Hello everyone

CLEAN UP, FIX UP: The Grade 5/6 Quest for this term has become a real family affair with parents and grandparents being ‘tapped on the shoulder’ to get involved. The students have done a great job of clearing the weeds at the back of the BER and are now in the planning permit phase. Representatives will meet with school council members on Friday to work out the conditions around approval of the suggested improvements. They have written to Council asking for the consultation and are very eager to get into construction mode. It is real testament to the pride these children take in the school that they are so keen to be involved and get stuck into the project phase. The Semple family have built and donated a couple of bird nesting boxes (which may also be attractive to some of the local possums).

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS: The following members of School Council have been elected for a two-year term: Andrew Lovett, Kevin Feldtmann, Blair Webb, Ross Moore, Lisbeth Long (parent representatives), Fiona Carson, Carolyn Hicks, Heather Foster (DET representatives). This still leaves one parent representative position vacant. Parents have until 4.00pm next Tuesday (1st March) to nominate for the vacancy. If it remains unfilled by that date, Council may choose to co-opt a member into this vacancy.

We really appreciate Andrew, Kevin, Ross and Lisbeth renominating and serving a further term! Liz has had a period away from Council and we are pleased to see her back. Welcome to Blair, Fiona & Carolyn in their first term.

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS: At our meeting on Monday evening, we considered the draft Annual Implementation Plan for 2016. This documents our main focus areas in teaching & learning, student engagement and wellbeing for the year. This year our school will have a strategic review. At least once every four years, all government schools collate their various data sets, celebrate achievements of that period against set goals, and reflect on where the next challenges for improvement are. It is a key accountability measure to the Department of Education. Our school has made very solid progress in all areas over the past four years. We will have what is called a ‘peer review’. Our newly-appointed Senior Education Improvement Leader (Alby Freijah) will be involved in this, along with Council and APPA, interested parents, staff, students and the school’s leadership team. I will invite a couple of my principal colleagues to also play a role as ‘critical friends’. At the end of the review process, we will be developing a new Strategic Plan that will set our path for the next four years. I will keep you up to date with our progress and let you know what opportunities there are for you to have input in the process.

WHAT’S HAPPENING AT SCHOOL? The Grade 6 students have been very excited about wearing their new shirts to school. The blue really looks good!

Grade 5/6 students again helped out the Regent Honey Eater project team, potting up 40 trays of tiny seedlings. Later in the year they will have the chance to head out into the hills to plant these in an effort to improve the habitat for native wildlife and to help stop erosion in creek gullies and cleared landscapes. Ray Thomas works with us each year on this and he again congratulated me on the excellent behaviour, enthusiasm and wonderful manners of our children.

We have had a very good roll-up of families to the parent teacher meetings this week. Thank you for supporting the partnership between home and school.

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**Upcoming Events**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gr 3-4 Harrietville Camp</td>
<td>29th Feb - 2nd Mar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hot Cross Bun Orders due</td>
<td>10th Mar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Labour Day Holiday</td>
<td>14th Mar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preps start Wednesday</td>
<td>16th Mar</td>
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<td>school days</td>
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<td>Playgroup - 9.30-11am in the Multipurpose Room</td>
<td>1st Mar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last Day of Term</td>
<td>24th Mar</td>
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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
Ph: 5722 1326
Fax: 5722 2524
MORE STUDENT LEADERS: At tomorrow’s assembly, I will present a further set of badges to some Grade 6 students who are filling special roles this year. The selected members of our Student Voice Team will be Caitlyn Delaney, Andre Roleff and Brodie Watson. Two school captains will join them on this team and they will have a big job this year, helping me to incorporate student voice into our school review process. We will also recognise Bronte Huggins, Lacey Sessions & Janie Patton who are passionate about choir and music performance. These girls will be Cazz Hicks’ Music Monitors this year. Logan Wright has agreed to be my Flag Monitor and is already reliably filling this position. Simon Moffat enjoys organising activities and games and he will be the Lunchtime Activity Monitor, while Emily Doig & Taylor Marshall have applied to be the Library Monitors. We may still need to expand that last group of monitors; it is a great chance for students to demonstrate their skills and to grow their confidence and independence.

AND FINALLY: An outbreak of Measles in Melbourne has prompted the Department to check the immunisation status of all students. If you have not provided your child’s immunisation certificate, please bring it to the office. Families who have not supplied immunisation certificates will receive a letter next week.

If you have a Health Care Card and have not already done so, please call into the office and fill out a CSEF form. Eligible students received $125 credit towards camps, excursions and sporting activities.

Just Kids currently has vacancies for every afternoon after school
Places available for permanent, casual or occasional care. We have friendly qualified staff who provide a safe and happy environment for children.
All activities are fully programmed based on the Early Years Learning Framework - My Time Our place which focuses on child led activities, learning through play.
We provide a healthy afternoon tea.
Just Kids is based in the Multi purpose room at Appin Park Primary School.
We also offer a fantastic School Holiday program & cover Pupil Free Days.
Hours: 3.30pm-6pm for After School Care & 8am-6pm for Holiday & Pupil Free Days.
Costs: $20.00 for After School Care & $45.00 per day for Holiday Care.

By registering with Centre link for Childcare Benefit (means Tested) and Childcare Rebate (not means tested) you can significantly Reduce your costs. Please phone Gina on 5721 4799 or email just-kids@hotmail.com for more information.

