Dear Armadale Community,

Leave
As winter comes around, so our thoughts turn to leave. As I mentioned last week Rochelle is on leave for two weeks, travelling around England and Ireland, so I am filling her role and Connie has stepped up as Assistant Principal. Kate Pilgrim is enjoying a two week break also and Michael Every is taking her class until the end of term. At the start of Term 3 it is my turn to have a two week break, as will Angela Sozzi.

Compass Reporting
By now you should have all logged in to Compass and booked your Parent Teacher Interviews, and you are now eagerly awaiting your child’s semester one report. All going well this will be available tomorrow, and I will send out a Tiqbiz to notify everyone when they are ready to be viewed.

The reports will be in PDF format and can be downloaded and printed or emailed, if you like, or just kept on Compass, where they will always be available. As I have mentioned in previous articles, the reports have changed slightly, in response to parent feedback and the teachers’ desire to keep improving the way we report to parents. The A-E letter gradings on the left column have been removed, as they seemed to serve no useful purpose and often caused confusion to parents. The dot on the chart should show very clearly where your child is at in relation to their year level. Unfortunately this semester we will not be able to show the prior year’s position as this is the first time using Compass. We have also rationalised the comment boxes to the two areas of Teacher Comments and Areas for Improvement, as these are the two important areas that you as parents are interested in.

If for some reason there is a problem seeing your child’s report, please don’t hesitate to contact me at school to resolve the issue. As with any new system there are sure to be a few teething problems, but we are very confident that this new system will have many advantages over the old one.

If you have misplaced the Welcome to Compass guide sent home last week click on the image above or go to the home page of the school website for more details.

If you are having trouble booking a Parent Teacher interview time through Compass click on the teacher’s name at the bottom of the page to see what timeslots are still available then go to the booking window to select a time. If the drop down menu does not show the teacher’s name, then that timeslot is unavailable. Choose ‘update’ and your booking is made.

Schoolground Supervision
We have become increasingly concerned about the number of children who are in the schoolground before 8.45am and are unsupervised. If your child is coming to school early they need to check in to OOSHC, so that they can be adequately supervised. In order to do this they must be registered each year at OOSHC. We recommend all children be registered at OOSHC even if you don’t envisage using the service. It is a great backup if you are running late and can’t get to pick up by 3.30pm. Please see the OOSHC staff for a registration form or it can be downloaded from our website.

This Week’s Events
Friday 17 June
♦ Year 6 cocktail party

Monday 21 June
♦ Parent/Teacher interviews

Tuesday 22 June
♦ Parent/Teacher interviews

Wednesday 23 June
♦ Parent/Teacher interviews - 3W only

Thursday 23 June
♦ Tommy Lahiff cup
♦ Disco
Prep, Years 1&2 6.00-7.00pm
Years 3,4,5&6 7.00-8.00pm

Friday 24 June
♦ End of term

Coming Events
Saturday 2 July
♦ Election Day stalls

Monday 11 July
♦ Term 3 commences at 9.00am

Friday 12 August
♦ Curriculum day - student free day

Friday 19 August
♦ Trivia Night

Friday 16 September
♦ End of term
ICAS Testing
As we did last year, we will be offering students in grades 3-6 an opportunity to do the ICAS testing next term. If you would like more detail on the ICAS testing please click here.
I need to order the test booklets early next week so I would like an approximate number to order. If you are interested in having your child sit either the English, Maths or both tests, could you please let me now by Monday 20th June at the latest dow.malcolm.l@edumail.vic.gov.au.
Malcolm Dow
Acting Principal

Prep & Year 1&2 Bulletins
Please click on the following link to read this week’s news from your child’s year level:
♦ Prep bulletin
♦ Year 1&2 bulletin
or go to the Students tab on the website and then your child’s class for all the latest news.

Scholastic Books

Book Club orders for Issue 4 have been delivered to school and will be distributed this week.
Alison Crone
Book Club Co-ordinator

Sports News

Tri Skills Gymnastics
All students in Prep, Year 1 and Year 2 will take part in the Tri Skills gymnastics program for the final week.

