Dear Parents,

Thank you for all the lovely “Welcome back” messages and I must admit I was very pleased to escape this bitterly cold winter and enjoy some Queensland sunshine.

Far North Queensland afforded me a geography teacher’s paradise with the world heritage Daintree wet tropical forest, the Great Barrier Reef, Cape Tribulation, the Atherton tablelands and Mossman Gorge. We also managed to squeeze in some fine dining in Port Douglas and Palm Cove where we stayed for 10 nights. However I was also looking forward to coming back and seeing the children and particularly noticing how much they had all grown.

I am particularly grateful to my leadership team for running the school so well in my absence and would like to thank and acknowledge Malcolm Dow, Christine Leyshan, Peter Cracknell and Connie Apostolos. Their support and professionalism is beyond reproach and our school community is incredibly fortunate to have such educational leaders in our school.

What do the Year 5 and 6 students think of our school, their teachers and their peers?
I have just received the results of our 2015 Attitudes to School Survey which is a Department survey used to benchmark our school against other schools in the region and the state. The data from the student survey is used in our annual performance and accountability processes. I am delighted to share with you that for every single category, the students at Armadale outperform all other schools in our region and in the state. Our highest performing categories are teacher effectiveness at the 90th percentile; teacher empathy at the 92nd percentile; student motivation at the 95th percentile; student morale at 93rd percentile; school connectedness and connectedness to peers at the 90th percentiles. I take this opportunity to acknowledge the dedication of the team at our senior school, which is led by Zaim, Robin, Gillian and Kate and all of our specialist teachers. On tours with prospective parents I will often lament our small spaces and lack of ovals, but I always highlight that we have the best educational practitioners in our classrooms. Professor John Hattie, who works in the Graduate school of Education at the University of Melbourne has stated that the most important influence on a student’s education is the teacher in the classroom.

Parent Opinion Survey
Another survey used to benchmark our school is the Parent Opinion Survey and 40 families will be randomly selected to complete this survey which is then submitted to the department. I always welcome our parent feedback and will use the survey data to further improve our school for the children. These surveys must be returned by Monday 3rd August and I thank those families in advance for their thoughtful feedback.

Children’s safety in the school after 3.45pm
There will be times during the year where parents / carers or grandparents will be running late or stuck in traffic or have an emergency and will be stressed about coming to school late to pick children up after 3.45pm. We have teachers out on yard duty until 3.45pm and after that any children who remain in the yard or in Densham Road remain so totally unsupervised and therefore unsafe. I hope to make some changes to our systems in this area when the staff return in September. There will be a meeting to discuss this with the parents and grandparents.

Parents are always welcome to join the school grounds on any occasion to pick up their children after 3.45pm. However, if you are late after 3.45pm, we will assume that the children have been dropped off on time and are running late to pick them up and we will contact the carers to let them know.

This Week’s Events
Monday 3 August
♦ Years 3-6 House Athletics

Wednesday 5 August
♦ Year 3&4 Camp meeting for parents 6.00-6.45pm in 3/4E & 3/4J classrooms
♦ Cookbook sub-committee meeting 3.45pm in 1/2E

Friday 7 August
♦ Years 5&6 Hooptime Gala day
♦ PFA meeting 2.30pm in staffroom

Coming Events
Tuesday 11 August
♦ ICAS Mathematics
♦ Year 3&4 Hooptime Gala day
♦ Cybersafety parent session 7.00-8.30pm

Monday 17 August
♦ Curriculum Day - pupil-free day

Friday 21 August
♦ Trivia Night

Monday 24 August
♦ Book Week commences

Wednesday 2 September
♦ Year 3&4 students to Camp Arrabri
To ensure your child’s safety until you can collect them, they will be taken across to Afters and will be looked after by the OOSH team. You can then have peace of mind when held up in traffic, or at work, that the children have been looked after and have been fed a nutritious afternoon tea. For those parents who are frequently late to school pick ups, please ensure you have registered with OOSH and don’t forget that you can claim a rebate with Centrelink. Whilst I have been happy to have children wait in the office area in the past, my attendance at meetings both in and out of school in the afternoons has increased and my duty of care will be compromised if I have to leave children on their own. Thank you for your co-operation with this matter.

