Dear Armadale Community,

It’s so hard to believe that the end of Term 1 is almost upon us and it feels like we have just started the year. Next week we will finish school and the term on Thursday 24th March with our final assembly starting at 1.45 pm and concluding at 2.30pm when we will dismiss the students from the MPC.

Thank you from the Bond family!

I received a heartfelt thank you from Rebecca Bond on Tuesday morning and I wanted to share her gratitude with you all. I was so disappointed to have missed last Friday and could not believe how our school responded to the call for support for little Angus Bond: Captain Courageous. As you know, Angus suffers from a life threatening Bone Marrow Failure disease and to date there is no cure. I was thrilled to hear that Connie, who was Acting Principal, enabled the children to participate in a spontaneous parade, much to the delight of all the children, teachers and parents. I am all for those perfect teaching moments in life that will have a lasting impact on our children, more so than if they were to have read about Angus’ story in a book. It is so important that we educate our children and seize those opportunities for them to make a difference.

I also congratulate Mat Sweetlove and our Year 6 SRC leaders who took charge of the day and ran the Parade without a hitch. Well done SRC!

Dear Rochelle,

I’d like to thank you and the SRC so much for all the support for Captain Courageous with the Hero Day on Friday. It was wonderful to see so many of the children and teachers dressed up and having fun with the theme.

I believe the school raised around the $700 mark, which is just fantastic. We have such a supportive and generous community at Armadale. I can’t wait to share this news with Jess and Jeff who have just returned from a research conference in the U.S. They’ll be delighted.

Regards, Bec
A very busy end of term and how to survive it!
Where we can we will always try to spread out the activities and special events so that they aren’t all bunched up together, but unfortunately we couldn’t for next week. It is a short school week and we have had a very short first term, meaning there is quite a bit happening at school. Are all these activities important? Yes they are, whether it is raising awareness about disability, acknowledging the wonderfully rich diversity of our backgrounds or celebrating the start of the AFL season, with many of our children engaged in all sorts of ball sports. Do I think it is important that our very healthy children give away some of their Easter eggs to the Very Special Kids at the Hospice in Glenferrie Road and have these personally delivered by our School Captains? Absolutely, you can’t always teach children these things in classrooms, if you want to develop empathy; you have to provide the authentic experience.

Friday 18th March – Footy Colours Day and Parade – Parents welcome
You don’t have to have the full footy jumper, scarf, beanie etc, just something that represents what team the children may follow or like to support. Don’t stress if you don’t have anything, just let Peter Cracknell know or your class teacher and we will find something for them.

Monday 21st March – It would be great to see all of Armadale Primary wearing different socks to school on Monday 21st March. Lots of Socks is a Down syndrome International campaign to create conversation and bring awareness of Down syndrome. We have always been blessed as a school to have Henni Graham as one of our students. Henni has brought so much into the lives of her friends, classmates and teachers here at Armadale. Let’s all have a photo with Henni on Monday!

Tuesday 22nd March
NO ASSEMBLY and School Council meeting at 7.00pm.

Wednesday 23rd March – World Harmony Day
Parents are invited to our special assembly. Children are encouraged to wear something that represents their heritage. Please see details on page 8 or click here.

Thursday 24th March - early school finish at 2.30pm as Term 1 ends

Monday 11th April - Curriculum Development Day
no students are required at school.

Tuesday 12th April – Term 2 starts and school resumes for all students at 9am.
Congratulations to Mimi and Nicholas Stoupas!

I was thrilled to receive an email from Nicky on Tuesday morning to let me know about what the children had achieved. Mimi and Nicholas participated in the Surf Lifesaving State Championships in Warrnambool for Portsea Surf Club last weekend. Mimi received a Bronze medal as the 3rd fastest surf swimmer in under 12 girls in all of Victoria. Nicholas received a Gold medal in the team surf swim for 10 year olds, as the fastest team in the State. Some of the Surf Clubs who were at the event included Fairhaven, Torquay, Lorne, Jan Juc, Anglesea, Ocean Grove, Warrnambool, Pt Leo, Mentone, Half Moon Bay, Hampton, Bon Beach, Elwood, Chelsea Heights, Mornington, Sorrento, Venus Bay, and Williamstown, which would all have incredibly experienced swimmers.

Congratulations to both Mimi and Nicholas on your hard work and commitment!!

Prep Cocktail Party – has the baby sitter been booked?
I know our Prep parents are incredibly excited about tomorrow night at the first cocktail party for the year. Our MPC will be transformed and have a wonderful ambience. It will afford our Prep parents the opportunity to continue forging friendships and a supportive network.

See you all there.

