

# Appin Park News

LEARNING  
FOR LIVING  
I SHOW RESPECT  
I AM RESPONSIBLE  
I CARE

22nd February 2024

## Save the Date

### February

- 27 Parent Teacher conferences
- 28 Parent Teacher conferences

### March

- 4 Assembly
- 11 Labour Day
- 18 Assembly
- 26 Grade 5/6 Camp
- 28 Last day of Term

Hello Appin Park Families

Welcome to our first newsletter for 2024. This year newsletters will be published twice per term, with contributions from all areas of Appin Park PS. Permissions, attendance and reminders about whole school and class happenings will continue to be shared via Compass and Class Dojo. Student Recognition Certificates will be communicated via Dojo each Thursday. We are off to a very busy start in classrooms and hope you enjoy the stories and photos on the following pages.

### Parent Teacher Interviews

Thank you to those families who have made a booking via Compass, for Parent Teacher Interviews being held next Tuesday and Wednesday. This is a valuable opportunity for families to meet with classroom teachers and begin to make or continue to strengthen links between school and home. If you've not yet made a time, we strongly encourage you to do so.

### Communication with Staff

We encourage all Appin Park families to use Class Dojo as a means of communication with classroom teachers or myself. Compass is the platform used for attendance notes and consent for excursions and camps. Please see Nicole if you require a new password or are having difficulty using the system. Please be mindful when dropping your children to classrooms in the morning that it can be a busy time for staff. If you need to speak with a staff member it should take place before 9:00am, so that the learning program can get underway. If time is not available, then a message via Dojo can be useful. Staff are not expected to answer messages outside of their normal working hours or on weekends but will endeavour to do so at their earliest convenience.



### 2024 Student Leaders

At assembly on Monday, I had great pleasure in presenting our 2024 student leadership team to the school community, with support from their families. Congratulations to Judd, Emma and Lucas as our School Captains and to Indie, Lilly, Logan and Chloe for taking on the role of House Captains. The students have proudly received their badges and are looking forward to helping in a variety of ways around school. This morning, we shared morning tea and discussed some planning around our upcoming Colour Explosion Run for Fun, stay tuned for updates over the coming weeks.

*Fiona Carson - Principal*

### Certificates of Recognition

- \*Nate Butler\* \*Bella Lowe\*
- \*Riley Laxton\* \*Ed Wright\*
- \*Austin Butler\* \*Stella Lloyd\*
- \*Rowie Knapton\* \*Lilah Meloury\*
- \*Lulu Cokanauto\* \*Tyler Colston\*
- \*Alice Coppinger\* Callum Bassett\*
- \*Harry Knox\* \*Imogen O'Keeffe\*



**Zooper Doopers!**  
50 cents every  
Friday lunchtime.

### Appin Park Run 4 Fun 22<sup>nd</sup> March

Did you hear the exciting news? We are hosting a Colour Explosion Run 4 Fun!

Students have all received their sponsorship booklet and can now create their online profile at [www.australianfundraising.com.au](http://www.australianfundraising.com.au) and begin fundraising!

Big prizes are up for grabs! Unlock your first incentive prize simply by raising \$10 online. The more your child raises, the more prizes they will receive.

You can also share in \$200k of extra prize credit, win a PlayStation 5 Gaming Bundle and become a Fundraising MonSTAR! ★

Music Lessons  
at Appin Park  
(during school  
hours)



Private Piano Lessons  
Andrea Wearne  
0448196419

Guitar Lessons  
Gr 3-6 students  
Ian Wade - 0419397184  
Ian.wade@skymesh.com.au





## Foundation Fun

It has been great to see the Foundation students settling into school life. We are enjoying daily PAL (play and learn) sessions, where important life skills such as sharing, getting along and problem solving are nurtured.

In Literacy, we are learning about the 3 ways to read a book: reading the pictures, reading the words and re-telling a familiar story. We are focusing on developing our listening and speaking skills and learning about rhyming words. We are practising holding our pencils correctly and writing our names using an upper-case letter at the start. In Maths, we are counting by ones, and reading and writing the numerals. In EQ (emotional intelligence) students are talking about what is needed to be ready to learn.



Mrs.Vescio's favourite word is YET. There are so many things we are learning, but we haven't learnt them all YET.

The Foundation classroom is a hive of activity!

Foundation families: Please remind your children to bring their satchels and Home Learning books every day. ClassDojo is where you will find weekly updates about what is happening in the classroom.



## Grade 1/2 News

It's been great having the 1/2 students excited to be back at school. We thank all parents, carers and students on their flexibility and understanding with the addition of a third 1/2 class over the holidays.

This has been a positive and exciting development as it means greatly reduced class sizes and the opportunity for teachers and Education Support Staff more time to work closely with each student. The 3 classes are still able to join together for weekly collaborative play and learn sessions, as well as sport sessions.

