Hi everyone

**SCHOOL COUNCIL MOVIE NIGHT - FRIDAY, 21st MARCH:** We will be holding this family-friendly event on our oval, using an outdoor screen, on the evening of 21st March. A BBQ tea will be available along with popcorn and other refreshments, and we hope that all school families will come along. Tickets will be pre-purchased from the office - $20 family (up to 6 people), or $5 individual tickets.

There will be more details in next week’s newsletter. In the meantime, mark the date on your calendar.

**OTHER SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS:** We had our meeting last Monday evening. At the meeting we recognised the following businesses and families who have generously offered to sponsor Fresh Fruit Monday:

- Silent Range Estate (Long family)
- Lovett family
- Camplin family
- Gosbell family
- Wangaratta Veterinary Clinic (Williams family)
- Promech (Townsend family)
- Quantech Design (Feldtmann Family)
- Mawsons Concrete

Their sponsorship will keep this program going well into Term 2 at this stage. THANK YOU!

If you can help out, please let Nicole know, at the office.

**ELECTION 2014:** We looked at the School Council Election Schedule. Nominations open today for four Parent Representative positions and three DEECD-employee positions. Nomination/self-nomination forms are available at the office. Those of you receiving the newsletter by email will receive an attached form electronically.

**NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED AT THE OFFICE BY 4PM ON THURSDAY, 27TH FEBRUARY.**

Should there be more nominations than available positions, a ballot will be conducted, with ballot forms sent home on 6th March. The School Council Annual General Meeting (AGM) is on 17 March at 6pm.

**WORKING BEE:** We will trial an early evening working bee on **THURSDAY 13th MARCH - 5.00-7.00pm.** We ask all families who have opted not to pay the voluntary grounds levy to attend at least one working bee per year. The focus of this one will be weeding and spraying, tidying up along our fence lines and around the sandpit, raking the soft-fall and trimming low branches etc. Please also mark this date on your calendar. All families are very welcome!

**2014 ART SHOW & FETE**

**SATURDAY, 6TH SEPTEMBER**

The Art Show has long been a valued highlight every second year, and we were thrilled by the response when we combined it with our first fete in 2012. We will be calling on all members of our school community to support this effort - it is a great way to get involved and to contribute to your child’s education. You can start getting organised now by collecting autumn cuttings to pot up, creating treasures for the craft stall, making jams and preserves or putting aside items for the White Elephant stall. There will be a fete committee formation meeting called after the Council’s AGM.

**HAPPY CAMPERS:** Our first group from 15 Mile Creek Camp returned yesterday afternoon, safe & happy.

34A&B headed off yesterday morning for their adventure. Early next Wednesday morning, Grade 5/6 students and teachers will be off to Sovereign Hill. I am joining them for the three days and really looking forward to it!
AROUND THE SCHOOL THIS WEEK:

WEEK 4 and already our new Preps have found their feet, made new friends and are having lots of fun in and out of the classroom. Their Grade 5 buddies are doing a great job!

We ‘badged’ our leaders at assembly on Monday, with local Member of Parliament, Tim McCurdy, joining us for this occasion. Our School Captains led their first assembly.

Nihongo News

Week 4 didn’t go exactly to plan. Instead of doing the advertised hiragana activities, the kids did some singing and games related to body parts. Next week, the older kids will combine that new knowledge with their Hiragana skills in some wordmaker games. I hope the kids will practice the Body Parts Song at home in preparation for next week’s activities. The littlies seem to have enjoyed learning about Setsubun last week. Many of them, even the Preppies, could remember the chant used to chase out the ogres; Oni wa soto, fuku wa uchi.

Monoshiri Sensei’s Culture Tips

Where are all our nazonazo ninjas? The population of the Greater Tokyo Area is 35 million, almost twice as big as our whole country. For this week’s nazonazo, tell us, in Nihongo, what sort of animals like to eat the following sorts of food, 1. Ninjin. 2. Kusa. 3. Mimizu. The first correct written answer to me or to the main office will be the winner.

