Dear Armadale Community,

The year is rushing to an end and I can’t believe there is only one week of school left with so much to do still. We are still finalising our staffing for Years 1 to 6 and I will be able to share our confirmed staffing structure for 2016 early next week, before our “Meet the teacher” transition session on Wednesday 16th December. I will do this via Tiqbiz to the whole school.

Triple Excitement at Armadale!
I was delighted to get the news last week that Lisa Vollugi has given birth to triplets, 2 girls and a boy, Zavey, Imbi and Lottie. Mother and babies are doing well and Dad, Johnnie is over the moon. The babies are very little and will need a great deal of specialised neonatal care before they can come home. We are absolutely thrilled for Lisa and she now has her own performing troupe ready to go on stage.

Robin is Retiring!
Our much loved and respected Robin Nicolson is retiring from the Education Department after more than 40 years of teaching. The school is celebrating this milestone with Robin at Georgio’s restaurant on Thursday 17th December. If any present or past parents or former students would like to join us at this function please see me for details. All current students will have the opportunity to farewell Robin at our final assembly on Friday December 18th starting at 12.30pm and parents are most welcome to attend that assembly to farewell Robin.

Celebration Concert in the Quadrangle 15th December at 6pm
I hope all families have saved Tuesday’s date and will be able to join us for our annual concert in the quadrangle. We will be starting promptly at 6pm and hope to conclude by 7pm. Could all parents and family members please bring their own chairs to sit on, the children will all be seated in their class groups in front of the stage on the asphalt. It may be wise to ensure the children are fed before you came back to school and this will help them sing with more gusto! Lynsey and Vita have been working incredibly hard to ensure this will be an enjoyable evening.

Prep Teachers for 2016
I can confirm our Prep staffing for 2016 and am delighted to share with you the following staff will be teaching our Preps:
- Connie Apostolos
- Angela Sozzi
- Steph Eden-McIlroy
- Nikita Coleman

Nikita is a new member of staff, an experienced graduate teacher who impressed our panel with her enthusiasm and passion for teaching. We are excited to have her join our Prep team.

Nasty Nits have returned to Armadale
Have they ever really left? Just a reminder to parents to be vigilant about treatment and repeating this to children’s hair after 7 days. I hope you have some respite from this over the holidays.

Confirmed diagnoses of whooping cough at Armadale PS
As you would know from the communication via Tiqbiz there have been two cases of whooping cough reported in the 1/2 area. The school supports immunisation of all the children from infectious diseases and we sight this at the time of enrolment. Currently, it is parent choice whether to immunise or not but I believe legislation is changing next year for kinders and pre-school centres to make it compulsory.

If your child has a suspected / confirmed diagnosis of whooping cough you must notify the school.

Addressee: Densham Road, Armadale 3143
School Phone: 03 9822 7003
Website: www.armadaleps.vic.edu.au
OOSH: 03 9822 4912
E: armadale.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
OOSH: ooshc@armadaleps.vic.edu.au
I thought it timely to include the advice below from the Department of Public Health what the advice is with regards to whooping cough and I trust that parents will always seek medical advice when in doubt. Wednesday’s evening news reported a primary school experiencing over 200 cases of chicken pox, which can have nasty side effects and I would hate any of our children to become ill over Christmas.

**Pertussis (whooping cough) Department of Public Health advice on exclusion:**

- **Exclude for 21 days after the onset of cough or until they have completed 5 days of a course of antibiotic treatment**
- **Contacts aged less than 7 years in the same room as the case who have not received three effective doses of pertussis vaccine should be excluded for 14 days after the last exposure to the infectious case, or until they have taken 5 days of a course of effective antibiotic treatment**

**Year 6 Graduation**

This evening we will witness that rite of passage that every Year 6 looks forward to – leaving Primary school and getting reading for the challenge and independence of secondary school. I look forward to hearing their valedictory speeches and those special moments and memories that will stay with them for a long time.

**Our Final Assembly for the year will be next Friday 18th December at 12.30pm with school dismissed for our holidays at 1.30pm.**

We will still have our normal assembly on Wednesday 16th with Friday being especially for farewells.

Have a wonderful week.

Rochelle Cukier
Principal

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**WANTED**

Two highly enthusiastic and committed people (mums, dads, uncles, aunties) to be our 2016 PFA Presidents!!

It’s a highly paid job in love and cuddles and reward, you’ll see plenty of dollars, but they aren’t for you to keep. If you are looking for a way to give back to our community please consider this and pop in for a chat about what is involved. We have a wonderful history and traditions already established and there are dates set and routines that already work. But equally we are open to new suggestions and new ways of doing things. We just need your enthusiasm, time and willingness to continue to help make this a wonderful school for our community. All applicants welcome!!

