Dear Parents,

How gorgeous was the Celebration Concert in the Quadrangle on Monday evening, we were blessed with the weather, the sound system was much improved with the new microphones and the entertainment value was incredible. Whoever thought that a couple of talented year 5 students could host the entire evening and that nine year old boys would be swinging their hips proudly on stage! A huge thank you again to Vita Vampatella and Lisa Vollugi for their superb organisation and wonderful performing flair and energy that was clearly showcased on Monday evening. A special thank you to Peter Cracknell and Malcolm Dow for their extra roles and all the teachers who supported Vita and Lisa through the rehearsals.

Congratulations to Brett Leyshan and Hayley and Zaim Zeneli and Sylvie

It’s definitely wedding season at Armadale with two of our teachers getting married a week apart from each other! On behalf of our entire community I extend to both Brett (Christine’s son) and Hayley and Zaim and Sylvie our heartfelt congratulations and wish them all a lifetime of happiness, peace and love. We can’t wait to see the wedding photos in the new year.

Staffing Farewells and new appointments

Farewell and thank you so much to three fabulous teachers who joined our staff to replace teachers on leave in Term 4. Tara Chambers has been teaching 1/2P and now is looking forward to her teaching position as a French teacher at Port Melbourne Primary School. Cindy De Laurier has taught 1/2D all of term 4 and has also secured a position at Coatesville Primary School teaching Grade 5. Allira Zeneli has taken over the reins beautifully in 3/4J and runs such a tight ship that I don’t even know if they are in there. I wish Tara, Cindy and Allira ongoing success with their teaching careers, we are very grateful for all that they have brought to our school in such a short time and hope that one day our paths will cross again in the future.

We also wish Mat Sweetlove an exciting year away from teaching, exploring and travelling different parts of the world and look forward to his return in 2016.

I am very excited to announce the reappointment of Rosa Salemme who will work in the 3/4 area to support students and the appointment of Janine Sheean as an aide to support students in the Prep area in 2015.

Student farewells

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 time here for years to come. 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.

New PFA Presidents

I am thrilled to announce to the community that Sarah Monahan (Isabelle and Millie) and Caz Laughton (Abbey and Cleo) are our new Presidents for 2015 and 2016. What a dynamic team they are and they can’t wait to get things off to a great start. When you see them in the yard please make sure you congratulate them.

continued over page ...
Student Reports
Just a quick reminder that student reports will be distributed this afternoon. Enjoy reading these with your children and celebrate their achievements. Please heed the advice offered by the teachers, continue to support your children’s learning and make your holiday adventure and experience a learning opportunity!

Armadillo
Hopefully by now you would have had a chance to read this year’s edition of the Armadillo. Thank you to Mat Sweetlove for putting such a wonderful magazine together.

Final Assembly for 2014
The final assembly for this year will be held on Friday 19th December at 1:00pm. Students will be dismissed at 1:30pm to begin their summer break. Students will only require their fruit snack and play lunch on the last day as they will be able to go home for lunch after the final assembly. Please remember that Classroom Cuisine will not be available on Friday. Please note that OOSH will be operating from 1:30pm.

School Resumes
We look forward to seeing all students in Years 1–6 back on Thursday January 29th for the start of the 2015 academic year. Our 2015 Prep students will begin on Monday February 2nd. Just a reminder to our Prep parents to make sure they have made a time for their family interviews.

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 their students. I am incredibly proud that Armadale is such a high performing school, mainly attributed to the dedication and commitment of our teachers and all our education support staff. All of our children are so wonderfully cared for and looked after, their wellbeing is at the forefront of all that we do.

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 and stepping into the role in the second half of 2014. So much has been achieved this year as a result of David’s leadership and I thank him most sincerely for his genuine care and warmth that he brings to our meetings. David also has many followers now because of his public speaking prowess, his recent speech to the graduating Year 6 class of 2014 was indeed a highlight of the evening. To all our councillors for their guidance and wisdom and enormous efforts into ensuring that APS is a sustained high performing school.

To our School Council President, David Portnoy, many thanks for leading such a dynamic and supportive council body and stepping into the role in the second half of 2014. So much has been achieved this year as a result of David’s leadership and I thank him most sincerely for his genuine care and warmth that he brings to our meetings. David also has many followers now because of his public speaking prowess, his recent speech to the graduating Year 6 class of 2014 was indeed a highlight of the evening. 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 PFA Co-Presidents Mish McGrory and Brig Warwick, I extend an enormous thank you. Both Mish and Brig have contributed countless hours over these years to support the social fabric and fundraising elements of the school. When I look around and see the ‘greening’ of the school, which includes our new grass and our new fence I am very grateful to our community. Thank you also to Nicki Batagol, Janine Sheean and Mel Larner for their hard work in the PFA. Through their dedication, we have enjoyed many special community events as well as raising in excess of $42,000 for the school. A truly sensational effort ladies and you continue to set the bar incredibly high!

To our wonderful OOSH team – Katie, Ben and team do a fabulous job with the before and after programs. We thank them sincerely for the extra yards they constantly put in to make the program fun and engaging and in particular the holiday program that is like a Club Med for children!

My deepest thanks to my highly dedicated leadership team – Malcolm Dow, Peter Cracknell and Connie Apostolos. I am so lucky to have such a supportive team of talented leaders helping to manage the day to day operations of the school as well as charting the future direction of the school.

And finally... to all the wonderful children of our school thank you for all that you do, you bring joy into my life, you make me laugh every day and you make me happy in the job that I do. I love your visits to my office and all of your gifts and treasures that you make me. I feel incredibly grateful to be able to come here each and every day.

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.

See you all in 2015!

