Hi everyone…

We really have had a great start to the year. Our timetable is now in full swing and children have quickly settled into their classes and routines.

YOU’RE INVITED!

As a way of celebrating the start of the year, and giving the school community a chance to get together, School Council is organising a FAMILY POOL PARTY on next Wednesday evening (11th February) - 5.30-7.30pm, at the Olympic Outdoor Pool.

We hope lots of families will be able to come along to this ‘back to school’ event on 11th February. It is a great chance to meet your child’s friends and their parents and to have a chat with teachers. The pool will stay open until 7.30pm for APPS families. School Council will offer a sausage sizzle from 6.00pm. Pool entry cost is $4.20 per adult and $2.80 per child. Life guards will be on duty. BYO chairs and picnic rugs. The weather forecast is for a pretty hot day so this will be a good chance to come and cool off.

STUDENT LEADERS: Yesterday, some of our Grade 6 students nominated for the very important position of School Captain. Each year, those nominating are expected to prepare and present an election speech to their peers from Grade 5/6, who then elect the School Captains. The elected captains will be announced at assembly tomorrow morning. Student Achievement Awards will also be presented tomorrow morning at 9am, under BigM. We were very pleased with the large turnout of parents/grandparents at our first Friday morning assembly.

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS: Next Thursday, we will call for nominations for parent representatives to join our School Council. Terms on Council are for two years, and each year half of the parent members complete their term in February/March. They are eligible to renominate or they may choose to stand down. Being on School Council gives you the opportunity to be involved in decision-making about the school’s policies, strategic focus, facilities and budget. Council supports the staff and leadership to create the best possible learning environment and to ensure that parent opinion is represented when major decisions such as development of the Strategic Plan or selection of the Principal are made. If you are interested in becoming part of the Council, please contact Andrew Lovett (President - 0458175951) or me for further information. There will be information about how to nominate in next week’s newsletter.

WELCOME: Apart from our new Prep students, we welcome the following children who have enrolled since the start of term: Gypsie Swain (1B), Brandon Swain (PF), Shanay Desmond (6C), Kyle Worland (3G), Toby Clifford (3G), and Oliver Dean (2M).

Back into Writing: Our focus on improving our Writing will continue in 2015. Robyn Elliott & Fiona Carson attended the first of a series of three workshops with teachers from our Wangaratta Learning Community cluster; looking at developing whole school approaches to teaching Spelling. This will add to the valuable learning we have done over the past three years with Literacy expert, Keay Cobbin.

The new tables really brighten up our library and are much more user-friendly. Thank you to those families who provided a good home for the old tables.

NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION: Families who still require a printed copy of the newsletter will need to have contacted the office by next Wednesday to receive next week’s newsletter in the format. Nicole has added all current, supplied email addresses to our distribution list. If you have not provided your email address, please do so as soon as possible. Also, remember the school’s app is also a way you can receive the newsletter each week.

AND FINALLY: Parent-teacher interviews will be held in the week of 23rd February. More information will be included in next week’s newsletter.
From The Chaplain…

After a few anxious weeks at the end of last year, it was welcome news to hear that Appin Park had again been funded under the Chaplaincy program for 2015. I am very happy to be back at APPS to serve the school in whatever way I can.

This week saw the recommencement of Playgroup. We had several new mums with their toddlers who enjoyed joining in with the variety of activities available to them. With the hotter weather we have the water tray and the water paint brushes out for some messy fun. Unfortunately the funding for fruit is not available this year so could parents attending playgroup please provide a piece of fruit for their child.

I have also spent some time this week renewing old acquaintances and getting to know some of the new students at the school. I am able to provide one-to-one and small group programs that support children who have family or grief issues, who are struggling with friendships or other social issues, or who just need a friendly ear.

If you would like to contact me for any reason my email address is davies.beth.b@edumail.vic.gov.au

Chaplain Beth

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Nihongo News

Yahoo! We're back at school, at last. This week, we got the kids' workbooks organised and also learnt about Setsubun, a very significant JP cultural event. *Setsubun* celebrates the coming of spring and the Japanese have a rather unique way of marking this event. They throw beans (hard soya beans, not the long green ones) at *oni* (ogres that represent bad luck) to chase them out of the house, all the while chanting to invite good luck inside. The *oni* is usually played by Dad wearing a mask. We'll complete part 2 of this topic next week.

Monoshiri Sensei's Culture Tips

*Setsubun* is all about chasing ogres, is it? Well then, for 2015's first *nazonazo*, tell us what, apart from beans, JP people use to scare ogres away from their homes. Here's a clue. The items are often attached to the door/entrance to the house. The first correct written answer to me or to the main office will be the winner.

Sayōnara!

