## Dates to Remember

**MARCH:**
- Prep students attend school full time.
- Monday 3rd: CBA Student Banking presentation
- Scholastic Bookclub Catalogues Home
- Monday 10th: LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY no school
- Wednesday 12th: Bookclub orders & payment Due
- Monday 17th: P&F Easter Raffle Tickets sent home
- Monday 24th: School Council Annual Meeting 6:30pm followed by regular meeting at 7pm.
- **Friday 21st:** Harmony Day Murray2Moyne Sausage Sizzle 3:15pm
- **Friday 28th:** Easter Raffle tickets due back to school.

**APRIL:**
- Tuesday 1st: Easter Raffle
  - Drawn today.
- Friday 4th: End of Term 1
- Saturday 5th: Murray2Moyne Bike Ride
- Sunday 6th: Daylight Savings Ends
- Monday 7th: Daylight Savings Ends
- **Friday 11th:** End of Term 1
- **Monday 14th:** Labour Day Public Holiday no school
- **Monday 21st:** ANZAC Day
- **Tuesday 22nd:** Start of Term 2
- **Wednesday 23rd:** Harmony Day Murray2Moyne Bike Ride
- **Friday 25th:** Anzac Day Public Holiday no school

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## Reminder: Labour Day Public Holiday

**Monday 10th March - No School**

### From the Principal

Dear Parents and Families:

**PARENT/TEACHER SESSIONS:**
Thank you to all families who made the effort to attend yesterday. I have already received most positive feedback from our staff on the excellent information sharing that took place and, of course, this will definitely lead to improved learning opportunities for your children.

Thank you also to our staff for their attention to detail in preparing for this exchange.

**ROAD SAFETY MESSAGES:**
Please take the time to read the Department message regarding leaving children alone in cars, on page 3. We cannot stress strongly enough the need for parent care of children in and around cars.

The wearing of safety belts, at all times, is another matter that often needs stronger, more focussed parent attention. Not only is this a breach of road laws, it is also a serious breach of parental responsibility if a child is in a car without a safety belt on.

**ACCIDENT/PRIVATE PROPERTY COVER:**
Parents/guardians of students, who do not have student accident insurance, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance/transport and any other transport costs whilst they are in attendance at school.

Parents/guardians can purchase insurance policies from commercial insurers.

**WORKING BEE:**
We will be continuing our grounds development work tomorrow and everybody is welcome. We made great progress at our last working bee and do hope to have ‘many hands on deck tomorrow—remember—No expertise required!

**EXCITING NEWS:**
- **Pre-School Story Time** is coming to ANPS starting on Thursday 13th March 2014. This program will run every Thursday morning from 9am—10am in our Student Support Centre.
- Everyone is welcome to come along and join in the stories, songs and fun time to be had. Please speak with Robyn Gregson if you would like to know more.

**HARMONY DAY / BIKE RIDE SAUSAGE SIZZLE:**
The Murray to Moyne ride is well underway with many in our community getting behind this, our WELL BEING event and fundraiser. We are planning a school MAJOR EVENT day on the 21st of March by combining HARMONY day and ‘Murray2Moyne’ celebrations on the one day. This will be a casual clothes day with a gold coin donation. There will be a range of Harmony Activities across the school from 11.30am to 1.30pm, (families welcome), and then at 3.15pm, the Murray2Moyne team will be holding a BBQ and Bike Education experience session for all.

Put the date on your calendar—more information will be out detailing the full day’s events soon.

**CANTEEN NEWS:**
Coral will be taking the rest of this term off on leave and we are most fortunate to have the skills of Dianne as her replacement. I would also like to thank Gayle and Megan who have been providing much valued assistance of late.

**POLICE VISIT:**
A few families noticed that the police were at our school last weekend. The police attended in response to our security system being activated by intruders. Two offenders were caught on site and apprehended by police. Fortunately the response time was quick and effective and nothing was taken nor damaged.

**Thought for the week:**
“Wisdom is one treasure that no thief can touch”, Japanese proverb.

In the context of what happened over the weekend at ANPS there is some relevance in this proverb today. However, the true meaning is in our collective ability to grow our wisdom and that of the children in our care.

**Have a great week.**
Brendan O’Brien - Principal.
To the families within our community who have already given donations for this exciting, upcoming event, I would like to say a very big THANK YOU for your assistance and generosity.