Is your child in Prep –Year 5 returning to Armadale in 2016?
We have had an unprecedented number of enquiries from families wanting to transfer their children to Armadale Primary for next year plus a very healthy Prep intake for 2016.

In order to facilitate staffing, class groupings and structures for next year if you have decided that your child will be attending another setting in 2016, could you please advise the school by way of email to me as a matter of urgency. Your assistance with this will be greatly appreciated.

Have a wonderful week everyone.

Rochelle Cukier
Principal

cukier.rochelle.a @edumail.vic.gov.au

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### Sports News

**House Athletics Years 3-6**

Monday 3 August at Duncan McKinnon Reserve

We still require more parents to assist next Monday. If you are able to help please return the parent assistance slip - click here for all the details from the website.

**Hooptime Gala Days**

- **Years 5&6 Friday 7 August**
  Payment and permission included in this term’s excursion levy.

- **Years 3&4 on Tuesday 11 August**
  Payment and permission notices will be distributed this week as this excursion was not included in the Year 3/4 excursion levy notice.

Peter Cracknell
Sports Co-ordinator

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### Performing Arts News

**Performing Arts Class of the Week:**

Prep S for a wonderful start to your Fables Performing Arts unit. Your Three Billy Goat Gruff plays were fantastic! You always work very hard to achieve your very best.

**Performer of the Week:**

Imogen Hardy for the passion and commitment you bring to Performing Arts! You are always such a bright, cheerful and enthusiastic member of the class.

**Rehearsal Times:**

- **Glee Club** - Tuesday lunch (12:30-1:00pm)
- **Junior Singing Club** - Wednesday recess (11:00-11:30am)

Lisa Vollugi
Performing Arts Co-ordinator

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### This Week’s Awards

**Performing Arts Class of the Week:** Prep S

**Performer of the Week:**

Imogen Hardy

**Visual Artist of the Week:**

James Donovan

**Visual Art Class of the Week:**

1/2 W

**You Can Do It! Awards:**

- Millie Monahan Prep C
- Cruz O’Sullivan Prep P
- Mirra Vijay Prep S
- Jono Ingham 1/2 D
- Isaac Miller 1/2 E
- Jeong Hyun Choi 1/2 K
- Chloe Handbury 1/2 P
- Sam Smith 1/2 W
- Sweekrit Satapathy 3/4 A
- Hugo Alves 3/4 C
- Henni Graham 3/4 E
- Tabitha Ingham 3/4 J
- Clea Robinson 5 B
- Henry Gray 5 B

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continued from previous page ...
Cybersafety Parent Session
Tuesday 11 August 7.00-8.30pm

Our next Parent Information Session is on the very important topic of Cybersafety run by the Alannah and Madeleine Foundation and it is titled: Educating – Protecting – Empowering. Here is some further information about the session: Australian research (2014) shows that 78% of children are most likely to turn to a parent as their main source of information when they have an issue relating to online safety, however 75% of parents feel uninformed to respond appropriately.

This workshop invites parents/carers in our school community to come together and be informed about how their child/ren interact and are involved in the digital world.

Tips and strategies will be discussed about how to best educate our children to be savvy online users and consumers. Parents/carers will be provided with the latest research and trends towards protecting children, and how to empower children to use safe, smart and responsible behaviours in the digital space.

We urge parents to come along to this session as it will be very valuable to parents of children of all ages. Please book via the calendar on our website.

Courts
As many of you will have noticed, our synthetic grass courts have become very wet and slippery over the past few months. We have had a number experts look at the situation to try to find the cause and therefore a solution. At this stage we are still waiting for some draining experts from Stonnington Council to investigate further with the thought that the water may be coming onto our school from adjoining properties. In the meantime we have tried to address some other associated problems by clearing out the drains and cleaning out any debris on the courts. We are reluctant to close the courts off completely as it would severely curtail our playing and PE space, but we are just asking our students to be careful on the courts when they are slippery. I will keep you posted of any developments as they arise.

Green Team Planting Day
We had a lovely time last Friday when our Green Team went to Glen Iris Wetlands near Gardiner’s Creek to plant native trees, shrubs and grasses as part of National Schools Tree Day. The older students helped the younger ones and we managed to plant over 500 plants in the time we were there, which is a wonderful effort.

