Hello everyone

Hello everyone

STRAIGHT BACK INTO IT! The children have made a very smooth and enthusiastic start in their new class groups and are already into their new learning for 2016. Our Preps have settled quickly and are independently hanging up their bags and making new friends. Grade 6 students are preparing for the election of School Captains and House Captains this week. Our School Captains will be introduced at Friday morning’s assembly, while House Captains will be announced next week. Roles like Flag Monitor and Student Voice Team are still under consideration. Meanwhile, our new Grade 6 students have stepped up to fill the big shoes left by last year’s cohort and are responsibly doing jobs like Office Duty.

CHAPLAINCY: Dave Reeks has come back in a short-term contract role to assist us as Chaplain while ACCESS Ministries advertises the position. Dave had Play Group organised on Tuesday and is available to support students who need some additional pastoral care. He is working on Mondays & Tuesdays this term.

ORGANISATIONAL MATTERS: The school's drive-through seems to be working very smoothly at the moment; particularly while such a large number of parents are choosing to park and come in and wait for children to be dismissed. It is great to see parents using the waiting time getting to know each other and being able to meet children as they come out of class. The following are things new parents to the school may not already know:

- The drive-through is a ‘quick pick up and drop off’ zone. If your child is not there when you pull in, please do a lap around the block and come back into the drive-through so that you don’t hold up the traffic
- Pedestrians must not use the drive-through to enter or leave the school. Please teach your children to exit on foot through either the front gate entrance by the school crossing, or through the gate to the public car park. Children should not leave or enter the school through the staff car park gate either
- Children waiting to be collected by car or bus must wait at the supervised drive-through shelter until picked up. A teacher is on duty in this area each afternoon until the last bus has been through. Please ensure your children are collected by 3.50pm at the latest. If you are held up unexpectedly, please call the office to let us know so that your child does not become distressed

LUNCH BOX MATTERS: We have a very small number of students who have life-threatening anaphylactic reactions to nuts. We ask all parents to avoid nut products in lunchboxes; including peanut butter and Nutella. Sometimes just skin contact with a person who has eaten these products can produce a reaction in affected children. We also ask that lollies and high sugar-content items are saved for special treats outside of school time. Fresh fruit, sandwiches/wraps/rolls or other healthy choices offer children sustained energy levels and good brain-food.

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 (10th February) - 5.30-7.30pm, at the Olympic Outdoor Pool. We have wristbands for pre-sale at school to save the delays we had last year at the entry gate. Pool entry cost is $4.30 per adult and $2.90 per child. You will be able enter using an outdoor pool membership pass if you have one. You can also still pay at the gate, on the night. Non-swimming spectators entry cost is $2.30.

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 and drinks for sale from 6.00pm. We will be much better prepared for the crowd this year! Life guards will be on duty. BYO chairs and picnic rugs. The forecast for next week is for perfect pool weather, so this will be a good chance to come and cool off.

OTHER IMPORTANT CALENDAR DATES: We have our School Photo Day on 2nd May this year. The Grade 5/6 Bike Hike is planned for 13th May and the whole school Cross Country is on 19th May. Our school fete will be on Saturday, 5th September.

### Upcoming Events

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PRINCIPAL: Wendy Larcombe
EMAIL: appin.park.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
SCHOOL: www.appinparkps.vic.edu.au

4th February, 2016

PH: 5722 1326
Fax: 5722 2524
**QUESTS THIS TERM:** The junior school children are focused on ‘It’s all about Me!’ for their first Quest this year. They will be thinking and talking about the special characteristics they have and what makes them special, as well as gaining insight into the differences and similarities they share with others. Grade 3/4 students are building their resilience, confidence, interpersonal skills and persistence in advance of their upcoming camp by working on their ‘Simply the Best’ quest. Grade 5/6 students voted on a name for the newly-developed quest their teachers have planned for Term 1. This quest, ‘Clean Up, Fix Up’ will involve them in using mathematical thinking, scale drawings, spatial and creative skills, planning and design, landscaping and other techniques as they create useable space in the area behind the BER building. The curriculum areas of measurement & geometry, science, design & technology, critical & creative thinking and personal/social learning will feature in this quest.

**CSEF APPLICATIONS:** Eligible pension & healthcare card holders need to apply for the Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund subsidy ($125 per primary school child) as soon as possible to ensure the funds are paid to the school before our camps and excursions programs start. This money will be credited against the costs of programs like the Grade 3/4 or Grade 5/6 camps, the gymnastics, swimming & Barr Reserve programs or as payment of the excursions levy. Please contact Niccole if you have any questions about this. We do need a photocopy of a current card to process this application.

**FUN AT SCHOOL:** The new Preps students have had lots of attention in their first few days of school. With older siblings and Grade 5 buddies to help look after them in the playground, they have quickly found their way around and learned about the best places to play.

We, as you may have seen in the Chronicle, also welcomed our first international student, Aston Lau. Accreditation as an International Student Program school allows us to accept fee-paying students from overseas whose parents want to take advantage of the excellent educational program we offer.

**SCHOOL COUNCIL 2016:** Next week we will be calling for nominations for parent representatives on School Council. This will be a two-year term and will start from the 16th March (our first general meeting after the AGM). School Council has a special role in government schools; providing a voice in policy development and implementation, supporting the principal in financial management, maintenance of the school’s resources, planning and providing a forum for parent views and input. There are monthly meetings, along with involvement in special school community events and major fundraisers. We are very fortunate with the level of commitment shown by our current and past councillors. Children love seeing their parents actively engaged at school, and this can be a great way to meet other parents and to find out about the ‘bigger picture’ of school life. If you are interested in being part of Council, there will be a number of vacancies to be filled. Please contact Andrew Lovett (current President - 0458175951) or me if you would like any information about the role and responsibilities of being a school councillor.

