Dear All

Parent Information Night:- A reminder that our Parent Information Night is being held TONIGHT. The 30 minute session will be held in your child’s classroom. Parking is available in the playground, using the Smollett Street entry. A reminder that if you want to discuss your child with their teacher please make a mutually convenient appointment by contacting the office. Please note this session is an information session.

The session times are: Kindergarten at 6:30pm, Years 1 & 2 at 7:00pm, Years 3 & 4 at 7:30pm, Years 5 & 6 at 8:00pm.

I strongly encourage you to attend if you are able. If not we will be placing the class newsletters on our website.

Merit Certificates:- This following excerpt is from our current Student Welfare and Discipline Policy.

- Blue Certificates are presented on a weekly basis at assembly.
- Each class teacher awards Blue Certificates at combined assemblies.
- Each class teacher K-Yr 2 awards two Blue Certificates at weekly assemblies.
- Each class teacher Yr 3 – Yr 6 awards three Blue Certificates at weekly assemblies.
- When a student has received five Blue Certificates they are returned to the teacher and are eligible for a Gold Certificate and $1.00 Canteen Voucher.
- When a student has gained Five Gold Certificates he/she is invited to Morning Tea with their parents, Deputy Principal and Principal.

For students who enrol at Albury Public School after Year 2 the following allowances are made:

- Year 6 = 1 Gold Certificate to attend Parent Morning Tea
- Year 5 = 2 Gold Certificates to attend Parent Morning Tea
- Year 4 = 3 Gold Certificates to attend Parent Morning Tea
- Year 3 = 4 Gold Certificates to attend Parent Morning Tea

Students who have been here since Year 2 will require 5 Gold Certificates to attend.

The Bluearth Foundation:- The Bluearth Foundation is a national not-for-profit organisation whose focus is to increase the levels of physical activity amongst Australians, in particular school aged children. The Foundation was established in 2000 by Australian businessman and philanthropist, Malcolm Freake, to help improve the health and wellbeing of our citizens. Whilst the Foundation's goal is to increase the levels of physical activity in all Australians, its core program focuses on engaging children in movement and instilling in them a lifelong love of physical activity.

In 2012, the Bluearth Approach was delivered into 305 schools Australia wide covering over 24,000 school children. This year Albury Public School has been invited to participate in the two year program. Five classes 4LJH, 3CM, 4CG, 2/3MW and 2MC will be participating in a fortnightly lesson with the instructor Miss Cathryn Humphrey. We welcome Miss Humphrey’s return in her new position. Next year we will target different year levels. The Bluearth program also provides Professional Learning for each of these teachers and they will then work with other classes in these stages, to implement the program. The whole K-6 staff will participate in two training sessions during the year. If you like more information about this Foundation please visit the website www.bluearth.org

Payments:- When any payments are required, we ask you to put the correct money in an envelope, write the details, include the note and post it in the slot at the front desk in the office by the due date. We are unable to provide change as we are not allowed to keep money on school premises. As you can imagine, in a school our size, we need a process which streamlines the collection of money. Please assist us with this process. Any note printed on blue paper is a “Boomerang Blue” and must be returned to this slot in the office.

P.T.O.>>
School Ambulance Service: In 2012, the Department negotiated an agreement with the Ambulance Service of NSW to commence an annual licensing arrangement for school student ambulance cover for all public schools in NSW. Arrangements for the scheme have now been confirmed for the 2013 school year. The Ambulance Cover Scheme provides assurance that if a student has an accident or falls ill whilst at school, or on an organised school excursion or activity, and requires the ambulance service, the cost will be met through the scheme. Coverage of the School’s Group Cover Scheme also extends for excursions to the Australian Capital Territory, Tasmania, Victoria, Northern Territory and Western Australia. There are no reciprocal arrangements in place for NSW students travelling on school excursions to either Queensland or South Australia.

