Hi everyone...

FRESH FRUIT MONDAYS: Thank you to the Camplin family and the Moore family for their recent donations towards this program.

CHAPLAINCY PROGRAM CHANGES: Due to the re-arrangement of funding for the Chaplaincy program, another level of bureaucracy has become involved and requires Beth Davies to complete a new set of forms as part of her role. If you have previously signed a permission form for her, you will need to complete a different version of the same thing. Beth will send these home with the children concerned over the next couple of weeks. Thanks for your help with this.

GREAT BUDDIES AT APPS! Teachers have commented, on a number of occasions, on how quickly the 2015 Preps have settled into happy friendship groups and into playing confidently around the school. Some of the credit for this goes to their very responsible and caring Grade 5 buddies who helped them in the first few weeks as they shed their ‘training wheels’ and started to find their own activities and favourite places to play.

Each year, Grade 5 students taking on this job, step up and really show a level of responsibility and commitment in their mentoring role.

EARLY YEARS INFORMATION SESSION FOR PARENTS: Sarah Foster, Renee Sayers, Jo Beattie, Carol Mata & Robyn Elliott will host this information session for parents on Wednesday 11th March. The first years of school are a vital learning time for your child. Learning to read and write confidently by the age of 7 is a predictor of future success at school. Early Numeracy skills are also very important, and the teaching of Maths has changed a lot in the past few years. Parents have a big role to play by being able to ‘talk the talk’ at home; using the same language and strategies that children are familiar with at school.

Daily home reading is invaluable. By reading with and to your child regularly you generate a shared love of books; you build their understanding of how language works, how books are structured, along with increasing their vocabulary and general knowledge. Home reading is a time for your child to practise and to develop fluency and enjoyment in reading. Knowing some prompts to help him/her can make this experience even more enjoyable for everyone.

We hope that all Prep-2 parents will make it a priority to attend. Child-minding is available during the session.

PREP WEDNESDAYS: From next week, our Prep students will attend school each day.

MY SCHOOL WEBSITE (www.myschool.edu.au): You may have heard that this site is now up-to-date with last year’s NAPLAN data included. The site does give a snapshot of how schools are operating; with information about achievement data, the school’s finances and a general overview of the socio-economic factors and profile of the school. If you are interested, a key set of graphs to look at under the NAPLAN tab is the ‘Student Gain’ graphs. These indicate the progress made by students who have sat the tests in the same school in both Grade 3 & Grade 5. You could refer to them as ‘value-add’ graphs. The graphs for APPS show that, compared with schools similar to ours, our children have made accelerated gains in Numeracy, and better than average gains in Reading. If you have any questions about this site, please contact me.

MORE MONITORS: At tomorrow morning’s assembly, I will present badges to our new school Flag Monitor and to two Library Monitors. THANK YOU to Kel Vincent who painted and repaired our flag pole recently. Madison Saunders & Tahlia Corrigan have taken on the very responsible job of Library Monitor to help maintain this highly-valued resource centre.
I've sent a greetings song sheet home with our Preps. They haven't started the actual song yet, but have used some of individual greetings. We'll start the whole song next week. This week, all grades learnt about Hina Matsuri. Also known as the Doll Festival, or Girls' Day, this important cultural event celebrates the importance of girls, in the hope that they will grow up to be honest, healthy and hard-working members of the community. The JP people mark the occasion by setting up displays of dolls representing the emperor and empress. If you have a few minutes to spare, jump online and google Hina Matsuri. If you want to see some huge displays, try googling Katsuura Doll Festival.

Monoshiri Sensei’s Culture Tips

In JP, the number 4 can be yon or shi. The number 7 can be nana or shichi. They are not interchangeable; their use depends on context. For this week’s mazonazo, tell us the distance between Kagoshima, on the island of Kyushu, and Wakkanai, on the island of Hokkaido. The first correct written answer to me or to the main office will be the winner.

Sayōnara!