Many thanks to Chloe Horner from Stonnington Council for making this happen. The staff at Stonnington Council were very impressed with how even our prep students could be such great tree planters.

Malcolm Dow
Assistant Principal
Visual Arts News

Visual Artist of the Week:
James Donovan Prep C

For the excellent street art design he created. He made a fantastic stencil and used a combination of paint and posca pen for finishing touches.

Visual Art Class of the Week: 1/2W
For the excellent effort they made when constructing their flower from cardboard and wood.

CBD Street Art Tour

All 5/6s and 3/4s thoroughly enjoyed their excursion into the city for the Melbourne Street Art Tour. The 5/6s went in last Wednesday 22nd and the 3/4s went on Monday 27th. It was fantastic to see students taking photos and recognising some famous street artists’ work. The tour guides commented on how knowledgeable and engaged the students were and said they usually see these responses in secondary students, so they were very impressed.

Well done everyone and I can’t wait to see all the photos. Please save them into studentshare>streetartphotos when you get a chance.

Clay for Kids Workshop
The Clay for Kids Workshop will commence next Wednesday 5th August for all 6N students. The workshop will run from 9am – 11am in the art room. These students will not be attending assembly next week as they will be in the workshop. 6Z will do this workshop the following Wednesday 12th August from 9am -11am.

Lucy Gorman
Visual Arts Teacher

Student Banking

The following students have qualified for a Bronze Dollarmites certificate for making 10 deposits this year:

- Siobhan McGann
- Rory McGann
- Zoe Pratis

Silver Dollarmites Certificates are awarded to the following students for making 20 deposits this year:

- Harrison Michelsberg
- Lachie Beischer
- Zach Larner
- Abigail Gowland
- Alexia Sideropoulos
- Poppy Holden
- Max Schmidt

Well done everyone!

Alison Crone
Student Banking Co-ordinator
You Can Do It! Awards

Millie Monahan Prep C For being independent during our class reading sessions especially when her mum came in to help. Thank you for sharing your mum Millie and letting her help others too!

Cruz O'Sullivan Prep P For creating wonderful books during Investigations. We love reading them!

Mirra Vijay Prep S For being a terrific reading detective and remembering to use picture clues. You are a star Mirra!

Jono Ingham 1/2D For working hard to complete some excellent writing pieces and showing good concentration. Well done, Jono!

Isaac Miller 1/2E For his increasing enthusiasm and confidence when working with numbers. His multiplication problem-solving was excellent.

Jeong Hyun Choi 1/2K For willingly taking on classroom responsibilities and helping others.

Chloe Handbury 1/2P For being a caring class member who has helped our new student, Olivia, settle into her new school routine.

Sam Smith 1/2W For demonstrating persistence and showing great confidence when approaching more difficult mathematical concepts. Fantastic effort Sam!

Sweekrit Satapathy 3/4A For giving everything a go and trying really hard in all aspects of his learning.

Hugo Alves 3/4C For the confidence and positive attitude demonstrated while completing his maths tasks on area and perimeter. Great work Hugo!

Henni Graham 3/4E For persisting in TriSkills, even when it felt challenging and for successfully jumping onto the bar and swinging independently! You are fantastic, Henni!

Tabitha Ingham 3/4J For the fantastic answers she gave during her guided reading session. Your comprehension is spot on Tabs. Well done!

Clea Robinson 5B For her devotion and dedication to her role as Peer Support Leader. Clea was absent on Monday but came into school to deliver her lesson. Thank you Clea, you are an excellent role model to your peers!

Henry Gray 5B For his engagement in the Civics and Citizenship inquiry. Your questions are relevant and demonstrate an awareness that may lead you to a life in politics! Keep it up, Henry!

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The 5 Keys of YCDI! Education
Our core purpose is the development of young people’s social and emotional capabilities, including:

- Confidence (academic, social)
- Persistence
- Organisation
- Getting Along, and
- Resilience.