Sayōnara!

Icy Pole Roster:

Fri 21 Feb: Lorraine Prior & Merrin Henderson
Mon 24 Feb: Lisa Ballard & Romany White
Wed 26 Feb: Lis Long & Jill Britton

First APPA meeting for 2014 – Monday 3rd March, 6.30pm in the Staffroom.

All welcome, we would love to see some new faces.

Enquiries – contact Tracey Clough 5721 3515
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS
The Appin Park Community congratulates you. Students will be awarded their certificates at Monday’s Assembly

**ARTIST OF THE WEEK**

**Luke O’Connell** for the detail used when sketching outdoors.

**MUSICIAN OF THE WEEK**

**Lucas Ormand** for participating so wonderfully during music class and working so well in the group. Well done, Lucas. Keep it up!

**SPORTS AWARD**

**Justine Corker Walker** for her commitment and improving efforts at staying on task. She is showing more belief in her own ability and uses more strategies when playing running games.

**From The Chaplain...**

**Are you a Helicopter Parent? Part 2**

**The Fear Factor**

More than anything else, parents fear for their children’s safety – a fear fed by the media. But is the answer to prevent children from developing increasing independence as they mature, or is it better to provide appropriate training and structure within which the child can learn to operate. For example, teaching a ten year old to catch the town bus in Wangaratta by first taking them on a trip where they have responsibility to pay the fare and watch for the correct stop. Next time put them on the bus and let them do it themselves but go the bus stop and check that they get off. If they have proved themselves responsible, the next time they could do it alone. Also, before this independence is allowed you would ensure the child knew their phone number and address in case of unforeseen circumstances.

**The Homework Issue**

Our role as parents is to provide a suitable place for our children to do their homework and to structure the day so that there is time to complete the tasks before the child is too tired to think clearly. Apart from making suggestions, hearing reading or spelling etc, a parent is not helping their child by completing their homework for them. If they haven’t disciplined themselves to complete it in the time provided, then experiencing the consequences at school is a good life lesson for the child.

**Don’t Worry, Be Happy**

All parents want their children to be happy and worry free however, life is just not like that. The issue is to support the child through the difficult time by actively listening to their issue, empathising with their feelings and offering helpful suggestions or perhaps a different perspective to the one your child has been expressing. Recognise that it is okay to feel sad when a friend leaves for another school or a pet dies. Learning to deal with these disappointments is part of preparing them for life. How do we know when to intervene? Always find out all the facts and, as a general rule, don’t do for a child what they can do for themselves.

Chaplain Beth
Wangaratta Aquathon

On Sunday a small contingent of our students competed in the YMCA Aquathon. This event helps raise money for their Open Doors Program. The Primary School event consists of a 1km run, 100m swim and finishes with another 500m run. Thomas Moore competed as an individual, completing all stages by himself and was the winner of the male section. We had 8 students pair up to compete in the teams section. Grace Watson-Long and Emma Christie placed a very close 2\textsuperscript{nd}, Harvey Moore and Georgia Long finished in 3\textsuperscript{rd} place, followed closely by Ryan Corrigan and Xavier Pitt in 4\textsuperscript{th} and Sarah Long and Hannah Snowdon in 5\textsuperscript{th} place.

Prep student James Long competed in the Short Course event with his mum, Lisbeth Long. James had to run 1 km before tagging with Mum who jumped into the pool and completed 150m swim, before sending James on his way to complete another lap of the running course. They finished 3\textsuperscript{rd} in their section. Well done James (and Lisbeth as well) and to all the students who participated. It was great to see a number of former students tackling the longer events and some of them producing good times and placing successfully on the podium in their sections. It is fantastic to see our school represented at community events, having a go at a variety of activities that are offered throughout the Wangaratta Community.