A reminder for all students who travel on Government school buses that you must remain seated at all times while the bus is travelling, and must have a seat belt on. It is very distracting/dangerous for the driver if there are students moving around on the bus and who are not seated and with belts on at all times.
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS
The Appin Park Community congratulates you.
Students will be awarded their certificates at Friday’s Assembly

PF Darcy Weeks for the great enthusiasm he displays when learning new letters and sounds. Darcy always completes his learning activities to the best of his ability. Keep up the great work, Darcy.
P/1S Rieley Gratton for the positive manner he shows when undertaking learning tasks. Congratulations, Rieley. Keep it up!
1B Ella Nelson for being well organised and ready to start learning tasks quickly. Keep up the great work!
2E Corey Petersen for expressing his ideas in the Writers’ Workshop using complete sentences. Great writing, Corey.
2M William Petersen for the quiet and friendly manner he has when interacting with his classmates and teachers.
3G Denvey Harris for exceeding our expectations in every learning area by always trying his hardest and completing his work with a smile on his face!
4R Hailie Keogh for the fantastic focus and enthusiasm she has been displaying during our writing sessions. Keep up the great work!
4V Rory Cooper for the positive attitude and beautiful manners she brings to the classroom every day of the week. Keep it up, Rory!
6C Morgan Byrne for being a mature and responsible camper. It’s been a pleasure seeing your smiling face every day!
6M Charlie Townsend for his involvement while on camp and his ability to show an appreciation and awareness of Melbourne and its places of interest.

Anthony Greco for the positive manner he displayed while on camp. He willingly participated in all activities, showing his humorous nature. His presence made camp fun for many people.

Musician of the Week
Lilly McIntyre for doing such great work with your letter F song. I’m loving hearing your beautiful voice.
Max Bihun for being such a responsible classmate and great helper in music. Keep it up!

Artist of the Week
Georgia Long for working away quietly at her art piece. Georgia puts lots of thought into her work and always helps to clean up afterwards. Keep it up, Georgia!

Information Session for P – 2 Parents
Come along to a very special information session on Wednesday 11th March 6pm – 7pm in the library!
Come and get some very handy strategies to help support your child’s reading, writing and numeracy learning at home. See you there!

Just Kids currently has vacancies for after school care. Please contact Gina on 5721 4799 for bookings.
The University of NSW International Competitions
For school students grade 3 to 6.

Once again this year we are offering to hold these tests for students at Appin Park Primary School if parents choose to enter them. ICAS provides an opportunity for all students in Years 3-6 to gain a measure of their own achievement in an external testing situation. The subjects tested are: Mathematics, English, Writing, Spelling, Science and Digital Technologies. All students who enter receive a certificate and an individual Student report.

Certificates are awarded for each year level as follows.
- High Distinction to the top 1% of entrants
- Distinction to the next 10% of entrants
- Credit to the next 25% of entrants
- Participation to all other participating students.

The entry forms for these tests will be given out with the newsletter next week. They will also be on the Appin Park website. Entries must be in and paid for by 26th March. The tests will be held in term 2.

Online Practice is available at [www.eaa.unsw.edu.au](http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au), or I do have some old test papers if you are interested.

Thankyou,
Ros Janas – Gifted and Talented Coordinator

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From The Chaplain…

Playgroup

Playgroup continues to be a lot of fun and learning for the children who come each week. Our youngest ever ‘participant’ was 5 days old on her first visit. That must be some kind of record. Our toddlers are having great fun outside in the sand pit, in the water tray, on the play equipment and riding bikes. It’s lovely to see them growing in confidence with the activities as the weeks go by. The photo is of Lizzi enjoying messy hands in the finger paint.

Think–Feel–Do. Over the last few weeks I have been involved with the grade 3/4 children doing various activities which help reinforce the connection between their ‘self-talk’, their feelings and their behaviour. If children can develop the habit strong positive self-talk at this age it should be a life-long skill for positive mental health.

