Dear Parents,

Welcome back to an exciting Term 3 at Armadale Primary School. I hope you all enjoyed your time together, had a restful break and the students are reinvigorated and recharged for another busy term. We have another huge term planned for all our students and the teachers have provided a whole host of activities; stimulating experiences and opportunities to further enrich the learning undertaken in their classrooms.

Level 4 students are excitedly anticipating their 3 day camp in September and all the students will be showcasing their learning achieved so far this year when the students will conduct the Student-led Conferences on July 29th.

Thank you to all those parents and students who inquired about my holiday. My husband and I had a fabulous time in Europe and thoroughly enjoyed everything that Israel, Greece and Turkey had to offer. The highlights included: Israel as a strong, high achieving and proud country amidst volatile neighbours who are imploding from within; beautiful and spiritual Jerusalem; cosmopolitan and throbbing Tel Aviv; one parent aptly described the city as a cross between Paris and New York; Greece with Athens as an archaeologist’s paradise, rich in culture and history and dominated by the majestic presence of the Acropolis and Parthenon, Santorini stunningly breathtaking for its topography and geography, Mykonos for its beaches and deep blue Mediterranean Sea; the food was fantastic everywhere, there was so much to take in and appreciate. We loved every minute and have already thought of the possibilities to go back another time.

As you know Connie Apostolos also took long service leave to take her family to Greece and if you get the chance to chat to Connie about how fabulous Greece is, you won’t be disappointed.

Even though all the places we went to and sites were saw were amazing, what stood out to John and myself was just how fortunate we are in Australia. As an island continent that is geographically isolated from the northern hemisphere we live on a day to day basis in peace, without threat to our national security. We have harmonious relationships with our neighbours, we don’t have to share international borders or share precious resources such as land and water. We are indeed a lucky country and many of you whose parents and grandparents migrated here from other continents would be very cognisant of this. The challenge for educators is to ensure that our children are aware of the privileged position that they are in, because they are Australian. I believe that privilege however, also brings with it a responsibility to assist and help improve other children’s lives who are less fortunate than themselves. If I can instil that in our children, then I think they will develop into kinder and more globally-minded and globally-conscious adults who will contribute to a better world.

I am incredibly grateful to Malcolm Dow who superbly managed the entire school during my my leave. Malcolm not only had to continue his Assistant Principal duties, such as producing timetables, meeting schedules, organise CRT teachers, organise and implement

See holiday snaps on this page.

(Continued on page 2)
planning week, he also had to undertake all the duties of a Principal as well as looking after the financial, curriculum, and facilities operations of the entire school. As a token of my appreciation I presented Malcolm with a You Can Do It award at assembly yesterday much to the delight of all the students who gave him a rousing round of applause. I would also like to acknowledge the support Malcolm received particularly from Christine Leyshan, our Business Manager, Peter Cracknell and of course the entire Armadale staff who continue to ensure your children receive an outstanding education.

Welcome and farewell
We warmly welcomed new and returning students to Armadale this week: Lachlan Holt in 4B, Ryan Hartanto in 2P, and Max Mariner in 6N. I am sure Max has many stories to share with his friends in Level 6 and it was great to see him enjoying the House Athletics carnival the very next day. We hope these students enjoy all the learning opportunities that are presented to them at our school. Sadly we have to say goodbye to Areeb Mohammad, who left our school during the holidays to move to Glen Waverley and next week we say goodbye to Magnus Brenchley as he and his Mum and brand new baby sister move to Finland for the remainder of the year. Will and Harry Atwell have also gone to the snow for a term and they attend a school at Dinner Plain. We wish all these students all the best with their new schools and look forward to seeing Magnus, Harry and Will when they return.

Thank you Mr Cracknell!!!
Second day in straight from the term holidays and Peter Cracknell has fired up the enthusiasm and excitement in the students once again with the annual House Athletics Carnival at Duncan MacKinnon oval in Murrumbeena. The track was awash with a sea of blue, red, green and yellow and was vibrating with cheers of support, squeals of excitement and rounds of hooray. All the children enjoyed themselves immensely and engaged in all the events with a high degree of involvement. Peter is to be congratulated once again on his superb organisation and implementation of this whole event and I was delighted to receive so many emails from parents afterwards saying how much they enjoyed the day. Thank you to all the teachers for their involvement in a variety of tasks and duties on the day and also to the many parents who assisted in various ways, we are incredibly grateful for your assistance and help and I know your children value having you there on the day. Please look at the sports section for further reports and photos.

Whole School Photo Wednesday July 24th at 9.00am
School Pix will revisit our school next Wednesday to take our whole school photo and as a result our assembly will be held instead in the afternoon at 3.00pm.

