Hi everyone…

Where has the first semester gone?? I have been busy proof-reading the mid-year reports which will be sent home to you next Thursday. It really doesn’t seem that long ago that I was doing the same with the end-of-year ones!

You should have received a form today for you to indicate your preferred Parent Teacher interview time. These interviews will be held in the last week of term. Please return the form promptly to be sure to get your first preference of times. We hope that all parents can attend these meetings so that you can support your child to develop their learning goals for the next semester. These goals are regularly referred to in the classroom and children take them seriously. Your input is very valuable.

On the Monday morning of the last week (23rd June) we will have a special assembly to recognise NAIDOC Week. NAIDOC Week celebrations are held across Australia each July to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. NAIDOC Week is celebrated not only in Indigenous communities but by Australians from all walks of life. It falls within the school holidays so we have chosen to mark it slightly earlier. Our new Koorie Engagement Officer, Jacqueline Martyn, will be there and I have asked one of our parents, Sakina Babia, to provide a ‘Welcome to Country’. Jacqueline will be around after the assembly for any parents of our indigenous students who would like to meet her. Parents and grandparents are very welcome to come to our Monday assemblies.

Art Show 2014

We are busy in the art room creating works of art to put on display at the 2014 Art Show. Thank you to Samuel Mullens and his family for providing the rocks for all of the grade 3/4 3D artworks. Whilst all this hard work is going on we are trying to get some of the Art Show preparations out of the way.

Thus we would like to ask if any families are prepared to donate some gifts for the raffle and prizes that we use at the art show. Any goods in the art line such as pencils, packets of crayons, craft kits, textas, canvases, papers etc. would be gratefully accepted. Keep your eye out for any specials that may pop up in the shops that could be suitable for donating to us. Just send any along to the art room please.

Fete Book Stall - Can you help with donations?

Mrs Carson has saved the big chocolate boxes for the book collections. If you are tidying out your book shelves in the near future we have brightly labeled boxes in Room 8A for you put your books in. Feel free to put any books in these boxes when it suits, or leave them in the art room for us to classify.

Quilt Display

Any Quilters out there? If any of you have a quilt that we could include in this year's display we would love to talk to you. This is a small group of quilts on display, not a competition. We need to have more for our display as part of the Art Show walk through. Could you let us know if you have one (or more) that we could borrow for the weekend and its dimensions?

Thankyou
Ros Janas

Chocolate money & any unsold chocolates need to be returned to school by tomorrow. We have a few boxes left if you can sell another one.

Volunteers are needed for head lice checks on Friday 13th June. Please meet at the school office at 12.00pm if you can help.

June/July

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>13th</td>
<td>Chocolate Money due back</td>
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<td>25th</td>
<td>Prep - 2 Grandparents’ Day</td>
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<td>27th</td>
<td>Last Day of Term</td>
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<td>14th July</td>
<td>Term 3 commences</td>
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PO Box 227  (Appin Street) WANGARATTA 3677
Ph: 5722 1326
Fax: 5722 2524
EMAIL: appin.park.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
SCHOOL: www.appinparkps.vic.edu.au
District Cross Country Event

Last Friday 30 Grade 3 - 6 students represented our school at the District Cross Country event held behind the Barr Reserve. These children earned their place on our team through their efforts at our own cross country event held earlier this term. The day saw many students from a large number of schools across our zone area attend and pit their running prowess and endurance against the best in their age group. The weather was perfect for the event, fresh and mild, with the sun shining over a damp course.

All of our students performed extremely well, completing their race with strong finishes. Again this year the top 15 students from each race qualified for the regional event which is to be held Wednesday 18th June at Broadford. Ten of our students ran strongly to gain a place in the top fifteen in their age group, qualifying them for the next competition. There were another four runners who placed in the top 20, just missing out on being eligible to compete at Regionals.

The first race, the 10 and under girls, saw Hannah Snowdon run strongly to place 12th, followed immediately across the finish line by Kelly Hirschmann. Sarah Henderson just missed the cut, placing 16th. However this was a very good effort for a young Grade 3 student racing against many older girls. In this race there were 88 runners. In the next event Braeden Marjanovic placed 6th overall, with Caleb Gilbert running 11th and Jack Boulton 15th. This was the largest field having 95 participants and again our boys ran really well with the majority of them coming in the top 25. Sarah and Caleb, along with Wade Ryan and Georgia Long performed really well considering they were running against people who were at least a year older. Hopefully they will be able to return next year to compete in the same event and having the advantage of experience behind them they can only improve.

Annika Flanagan ran 16th in the 11 year girls’ event and Jack Findlay ran a very strong race finishing 2nd in the 11 year old boys’ event. Logan Wright also ran well finishing 15th overall. This was a great effort from Logan as he had only run the 3km distance at a training session two days prior to the event. He and Flynn Cawood elected to run in this race, without having done the best preparation for the distance, as they both turn 11 towards the end of the year. Given the chance they both chose to take the more difficult option, with great determination and commitment they performed very well. The rest of our boys ran strongly to place in the top half of the field, out of the 78 runners.