The ride is getting closer and we are well on the way to being totally prepared. Our riders are out on the road training and getting ready for their Murray to Moyne experience.

Please remember that EVERY CENT RAISED goes to our wonderful school. A sponsorship form was included in last week’s newsletter for any parents who are able to assist in sponsorship for the bike ride - no matter how big or small, every bit helps. Additional forms are available from the school office.

ALTERNATIVELY you are invited to make a donation via the website www.murraytomoyne.com.au to our team which is: Team 101:BIOYA (Altona Nth Primary Welfare Program) using your Visa or Mastercard.

As I mentioned last week, we do need to keep our riders fed during the ride and we are asking if people can help by donating 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
- Jube Lollies
- Nuts
- Snack packs of chips
- Mayonnaise
- Vegemite
- Peanut Butter
- Margarine
- Cans of drink
- Chocolate bars
- Bottled Water

Some people may find this way of supporting the bike ride easier and ANY assistance is appreciated.

Please encourage your family and friends to get behind ANPS for this wonderful fundraiser.

Keep on riding - Robyn Gregson

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Welfare covers many different areas at Altona North Primary School and often families are not aware of what is offered to assist students to be fully engaged in their learning. Keep watching for this section in the newsletter as there are loads of interesting programs and ideas to keep your children engaged, resilient and ready for life’s experiences.

What's on?

**EVERY THURSDAY** afternoon from 2:30pm, Janet Greenwood, our Community Development Worker, will be having an open door for parents at the Welfare Unit, here at school. Parents are welcome to pop in for a coffee or cold drink and meet other parents across the school. All welcome.

**HELP US BY CHECKING YOUR CHILD’S HAIR REGULARLY:** We have already had a number of cases of Head Lice reported within several grades across the school. We ask that EVERYONE help to try to eradicate this issue by checking children’s hair on a regular basis and applying the appropriate treatment if required.

**BREAKFAST CLUB: NEW TIME!!**

As of Monday 3rd March, the Brekkie Club will be running from 08:15am-09:45am. Parents/guardians are asked to please ensure children attending Brekkie Club do not arrive at school earlier than 8:15am.

If you have any questions or seek assistance with regard to any of the above items, please speak with me. Have a great week - Robyn Gregson

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**MURRAY2MOYNE CYCLE RELAY:**

**WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECKS:**

All adults wishing to assist Altona North Primary School in 2013 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 need to be completed online and then processed at the local post office. The website to apply is [https://online.justice.vic.gov.au/wwccu/onlineapplication](https://online.justice.vic.gov.au/wwccu/onlineapplication). If you require assistance with this process, please speak with the ladies in the office.

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**SCHOLASTIC BOOKCLUB:**

Next Wednesday, 5th March, Scholastic Bookclub catalogues will be sent home with all students. All orders, along with full payment will be due back to school by the following **Wednesday 12th March**. No late orders can be accepted. If paying by cheque, please make payable to Scholastic Australia. If paying with cash, please enclose correct money as it is difficult to issue change.

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**EARN & LEARN:**

Good News! Our Woolworths Earn & Learn rewards from 2013 have arrived and will be available for students to access in Library very, very soon. Thanks once again for EVERYONE’s support last year.

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**KEEPING YOUR PERSONAL DETAILS UP TO DATE:**

**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 our staff feel extremely stressed at these times as do your children.

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 every necessary detail at school regarding your children’s medical needs.

The best place for an unwell child is at home. If you child does not appear to be well in the morning, please do not send them to school. You are required to either telephone the office on the day or send a written note when your child returns.

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**Thank You**

Thank you to the families within our community who have already given donations for this exciting, upcoming event, I would like to say a very big THANK YOU for your assistance and generosity.
DANGERS OF LEAVING CHILDREN ALONE IN MOTOR VEHICLES:

Despite a recent drop in temperatures, parents are still urged to be aware of the dangers of leaving children alone in motor vehicles, so if you need to get out of the car, even for a moment, always take your child with you.

*No Exceptions. No Excuses.*

A recent survey conducted by the Victorian Coalition Government found that despite sweltering through one of the hottest summers on record, one in three parents admit to leaving their children alone in a parked car. The research also demonstrated most parents underestimate how quickly the temperature inside a parked car can rise and the devastating impact this has on a child.

