Dear Parents,

Open Night Thanks
We had a terrific turn out for our Open Night last Tuesday night. Thank you to all parents and students who were able to come along to share in the evening. The night kicked off with both the junior and senior choirs singing beautifully in the MPC. Parents and visitors to the school then had the chance to visit classrooms to share in all of the wonderful learning programs that operate across the school. I saw many students proudly showing some of their work to their mums and dads as well as many families sitting together and completing a vast range of engaging experiments/puzzles/games etc. After the open classrooms, a small band of devoted parents stayed on for a short presentation in the MPC about some of the future priorities of the school.

As we continue to update our facilities, it has certainly become easier to host such events in more comfort and space. I hope you found the evening engaging and enjoyed sharing in your child/ren’s learning at APS. Sincere thanks to our very dedicated teachers who enthusiastically opened up their classrooms to promote and share the rich learning environments they work so hard to facilitate.

Weather Vane Repairs
After two years of seeking quotes and trying to tempt contractors to restore our weather vane, we have finally had some luck with this project. It was somewhat of a daunting job to repair the weather vane and then reinstate it on the main spire of the Densham Road building, but Hamilton Designs bravely took on the challenge and the job was completed last week. We can now proudly say that the building has returned to its original state.

Half the funding for this project came from one of our past students, Eleanor Brown, as a result of a competition she won when presenting a weather report on 3MP. How fitting that Eleanor’s weather report led to the reinstatement of the school’s weather vane!

Help Needed with Prep Blocks
Some modifications need to be made to the large timber box that stores all of the timber building blocks for the preps. If you are a little bit handy with the tools and can spare a few hours, we would love some assistance to modify this storage container so that it can be easily moved around to support the prep investigations sessions. Please give me a call if you might be able to assist.

Science Room
A small team of teachers has been working hard to establish one of our spare rooms upstairs in the infant building as a science room. They have been vigorously on the lookout for resources to help set up the room and expand our science program. If you have any unwanted models/posters/equipment that might be suitable to donate to the science room we would love to hear from you. Or perhaps your workplace has some bits and pieces that our students would love to tinker with as part of the science room? Many thanks to Kylie Thompson and Colleen Johnson (and members of the APS team) for their hard work to date on this exciting venture for our school.

Level Three Cocktail Party
Yes it’s next week! I hope to see lots of parents at the level three cocktail party on Friday 1st June at the Toorak Bowling Club. So make sure the baby sitter is booked so that you don’t miss this very enjoyable social event. I definitely won’t be talking to anyone about football at the moment (poor Blueboys!).

Pippa Cocks on Leave
One of our very hard working prep teachers, Pippa Cocks, is about to take some long service to recharge the batteries. Pippa’s long service leave will start from next Monday 28th May and she will return to APS for the start of term 3. We wish Pippa and her husband Ben, safe travels as they head off on their overseas adventure. We are also delighted to report that Mary Rodder will be replacing Pippa during this period and for those of you who have met Mary, you will know that it will be a very seamless transition next week with the normal 1P program ticking along as usual.
YOU CAN DO IT! AWARDS

1C Camille Rounds  For her ability to share lots and lots of information about animals and their habitats.

1J Jack Handbury  For bringing a smile to class everyday and showing great enthusiasm in all areas of learning.

1P Allegra Salmon  For listening carefully to the sounds in words and then writing them with such confidence!

2E Maddie Graham  For the great persistence she has shown in improving her handwriting.

2J Max Whiteman  For displaying persistence and resilience during our Semester assessment tasks. Keep it up Max!

2P Jeongwoo Choi  For taking responsibility to collect and re-charge the net books during ICT on a Monday. Thank you very much.

2S Scarlett Campbell  For demonstrating excellent speaking skills and displaying confidence when speaking in front of a large audience. Well done Scarlett!

2T Mia Bainger  For being a focused and organised student who enjoys learning, and always remembers her library bag, reader bag, and homework.

3C Jett Bolt  For being a thoughtful, caring member of the class and always demonstrating great initiative. Well done Jett!

