Dear Parents,

Conference
Malcolm and I enjoyed a 3 day Conference at the Novotel in Creswick where the theme for Principals was ‘LEADERS AS ARCHITECTS OF CREATIVE ORGANISATIONS’

Our feature international speaker was Dr Anthony Muhammad (PhD). Anthony is a much sought after international expert. An educational practitioner for nearly 20 years, his most notable accomplishment came as transformational leader of Levy Middle School Michigan, doubling student proficiency on state assessments within 5 years. Anthony demonstrated the powerful role of an authentic narrative which builds and sustains healthy organisations. He shared many ideas and activities which build up professional learning communities and transform the learning culture of a school.

Stephen Harris current Principal and founder of Sydney Centre for Innovation and Learning spoke to us about his rebuild of a new Sydney school that encompasses design spaces that enable portable digital learning. The former Director of BASTOW, Bruce Armstrong spoke to us about the leadership qualities displayed in the favourite movie, “the Wizard of Oz”. We also heard from social commenter and marketing guru, Jane Caro who championed public education and finally from national sportsman Eric Bailey who spoke about “the Power of One” through his personal journey. All were inspirational speakers who had us in tears at some point and reminded us of why we embarked on an educational career in the first place.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Connie and Peter for managing the school so well in our absence and taking care of everyone so beautifully.

Staying in the yard after 3.45pm
A reminder to parents that our wonderful afters program must comply with their licence to run as a child-care facility. In order to do this, only children who are booked into afters should be on the school property after 3.45pm. Could I please request to all our parents that children must be picked up and have left the school grounds by 3.45pm. After 3.45pm any children who have not been picked up by a parent will be taken across to Afters. This will also enable the yard duty teacher to distinguish which children have not been picked up and therefore need to go to afters. I thank all parents in advance of their compliance with this request.

Party invitations
We all love celebrating birthdays and special milestones and we also understand that we can’t invite, or shouldn’t need to invite everyone in the class. However resilient we want our children to be, it is sometimes hard as a 6 or 7 year old to hold your head up high when you know you haven’t been included nor invited to a party. Could I please request that parents are sensitive to children not invited and hand out invitations in a discreet manner if doing so at school. Alternatively, these also could be posted home or dropped into letterboxes which would avoid upsetting anyone!

Congratulations to all our 2015 School Councillors!
School Council plays an integral role in shaping the direction of our school. 2015 will be a pivotal year as we have the opportunity to navigate the direction of our new Strategic Plan for the next 4 years.

This Week’s Events

Friday 13 March
♦ Ride2School Day
♦ Icy poles for sale $1

Monday 16 March
♦ Finance Sub-Committee meeting 8.00am Principal’s office

Wednesday 18 March
♦ Curriculum Day - pupil free day

Thursday 19 March
♦ Curriculum Sub-Committee meeting 8.00am Library

Friday 20 March
♦ Facilities Sub-Committee meeting 8.00am Principal’s office
♦ Prep incursion ‘Amy’s Amazing Adventures’
♦ Grade 5 Cocktail Party 7.00pm

Coming Events

Monday 23 March
♦ Year 6 excursion ‘Chinese Day Out’ - click here for more details
♦ Parent Helpers’ Information Night: Prep-Year 2 parents 6.00-6.30pm RSVP here

Thursday 26 March
♦ Harmony Day - click here for the details
Congratulations to those councillors who have been successfully nominated in the Parent Category on our school council:

- Nicki Batagol
- Matt Siggers
- Simon Gowland
- Liza Conheady
- Ray Skinner
- Connie Apostolos (DET)
- Malcolm Dow (DET)

Our returning councillors are:

- David Portnoy
- Georgie Handbury
- Kelvin McAlpine
- Kristen Steele
- Christine Leysan
- Gillian Brown
- Jocelyn Evans

I extend heartfelt congratulations to the following parents in their successful nomination as office bearers on School Council and I am very grateful to them for their ongoing commitment and contribution to our school:

- President: David Portnoy
- Vice President: Georgie Handbury
- Treasurer: Laurie Conheady

Please ensure that you congratulate them also when you see them in the school.

School Council highlights

Each newsletter, I will highlight the profile of two of our councillors and our President will provide a report on Council happenings after a school council meeting.

This week it gives me great pleasure to introduce to our school community, David Portnoy our President and Georgie Handbury our Vice President.

David Portnoy

“School Council is the voice of the parent body and, in many cases, the student body too. Working together with a dedicated group of school councillors, bringing a wide array of professional talents and experience, we focus on making sure that Armadale Primary School remains a safe, happy and financially secure environment for our kids while planning, together with the school, how we keep ourselves relevant and progressive in a fast changing environment.