Please remember:
♦ Shoes and socks off 5 minutes prior to the scheduled lesson start time (gymnastics lessons)
♦ No jewellery or watches
♦ Long hair tied back
♦ Shorts, bike shorts or tracksuit pants
♦ No skirts or tights please!
♦ Signed permission with term 2 excursion levy form needs to be returned to school.

Tommy Lahiff Cup
Thursday 23 June
Selected children will be participating in this Australian Rules Football round robin day at Port Melbourne Football Ground.

Information was given to the children last week.
John Mulligan
Acting Sports Co-ordinator
Developing a Learning Culture – Parents, Students, Teachers

The type of relationship that exists between parents, teachers and students directly impacts on learning. ‘Learning’ in this sense, is not confined to students. In fact the learning of parents and teachers is just as important and crucial to the learning of our students. Adult learning cannot be considered as an afterthought.

As parent/teacher conferences are approaching, I felt it would be timely to discuss communication and how we can think about strengthening the student; parent; teacher relationship. The written report that will be available via Compass is only one form of communication. This report will provide you with an insight into your child as a learner at school. It is at this point where I would like to remind you of the significance of learning dispositions and how they directly impact on us as learners. As educators, we have become far more familiar with the ‘be’ of learning. As a community, we have identified that risk taking, persistence, collaboration, curiosity and reflection are how we want to ‘be’ as learners. Therefore when reading your child’s report, be mindful that how your child is as a learner is just as important, if not more important, than what your child can do or what they have achieved. Why? I’ll let you reflect on this for now.

Parent/teacher conferences are not the only opportunity for the learning culture relationship to foster. What we do at home, to promote learning also impacts on the child. What we say and do indirectly gives our children a clear message about what we value learning to be.

I received an email from an APS parent earlier in the year and I wanted to share with you that family’s learning journey. Perhaps after reading it, you might read your child’s report through a different lens.

Hi Connie,

I wanted to thank you for putting the excerpt from Educating Ruby into the school newsletter towards the end of last year. I found it a really interesting article on curiosity and tracked the book down at the library and read it over the summer holidays. I thought it was a fantastically encouraging call to arms to today’s parents to help cultivate our children for a largely unknown future.

Now, the seven Cs that Guy Claxton writes about are stuck up on our noticeboard, we have rethought the extra curricular activities that Poppy is involved in this year, and I went back and re-read her end of year report through a different lens.

This shift had already started with Kathy Walker’s talk at the school last year. The very strong message about the pushdown expectation, and the value of freedom in childhood had both resonated strongly. But reading Educating Ruby helped push my thinking further. My experience of school in the 70s and 80s (reciting French verb conjugations, memorising the periodic table, etc) is irrelevant to the needs of today’s child. They are even less relevant to the needs of my child in the future.

Every time a parent mentions Naplan to me, I mention this book and suggest reading it. Every time questions about homework (largely worksheet and memorisation of spelling words) is raised at pick up, I mention this book.

I think it should be recommended at every parent info night - accessible, encouraging, inspiring.

Thanks so much,
Kelly

Strengthening Communication

The learning partnership will not be effective if it is seen as an event that happens at parent/teacher conferences. In order to strengthen this partnership we need to keep building relationships. As a parent, we want what is best for our children but we also need to be mindful in how we communicate this.

One of the most efficient ways to communicate is via e-mail particularly in a mostly professional community like ours. Can I remind parents to be very careful in what they do e-mail. E-mails regarding incidents at school between students and complex academic issues often result in confusion and angst. At times these e-mails are, understandably, emotionally charged and don’t come across well. Some of these e-mails arrive at 9.30pm and 10.00pm at night and are not great for our teachers. Speaking from personal experience these e-mails play on the mind, ruin sleep and can cause stress. Staff are in their rooms by 8.45am and are very approachable to discuss any concerns.

Complex matters are much better discussed in person and most issues are dealt with very swiftly once a little more light is shed on any particular situation.

If an e-mail must be written please use it to ask for some time to discuss a matter either via phone or in person. So much of our communication is via visual cues and tone and almost always result in greater understanding and better outcomes for students.

