Hi Everyone: Less than 30 days to Christmas now… and only just over three weeks until the end of school.

**Chickens Run:** The recently-hatched chicks have moved into the great outdoors in their cages during the day. They have taken to this with enthusiasm; learning to peck & fossick in the grass without a mother hen to teach them.

The children are fascinated by their antics and there is usually a small crowd gathered by the cage during recess breaks.

Likewise, the silk worms are also moving through their life cycle and are ensconced in their silk cocoons at the moment.

**Fire Drill—Offsite Evacuation:** Yesterday morning we had one of our regular practice runs for an emergency evacuation. All staff and students were clear of the buildings within 2 minutes of the siren sounding and the whole school had relocated to the creek reserve within 4 minutes. The children are very orderly and sensible during these drills and we can be confident that, should any real need arise, they will be very quickly and safely evacuated.

**Curriculum Day:** On Thursday, staff spent much of the day considering the new initiatives and implementation strategies from the *Education State* blueprint. These strategies result from a huge amount of consultation and review of previous programs and policies. It is very pleasing to see the emphasis on achievement being expanded to acknowledge the importance of the Arts, PE and Critical, Creative Thinking. We are working on our 2016 Annual Implementation Plan. The AIP guides our prioritisation of resources and our professional learning, along with staff performance plans for the year and is approved by our Senior Advisor & School Council.

**Mums’ Night Out:** We had a good crowd at our first ‘Girls’ Night Out’ last night. Thank you to Kellie Roberts who helped organise the ‘party plan’ displays, and to Tracey Clough and Heather Foster who helped with lots of the setting up for the night. It was a relaxed evening and a good opportunity to get together.

**Preps 2016:** Our new Preps had their first ‘solo flight’ today, with parents leaving them for two hours. There is one more full group session on the state-wide transition day (8th December). On this day the 2016 Prep children will be in their class groups, with their teacher. They will meet their Grade 5 buddy. Our other students (current Grs P-5) will have an activities session in their 2016 area of the school. Our two new teachers, Andrew Grant & Richard Arnold will be here on that morning too, working in their 2016 area of the school as part of their own ‘transition’.

**White Ribbon Day March:** Our school captains represented us very well yesterday at the local White Ribbon march. We were one of three schools there on the day, and the APPS students helped to lead the march and carry the banner. There seems to have been so many tragedies recently, including locally, where family violence has resulted in the death of a woman or child.

If you need help or support, contact 1800737732 (1800 RESPECT).

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**Upcoming Events**

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<tr>
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<td>Grade 6 Graduation Dinner</td>
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<td>8th Dec</td>
<td>Transition Day</td>
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<td>11th Dec</td>
<td>Swimming Activities all grades</td>
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<td>15th Dec</td>
<td>Family Night</td>
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<tr>
<td>18th Dec</td>
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**2016 Prep Families BBQ – 5.30pm at school**

News Flash!!!!—Free Stuff!!!—See Advert on Page 3

**Ebony, Thomas, Ashlee & Regan enjoy a cool drink after leading the march.**

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PO Box 227  (Appin Street)  WANGARATTA  3677
PRINCIPAL: Wendy Larcombe
EMAIL: appin.park.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

SCHOOL: www.appinparkps.vic.edu.au

Wendy Larcombe
Regional T20 Blast Cricket Carnival
Our Grade 5/6 girls’ team travelled to Shepparton on Tuesday to play against the winners from the many other district events that have been held over the last three weeks. We had to play 3 games before playing in a final game, which decided the final placings. Games were played in perfect conditions; warm with a slight breeze.

In the first game our girls faced a very competent team from Strathfieldsaye. Their bowling was extremely tight which restricted the runs from our team, allowing us to score a total of 76. When it came to our turn to take to the field we were led by Sienna Fuller who bowled a very tight line to only allow 5 runs to be scored during her over. Unfortunately the opposition’s batting was as strong as their bowling and fielding and they were able to win this game in a comfortable fashion (they did end up to be the eventual winners of the day.)

The following two games were a closer contest and although losing both of them we were able to make a higher score and restrict the opposition to a smaller total. Ashlee O’Neill followed Sienna’s lead and tightened her bowling to only allow 2 runs be scored from her over in the second game and 9 runs in the third game. We were more focused in the field and attacked the ball to restrict the scores and when batting we began to put the pressure on the opposition and take more quick singles and run harder.

In the final, the girls were able to combine their skills and commitment to the ball and came away with a win. Again our bowling skills were more evident. Sienna only allowed 22 runs to be scored off her bowling for the day. A great effort. Ashlee wasn’t far behind, only conceding 31 runs. Dakota McAliece was the pick of our batting line up. When she batted with Ebony O’Donohue or Morgan Byrne they were able to make significant runs to add to our final score. Other team members were Annika Flanagan, Ella Bihun and Millie Carson. All the girls worked well as a team, supported each other and enjoyed the day. Decision making and team encouragement were very obvious on the day. The team were supported, coached and umpired by Fiona Carson, Tania O’Neill, Matt Flanagan and Jenny Fuller. Thanks to each of them for offering to go along and support the girls.

Regional Golf Championships
Last Monday, Grade 5 student, Ella Bihun, competed in the Regional Golf Championships which were held in Benalla. Once again this was a modified 9-hole event, with the best primary school students attending from the Wodonga, Shepparton, Seymour and Wangaratta areas. Ella played consistent golf and finished 2nd in the girls event with a score of 46. She has now qualified for the State Championships which will be played in early December in Melbourne. This next stage is an 18-hole event, so the concentration and focus will need to be at its best on the day. Congratulations, Ella, and all the best for your next challenging event.