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Insurance Policy

Parents/guardians of students, who do not have student accident insurance, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance/transport and any other transport costs. Parents/guardians can purchase insurance policies from commercial insurers. The Department does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property.

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2nd Hand Uniform Shop
Fridays 8.45-9.00am
in the canteen.

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Book Club orders are due back Thursday 12th February

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Please return the information envelopes, sent home last week, as soon as possible to the office so that we can ensure we have up to date details for all families.

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Volunteers Needed to sell Icy Poles & Slushies

Volunteers are needed to staff the canteen each Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 1.20pm -2.30pm. If you can help please phone Tracey Clough on 0407 224 667 or return the slip below to the office.

Name: .......................................................... Contact No: .........................
Student's name: .................................................. Class: ..............................
I am available: Mondays Wednesdays Fridays
Or dates: ............................................................................................................
**STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**

_The Appin Park Community congratulates you._

_Students will be awarded their certificates at Friday’s Assembly_

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Achievement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PF</td>
<td>Brady O’Keefe</td>
<td>for the confident way he has started his first year at school. Brady always brings his cheerful smile and consistently listens with his whole body. Keep up the fantastic work, Brady.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P/1S</td>
<td>Faith Mayer Young</td>
<td>for the leadership and positive role modelling she has shown to her fellow peers and Prep students. Outstanding effort, Faith!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1B</td>
<td>Corey Marjanovic</td>
<td>for the great start he has made to Grade One. He is confident, happy and willing to help when needed. Keep up the great work, Corey, and welcome to Grade One!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2E</td>
<td>Ryley York</td>
<td>for his great start to Grade Two. He comes to school every day with a big smile, and is eager to learn. Well done, Ryley.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2M</td>
<td>Ailie Witting</td>
<td>for sharing the interesting reasons why her parents chose her name.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3G</td>
<td>Cayden Jackson</td>
<td>for having a brilliant start to Grade 3. Cayden is trying really hard to finish his work in class and has completed all his homework tasks. Cayden has also shown us that he is a fantastic artist when drawing bridges.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4R</td>
<td>Emma Vickery</td>
<td>for the tremendous start to Grade 4! She has come back positive, ready to learn and is an asset to 4R.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4V</td>
<td>Chenoa Nash</td>
<td>for making an excellent start to the new school year. Chenoa is always organised and ready to learn. Well done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5K</td>
<td>Brayden Hardwidge</td>
<td>for the excellent start he has made to grade 5. He has been focused on all tasks and is always willing to help out with small jobs. Keep it going, Brayden.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5S</td>
<td>Taylor Marshall</td>
<td>for being a great class secretary this week.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6C</td>
<td>Colin Pirret</td>
<td>for the calm and positive way he has begun his Grade 6 year. An excellent start, Colin. Keep up the great attitude.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6M</td>
<td>Kayla Phillips</td>
<td>for her leadership, encouragement and support when helping run the Prep/1 PMP program. She was able to keep her group on task and continue to challenge them to perform the specific skill to the best of their ability.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD**

**Join Wangaratta library For a night of magic and fun**

Join us for the first worldwide Harry Potter Night. Anyone who loves the novels is invited to come along. Bookings are not required.

- Create your own dragon using mixed media with local artist Annette Lawson
- Harry Potter inspired Lego
- Craft and Food
- Fancy Dress (optional)
- Prizes

Bring Mum, bring Dad or just come along. Bring your library card as there will be lots of great books to borrow. Suitable for ages 5 – 95. Harry Potter Night starts at 4:00pm and ends at 6:00pm. For further information please contact the Wangaratta Library - 5721 2366.

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**For fun and adventure come and try Scouting with Wangaratta Scout Group**

Tuesday night: 6.30-8.30

Wangaratta Scout Hall, College St, Wangaratta

Enquiries: Cazz Hicks ph: 0428317980
Email: hicks.carolyn.c@gmail.com

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**Child support**

Every child’s right and every parent’s responsibility

Date: 10 February 2015

Time: Free half hour sessions between 9am & 4.30pm

Venue: Upper Murray Family Care
36 Mackay Street
WANGARATTA VIC 3677

Please phone (03) 9269 0408 for an appointment or 1300 792 387 during business hours.

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**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST - FUN SOCIAL FITNESS ACTIVITY**

Social Ballroom Dance Classes, Classical Ballet, Contemporary/ Lyrical Dance, Stretching & Conditioning classes. All ages welcome Classes starting in Wangaratta on Monday 9th February 2015.

Register your interest by emailing your details to; info@intencitydanceacademy.com.au Learn from fully qualified and insured instructors chosen to teach the 2015 Galen College Debutante participants.

Classes run on Monday, Tuesday and Friday’s.
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Hume Bank