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**This Week’s Awards**

**You Can Do It! Awards:**

- Alfie Holuigue 1/2W
- Robert Strangward 3/4C
- Yasmin Martin 3/4C
- Jack Handbury 3/4E
- Chloe Frigo 5P
- Ineke Pain 5P
End of Year Reports
Our end of year reports are nearing completion and will be distributed to all students next Thursday 17\textsuperscript{th} December. The teachers put a great deal of time and effort into the preparation of these reports, and we hope that they will give an accurate summary of the achievements of your child throughout the second semester. A reminder that achieving the benchmark for each respective level equates to a C, and the only children who can achieve an A are those who are 12 months or more above the expected level for their year level. A B is for children who are 6 months above.

Malcolm Dow
Assistant Principal
### 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

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### You Can Do It! Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Message</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alfie Holuigue 1/2W</td>
<td>For participating keenly in all classroom activities and enthusiastically approaching all his learning tasks throughout the year. A wonderful effort Alfie!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Strangward 3/4C</td>
<td>For the tremendous hard work and achievement he has made throughout 2015. You are a great hard worker Robert, congratulations!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yasmin Martin 3/4C</td>
<td>For the generous, kind and thoughtful manner she always displays with her friends and classmates. A true friend always Yasmin!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jack Handbury 3/4E</td>
<td>For a very successful year with huge gains in your spelling and concentration skills, keep up the great work at your new school Jack!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chloe Frigo 5P</td>
<td>For her willingness to host last week’s assembly. You practised your script and spoke with confidence and clarity. Great work Chloe!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ineke Pain 5P</td>
<td>For being a conscientious and co-operative member of 5P. Goodluck next year at your new school Jack! Armadale will miss you!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Student Banking

The following students have qualified for a Dollarmites Certificate this week:

- Siobhan McGann (Silver)
- Tom Ypinazar (Silver)
- Imogen Bickford (Silver)
- William Castine (Gold)
- Elke Chadwick (Gold)
- Mavi Imam (Gold)
- William Ellis (Gold)
- Gabriel Haddad (Gold)
- Raphael Haddad (Gold)

Well done everyone!

A reminder that this is the last week for Student Banking this year and that many reward items are now out of stock. Any orders placed this week will be held over till January 2016.

Alison Crone
Student Banking Co-ordinator

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PRC Parent Survey

The Department of Education and Training is conducting research into the Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge (PRC) to understand parents’ experiences and needs, as well as any improvements that could be made to the program.

We invite you to complete this survey if your child was registered for the 2015 PRC. The Department has engaged Andrews Group, an independent research firm, to conduct this research and your answers will remain confidential.

The survey should take approximately 10 minutes to complete. Click here to begin the survey

If you are having difficulties accessing the survey, please copy and paste the URL below into your internet browser:
https://qau1.au1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_9Rd7MoKOiVVAM3r

If you have any queries about the research, please don’t hesitate to contact Jillian Harriott, Research Manager at Andrews Group on (03) 9654 4480 or jillian@andrewsgroup.com.au. Alternatively please contact the Reading Challenge on (03) 9637 3624 or readingchallenge@edumail.vic.gov.au

Thank you in advance for your time.
Sports News

Final Bike Education excursion

A special Bike Education excursion is being held next Monday 14th December. Information was distributed to those children attending the excursion - click here for the details.

Peter Cracknell
Sports Co-ordinator

Italian News

Our Year 6 students attended an excursion to Lygon Street Carlton as part of the Italian program. They participated in a staff-led program at the Museo Italiano in Faraday Street Carlton, and also viewed the permanent exhibition. They then completed the Italian Carlton Walk, and had pranzo, lunch at Il Gambero, before making their way back to Parliament Station to catch il treno back to school.

Grazie to Ray, Pina, Suzanne, Sherina, and Genevieve for assisting on the day, along with Robin and Zaim.

Vita Vampatella
Italian Language Co-ordinator

OOSHC News

Dear OOSHC families,

The 2016 January Holiday Program is now out and available on the school website - or click on this link for all the details.

Please return the signed Holiday Program form, as well as a 2016 OOSHC Registration form for each child which is also available on the school website - or click here. We also require parents to complete an Ezidebit form.

Please hand in booking forms ASAP, as days will fill up quickly. Any enquiries, please email or call Ben.
As we wrap up for the Summer Holidays, with only one more week until the end of term, we would like to ask anyone who is interested in joining the PFA committee to please put your name down on the subcommittee lists outside the office.

**PFA Committee Meetings:**

- Fun Run Committee
- Trivia Night Committee
- Major Fundraising Committee (includes Family Fun Night)
- Mothers Day & Fathers Day Stall Committee
- Special Event Cake Stall & BBQ Committee
- Armadale Cares Committee
- Cookbook Committee
- PFA Administration role
- Treasurer / Finance role

The role of the PFA plays an extremely important part in the sustainability of our school, so if you would like to be involved and have the time to assist, we would LOVE to hear from you. If you have any questions or would like to know more about each role/committee please contact either one of us or Rochelle on cukier.rochelle.a@edumail.vic.gov.au

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**Christmas Orders:**

Those that ordered Christmas lilies and/or mini live Christmas trees, your orders will be available for collection at the front office on Wednesday 16th December.