Have a wonderful week everyone.

Rochelle Cukier
Principal
**Active Play at the Park**

Years 3-6

A reminder that on Thursdays in 2016, weather permitting, we are taking groups of students from Year 3-6 for lunch recess at Orrong Park departing at 12.20pm and returning by 1.30pm. Today the Year 3&5 students went to the park. Any parent assistance walking to and from the park would be greatly appreciated. Please contact your child’s class teacher or myself if you could help.

Peter Cracknell
Sports Convenor

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**Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)**

Have you applied for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)?

Parents are reminded to check their eligibility for the CSEF. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download information from the CSEF website. Applications close 3 June 2016

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**Assistant Principal**

**Principals’ Conference**

Rochelle and I had a very stimulating and thought-provoking time at the Inner South Conference for Principals last week. There were some wonderful presenters and speakers, many of whom really challenged our current thoughts and ideas. It made me realise what a dynamic and ever-changing landscape the education sector lies in. Of particular interest to me was the very frightening statistics on the increasing prevalence of mental health issues such as anxiety and depression in children as young as the ones we teach at primary school. This has very real implications for us as educators and how we try to reduce the level of stress that many children are experiencing. The implications for you as parents are just as important, and to that end we will be trying to secure the services of one of these presenters for a parent information session later in the year.

**Green Team Conference**

Unfortunately due to the conference I was not able to attend the Green Team Conference last Friday. Luckily Vita, Brett and Rosa stepped in and took the senior Green Team Reps down to the SEED Centre in Glen Iris for a very stimulating day planning the special projects that they will be undertaking this year. Their major focus this year will be on water, and they have a number of great plans and projects to help us reduce the water usage at our school. Please see page 5 for a report from the Green Team.

Malcolm Dow
Assistant Principal

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**The Arts News**

**Arts Awards for the week of 7th - 11th March**

**Artist of the Week:**
Indi Officer 4C
For showing an understanding of the Bollywood film and dance culture by executing intricate Bollywood dance steps.

**Arts Class of the Week:** 2S
For developing and demonstrating creative rhythms in music using body percussion. Each student showed excellent teamwork with the groups they worked with.

**Stockings**
We are still in need of stockings (old or new) for the drying rack in the arts room. If you are willing to donate any, please drop them straight to the Arts Studio. Your help is greatly appreciated.

**Arts Club**
There has been wonderful interest in the visual arts club for this year. I’ve decided to have four groups, where two groups will attend one separate lunch time, each alternate fortnight. This is to give all students interested an opportunity. All students invited to the arts club will receive an information letter that they must sign and return by the end of term 1. This letter will be going home today, Thursday 17th March. The Visual Arts Club will begin term 2 and run for the remainder of the year. The set day for terms 2, 3 and 4 will depend on my timetable.

If you have any queries, please email me.

Laura Welch
The Arts Teacher
Welch.laura.l@edumail.vic.gov.au

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Sports News

Team Vic Trials
First up is the registration for Team Vic trials. This year we will not be running district trials for any sports. All students who wish to nominate for Basketball, Boys and Girls Soccer, AFL and Netball will have to nominate online at the address below and if they meet the nomination requirements will go straight through to Division Trials in early Term 2.

Registration is available here: https://www.ssv.vic.edu.au/TeamVic/Pages/onlineRegistrationInformation.aspx

All other sports (cricket, tennis, softball etc.) will still nominate through the same process as last year. See the Team Vic page on the SSV website for more information.

Swimming Term 2 - Years 3, 4, 5 & 6

Attached to today’s newsletter on page 7 are all the details regarding next term’s 9 lesson swimming program for the Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 students which commences on Monday 18 April.

Please read all the information about lesson times and if you are able to help with walking to and from the pool, please let your child’s class teacher know by Wednesday 13 April.

The cost of the swimming lessons will be included on next term’s excursion levy form.

Division Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to the following children who represented Southport District at the recent Division Swimming Championships at Oakleigh:

There were fantastic efforts by all the children throughout the day and it was great to see so many parents supporting the team.

Special congratulations to Nicholas S (1st 9/10 Breaststroke), Max D, Hugo M, Nicholas S & Jamie S (2nd in medley relay Mimi S (3rd in 12/13 backstroke and freestyle)), Max D, Hugo M, Jamie S & Will (3rd 12/13 freestyle relay) Nicholas S (3rd 9/10 Backstroke).

Nicholas S will now compete in the Regional Swimming Finals. Good luck.

Great effort everyone.

Peter Cracknell
Physical Education & Sport Coordinator

Green Team news

On Friday 11 March the Green Team reps from years 3 – 6 went to a Student Leadership Conference run by City of Stonnington, and Cool Australia, at the SEED centre in Glen Iris.