3C Robbie Galvin-Rowley  For showing great confidence when presenting your show-and-tell to the class, we love to see your sense of humour and your personality shining through. Keep it up Robbie!

3D Kayzia Masefau  For showing great resilience and a positive attitude when faced with adversity

3F Samir Skinner  For his positive and valuable contributions to our discussions and experiments about “Earth in a Spin”

3F Cuba Patterson  For showing enthusiasm and persistence when working on his symmetrical design in Maths. Great work Cuba!

3W Celia Dixon  For being an enthusiastic learner and completing set tasks independently. An excellent effort Celia!

4N Ella Bennetts  For her attention to detail in her entertaining Powerpoint presentation about our trip to Canberra - well done!

4N Marianna Polyzos  For her attention to detail in her entertaining Powerpoint presentation about our trip to Canberra - well done!

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Hi Everyone,

I’m Cred one of the Dollarmites
Banking at school every week is a great way to learn how to save, participate in a great rewards program and raise money for your school. When a student from the school banks 5 times at school between 16th April and June 30th they can then enter the “Dollarmize me” competition. Go to the website: www.commbank.com.au/beadollarmite and enter your best Savings Tip. Keep going if you have yet to bank 5 times boys and girls.

School Banking is every Tuesday

PS: If you don’t have a school bank account yet, please visit your nearest CBA Branch, log onto Netbank or download an application form from our website www.commbank.com.au/schoolbanking and start banking.

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At this week’s assembly we were lucky enough to have a very special visit from the Commonwealth Bank’s Pat the Dog who had the children eating out of his paws!
Hi everyone,

The APS Fun Run – coming soon …..
Some time during the last two weeks of Term 2, we will be holding a Fun Run for all the boys and girls at Armadale Primary School. All students – and lots of the teachers we hope! – will participate in a Fun Run to be held at Orrong Park at a date yet to be decided. Afterwards, there will be a sausage sizzle lunch at school for all the children and parents. In order to raise funds for the school, we will be asking children to seek sponsorship from parents, friends, relatives and neighbours. The focus of the day will be on participation and fun, and there will be a variety of prizes in different categories.

More details will be sent home over the next couple of weeks once the date has been confirmed, but in the meantime please keep reading the newsletter and we will be seeking volunteers as we need quite a few parent helpers for the day.

Level 3 cocktail party – Friday 1st June
Date: Friday 1st June
Time: 7.30pm onwards
Venue: Toorak Bowling Club
9 Mandeville Crescent, Toorak
Cost: $10.00 per head – light nibbles included
Drinks: at bar prices
RSVP: Please enclose cash only and names in an envelope, and return to the office before Monday 28th May.

Classroom Cuisine
Don’t forget that Classroom Cuisine can be ordered each day from Monday to Friday. You can go online at any time and place your orders, even up to 8.30am on the day the lunch is required. Just go to www.classroomcuisine.com.au and start ordering!

Have a great week everyone.

Abbey Nash
Jill Davies
0410 509 161 0414 335 555
anash@nashmanagement.com.au jill.davies@yahoo.com.au
PFA Co-Presidents

SPORTS NEWS
NAOMI IN THE NEWS
Naomi Fitzgerald has been in the news as the Leader 2012 Sports Star. Naomi has been selected in the School Sport Victoria diving team for the national championships in Sydney from 28 July to 3 August.

Congratulations Naomi and good luck for the championships.

Peter Cracknell
Sports Co-ordinator

HELP!
The SRC needs donations of old blankets, gloves, scarves, beanies or coats for the homeless people in the Prahran Mission. The winter for the homeless people is very cold and for them all donations are very much appreciated. Please bring them to Mrs Caruso’s classroom.

By SRC Leaders Sasha and Oscar
PERFORMING ARTS AWARD: 2E – For working co-operatively to learn the choreography for the song “Zip-a-dee-doo-dah”. Well done 2E, you’re going to shine on the night!