Student –Led Conferences July 29th 2013
There will be no classes held this day as students, parents and teachers will be involved in a Student Led Conference. As a follow up to the midyear reports that were distributed at the end of last term, we have scheduled Student Led Conferences to be held on Monday July 29th. Please find details within this newsletter for how to book your student conference time online and all families will be given their individual passwords today so you can log into the PTO system. The conferences will commence at 12.30pm and each family may book a 15 minute timeslot. The staff will break for tea at 5.30pm; the conferences will resume at 6.00pm and conclude at 8.00pm. It would be greatly appreciated if families would adhere to the 15 minutes allocated and be mindful that many others are waiting to have their opportunity as well.

It is compulsory that all students will attend these conferences with their
parent/s. Students will present their portfolios and talk about the progress they made towards their learning goals during the first semester of 2013. In some cases, we recognise that parents may wish to speak privately to teachers about any extenuating circumstances or sensitive matters. We ask that parents indicate this at the start of the student led conference, so that some time can be set aside towards the end of the fifteen minutes. In most cases, we expect that students, parents and teachers will spend the fifteen minutes together discussing each child’s 2013 learning journey to date and be able to celebrate the growth and development.

By engaging our students in this way, with their parents and teachers present, we help to create a very strong framework for each student’s learning journey. We have also observed from our trials over the last three years that our students feel more empowered in their learning when they feel that they can articulate and evaluate whether they have achieved their learning goals or whether they are still working towards them. Further to this, we have also noticed that our students are becoming increasingly reflective about how they are going and what they need to do to move to the next stage of their learning.

If you are unable to attend on Monday 29th July, please don’t hesitate to contact your child’s teacher so that alternative arrangements can be made. Thank you in anticipation of your involvement in this important process.

What are the benefits of Student Led Conferencing?

As the day for the student led conferencing draws closer you will feel the sense of excitement building in the children as they begin to prepare to showcase their portfolios to you.

You may recall that part of our new school purpose statement contains the phrase that states that our school develops engaged, creative and reflective learners. What opportunities do you provide at home to encourage children to be reflective? How often have you asked, “How well do you think you made your bed today? How neatly have you packed up your toys and tidied your desk? How many of you have asked, “What did you learn at school today?” when picking up the children at 3.30pm. As quick as a flash the answer is provided, “Nothing or not much”.

Consider trying these alternatives:

1. Tell me 3 things you learnt today.
2. What was the best thing you learnt today?
3. Did anything surprise you about yourself today?
   What do you feel more confident about?

There may be reluctance at first to engage in conversations, but after a while it becomes almost second nature to be reflective on the day’s learning. What I love about reflection is that it inevitably leads to improvement, and that’s something we all like to keep doing.

Rochelle Cukier
Principal

The educational research shows that when students are involved in the assessment process and are able to articulate what they have learned, then the achievement improves.

When students communicate their learning using a variety of work samples, they go beyond what grades and numbers can show...

Professor John Hattie, University Of Melbourne

Visual Arts Notice

Rightside TShirt Design Competition

Camilla from Rightside is going through all your wonderful T-Shirt designs and will contact us as soon to tell us who won the competition. Stay tuned...

Art Smocks

We are doing Printing and Painting all this term so it is really important for everyone to have their own art smocks. Please ensure smocks are thick enough to prevent paint from coming through onto clothing, cotton smocks are not the best when working with wet media. If you do not have an Art Smock you can purchase one at the uniform shop in Kew.

No Need for Newspapers this Term

Thank you so very much for bringing in newspapers throughout Term 1 and 2. We have a huge supply at the moment, so at this stage (most likely the whole of Term 3) we won’t be needing any old newspapers from home.

Thanks again!

Visual Artist of the Week

Connor Goumas 4S

For the excellent figure he made with Magiclay. He displayed confidence when modelling his piece and included fantastic details.

Visual Art Class of the Week

OJ

For the enthusiasm and creativeness they displayed when modelling with potato clay. Well done class J!
Performing Arts News

Welcome to Term 3!

CHOIR

Choir Begins next Friday the 26th of July at 8:15am

Senior Choir will be in the Performing Arts room

Junior Choir will be in the Science Room.

ASSEMBLY PERFORMANCES

If you would like to perform in Assembly this term please see me at recess on WEDNESDAYS to arrange a performance.

AFTER SCHOOL MUSIC TUITION – Information provided at the office.

‘till next week,

Lauren Rich

Rich.lauren.l@edumail.vic.gov.au

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday and had a chance to practise your songs as we will be preparing for Italian day in a few weeks.

Persistence

While we continue to be reminded of the fabulous organisational, getting along, and resilient skills our students at Armadale Primary School demonstrate, our You Can Do It key that all classes are focusing on this term is Persistence.

Students are exploring strategies to get them past tricky obstacles in order to achieve goals and enjoy success. They are being encouraged to ‘bounce back’ when things do not go according to plan and are reminded of the importance of positive self-talk.

New picture story books will be purchased this term aligned with the five You Can Do It keys, to further support these important values in the classrooms.

Keep an eye out for weekly You Can Do It awards, one of many great ways we can celebrate and acknowledge the persistence of our students this term.

