Dear Armadale Community

Information Evenings and Family Conferences
It was terrific to see so many of our families attend all of our recent information nights and I was also thrilled with the number of “thank yous” and the high level of feedback that was directed to my staff. Nothing pleases me more than when our community is impressed by the educational expertise that was clearly evident through all the Information evenings.

These evenings were also then followed by the Family Conferences which again afforded our community the opportunity to be informed on the learning opportunities for the children that each classroom teacher was providing. Again I was pleased to acknowledge the number of families who recognise the importance of establishing a relationship with the classroom teacher and working together to address and then meet the needs of the whole child.

I also acknowledge that sometimes it is very difficult to attend school based evenings and I hope that those parents who didn’t attend the conferences still find a way to communicate with the classroom teacher directly and arrange an alternative mutually convenient time to meet.

Invitation to our community to offer feedback
I would be very interested in hearing from my community about the effectiveness of the information evenings and the Family Conferences. For example, do you feel that these evenings and sessions are useful to you? Would you prefer to receive information in a digital format only? Please feel free to email me your thoughts.

Welcome to Armadale Family Picnic on Friday 26th February 5.30-8.00pm
I know the children are getting excited about the forthcoming evening which is a wonderful opportunity for our families, new and old, to come together as a community. Please BYO chairs and blankets and picnic, or treat the family to our gourmet sausage sizzle! Don’t forget the “refreshments bar” for the adults and in the interest of children safety, please no glassware! The PFA are sponsoring “Proactivity” to entertain the children on the courts. Proactivity will be providing games and activities with the Fitness Obstacle Course, Giant Parachute Games, Water Games and European Handball. Proactivity will supervise the children on the courts from 6.00-7.00pm. After that there will be icy poles for the children to buy for $1.00 from the OOSHc window. Fingers crossed for a wonderful summer’s evening.

Lost property and second hand uniform
Our lost property bins and portable wardrobe over in the MPC foyer are overflowing with lunchboxes and uniform items. I appreciate that these items can be quite costly to replace. It would be fantastic if any of our parents had some spare time to sort through lost property and redistribute named items to classrooms. Additionally any unnamed and unclaimed items can be washed in our washing machine in the sick bay and placed in our second hand uniform cupboard.

I would also like to remind parents that our second hand uniform cupboard (next to the staffroom) is full of clean uniform items in very good condition and for a small gold coin donation you can have spare items of uniform at home.

This Week’s Events

Thursday 18 February
- Family conferences Years 1-6
  3.30-7.30pm
  (not 1E, 1K & 5G)

Friday 19 February
- Icypoles $1

Coming Events

Monday 22 February
- School Council nominations close
- House Swimming Sports Years 3-6

Friday 26 February
- District Swimming Sports (selected children)
- Family picnic 5.30-8.00pm

Tuesday 1 March
- PFA meeting 2.30pm in Staffroom

Friday 4 March
- Ride2School Day
- Year 5&6 Cricket Gala Day
- Schools Cleanup Day

Click here to go to our school website calendar for more details on coming events

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
Lateness to school

It is very important for children to meet the requirement that they are at school for the start of the school day. Not only is this an Education Department expectation but it ensures that students are present for the important instructions given at the start of the day. As parents it is your responsibility to ensure children are at school on time. I appreciate that there can be once only extraordinary circumstances which may explain why children come to school late and students can be excused for these situations. However for children who are frequent latecomers there will be consequences for consistently missing school time.

Children who arrive to school after 9.00am and before 9.15am go straight to their classroom and the teacher will mark them late. Any child who arrives after 9.15 must arrive through the office accompanied by their parent/s and the parent will sign in and be given a late card. Parents must then take their child to the classroom and explain the lateness to the class teacher. I hope that these measures will reduce the pattern of lateness which has started to creep in.

Similarly I expect parents to notify the school when children are absent and explain student absences and non-attendance.

You Can Do It! awards

Parents will now also be aware of our changes to our YCDI awards which the Student Well being leaders spoke about at last week’s assembly. As part of our positive education philosophy and approach to empowering students and building resilience we are revisiting the purpose and relevance of the entire YCDI program. Students will still be nominated for awards through their teachers but this will be fortnightly and not weekly. Kathy Walker addressed our community at one of last year’s parent education evenings and she commented on how schools can often decrease a child’s resilience by awarding them for behaviours and attitudes that we expect them to have. To make matters worse, we were awarding every child a YCDI by the end of the school year. Whilst the YCDI awards delighted our parents, the reality is that the students, particularly our older ones, were seeing it from a very different perspective. The reality is that not every child needs an award for being a good student, it is simply something that we expect every single day. Similarly, not every child is deserving of a ribbon at the Athletics or Swimming carnivals, or music concerts or dancing competitions. In life, it is only those who are the best in their field who will be recognised and acknowledged and it is important that schools mirror reality; otherwise we are failing our students by setting them up for disappointments for which they have not been prepared.

