Dear Armadale Community,

How amazing was the Christmas Carols Concert in the Quadrangle on Tuesday evening and we were lucky that the raindrops held over. All of the classes sang beautifully and the Junior Choir led by Ms Johnson added a wonderful display of talent. A huge thank you again to Vita Vampatella and Laura Welch for their superb organisation and wonderful performance flair and energy that was showcased on Tuesday evening. Thank you also to all the parents who thanked the staff and myself for the evening and I loved the community ambience that was evident. Despite not having an opportunity to rehearse I think the staff did a terrific performance and we may have to include this as a regular feature on the program.

We will sadly be farewelling the following wonderful teachers on Friday afternoon at our assembly for a variety of reasons. Christina Cameron will be leaving us as she excitedly awaits the birth of her first child, Laura Welch is travelling the world next year, Robyn Durham is working in a special education setting and Jennifer Hemingway who will be returning to school next year as a CRT. We have thoroughly enjoyed having these staff members work with our students and we wish them all the very best for the future. Of course, we also hope to see them back at some point, or at least visit us.

Our staff for 2017
Prep Team: Angela Sozzi, Steph Eden-McIlroy; Nikita Coleman
Year 1: Pauline Eldredge, Jenny Kourkouvelis and Rachel Jackson (1 day)
Connie Apostolos and Amanda Wilson (1 day), Allira Zeneli
Year 2: Colleen Johnson, Mat Sweetlove, Rosanna Caruso
Year 3/4: Virginia Wallace and Jen Drew, Jocelyn Evans, Lucy Gorman, Kate Pilgrim
Year 5/6: Gillian Brown, Zaim Zeneli, Genevieve Trewin
Specialist Teachers
Health and PE: Peter Cracknell
LOTE: Vita Vampatella
The Arts: Pippa Cocks
Education Support Staff
Christine Leyshan - Business Manager
Maggie Brown and Alison Crone - Office Administration
Donna Brammer, Rosa Salemme, Jane Hutchins, Janine Sheean, Beth Guinea, Maria Georgakopoulos and Pina Fardella - Integration Aides

Staffing appointments
I am very excited to announce the appointment of a new graduate teacher, Genevieve Trewin to our teaching staff for 2017. Genevieve is known to the children through her role in OOSHC, she was a Masters of Teaching student here in 2015 from the University of Melbourne and comes with very high credentials and recommendations.

We are also welcoming back Jen Drew from family leave on a part-time basis to join our teaching team.

Address: Densham Road, Armadale 3143
School Phone: 03 9822 7003
Website: www.armadaleps.vic.edu.au
OOSHC Phone: 03 9822 4912
School Fax: 03 9824 8954
E: armadale.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
OOSHC E: ooshc@armadaleps.vic.edu.au

This Week’s Events
Thursday 15 December
♦ Year 6 graduation 6.00-9.30pm
Friday 16 December
♦ Final assembly 2.30-3.30pm
Monday 19 December
♦ Curriculum day - pupil free day
Tuesday 20 December
♦ End of Term 4 - children dismissed at 1.30pm

Coming Events
Monday 30 January 2017
♦ Staff return
Tuesday 31 January
♦ Years 1-6 students commence school at 9.00am
♦ Prep family interviews
Wednesday 1 February
♦ Prep family interviews
Thursday 2 February
♦ Prep students commence school at 9.00am and finish at 2.00pm
♦ Welcome morning tea 9.00am in MPC

Click here to go to our school website calendar for more details on coming events
Brett Leyshan - ICT/Library Tech/OHS/
Rochelle Cukier and Malcolm Dow - School Principals

I am very excited about our new teaching and staffing teams for 2017 and look forward to enabling them to work together in collaborative learning communities.

You will notice that some teachers are part-time for next year for a variety of reasons and I wholeheartedly will support staff who wish to only work part-time.

These teachers are Virginia Wallace (working 2½ days), Jen Drew (working 2½ days) who will share a Grade 3/4; Jenny Kourkouvelis (working 4 days) in Grade 1 with Rachel Jackson.

