



# Seaholme Primary School



CNR CIVIC PDE & MILLERS ROAD, ALTONA, 3018

seaholme.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

PH 9398 2806 FAX 9398 5794

## Newsletter

www.seaholmeps.vic.edu.au

*No.1 Wednesday 4th February 2009*

*From the Principal*

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to all our Seaholme students and families. We are very pleased to have you all back again and so eager to get back to work! A special welcome to all our Preps and other new students beginning at Seaholme this year. We are sure you are going to enjoy your time at Seaholme Primary. Please remember that we are here to support you on your new educational journey and don't hesitate to ask any of us if there is something troubling or puzzling you.

All grades had a smooth and entertaining start to the school year over the last 3 days with their new teacher and classmates.

Specialist programs of Physical Education, Art and Library will begin this week for all classes. For these lessons parents are reminded that children will require; Physical Education ~ runners (school shoes are not suitable for running and will also mark the floor of the hall when participating in active programs), a water bottle and if possible, shorts & tracksuit, Art ~ A water proof (therefore paint proof) art smock and in Library ~ A library bag to protect borrowed books (the blue bag used to package the book-packs or a green/blue recycle bag from the supermarket is great for this task).

Seaholme Primary School is a 'Sunsmart School' and has a policy that all students are to wear an approved sunhat (bucket or legionnaire style) during terms 1 & 4. Students are to bring along their hats to school everyday during Term 1 and a 'no hat ~ no play' rule will apply. Parents are reminded to clearly label their child's hat and to continuously check that the label remains legible. The red 'Lost Property Box' located outside the library still has considerable amounts of uniform clothing left over from last year. Please check the box to see if any belongs to your child next time when you up at the school.

I would also like to remind our school community that we have a number of children at Seaholme that suffer from anaphylaxis. These children suffer from severe allergies to nuts and nut products (especially peanuts and peanut butter), fish and eggs. We ask all our parents to assist in making our school a safe environment for these children by not including any of these products in your children's snacks or lunches.

It certainly has been a very warm start to the year and we are all very fortunate that the school is fully air conditioned. All classrooms, art room, library and multi-purpose room have air conditioning and are excellent working environments. If the hot weather becomes extreme (above 34 and a strong northerly wind) there may be the need to restrict or reduce the outside play times during recess or lunch, but apart from this it is expected that students will attend school everyday regardless of the weather forecast. It is very important that children attend school everyday and are only absent when they are ill or when it is absolutely necessary that they are away from school due to a personal or commitment.

Hope you all have a good week.

**David Moss** Principal

### School Organisation

#### Childcare Fee Increases for 2009

Due to rising costs associated in all areas (wages, food, activities, utilities etc) School Council believes it is necessary to increase the fees for Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) in 2009. The new rates will be \$9.00 for before school care and \$11.00 for after school care. This fee does not include the individual family support subsidies or taxable claims. Although we do not like increasing fees for our families, we have ensured that the rates are kept to a minimum are still very reasonable in comparison to other OSHC programs.

#### School Calendar

**Fri 6th Feb** - Swimming Trials

**Fri 13th Feb** - Interschool Sport Begins Rd 1 (Home)

**Mon 16th Feb - Wed 25 Feb** . 8 students in Yr. 5/ 6 attending Somers Camp

**Mon 23rd Feb** - School Council Meeting 7pm

**Tues 24th Feb** - WADSSA Swimming Carnival

**Fri 27th Feb - 4th Mar** - Life Education

**Mon 2nd Mar** - Parent Teacher Interviews

## From the Coordinators

### CANTEEN NEWS.

Welcome back to a new year at the canteen and a warm welcome to our new parents and students.

A canteen pricelist will be sent out with your eldest child with today's newsletter. Price changes have altered from last year so please make sure you refer to the 2009 canteen menu for correct prices. Volunteers are greatly needed please see Cheryl Casley at the canteen or leave your contact details at the school office.