Central to the development of these 5 Key Foundations is instilling in young people 12 Habits of the Mind, including:

- Accepting Myself
- Taking Risks
- Being Independent
- I Can Do It
- Giving Effort
- Working Tough
- Setting Goals
- Planning My Time
- Being Tolerant of Others
- Thinking First
- Playing by the Rules, and
- Social Responsibility
Parents & Friends for Armadale

Good afternoon all

I hope everyone is surviving the cold and is keeping healthy so they can be a part of all the activities we have planned for this term.

Cadbury Chocolate Fundraising
There are a few boxes of chocolate left over, if you can sell a box or ½ a box more, please email Sarah or Caz on armadalepfa@gmail.com

The Trivia Night
This year the theme for the Armadale Primary Trivia Night is “Denim & Diamonds”.

The Trivia night will be held on Friday 21st August from 7pm-11pm, and will be hosted by an amazing Quizmaster. There are some fantastic prizes and auction items, so be quick and get your tickets on Qkr! It really is such a FUN night.

The invitations have been sent home this week with your child.

Raffle items for the Trivia Night
We are asking each year level to contribute to the Trivia Night by donating an item to be included in the raffle hampers. The categories for your year level are listed below.

There will be a box in each classroom for the items to be placed in. We will be collating all items on Friday 11 August, so please have all your donations in before then!

Prep New books, toys & craft packs
Years 1&2 Non-perishable food products
Years 3&4 Beauty products
Years 5&6 Wine

Armada Primary Cookbook:
The template for recipe submissions and details on how to submit art work or writing pieces has been emailed out by your Class Rep(s) last term.

Now you have received the template and decided on what you would like to submit, please return your completed electronic copy of the Cookbook template to your Class Rep.

Our next meeting is scheduled for next Wednesday 5th August 3:45pm after pick up in room 1/2E.

The schedule for the Cookbook Subcommittee is as follows:
- Wednesday 5th August 3:45pm after pick up in room 1/2E
- Wednesday 7th October 3:45pm after pick up in room 1/2E
- Wednesday 4th November 3:45pm after pick up in room 1/2E

We are still at the beginning stages, so if you would like to be involved but have not been so far, we would love to see you! If you can’t make it to the next meeting please just email Sarah & Caz on armadalepfa@gmail.com

Father’s Day
Stay tuned …… Details will be in next week’s newsletter.

PFA Committee Meetings:
- Friday 7th August 2:30pm in the staffroom
- Friday 9th October 2:30pm in the staffroom
- Friday 6th November 2:30pm in the staffroom.

Thank you for your continued support of Armadale Primary School.

Kind regards

Caz Laughton and Sarah Monahan
PFA Co-Presidents

Email: armadalepfa@gmail.com

Head Lice
We still have some cases of head lice reported in various classrooms.
Please check your child’s head tonight and if head lice or eggs are found, treat your child’s hair and advise your child’s class teacher.

Health regulations require that where a child has head lice, that child should not return to school until the day after appropriate treatment has started. Please note, this refers only to those children who have live head lice and does not refer to head lice eggs.
3/4E Making Pizzas

First of all Vita told us the ingredients for the dough and sauce then told us how she made it. Next she gave us all a job, some of the jobs were grating cheese, rolling out dough and spreading the sauce.

It was fun making pizza and we all enjoyed our jobs

But nobody left any pizza

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

PARENT EDUCATION SESSIONS 2015

POSITIVE CONVERSATIONS: ALCOHOL AWARENESS

Alcohol and Young people—An event to inspire parents!

This parent forum will empower you with useful strategies to start positive conversations with your child and to help them understand the potential risks associated with alcohol use.

The session will also examine solutions, ideas to build strong parent-community partnerships and steps that you can take to encourage positive development, trust and care with your child.

Expert presentations by leaders in their field:

John Toumbourou, Chair in Health Psychology and Associate Director of the University for Mental Health and Wellbeing Research &

Danny Alcock, Manager of Counselling and Community, TaskForce Community Agency

Date: Wednesday, 12 August 2015
Venue: Malvern Town Hall, Banquet Room, 1251 High Street, Malvern
Time: 7pm to 9pm
Cost: Free

For bookings, please visit the below site: http://stonnington.eventbrite.com.au
For further information and bookings visit Stonnington events