Dear Parents/Guardians,

I trust you enjoyed the Labour Day long weekend as the term seems to be motoring along at a great pace. We have had many interesting happenings occurring in classrooms and the school in general. We thank you for supporting these activities. The next four weeks will be very busy while Easter will have some impact on the learning program.

Easter Break
Please note that the Easter break will include Good Friday (25 March) and Easter Tuesday (29 March) which means the students will have a five day break. I'm sure they'll be disappointed! I would hope that you get the chance to have some enjoyable family time together.

End of Term 1 & Commencement Term 2
The end of Term 1 is Friday 8 April and Term 2 commences for students on Wednesday 27 April. Tuesday 26 April is a professional learning day for staff and the day before is ANZAC Day.

School Discos
Please note the following details regarding the school discos coming up in week 7.

1. **The Pre Primary to year 2 disco:**
   - Wednesday 16 March from 4:30 to 6:00 pm

2. **Yr3/4 disco:**
   - Wednesday 16 March from 6:30 to 8:00 pm

3. **Yr 5/6 disco:**
   - Thursday 17 March 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Food available to purchase will include hot savoury and sweet items as well as drinks (juice for the juniors and cool drinks for the year 5/6s).

The theme for these discos is “The Ocean and the Beach”.

Assembly
Thanks to Mrs Mercer's Year 6's for performing at the last assembly. They were entertaining and the assembly ran smoothly. Our assembly tomorrow will be conducted by the Year 3's from Room 8. Please come along and enjoy the performance.

The Tile Mural
Last week I mentioned the Tiles Fundraiser scheduled for week 8 and 9 of this term. Your support of this project is needed for it has two key purposes. Firstly we want to create a wall mural out of ceramic tiles to beautify the school and secondly, we want to fundraise. We are hoping all children will participate and some students will donate for two or three tiles as we need 600 tiles to create the design that has been developed by one of our parents, Serena McLaughlan.

We are also encouraging parents and staff to paint a tile and have it included in the mural. The mural is shaped like a beautiful wave about to crash on to the shore and will be created using yellows, blues, greens and variations in between. You can have a look at the design in the office and we'll aim to place a picture of it on our web page.

School Day Commencement
Please note that, in the morning, staff are expected to commence their instruction time right on time (8:48 am). While we love the fact that a number of parents in many rooms come in and listen to students read and do a puzzle etc parents are asked to be leaving the room early enough for the teacher to start the day on time.

A very good precursor for our own morning siren is the high school siren that goes at 8:45 am. This enables students and staff to know they have three minutes before we need to start work. It's a great opportunity for students to pack up games/puzzles/computers etc, prepare for the day and be ready right on the siren. This teaches the students to be organised, punctual and prepared. These are all very good skills to have and it means we don't have the class waiting for a whole group of students to be ready.

We also understand that some parents remain with the class to provide in class assistance time. This is also appreciated. If you have been invited to stay please do so and, if you want to help, please discuss this with the class teacher. Please remember it is the teacher's prerogative to have parent assistance or not.
School Banking
Don’t forget you can give your child the opportunity to be involved in School Banking through the Bendigo Bank. Banking is conducted every second Thursday from 8:15 to 8:45 am. Details are available through the office or you can go and see the staff at the bank in Lockyer Avenue. We now have quite a few families participating in this activity.

Walking School Bus
Yes, the bus is fully operational and has quite a number of students using it and some parent helpers. Details about the walking bus are on the website and through the office. It’s a great way to avoid the congestion in the car parks in the morning and the afternoons as you can park away from the school and have your children delivered safe and sound!

School Council Positions Parent Elections 2016
We have three parent positions that parents can nominate for to be elected onto the School Council. To nominate you must:
1. Be a parent of a student currently attending the school.
2. Complete the nomination form that is a tear off slip at the end of the newsletter and return to the office by 1:00 pm Friday 11 March 2016. There will be no late acceptances.
3. Be prepared to attend two School Council meetings a term (in weeks 4 and 8) for a two year term of office.