I joined School Council when my eldest child was in Prep and now I have three children enrolled Nate Grade 3/4 C, Charlie 1/2W and Nina 1/2D. Knowing that we were going to have eight years as parents here my wife Jane and I wanted to have a say in the experience our kids would have over that period. As President of School Council, over the past 6 months, I have received a huge amount of support and encouragement from Rochelle, Malcolm, Christine and from our Vice President Georgie Handbury as well as many of the parents, for which I am very grateful.

The most rewarding experience so far was the opportunity to address the graduating class last year and watch, in amazement, as these confident, positive and talented children stood, one by one, in front of their peers, their parents and their teachers and spoke eloquently about their time at Armadale and their hopes for the future.

Over the next few years, as a school, we are facing some interesting, if not testing challenges:

- Ensuring our school buildings, grounds and environment continue to keep our children happy and secure while in class and out at play.
- Exploring ways that we can keep our children current in how they learn as technology and teaching methods constantly change.
- Continuing to dramatically increase the engagement of the parent body in taking on active roles in the school.
- Ensuring that our kids continue to stay positive and confident in their learning so that they are more than prepared for the challenge of High School.

continued over page...
One thing that we have learnt over the past years that Armadale Primary works so well because our parents actively engage in all areas of the school. If you would like to know more about how you can take on a more active role or if you have any issues, questions or queries that you would like to discuss or bring to the attention of school council, please feel free to say hello at drop off or pick up, to me or any of our school councillors.

Georgie Handbury

“Welcome to all new families and existing families for another great year at APS. For those who don’t know me my name is Georgie Handbury. While all my three children were at APS, I took the opportunity to become involved on School Council. Personally I find the participation of parents extremely important and being on Council is one way to increase that participation. It is also a great way to express opinions on school matters. I strongly encourage anyone to get involved with the school no matter how big or small. The more you put in, the more you will get out of such a gorgeous community but most of all it is greatly appreciated by the kids.”

Forthcoming Sub-Committee Meetings
Members of our community are invited to participate in our sub-committees.
Please note the following dates and times for each sub-committee:
♦ Finance - Monday 16th March at 8.00am in Rochelle’s office
♦ Curriculum - Thursday 19th March at 8.00am in the Library
♦ Facilities - Friday 20th March at 8.00am in Rochelle’s Office

Curriculum Day - Wednesday March 18th
9.00am – 4.00pm
Just a final reminder to parents that school will be closed to enable teachers to have a Professional Learning day, but OOSHC will be open for children and running a special programme.

Please remember to book your children in if you require care through the OOSHC office.

Our usual weekly assembly will not be held next week.

Congratulations Will Hucker!
Will Hucker competed in the Nippers State championships over the weekend and won gold in the beach sprint!
How amazing is that! I can’t wait for the Athletics Carnival later in the year Will!

Protocols when picking up children early from classrooms
A gentle reminder to our parents with regards to picking up children from school earlier than 3.30pm that you must sign them out at the office first and then present the yellow slip to the teacher. Please be mindful when going to the classroom that you may be interrupting an assessment or a lesson that it is in full swing and common courtesy and good manners are expected at the very least. I recognise that the majority of our parents demonstrate this at all times but there have been some recent occasions where this has been overlooked. You would appreciate that I am non-negotiable on respect, good manners and courtesy demonstrated by the students at all times.

Have a wonderful week.

Rochelle Cukier
Principal

National Ride2School Day
Friday 13th March
Tomorrow, children are encouraged to ride/bring their bike, scooter to school for the day.
♦ The bike racks will be open from 8.30am.
♦ There will be a special raffle for all children with their bike and prizes for the best decorated bikes.
♦ A short assembly will be held in front of the stage at 9.00am.
♦ Special bike ed activities will run throughout the day on the basketball courts.

Further information can be found on the website bicyclenetwork.com.au. Don’t forget your helmet!
Visual Arts News

Visual Artist of the Week:
Sara Dewani Prep C

For the outstanding self-portrait she created using oil pastels and poster colour paint. She displayed an excellent understanding of how to draw a face and used pastels and paint with confidence.

Visual Art Class of the Week: 3/4J

For being the first class to bring all their smocks to art. Well done 3/4J!

Newspapers

If you would like to recycle your old newspapers we would love to use them in the art room. Please feel free to drop them directly into the art room.

Art Smocks

There are still a number of students that have not brought an art smock to school yet. Each class has an art smock tub which is kept in their classroom and brought to the art room for each lesson. Please make sure smocks are clearly named and are in the classroom art smock tub by the end of this week.