### WADSSA SWIMMING TRIALS

Notes were distributed earlier this week for any 9 YO and over student wishing to attend the trials on this Friday Feb. 6th. for the upcoming interschool swim sports.

9 YO Students must be able to swim 25m and 10 YO and above students can trial for the 25m or 50m event.

Students will need to return their note to school by this Thursday 5th February if they wish to participate in the trials.

Parents helpers will also be required on the day.

If you can help, please see Ms. Dale Brown.



### **Seaholme is a Sunsmart School**

Seaholme Primary school is a 'Sunsmart School' and has a policy that all students are to wear an approved sunhat (bucket or legionnaire style) during terms 1 & 4.

Students are to bring along their hats to school everyday and a 'no hat ~ no play' rule will apply. This rule will be tightly enforced.

Parents are reminded to clearly label their child's hat and to continuously check that the label remains legible.

Due to the concerns of allergies schools are not permitted to supply sunscreens to children. If parents wish for their child to have sunscreen, it should be applied before school and then if required, your child will need to re-apply their own sunscreen during the day.



### **Medication at School**

Teachers and schools are often asked by parents to administer medication for their children while at school. It is important that such requests are managed in a manner that is appropriate, ensures the safety of students, and fulfils the duty of care of staff. There is a need for the whole school, community (staff, parents & students) to be aware of the correct procedure for the administration of medication during school hours. Included on the back page of this week's newsletter is the school's 'Medication Policy' detailing all areas of implementation of medication to students whilst at school or on camp. It is very important that parents read the policy and ensure that when Medications are required to be administered at school that the correct procedure is always undertaken.

Two copies of the 'Medication -return slip to school' have also been included in this week's newsletter. Please keep them in a safe place at home for possible future use.

Further copies of this form are also available on the school website (follow the links Seaholme Info, then Policies).

### **School and Insurance**

An education department memo was sent to all schools last week reminding schools/parents that the department does not provide personal accident insurance for students. Parents and guardians are generally responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs ie. ambulance.

Student accident insurance policies are available from the private insurance market. These cover a range of medical expenses not covered by Medicare.

### **Headlice Checks**

Headlice checks are to be conducted on children in all grades this Thursday. Trained support staff from the school will be carrying out the checks at the school. All parents should have completed the permission note for their child to have their hair checked. Permission notes from last year will still be recognised. Prep children and new children to the school should have filled out their permission slip when enrolling. Full parental support with this program is appreciated.

# Seaholme News

## School Structure and Staffing 2009

To alleviate this problem it was necessary to modify the structure and change a Yr. 1/ 2 into a Yr. 2/ 3 level. This then ensured we had a more even balance of numbers throughout the 10 classes by allowing us to spread the Yr. 3 students over 3 grades.

The revised school structure is as follows:

Prep F	Mrs. Friend
Prep I	Mr. Issell
Yr.1/ 2 W	Ms. Wall
Yr.1/ 2 L	Mrs. Lancia
Yr. 2/ 3 G	Mr. Grech
Yr. 3/ 4 F	Miss Florence
Yr. 3/ 4 W	Miss Chloe Watt
Yr. 5/ 6 B	Miss Brown
Yr. 5/ 6 R	Mr. Romeyn
Yr. 5/ 6 W	Mr. Wenzlau

Music - Mrs. Bansky ( Mon,Tue,Wed am.)

Physical education - Mrs. Sammut ( Mon,Tue, Frid)

Art / Assistant Principal - Miss Dale Brown

In 2009 we welcome back Mrs. Anna Lancia to the school. Anna previously taught at Seaholme prior to taking family leave. The staff, children and many of the parents are accustomed to seeing Anna around Seaholme as she has been a relieving teacher at the school in many of the grades was involved last year in the school's intensive support literacy programs.

After many successful years of teaching in the classrooms and as a music and physical education specialist teacher, Mrs. Bansky will begin the first stage of her retirement this year when she begins working part time (2 ½ days a week) as the school's music and instrumental teacher.

