Dear Parents,

What a wonderful week we have already had in our start to the school year. We had our first assembly yesterday morning and it was fabulous to see the new school leaders: Stephanie, Winnie, Tilly and Will confidently and proudly leading the school through our first assembly. All the other students who hold leadership positions such as our Green Team, SRC, Community and Culture team and our You Can Do It! leaders also spoke so well and confidently in front of such a large audience. I know many adults who will do anything to avoid public speaking! It was also marvellous to see our Preps attend their first assembly and sit through all those announcements so wide eyed and enthralled. They have settled into school and routines so beautifully and our terrific Prep team have done a wonderful job in facilitating this smooth transition into school.

There were a few tears last Thursday morning when our Preps had their first official start to school and thankfully our PFA had the right antidote for those mums! We held a welcome to school Prep parents morning tea in our MPC where all our Prep parents were officially welcomed and had the opportunity to chat and laugh with each other. We are very grateful to Mish McGrory who reassured the parents with her chat and also recruited prep class reps for 2014. Thank you to the following mums who baked slices, bikkies, cakes and helped to serve the tea and coffee: Mish McGrory, Brig Warwick, Nikki Batagol, Kim Hyde and Janine Sheean. We are very appreciative of all your help and delicious baking!

The Education Department recently launched its “No Exceptions, No Excuses” campaign regarding leaving children in cars over summer. I reminded parents about this last week but have been asked to mention it again.

**Children and Hot Cars. No Exceptions. No Excuses.**

On hot days, it is important to remember that children should never be left alone in a car.

The temperature inside a car on hot days begins to rise as soon as the door closes and within minutes the temperature inside can be double the temperature outside.

Leaving children in hot cars – even for a moment – can result in injury or death. Young children’s smaller body size and underdeveloped nervous system places them at a much greater risk of life-threatening heatstroke, dehydration and other serious health risks. Victorian legislation makes leaving a child unattended in a car a criminal offence, with penalties ranging from fines of $2165 or three months in prison.

If you are travelling with a child in a car and you need to get out, make sure you take your child with you. No exceptions. No excuses. For more information, see: Kidsafe Victoria.

**Survey for a secondary school provision in the Prahran/Stonnington area**

On Monday night a number of school council parents met with Ross Kimber and Peter Cole, who are conducting a feasibility study into the provision of a quality government secondary school in Stonnington. Whilst a number of our parents do elect to send their children to independent secondary schools, there are a significant number of parents frustrated that we don’t actually have a choice of a year 7-12 setting anywhere within the LGA of Stonnington.

Principal’s report continued over page...
Principal’s report continued ...

In fact we are the only Local Government Area in Melbourne which doesn’t have a secondary school, yet Glen Eira has 3. Our parents currently have a choice of either, Glen Eira College, Malvern Central (Yr7/8), Elwood College or the newly badged, Auburn College. All of which are tricky to get to and involve a few forms of transport. The highly successful Albert Park College is already full and our students are unable to access the mainstream college and only the accelerated program is open to our students, where entry is determined by test results. The input from our parents’ meeting, together with my views on a quality secondary college will be compiled in a report and submitted to the government by the 17th February. I look forward to sharing the recommendations within the report with you.

Clem Newton- Brown, Member for Prahran has been lobbying for a secondary school in Prahran and has designed a survey for parents to respond to and send back to Clem’s office - reply paid. These surveys are available at our school entry desk and I encourage as many parents as possible to complete one and express your thoughts about secondary school provision in Prahran. There is also a public meeting to be held at Toorak Primary School on Wednesday 12th February 2014 6.00-7.00pm. Even though your child may only be in Prep or Grade 2, if you would like to see a quality secondary college in Stonnington you may consider attending. Even though we are in Michael O’Brien’s electorate of Malvern, I wholeheartedly support Clem in his endeavours and will always strongly advocate for quality secondary provision for my parents and students. Should you wish to discuss this further with me please don’t hesitate to pop into my office for a chat.

Information Evening February 18th 2014 6.00pm -8.00pm
Could all parents please accept this as a personal invitation to attend an information session for your child’s class on Tuesday 18th February. The aim of these sessions is to provide an overview of the learning programs and to outline some of the organisational aspects of each level as well as communicate the teacher’s expectations for each child’s learning journey. Through these information sessions we hope that parents will have a clearer picture of how to support their child’s learning throughout 2014. Please note the time and venues for each of these sessions will be 6.00 - 6.30 Preps in the Infant Hall 6.30 -7.00 Yr 1 /2 in the MPC 7.00- 7.30 Yr 3 /4 in the MPC 7.30 - 8.00 Yr 5/6 in the MPC Looking forward to seeing you all there.

