Reminder: Final assembly at 12.45pm on Friday, 18th December.

Students dismissed at 1.30pm.

Students not collected by 1.45 will be sent to OSHClub

2016 first day for students – Thursday, 28th January.

The Staff at Albany Rise Primary School wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas

See you all in 2016.

***Last Day of Term****

Please note arrangements for the last day of term, Friday, 18th December. Students will be dismissed at 1.30 pm following a final whole-school assembly that commences at 12.45 pm. Parents are invited to attend the assembly on this day. Students are asked to bring a good morning snack due to the 1.30 finish, and please note there are no lunch orders on the last day. Students will not need to bring school bags on the last day as almost everything will have been sent home by Wednesday 16th December.

Congratulations and well done to everyone!

After another busy year, we would like to thank the many people who contribute to our fantastic school community. Thank you to all our School Councillors who actively contribute to the governance of the school and support our drive for ongoing high standards of education and student performance. Many thanks to the Parents Association and Parent Reps across the school who have organised many outstanding school events for students and the community, whilst also raising valuable funds for the school. Our thanks are also extended to the parents who assist with other key roles across the school, such as banking, chickens, book club, uniform etc. To all those parents who support our school, the staff and students wish to thank you for all your contributions throughout this year. With your assistance, our school continues to be an extremely busy and dynamic learning environment.
I’d like to sincerely thank the dedicated and hardworking staff who have contributed to the success of Albany Rise Primary School in 2015. Your professionalism, diligence and the high level of care shown to all of our students are all highly valued.

**Farewell and Thank You, Mrs. Parry-Fielder**
We will celebrate Jane’s final day at our last Assembly on 18th December, as we farewell her with the year 6 graduates she has so capably taught this year. Congratulations on a highly successful and lengthy career in education. We wish you all the best in your retirement.

**Graduation**
A wonderful night was enjoyed by all on Wednesday night as we acknowledged our graduating grade 6 students. We’re very proud of this group of students and know they will do well in their future learning and adventures. Congratulations and best wishes to families who will be leaving our school as their last child graduates; we thank you for your years with Albany Rise. Thank you also to Adriana Costa, Jane Parry-Fielder and Trish Johnston for their wonderful organisation.

A MASSIVE thank you to the committee members who worked tirelessly on organisation, preparation and decorations for the event. Your work is very much appreciated.

**Choir**
Congratulations to Mrs. Lee and student in our Albany Rise choir who performed at David Jones in The Glen shopping centre on Sunday 13th December. The crowd who watched the group were very impressed by our student’s singing and enthusiasm. So much so, that we have been invited back for 2016! Well done to all those parents and staff who supported students to attend this event.

**Working with Children Check**
Holidays are a great time to get paperwork completed, and having a Working with Children Check allows parents to come into the school and support reading, swimming, excursion and other programs. WWCC applications can be completed online: [http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/](http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/)
Student Free days 2016
(School Council approved these days at the meeting on 18th November)

Wednesday, 27th January
Tuesday 15th March – Curriculum
Friday 20th May – Reporting
Monday, 25th July – Curriculum

Multi-Age Classes
A few parents have asked questions in recent times about multi age classes. As a school we have not made a move to either totally multi age or straight classes. Instead we have considered the children at each level and what we as educators consider to be the best structure for students. There are many advantages and gains with multi age classes. I have provided below an extract from a complete article which is available to parents at the school office.

What is a multi-age class?
Multi-age teaching philosophy recognises the need for children to be observed and viewed in terms of each aspect of development – cognitive, intellectual, social and physical. Children are respected for the stage of development they are at and programs are planned so that they are appropriate for each student. Thus the focus is more on the stage of development of each individual and less on the chronological age.

In multi-age classes free interchange between children is supported; teachers are aware that chronological and mental ages do not necessarily correspond: children with uneven development merge inconspicuously in groups that suit their personal needs.

What are the advantages of the multi-age classes?
- Children operate at their developmental level rather than their chronological stage of development
- Opportunity for children to be extended and all children to work at their own level
- Younger children become more independent more quickly
- Self-esteem is heightened as each child is encouraged to experience success
- Younger children accept responsibility for their learning more readily as they follow the example of older children in the classroom
- A focus on co-operation rather than competition
- Behavioural problems are lessened as children in a multi-age classroom become more caring and nurturing towards each other
- There is increased initiative, tolerance, self-motivation and co-operation in the learning process.

Children are perceived to develop a more positive attitude to school

Students on Bikes and near the roads
A reminder that students who are wearing their Albany Rise school uniform and riding bikes or walking to school are representing the school by their actions and attention to safety. It is very important for students to adhere to safety rules to ensure no students create hazards which could lead to injury or more serious outcomes. All students should wear a helmet and abide by road rules if riding to school. Students crossing in front of the school, must use the school crossing. Students not adhering to these rules are liable to put themselves and other road users in danger, and also incur consequences when reports are made to the school and authorities. Thank you to all parents for ensuring the safety of all in our school community by modelling and ensuring appropriate safety around the roads.

Holiday security – Please help to keep our school safe.
We request that all families keep an eye on the school over the forthcoming break. Any suspicious activity or incident should be reported to the police on 000 or to Education Security on 9589 6266.

Your help is very much appreciated.
Kind regards
Judy Drew
Acting Principal
drew.judith.j@edumail.vic.gov.au