Note 1: Current outgoing members can re-nominate for a position.
Note 2: In the event of insufficient nominees the principal will canvas the P & C to seek further parent nomination.

In the event of more nominations than positions an election will be conducted by the principal with voting completed by secret ballot. Details of this process will be made available as soon as this outcome is official. Ballot papers will go home to each family. Parents may only vote once.

The School Council is an important body in our school that has to:
1. Support and have input into school improvement planning.
2. Approve, support and have input into key budgetary matters linked to the School Improvement Plan.
3. Approve annual contributions and charges set for the year.
4. Have input into school policies.
5. Be a forum for parents and staff to meet about matters that can enable the school to enhance what it does and meet the needs of the students.

Conclusion
While we have had plenty happening in the school it has been great to see the students engaged in classroom activity and working well. Teachers are reporting to me that they have lovely classes with students caring about what they achieve. That’s a great tone to have in our school. Have a good weekend.

Regards
Brian Lee, Principal

P&C news
Our canteen has been running at a loss since losing the year 7 students in 2015. Kay and Tracey work hard preparing healthy food for your children at APS to enjoy. We are currently considering the closure of the canteen one day a week. We all lead busy lives why not avoid the packed lunch fiasco once a week and purchase from the canteen, boost your child’s calcium intake by buying a milk drink or add some sneaky vegies into their diet by buying one of the Home Cooked lunches. Please support our canteen.

We still have the following positions vacant, canteen representative and committee, uniform shop coordinator and committee & fundraising coordinator. There is an abundance of support for anyone taking on these roles. For more information please email albanyprimarypandc@gmail.com

We’ll be more than happy to answer any questions you may have.

Keep up to date with P&C news and events on our Facebook page Albany Primary School P&C. Our next P&C meeting will be held on Monday 21 March at 7pm in staff room, all welcome.

Julie Brooks
P&C President

CANTEEN ROSTER:

| Mon 14 March | Kym Quartermain |
| Tue 15 March | - |
| Wed 16 March | Kylie Houden |
| Thurs 17 March | - |
| Fri 18 March | Clare Valley |
COMMUNITY NEWS

Please note notices appearing below are not necessarily endorsed by the school. We provide this space for community groups to advertise to the school community. It is up to parents to scrutinise the activity and organisers for their child.

Southern District Junior Football Association
Registration Days
- Saturday 12 March – 9:00 – 12:00, Albany Leisure and Aquatic Centre
- Thursday 17 March – 3:30 – 5:00, Albany Leisure and Aquatic Centre
- Additional registration days will be held in Denmark, Mt Barker
- Online registrations are open – visit the SDJFA website for further information

Net Set Go – Junior Netball
- 10 Week program – Starts, Friday 6 May – 4:00 – 5:00, Albany Leisure and Aquatic Centre
- Net 5-7 year olds
- Set 8-10 year olds
- Registrations are online – www.albanynetballassociation.wa.netball.com.au
- For more information email – Albany.netball@gmail.com or Phone Donna 9844 0300

Cushion for kids Concert – Albany City Wind Ensemble
- Recommended ages – 3 – 8
- Cost - $10.00, older siblings and parents $5.00
- Sunday 20 March, 2:00, Flinders Park Primary School
- Tickets available at the door or book at www.albanycitywindensemle.com.au

Soccer Boot and Shirt Swap
At the 3 junior soccer registration sessions there will be a box where any old soccer boots, shirts or shin pads can be donated, swapped or bought for a gold coin donation.

ALBANY PRIMARY SCHOOL COUNCIL
NOMINATION FOR PARENT REPRESENTATIVE 2016

Please complete the information below to nominate for a parent representative position on the School Council.

I, ________________________________, would like to nominate to be on the Albany P.S. Council.(full name)

I have a child who attends Albany P.S.  Child(s) name: _____________________________ Room________

I understand that there will be an election if there are more candidates than parent vacancies.

Nominations close Friday 11 March 2016
Please return slips to the school office in an envelope addressed to:
‘Private & Confidential.’
Brian Lee, Principal
Parent Nomination for School Council