**Icy Poles:**

Tomorrow is the last day for icy poles, so don’t forget your $1!

Thank you for your continued support of Armadale Primary School.

Kind regards

*Caz Laughton and Sarah Monahan*

*PFA Co-Presidents*

*Email: armadalepfa@gmail.com*
The 12 Do’s of Christmas

1. Buy good quality decorations that can be reused or make your own. I will do this.
2. Check that your work Christmas party organiser sets up well-signed recycling options for the event.
3. Find out what your recipients really want, or choose an experience or charity gift.
4. Choose reusable or recyclable wrapping, like paper.
5. Download the free RecycleSmart App for all your household recycling needs.
6. Prevent food waste – plan ahead and serve smaller portions. Compost or worm farm your food scraps.
7. Most food and drink packaging is recyclable. Sort and flatten it to fit as much as possible in your bin.
8. Recycle old mobile phones, printer cartridges, computers and tablets that get replaced.
9. Give a recharger pack with any battery-operated gifts – it’ll save money and reduce the gift’s impact.
10. Ensure your car runs efficiently by inflating the tyres and tuning the engine, and recycle your old car oil, tyres and batteries.
11. De-clutter the house – recycle from the yard, garage and attic.
12. See if your council has a special mulching service for live Christmas trees or take it to the garden section of your local recycling facility.

For more information on these recycling tips, to find local options and to reduce your eco footprint this Christmas visit 12dos.planetark.org

Whilst all care is taken to ensure the validity of advertisements in this newsletter we take no responsibility and imply no endorsement.
Summer Reading Club
For Kids
Lost Worlds
1 December - 15 January

Register online here

Calling all explorers! Are you ready to journey beyond your imagination?

Children aged 5 – 12 years are invited to join in our Summer Reading Club, and search for lost worlds, hidden caches and mysterious occurrences – all within the pages of a book.

Be brave, be bold, and choose your own adventure! Our libraries are jam-packed with stories to suit all reading tastes and ages. Books, zines, graphic novels... whatever the story, it all counts towards some great prizes!

- **Read 10** books and score an exclusive invite to our Summer Reading Club Party**
- **Read 20** books and receive a MYSTERY prize
- **Read 30** books or more and you’ll go in the draw to win an iTunes voucher to the value of $30!

Enter as many times as you like. The more you read, the greater your chance to snag a fantastic prize!

Be sure to collect your free activity book at any of the Stonnington Libraries or download a copy here: [The Summer Reading Club Activity Booklet (Primary)](PDF,3MB)

** The invitation-only Summer Reading Club Party will be held on Wednesday 20 January, 2.30–4.30pm, at Phoenix Park Library. Enjoy an afternoon of games, crafts, entertainment – and most of all, fun!

The Summer Reading Club is delivered in partnership with the State Library of Queensland and the Australian Library and Information Association.
whilst all care is taken to ensure the validity of advertisements in this newsletter we take no responsibility and imply no endorsement.

abc community garden

is a new fully communal community garden in stonnington and is now accepting members.

please phone maria on 0425778179 to organise a tour and discuss membership.

Jennifer Opie
After school tutoring

- Individual tutoring in your own home.
- All primary curriculum areas from Prep to Grade 6.
- Experienced in teaching ESL – (English as a Second Language)
- 40 years teaching experience in government and primary private schools.
- Currently teaching CRT.
- Victoria Institute of Teaching registration 2015.
- Local resident. Warm and caring teaching style.
- Contact Jennifer on 0419 396 884 to discuss your child further.
festival21 is an unprecedented, all-day celebration of community, food and future. Taking over The Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre on Friday 11 December, this free event will serve and digest our biggest social challenges through something we love and celebrate – food. Coinciding with the final day of the United Nations climate talks in Paris, the festival is not about 'doom and gloom'. It will be an inspiring event exploring how food and the way we eat can be the key to a sustainable, healthy, future for everyone and the planet.

The Sacraments of Confirmation, Reconciliation & First Communion will all be celebrated at St Joseph’s Church Malvern in 2016.

**Confirmation:** for students Grade 6 & over, on Friday 20th May
**Reconciliation:** for students Grade 3 & over, on Tuesday 14th June
**First Communion:** for students Grade 3 & over, on 27/28 Aug & 3/4 Sept

Enrolments are now opened for all sacraments via the Parish Website [www.stjosephsomalvern.org.au](http://www.stjosephsomalvern.org.au)

Enrolments close for Confirmation on 12th February 2016
Enrolments for Reconciliation & First Communion close on 18th March 2016