As our Curriculum and Pedagogy leader, Connie will be released one day per week to work with the other teachers across the school and her class will be taught by Amanda Wilson for one day. Amanda has taught at our school before and she is familiar to many students.

2017 Student leadership Teams
Congratulations to the following students who will form our part of student leadership team for 2017:

School Captains:
Lucia Tabbagh and Jack Gatehouse
Vice School Captains: Maya Hurwitz and Quinn Suter

House captains:
Rose - Sierra Golusin and Oliver Breadmore
Denesham - Rhiannon David and Angela Hewerdine
Munro - Riley Thompson and Eliza Purdie
Northcote - Peter Kartsaklis and Matilda Corsham

SRC leaders:
Michael Wang and Emma Zagame

We have high expectations for all our student leaders and we look forward to working with them in 2017. We are equally excited about the opportunities for the rest of the Year 6 student cohort who have been invited to consider the portfolios and areas of responsibility that they would like to manage next year, over the school holidays. Of course should the students already know their preferred portfolio they are welcome to discuss this with me or their teachers over the next few days. Either way, all of the Year 6 students will be serving our school community in some capacity and giving back to the school that has served them so well over the last 6 years.

Year 1P Italian Lunch
Yesterday at lunchtime I was treated to a very special meal, made, prepared and cooked by the children in Year 1P. It was truly from garden to plate with the spinach and salad vegetables harvested by the children from the Italian vegetable garden. It was in fact the children’s idea to run a restaurant and invite a special guest. The MPC was transformed into a Ristorante with very young waiters and waitresses who served their guests delicious food.

I just wanted to thank you and the children of 1P for putting on such a fantastic and memorable lunch. The amount of planning and preparation and the pride that the children took in hosting was evident. The silver beet pie was delicious and the table setting was perfect. Each child had a smile on their face knowing that what they had achieved was so well appreciated by everyone. It was a great way to finish off the year and a memory that I will treasure.

Jacquee
Dear Rochelle,
Please find a few photos below from lunch today.
What a beautiful way to finish off the year! I loved the table setting, place cards, menus, the delicious food and of course the wonderful company! A big thank you to Pippa and Vita.
Best wishes,
Bec

Gastro virus
Just a reminder to our community that a gastro virus can spread very easily in primary schools and the best way to restrict spreading is through prevention. May I request that if children have been vomiting that they are not brought back to school until the vomiting has ceased for 48 hours as a minimum. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

Graduation
Our Year 6 students are very excited as tonight, our community celebrates their achievements, academic excellence, sportsmanship, leadership and contributions over 7 years of primary school. Tonight we will acknowledge their hopes and aspirations for the future as this important milestone of graduation is commemorated. Congratulations to all of our Year 6 graduands and thank you for all that you have brought to our school. I wish all of our Year 6 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 school days for years to come.

Final Assembly for 2016 and farewell to Mrs Jennie Pearse, Ms Cameron, Laura Welch, Robyn Durham and all the students and families who are leaving our school
Another reminder to our community that our final assembly for this year will be held on Friday 16th December at 2.30pm. This assembly is for the purpose of saying our goodbyes to many people. We will be saying farewell to all the families and students leaving Armadale, through overseas postings, 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. Hello Music will also be performing at this assembly. The children will still need their snacks and lunch on this day as normal and the students will be dismissed at 3:30pm.

Monday 19th is a curriculum day and the children are not required at school. OOSHC is running a special program so please book in for that.

Tuesday 20th December – The children are expected at school for our final day for the year. They will still need snacks, fruit and lunch and will be dismissed at 1.30pm from their classrooms.

Armadillo
By the end of week I hope you will have had a chance to read this year’s edition of the Armadillo. Thank you very much to Allira Zeneli and Steph Eden-McIlroy for putting such a wonderful magazine together and Jocelyn Evans for all her editing.

Parents & Friends for Armadale (PFA)
Thank you to the Armadale School Community for a fantastic fun/fundraising year. If you have run a lap, sponsored a runner, baked a cake, helped on a stall, donated a prize, come to an event, bought a sausage or an icy pole or have helped us in any other way, then you have contributed to this and we Thank You. It truly is a community effort and we couldn’t do it without you.