Grace Watson-Long, ran 16th in the 12 year old girls’ event, but has earned a run at the next level as one of the girls finishing ahead of her will run in the 13 year old age group. Liam White continued to prove that hard work and training does pay off, running a great race, finishing a close 2nd in the 12 year boys’ event. Other competitors were: Amelia Weimer, Addison Bedendo, Caleb White, Jasmine Scholz, Sienna Fuller, Jesse Hurley, Matthew Vickery, Zack Watson, Aiden Bartlett, Damien Witting, Amy Henderson, William Gulbin, Rhys Delahunty, Thomas Moore, Mitchell Carson and Jordan McDonald.

The training that all the students had undertaken was very obvious; their endeavour and determination to complete their own race to achieve a personal best time was evident as was the positive feeling that they had when they successfully accomplished this goal.

Well done to all our competitors. It was great to see the efforts of everybody. To compete against the best students from each school in an endurance event is a great opportunity. Congratulations to all our students and best of luck to those who have qualified to participate at the next level of competition.

Nihongo News

Only a few more weeks left, so the Gr5/6 kids have started the booklets they are making to take home at the end of the term. The booklet will be titled Nihon no Tabemono and will contain information about JP food. Prep ~ Gr2 did an animal recognition activity. They used fly swatters to challenge each other. The winners were: Prep F Corey M; 1E Jamie S; 1/2S Ben F 2B Karla B. The short week meant that Gr3/4 & Gr6 missed their JP lesson.

Monoshiri Sensei’s Culture Tips

Such an easy nazonazo, but nobody got it. The four main islands of Japan are Hokkaidō, Honsū, Shikoku & Kyūshū. For this week’s nazonazo, tell us the name of the biggest city on each of those islands. The first correct written answer to me or to the main office will be the winner.

Sayōnara!

WE COULD WIN $10,000!

The Herald Sun Masthead competition finishes this weekend. Please drop any mastheads (dated between 1st & 14th June) into the box at the office. With thanks, Grade 5B

Fruit Roster 16th June:  
Karen Still & Nicole Snowdon

2nd Hand Uniform Shop  
Mondays 8.45-9am in the canteen.
**STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**

The Appin Park Community congratulates you.

Students will be awarded their certificates at Monday’s Assembly

**PF**  **Tahli Hutton** for the careful writing and beautiful presentation of her letters to her prep buddies in Melbourne. You should be very proud of your efforts.

**1E**  **Claudia Trim** for her enthusiasm and persistence in learning all about Fact Families in maths sessions. Well done.

**1/2S**  **Mitchell Vincent** for being a great classroom helper and for his excellent reading practice. Well done!

**2B**  **Josie Donald** for her extremely neat handwriting and beautiful posture when writing.

**3/4A**  **Glenn Gratton** for the positive start he has made to Appin Park. We hope you have a wonderful year with us!

**3/4B**  **Rebecca Semple** expresses her ideas thoughtfully and vividly. She always has something unique to add to our discussions. Thank you, Rebecca, for listening so well!

**3/4C**  **Flynn Waring** for the great enthusiasm he has shown for his Quest and the wonderful story he wrote about it at home.

**3/4D**  **Isabell Best** for the excellent effort she puts into all her reading tasks. Keep it up!

**5B**  **Connor Mayer Young** for the fantastic effort he is putting into his work on fractions.

**5S**  **Jesse Hurley** for putting care and effort into his handwriting and the presentation of his work.

**6C**  **Zac Sewell-Dolphin** for being an enthusiastic participant in his Book Club group. Zac is always well prepared for his weekly meeting. Well done, Zac.

**6K**  **Peyton Nash** for the great effort she has made at putting forward her ideas and thoughts whilst participating in Book Club discussions. Keep it going, Peyton.

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**APPIN STAR AWARD**

Amy Henderson for the positive way she approaches all her learning tasks. Amy always strives to do her best work, she is a great role model for her peers and a pleasure to have as a member of our classroom. Well done, Amy!

Emily Cooper for showing kindness to other classroom members and for being a responsible helper. Well done!

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**SPORTS AWARD**

Flynn Cawood for challenging himself and working hard to complete the Zone Cross Country to the very best of his ability. His results were well deserved as he always applied himself during the training sessions as well as in the race itself.

Matthew Vickery for setting himself a goal at the Zone Cross Country and maintaining focus to achieve a great result. He worked hard and pushed himself to gain a top 25 finish.

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**Artist of the Week**

Emma Crawford for her creative, colourful stone fish painting. Well done, Emma!

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**Musician of the Week**

Sarah Long for dedicating so much of your time to learning your music for ensemble performances. You work hard to get the good results and it pays off for all of us! Well done.

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From The Chaplain… Playgroup

Last Tuesday at Playgroup the children enjoyed a construction activity using boxes, coloured paper, pom poms and other materials. Because the weather was sunny they ate their fruit outside and played in the sandpit. Another favourite activity at the moment is riding the little bikes down the slopes (with Mum nearby of course). Thanks to the generous offer from the guys at the Men’s Shed some of our older pieces of furniture are being given a new lease of life with a coat of paint and they are also doing some mechanical repairs on some bikes. This should give the children even more choice when they come to Playgroup. Playgroup operates every Tuesday morning from 9:30–11:00am and we would love to see more parents and pre-schoolers enjoying the lovely facilities.

**Seasons For Growth:** Thank you to the parents who contacted me after last week’s article. There are still places available for this group which will operate in Term 3 for Grades 5 and 6 children. If you have any queries about Seasons for Growth or any other issue concerning your child you may email me on davies.beth.b@edumail.vic.gov.au