MUSICAL FOR 2012: Disney’s – “ALICE IN WONDERLAND”

Who will be involved? The whole school!
When: “Alice in Wonderland” will be performed over 2 nights – Thursday 9th and Friday 10th August.
Where: The National Theatre in St Kilda
Time: 7-8pm

PARENT HELPERS MEETING:
• Next Meeting: Monday 4th June at 3.45pm in Performing Arts room

PROP DONATIONS
If parents have any of the following items lying around the house/shed, that they could donate to our Performing Arts department, it would be greatly appreciated.

MAD HATTER’S TEA PARTY
• Colourful cake stands or trays suitable for a tea party!

MATERIAL
• green material (grasshoppers)

ADDITIONAL ITEMS
• Old stockings
• Two cat scratching post for the Cheshire Cats to rest on!

Items can be left in The Performing Arts room in a box called “DONATED PROPS”

Thank you to everyone for the donated props, it is greatly appreciated.

LEVEL COSTUMES
Unfortunately we are unable to provide costumes for 370 students so we’ll need some assistance from parents. In class we’ll be making accessories but we need some base clothing for each costume. We try to encourage parents to look for items either within their own home/family or at an op shops before buying new items.

*If you are looking at buying a t-shirt or legging/ track-suit pants, K-mart, Target and Big W have clothing that is quite reasonable.

We will need the t-shirts for LEVEL 1 and 2 ASAP so we can start turning them into costumes.

Please bring in your child’s t-shirt named and in a plastic bag. THANK YOU for your support.

Level 1 - SMALL CARDSMEN
• Black bottoms: jeans, leggings or tracksuit pants
• PLAIN WHITE T-SHIRT that can have a material shape glued to it (heart, spade, club or diamond)

Level 2 – INSECTS
• All students to have black bottoms i.e. jeans, leggings or tracksuit pants
• 2P – lady bugs: PLAIN RED T-SHIRT – large black material circles will be glued to the t-shirt
• 2T – grasshoppers: PLAIN GREEN T-SHIRT – green material will be attached to the t-shirt for legs!
• 2S - dragonflies: PLAIN WHITE LONG SLEEVED T-SHIRT – glittery material will be attached to the sleeve and arms
• 2E – Bees: PLAIN YELLOW T-SHIRT – thick yellow lines will be glued to the t-shirt
• 2J – Christmas Beetles: PLAIN BLACK T-SHIRT – metallic material will be glued to the side of the t-shirt

Level 3 - CLOCKS
• All students to be dressed in black; black bottoms (jeans, tracksuit pants, leggings) and a plain black t-shirt. Students will be making clocks in ART to be attached to the t-shirts.

SHOES: students will need to wear black shoes and socks for the performance i.e. jiffies, school shoes or sneakers.

CHOIR NEWS
• SENIOR CHOIR (Level 3 & 4) – Friday 8.15am in the Performing Arts hall
• JUNIOR CHOIR (Level 2) – Friday 8.15am in the UPSTAIRS INFANT BUILDING

Thank you to the junior and senior choir for performing at Open Evening on Tuesday night. Miss Johnson and I were extremely proud of you all. You sang beautifully, with confidence and enthusiasm. Keep up the great work!

Amanda Wilson
Performing Arts Co-ordinator
Visual Arts News

Visual Artist of the Week Mia Bainger 2T
For her imaginative version of the Mad Hatter’s Tea Party. She used everyday objects as printing tools to create a black outline and filled these in with bright colours. Keep up the fantastic work Mia!

Visual Art Class of the Week 4Z
For the amazing trees they created using black paint, sponges and paint brushes. Fantastic effects 4Z, keep up the great work!

Art Smocks
Some students still need to bring their Art smocks back to school. Smocks should be labelled clearly with your name. Smocks are stored in classroom tubs/baskets and brought to each art lesson. New smocks can be purchased from the uniform shop in Kew.

Year 6 Art Club ‘Acrylic Painting on Canvas’
Art Club is on again next Tuesday Lunchtime 12:40 -1:30.
The portraits are looking fantastic and are almost finished.

