Dear Armadale Community,

I was thrilled to watch the recent showcases of the whole school earlier this week and want to acknowledge the work of our Arts teacher Laura and the Year 6 Arts leaders. They all did a wonderful job and I enjoyed witnessing many rehearsals in my office. I was thrilled to be copied in on an email I received this week from a parent who works professionally in the Performing Arts field:

Hey Laura,

Huge congratulations on today's fabulous entertainment. It was run so beautifully. The Judges were all so positive and encouraging. The audience very well versed in theatre etiquette; encouraging all acts and clapping and singing along appropriately.

It was so joyful for everyone. How wonderful to give those inclined an opportunity to express their creativity and experience performing to their peers, parents and teachers.

I loved that the children were not made to practice and aim for perfection, rather do as they enjoy and have fun in a supportive environment. There was no pressure on them but to enjoy and have fun. The idea of performing for all of them will always be a positive one now.

Well done Laura on putting on a fabulous show and unforgettable opportunity for the children.

Fabulous work Laura! Fabulous School! x

Child Safe Standards

The Victorian Government is introducing child safe standards to improve the way organisations that provide services for children to prevent and respond to child abuse that may occur within their organisation.

The standards are compulsory for all organisations providing services to children, and aim to drive cultural change in organisations so that protecting children from abuse is embedded in the everyday thinking and practice of leaders, staff and volunteers. This will assist organisations to:

- Prevent child abuse
- Encourage reporting of any abuse that does occur
- Improve responses to any allegations of child abuse.

Children have the right to be safe and protected from harm, including at school. In 2013, the Victorian Parliament held an inquiry into the Handling of Child Abuse by Religious and Other Non-Government Organisations, which resulted in the Betrayal of Trust Final Report. As a result, the Victorian Government now requires schools to implement the child safe standards. The Standards apply not only to schools, but to all organisations that work with children.

There are seven standards - they require school staff, the school council and the school community to implement measures to ensure our children are safe at all times. The Standards also require schools to ensure children are empowered and active participants in their own safety – by giving children a voice!

At Armadale Primary School we take our responsibility for keeping our children safe very seriously. Schools have to meet legal requirements for the care, safety and welfare of students. By the end of the school year all schools need to meet the child safe standards to achieve a zero tolerance to child abuse.

Over the coming weeks and months into 2017, we will be talking to all members of...
our school community about how to achieve a zero tolerance approach to child abuse. This will include specific actions that school council and the leadership team are taking to make our school safer. We have started this conversation with our commitment to child safety, a child safety policy and a code of conduct for all school staff including volunteers and contractors to ensure that everyone knows how to keep children safe. We will also be working with all our students so they know what to do if they feel unsafe and we will be talking about what members of the school community need to do to respond to, and report child abuse.

Everyone has a role in protecting children from child abuse.

Family Fun Night
We are all looking forward to tomorrow night where you can come as a whole family and enjoy a sausage sizzle, popcorn and other treats. The OOSHc staff will be helping out with activities for the children and Inflatable World will be there as well. In the interest of child and toddler safety, could all parents please keep an eye on their children and refrain from bringing glassware into the school. Fingers crossed that it won’t rain. Thank you to our fabulous PFA for putting this event together.

Volunteering to assist with Swimming Prep – Year 2
Just a reminder to all parents who would like to help with swimming that you must have a current Working with Children card and that this has been registered at the Office. Could I please request that all parents who are going swimming also pop on a high-vis vest to assist with the crossing of roads, management and change room supervision. Thank you for your time in enabling our swimming program to be so successful.

Class Placements for 2017
Our teachers will soon begin the process of placing children in their classes for next year. The purpose of this process as outlined in our policy is to provide each child with the opportunity to be part of a class of children that affords them the best environment to learn. Our teachers will form classes based on a balance of intellectual, social and emotional needs.

Sitting in Fairfax Circle environment
We have recently been made aware that some of our children have been bitten by insects whilst sitting on the grass in Fairfax circle. In response to this we have just had the area sprayed. For children who do like to sit on the grass, it may be wise to bring a blanket or picnic rug with them when they go outside or take out chairs from their classroom.

Have a wonderful week.

Rochelle Cukier
Principal

Dear APS Parents

On behalf of the APS School Council I would like to thank you for financially contributing to the school to the level you have in 2016. This year, through a concerted effort on behalf of parents and staff, the level of school fees paid is the highest it has been for many years. The high collection rate means that for the first time in a number of years we will not be forced to use the School Council’s cash reserves to meet operating expenses.

