Hi everyone…

MORNING TEA & QUEST DISPLAY TOMORROW!
(CLASSROOMS OPEN 11.30-12NOON)

We hope many parents and grandparents can join us tomorrow for morning tea at school from 11.00am. Students from each family are asked to bring a plate of food to share. As we did for the Literacy/Numeracy Day some weeks ago, we will set up a tea/coffee station for our visitors at the canteen window. Food will be available on the netball courts for everyone.

After morning tea, you are welcome to visit classrooms and walk around the corridors to look at the children’s work from this term’s Quests. Grade 5/6 children have been researching Space and creating models of the Solar System. Grade 3/4 students have investigated healthy choices and developed board games to reinforce the key messages from this work. Grade 1/2 children are into all things Dinosaur; with lots of research and design going into their life-like models. Meanwhile, the Preps have enjoyed their term’s Quest based around Celebrations.

We will have a formal thank you to our volunteers on the court area at 11.15am. Each class has sent out invitations to their helpers. If you are unable to come until after 12noon, you are still welcome to drop in and your child can take you for a ‘learning walk’ around the work displayed.

SING FOR THE SALVOS - On Sunday afternoon a group of students including our Choir and members of the Appin Park Performers will be on stage at this event at the soundshell in Merriwa Park. Members of School Council will also be there throughout the afternoon; running the sausage sizzle and drinks stall. If you would like to help out with this effort, please contact Andrew Lovett (0458175951).

This major event has been initiated by Crystal Valley Music (Celine & David Muir). There is a range of performers appearing from 3.00pm onwards; from professional musicians to emerging bands, soloists and school groups. Other entertainment including Trixie the Clown will be there to make it a family-friendly outing. Our students are onstage first at 3.00pm. The forecast sounds reasonable - 27º and mainly fine.

A BIG THANK YOU to the Northo (Great Northern Hotel) and the Ackley family for their offer of ice for our drink eskys on Sunday.

TRANSITION DAY - Next Tuesday our new Prep students will join us again at 9.00am for a two-hour orientation session. They will be in their 2015 class groups, in Rooms 1&2, with teachers Sarah Foster and Renee Sayers. They will also meet their Grade 5 buddy. Parents are invited to an information session in the Library from 9.05am where we will hand out things like the 2015 booklist and also talk about our plans for the year. Tea & coffee will be available.

On the same day, our Grade 6 students will head off to their high schools for the state-wide transition day. Students attending WHS in 2015 also attend there on Wednesday and Thursday as they enjoy an extended ‘Step Up’ program. Our Grade 6 students are all looking very ready for the next part of their education adventure.

MORE SPECIAL EVENTS: Next Monday evening is our Graduation Dinner for Grade 6 students and their parents/carers. This is an annual event and one that gives our students the chance to share a special occasion with their parents where it is all about them! The students have been hard at work creating their memento scrapbooks which will be shared with parents on that evening. Thank you to Fiona Carson and Craig Kerlin, who along with a small band of parent helpers and students, will put this evening together. We also have a Graduation Assembly at school on Thurs. 18th December (9.15am) to farewell these students. All parents/grandparents/family & friends are welcome to attend.

POOL PARTIES: On Friday, 12th December, all children from P-2 will enjoy a special pool party at the indoor pool (10.30-2.00pm). This is a free event for the children as part of our school’s participation in ‘Walk to School Month’. Students from Grades 3-6 (who participated in and paid for the Swimming Program) will have their pool fun day at the Olympic Pool on that same day from 1.00-3.00pm. Students not attending this activity will be supervised at school. Grade 6 students have another pool visit on Wednesday, 17th December.
SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS: We held an Extraordinary Meeting on Monday evening to ratify the school’s budget for 2015 and to say thank you to our hardworking parent & staff reps on Council. Members of APPA joined us. President, Andrew Lovett, thanked everyone for their commitment and enthusiasm in supporting the school. We have had a very successful year in terms of raising funds to improve our school environment (once the clearing up is finished where the old portables were), and to add to the resources available to children in the classroom.