Smocks can be purchased/ordered online from:
PSW (Primary and Secondary Schoolwear)
12 Strathalbyn Street
East Kew

Thank you for your support,
Lucy Gorman
Visual Arts Co-ordinator

Library News

Library Club: Has started back the last couple of weeks and the students have been enjoying reading and having a passive play option during recess on Thursday’s.

World’s Greatest Shave: Thank you for the school’s support for getting behind a great cause.

Term 2 Theme:
Please bring in a photo of your pet! :D
The next theme will be ‘ARMADALE’S PETS’ this needs student participation to be successful, so the library is asking for students to bring in a photo of their lovely pet with their name, age, owner’s name, and any interesting information about the pet (funny story, breed, interesting quirks).

Performing Arts News

Performing Artist of the Week:
Nicholas Bayly
for the remarkable enthusiasm, energy and vigour that you bring to each Performing Arts lesson.

Performing Arts Class of the Week: 5B
for the amazing effort you have been putting into your Shakespeare unit. You are doing a fantastic job in your Midsummer Night’s Dream scenes!

Lisa Vollugi
Performing Arts Co-ordinator

Obi, 3 years old, Brett’s pet.
Obi likes to act as an alarm clock and wakes everyone up at 7am for his breakfast.

Happy reading,
Brett Leyshan
Leyshan.brett.f@edumail.vic.gov.au
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

You Can Do It! Awards

Sienna Conway Prep C
For being kind to all the children and including everyone in her games.

Kasim Dewani Prep P
For working hard on being a respectful ‘5 Star’ listener. Well done Kasim!

Luca Karafili Prep S
For being an attentive and respectful listener and following verbal instructions carefully. Keep it up Luca!

Alice Hodgkinson 1/2D
For her beautiful manners and using her words nicely with friends.

Elke Chadwick 1/2E
For focussing well during Numeracy and completing her individual work to a high standard.

Izzie Larner 1/2K
For the way she approaches all classroom tasks with confidence and enthusiasm. Well done Izzie!

Daniel Barlow1/2P
For his confident approach in his presentation of blue whale facts. Daniel followed this up with an investigation into the length of these mammals. He measured out 30 metres outside the portables to demonstrate the length of a blue whale.

Stella Smith 1/2W
For demonstrating excellent “getting along” skills and being a cooperative and helpful member of the class. Well done Stella!

Markis Angelatos 3/4A
For developing fantastic work habits, always trying your hardest and for your positive attitude towards learning.

Indi Officer 3/4A
For being persistent at trying to get the ball and for being confident and having a go at kicking the ball when participating in the footy game at 3/4 sport.

Robert Strangward3/4C
For the care and effort he is demonstrating when working on his Educational Research Project. Keep it up Robert!

Keira O’Hara 3/4E
For being an organised and diligent class member. It is fantastic to see you always trying your hardest. You are a super star!

Jordan Filopoulos 3/4J
For being such a dedicated Armadale student. Jordan is an excellent listener who follows all instructions and tries his hardest.

Jade Johnson 5B
For her devotion to her Green Team leadership role. Mr Dow is very impressed with your efforts so far. Keep it up Jade!

Nicholas Bayly 5P
For his devotion to his Green Team leadership role. Mr Dow is very impressed with your efforts so far. Keep it up Nicholas!

Freddie Moffat 6N
For his excellent ICT skills in installing new software and repairing our 6N interactive whiteboard connection - we all thank you so much!

Christian Lignos 6Z
For creating and sharing with the class an excellent writing piece. You have shown significant improvement in your writing ability Christian, keep up the great work!
Hi everyone,

Only just over two weeks to go until school holidays! Yah.
It feels like everyone is well and truly in the groove, and had a fantastic start to 2015.

**Grade 6 Cocktail Party**

**Important note**: The Grade 6 cocktail has been rescheduled.
An invitation with all the details will be handed out to all students by their classroom teacher at the beginning of term two. If you have any questions, your class rep will be more than happy to assist.

**Grade 5 Cocktail Party**

A venue is currently being organised. An invitation with all the details will be handed out to all students by their classroom teacher shortly. These parties are always a great night out, and a wonderful chance to meet parents and staff in an informal setting. If you have any questions, your class rep will be more than happy to assist.

**Easter Raffle – Last Day of Term**

We celebrate Easter at Armadale Primary with fantastic hampers filled with Easter treats. The hampers are filled with eggs generously donated by all families. If you can afford to donate an egg or two, then please place your Easter egg(s) in the timber box in the front office by tomorrow **Friday 13th March**, so each class can put together their amazing Easter hamper creations.