As discussed in previous newsletters, Armadale Primary School cannot provide the level of education it does without your financial support. The Department of Education and Training does not meet the full cost of educating our children and as such it is only through the payment of your fees that we can provide the services we do and ensure the school continues to be a clean and safe learning environment.

Your ongoing commitment to Armadale Primary School both financially and through the many hours of voluntary work is highly valued and sets a great example for our children to follow.

Thank you again.

Regards

Laurie Conheady
Treasurer
Armadale Primary School

Scholastic Book Club

A reminder that orders for Scholastic Book Club Issue 8 need to be placed by Friday 25 November. The easiest way to order is by LOOP – check the back page of the brochure for details.

This is the final Book Club order for 2016.

Alison Crone
Scholastic Book Club Co-ordinator
In conjunction with our Nude Food policy at Armadale, we are supporting No Packet November, an Australia Wide initiative, and it was great to receive an email from one of our parents, Chali Harding, who has a fantastic recipe for Lunchbox Cookies that are healthy, and of course have no packaging. She has set up a blog, which may also be of interest to parents: beholistichealthblog.wordpress.com/2016/11/17/lunchbox-cookies/

Here is her recipe:

In honour of ‘no packet November’ I thought it was only right to share these delicious lunchbox cookies. Although good luck with making them last all week, they are too yummy to resist nibbling. I also thought this could be a great thing to get the children involved in putting together.

1.5 cups coconut flour
1.5 cups oats
1.5 tsp ground cinnamon
1/4 tsp vanilla powder
1 tsp mesquite powder
1 tsp baking powder
a handful of dark chocolate chips
a handful sultanas
1/4 cup sesame seeds
1/2 cup sunflower seeds
1/2 tsp baking powder
1/4 tsp salt (preferably rock or Murray River salt)
1 tsp golden syrup
1 tsp (blackstrap molasses/rice malt syrup/maple syrup/honey or golden syrup again)
1 egg - whisked

Heat the oven at 150C. Pop all the dry ingredients into a large bowl. Melt the butter and switch off the heat before you add the sweet syrup of your choice, and stir well. Add your sweet butter to the bowl of dry ingredients and mix in thoroughly. Whisk your egg and add to the bowl of delicious gooey cookie mixture. Mix well again. Take a dessertspoonful of the mixture and make into a ball in your hands. Place onto a lined baking tray and flatten with the tips of your fingers. Once all the mixture has been made into the patties then cook for 20 mins. Voila. Homemade cookies for the lunchbox.

I also was thrilled to receive a letter from two of our students, Lucie and Rose Armstrong, who had found a wonderful new product at a Farmers Market, called Sustainable Wraps, which are pieces of cotton fabric covered in beeswax to seal them, making them a great sustainable alternative to plastic wrappings. It was lovely to see that our students are really taking what they learn at school beyond the school boundary and out into the real world. Well done and thankyou girls.

Compass
A reminder to parents that it is absolutely essential that they are able to log in to Compass. It is now used for our semester reports, absence notifications and will soon be used for learning about, and giving permission for, excursions and incursions at school. Just like Tiqbiz, it is a vital part of our communication between home and school. Please contact the school if you have any problems with your login.

Malcolm Dow
Assistant Principal
The Arts News

Arts Showcases
WOW! We hosted two fabulous Performing Arts and Armadale’s Got Talent Showcases on Monday for years 3 to 6 and on Tuesday for the Preps to Grade 2s. All the acts were creative, energetic and exciting. The audiences were clapping and singing along, enjoying the fun atmosphere.

Thank you to the year 6 arts team who as judges, provided positive and encouraging feedback.

All acts will receive prizes and the winners will be announced at Assembly on Tuesday. We hope you enjoyed the performances!

Visual Arts Expo
On Friday afternoon in the MPC all students will have on display their favourite Visual Arts piece. BUT we need your help to get it up and running! If you can spare 15 or 30 minutes on Friday morning to assist with mounting, labelling and displaying the artwork please come to the Arts Studio at 9am on Friday.

Thank you in advance!

Laura Welch
The Arts Teacher

Sports News

Swimming Prep, Year 1 & Year 2 students
Swimming lessons for Term 4 will commence tomorrow Friday 25th November. They will be held at the Lauriston Girls’ School Swim Centre Huntingtower Road, Armadale on:
♦ Friday 25th November
♦ Monday 28th November
♦ Tuesday 29th November
♦ Thursday 1st December
♦ Friday 2nd December
♦ Monday 5th December
♦ Tuesday 6th December
♦ Thursday 8th December
♦ Friday 9th December (9 lessons in total).

