

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Reports sent home-22 June
- Parent/Teacher Interviews- 26 June
- Term 2 ends- 29 June
- Term 3 begins- 16 July
- Prep excursion- 27 July
- Life Ed Van- 2-7 August

**Camp Australia** provides an afterschool program at our school.

If you are interested and would like your child to attend please contact them directly.

Information is also available at the school office.

# Community Newsletter

## Albion North Primary School

VOLUME 2018 ISSUE 6

15 JUNE 2018

### Principal Report

Welcome to our June newsletter and a special welcome to the new children and families who joined the Albion North Community last month. May was a very busy month at school with our Mother's Day stall, NAPLAN testing, Education Week activities and the start of report writing for teachers.

The first week of June is Reconciliation Week across Australia. At assembly every week, the children recognise the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation as the traditional custodians of the land that Albion North is built upon.

Wurundjeri people spoke the Woiwurrung language. *Wurundjeri* refers to the people who occupy one tribal territory, while *Woiwurrung* refers to the language group shared by the other tribal territory groups and clans within the Woiwurrung territory. The Woiwurrung people's territory extended from north of the Great Dividing Range, east to Mount Baw Baw, south to the Mordialloc Creek and west to the Werribee River. Artefacts show that the Wurundjeri have lived in the Woi Wurrung area for up to 40,000 years. The students at Albion North learn about Indigenous traditions and culture in class.

### Thank you!

Many thanks to the parents/carers who contact the school on the day of a child's absence. Your support with this is greatly appreciated. The School Stream app is the easiest way to do this and if you need help downloading the app, please come to the office and we will assist you.

### Parent Teacher Interviews:

Meetings with teachers for all classes other than 3/4A will be held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> June. Bookings must be made on line using the information that Mr Squires sent out earlier this month. If you have questions, or need assistance, please contact us at the office.

## Gifts and Benefits:

The Department of Education and Training's Gifts and Benefits Policy has changed and came into effect on May 15<sup>th</sup> 2018. Sometimes our families give gifts to teachers and other staff members, particularly at the end of the school year. It is very important that parents and carers understand that this policy applies to everyone who works or volunteers at Albion North Primary School, including parent members of School Council.

The important things to note are:

No person is to accept a gift of **money, gift card** or **vouchers** from any parent, business, organisation or community group under any circumstance. This means that if a parent or carer offers a gift of money, vouchers or a gift card to any staff member they will refuse to accept this.

Gifts that are not money, gift card or vouchers and which are under \$50 in value may be accepted and kept by a staff member.

Gifts that are not money, gift card or vouchers and which are over \$50 in value may be accepted but must be declared on the Department's register and donated to the school to be used for raffle prizes or as school resources.

The Department is very firm in its guidelines and the school (as a Government school) must adhere to these. The strong message from senior Department staff is that failure to follow this policy will result in disciplinary action and dismissal.

Please support us by following the above guidelines.

## Enrolments:

You may have seen a recent article in the media about schools being asked to follow the Department's enrolment policy and restrict enrolments to students within the local area. Albion North was one of a number of schools contacted by a senior member of the Department who asked why we have a large percentage of families who live outside our area enrolled at our school.

We do have a very strict enrolment policy and our first priority is to take children from within our area boundary, then siblings of children already enrolled at the school (for Preps only) and finally other children if places are available. We must also make sure that we have enough places available at each year level in case families move into the area.

If you do have a child who turns 5 before April 30<sup>th</sup> 2019, it's time to enrol them at school. To make enrolment easier, please bring the child's birth and immunisation certificates.

If you have any questions, please come and see us at the office.

### Feedback from the suggestion box:

We have a suggestion box at the office if you have any comments of feedback. Suggestions can be made anonymously but if you do include your name, I will speak with you personally regarding your ideas. Responses to anonymous suggestions will appear in the newsletter and this month these are:

**SLIME:** I have asked teachers to tell children that they are not to bring slime to school and we would appreciate parents supporting this by not allowing children to bring slime. The ingredients used are very messy and can cause an allergic reaction in some children.

**ASSEMBLY ON MONDAYS:** as a staff, we have made a commitment to improving student learning outcomes for our students. 9 o'clock on Monday is premium learning time – research shows that we get the best from our students between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. so we do not want to lose one hour of good learning time each week to assembly. That's why we have moved assembly to Friday afternoon. Assembly starts at 2:15 because parents complained when we went over time. All community members are welcome to attend our assembly, entry is through the school's office.

### Child Safe Schools:

It is an expectation of the Minister for Education that I write in every newsletter to remind you of your responsibilities to keep all children safe. This is an important role that we all share and I know that as parents/carers who are doing the best for their children you want to be able to stop child abuse across our state.

Remember that if you suspect that **your child** has been a victim of abuse, you should contact the Victoria Police immediately. If you suspect that another child has been abused, you should report this to the Department of Health and Human Services Child Protection on 1300 664 977.

### Notizie italiane (Italian News)

As another term is fast coming to a close, I would like to invite you all to the Italian page on the ANPS website. The page includes many references to the songs that the children have been learning and enjoying in their classes and it would be wonderful if they have the opportunity to practise these during the holidays. Although they are mostly aimed at the younger children, the songs and stories would also be beneficial to older children who would like some revision. The page is updated periodically so it would be great to check in to see what's new! All students have been making great progress this term. I look forward to covering more topics with them next term.

Cordiali Saluti, (Kind regards)

Sig. Gianna