Clay For Kids Workshop
The Clay For Kids Workshop begins this week for 4N.
Students will be involved in creating a sculpture around our Alice in Wonderland focus. 4S will do their workshop next week, followed by 4Z the following week. Each workshop runs for 3 hours. Stay tuned to see some of the wonderful creations!

Lucy Gorman

MISSING PADLOCK
Last Tuesday the gold/silver padlock from the tennis nets was taken between 3:30 and 5:30pm. Could parents please be aware that this has been removed from school and if found, could it be returned as soon as possible.

Thank you.

EARN & LEARN
Don’t forget to keep collected the stickers in the Woolworths’ Earn & Learn promotion which runs until 1st July.

Collect the stickers and put them on the sticker card sent home with last week’s newsletter. One sticker is given for every $10 spent.

The Woolworths supermarket at Malvern Central has a box labelled Armadale Primary School if you want to drop the stickers in straight after shopping. There is also a box outside the school office for the completed sticker cards and spare cards too.

Thank you to the families who have already returned completed sticker cards. Well done!

By Olivia H-S and Emma B (the Buddy Leaders)

We wanted to find out what the preps and level 4 students think about the buddy program. Here are some of their thoughts…

What do you like about the buddy program?
We play together. Orlando 1C
Help the preps through school. Georgia 4N
The buddies are nice to us. Emily 1J

What has been your favourite buddy activity so far this year?
Making Easter baskets. Georgia 1C
Cutting out the words. Aiden 1C
Making the Easter baskets. Bella 1P

How does your buddy help you?
My buddy helps me look around school. Ella 1J
My buddy looks after me. Willow 1P
My buddy helps me learn how to communicate with young kids like her. Charlie 4N

Why do you think it is important to have a buddy program at Armadale Primary School?
We can be a role model for them. Will 4N
We can support them through their first year of Primary School. Molly 4S

By Olivia H-S and Emma B (the Buddy Leaders)
Dear Parents,

Last week I discussed the illegal use of Facebook accounts for primary school children and I was thrilled to receive very supportive feedback and moreover, three of our Grade 6 girls came to tell me on Monday that they have disabled their accounts. Please continue to encourage your children to be safe in an online environment.

Building resilience in children is one of my aims for the wellbeing program this year and I would like to share with you some of the strategies I recently came across in an article from Generation Next.

Children and ‘self-esteem’ is heard regularly in the media, however self-efficacy is the term used in psychology and refers to a person’s belief in his/her own competence. It has nothing to do with being boastful or proud, rather having a healthy view of one’s own characteristics or abilities and what one can offer the world.

Children’s sense of self is still forming, but one good reason for encouraging development of self-efficacy would be to grow children that end up as resilient teens and adults.

We are more aware that by actively building self-efficacy, we can assist our children to develop a barrier against issues such as teenage depression, eating disorders and of course social skills difficulties.

How do we know if our children think poorly of themselves?

Watch for:

- Acting out or disruptive behaviours (Negative attention still acts as a reinforcement for being noticed)
- Internalising behaviors (A child becomes more quiet, contemplative or self-focused than usual)
- Struggling with friendships and social skills
- Always putting themselves down
- Refusal to try new things for fear of failure or looking silly

What can we do to encourage development of self-efficacy?

- Provide many opportunities to discover capabilities by enrolling in sports and activities. (Gentle pressure may sometimes be necessary, for uncertain children)
- Encourage children to make decisions and seek alternatives (Don’t always give the answers and let them learn from their mistakes)
- Engage in pre-planning, healthy debate and problem solving discussions at home (This can reduce the stress around tasks)
- Provide kind and constructive feedback on how to accept weaknesses or learn from mistakes (Tell them they just aren’t ready)
- Teach the importance of self-praise (Not reliance on parents, teachers or friends to feel good about something they have done)
- Pursue occasions to give to the community (looking outward takes the focus off of the ‘self’)

Is there anything that we as Parents could avoid doing or saying?