Mrs. Sammut will also only be teaching part time (3 days a week) as the school's physical education and sport teacher.

In 2009 we have increased from 9 to 10 grades and in doing so we would also like to warmly welcome Miss Chloe Watt to the teaching staff of Seaholme Primary School.

## Bookpacks 2009

Thank you to all the parents and families that were able to pick up their children's books packs on the days prior to school beginning or on the first one or two days of school. It has ensured that students were all ready to begin their classes from day 1

Due to the shared table arrangements operated in the infant grades, the P-2 teachers requested that some, or all of the bookpacks remain at school to be organised and ready for the start of the year. Some parents expressed concern about coming up to the school during the hot weather and not getting their packs and that some of the some children were looking forward to picking up their packs and were disappointed when they could not take them home. The school apologises for any misunderstandings or disappointment in regards to this matter and will ensure that there is better communication to parents in regards to bookpacks next year.

## School Council Election

Each year we hold school council elections. The election process occurs as soon as the year begins and if there are more nominations than positions, an election is completed in time for the first School Council meeting to be conducted on Monday February 23rd 2009. There will be 3 vacant parent positions for School Council in 2009.

Nominations for the 3 current positions are now being accepted. Nominations close on 4.00pm Thursday 12th February.

If there are more nominations than positions, an election will be conducted.

Nomination forms are available from the School office .

If anyone would like information about school council, give me a call or an email.

Alternatively, you may wish to contact one of our current school councillors ( see school website for details of your current school councillors) to discuss the roles and responsi-

## Book Club

Issue 1 of Book Club was sent home with all students this week. All orders and money are due back on Tuesday 17th February.

## CONGRATULATIONS!!!

*Congratulations to last year grade 6 student, Anthony Schulte, who received a 2 yr Sports Scholarship at The Grange Secondary College. Anthony was successful after submitting his application near the end of last year. We wish Anthony all the best!*

## SCHOOL GROUND SUPERVISION

A number of students are arriving at school before 8.30am. Parents are reminded that playground supervision is provided before school at 8.45am and after school until 3.45pm. Students should not be in the school grounds before or after these times.

Students should aim to be at school between 8.45 and 8.55am. This allows them to see their friends , chat or play a short game before school begins at 9.00am.

Students remaining at school after 3.45pm will be taken to after school care to be supervised. Parents will need to pick up their child/ren from OHSC where a fee will be charged.

## School Council Elections

At this time of year elections are held for parent and staff representatives on school council. This year there are three parent rep vacancies for school council. Successful candidates are elected to council for the next two years.

Each year half of the positions on the council expire. The 'retiring' parent councilors are Peter Weaver, Ruth Pagano, and Robyn Shield (ineligible). The retiring teacher councilor is Judith Wall. All 'retiring' councilors are eligible to re-nominate providing they either still have children attending the school or are still members of staff.

Parents are able to nominate themselves for School Council or nominate another parent of the school.

Any parent wishing to nominate for School Council is requested to collect a nomination form from the main office.

School Council has an important role in the developing of school policy, managing school finances, developing the school's charter and strategic plan, acting as a conduit on a wide range of school issues and developing interests and support of school programs, initiative and events. This year the School Council will generally meet on the third Monday evening of the month.

All in all, it is an important and rewarding role. If you would like to discuss any aspect of school council please contact David Moss or one of our current school councilors. The office can put you in contact with a councilor at your request or you can find further details on the school website.

### **Schedule 4 Notice of Election and Call for Nominations**

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of Seaholme Primary School

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4 pm on Thursday 12th February 2009.

The ballot (if required) will close at 4 pm on Friday 20th February 2009.

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows –

<b>Membership category</b>	<b>Term of office</b>	<b>Number of positions</b>
Parent member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2009 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2011	.....3
DEECD employee member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2009 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2011	.....1.

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

*David Moss*

Principal