Each lesson will be approximately 40 minutes with trained swimming instructors provided at the following times:
♦ 2S & 2J (9:30-10:10am)
♦ Prep C & Prep E (10:10-10:50am)
♦ Prep S & Prep N (10:50-11:30am)
♦ 1E & 1K (11:30am-12:10pm)
♦ 1P (12:10pm -12.50pm)

Parent assistance is required walking to and from the pool, leaving school half an hour before the start of each lesson. If you are able to help please see your child’s class teacher. Click here for full details.

Tommy Lahiff Cup - rescheduled Thursday 1 December
Selected children in Year 6 will be taking part in this year’s rescheduled Tommy Lahiff Cup. More details to follow.

Year 5&6 Ultimate Frisbee Gala day Friday 2 December
The Year 5&6 students will be taking part in an Ultimate Frisbee Gala day on Friday 2 December. More details to follow.

Peter Cracknell
Sports Co-ordinator

Junior School Sports
Despite the weather we had a great afternoon with the Junior School Sports. Thank you to the parents, Year 6 helpers, PFA and the teachers for your help.
A treehouse in the school’s secret garden takes shape

We’ve got four posts in the ground (thankyou, the Grade 1 digging team, pictured, who unearthed clay, an old pipe, and pesky roots), and now the fun begins.

Pippa’s class have shared their roomful of ideas. Abeni, Poppy and Leah are keen on a swing, which was agreed was a good idea. Campbell, Cruz and Finn and others want a slide. Lachie’s design has a water feature. Alastair’s has an attic (& a trapdoor). Cruz’s floats high in the sky. Gracie’s has a birds’ nest, and Harvey’s has two chimney stacks. And I love Lucy’s, with the detail of each nail hole.

Each student spoke in front of class with their drawings and it was wonderful seeing their imaginations at work. I think we’ll build an amazing tree house. We hope to finalise a design and start work on its building next week.

And if you haven’t seen our new fence, please have a look. It screens-out our nature garden from the school’s dumpster in the south-west corner of the grounds. The Preps and Grade 1s have a bunch of sticks we still need to add, which we hope might turn it into a forest.

If anyone has some spare timber suitable for a treehouse floor, please sing out. We’re on the look-out.

Dugald Jellie
Parents & Friends for Armadale (PFA)

Fun Run
Thanks to everyone we raised over $20,000. An amazing result for our school. Congratulations to all the winners of the raffle prizes. Well done and thank you to Jemima Gray, Bayley Thomson, Annabel Atkins, Summer Thompson, Alfie Holuigue, Emily Start, Jack Cooper and Stephanie Smith who were the top fundraisers of their year and a Big Thank You and Well Done to Connor Seremelis who was the top fundraiser in the school.

Family Fun Night Friday 25th November 5.00-8.00pm
Don’t forget Friday night is our Family Fun Night. Inflatables, face painting, crazy hair, photo booth Sausage sizzle, drinks, popcorn, lolly stand or BYO picnic. Gingerbread houses (made by the prep classes) for raffle. Come and celebrate the end of the year. If anyone can spare an hour on the night to help run our stalls we would be really grateful. Please let us know if you can help or come and see us on the night.

Christmas Gift Drive
This year we are asking the Armadale Community to consider those less fortunate than ourselves as Christmas approaches. Armadale PFA is working with TPCC and PJFC to collect gifts to donate to local children in need. If you are able to, please consider purchasing a gift for a child up to 15 to donate. We will have a box in the office to collect any donations. Thank you so much for your support.

The Armadale PFA Committee
Email: armadalepfa@gmail.com

Hi my name is Izzie and this is Mia Matilda and Olive.
In class we made 2 bird houses to help the birds with illness.
When we had finished, we went on a Sunday to give the bird houses to the R.S.P.C.A. and they are going to send us certificates.

Hi my name is Charli and this is Stella. In investigations we searched World Wildlife Foundation and then we made bookmarks to make money for the pandas.

Now we are going to hold a stall at the Toorak Village on Thursday the 24 of November at 4:00 to 4:30pm. Each bookmark costs $1.00. These are the 2 choices of bookmarks.

THANK YOU.
FAMILY FUN NIGHT

*FREE ENTERTAINMENT
BOUNCY CASTLES
&
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*LOLLIE & CRAFT STALL

*PHOTO BOOTH
&
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*SAUSAGE SIZZLE

*POPcorn

*BAR & DRINKS

NOVEMBER 25TH
5-8PM
AT
ARMADALE PRIMARY

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