Within classrooms throughout the first four weeks, there has been a particular focus on establishing routines and expectations to ensure a smooth transition into the new schooling year. Students have also been working on decoding CVC words (consonant, vowel, consonant) in reading. In Writing we have creating decodable sentences and lists. In Maths we have been looking at counting and patterns.

Take home readers have started going home in all classes. We encourage all parents and carers to listen to your child read each night. It is also important to be checking satchels for readers and any notes which may have been sent home. If your child does not have a satchel, please contact the office to purchase one.





# 3/4 Happenings

## Literacy

So far this term we have been exploring the routines of the 'Readers and Writers Workshop' Students have created anchor charts to display their learning and as a way to reflect on the routines throughout the year.

Our next topic for reading is the Authors Purpose and for Writing we will look at the 6-traits of writing. Audience, organization, ideas, voice, word choice, sentence fluency and conventions.



### Quest:

Do you know how amazing your body is... Well just ask your 3/4 student. This term in quest we are exploring the different systems of the body and how they work together to help us walk, talk, eat, breathe and think.

So far we have explored the musculoskeletal system and the cardiovascular systems...

This week we are looking at the circulatory system, experimenting with checking our heartrate and blood pressure.



## Grade 5/6 Wizarding World

### Welcome to Hogwarts!

The Senior Unit are learning all about Harry Potter this term. On our first day, students were assigned a 'House' and are competing in the Hogwarts Cup each week. We have made wands and are learning to play Quidditch.



### Maths

Senior students have hit the ground running in their numeracy learning. Students have been using manipulatives, games and iPad tasks to consolidate and extend their understanding of whole number, place value and patterns and algebra.

### Literacy

Students have been busy settling into the reading and writing routines. We have been comparing our class novel, Harry Potter, to the film, looking at similarities and differences. Students have also been learning a different sound for spelling each week and take these home on Monday to practise.

## Appin Park Arts

In Visual Arts this term we have been busy looking in the mirror and drawing what we see!

Our Foundation students have cut and pasted a face and painted their self-portraits. Next week, they will endeavour to draw their own realistic portraits using the shapes and proportions learnt so far.

Each class from year 1-6 has started the year with a structural portrait to show the correct proportions of a face. Students have learnt to divide their face into thirds, draw 5 eyes across and how to sketch their nose and mouth. We have started looking at hair styles and how our hair line comes down to our foreheads.



Classes have applied these proportions to their final copy and added features that are unique to them with the help of a small mirror. These annual portraits will become a memorable portfolio for families to take with them when their child graduates from Appin Park Primary School.

As we undertake many messy activities in Art, it would be appreciated if each child brings to school a **named** art smock. They are kept in a class basket and handed out as required. An old shirt from home is fine or smocks can be purchased from Target and Kmart.



Many Thanks,  
Jess Gardner  
Visual Arts

## Appin Athletes



PE and Sport sessions offer our students the opportunity to develop their physical skills in a variety of ways. In PE they develop and refine skills and in their sport sessions they apply them to game situations.

The junior students are currently focusing on a perceptual motor program which helps them to improve their hand/eye and eye/foot coordination, fitness, balance, locomotion and eye-tracking skills.

For Year 3-6 students, each session continues to develop their basic fitness levels through a variety of warm up running activities. Their focus this term is around hand/eye activities using a variety of net/wall games like down ball, spike ball, bat tennis, tennis and hopefully, time permitting, some volleyball.

When learning new skills the students have to show some resilience and persistence, rather than saying the activity is 'boring' because it is hard. It's great to see hats being worn and drink bottles coming to PE - a great habit to get into when exercising.



## STEM Superstars

Students across the school have been setting up for a busy year in STEM.

Students have worked on taking ownership of their education email accounts to access learning tools like Microsoft Office, Google Apps and Chrome.

With this new streamlined access, the students have been able to navigate to coding resources quickly and easily to learn about coding in their hour of code each week in STEM.

So far, the students have done an amazing job at coding having made their very own version of the iconic Space Invaders and Super Mario.

Junior and Middle school students took their first steps into sequential coding while exploring RodoCodo.



## Ciao from Italiano!

*Ciao, mi chiamo signorina Lisa Gardner.*

All students have begun the year with ciao/hello and mi chiamo/my name is. All grades are focusing on using their manners and what words to use for this in Italian.

Depending on the year level, some are just saying and repeating the words, whilst others are tracing, matching or writing and spelling, as well as putting the words into practice.



Try some of these at home... (RED is how to pronounce)

Ciao(chow)=hello  
Grazie(gratsee eh)=thanks  
Per favore(pair fa vor eh)=please  
Prego(preg oh)=you're welcome  
Scusami(scoosa mee)=excuse me