BUDDING MICHELANGELOS… Grade 6 students were experiencing the working conditions of artists like Michaelangelo who worked on their backs as they created roof frescoes like those depicted in the Sistine Chapel, the Art Room today. Unlike Michaelangelo, at least they were not suspended metres above the ground!

IT’S BEGINNING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS!!! The children from Prep F have created these very cheery Santas now displayed in the corridor. The other grades in the Junior school have also been busy today, building their dinosaurs. These will also be on display tomorrow.

The count down to the end of the year is now on, with hot days and nights, along with lots of busy activities at school and in family life. Children can get tired and grumpy at this time of the year and it is important that sleep routines are stuck to as much as possible. Please also have a good look around at home for any library books or readers that need to be returned before the end of the year.

AND FINALLY… Our planned garden Working Bee on Sunday has been postponed until 4.00-6.30pm on Monday, 15th December. We welcome all parents to these working bees; but in particular those who have chosen not to pay the voluntary grounds levy this year. Please BYO gardening tools if you have them.

Wendy Larcombe

2015 School Costs & Education Maintenance Allowance
EMA will not be available to help with school costs in 2015. All families are welcome to begin paying for next year now. Stationery packs need to be paid for prior to collection. We have BPay and Eftpos facilities. Please see Sandra or Nicole in the office for more information.

APPA CHRISTMAS RAFFLE
First prize in this year’s raffle is an Apple iPad Mini!
Raffle tickets have been sent home with today’s newsletter. Tickets are $2 and need to be returned by Monday 15th December.
Donations are needed for the annual Christmas Raffle to be drawn at Family Night on 16th December. Items can be left at the office. We have already received some very generous donations.

Thank you.

Fruit Roster
8th December:
Lynn Best, Lis Long & Bec Feldtmann

ICY POLE ROSTER
Monday 8th Dec: Lisa Ballard & Vanessa Luscombe
Wednesday 10th Dec: Jill Britton & Vanessa Luscombe
Friday 12th Dec: Lisa Ballard, Vanessa Luscombe, Lorraine Pryor
**STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**

The Appin Park Community congratulates you. Students will be awarded their certificates at Monday’s Assembly

**PF**  
**Ryder Holland** for being a quiet achiever who completes his work independently. Well done, Ryder.

**1E**  
**Kira Geue** for her positive attitude when tackling challenging tasks in number fluency activities. Well done, Kira.

**2B**  
**Jacinta Magee** for the great effort and persistence she has shown during all her Quest activities. Great work!

**3/4A**  
**Shanelle Moore** for the great leadership she displayed when presenting her game board to 5S and teaching them about living a healthy lifestyle. Well done, Shanelle.

**3/4B**  
**Ryan Corrigan** for his beautiful thank you card. Excellent job!

**3/4C**  
**Sarah Henderson** for her enthusiasm, organisation and creativity when working on her multi genre ‘Bee project’. Well done, Sarah!

**3/4D**  
**April Shimura** for the great enthusiasm she demonstrates during our “Stomp” dance practices. Well done!

**5B**  
**Tahlia Corrigan** for the fantastic work she has put into her Quest project this term. Her model of our Solar System looks amazing!

**5S**  
**Liam Suter** for his great general knowledge which has helped him to answer questions during our daily quiz.

**6C**  
**Ari Fletcher Blake** for working extremely hard to create a beautiful scrapbook of primary school memories for her mum and dad. Well done, Ari!

**6K**  
**Isaac Folino** for the excellent effort and enthusiasm he demonstrates in our dancing and singing activities. Keep up the energy, Isaac.

**APPIN STAR AWARD**

**Briana Hogarth** for her happy and kind personality. Briana is always offering to help both within our classroom and outside in our school environment. Well done, Briana!

**Faith Mayer Young** for always being a cheerful and enthusiastic member of Prep F. We are incredibly proud of your efforts this year. Well done, Faith.

**SPORTS AWARD**

**Sienna Fuller** for the way in which she participates in games and activities. Her efforts are always noticeable by the way she plays the game - with honesty and great sportsmanship - admirable qualities to have.

**Emily Mitchell** for her consistent approach and efforts to all PE sessions. Her understanding of games and the tactics and strategies that she shows, to help her team, are very mature and thoughtful. Well done, Emily.