On the whole our communication works very well and we want to ensure we communicate in the most productive manner. However it is important to remember that we are all here for the same purpose – to give your child the best education possible.

We need to work together to do achieve this.

Connie Apostolos
Acting Assistant Principal
Help Needed

Some of our Year 1 students have been thinking about how they would like to use the playground space. It was brought to my attention that there are some children who love to create a quiet space.

During an Investigation session, a group of children collaborated and decided to put their idea into action. They wrote me the following letter:

Dear Connie,

We would like to have a reading corner outside your classroom because we think it is quiet, not very crowded, and a nice place to read. We have made a magazine to share with others. We are hoping that other teachers will make more books for our reading corner. We hope you will let us use this space from Carrie, Annabel, Kayla, Millie, Zoe, and Olivia.

Taking initiative and action is something we encourage all learners to do. Therefore, in consultation with the children, we decided that we could ask our parent community to help.

If you have outdoor cushions or any other outdoor furniture that you could donate so the children can create their special space, please let me know.

Connie Apostolos
Acting Assistant Principal

Building Fund

With the end of the financial year approaching, parents are reminded that tax deductible donations can be made to our Building Fund.

Click here for a donation form or go to the website for more information about the purpose of the Building Fund and the past school improvements that have occurred thanks to the generous donations from our parents.
Parents & Friends of Armadale (PFA)

Hi all

Only one week until school holidays...I know a lot of you will be away, but for those who are around we would still love your support on Election Day.

Election Day Stalls
There are rosters up for the Election Day stalls in the foyer, so if you can volunteer on the day please do. We understand it is the school holidays, but if you are around and can spare an hour please help us out.

For the day we are also running a Jar exchange. If anyone has any spare jars or need jars for jam and preserves please let us know. Need help making jam we have some volunteers who don’t know how but want to learn and help.

The School Disco
This term the PFA will be hosting an “End of Term Disco” on Thursday 23rd June
The disco has been organised to accommodate all levels, so we will kick off with a disco for Preps, Grade 1 & Grade 2 only from 6.00 to 7.00pm. Then the disco will open up for Grades 3 – 6 from 7.00pm to 8.00pm.
Tickets will be available at the door, at $5 per head.

This will be a very fun night, however to make sure everyone has a good time we do need to have enough supervision. We are still looking for a number of parents to help supervise the year 3 to 6s from 7.00pm to 8.00pm.

Please let your class rep or the PFA know if you can help.

Trivia Night
Save the date........This year Trivia Night will be held on Friday 19th August.
If you are able to assist in any way, please contact Dimity Millear or any of the PFA members. Thank you in advance!

Student Banking

The following students have qualified for a Bronze Dollarmites Certificate for making 10 deposits this year:
 William Strangward
 Lachie Beischer
 Isabel Larner
 Sabine Henshaw
 Luke Watkin
 Coco Lutz

Well done everyone!

Alison Crone
Student Banking Co-ordinator

Armadale Cook Book subcommittee
Submit your recipes in any format to armadalecookbook@gmail.com
They can be anything from favourite family dinners, soups, salads, vegetarian, seafood, rice, pasta, meat, dessert, lunch box snacks, biscuits, gluten free, cakes, to preserves and more!

If you would like to help with this cook book, please contact Sam Haydon 0414 399 488 or on above email.

PFA Meeting
The next PFA Meeting is on Tuesday 12th July at 2:30pm in the Staff Room.
This meeting is open to all Armadale Parents, so everyone is WELCOME.

If you are able to help in any way please contact the PFA armadalepfa@gmail.com
Thank you! To all the parents, class reps and PFA members who continue to help us with our fundraising efforts.

Kind regards

The Armadale PFA Committee
Email: armadalepfa@gmail.com
Saturday 2nd July
- Election Day -
Armadale Primary School’s Cake, Jam & Conserves Stall

Our famously successful Election Day cake stall falls in the school holidays, and it’s important we don’t miss such a terrific fundraising opportunity for Armadale Primary. There are numerous ways you can help on the day, or:

1) Pre-bake before end of term: Jams/Conserves/Relish/Chutney/Sauces & deliver to Liza Chancellor (3E, 6Z) or Alicia Smith (PrepE, 3E, 6K).