Jennifer Drew

You Can Do It Coordinator

Sports News

Level 4 & 6 House Athletics Day

On Tuesday 16th July, the level 4 & 6 students participated in the House Athletics at Duncan McKinnon Athletic Track. A huge thank you to all the children on ‘being their best’ throughout the day. Special thanks to the staff and parents involved for their wonderful assistance in making the day run smoothly. A full report by our house captains (with photos) is being prepared for the next newsletter and a presentation at our next assembly.

Peter Cracknell

Sport Coordinator

STUDENT-LED FAMILY CONFERENCES

These will be held on Monday 29th July from 12:30pm – 8:00pm. Each family from Level 0-6 will be allocated 15 minutes for their conference. All conference booking times will be managed online at PTO online.

See the last page of this newsletter for details on how to register and book. Bookings will open at 9.00am on Friday 19th July and close at 1.00pm on Friday 26th July.

Pete Persistence

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Peter Cracknell

Sport Coordinator
Parents and Friends for Armadale (PFA)

Welcome back everyone,

We hope you all had a lovely break from the school routine and are ready for a jam-packed and fun-filled term 3.

We have lots of exciting initiatives to share with you over the following weeks including:

*Our major and most important fundraiser for the year – The 2013 APS Trivia Night!
*The annual Chocolate Drive.
*The opportunity to pre-order award winning Christmas Puddings from Frank Food and Me including a free tasting at school.
*The Father’s Day Stall.

And who knows? There may even be opportunity for an Election Day Cake Stall and Sausage Sizzle.

However, let’s look to the next few weeks first as we ease our way in to term.

Final call for the Scout Raffle – Please return your tickets along with money in the envelope provided to your class teacher or the office by next Friday July 26.

ASG NEiTA Awards for Inspirational Educators – nominations are open and we have already received some certificates so get online now.

If you weren’t able to attend assembly this Wednesday we briefly spoke to the children about both the raffle and the awards. We asked that perhaps they could ask extended family and friends to just buy one raffle ticket to help enable upgrades to their play areas. We also asked them to think about what they might give their teacher a “You Can Do It Award” for. We hope they speak with you about this and you take the time to go online to nominate their favourite teacher. It’s quick, it’s easy and for those children who don’t speak about their time at school it’s a lovely conversation starter on their experiences in the classroom.

We would like to congratulate both Kylie Ashton and Pippa Cocks who received nomination certificates yesterday – well deserved!

Please visit the NEiTA website www.neita.com.au or call 1800 624 487 to receive a nomination form. Nominated teachers receive a congratulatory NEiTA Certificate of Nomination and become eligible for NEiTA State and National Awards.

Mish McGrory
412554434
mish@mcgroryonline.com

and

Brigid Warwick
0412128164
brigid@warwick.com.au
PFA Co-Presidents

2014 Enrolments

A reminder to all parents with a child due to start school next year that all sibling enrolments should have been sent to the office by now.

It is very important for us to receive this information so that we can begin planning for our 2014 classes.

Please come to the office and collect an enrolment form asap.

Lost Property

Could all parents please regularly check the lost property in the MPC as we have a large amount of unclaimed clothing. We also ask that parents check the labels on clothing to make sure that their children have not inadvertently brought home the wrong child’s clothing.
Jim’s Cleaning Armadale would like to offer the Parents of Students at Armadale Primary School an opportunity for a free quote on any of your Cleaning requirements. The specific treatments are for Bathrooms, Kitchens, Ovens and Windows. However, we can assist with any of your needs, no matter how big or small.

Living locally enables us to support families and small business owners in the community and it will also enable us to provide our clients with a cost effective cleaning solution; quickly, reliably and efficiently.

Call Mark and Ali on 0439 634 384 for further information regarding our services or simply email us at ali.mark@jimscleaning.net.au and we will
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

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Child’s Full Name: ___________________
Grade: ______
School: __________________________
Email: ___________________________

Payment Due: Wednesday 31st July.
Dear Parents,
The Armadale Primary School Student – Led Interviews will take place on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> July between 12.30 pm and 8.00pm. Each interview is strictly 15 minutes.
You can book school interviews for the times that suit you.
You will need to re-register and get a new pin, even if you have used this process in the past.

First step is to go to
www.schoolinterview.com.au
and enter our school code:
(Emailed with the newsletter alert)
Then follow the next 3 easy steps.

1. Register
2. Choose teachers
3. Choose times

When you click FINISH, you can either print your interview timetable or email it to yourself!
If you don’t receive an email straight away – check your junk mail folder.
Also, if something comes up you can return to
www.schoolinterview.com.au
and change your interviews until bookings are closed by the school.

- If you don’t have internet access or need any assistance with bookings, please phone the school on 9822 7003.
- If there are no suitable times available on the schedule for a specific teacher, please contact the classroom teacher directly to arrange an alternate interview time outside the allocated schedule.
- If you need to change your interview times after booking has closed, please contact the teacher(s) via email.
- Bookings close at 1pm on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2013.

Rochelle Cukier
Principal