Jargon Buster: Wondering why your kids talk about playing under the school COLA? Baffled at parent-teacher discussions about KLA’s? This list of common abbreviations or terms will help you to become familiar with the world inside school. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/homework-tips/school-jargon-busters

Uniform Shop: Many thanks to the parents who have dropped off good quality school uniform items for our uniform shop. Remember the uniform shop is open each day and currently there is a good stock of clothing available to purchase at very reasonable prices. Many thanks to Mrs Wills and her team who did a wonderful job sorting the clothing items and tidying this room.

Swimming Carnival notes due back this Friday 15 February, 2013.

Enjoy your week, Carolyn Howard, Principal (Rel.)

EXCUSE ME, I WAS HERE FIRST PERFORMANCE - Thursday 21 February 2013

Notes for this performance were sent home last Wednesday. There will be two performances. See below for which classes will attend each performance:
9:15am KWW, KWD, 1MM, 1MBM, 1MH, 2MC, 3CS, 3CE, 4LJH, 5LN, 5/6AC and 6AB
11:30am KWS, KWN, 2MCL, 2MCA, 2/3MWM, 3CM, 4CG, 4LP, 5LM, 5/6AB and 6AP
Please ensure all permission notes and payments ($6.00 per student) are made by Tuesday 19 February. No late notes or payments will be accepted unless prior arrangements have been made. Jacqueline Henderson, Coordinator.

VEGIE GARDEN: Our vegie garden has been supplying us with an abundant crop of tomatoes, zucchini, silverbeet, thyme, chives and some early pumpkin. The vegies have been used both in the recipes cooked by some of the students and in the canteen. Many thanks also to Mrs Marilyn Comitti who took the chooks home to her chook pen when it was dreadfully hot in the holidays.

Year 7 SELECTIVE HIGH SCHOOLS - Applications are now available for Year 7 Selective High School placements in NSW Government schools in 2014. The closest selective high school to Albury is Yanco Agricultural High School. Parents/Carers with internet access are required to apply online at: www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement.

PARENT LINE NSW: The State Government funded helpline, Parent Line NSW (managed by CatholicCare) provides a unique free service to parents and carers across NSW. Highly skilled professional counsellors are available 24 hours a day 7 days a week to take calls from parents and carers about any parenting issue, from tips on how to manage the morning routine, to concerns about distant adolescents to complex challenges of living in blended families. This counselling service is available to parents and carers at anytime of the day or night, anywhere in NSW. There is a website available for parents/carers www.parentline.org.au. Alternately, a telephone counselling line is available at 1300130052 for the cost of a local call from a land line. Gail Eckley, Deputy Principal (Rel.)
PLEASE NOTE:-
CANTEEN CLOSED TUESDAY 19/02/13

CANTEEN REMINDERS-

- BROWN PAPER BAGS can be purchased at any supermarket. PLEASE buy them and use them for your lunch orders. Envelopes, pieces of paper etc are not suitable!
- BROWN PAPER BAGS from the canteen are 10c each, if you get stuck.
- PLEASE DO NOT PUT NUMEROUS ORDERS IN ONE BAG. Please write INDIVIDUAL DETAILS ON INDIVIDUAL BAGS (eg. Class/amount etc)
- PLEASE write amount/money in and change required on bags.

Thank you to everyone who has returned canteen roster forms. We have had a great response. We still have a few vacancies for the term so more helpers are needed!

Thurs 14 9:00-11:30am Janet Howie,  11:30-1:30pm HELPER REQUIRED
Fri 15 9:00-11:30am Rachel Ayton,  11:00-1:30pm Susan Marcuzzi
Mon 18 11:00-1:30pm Jo Sheather
Tues 19  CANTEEN CLOSED- SWIMMING CARNIVAL
Wed 20 11:00-1:30pm Penny Pope
Thurs 21 9:00-1:30pm Marie Bucher
Fri 22 11:00-1:30pm Cath White

Please call Ali or Rachael on 60212370 for further information.