Welcome to Armadale Family Picnic Friday February 21st

Our first major community event for the year will be our welcome to Armadale Family Picnic which be held on Friday 21st February from 6.00pm - 9.00pm. This is a wonderfully relaxed opportunity for current and new families to meet each other and to enjoy the strong sense of community that exists at APS. Please mark this date in your diary and please read the PFA section in our newsletter to glean more details.

Kate’s Amazing African Adventure

On behalf of the whole school community I would like to extend our best wishes to Kate McArthur who will be finishing up at OOSHC this week and travelling to Liberia to work with an aid organisation which looks after 150 schools to support the education of young children. Not only is Kate a former primary student here but she has worked at OOSHC for the last 6 years. Kate’s willingness to go and help out primary children and assist in their educational opportunities in a poverty stricken country epitomises exactly the type of person that we hold in high regard at Armadale. In support of Kate’s endeavours, the SRC is running a casual clothes day tomorrow and the children are asked to bring a gold coin donation which will go towards supplying bookshelves for the primary schools in Liberia.

Updating School Records

At the start of each school year we ask parents to contact the office with any changes or updates to your child/ren's enrolment information. If you have any changes to:

- Phone numbers
- Email addresses
- Home address
- Emergency contacts or
- Changes to family arrangements

please email the school at armadale.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au or put the changes in writing and bring them to the office as soon as possible so that we have the most current information relating to your child.

Thank you.

Warm regards

Rochelle Cukier
Principal
Playground Rules
Peter Cracknell and I have spent last week discussing and demonstrating the playground rules to all the students (except the Preps, we will do them a little later). The overriding rule for our playground is **Everyone has the right to feel safe**, and that guides all the other rules. In our discussions with the students it was great to see how well they understood the rules and the reasoning behind them. As one student in year 3 said, “It’s all just common sense really.”

If you would like to see a copy of these rules, please click on this link or go to the homepage of the school website at www.armadaleps.vic.edu.au.

Green Team 2014
At assembly yesterday I introduced our Green Team Leaders for this Year; Lucien Catrice, Conner Burke and Athena Gallagher. The senior Green Team (years 3-6) will be attending a special Green Team Planning Day on Friday 14 March, and this will help guide us for our sustainability plans for this year. There are three major objectives for this year:
- Attaining our 5th and final Star for the Resource Smart Schools Program
- Increasing the participation in our Active Travel Program – Walking, Riding, Skating or Scooting
- Becoming a 100% Nude Food School, and becoming rubbish free in the playground

I believe all these objectives are very achievable this year. Our school has a great history of being a leader in Sustainability and these plans will only help to reinforce this.

**National Ride2School Day**
As part of our involvement in active travel we will again be participating in National Ride2School Day which is on March 19 this year. We had a very successful day last year with a huge number of students riding their bikes to school that day. It was so successful and Bicycle Network Victoria were so impressed that they have asked us to be their special media school this year. That means the school will get quite a bit of publicity relating to the Ride2School program. Let’s not disappoint the media and make sure our day is even bigger and better than last year. Keep this date in mind and start preparing by participating in our Walking Wheeling Wednesdays. Click here for the Ride2School website.

Malcolm Dow
Assistant Principal

Year 1/ 2 Gardening club
Tuesdays at lunchtime – 1.30-2.10pm
Digging, weeding, mulching, planting cooking and eating... are some of the activities students will participate in.

About 14 of our Year 1/2 students attended a meeting in the Italian room on Tuesday.

Student Banking
Don’t forget that Student Banking starts next week on Tuesday 11 February.

Alison Crone
Student Banking Co-ordinator

Library News
With furniture moving around the school in the last week the library has picked up a handy bookshelf just inside the door. At the moment it is housing all the new books we received from last year so feel to come read new items! Book Club (Scholastic) forms are now located just outside the library on the wooden desk.

Happy reading,
Brett Leyshan
You Can Do It! Awards

Jaxsen Farah 1/2A  
For recognising that another student in our class was upset, gently reassuring him by putting your arm around him, telling him that it is okay if he cries, and asking if he would like to sit with you so that you can read him a story.

