NEWSLETTER NO. 40 - 20 December 2012

COMING EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 21 December</td>
<td>End of Term 4 - Assembly at 1.00pm and children will be dismissed at 1.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 29 January</td>
<td>Staff return</td>
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<td>Wednesday 30 January</td>
<td>Level 2 - 6 Students commence school (Years 1-6)</td>
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<td>Wednesday 30 January</td>
<td>Foundation (Prep) interviews</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 31 January</td>
<td>Foundation (Prep) interviews</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 1 February</td>
<td>Foundation (Prep) Students commence school</td>
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Dear Parents,

What a beautiful night...
We started Tuesday evening with our Portfolio showcasing and what fabulous feedback the children received about all their learning this year. They have been incredibly proud of all their work and I am sure you enjoyed reviewing their portfolios with them. Please keep these and show them to your children much later on when they have grown into adults!

How gorgeous then was the Carols in Quadrangle, we were blessed with the weather, the sound system worked and everyone commented how glorious the children’s voices were. I declare the Carols as the best ever! A huge thank you again to Amanda for her superb organisation and the wonderful support she received from Peter Cracknell; Jennifer Hemingway, Colleen Johnson, Vita Vampatella; Malcolm Dow and all the teachers who supported Amanda through the rehearsals.

So Many People to Thank!
The success of Armadale PS just doesn’t happen by chance – it stems from the collaboration and community spirit that is created when students, staff and parents come together on a shared journey bound by common purpose and expectations. I would therefore like to thank all members of our wonderful school community for helping to make our school a great government school during 2012!

Some special mentions:
To our amazing staff at APS, I would like to extend my most heartfelt thanks and gratitude. They all work so hard to provide the best learning environment and opportunities possible for their students. I am incredibly proud that Armadale is a high performing school, mainly attributed to the hard work of our teachers. We are all very excited that we have secured Gillian Brown at Level 4 for next year and Lauren Rich as our new Performing Arts teacher.
To our wonderful office team, Christine, Maggie and Alison – a huge thank you from everyone for always being so approachable and helpful with all day to day administrative enquiries at the office. As Business Manager, Christine keeps us in the black and does an amazing job managing the school’s finances and resources and has been an invaluable support to me in this transition period.

To our School Council President, Bruce Hemingway, many thanks for once again leading such a dynamic and supportive council body. So much has been achieved as a result of Bruce’s tireless and skilled leadership. To all our councillors for their guidance and wisdom and enormous efforts into ensuring that APS is a sustained high performing school.

To our wonderful PFA Co-Presidents Jill Davies and Abbey Nash, I extend an enormous thank you. Both Jill and Abbey have contributed countless hours to support the social fabric and fundraising elements of the school. Through their hard work, we have enjoyed many special community events as well as raising in excess of $45,000 for the school. A truly sensational effort!

To our wonderful OOSHC team – Katie, Ben and team do a wonderful job with the befores and afters programs. We thank them sincerely for the extra yards they constantly put in to make the program fun and engaging and in particular the holiday program that is like a Club Med for children!.

To Jennifer Hemingway who has taught Art all term magnificently whilst Lucy Gorman has been on leave. We hope to have you back Jennifer for CRT work next year!

And finally my deepest thanks to my highly dedicated leadership team – Malcolm Dow, Peter Cracknell and Connie Apostolos. I am so lucky to have such a supportive team of talented leaders helping to manage the day to day operations of the school as well as charting the future success of the school. Also, congratulations to Connie for being appointed provisionally as Armadale’s new Leading Teacher and I look forward to working with her in her new role.

Student Reports
Just a quick reminder that student reports will be distributed this afternoon and just a reminder that some of these will appear different to previous reports.

....Principal’s report continued over page
Final Assembly for 2012
The final assembly for this year will be held on Friday 21st December at approximately 12:45pm. Students will be dismissed at 1:30pm to begin their summer break. Students will only require their play lunch on the last day as they will be able to go home for lunch after the final assembly.

School Resumes
We look forward to seeing all students in levels 2 – 6 back on Wednesday January 30th for the start of the 2013 academic year. Our 2013 Foundation students will begin on Friday 1st February.