CLASS PARENTS:- We are in need of volunteers to take on the role of class parent for their child’s (K-2) class. It is possible to share this role between 2 parents if you like. This job needs a person who is able to:

- Twice a year arrange for a note (on an approved template) to be sent home to remind parents/carers when the class is holding assembly and asking them to provide a platter for morning tea.
- Arrive 10-15 mins before Assembly to set up urn, tea, coffee etc. and then pack away when over.
- Handwrite or type class Contact List from any completed notes returned to parent/carers who have agreed to have their details included and provided to other parent/carers in the class. For more details please contact Kerry on 6040 6290 or 0402 325 721.

P & C NEWS

Hi everyone, welcome to the new school year. Our P&C meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday of the month during school terms. Thus our first meeting will be on Tuesday 26 February. This will be a great opportunity to find out what our P&C is all about and how we operate and to pay your $1 membership for the year. **Our AGM will be held on 26 March.** To be eligible to nominate or vote at the AGM you need to have paid your membership at least one month before the meeting. So, if (like me) you can’t make it to the meeting this month, please ensure you pay your membership to someone who will pass it on for you e.g. Wayne Nagle or Carolyn O’Dwyer before the February meeting.

At the AGM all positions will be declared vacant and nominations will be called for our executive and non-executive positions. Unfortunately, Wayne Nagle our fantastic treasurer of the last three years, has reached the end of his term and is not eligible to re-nominate for that position this year. So, if you have a financial bent and an interest in the happenings of our school, please feel free to put yourself forward for that role. Cathy Baillie, President.

COMMUNITY NEWS- LIONS CLUB OF ALBURY INC CHARITY GARDEN PARTY- ALBURY

**BOTANIC GARDENS-** 2 March, 2013, 11:30am – 3:00pm. To be opened by Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir A.C. CVO, Governor of NSW. Meet and celebrate your local Charities and Volunteer Organisations. Live music, food and beverages, clowns and balloons, mini zoo, basketball hoop. A special performance by The Flying Fruit Fly Circus! All welcome!

**KIDS ON KEYBOARDS ENROLMENTS 2013-** Tired of running your children to activities and paying excessive fees? Why not consider learning piano/keyboard at school. Fees are low (and there are no hidden costs—Book and CD included). Students in Grade 2 to 6 are invited to come along, learn to read and play music, and have fun in a familiar environment. Numbers are limited to one class, which is on Friday at 8:15am (at school). Call Jacqui Dainer on (02) 6025 8273 for details and bookings.

**HELEN BISHOP JUNIOR ART CLASSES-** held at Albury Public School. Vacancies exist for Term 1, 2013. Check out the website www.juniorgalleryartclasses.com.au

**YOUTH ALBURY WODONGA THEATRE COMPANY-** Auditions workshop for ages 8-18. Bookings essential. www.awtco.org.au -Contact Amy Murray on 60565621

**FALCONS HOCKEY CLUB-** Rego day Sunday 24 February, 10:00am-12:00noon at Alexandra Park (Albury Hockey Centre) Website- www.falconsockeyalbury.com.au
Values by 6AP

We have been learning about Values, which are the basis of our law and customs. Values shape our attitudes. The Core Values are: integrity, excellence, respect, responsibility, cooperation, participation, care, fairness and democracy. We can find them on the pencils near the Olive St entrance.

Care by Nia McGarvie

Caring for the property of others.
Appreciating the values of others.
Respecting yourself and others.
Everybody putting care and effort into their work.

Excellence by Ben Spooner

Meaning: The meaning of excellence is to do your best in all things.
Example 1: If you were in a race and you came second or third, it doesn’t matter because you did your best and teachers/parents could ask for no more.
Example 2: If you have completed a maths test and you got a C or D, that’s still an excellent result because you did your best.

So…. be Enthusiastic; be eXcellent; be Cool; be Encouraging; don’t Let C’s and D’s get you down; don’t Let yourself say “I did bad”; if you say it’s Easy, it’s easy; Never say, “He’s good and I’m not”; Escape your sadness and do your best; Excellence is in you!