University of NSW International Competitions for 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.

Entry forms are available from the school office. Online practice tests are available at www.eaa.unsw.edu.au.
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS
The Appin Park Community congratulates you. Students will be awarded their certificates at Friday’s Assembly

PC  Bentley Mitchell for saying “Good morning”, every day when he walks into the Prep Room and “please” and “thank you”.

P/1B  Brandon Swain for always using beautiful manners in the classroom and for working quietly on his learning tasks.

2R  Charlotte Marshall for showing great enthusiasm during our Writers’ Workshop. She wrote a fantastic long list of all the things that make her happy. Well done, Charlotte!

3/4G  Flynn Carson for always remaining on task and sketching great pictures to go with his pieces of writing.

3/4S  Corey Petersen for his great work in Maths. He is getting lots of good quality work done.

3/4V  Denvey Harris for the excellent attitude he displays when completing all his learning tasks. Well done!

5K  Grace Gregory for the great questions, comments and enjoyment that she showed during our study of the Regent Honeyeater project.

5S  Flynn Twyford for the leadership and initiative he has shown when organising and assisting groups to create their garden projects, as part of our Quest this term. Well done, Flynn!

6A  Amelia Weimer for her consistent attitude and application to her work. Amelia always makes a positive contribution to the class environment and has applied herself well to her studies. Well done, Amelia. Keep up the good work.

6G  Mitchell Huggins for willingly taking on feedback and working hard to improve his reading. His determination to be more successful is very evident.

SPORTS AWARD
Coby Jannenga for his efforts to always perform to the best of his ability. He takes on feedback to improve his skills and is prepared to help others when needed.

Albie Meloury for always listening to instructions and then applying himself in every activity. He takes his time, enabling him to achieve success at everything he does.

Cayden Jackson for challenging himself and being successful at a task that he thought was going to be too difficulty for him. An awesome effort Cayden.

Artist of the Week
3/4S for being the best grade at cleaning up the art room at the end of their session.

Hot Cross Bun Order forms have been sent home with students today.

COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

Mini Roos
Saturday Soccer Competition
Boys and girls welcome - 5yrs - 15yrs
Muster Day: 20th February 9am - 11am
Muster Day: 27th February 9 am 11am
Season Commences 5th March.

WANGARATTA TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION
2016 AUTUMN COMPETITION
Muster Nights : 2nd & 9th of March, Juniors 5:30 p.m. Seniors 7 p.m.
Free Come ‘n’ Try, Learn, Registration and Grading.
Juniors Ages 7 to 15, All New and Past Players Welcomed.
Junior Comp Starts : 16th of March at 5:30 p.m.
Senior Comp Starts : 16th of March at 7:00 p.m.
Where: The Industrial Building, Wangaratta Showground.
(Fast building on the left side as you enter the main gates).
For further information call
Robert (Seniors) : 0407228280, Andrew (Juniors) : 0498954081.
North Melbourne Visit

After dealing with the disappointment of not being able to go to the Wangaratta City Oval for a footy clinic on Tuesday, the Grade 3 - 6 students were treated to a visit from 4 of the Kangaroos AFL players, with the star of the show being Jack Zeibell.

Our students spoke with the players, showing a keen interest in their chosen sport, asking them many questions ranging from their training schedule, nutritional intake, worst injuries, hardest opposition, positions they play and their best BEEP test score (which I think some of our students would be able to match in a few years’ time!)

The visit was only brief but once again our students displayed great manners and interest and it was certainly noted by the players themselves, complimenting them. Robbie Sessions, Flynn Waring, Kade Reynolds, Samuel Mullens and Millie Carson had their North Melbourne gear with them and were able to grab their signatures and a happy snap with them.

Regional Swimming and Little Athletics Competitions

Over the past two weekends a number of our students have competed against many other participants in the O & M Swimming Championships or the Regional Little Athletics Championships.

Results for all of them were very impressive with many personal best performances achieved. There are a number of them who have now qualified to compete at State Championships later this term. All the best to each of them; keep working hard until then and don’t be afraid to leave it all out on the track.

Our swimmers were: Brodie Watson, Georgia Long and Tayah Martens.

Athletes were: Corey Marjanovic, Braeden Marjanovic, Xavier Pitt, Alex Pitt, Josh Sgarioto, Emily Mitchell and Caleb Gilbert.

Saturday Morning Netball

I will be sending home a note with any student who is interested in playing Junior Netball this year. There is a Net Set Go program for the Prep - 2 students, which will be held on Friday nights (4.30 - 5.30pm), a Net Set Go program for the Grade 3/4 players conducted on Saturday mornings between 11.15 - 12.00 as well as the Junior competition, also held on Saturday mornings (competition begins on Saturday 16th April). The cost for all players will be $119.00, which is the only cost that they pay for the season. The Net Set Go players will each receive a participation pack, which is included in the cost.

We will also require coaches, team managers and umpires for each of our teams. We cannot enter teams without names filling these positions so please either put your hand up to help or you may know of a reliable person that would like to do one of these jobs.

Music News

Grade 6G have been comparing music from different times and places and performed an African song at assembly last week.
The grade 5/6 kids quest this term is to design and beautify the back of the B.E.R. So far we have had lots of parents that have donated their time and lots of supplies. We would like to say a big thank you to all the parents that have helped us and we hope for more help in the upcoming weeks.

Written by Harvey Moore and Emma Vickery.