Well that’s it for another year…..
It is an absolute pleasure and privilege to be the Principal of Armadale Primary School. Our context is such a fortunate one and we have so much to celebrate and be thankful for. I wish all of our graduating students much success and happiness for their secondary schooling and life beyond formal education. I know that we have played a large role in establishing these students as lifelong learners and I am sure they will hold dear treasured memories of their time here for years to come. Farewell to all the families and students leaving Armadale through overseas postings and relocations, moving suburbs and those students going to independent schools. We wish you well for the future and hope you take fond memories of your time at Armadale with you.

Best wishes to all families in our community for a very happy Christmas, a wonderful festive season and safe holiday period. Enjoy the opportunity to spend quality time with the children and your extended families.

See you all in 2013!
Warm regards,
Rochelle Cukier
Principal

ACTING ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Dear Parents,

Our Trees are Planted!
After a couple of false starts our four Manchurian Pear trees have been planted. The trees are very advanced in size and will quickly form an excellent canopy, providing delightful shade in summer around the new dome play equipment. Many thanks to our school parent Jason Vickery, who arranged to get four very advanced trees for us and for offering to keep them watered over the school holidays. Thanks also to Established Tree Transplanters for their work in getting them so efficiently yesterday.

Walking Wheeling Wednesdays
Our final Walking Wheeling Wednesday was very successful with many families making the most of the balmy conditions yesterday to walk, ride, scoot or skate to school. I have had confirmation that our new bike racks will arrive over the holidays so that when we return to school next year we will have some fabulous new bike and scooter parking facilities to use, even more incentive to use an active mode of transport to get to school.

School Leaders
Our new school leaders for year six have been selected after a very exhaustive process of training and preparation and then selection. Congratulations to all of our new leaders for 2013, I look forward to working with many of you in your roles next year. Thanks to all this year’s leaders, they have all done a wonderful job in helping to run our school and model exceptional behaviour and leadership to our younger students.

Thank you in particular to my ICT Leaders, Ben and Mikkel, who, as many of you would have seen at the concert on Tuesday, did a magnificent job operating the audio and sound systems on the night. Thanks also to the Green Team leaders, Aspa and Adele, who have done a great job with the Green Team this year. Thanks also to the Green Team reps in each class who came to our meetings and worked very hard throughout the year making our school more sustainable.

I wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and New Year, and hope that all families have a safe and relaxing holiday over the festive season.

Malcolm Dow
Acting Assistant Principal
Performing Arts News

Well done to all the students for their confident singing and dancing at Tuesday night’s ‘Carols in the Quadrangle’. You all looked fantastic in your Christmas attire, great effort!!!

Also, thank you to the Junior and Senior Choir for their performance at the Jam Factory on Wednesday 12th December. You performed beautifully and lifted everyone’s spirit in the complex! It was also great to see so many parents, grandparents and past students who were there to show their support.

Lastly, good luck to all the Grade 6 students for 2013 and a BIG THANK YOU to Clara Conheady and Rose Power for being the 2012 Performing Arts leaders.

Have a wonderful and safe Christmas.

Amanda Wilson
Performing Arts Co-ordinator

Visual Arts Notice

Art Smocks
Please wash your child’s art smock over the holidays so it is clean, fresh and ready for 2013.

Level 4 Art Club
The students who have taken part in Level 4 Art Club this term have spent many hours painting either a landscape or portrait on canvas. At our final assembly for 2012 these students will show the amazing work they have created. Well done to all the art club students, your paintings look fantastic!

Thank you
Thank you to everyone who has brought in supplies such as; newspapers, containers, fabric, bottle tops, ring pulls and magazines to the Art room. These donations are very much appreciated.

I have loved teaching the Art Program whilst Lucy has been on Long Service Leave this term. The Art room is a special place and I have really enjoyed watching the magic that happens when your children create something they are proud of.

And, from my family to yours, have a wonderful Christmas, a happy New Year and a safe, relaxing, fun break over the holidays xx

Jennifer Hemingway
Visual Arts Co-ordinator

PIANO
A new owner has been found for the piano in the Infant Hall. No more offers will be accepted!

The OOSH team has teamed up with Kmart to provide presents to underprivileged children through the Salvation Army.

If you can spare a new toy for a child please leave it under the Christmas tree in OOSH and we will wrap and deliver them.

Please leave presents no later than today.

Cheers OOSH Team
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