We did some workshops with children from four other schools including a high school.

We did some activities in the wetlands including looking at the insects and the health of the creek.

We planned some action that we want to take as a school to reduce our water use, and save water. In particular we want to divert water from the drinking tap sinks. We also have some other ideas and we will be starting a blog with our ideas.

Celina, Chantael 3E, Max 3W
Hi everyone,

Easter is nearly here, and I know we are all getting excited, but before we go off and enjoy our break, it would be so lovely if our parting gift could be some amazing Easter Hampers for Very Special Kids and a few lucky Armadale Families. So get your creative juices flowing ……..

**Easter Raffle**
The boxes have started to go out, and soon we will have some amazing Easter Hamper creations for Very Special Kids! So if you have not done so, could you please send in your Easter Egg donations for the Easter Raffle by tomorrow (Friday 18th March)

**Lots of Socks**
Monday is “Lots of Socks Day”, a day to raise awareness for Down syndrome. So have a look in your sock drawer and wear whatever socks take your fancy!

And please remember your *Gold coin donation*.

**Cocktail Parties**
The Prep Cocktail Party will be held tomorrow evening, **Friday 18th March**.

Tickets can be purchased via the following link [www.eventbright.com.au](http://www.eventbright.com.au)

For more information on your year level cocktail party, please either see your class representative or please contact our class representative coordinator: Janine Sheean [janinesheean@gmail.com](mailto:janinesheean@gmail.com)

**Save the Date**
This year the Mother’s Day Event will be held on Wednesday May 4th. More details to follow very soon.

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### PFA Meeting
The next PFA Meeting is on **Tuesday 12th April 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.

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

Kind regards

*The Armadale PFA Committee*

Email: [armadalepfa@gmail.com](mailto:armadalepfa@gmail.com)
Dear Parents,

The Swimming Program gives each child an opportunity to enjoy physical activity as well as gaining a valuable life skill. Our aim is to develop confident swimmers. Activities to develop confidence in water, swimming stroke development and water safety aspects will be covered in the intensive program beginning Monday 18th April. This program complements the school PE program and all children are expected to attend.

Term 2 Swimming arrangements for Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 - Swimming lessons for Term 2 will commence on Monday 18th April. They will be held at the Lauriston Girls’ School Swim Centre Huntingtower Road, Armadale. This year we are running an Intensive swimming program on the following dates over three weeks:

- Monday 18th April, Tuesday 19th April, Wednesday 20th April, Thursday 21st April, Tuesday 26th April, Wednesday 27th April, Friday 29th April, Monday 2nd May, Wednesday 4th May (9 lessons in total).

Each lesson will be approximately 40 minutes with trained swimming Instructors provided at the following times:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6P &amp; 6Z</td>
<td>9:30-10:10am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5B &amp; 5G</td>
<td>10:10-10:50am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4C &amp; 4Z</td>
<td>10:50-11:30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3C &amp; 3E</td>
<td>11:30am-12:10pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3W</td>
<td>12:10pm-12:50pm</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Cost & permission: Included in the Term 2 excursion levy form to be sent out at the end of term 1.

Transport: Teachers will supervise the walk to and from the pool.

Swimming items

- To assist with the changing process children swimming at the earlier lesson times can wear their bathers to school under their school uniform, prior to walking to the pool. **NB: Girls should wear one piece design and boys ‘speedo’ style. Please remember to supply underwear for your child when changing after the lesson.**
- Goggles are highly recommended and need to be provided by parents prior to the commencement of the program. There will be no borrowing of goggles from the pool.
- Named swim caps will be provided by Armadale Primary School and are included in the cost for all students. These will be distributed to each Year 3, 4, 5 & 6 child at the beginning of the program. Additional caps will be on sale for $5.00.
- Children also need to bring a towel and labelled swimming bag/sports bag. **A plastic bag is not recommended.**

ALL SWimmers MUST WEAR A CAP - GOGGLES ARE OPTIONAL BUT HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

Parent Assistance Required

Teachers require any parents who are able to assist with walking children to/from the pool and assist with supervision/changing. Any assistance would be greatly appreciated. Please complete the form and tear off slip below and return to your child’s class teacher if you can assist.

Parents of all children are welcome to attend swimming lessons and observe progress after the first lesson.

Medical Information

Children can be exempted on medical grounds. The confidential medical swimming exemption form is available under the Parents tab & Forms from the school website. It needs to be completed, signed by parents and returned to the office prior to the commencement of the program so that adequate supervision can be arranged.

