

Appin Park News

LEARNING
FOR LIVING
I SHOW RESPECT
I AM RESPONSIBLE
I CARE

14th October, 2021

Save the Date

October

15 Year 5/6 students at school
19 & 20 Year 3/4 students at school
21 & 22 Year 5/6 students at school
26 All students at school

November

29 Student Free Day

December

17 Last Day of Term 4

Hello Everyone

It has been wonderful to welcome back our grade 3-6 students this week, albeit just for a couple of days each. The link to request for onsite supervision is available for next week, via compass and Facebook. We are very aware of how challenging these last couple of weeks are for families juggling children at school on different days, however minimising the chance for transmission of covid is one of the keys to being able to open up fully, along with increasing vaccination rates. We appreciate those who are able to keep students learning from home where possible. As you can imagine it is also a massive challenge for our staff who are teaching remotely and face to face this week and next, as well as preparing learning packs and providing supervision. They are nothing short of incredible and I certainly thank and appreciate their flexibility and commitment to continuing to provide learning programs throughout all the lockdown periods.

Learning Packs

Students in grades 3 and 4 will have taken home learning packs to work through on Thursday, Friday and Monday when they left school on Wednesday. Students in grades 5 and 6 will take a learning pack home on Friday afternoon for working through Monday-Wednesday next week.

Thank you to the families who have taken up the opportunity to engage in parent teacher conversations this week. We hope that you have found them a good opportunity to ask questions and share information about your child. If you have not yet taken up the opportunity, please don't hesitate to contact classroom teachers to make a time for a phone call.

Covid Safe Measures – as per Victorian Government Health Advice and Education Department guidelines

Masks - Face masks are required for students in Year 3 to Year 6, only when indoors on school premises, unless an exception applies. We appreciate this may be challenging for some of students and take some getting used to, we shall work with our students to support them with this change. Thank you to those families who are already adhering to this measure and providing their children with a mask for school. This measure is mandated from Monday 18th October. Exceptions for all year levels include:

Students with a physical or mental disability are not required to wear a face mask where their disability means it would not be suitable.

Vaccinations - The Victorian Chief Health Officer has determined that COVID-19 vaccination will be required for staff who work in schools from Monday 18th October. This includes: all teaching and support staff, casual relief teachers, student placement staff, School Council members and any parent volunteers including APPA members.

Non-Essential Visitors - We strongly encourage that students be picked up and dropped off via the drive through or front and back gates to avoid non-essential visitors onsite and therefore less congregating of adults from different households.

Wellbeing activities and conversation starters for parents of primary school-aged children



Student Health and Wellbeing

As mentioned in my recent Dojo and Compass messages we are well aware of the different needs and behaviours arising from our students in relation to wellbeing. The link below takes you to a parent information booklet titled, "Wellbeing activities and conversation starters for parents of primary school-aged children". Within it there are a range of activities for different year levels, that will help build and maintain your child's wellbeing. Most of them are short and require very few materials. The activities cover six key elements that are important to wellbeing. There are also activities that focus on positive thinking and gratitude as well as breathing exercises that promote calm. These focuses compliment the conversations and activities that students are undertaking in classrooms upon their return.

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/parents/family-health/parents-wellbeing-activities-primary.pdf>

Fiona Carson - Principal



FROM THE JUNIORS



Junior Unit Quest

This term the junior unit are studying "How Living Things Change". They have some visitors to their rooms - hermit crabs, meal worms, snails and spiny leaf insects!

Online Safety Basics

Help your children safely navigate their digital world and educate them to avoid harmful online experiences.

Explore websites, games, apps and social media together and set some rules. Your support and guidance can give your children the confidence to make sound decisions online — and ask for help when they need it.

1. Be engaged, open and supportive

- Get involved. Share online time with your children as part of family life. Play games together. Talk about favourite apps, games or websites.
- Keep lines of communication open. Ask about their online experiences, who they are talking to and whether they are having any issues.

2. Set some rules

- Set age-appropriate rules for devices and online access, with consequences for breaking them.
- Ensure your child's input – this will help them understand risks. As they get older you can review your rules together.
- Consider creating a family tech agreement where you all agree how technology is used in your home

3. Use the available technology

- Get to know the devices you and your children use and set them up for privacy and online safety. Take advantage of parental controls to monitor and control screen time and access to content in ways appropriate to your child's age and experience.



City Colts Under 12's Come & Try—Muster Day.

When: Monday 18th October

Time: 4.30-5.30pm

Where: Barr Reserve, Cricket Nets.

If you are aged 9, 10 or 11 and are interested in playing cricket this season, come along and meet the other players and see what cricket is all about.

Woolworths Cricket Blast!

City Colts Cricket Club will be running Woolworths Blaster cricket program for season 2021/22.

Junior Blasters is for cricketers who are either just starting out or have done only a season or two. It is suited to Prep-Grade 2 and is a fun session where everyone learns cricket skills and plays plenty of games. Master Blasters is game based and is for children who have played for a couple of seasons but are not quite ready for underage junior competition.

Both sessions run on Friday nights from 5.30pm at the Bill O'Callaghan Oval (Barr Reserve) under the direction of a Level 1 accredited coach. First session will be on Friday 22nd October.

Register via Playcricket.com.au, enter Wangaratta as location and select City Colts as the centre. For more information contact: Ross Moore 0409 186 640 or rmmoore@esc.net.au