With the eggs that have been donated, each class at Armadale Primary will be able to create their own amazing hamper. They will be given a plain cardboard box and will be asked to decorate the box and then fill with eggs to create a masterpiece! The masterpieces will be collected on the **Friday 20th March 2015**.

**This year three hampers** will be handed out to our 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize raffle winners, with the remaining hampers to be given to “Very Special Kids” by Rochelle and our school leaders. The presentation of these amazing hampers to “Very Special Kids” will take place on **Wednesday 25th March**.

The raffle tickets will be sold by the class reps with the Easter Raffle tickets to be drawn at the final assembly on **Friday 27th March**.

The children are very excited so please remember your Easter egg donation and to see your class rep for your raffle tickets. We really appreciate your support and we are sure Very Special Kids will also enjoy your generosity!

**Class Representatives**

A big THANK YOU, to all who have volunteered as class representative for their child’s class.

There will be a whole school class rep meeting every term. The first one will be **Wednesday 15th April** before pick up. For further details please email Janine Sheean on [janinesheean@gmail.com](mailto:janinesheean@gmail.com)

**Icy Poles**

Don’t forget to put $1.00 in your child’s bag tomorrow for Icy Poles.

Kind regards

*Caz Laughton and Sarah Monahan*  
**PFA Co-Presidents**  
Email: *armadalepfa@gmail.com*
Thursday 26th March at Armadale Primary School

Harmony Day is celebrated around Australia in March each year, in many schools, workplaces and local communities.

It is a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home – from the traditional owners of this land to those who have come from many countries around the world.

The day will be a fantastic opportunity to explore and celebrate our cultural diversity at Armadale.

The timetable for this year’s Harmony Day is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Special Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.00-9.50am</td>
<td>Harmony Day whole school assembly - outside on the stage</td>
<td>• each year level sings a song in Italian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Performing Arts special performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.00-10.50am</td>
<td>Harmony Day incursion for students. Western Creation, indigenous performance in MPC Performance 1</td>
<td>First performance (half of the school to attend, excluding Year 3/4 students)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.00-11.30am</td>
<td>Whole school recess</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.30am-12.20pm</td>
<td>Harmony Day incursion for students. Western Creation, indigenous performance in MPC Performance 2 (other half of school, excluding Years 3/4 students)</td>
<td>Please note - Year 3/4 students have already participated in a full day Western Creation program and will instead participate in Harmony Day activities with their class teacher.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.30-1.30pm</td>
<td>Whole school lunch</td>
<td>International food tasting - Class teachers will organise the appropriate time for students to taste and share food generously provided by parents.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dressing up for the day
Students will be able to come to school in clothing that is of cultural significance, or that represents a country of their choice, or in national flag colours.

International Food tasting
We would like students to taste and share international food with their classmates. If you would like to contribute food for your child’s class to taste, please ensure it is sliced and ready to be eaten in the classroom. If there are children with allergies, parents are requested to provide the appropriate food for their child. All food provided should be able to be served at room temperature, so please, no food that requires refrigeration or heating.

Lunch
We ask parents to please provide lunch for their child as usual on the day. The food tasting will be in addition to your child’s usual lunch.

Class reps could you please check with parents providing food that there is a variety of food, the appropriate amount, (remember, it is in addition to the children’s lunch) and not too much doubling up.

Grazie, and looking forward to a wonderful celebrazione!
Vita Vampatella
Italian Language Co-ordinator
Host Families Needed For New Exchange Students in 2015

Many girls and boys aged between 15 and 18 from exciting countries like Italy, France, Belgium, Germany, Holland, Switzerland, Brazil, Norway, Sweden, Japan, Finland, Canada and Austria are hoping to come here to study for 3, 5 or 10 months from July this year and stay with a volunteer family that is willing to host and welcome them and can afford another member at the family table. If you feel you could do this for them for the length of their stay or even some of it, please contact Klaus Schumann on (03) 97584279 and let me know of your interest.
St Kilda Swim Academy
We’re back and booking lessons starting in Term 2

Our pool at Christian Brothers College in Westbury street has been renovated

We get results!

BOOK NOW
Call us on 9521 1995
or online at - www stkildaswim com

11 Westbury Street
St Kilda East
www stkildaswim com

1 free lesson

Tutor available

Does your child struggle to read? Need some maths support? Registered Primary School Teacher, experienced with learning difficulties, (including Dyslexia).
Formal qualifications in Special Education and Reading Recovery.
Individualised program.
References available upon request.

e-mail: jennifer jedwab@gmail com
mobile 0419882309

Whilst all care is taken to ensure the validity of advertisements in this newsletter we take no responsibility and imply no endorsement.
Whilst all care is taken to ensure the validity of advertisements in this newsletter we take no responsibility and imply no endorsement.