Dear Parents and Community members,

Thank you so much for your attendance last week at the information sessions and our special assembly. Your involvement with the school is very much appreciated by staff and students alike. Congratulations to our SRC representatives and house captains/vice captains.

Tomorrow and Thursday, Mark Crouch will be conducting the Aboriginal Education Health Check as I mentioned in my last newsletter. Mrs Hinchey has been in touch with a number of people to organise their interview times. Mark will be speaking with small groups of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal parents, staff and students. The school executive will also be interviewed. Mark has been analysing our school data for the last few days to compare data around attendance, suspension, enrolments, NAPLAN results etc. This gives him a starting point for the conversations he will have. He has also got our School Plan to see where we are going in terms of Aboriginal education. If you would like to be involved, and Rita hasn’t yet spoken to you, please call the school on 8088 2181.

I am very pleased to announce that Mrs Mateer gave birth to a beautiful daughter, named Pippa, on Saturday. Mother and baby doing well – father is a little awe-struck. Congratulations to Janet, Scott and Miss Pippa.

Michael Johnstone, the Aboriginal Education Officer is away this week at a residential school for his teaching degree. Michael has approximately one week per term when he is required in Sydney for face to face training.

With the extremes of temperature that we are expecting this week, children are being encouraged to ensure they wear their hats outside and drink plenty of water during the day. On very hot days, we close the oval and encourage indoor play – all classrooms are air conditioned and have fridges.

Today we held one of our mandatory emergency drills. These are held twice a year and are required by the Department of Education. Thank you to all our students who listened carefully, followed directions and practised our emergency drill sensibly.

This weekend, staff and friends are celebrating the career of Ms Trish Webb at her retirement dinner. Trish was the principal at Alma for a number of years and has been the Director of Education, Far West for the last ten years. She has had a long and illustrious career and I would like to congratulate her on the amazing job she has done.

The school has had a suspected case of measles. If your child develops any symptoms of measles please seek medical advice. A summary of infectious diseases has been sent home to all families today.

Have a great week.

Regards

Glynis Lugnan

Principal
The Tell Them From Me student feedback survey

A consent form and a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) for parents/carers about the survey was sent home with students last week. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the consent form to school by this Friday 26 February. The FAQs and copies of the consent form, including translated consent forms, are available. More information about the survey is available at: http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents

Student Information and Long Term Permission Forms

It is extremely important for the safety and welfare of your children that a form is filled out for EACH child in the family that attends Alma Public School.

The Student Information and Long Term Permission Notes were due back to school last Friday. It is a matter of URGENCY that these forms are returned to the school.


Pie Drive

Alma Public School P & C Association are currently holding a pie drive to help with fundraising efforts for the multipurpose sports court.

Cost - $5.00 each.

Order forms and money due by: Tuesday 1st March

(Please return orders and correct money in an envelope to the school office.)

Collection of orders on: Friday 11th March

Orders available for pick up from 2.00pm in the P & C Room

Please note: Orders must be collected. There are NO storage facilities.

Our students working hard in the library

Hunter Williams is a new kindergarten student at Alma Public School and always looks outstanding in his full school uniform.
Last Friday Alma School held our Induction Ceremony assembly for our badge presentations to our 2016 SRC and House Captains. Congratulations!
Expressions of Interest

Expressions of interest notes for the Stage 2 excursion to Lindfield and the Stage 3 excursion to Canberra are due back by:

Monday 29th February

Barrier News

Barrier Swimming Carnival
Thursday 23rd February 4.00pm
Notes have been sent home to the selected students who are participating.

Barrier Trials
Basketball and Football trials will be held on Friday 24th February
Notes have been sent home to all eligible students.

YMCA SWIMATHON
Sunday 28th February

Help the Broken Hill YMCA raise money to support local children and adults with disabilities learn how to swim!

The annual YMCA Swimathon will be held on Sunday 28th February.

All funds raised stay within Broken Hill
Get involved and support your community by participating as an individual or team. It’s all about having fun and making a difference.

Participants do not have to be athletic swimmers to jump in and participate.

Registrations can be made online through: https://ymcaswimathon-brokenhill2016.everydayhero.com/au/sign-up or by filling out a Registration and Sponsorship application (available from Alma Public School).

Please return them to the Broken Hill Regional Aquatic Centre.

Register, collect donations and splash out at the YMCA Swimathon to support those with disabilities learn how to swim.

Any questions, don’t hesitate to call 8080 3510.

The CRL has generously brought in Rugby Guernseys for our students to wear for the Rugby Gala Day on Friday 1st April.

Wanted!
Water Donations
It would be greatly appreciated if parents could donate a box of water to be placed in the fridges in your child’s class so that they have cold water when needed.

Check out this awesome drawing “Falling into Space” by Fraser Gilmore 1 - 2A