However, it is equally still important to encourage, praise and recognise effort and endeavour and excellence when it has been achieved and as a school we will continue to do this. Aligned very closely to this are our learning dispositions that I wish to foster in all of our children with one of the most significant for us is having a growth or open mindset. But more on this next time.

Have a wonderful week.

Rochelle Cukier
Principal

cukier.rochelle.a@edumail.vic.edu.au
Assistant Principal

JMF Kids for Kids
Last year we had a number of our students (and teachers) participate in the JMF Kids for Kids fundraising project which helped to raise several thousand dollars to fund mobility aids to disabled children across Australia. Please see the video of the presentation that was made at our school last year. It was a very moving and inspiring presentation and it would be great to have your children watch this to see what great things our students can achieve helping others less fortunate than themselves. Thanks again to Tiffany Loftus-Hills (mum of Alexie and Markis) for organising this great event for us. I am looking forward to seeing how many of our students take up the challenge this year. I have committed to taking part and I am hoping to see lots of students and parents getting involved in such a great cause. We will give out more details about it closer to the event in Term 3.

Ride2School

Of course if you want to ride the 180km for the bike leg of the Ironman, you will need to start training, and what better way to start than at our annual Ride2School day, coming up on Friday 4th March. We are encouraging all of our students to ride (or walk or scoot) to school on that day and hopefully lots more days. If you live a long way away, don’t worry, you can walk or ride part way. We will have some special prizes to give away for best decorated bikes, as well as some randomly drawn prizes for anyone who rides to school. These are all courtesy of the generous support given to us once again from Melbourne Bicycle Centre in High Street Prahran. Even though the Year 5 and 6 students will be having their Gala Day on that day, we are still encouraging them to participate by riding to and from school on that day.

Clean Up Schools Day
On the same day – Friday 4th March we will also be participating in the National Clean Up Schools Day. Whilst our school grounds are generally pretty clean due to our great Nude Food program, we are keen to get out and about in the local community and help clean up the neighbouring streets. Each year level will select a certain area to help clean up. More details to follow on this.

Healthy Lunchbox Poster
At the start of the year each new prep family received a special showbag, with a number of great pieces of information to help families get off to a good start at school. One of them that caught my eye, was this Pick and Mix Healthy Lunchbox Poster. I thought it was too good to just keep for the preps so I have put a copy on the website - click on this link to see it. It reinforces all the things we have been talking about with our Nude Food and healthy choices for all food brought to school. On the back are some great suggestions for each food group to ensure your child is getting a healthy balanced diet at school.

Use of the Dome

Our leadership team has been discussing the use of the Dome play equipment and trying to address the issue that it is only for Years 3-6 students. Current research shows that climbing on equipment like this is very beneficial to young children to help build upper body strength and mobility. We have checked out all of the regulations about play equipment and there are no age or size restrictions that apply. The Year 1 students have started using it carefully under teacher supervision as part of their investigations and the teachers have reported that the children are loving it and using it wisely. Therefore we have decided to open it up to the Year 1 and 2 students at the junior lunchtime only on a trial basis to see how well it is used. We will seek feedback from students, teachers and parents to see how well it is operating by the end of term.

– Malcolm Dow
Assistant Principal
Sports News

House Swimming Sports on Monday

Next Monday 22 February, all Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 children will be participating in the House Swimming Sports at Prahran Aquatic Centre. All children received information last week. Click here for all the details.

Thank you to all those parents who offered to assist on the day. For those six parents coming with the children on the bus, please arrive at school by 8.50am and go to your child’s classroom. The parents meeting us at the pool, please arrive there by 9.45am.

Children need to be at school on Monday at 8.50am with all their named swimming items detailed in last week’s newsletter (and on the website) in a sports/school bag.

A reminder to all children and parents to be sunsmart. Children also need to apply and bring sunscreen, wear an approved sun hat & school uniform, wear lunch/snacks in reusable containers and bring a plastic water bottle.

We are looking forward to a great day.

Following the House Swimming Sports the District Swimming team will be selected.

Peter Cracknell
Sports Convenor

The Arts News

Artist of the week: Eisei Fujita 1P
For using music to inspire the colour choices in his artwork.

Arts Class of the week: 5B
For demonstration strong teamwork when devising a TV news report based on the poem ‘Mulga Bill’s Bicycle’.

Art Smocks
There are a number of students who have not brought an art smock to school. Each class has an art smock tub that is brought each time the students have visual arts. Please make sure that it is clearly named, and in the classroom art smock tub by the end of this week. To ensure uniforms are kept clean, art smocks must be long sleeved. Art Smocks can be purchased from:
PSW (Primary and Secondary Schoolwear)
12 Strathalbyn Street East Kew.