Will Cullity 1/2D  
For showing respect to his classmates and teachers, always listening and helping others. A great start to the year, Will!

Edward Cooper 1/2E  
For managing his classroom activities so well in spite of the plaster cast on his arm.

Winnie Mastores 1/2K  
For showing initiative in doing jobs around the classroom without being asked.

Harri Sanger 1/2P  
For making a big effort to ‘Get Along’ with his new classmates and being able to look after his belongings.

Claire Sorger 3/4C  
For thinking deeply about the qualities we expect from a good friend. You wrote very sincere and truthful answers and happily shared them with your new class. Well done Claire!

Peter Kartsaklis 3/4C  
For the positive and friendly way you have settled into your new class. You have contributed great ideas and always with a great smile. Keep it up Peter!

Henni Graham 3/4J  
For making a fantastic effort to start her year being organised and getting along with her new classmates. Well done Henni!

Clive Landy 3/4M  
For assisting his classmates in all different ways, making a real effort to get along with everyone and for following directions and staying organised! Well done Clive!!

Taliyah Goumas 3/4S  
For showing initiative and super organisational skills. Thank you for helping me tidy up the class. Bravo!

Chloe Darby 3/4W  
For showing a positive attitude towards all aspects of her learning and making a confident start to the new school year. Well done Chloe!

Charlotte Gatehouse 5B  
For approaching the start of the year with a positive attitude and a willingness to ‘be the best that she can be’.

Max Officer 5F  
For demonstrating an enthusiastic attitude towards all aspects of his learning and working responsibly on individual and group activities and contributing to both in a positive way.

Carla Gee 6N  
For making a wonderfully confident start to year 6. You’re positive, helpful and full of creative sensible ideas and thoughts - keep it up!

Conner Bourke 6Z  
For displaying fantastic initiative in your position as Environment Leader and confidence in presenting at last week’s assembly. Keep up the great work Conner!

Lucien Catrice 6Z  
For displaying fantastic initiative in your position as Environment Leader (even coming in during the holidays to water our plants) and confidence in presenting at last week’s assembly. Keep up the great work Lucien!

The 5 Keys of YCDI! Education

Our core purpose is the development of young people’s social and emotional capabilities, including:

- Confidence (academic, social)
- Persistence
- Organisation
- Getting Along, and
- Resilience.

Central to the development of these 5 Key Foundations is instilling in young people 12 Habits of the Mind, including:

- Accepting Myself
- Taking Risks
- Being Independent
- I Can Do It
- Giving Effort
- Working Tough
- Setting Goals
- Planning My Time
- Being Tolerant of Others
- Thinking First
- Playing by the Rules, and
- Social Responsibility
Parents and Friends for Armadale (PFA)

Hi everyone,

The best part of my PFA responsibilities? Chatting to the kids and meeting new families. I have been rewarded with both the past few weeks. It was lovely to meet new parents and grandparents at the morning tea last week and it was great (if a little nerve-wracking!) to speak to the children at assembly yesterday morning. The children all seem to be settling in well – even if a little tired from the heat – and are so happy in the playground. I find it a joy to see old friendships renewed across year levels and classes.

On to business, our first PFA meeting for the year was held this morning. We will confirm the 2014 PFA Team next week as some positions have become open – we will keep you posted.

Coming events to note include:
- Kate’s Special Friday Fundraiser tomorrow for Libraries in Liberia - Icy Pole Friday.
- Friday 21 February – School Welcome Picnic.
- Monday 24 March – Easter Raffle donations begin for the draw at close of term.
- Saturday March 29 – The Fete! Bigger than a new Katy Perry CD release! Bigger than Texas! Mark in your diary now so you won’t be disappointed!
- Prep Cocktail Party – TBA once we have more class reps on board!
- Level 6 Cocktail Party – more reps please! Let us help you have a good time!

Friday 21 February – School Welcome Picnic
All parents and children are invited to our annual school welcome picnic on Friday 21 February from 6pm onwards. The picnic is held in the school grounds and is a fantastic opportunity to meet and socialise with others in the school community. The children just love it and have a fabulous time. There will be supervised sporting activities provided for the children from 6.00pm – 7.00pm on the tennis courts. We may be in need of a few volunteers on the night. Keep an eye out for further information and for flyers around the school. Pack your picnic baskets, rugs, and chairs, and see you on the 21st.