Warm regards,

Rochelle Cukier
Principal
Assistant Principal

Facilities
Many of you will have seen that the fence along Northcote Road has finally been installed. We had all sorts of issues along the way, but now that it is finally here we can see that it has made a huge difference to the appearance of that whole area down there and sets off the new synthetic grass very nicely. As you will recall this project was largely funded by the proceeds of the Fun Run, so we thank everyone who contributed to this project. Over the holidays we will be painting all the classrooms in the infant building, upstairs and downstairs, which will give all of those rooms a real lift for the start of the school year. This work has been entirely funded by the School Building Fund, which we publicised heavily in Term 2, as it is the only way to make a tax deductible donation to the school. Many thanks to all of the parents who contributed to this fund. We have many more painting projects to complete next year, so we will be asking all of you to give generously to the fund next year.

Merry Christmas
I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and thank all of the students for the great work they did over the year and the parents for the contributions they made to the school in so many different ways. Without all of these wonderful contributions the school would not be the same. Have a safe and happy holiday and I look forward to a fantastic 2015. I know it is going to be a great year for Armadale Primary.

Malcolm Dow
Assistant Principal

Parents and Friends for Armadale (PFA)

Hi everyone,

Before we all go away for a well-earned break, we would just like to introduce ourselves as your new PFA Co-Presidents. We are very EXCITED to be in the role and are very much looking forward to a successful 2015!!

We hope everyone has a wonderful break and hopefully even gets a chance to catch up with some of their new class mates.

"We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year"

Be safe.

Regards,

Caz Laughton and Sarah Monahan
0412554434 E: caz.laughton@gmail.com
0412128164 E: sarahmonahan@me.com
PFA Co-Presidents

Our Celebration Concert on Monday evening

“"
Armadale Primary JMF Kids 4 Kids become IRONMAN!

Thanks to the Armadale Primary students who helped JMF kids 4 Kids participation numbers to a staggering 47 participants Australia wide in 2014.

JMF Kids 4 Kids is about getting children active and outdoors whilst raising money for little Aussie kids in wheelchairs to enable them the equipment they need to be active and included in everyday life. The JMF Kids 4 Kids participants have all swum 3.8km, ridden 180km and run 42.2 km over a four, eight or 12 week period covering an IRONMAN distance triathlon and with the help of sponsors like Boost and Hyundai Help for kids raised over $50,000.

The Armadale Primary participants joined John Maclean and the Foundation in St Kilda on Sunday for a Grant presentation where they were all received their finisher’s medals and experienced first hand where the money they raised went. They met the families and the children that were presented with over $35,000 worth of grants. The Grant recipients were aged between 10 months old to 15 years old and all really enjoyed interacting with the Armadale Primary students.

Thea Coull was presented with a Brooks Running voucher for her determination on a bike ride, with only 3km to go, the cable on her bike snapped leaving her unable to change gears but she kept on going and completed the distance.

As a parent to two of these participants and as a representative of the John Maclean Foundation I am incredibly proud of these Armadale Primary students and would like to congratulate them on their incredible effort.

Luca Houghton-Allen, Thea Coull, Nicholas Bayly, Alexie and Markis Angelatos you are all IRONMAN.

www.jmf.com.au

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

BABYSITTING
Ex-Armadale student (Caulfield Grammar)

Jordan Doelling (15 years old)
Available evenings / days
7 years and over
Bookings: 0409 388 093
January Holiday Program

2015 Program Dates

Week 1
Mon 5 January
Tue 6 January
Wed 7 January
Thu 8 January
Fri 9 January

Week 2
Mon 12 January
Tue 13 January
Wed 14 January
Thu 15 January
Fri 16 January

Week 3
Mon 19 January
Tue 20 January
Wed 21 January
Thu 22 January
Fri 23 January

Week 4
Mon 26 January
Mon No Program
Wed 27 January
Wed 28 January
Thu 29 January

For Bookings

Mobile: 0419 253 837
www.SoccerWise.com.au
Bookings@SoccerWise.com.au
Location: Bialik College, Hawthorn East
For 4 to 12 year old Boys & Girls

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

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

Stonnington Holiday Program

12 January – 23 January 2015

For further information or to book, please visit www.stonnington.vic.gov.au/htp

Week 1
Monday 19 January 2015
Mini-Paintball in Glenelg

Monday 20 January 2015
Air-1 Trampoline Centre and Rock Climbing

Thursday 22 January 2015
Finsfield Amusement Park

Week 2
Monday 26 January 2015
Surfing at Ocean Grove

Saturday 24 January 2015
Birdwatching at Mt Martha

Saturday 31 January 2015
Birdwatching at Mt Martha

The 12 Do’s
of Christmas

To the season to commit to reduce, reuse and recycle

1. Choose reusable or recyclable wrapping. Blue freshly.
2. Prevent food wastage – only buy what you need, store smaller portions, store and use leftovers.
3. Compost or worm farm your unrecyclable food scraps.
4. Give a rechargeable pack with your battery-operated gifts. It’ll save money and reduce the gifts’ impact.
5. Choose recycled or recyclable packaging is very stylish. Sort and return it to W as much as possible with your Bin.
6. Ensure your car is sufficiently fuelled and keep the temperature warm. Pack your old or new car oil, tyres and batteries.
7. Recycle your mobile phones, PC’s, cars, computers and electronic gadgets that get replaced.
8. Give the housekeeper the key to your home over the holidays and give your local recycling facility.
9. Recycle your mobile phones, PC’s, cars, computers and electronic gadgets that get replaced.
10. Reduce your household waste by the 3Rs: reducing, reusing and recycling. Start by saying no to plastic bags.
11. Reduce your household waste by the 3Rs: reducing, reusing and recycling. Start by saying no to plastic bags.
12. Reduce your household waste by the 3Rs: reducing, reusing and recycling. Start by saying no to plastic bags.