Stockings for Drying Rack
The stockings used for the drying racks in our arts studio could use an upgrade. If anyone is willing to donate any stockings (old ones with ladders are fine), it would be greatly appreciated. You can drop them straight to the arts room.

Thank you for your support.

Laura Welch
The Arts Teacher
Welch.laura.1@edumail.vic.gov.au
Today the Melbourne Demons footy club came to Armadale Primary School. The players were Jack Watts, Bernie Vince and Sam Frost. It was a great experience for me because I barrack for the Demons. First we had question time. My question was, “how long have you been playing footy for?” Jack Watts said he played professional footy for about eight years, Bernie Vince said three years at the Demons and Sam Frost has played for eighteen months.

Next, all the die-hard Melbourne Demon fans got a photo with all three of them and had a kick to kick with Jack Watts. It was a great day a big thanks to Mr Cracknell for making this day happen.

Harry Stewart 4Z

Today the Year 4’s and 5’s met three Melbourne Demon footy players, which is the most awesome thing ever, since I am a Melbourne supporter. Their names were Jack Watts, Bernie Vince and Sam Frost. They told us about how they trained to be a great footballer. Bernie Vince told us that when he was young, he wasn’t the best footballer but as he got older, he worked harder and finally achieved his goal of playing in the AFL. We asked so many good questions and we got so many good answers! Jack Watts and Bernie Vince showed us their broken fingers. They were popping out. EWW!!! The footy players were really nice. Because I am a Melbourne supporter with Alex .A, Tom .D, Florence .A, Bill .W, Hennie .G got to get a photo with the Melbourne players. It was the best day!

Charlotte Bond 4Z

Today I met three footy players from the Melbourne Demons footy team. I was so excited to be meeting three actual Melbourne footy players. Their names were Jack Watts, Bernie Vince and Sam Frost. They seemed very nice. We got photos and autographs from them. They gave us some advice and talked about their experiences and what it really is like playing against some of the toughest players in the AFL. They have played against nearly all the AFL teams. After, we asked good questions and got some good answers. I was really happy to be meeting the team I barrack for! It felt really special and I had a great day. GO DEMONS!!!

Thank you Mr Cracknell for organising this wonderful day.

Alexandra Anderson 4Z
Parents and Friends of Armadale (PFA)

Hi everyone,

We are nearly half way through the term already, so it really is time to spend some time together....... so pack your picnic, put your apron on and see you at the whole School Welcome Picnic.......

School Welcome Picnic
Next Friday 26th February, is our annual school welcome picnic on from 5.30 - 8.00pm. The picnic is for all parents and children and is a fantastic opportunity to meet and socialise with others in the school community. The children just love it and have a fabulous time. This year there will be supervised sporting activities provided by Proactivity to provide some energetic entertainment for the children from 6.00pm – 7.00pm on the tennis courts. There will also be a sausage sizzle, icy poles and Pimms & Beer bar.

Parent Volunteers
To run our fun night next Friday we are still needing a few more volunteers. So if you are happy to help with either the food or drink stalls on the night please contact the PFA on armadalepfa@gmail.com.

PFA Meeting
The next PFA Meeting is on Tuesday 1st March at 2:30pm in the Staff Room. This meeting is open to all Armadale Parents, so please come along as we continue to plan all our exciting Armadale Primary events for the year.

Cocktail Parties
Term one and two will also see each level hosting a cocktail party. For more information, please see your class rep or please contact our class representative coordinator: Janine Sheean jainesheean@gmail.com.

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

Kind regards

The Armadale PFA Committee
Email: armadalepfa@gmail.com

Camps Sports and Excursions Fund

CSEF applications open from term one 2016. Families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply. $125 per year is paid for eligible primary school students.

Special Consideration is given to families on a Bridging Visa, Temporary Protection Visa, Community Detention and Asylum Seeker families; therefore they are eligible for CSEF. A letter from the Australian Red Cross, AMES, or similar welfare institution is required as evidence. A copy of an ‘immi’ card is also acceptable evidence. These applications are processed as ‘Special Consideration’ category applications in the CSEF system.

Payments are made directly to the school and are tied to the student. Please click on this link for more information and the application form. http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/Pages/csef.aspx

Janine Sheean
Class Rep Co-ordinator janinesheean@gmail.com.
FAMILY WELCOME PICNIC

SAUSAGE SIZZLE
PIMMS AND BEER BAR
POPCORN / ICY POLES
KIDS ACTIVITIES
* BYO PICNIC
(NO GLASS PLEASE)

FEBRUARY 26th
5:30 - 8:00
Get involved in the School Banking program

Armadale Primary is excited to offer the Commonwealth Bank School Banking program to all students.