Roll Up Roll Up Roll Up! Class Representatives We Need You!!!
Each year we ask for volunteers to act as Class Representative for your child’s class. The role is a fantastic way to be more involved in your child’s class and the school community. Most importantly, it is really enjoyable and not demanding! Responsibilities include preparing rosters for classroom helpers, assisting with sausage sizzles, classroom morning teas, cocktail parties, and assisting with the Healthy Breakfast later in the year. If you would like any further information on the role, please don’t hesitate to contact us to discuss. We have received a great response so far but do require more volunteers. The first Class Reps meeting for the year will be held in the next few weeks – details will be advised shortly.

If you are interested in being a Class Representative, then please complete the form on our website – armadaleps.vic.edu.au – under the “Parents“ and then “Forms“ tab. Please return your completed form to the office by Friday 14th February 2013.

Prep Cocktail Party
The first for 2013 will be the Prep Cocktail party so thank you to the wonderful people (newbies and brave hearts Sandra and Hayley for Prep P) who have raised their hands as reps. We do need more to get things going – Prep C needs 2 reps and Prep S needs a helper for Jane Portnoy who is a wonderful and tireless member of our community. Details will be provided as soon as we get the complete set of Prep Class Reps on board to discuss requirements. These parties are always a great night out, and a wonderful chance to meet parents and staff in an informal setting.

Level 6 Cocktail Party
The most special Jo D’Cruz and Jane Hayman need some friends to get the party started, so help them out. Email myself or Brig or the ladies direct to volunteer.

Saturday 29 March – The Fete!

Easter Raffle – Last Day of Term
Again, more on this later.

Icy Poles for Kate for Liberia tomorrow – GO Kate!
Please think about putting $1.00 in your child’s bag tomorrow for Icy Poles. We encourage you to help Kate help the children in Liberia with purchasing books and establishing secure libraries so that the children might enjoy all the privileges of reading that we do. All proceeds go to Kate’s quest in helping the children. We salute you Kate! Not only a well-loved OOSH teamster and friend but a past Armadale alumni as well. We will miss you at the Fete Kate. Enjoy your travels and stay safe!

Exciting Things Happen At Armadale Primary
Mish McGrory and Brigid Warwick
0412554434 0412128164
Email: mish@mccgroryonline.com
brigid@warwick.com.au
PFA Co-Presidents
Armadale’s 130th birthday celebration - Saturday March 29th 2014

This celebration is shaping up to be an incredibly exciting event for our whole community and the very energetic parent committee is organising a wonderful olde style village fair for everyone to enjoy. There will be various forms of entertainment and activities, food, drinks, and a range of stalls to purchase home made treats and gourmet delights, a historical exhibition of the school in the library and school tours for many ex-students. We will be asking a number of parents to help us out, baking, cooking, setting up stalls and running them. Could all parents please start collecting empty jars for our “Lucky jar stall” and for the preserves and jams stall. If any families have a pop up tent/ marquee they could lend the school that would be wonderful as well. The children will also be able to participate in a poster competition and Lucy, our Art teacher will explain that to all the children.

We also have, thanks to Kate Nelson (Imogen and Charlie’s mum) our very own FACEBOOK PAGE to celebrate our birthday and the address is https://www.facebook.com/ArmadalePrimarySchool Please go onto our site and have a look at our page and you may like to add some comments or stories to the page. This is of course for parents and any children who would like to look at our page must do so under the supervision of parents.

Keep reading the newsletters to find out more details about our 130th Fair and should anyone else have any other ideas or suggestions or ways in which they may be able to help, please contact Sarah Scotti (Will’s Mum) or send me an email.

Rochelle Cukier

Sports News
L4&6 House Swimming Sports & Trials - Tuesday 11 February

On Tuesday 11 February all children from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will be involved in the House Swimming Sports and District Swimming trials for the upcoming District Swimming Sports. Children will be participating in freestyle and fun events in the shallow area of the pool based on fun and participation. Selected children may also be trialled in other strokes. These sports will be held at the Richmond Recreation Centre. Detailed information has been distributed to all children last week. Please note that no child can attend without the signed permission on the excursion levy form. See the link on the home of the website for more information.

Date: Tuesday 11 February
Venue: Richmond Recreation Centre Gleadell St, Richmond Melway map 44 F6
Departure: 9.00am
Travel: Bus
Return: 3.00pm approximately

Peter Cracknell
Sports Convenor

“NO HAT NO PLAY”
A reminder to all students to be Sunsmart at school. We have now implemented the “no hat no play” policy. So remember to apply sunscreen, wear your hat when outside and bring a water bottle to school each day.