The money has been spent changing all the taps in the water fountains and future projects include buying air conditioning for the MPC and security lights for around the school. Not very exciting but necessary for the comfort and safety of our children.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year. We look forward to seeing you next year.

Sarah, Pam, Mel, Christie, Dimity and Niki

The Armadale PFA Committee
Email: armadalepfa@gmail.com

Graduation Thanks
Thank you to Colonial fruit, with from Malvern Central for their very generous donation of fruit for tonight’s Year 6 Graduation.
So Many People to Acknowledge

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 continuing to ensure our school is a great school!

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 all of our students.

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.

To our School Council President, David Portnoy, many thanks for leading such a dynamic and supportive council body over the last two and a half years. Sadly, David has stepped down from the role as President as his family are leaving our school community. Thank you also to Both Nicki Batagol and Simon Gowland as co-Vice Presidents who have superbly supported David throughout the year. Thank you to Laurie Conheady for his superb financial acumen as our treasurer. 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 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.

To our wonderful School Council President, David Portnoy, many thanks for leading such a dynamic and supportive council body over the last two and a half years. Sadly, David has stepped down from the role as President as his family are leaving our school community. Thank you also to Both Nicki Batagol and Simon Gowland as co-Vice Presidents who have superbly supported David throughout the year. Thank you to Laurie Conheady for his superb financial acumen as our treasurer. To all our councillors for their guidance and wisdom and enormous efforts into ensuring that APS is a sustained high performing school.

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 and cherish the precious moments that we have. I am particularly excited as I hope in January to be celebrating the birth of my first grandchild.

School Resumes

We look forward to seeing all students in Years 1–6 back on Tuesday January 31st for the start of the 2017 academic year. Our 2017 Prep students will begin on Thursday February 2nd 2017. Just a reminder to our Prep parents to make sure they have made a time for their family interviews.

See you all in 2017!

Warm regards,

Rochelle Cukier
Principal
Assistant Principal

End of Year Reports
The second semester reports will be available to all parents on Monday. As I have mentioned in previous newsletters you will need to access Compass in order to view the reports. Please contact the office if you have lost or forgotten your login details. It is important that you are accessing Compass regularly to report absences, give permission for excursions and access reports. We will send out an email and a Tiqbiz when the reports are ready to be accessed.

Season’s Greetings
I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I hope you all have a wonderful holiday and look forward to seeing most of you back next year. To all of our year 6 students I wish you all the best for next year at secondary school and hope that you came back to visit us often.

Malcolm Dow
Assistant Principal

I especially wish to thank Jade Johnson from 6Z who has been such an asset to myself and the choir as assistant choir director for the whole year.

Choir News

The Junior Choir have culminated a wonderful year of singing with two special performances this week. On Monday they visited Kiverton Park Residential Aged Care facility in Malvern East and performed so beautifully to the lovely residents and staff. On Tuesday night the choir also outdid themselves as they performed so wonderfully at the school’s Christmas Concert. I am especially proud that as grade 1 & 2 children, they acted so responsibly and maturely throughout the whole year.

Choir Members:
- Poppy Parker
- Sofija Jevtic
- Zoe Pratis
- Abigail Gowland
- Estella Godinho
- Olivia Maidment
- Leah Tehan
- Campbell Anderson
- Annabel Atkins
- Lucy Glyde
- Nina Portnoy
- Carrie Hogan
- Leo Carbone
- Olivia Najdanovski
- Gabriel Margitta
- Elke Chadwick
- Jesse Hurwitz
- Summer Thompson
- Alice Hodgkinson
- Charlie Drohn
- Alexia Sideropoulos
- Chloe Handbury
- Stella Smith
- Leah Angelopoulos
- Bill Glyde
- Mia Kliegl

Colleen Johnson
Choir Director

Working with Children Check changes

There is a new application process for Victorian applicants. As of 5 December 2016, Victorian applicants for the Working with Children Check are able to have their identity securely verified online, reducing the time it takes to finalise their application at Australia Post.

