide infrastructure at the Community Centre where the sewing program takes place. The following items are urgently required:

1. Water & Septic connection: $850
2. Installation of flush toilet: $134
3. Purchase of a water tank: $1,500
4. Power connection fee: $250
5. Power connection: $250

The women from the April 2014 group with their sewing bags beautifully decorated. The new ‘House of Refuge’ hostel is in the background before the roof was finished. Every brick is made by hand; every bag of cement is mixed into concrete in a wheelbarrow, all the tools need to be purchased as the builders don’t always have their own; and everything is transported the 12 hour drive from the capital, Kampala.

The Bwindi Sewing Project

Tricia, Jill & Kim and Eve & Denis from the Ride 4 A Woman Co-op would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank the many supporters of the Bwindi Sewing Project. To the many Rotary, Lions, CWA and other groups, the residents of Hobsons Bay, the growing number of businesses selling the paper beads - from Warnambool (thank Soulsby & Struth) and Altona; the fundraising events held on our behalf from Ballarat (thank you GAS and Blue Artz) to Williams town (thank you Blue Illusion); every individual who has purchased a jar of jam, a bag or journal cover, we would like to say THANK YOU! Every cent we raise, every dollar we make helps to change the life of a woman in Bwindi.

For more information or if you would like to book a speaker for your Service Club, Church group or school, please contact Jill, Kim or Tricia on 9398-2511 or email them at admin@loujsjcc.com.au

Hobsons Bay
Community Advancement Co-operative Ltd