Toys and Games wanted

The Prep classes are always happy to accept any toys and games (in good condition) that your children may have grown out of now. We are currently in need of more doll house furniture and small figurines/ dolls to make our doll’s houses more exciting. If you are having a clean out we’d really appreciate any donations for our new Preps this year.

Thank you from the Prep Teachers

Prep Bulletin

Click on this link to read this week’s Prep bulletin or go the website and go to the Students tab and then your child’s class to read all the news.

EMA

The Education Maintenance Allowance provides financial assistance to low-income families to help meet costs associated with the education of their children. It is a means-tested payment - parents must hold a Centrelink or Veterans Affairs concession card to be eligible. Click here to download a copy of the application form. Please bring the completed form and your Concession Card to the office by 28 February 2014. Parents who have claimed in the past will need to reapply at the start of each school year. More information is available at this website.
Support Schools in Liberia

Dear Armadale Primary families,

Kate M from OOSHC is raising money for Visions in Action/ Africa Development Corps, the aid organisation she will be volunteering with for six months in Liberia, West Africa. They have recently received a donation of 48,000 books and need extra funding to distribute books and make bookshelves/ cupboards for 150 Liberian schools. Books are vital to improving education as 40% of the population are illiterate and 80% live below the poverty line.

A book cupboard made by a local carpenter costs $70. If you would like to donate a whole cupboard, your family name can be painted on the front as thank you for your donation. However, a smaller $10 or $20 donation would also be greatly appreciated.

Donations may be made online through the following Commonwealth Bank of Australia account:

Kate McArthur West Africa Fund
BSB: 06 3143
Account No: 1054 0434
Please identify your family name in the ‘transaction description’.

If you have any further questions, or would like to receive regular updates of my work in Liberia, please feel free to contact me at kate.mcarthur1@gmail.com

Thank you very much!
Kate McArthur

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SRC COLOURED CLOTHES DAY FOR LIBERIA, WEST AFRICA

This Friday 7th February SRC are having a coloured clothes day to raise money for Kate to help schools in Liberia, Western Africa.

Please wear coloured clothes and bring a gold coin donation.

Kate is leaving to spend 6 months helping children living in poverty and would love your help in supporting their community.

Thank you
WANTED TO RENT

We are an Armadale Primary family of 5 looking to rent a 3/4 bedroom house/townhouse in Stonnington.

Needed ASAP.

Happy with either month by month or fixed term (12 month) lease.

Excellent tenants and non smokers.

2 Dwarf bunnies in outside hutch only.

Please call Jo on 0408 313 181 if you know of any possibilities.

Respiratory experts talk to parents about asthma

Ever wondered what the experts would say about a cure for asthma?

Or how to get your teenager to take their medication?

If you want to find out the answers to some of the most frequently asked questions about children and asthma, watch The Asthma Foundation’s new video series – available from http://forum.asthma.org.au/

For more information, please contact The Asthma Foundation of Victoria on 1800 278 462 or www.asthma.org.au

Learn music

here at school

Come and join in the fun of learning to play keyboard, guitar, violin, here at Armadale Primary School

Creative Music for Schools conducts a music program here at school each week.

Small group classes or one-on-one lessons give children an excellent grounding in music where they will learn to read music and play their chosen instrument.

Tuition costs from $15.40 per lesson and enrolments are now being accepted for limited places in term 1.

Interested parents should call Sharon during office hours on 9818 2333

Creative Music

www.creativemusic.com.au

Chess Coaching

Games & Prizes to be won!

Where: New Performing Arts Space

When: Friday Lunchtimes

14th Feb – 28th Mar 2014

Cost: $85 per term ($65 for 2nd sibling)

Benefits: Strategic thinking, improved self esteem, attention span in class, lateral thinking, teamwork, analytical skills.

For more info contact Phil on 0421 901 530

Forward this section in an envelope marked “Chess Coaching” with your payment to your school office.

Child’s Full Name: __________________________

Grade: ______

School: _________________________________

Email: _________________________________

Payment Due: Friday 14th February

Cheques: Payable to “Hooton Consulting Pty Ltd”

EFT: Bank: cba Act Name: Hooton Consulting Pty Ltd

063201 Acct: 10049258

** please place child’s name on transaction **

$85 cash: □ cheque: □ EFT: □