- Don’t take away natural consequences for poor choices
- Don’t do everything for your child all the time – encourage help around the home
- Don’t re-do their jobs e.g. re-make their bed if it is not ‘perfect’
- Discourage use of ‘victim’ language; I’m so dumb, no one likes me, it always happens to me.
- Develop a family habit of praising the process rather than the end result.

Lost Property

This year I have taken on the role of managing the Lost Property that has accumulated in the bins adjacent to the Infant Building stairwell. Please check that your child’s uniform is all correctly labeled with their names and should jackets, tops go missing, this should be your first port of call. Inadvertently some jackets may go home with the wrong student and may I please ask parents to check that students have their own items of clothing. Please see me if you have concerns about lost property items.

Hoping some of this helps.

Warm regards,

Rochelle

STUDENT WELLBEING AT ARMADALE PRIMARY SCHOOL
AVALIABLE FOR TUTORING

My name is Alexandra Smith and I have been working at Armadale Primary for the past 8 weeks with Anita Frankel in 3F. I’m currently studying my Masters of Education Primary at Melbourne University. I’m available for tutoring in all subject areas P-6.
If you would like any further details please contact me on 0438 131 486 or aesmith@student.unimelb.edu.au.

PRIMARY SCHOOL NURSING PROGRAM

The primary school nurse, Annemaree Montgomerie, from the Primary School Nursing Program will be visiting the school later this term or early next term. Today the Preps will bring home:
• a confidential School Entrant Health Questionnaire. The questionnaire provides parents and/or guardians with the opportunity to raise any concerns they may have about their child’s health and development with the school nurse.

Prompt return of School Entrant Health Questionnaire would be appreciated
At levels below three,
- UV is generally not damaging to the skin and sun protection is not required unless in Alpine areas near highly reflective surfaces such as snow or outside for extended periods.
- Students with fair to olive skin should get two to three hours per week of midday winter sun exposure to face, arms and hands (or equivalent area of skin).
- Students with naturally very dark skin may need approximately three to six times this recommended exposure level.
- Groups at risk of low vitamin D levels include students who have naturally very dark skin and/or wear concealing clothing for religious or cultural reasons. If concerned about vitamin D levels, these students should visit a GP where vitamin D levels can be checked with a simple blood test.
- The free SunSmart smartphone app features a vitamin D tracker that allows users to find out if they are getting enough sun to help with vitamin D levels.
- Given UV levels vary across the State, SunSmart recommends checking the SunSmart UV Alert for your region each day to make sure UV levels are below three.
- For further information contact SunSmart on 03 9635 5148 or see: www.sunsmart.com.au
Dear Parents,

As part of our Sport Education & upcoming Inquiry Olympic Studies, all children from Level 4 will be involved in an exciting excursion to the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG). They will have a tour of the National Sports Museum including interactive hands on activities together with a session with an Olympic athlete. The excursion will also include a guided tour of the MCG, site of the Olympics in 1956.

Date: Thursday 31st May
Venue: Melbourne Cricket Ground, East Melbourne
Departure: 9:00am sharp
Travel: Train
Return: approximately 1:45pm

Children require:

* School Uniform. Rain coat should also be brought
* Playlunch, lunch and drink/s in reusable containers
* A plastic water bottle
* School bag or sports bag

Cost & Permission:

Included in the Term 2 Excursion Levy

Parent Assistance Needed:

We also require a number of parents to assist with the supervision of the children from each class. Please indicate on the return slip below by Tuesday 29th May if you can assist and forward to your child’s class teacher.

Robin Nicolson, Mat Sweetlove, Zaim Zeneli & Peter Cracknell

If you are able to help, please return this slip to your child’s class teacher by Tuesday 29th May.

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If you can assist, please return this slip to your child's class teacher by Tuesday 29th May.

PARENT ASSISTANCE YES, I can assist on with supervision at Level 4 Excursion to the MCG on Thursday 31st May

Name............................................. Phone No/s..................................
Child’s Name.................................. Class......................................