Hello everyone

**Upcoming Events**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8th Mar</td>
<td>Playgroup - 9.30-11am in the Multipurpose Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th Mar</td>
<td>Hot Cross Bun Orders due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th Mar</td>
<td>Preps start Wednesday school days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th Mar</td>
<td>APPA Meeting Staffroom 6.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14th Mar</td>
<td>Labour Day Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24th Mar</td>
<td>Last Day of Term</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Volunteers are needed for head lice checks on Friday 4th March. Please meet at the school office at 12.00pm if you can help.**

**Prep Parents Information Evening - tonight in Room 1, 6pm-7pm.**
Topics include take home readers, daily classroom routines, what makes a good lunch, what you can do at home together. Child minding available.

**FUN AT CAMP:** I really enjoyed the time I spent with the Grade 3/4 children and their teachers yesterday, up in such a beautiful location, and with perfect weather. The children had a great time; playing together and challenging themselves to try new things. Their last day's activities included either fishing in the small lake near the camp, or building cubbies with the aim of making them waterproof. The teachers and education support staff spoke very highly of their behaviour and confidence in managing two nights away from home, and working together to make the camp fun for all. These experiences become lifelong memories and it was great that all our students attended the camp.

**PREP/1 INFORMATION SESSION: TONIGHT 6-7pm.** All prep/1 parents are encouraged to attend this evening's session in Room 1. It is also a great opportunity to ask any questions that may have arisen in the last couple of weeks. See you there.
Wangaratta District Swimming Sports

On Tuesday, 4 Grade 5/6 students competed at the District Swimming Championships held at the Wangaratta Olympic Pool. They enjoyed the perfect weather for these sports: sun shining, warm water and fast conditions.

Georgia Long swam well in her 50m breaststroke event, swimming a personal best time. She also swam in a 50m freestyle event. Samuel Mullens extended himself by competing at this level, racing in the 50m freestyle and breaststroke boys’ event. Although not placing in the top three, his times were very comparable to the rest of the field.

Grade 6 students Alex Pitt and Brodie Watson swam strongly in their events. Alex won his freestyle event and placed 3rd in his breaststroke race. Brodie placed 2nd in breaststroke and 4th in backstroke. They have both qualified to compete at the Regional event to be held in Shepparton, next week.

These four students then combined to swim in the 12/13 year old open relay events. Even though they were swimming against older competitors they certainly held their own, just missing out on a placing in the 4 x 50m freestyle relay event. In the Medley relay they were able to swim some strong legs but were unable to hold on to the fast pace of the overall race.

Well done to each of our students for their efforts and all the best to Alex and Brodie for their next event. Thanks also to the parents for taking the students to the event and supporting them in each of their races.

Wendy Martin (PE Coordinator)

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.

GREAT ART WORK: Next time you’re at school, take time to pop into the office and have a look at the gorgeous self-portraits done by Preps in the art room recently. This has been the focus of lessons in the art room, with students (P-6) creating their own self-portrait. At the end of their Grade 6 year, children are presented with a collection of these portraits; tracking their artistic and physical development through primary school.

Another project about to start is where all children draw themselves and these pictures are printed on a tea towel that will be available for purchase. The tea towels picture the whole school and make a great memento for students and a special gift for Nana on Mothers’ day.

MEANWHILE, IN GRADE 6: As I passed through this morning, Grade 6 students were just getting started on a spelling activity. They were being challenged to work as a group to come up with a six letter word that they could then use the letters of, to generate as many other words as possible. The choice of the starting word is very strategic and takes a bit of thought and negotiation.

AND FINALLY... On behalf of Grade 3/4 students, I’d like to say a very big thank you to their teachers: Chris Vescio, Andrew Storer & Andy Grant, along with our Education Support team: Julie Saunders & Trudee Seymour, and also to Wendy Martin for the care and planning that went into giving the children such an enjoyable camp experience this week.

Wendy Larcombe
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS
The Appin Park Community congratulates you. Students will be awarded their certificates at Friday’s Assembly

PC  Jasmine Harris for being a caring and encouraging friend to everyone in Prep C. Jasmine is always ready to help out and does so with a big smile. Well done, Jasmine.
P/1B  Darcy Weeks for always trying his best with all learning tasks and doing so with a smile on his face!
1/2E  Aimee Prior for making a very successful start to her Grade 1 year, and for trying extra hard to make her handwriting neat, well-shaped and the right size.
2R  Cameron Sgario for the outstanding sportsmanship he displayed in 1/2 sport. He was encouraging, supportive and put in 100% effort!
3/4G  Ben Feldtman for doing an excellent job on camp of building dam walls in the creek to help with the tubing.
3/4S  Cayden Jackson for showing improved confidence and great getting along skills at camp.
3/4V  Lucas Ormand for the resilience, confidence and enthusiasm he showed at camp. This was a big challenge for Lucas, and he showed that he can do it!
5K  Jade Haebich for showing persistence during our ten pin bowling sessions. It is great to see Jade always smiling, having fun and trying her hardest.
5S  Chris Carmody for always using his time wisely when completing a given task. Congratulations on making the most of your learning time, Chris!
6A  Deegan Kennedy for the great start he has made to 2016. Deegan has been applying himself well to his studies and has been making excellent strides in maintaining a positive attitude towards his work, his peers and his teachers. Well done, Deegan. Keep up the good work!
6G  Andre Roleff for being a wonderful student who respects his peers. Andre is accepting of all learners and their abilities and is always willing to help out those in need.
Mrs Mata: Corey Marjanovic for the positive and enthusiastic attitude he has with his reading. He is using a combination of reading strategies to problem-solve words and is making excellent progress.

SPORTS AWARD

Hannah Snowdon for the support and encouragement she shows to her peers. She willingly assists them when needed and gives positive feedback about their performance.

Emily Mitchell for listening carefully to instructions, enabling her to be able to complete all activities to a very high standard.

Emma Vickery for completing all fitness tasks with more confidence, great intensity and sound technique.

APPA HAPPENINGS
Hot cross bun order forms and money are due back by Thursday 10th March. Next meeting: Monday 7th March, 6.30pm in the staffroom - all welcome.

Community Notice Board

Could you be a permanent care parent?
There are a number of children supported by the Department of Health & Human Services who require a family for life as they are unable to live with their birth families. We are seeking committed and motivated people who would be interested in learning more about providing a permanent family for a child. Assistance payments are made to the Permanent Care family to assist with the day to day expenses of caring for a child/young person. Assistance payments are considered to be a reimbursement for expenses and not an earned income. We are also keen to speak with families who are particularly interested in caring for children aged between 5 and 10 years.

Information sessions: Tuesday 15th March 2016 at 6:00pm Department of Health & Human Services 43-47 Rowan Street, Wangaratta

For further information contact: Adoption & Permanent Care Program: 5832 1500