Chaplain Beth

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Parents wishing to find out more information regarding special religious instruction can visit [www.accessministries.org.au](http://www.accessministries.org.au)

WANTED Empty Pringles containers, with lids for the art room. Thank you.

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The Lunch box sessions - Food fact #2:

Did you know that you can use avocado as a spread instead of butter. Avocados are very high in healthy oils known as omega 3 which are required for energy, brain function and concentration. What a great combination for school kids.

Recipe: Avocado dip
2 ripe avocados
½ lime or lemon
Small amount of natural yoghurt
Blend ingredients together until smooth and serve with vegetable sticks

Variation: add diced tomato, or apple for a slightly different flavour.

Sophie Atkin and Belinda McPherson at North East Natural Health Centre

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Fruit Roster
Tuesday 10th March
Brownyn Knox, Zoe Swain, Jaki Burman & Kristin Haugh

ICY POLE ROSTER
Fri 6th March: Vanessa Luscombe & Merrin Henderson
Mon 9th March: Labour Day Holiday
Wed 11th March: Vanessa Luscombe & Lisa Ballard

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

3rd Little Duck Easter special!!
Easter and first term break is almost upon us and for the rest of the term we will be adding an additional snack special of a warm hot cross bun with butter for $1.50. This can be ordered online at www.3rdlittleduck.com.au or just added on your paper order!

Goorambat Idol
YES, IT’S BACK!!
Do you think you have talent??
Don't keep it a secret!

The “Goorambat Idol” is an open mic singing competition for everyone of all ages (including professional singers). There are prizes for winners & place getters and fun to be had by all!

Two categories:
Junior - up to 12 years
Open - 13 years & over

The Idol is a family event; food & beverages will be on offer throughout the night plus a jumping castle and bouncy bus to entertain the kids.
**Open Show & Shine from 5pm onwards**

In addition to the competition, live band “Cracked Pepper” will be performing!

Where: Goorambat Recreation Centre
When: Saturday 14th March, 2015
Time: 5:00pm til late (Registrations open from 5pm.)

Presented by The Goorambat & District Community, Goorambat & District Football & Netball Club, Goorambat CFA, Broken Creek Primary School, Goorambat Hall, Goorambat Recreation Reserve.

“STRICLTY NO BYO ALCOHOL”
For all enquiries contact Mark 0437 922 617

Wandin North Harvest Market
220 Warburton Highway
Wandin North 3139

Sunday 15th March
9.00am - 2.00pm

Quality Craft, Fresh Produce, Food and Activities. Free Entertainment and Free Parking.

Stallholders Welcome
Phone Megan Gibbons 03 5964 4259

Thoonia Wheelie Bin Championships 2015
SAT 21 MARCH 2015, 12PM
SARGEANT STREET, THOONIA
PH: 0357852224 FOR RULES OR FURTHER INFORMATION

School Holiday Classes at Pangerang
Pangerang House is offering the following holiday classes:
♦ Sewing - Decorative Bag
♦ Fun with Beads
♦ Knitting & Crocheting
♦ Yoga & Relaxation
♦ Easter Chocolate
♦ Easter Craft
♦ Kids Dancing - Fairy Bop & Jazz/Hip Hop

Book now as numbers are limited. Courses must be for paid with enrolment before the end of term. For more information contact Pangerang: 57213818 or www.pangerang.org.au

Giant Pumpkin Competition and Harvest Festival
A GREAT FAMILY DAY OUT!
SAT 18 APRIL 2015
10am-3pm
Bowmans-Murnongvale Hall
Murnongvale

Competition Entry Fee - Largest Pumpkin
Best-dressed Pumpkin & (NEW) Pumpkin Pie

General Entrants:
Les Brown 047 425 467 or Matthew 0429 967 320
thooniafestival@gmail.com

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thooniafestival@gmail.com
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David: 0427 500 277/0407 367 600
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Kris Elliott Painter
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Ashley Clough, Wangaratta Drytron

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