The School Banking program provides children with an opportunity to deposit money into their Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account at school each week. The program is about how often your child makes deposits, not how much they deposit.

To encourage regular savings behaviour the program offers an exciting Rewards Program. Every deposit earns your child a silver Dollarmites token, and once they’ve collected 10 tokens they can redeem them for a reward.

The rewards available during 2016 are:

- Flying Snake Tail
- Wildlife Writer Set
- Mud Splat Handball
- Outback Pat Bag Tag
- Backtrack Eraser Pen
- Jump and Skip Rope
- Bush Fly Fan
- Wriggly Glow Worm

School Banking is also a great fundraiser for our school. Our school receives $5 when a student makes their first ever School Banking deposit and 5% on every deposit made through the school (to a maximum of $10 per individual deposit).

Getting involved in School Banking is easy!

You can get involved in the School Banking program by opening a Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account at your local branch. All you need to bring is your current identification as well as your child’s birth certificate. If you are an existing Commonwealth Bank customer and have NetBank, you can open an account online.

If your child has an existing Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account they can start banking straight away. They just need to bring their deposit in every week on School Banking day using their Dollarmites deposit wallet.

School Banking day is Tuesday. Each week you need to hand your completed deposit book to your class teacher after assembly.

If you would like to know more about School Banking, please ask for a 2016 School Banking program information pack from the school office.

Alison Crone
School Banking Co-ordinator
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S.M.D.C provides professional, internationally recognised classes from petites to pointes with some of the best teachers in Australia.

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The best boys Tap classes in Melbourne
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Because it's Fun
Beginners 2.5yrs to 18yrs/adults

TO ENROL - ph: 0406 488 845 or email: lee14sherlock@gmail.com

SPECIAL OFFER
FOR NEW ENROLMENTS ONLY
pay for term one 2016 and receive term two 2016 on us!
Whilst all care is taken to ensure the validity of advertisements in this newsletter we take no responsibility and imply no endorsement.
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1-2-3 MAGIC®
& EMOTION COACHING PARENT COURSE

Learn how to manage challenging behaviour in children aged 2-12 years old.

When: 9.30-12pm Wednesday the 9th, 16th & 23rd of March
Where: Ashley Rickston Centre, 260 Kooyong rd, Caulfield 3162
Cost: $30 (payable at first session) In which a 1-2-3 Magic & emotion coaching parent workbook is included.

What you can expect to learn:

- Positive management of children’s challenging behaviour (whining, arguing and tantrums) in a calm and consistent way
- Supports parents to set clear expectations with their children
- Assisting children to understand their own emotions in order to self-regulate, become more resilient and make better choices
- Strengthening your relationship with your child/children.

This course is presented and organised by the Psychologist, Community Health Nurse and the Family Therapist of the Child Youth and Family team.

For more information and to Register for the course please contact ACCESS at Caulfield Community Health Service on: 9076 6776

Free Dance Class Trial!
Present this voucher upon arrival. (Expires Feb 20, 2016)

KIDS DANCE CLASSES
Boys & Girls Welcome!

ADULT DANCE CLASSES
All ages & all level’s welcome!
FUN, ENERGETIC, TECHNICAL & CREATIVE

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Bookings essential!
M: 0423 095 590
E: glenhuntly@glitterytappingwonderland.com

Ballet * Tap * Jazz * Hip Hop * Fairy Dancing * Adult Classes
www.glitterytappingwonderland.com

Community Garden
Open Day
Visit the ABC Community Garden at 88 Kooyong Road, Armadale.
Saturday 20 February from 10am-2pm

Taste test the garden’s produce, participate in garden workshops and get your hands dirty with children’s activities.

Gold coin donations will go towards keeping the garden growing.

For more information check out the ABC community garden on Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/ABCCommunityGarden)
Do you find that your son seems hyperactive?
Have you noticed that your son gets distracted easily and has difficulties staying focused and finishing his homework?

At Swinburne University we are currently investigating the effects of a natural medicine, a special extract of Bacopa monnieri, and its ability to reduce symptoms related to hyperactivity, inattention and impulsivity in healthy boys aged 6 - 14 years old.

For more information, please contact James Kean on (03) 9214 5782 or jkean@swin.edu.au

Auburn High School
THE RESILIENCE PROJECT

A FREE COMMUNITY EVENT
Hugh van Cuylenburg

*positive psychology
*resilience
*emotional wellbeing
*help your child transition to high school

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL
PH: 9822 3247

EXPERIENCE SUCCESS

Visit Us
OPEN DAY
Sunday 28 February 2016
1-4pm

T: 03 8517 2777   E: enrolments@pcw.vic.edu.au
187 Dandenong Rd, Windsor, VIC 3181   pcw.vic.edu.au
143 YEARS OF LEARNING, INNOVATION & FRIENDSHIP