Nihongo News
Prep~Gr2 played a hiragana reading game this week and then caught up on some work in their books. Gr3/4 finished their pets survey. They then did some group Q&A to consolidate all the information they’d gathered. Next week, students will learn how to describe their pets. Gr5/6 went back to basics with a counting game. They then went through the whole class list of shikona (sumō names), before watching the final episode of the sumō science video. They are now ready for their own sumō tournament to start next week.

Monoshiri Sensei’s Culture Tips
Oops! Last week’s nazonazo went missing. It’s still out there, floating around the ether, somewhere. April T (6C) Aaron G (6C) each got a prize for pointing that mistake out to me. For this week’s nazonazo, tell us what goes into chankonabe. The first correct written answer to me or to the main office will be the winner.

APPXA Christmas Raffle
A quick reminder to get busy and start selling those Christmas raffle tickets to support our wonderful school. The major prize is a fantastic Cubby House, donated by GOTAFE and built by members of School Council. Volunteers have been out and about on the weekends selling raffle tickets at the local market and in front of NAB in Reid Street. If you have some free time and would like to help, please contact the school office – we would love to hear from you! Donations are also needed for the Christmas raffle hampers and items can be left at the office. The raffle will be drawn at Family Night on 15th December.

Thank you.

End of Year S.R.I. Christmas Celebration at APPS 2015
As part of the Special Religious Instruction program at APPS we are sharing a Christmas celebration for this special time of the year. On behalf of the SRI Teachers for 2015 (David Lloyd) Gr 5/6s and myself (Anne Turnbull) Gr 2s and 3/4s, we would like to invite any Parents, Grandparents and Special Friends along to share this time with the children, on Thursday 3rd December 2015 at 12.45pm in the Multi-purpose room. We look forward to seeing you there.
Anne Turnbull (Team Leader S.R.I. at APPS)
SPECIAL FEATURES

**Artist of the Week**

Felicity O'Connell for the gorgeous painting she is doing on her paper mache bowl. Well done, Felicity!

**Fruit Roster 30th November:**

Jaki Burman, Margie Moore & Vanessa Luscombe. APPA is supplying fruit for the whole school for the last three Mondays of term. If you can help out please come to the canteen at 9am.

**ICY POLE ROSTER**

Fri 27th Nov: Robyn Delahunty & Kate Hill
Mon 30th Nov: Romany White & Students
Wed 2nd Dec: Margie Moore & Michelle Webb

**FREE – COME & COLLECT** We have surplus student tables of various sizes, student chairs, some large ceramic whiteboards and other items of furniture. The tables are sturdy and can be stacked to make shed shelving, or used for children’s craft activities at home. If you would like to take some of these items home, be at school, near BigM, at 12noon on Sunday with your trailer or ute. First in, best dressed. Anything not collected on that day will be disposed of.

**STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**

The Appin Park Community congratulates you.

Students will be awarded their certificates at Friday’s Assembly

PF PF for the awesome enthusiasm they have been displaying when learning their Stomp dances. It’s great to see the delight on your faces as you are practising. I can’t wait to see you perform on family night.

P/1S Tom Whitehouse for being organised and ready to learn this week. He has made great choices this week which have been noticed by his peers. Keep it up, Tom!

1B Jioushian Side for the fantastic progress he is making with his reading. He reads at home on a regular basis and always makes the most of independent reading time in class. Well done, Jioushian!

2E Matthew Moncrieff for settling in well to our class and for coming to school every day with a smile on his face. It’s great to have you at Appin Park Primary School, Matthew.

2M Allie Witting for working independently on all activities and always giving her best.

3G Cayden Jackson for his amazing effort during his maths testing. Cayden has shown us that he has a great understanding of number and number concepts. Awesome effort!

4R Tristan Fletcher Blake for the great effort he puts into all classroom activities and the excellent attitude he has towards his learning.

5K Hannah Snowdon for the excellent writing she has produced so far this semester. It is always enjoyable and entertaining to read.

6C Riley McGowan for the way he has enthusiastically been learning our Stomp dances in the last couple of weeks. Well done, Riley!

6M Jesse Hurley for the effort and care that he is applying to his final project, his Graduation Book. This will be a great memory for many years to come.

Matt Vickery for the focused approach that he is applying to complete his Graduation Book. He is taking pride in the presentation of his final product.

**APPIN STAR AWARD**

Abbey Waide for consistently putting 100% effort into every task she undertakes and being a very loyal and caring person to those around her. Abbey is an absolute pleasure to have in the classroom.

Congratulations on a very well deserved award, Abbey!

Toby Clifford for being the most kind, caring and considerate student. Toby loves school and always tries his hardest. He has made exceptional progress since starting at Appin Park this year.

You are a valued and respected member of this school.

Samuel Mullens for the excellent attitude he shows towards all his learning. Samuel is also a caring and encouraging friend who is a real asset to our classroom. Well done, Samuel!

Ryan Battin for the cheerful and positive attitude he shows each day. Ryan always displays co-operative behaviour and is keen to learn.

Ebony O'Donohue for the application to all tasks. She has continued to shine in many different ways and shows great consideration and respect towards others.

**Musician of the Week**

Johnnie Wohlers for putting in so much effort with his “Instrumental Poster” project as part of the “Classical Composers” music appreciation element of Grade 2 music.

**FREE – COME & COLLECT** We have surplus student tables of various sizes, student chairs, some large ceramic whiteboards and other items of furniture. The tables are sturdy and can be stacked to make shed shelving, or used for children’s craft activities at home. If you would like to take some of these items home, be at school, near BigM, at 12noon on Sunday with your trailer or ute. First in, best dressed. Anything not collected on that day will be disposed of.