**HOAX CALLS TO SCHOOLS:** You may have heard through the media about the threatening calls made to a small number of schools across Australia. I want to reassure you that we do have a comprehensive emergency management plan at APPS. It will hopefully NOT happen to us, but should there be a need to enact our plan, we take your child’s wellbeing very seriously and we will take all steps available to ensure their safety. If you have any questions about this, please contact me or Heather Foster.

**AND FINALLY...** I hope some of our Prep parents can join me for a cuppa tomorrow morning after assembly to have a chat and to catch up on how the first week of school has gone. Other parents, of older students new to our school, are also VERY welcome to join us in the staffroom.

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**WANTED PLEASE:**
Matchbox and other small cars for the Prep Room.

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

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**Information for Bus Travellers**
Occasionally, younger students can get confused when they are moving between their bus and shuttles at WHS. Please make sure all younger students, especially preps, have their name, address, telephone number, and the bus on which they travel, written clearly on a tag, laminated, and attached to their bags.

The bus on which they travel should be a specific name, not just to Oxley, not Wang. Coachlines, etc. but the specific name of the bus. eg. Meadow Creek/Oxley (this is operated by Dysons), or Carboor, which does in fact go to Oxley.

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.
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

The Appin Park Community congratulates you.

Students will be awarded their certificates at Friday’s Assembly

1/2E Brodie Ross Hamilton for settling in well to Grade 2 and working hard on all activities. Fantastic, Brodie.

2R Ella Nelson for the fantastic start to Grade 2. She is coming to school focused and ready to learn and is a delight to have in the classroom. Way to go, Ella!

3/4G Jaxsun Williams for showing a massive improvement in the quality and quantity of his work from Monday to Thursday.

3/4S Johnnie Wohlers for making a great start to Grade 3. He has been very focused and well organised.

3/4V Jessica Annett for the great start she has made at Appin Park. Well done, Jessica!

5K 5K for settling into routine so quickly and completing an amazing first week in 2016.

5S Flynn Waring for being a positive role model to those around him and consistently trying to achieve his best. What a great start to the year, Flynn. Well done!

6A Millie Bannon for her fantastic start at APPS. Millie has made great strides in adopting the values of APPS, becoming part of the class and has already started making positive contributions. Well done, Millie.

6G Cameron Lovett for being an all round great student and person. Cameron is always the first to offer help to his peers and teachers. He is also very kind, considerate and respectful. Well done on a great start to Grade 6!

COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

Wangaratta library

see, make, listen, create.

Your MakerSpace is a creative space for people of all ages.

January

The Summer Read - vote for your favourite Victorian read.
School Holiday Program - Junior and Youth (Please see our website for details)
Stories under the Stars - King George Gardens, Wednesday 13th January 6pm.

February

Harry Potter Book Night: A Night of Spells
Discover the magic of Harry Potter once again at our second Harry Potter Book Night.
Fun and entertainment for the whole family to enjoy.
Thursday 4th of February from 4-6pm

Library Lovers Week
8th - 14th of February
Show love for your library during this week of fun and literacy.
Check out our Twitter @WangarattaLib for more details.

March

Film workshops with Elder Pig Productions.

Shootin’ from the Hip - date TBC
Film is ink - date TBC
$10 per person per session.

Work your wardrobe
Create an efficient wardrobe that will work for you.
Wednesday 9th March 6-8pm

April

Pop Culture
GeekCon - Saturday 9th April
Studio Ghibli movie screenings - classic Studio Ghibli movies, Nausicaa and the Valley of the Wind, Spirited Away and Howl’s Moving Castle
Wednesday 6th, 13th, 20th at 5.30pm during April

May

“May the Fourth be with you”
Join us for our celebration of all things Star Wars on May 4th at 4.00pm

Library Week
Discover More 23-29th May
Join us for a range of great activities celebrating your library

June

Get Crafty
Sit and Knit - join us every Thursday between 1-3pm during June to sit and knit.
Learn some tips and tricks to create your own knitted masterpieces.
Crochet - learn the basics 11th June 10.30am | Sewing - learn the basics 26th June 9.30am - 11.30am

“Look for many other special library events at www.hclc.vic.gov.au or on twitter @WangarattaLib"

3rd Little Duck

2016 Term 1 Snack and Lunch Specials:

SNACK: Lamington Fingers (3) $1.50
LUNCH: Chicken Schnitzel Burger with lettuce and mayo $4.00
> Ham pasta salad (cherry tomato, baby spinach and honey mustard dressing) $4.50

SEASONAL SPECIALS:
> Munch and crunch tub (rice crackers, vege chips, sultana’s, apple and dried apricots) GF $3.00
> Chicken Teriyaki rice paper roll GF $2.50
> Avocado rice paper roll (V, GF) $2.50
> Soy sauce sachet 20c
> Pine Raspberry (only no Lemon) $1.30

Do you want to play ball?
Wangaratta Baseball Softball Sports Club is running clinics for children to play TeeBall (5-10 yrs) and Coaches Pitch (10-14). Clinics will run every Wednesday 10 February to 30 March 6pm-7pm. The clinics are FREE, all equipment is supplied. Bring runners, a hat, a drink and the desire to play a fun sport. For information contact Kevin Pool 0427 195 456 or www.wangarattarangers.baseball.com.au
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