Even if the outside temperature is 30 degrees the temperature inside can reach up to 50 degrees in a matter of minutes. The Victorian Government is reminding all parents travelling with a child that if you need to get out of the car, even for just one minute, make sure you take your child with you. No exceptions. No excuses.

A reminder to parents and carers:

- A car’s temperature starts to rise from the moment the door is closed and can be double the outside temperature in minutes.
- Even when it’s 30 degrees outside, your child could be sweltering in up to 60 degree heat.
- It is not worth the risk – if you are travelling with a child and you need to get out of the car, even for just one minute, make sure you take your child with you. No exceptions. No excuses.
- Young children are more sensitive to heat than adults and their body temperature can reach dangerous levels quicker than expected.
- A young child’s body temperature rises three to five times faster than an adult, placing them in extreme danger of life threatening heatstroke, dehydration and other health risks if left alone in a parked car.
- Never leave a child alone in a car. No Exceptions. No Excuses.

For more information, see: Kidsafe Victoria

PARENTS & FRIENDS:

Welcome to the new families who have joined us these past couple of Monday mornings, following assembly, and also on a Tuesday morning to help wash and distribute fruit to the classrooms. It has been lovely to meet you all and we hope you continue to join us whenever you can.

Easter Raffle Preparations: Each year, Parents & Friends organise a huge Easter Raffle to assist with raising funds for our wonderful school. P&F are now seeking donations of eggs / Easter goodies to allow us to make up various raffle prizes. In the past we have had as many as “30” prizes!!!

Donations can be left at the front office.

Raffle tickets will be sent home with the eldest child in each family on Monday, 17th March. These raffle tickets are in books of 10 and each ticket will sell for 50 cents.

If you DO NOT WISH to accept and sell the raffle tickets allocated to you, please return the TEAR OFF SLIP below to school by next Friday, 7th March.

All raffle tickets, sold and unsold are due to be returned to school by Friday 28th March.

The raffle will be drawn on Tuesday 1st April.

It is a legal requirement that we account for every book of raffle tickets distributed.

Parents & Friends Easter Raffle: Raffle tickets NOT REQUIRED.

Child’s Name:__________________________________________  Grade:_________________________

Please DO NOT SEND HOME RAFFLE TICKETS for the Easter Raffle with my child.

Parent/Guardian’s Name:________________________________________

Signature:__________________________________________________

Please return this slip to the office by FRIDAY 7th MARCH. Thank you P&F.
Tuesday the 18th of February was the big day for the year 3 to 6 Students who attended the swimming carnival at the Werribee outdoor pool. There were nine schools competing and it was a lot of fun. The best part of the day was the cheering for each other. All swimmers would like to thank Mrs Soto, Mr Jaggard, Ms Shiels, Mr O'Brien and all parents and friends for supporting us during practice, and on the day of the Carnival.  

By Hannah and Abagail

BARNSTONEWORTH UNITED JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

"The Barnies" are now inviting boys and girls between the ages of 5-16 to register for the 2014 season. Based in Williamstown, the "Barnies" are 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

TRIAL DAYS: Thu 13th, Sun 16th and Thu 20th March, at JK Grant Reserve, Altona

SEASON: starts 26th April to 14th Sept

COST: U7's $100, U8-11's $180, U12-16's $230

MORE INFO: Maria 0487916590 info@bujfc.com www.bujfc.com

All new members welcome.

U8-14s come and try out this Sunday at JK Grant Reserve, Altona.

SEAHOLME DENTAL SURGERY:

54 Millers Rd, Seaholme, Vic 3018. Tel: 03 9398 2080

Child Dental Benefits Schedule
Bulked Billed Dental Treatment.

If you receive Family Tax Benefit A and you have received a letter from Department of Health, Seaholme Dental Surgery will bulk bill for dental treatment to eligible children.

Please contact the surgery on the above number.

ALTONA CITY SOCCER CLUB:

Want to play outdoor soccer in 2014? Altona City Soccer club caters for all, boys, girls, women and men of all age groups. It welcomes all to come and try before joining. Under 5s to 7s are starting from March 15, 10am at H.C. Kim Reserve, Millers Rd, Altona with its Nationally recognised and focussed program for this age group. A player's first session is a free "come and try session". Registration and payment is due the following week only if you decide to return. Other teams (under 8s to 18s) have just started and there are some vacancies in some age groups. Coaches are also needed in some teams. More information is available on our website, www.altonacitysoccerclub.com.au or call on 9398 3974.