**Caleb Gilbert** for the enthusiasm and effort that he brings to each PE session. He always works hard to achieve his best results and shows very good team tactics and strategies that enables everyone in his team to achieve some success.

**Samuel Mullens** for the team work and thoughtful and encouraging approach that he displays in each session. He is very supportive of his classmates and their efforts. Well done, Samuel.

**Artist of the Week**

**Chenoa Nash** for the excellent patterns and the design she did on her Christmas tree. This will be on display at the Hospital over the Christmas break. Well done, Chenoa!

Can all library books please be returned to school as soon as possible.

2nd Hand Uniform Shop  
Mondays 8.45-9.00am in the canteen.
**Victorian Golf Championships**

On Monday, Grade 4 student, Ella Bihun, competed in the Primary Schools State Golf Championships held in Melbourne. Weather conditions were overcast with light showers throughout the day. There was only a slight wind, which allowed for all the participants to have an opportunity to play their best golf. This event was a modified 18-hole game, with a shotgun start. Ella was pleased with her efforts, except for 3 holes where she hit bigger scores than she would have preferred. Her general game of chipping and pitching was very good and she used her 7-iron confidently. Driving and putting are the areas that Ella identified as being areas for her to improve.

This competition was for any Grade 4/5/6 student and the majority of participants at the State level were from Grade 6. This means that Ella can continue to work hard on all areas of golf and hopefully return over the next two years to improve her final placing. This year Ella placed 17th in the girls’ field - an excellent effort.

**National Track and Field Championships**

Last Thursday Grade 4 student Jack Boulton travelled with the Victorian State Athletics team to Tasmania to compete against the best students from the other states. The competition was held on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Jack competed in 100m, long Jump and was a member of the 4 x 100 relay. He equalled his personal best time of 13.92 for the 100m event, finishing 15th overall. His long jump was 10cm less than his PB, where he finished 10th overall. Jack ran the 3rd leg in his 4 x 100 relay team and the team ran strongly to collect the bronze medal. Third best 10 year old boys relay team in Australia! What an awesome effort: maybe the start of something even bigger. Congratulations, Jack, and all the best for your future endeavours in athletics.

**Swimming Fun Day**

Next Friday, between 10.30 and 1.30, the Prep-Grade 2 students will be going to the Barr Reserve to have a 3-hour activity session in the stadium, as well as having some fun on the inflatable in the pool. There will be no cost for the students. The Grade 3 - 6 students will be travelling to the Olympic Pool to have a free swim session between 1.00 and 3.15pm. There will be no cost for those students who have paid their excursion fees. These swimming activities are only for those students who participated in the school swimming program. A note is being sent home today explaining more about these sessions.

**Walk4BrainCancer**

Thank you, to all our families, for your efforts in fundraising for this very worthwhile cause. To date we have collected $2896.65. This is far more than we ever thought could happen, especially with such short notice. Your kindness and thoughtfulness to get on board and work to raise that money is really appreciated. We will now send a cheque through to the Foundation.

---

**Nihongo News**

Gr3/4 finished their sports & hobbies sentences this week. They were meant to write one set of sentences about what sport or hobby they did on each day of the week. Some hard workers really challenged themselves and wrote two sets of sentences for each day and described the sport/hobby, too. Grade 5/6 are working on pictures of themselves in traditional JP clothes. Prepp-Gr2 did Hiragana recognition games. They had to listen to sounds being called out and then find the card representing that sound. Even the Preppies could do it! Such clever kids.

**Monoshiri Sensei’s Culture Tips**

Charlotte M (6C) has done it again (again!). Three nazonazo victories in a row. She knows that, compared to kimono, yukata are more casual, made from lighter fabric and usually don’t have any lining. For this week’s nazonazo, tell us the tallest tower (not building) in the world. The first correct written answer to me or to the main office will be the winner.

**Sayōnara!**
Wangaratta Marathon & Fun Run
Primary Challenge - Registration Day
Thursday 10 December
9am-12pm at school

Entry Forms have been sent home today.
Full event details are available on the website at www.wangarattamarathon.com.au or contact Sharon Scholz on 0407 081 070.