

Appin Park News

17th December, 2020

LEARNING
FOR LIVING
I SHOW RESPECT
I AM RESPONSIBLE
I CARE

Save the Date

December

18 Last Day of Term
School finishes at
1.30pm

January

28 First Day for
Students

Hi Everyone,

Welcome to our final newsletter for 2020.

What a year it has been for everyone, one that we could never have predicted or probably wished for. The year has certainly presented many challenges but also provided opportunity for change and new ways to approach the way schools are managed and learning growth is achieved. We have learnt that our students are extremely resilient and are far more adaptable to new experiences than we sometimes give them credit for. We have learnt that there are many ways to teach and provide learning opportunities for our students than we thought possible and that as staff, the importance in being flexible and willing to reflect and change practice is a never ending journey.

On Tuesday we were fortunate enough to be able to conduct a graduation celebration for our year 6 students. We were able to reflect on the fact that while they did miss out on some of those final year at primary school moments, we could celebrate many more positive experiences and opportunities that they have been part of in their time at Appin Park Primary School. We take the opportunity to wish all our grade 6 students the very best as they move into secondary education. We are proud of the achievements and the young people that they are growing to be. I congratulate all the award winners and thank the student leaders who did the best they could under trying conditions. (You can read the words I shared with our grade 6 students and staff further in this newsletter.) I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our Appin Park families for the support and strength you have shown throughout 2020. We thank you for your commitment to your children's education and for being a part of the Appin Park community. An especially heartfelt thanks to the families for whom this is their final year at Appin Park, we wish you well in the journey that lies ahead for you and your children.

To continue with the thank you messages, I would like to acknowledge the work of Kevin Feldtmann (School Council President) and the members of school council and to Janelle Hartwig (APPA President) and the committee members of APPA. This year we were not able to do the work we had hoped for, however thank you for being there when it was needed. Your contributions are not to be underestimated and I look forward to working with you all again next year.

To all our teaching staff, education support staff, Nicole in the office and Chaplain Bec thank you all for the incredible year we have had. Your passion for teaching and supporting all students at Appin Park is outstanding.

And finally to all the students at Appin Park, thank you for your determination, willingness to have go, respect and care for your world.

Merry Christmas to you all and I wish you a safe and restful holiday. We look forward to seeing you in the new-year for a fresh start.

Take care,

Fiona Carson - Principal

A Message from School Council

Hi Everyone,

What a crazy year it has been.

Firstly I would like to thank all of the school councillors for contributing as much as they could in 2020. School council has done all they could to support the school given circumstances that have been presented over the past year.

Secondly I would like to thank Fi and all of the school staff for the efforts of 2020. There has clearly been some trying circumstances, but I feel the school has supported the students as best they could. Well done to everyone involved.

Finally this will be my last year on school council as my youngest child, Mitchell will be starting High School next year. I feel thankful for being allowed the opportunity to be involved in my children's education through school council. I have found the involvement both enjoyable and rewarding. I would like to thank all of the current and past school councillors for their ongoing support and I wish everyone the best in the future.

I hope everyone has a great break over Christmas and comes back ready for a better 2021.

Regards,

Kevin Feldtmann, Outgoing School Council President

APPA Christmas Raffle!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Hampers & bought tickets.

All winners have been notified.

This Week at Appin Park!

To the Appin Park Primary School Grade 6 class of 2020,

Congratulations to all of you on finishing your primary school years.

One of things I admire most about people is those who have the ability to stand up in front of an audience and make speeches and presentations without notes, I am not one of those people so I hope you won't mind me reading the words I have in front of me? For some of you today sees the finish of 7 years at Appin Park and for others you have joined along the way. No matter how long you have been here you will always be a student from Appin Park Primary School. With that you get to take away what we hope is a toolkit of strategies and skills that will support and guide you through your next phase of schooling and then into whatever the future may hold for you.

Appin Park kids are kind, they are respectful and take responsibility for themselves and others. Appin Park kids look out for other people and put the needs of others before themselves whenever they can. Appin Park kids take pride in their school and the way in which they present themselves out in the community, whether that be on the sporting field, the stage acting or playing music, at the bike track, down by the river, at future part time jobs, or maybe members of student councils.

There is no doubt this has been a tough year for you, as it has been for people across the world. We could sit here and think about all the things we have missed out on due to the global pandemic, or we can choose to celebrate the opportunities you have had not just this year but across all years of your primary schooling. Camps, leadership opportunities, productions, music and science programs, swimming and gymnastics lessons, excursion and sports days, theatre performances, dress up days and of course a group of amazing teachers who everyday come to school to give you every chance to be the best student and person you can be.

I would like to thank our school student leaders for 2020. This was not the year that you wanted and we couldn't do all the things our student leaders would normally do. However, you put yourselves out there back in term 1, and that takes courage, commitment and a belief in yourself that you have something to offer other people. Being able to show you have been a student leader will put you in good stead for future opportunities and we encourage you to continue to have a go at these roles in whichever school you attend.

To the parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and carers of our grade 6 students. For some of you this will be the end of your time as part of the Appin Park community. For others you may have a few years left. Either way we thank you for choosing to send your children to our school. Thank you for providing them with the support and guidance they have needed in the early years and up into becoming near teenagers. Thank you for trusting in the teaching staff and working with them to provide the best opportunity for your children. Know that you are welcome into our school and will always be part of the Appin Park family. To those of you who are finishing up at Appin Park we thank you for the contributions you have made in supporting the school and its day to day operation. Being part of APPA or School Council, attending and supporting fetes, productions, sporting events or donating prizes and buying chocolates and raffle tickets. It all helps and is very much appreciated by the staff and students.

As you know this year has been my first year as principal at Appin Park Primary School. I could not be prouder of the team of staff I am able to work with every day and the students with whom we get to share our passion for lifelong learning with. I thank all the staff for their dedication to our work and the flexibility we have had to demonstrate this year.

To finish I would like to again congratulate you all on completing grade 6 and hope that you enjoy your day of celebrating today. I am looking forward to hearing all your memories of school as you all take your turn up here to present.

Have a safe and happy holiday,

Fiona Carson



Our 2020 Award winners: Mitchell Feldtmann & Clara Rocchiccioli (Mary Baldwin Award), Abby James & Jackson Bell (Walter Bob Harris Award), Corey Marjanovic (Sports Award), Alexis Ryder (Ian Ward Memorial Scholarship), Porsche Tantibhaedhyangkul (Art Award)