Applicants who electronically verify their identity only need to present one photo ID document or card from the list of acceptable proof of identity documents at Australia Post.

Electronic identity verification is a fully secure service, as applicants’ details are checked by the issuing body, such as VicRoads or Australian Passport Office, and are not retained during the verification process.
Find the right tutor on TutorTower.com

Does your child need a little extra help outside class?
Maybe your child is advanced and wants more challenging material.
TutorTower.com can help you to find the right tutor for your child!
The first 10 people to complete steps 1 and 2 will get a $15 voucher to pay for a tutor on TutorTower.

1. Sign up as a learner on TutorTower.com (parent creates account using the parent's details)
2. Click the 'Contact us' link on TutorTower.com and send the message “Armadale Primary School”.

This offer expires on 28 February 2017.

Need help? Email success@tutortower.com. Call 0422 582 694
LEARN TO CODE
Build your own iPhone app at Code Camp!

Learn to code, have fun, be creative, and enjoy using logic and problem solving to **build your very own app in the Summer holidays!**

Book now at codecamp.com.au
Give us a call on 1300 263 322

Whilst all care is taken to ensure the validity of advertisements in this newsletter we take no responsibility and imply no endorsement.
Portsea house with tennis court & boathshed at Shelley beach

4 bedroom holiday house with modgrass tennis court, 2 bathrooms, 2 living areas, including aircon, heating, digital tvs, dvd player, bbq, etc. House sleeps 8. Well behaved pets will be considered. Also at the property: table tennis table and basketball hoop on tennis court.

Use of large boathshed at Shelley Beach, with water, power (incl. bar fridge, bbq), two kayaks, deckchairs etc.

Available to rent from 10th January 2017 onwards, including Australia Day.

Ph 9889 5919, 0400221716 or 0408 155 587

---

**HOST FAMILY NEEDED IN MELBOURNE! EXPERIENCE ITALIAN CULTURE AT HOME**

Student Exchange Australia New Zealand is looking for a volunteer host family for a 17 year old Italian boy, who arrived in Australia in July 2018. He is a sociable, open-minded, sincere, cheerful and hard working boy who enjoys spending time with family and friends and hopes to share his French culture with his host family whilst gaining a greater understanding of the Australian culture. Whilst in Australia he is hoping to discover the Australian wildlife, surf, souba dive and visit museums. We are looking for a family able to host Antoine before 25th December.

If you can help, please phone Isabelle or Iida at the Student Exchange Office: 1300 135 331. Thank you very much for your help.

---

**GeckoSports**

**School Holiday Program**

**TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS JANUARY 2017**

From 10th to 26th January (runs for 3 weeks)

**Youngsters & Midsters (5-12 years):** 10am-1pm (3 hours)
- Bootcamp
- Boxing
- Extreme Obstacle Course
- Roblox
- Yoga
- Multi Sport Games: Cricket, Footy, Soccer, Tennis, Soft & Volleyball

**Teens (13-16 years):** 1.30pm-3pm (1.5 hours)
- Specialist Teen Bootcamp
- Boxing
- Yoga

Venue: Hurlingham Park
Napier Highway, Brighton East
Cost: $45 per session or $150 for 4 sessions (20% off for members)
What to bring: Water & hat (fruit snack & sunscreen provided)
Bookings: Please contact Kim by 6th Jan on 0417 159 007 or email kim@geckosports.com.au

---

**St George’s this Christmas**

* Kids for Kids SINGING at St George’s
* Music including traditional carols and new Australian cards
* Simple, fun and effective vocal training for young people from the age of 7
* 4 performances every Friday in December at 8pm
* A friendly performance at our 6pm Christmas Eve service (Saturday 24th December)

For more information, contact St George’s Director of Music, Elizabeth-Anne Won
music@stgeorgesmalvern.org

St George’s Anglican Church, Malvern
552 Church Street, Malvern, VIC 3144
www.stgeorgesmalvern.org
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.

Have a very Merry Christmas and a relaxing break - from everyone at Armadale Primary School