Wangaratta Fun Run

Don’t forget the annual Wangaratta Fun Run this Sunday. We have a number of students who have already entered the Primary Challenge event which is a 2 km run, with some of them taking on the longer run over 5km. Come along to the Wangaratta Showgrounds on Sunday morning and be involved in a very healthy and active program. A full report will be in next week’s newsletter.

Junior Netball

Please don’t forget that if your child/children are interested in playing Junior Netball, or Net Set Go program, please complete the note that was sent home with last week’s newsletter and return it to school by tomorrow. Forms are available at the office.

15 Mile Creek Camp

We did canoeing. I was with Deegan. We had some trouble at first but we got used to it. When Deegan and I wanted to swap we had a problem. We were in the middle of the dam so we had to get up and walk on the canoe.

\textit{Isaiah Lack}

\textbf{15-Mile Creek Camp was the best camp I have ever been to. The worst part would have been the sleeping. The hardest activity was bike riding. The food was delicious!}

\textit{Aiden Tracey}

My favourite activity was the flying fox because it goes fast and it was fun because you didn’t have to run and hold on.

\textit{Sheridan McDonald}

The most challenging activity for me was the rock climbing. On the first go I couldn’t decide what rock to grab onto. I found the second try easier because I was on the side with the bigger rocks.

\textit{Taylor Marshall}
COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

Pangerang Community House

TERM 1 COURSES FOR CHILDREN

Children’s Cooking  This course is for primary school aged children who have an interest in learning about cooking. They will learn basic techniques and recipes that they can go home and share.
4 x Wednesdays 19th Feb – 12th March  Time: 4-5 pm  Cost $40

Children’s Drawing  This class is for children who already enjoy drawing, it will teach them new techniques and the use of different mediums such as pencil, pastel.
5 x Thursdays 27th Feb – 27th March  Time: 4-5 pm  Cost $5

Children’s Sewing  This class will create an apron to be used for art or cooking. A great way for children who have an interest to try making something themselves. (No class Labour Day)
4 x Mondays 24th Feb – 24th March  Time: 4-5pm  Cost:$50

Please contact Pangerang Community House for more information or to make a booking, phone (03) 5721 3813

PUGGLES SUPPORT GROUP

For Parents/Carers of children with special needs
(you can bring your child/ren or just come along yourself)

We are parents/carers of children or family members who have special needs. We have asked the same questions you may be asking now. We want to enjoy the ability to have someone to turn to who simply listens, understands and helps us find practical assistance and information. We all need someone who understands what we are going through.

Tuesday 10.00 to 11.30am
Pangerang Community House, 38 Ovens Street, Wangaratta

Could you be a permanent care parent?

There are a number of children supported by the Department of Human Services who require a family for life as they are unable to live with their birth families. We are seeking committed and motivated people who would be interested in learning more about providing a permanent family for a child. Assistance payments are made to the Permanent Care family to assist with the day to day expenses of caring for a child/young person. Assistance payments are considered to be a reimbursement for expenses and not an earned income. We are also keen to speak with families who are particularly interested in caring for children up to the age of 10 years.

Information sessions are being held on:
Tuesday 4th March 2014 at 6:00pm
Department of Human Services,
43-47 Rowan Street, Wangaratta

Thursday 6th March 2014 at 6:00pm
Department of Human Services,
163-167 Welsford Street, Shepparton

For further information please contact: Adoption & Permanent Care Program 5832 1552 or 5832 1559.

Donate Life Week

Australia’s annual week to raise awareness of organ and tissue donation, Donate Life Week, is on again from 23 February to 2 March 2014. In our region there are some great family activities for you to get involved, learn more and support others, each supporting the 2014 DonateLife Week message of “Have the chat that saves lives – ask and know your loved one’s wishes’.

Hume Cycle Challenge on Saturday 22nd February 2014
Wangaratla Marathon and Fun Runs Sunday 23rd February
Coen Ashton’s Jet Ski Ride up the Murray Ride: Murray CODD (Coen’s Organ Donor Drive)

For information visit: www.donatelife.gov.au