   OR

2) Bake fresh and deliver Friday 1st July to Liza’s home in Prahran OR deliver fresh the morning of Saturday 2nd July direct to the stall at Armadale Primary.

   OR

3) Make a donation in lieu of $10 per family (or more if you feel inclined). A donation box is at school Reception.

We hope the above options provide families with the opportunity to contribute to a great Fundraiser for our school. Please email Liza lizachancellor@netspace.net.au or Alicia acsasbs@bigpond.net.au to nominate your preferred option(s). If you choose Option 2, we will provide you with a plate, ingredient labelling instructions etc.

Thank you, we look forward to hearing from you.
Qkr! changes

The user design experts at MasterCard have come up with a new design and parent experience within the Qkr app that all users will see with the update from Apple’s App Store or the Google Play store on or soon after the 16th of June, 2016.

Your username and password will remain the same, as will any credit or debit cards already stored within Qkr, as well as your profile settings and those of your children. What will change significantly is the look and feel of the app, and the screens you will see in the process of using Qkr.

Below are some of the current Qkr screens on left (as seen on an iPad today), and how they will appear with the app refresh.

Home screen: Our school will appear at the top of the home screen for currently registered users, but note some new terms like “Discover” and “Activity” as Qkr is being used increasing by non school merchants around the world, so the design has been modified to cater for users in a wide range of industry sectors.

Product selection screen: This screen will now be more efficiently used to make scrolling through a large list of products easier.

Receipts will in future be stored under the “Activity” tab. Your old receipts will still be accessible from this area.
Whilst all care is taken to ensure the validity of advertisements in this newsletter we take no responsibility and imply no endorsement.

CAMPBLUE
New School Holiday Day Camp
27th June - 1st July
20+ Activities including:
Basketball | AFL | Cooking
Drama | Art | Tennis
Soccer | Photography
+ much much more

Programs for Prep - Year 9

@PCW Melbourne,
187 Dandenong Rd, Windsor
melbourne@campblue.com.au
Ph: 0412 764 243
WWW.CAMPBLUE.COM.AU

Year 7, 2019 Enrolment
For those enrolling at Whitefriars in Year 7, 2019 the timeline for enrolment has changed for ALL Catholic secondary schools and is as follows:
- 25 August, 2017
- 13 October, 2017
- 27 October, 2017

Applications close
Offers of places to prospective students are posted
Final date for families to accept offers made

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ACMI Presents
Little Big Shots

Little Big Shots is Australia’s premier film festival for kids, about kids and by kids — and it’s coming to ACMI these school holidays. This year’s program features over 80 short films from 20 countries spanning animation, live-action and documentary. This year’s highlights include swashbuckling pirates, enterprising possums, musical cows and a host of other wonderful critters!

1 — 10 Jul
Curated for families and children aged 2 to 12

ACMI Presents
Little Big Shots

YOGA

Classes (for grown ups) all levels @ Armadale ELC from July 2016

Classes are during term times:
Mondays 11am-12pm
Thursdays 11.5pm-1.5pm
(Bookings essential as places are limited)

Start your yoga journey with Chali from July 2016.

To register or more information:
0435 464 657
beholistichealth.beyoga@gmail.com
Whilst all care is taken to ensure the validity of advertisements in this newsletter we take no responsibility and imply no endorsement.
Swimming Lessons for children of all ages from 6 months to squad
- Lessons every day after school and on weekends
- Holiday Intensive programs and Private Lessons
- Qualified, caring Instructors
- Free assessment

Check out our Scoopon deal for new Customers

11 Westbury Street, St Kilda East ph. 9521 1995
www.swimright.com.au email: info@swimright.com.au
Located Inside Christian Brothers College—formerly St Kilda Swim Academy

Basketball Camps

Boys & Girls 5-14 Years Old
Beginner to Elite

June July 2016
School Holidays Clinics

We teach basketball

www.chasebasketball.com.au

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