- **PARENTS** – **PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW YOUR CHILDREN TO SWIM IF THEY HAVE HAD DIARRHOEA WITHIN THE PAST SEVEN DAYS.**

If you have any further queries please contact me or your child’s class teacher.

Peter Cracknell
Sports Co-ordinator

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**SWIMMING PROGRAM TERM 2 2016 – PARENT ASSISTANCE**

Please note the children will be departing school at the following times (approximately 30 minutes prior to the commencement of their lesson):

- 6P & 6Z (9:00am)
- 5B & 5G (9:40am)
- 4C & 4Z (10:20am)
- 3C & 3E (11:00am)
- 3W (11:40am)

**YES, I can assist with supervision walking to/from the pool and supervision on the following dates (please circle)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Monday 18th April</th>
<th>Tuesday 19th April</th>
<th>Wednesday 20th April</th>
<th>Thursday 21st April</th>
<th>Tuesday 26th April</th>
<th>Wednesday 27th April</th>
<th>Friday 29th April</th>
<th>Monday 2nd May</th>
<th>Wednesday 4th May</th>
<th>OR</th>
<th>ALL DAYS</th>
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Please return this form directly to your child’s class teacher by Wednesday 13th April if you can assist with walking.

Parent’s Name: ___________________________ Phone No: ___________________________

Child’s Name: ___________________________ Class: ___________________________
Wednesday 23rd 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.

Harmony Day Survey
As part of our Harmony Day celebration we would like each family to complete a survey about their cultural background. The Year 6 students will collate the results of the survey which will be presented at our Harmony Day Special Assembly.

Please take the time to complete the survey with your child as it will enable them to further their own intercultural understanding. Please return the survey to myself or your child’s class teacher as soon as possible please to enable the results to be collated.

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

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>9.00-9.50am</td>
<td>Harmony Day whole school assembly - outside on the stage</td>
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<tr>
<td>10-10.50</td>
<td>Harmony day Incursion for students, Cultural Infusion, Chinese Arts &amp; Dance in MPC Performance 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>11-11.30</td>
<td>Whole school recess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.30-12.20</td>
<td>Harmony day incursion for students, Cultural Infusion, Chinese Arts &amp; Dance in MPC Performance 2 (remainder of students)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.30-1.30</td>
<td>Whole school lunch</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Each year level sings a song in Italian
- The Arts special performances Years Prep-5
- First performance (half of the school to attend)
- Second performance (other half of school attends)
- International food tasting - Class teachers will organise the appropriate time for students to taste and share food generously provided by parents.

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.

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.

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.

Please note, payment for this incursion has been included in the Term 1 incursion levy.

Grazie, and looking forward to a wonderful celebrazione!
Vita Vampatella
Italian Language Co-ordinator
Jim's Cleaning Armadale would like to offer the Parents of Students at **Armadale Primary School** an opportunity for a free quote on any of your Cleaning requirements. The specific treatments are for **Bathrooms**, **Kitchens**, **Ovens** and **Windows**. However, we can assist with any of your needs, no matter how big or small.

Living locally enables us to support families and small business owners in the community and it will also enable us to provide our clients with a cost effective cleaning solution; quickly, reliably and efficiently.

Call Mark and Ali on 0439 634 384 for further information regarding our services or simply email us at ali.mark@jims清洁ing.net.au and we will contact you directly. We value your local support and look forward to meeting with you shortly,

Kind regards,

Mark and Ali.
Melissa Margaritis

Piano Teacher
(Hons) AMEB Piano; Bch of Primary Education

10/38 Northcote Rd, Armadale VIC | 0413 046 021 | m_margaritis@ymail.com

- Melissa has been teaching piano privately for over 12 years and is extremely passionate with educating students in music & performance.
- Holds her completion of AMEB Piano (Hons) and is a student teacher from the University of Melbourne.
- The Music Program & individual lessons are welcome to all pupils (5+ years).
- Students will learn to sight, hear, perform, read, understand & appreciate all aspects of music form.
- Practice performance, improvisation & composition through practical, activity-based & aural lessons.
- Hours are available between Mon - Fri (After School Hours).

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

Stay active, play basketball over the Easter break!
Chase Basketball is running basketball camps over the March April school holidays at MSAC, Albert Park College, Elwood College and Aqualink Box Hill.

These camps focus on teaching and developing the fundamental skills of basketball for boys and girls aged 5-14 years old in a fun, safe and professional environment. All levels are catered for, from absolute beginner to elite representative player.

Every participant receives a ball and a tee shirt!

Contact the Chase Basketball team: alex@gaze.com.au or 9699 2204.

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