

Appin Park News

LEARNING
FOR LIVING
I SHOW RESPECT
I AM RESPONSIBLE
I CARE

29th July, 2021

Save the Date

All events are to be confirmed.

September

- 8 School Athletics
- 16/17 Junior School Sleepover
- 17 Last day of term

Welcome Back everyone!

Once again it was great to see all our students return to school yesterday. We are hearing that the thing our students are missing the most through these bouts of remote learning are their friends and the opportunity to play. Given this, classroom teachers are planning to make sure there are many extra opportunities for conversation with friends, activities that encourage sharing and turn taking and games and puzzles that require teamwork.

Thank you to all our families who supported your children through the home learning period. We acknowledge the challenges it present and appreciate your support. Please continue to keep in touch and if there is anything we can do to help let us know.

COVID restrictions

Please note the follow restrictions apply until further notice:

- Face masks must be worn both indoors and outdoors when you leave the house unless an exception applies, this includes on school grounds.
- Please use the drive through or front gates when bringing children to and picking up from school.
- All adults entering the school site must check-in via the QR code at the office or entry gates, please do not go to classrooms.

Parent Teacher interviews

These have been rescheduled for Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th August for all grades, except 3/4K (an alternative time will be arranged when Mr Kerlin returns). Bookings will be open from tomorrow (Friday). They will be held via WebEx meetings or phone as arranged by classroom teachers once a booking has been made. Bookings will close next Friday, 6th August.

School Improvements

As many of you will be aware we have moved into our new office/admin and staff room space. More importantly Mrs Vescio and our Foundation students have moved into their beautiful new classroom. We look forward to being able to show everyone around when we are able to welcome you back onsite. Meanwhile our school council have been working hard to begin planning for other improvements around our school, including painting through the corridor in the main building, new pin boards, repairs to the multi-purpose room, concreting, a verandah outside the office and a new sand play area (when the ground dries up a bit more). We will keep you updated as these improvements take place.



Fiona Carson - Principal

Certificate of Recognition

**Grace O'Keefe* **

APPA PIE DRIVE

Pie Drive order forms have been sent home today. Please return forms to school by Wednesday, 18th August for delivery on 25th August. Please contact the office if you need another form. Orders can be returned with students, via the school email and/or paid for using Eftpos (Please indicate this on the form. We will contact you if paying this way).





Do I have to go to school?

Yes, in Victoria everyone aged from 6 – 17 has to go to school.

Missing one day a fortnight is the same as missing 4 whole weeks of school a year. From Foundation to Year 12 that adds up to 1.5 years of school!

School is better when you attend. Your friends and your teachers notice that you are away and wonder if you are OK.

Do my parents need to let the school know if I'm going to be away?

Yes. Your parents need to notify the school of your absence as soon as they can within three days of your absence. If they know you are going to be away, they should try to tell the school before the day or days you are away.

If you're away from school too much and don't have a reasonable excuse like a serious illness, your parents might get a letter from the principal asking about why you're away.

Are there any good reasons to be away from school?

Unless you are sick or there is an event like a funeral, you should be at school. Every day you are away is a day of classes and social connection you miss out on. Taking a day off for your birthday or go shopping isn't a good reason to miss school.

Even medical and health appointments should be made either before or after school or during the school holidays. This includes family holidays. Your parents are encouraged not to plan holidays during the term but to organise these during the school holidays.

If I'm not at school, what do I miss out on?

You miss out on all the big stuff – class discussions and all the interaction that happens in a classroom, the chance to get help from teachers and the opportunity to practice skills and gain knowledge.

Being away means you might miss out on a lot of learning or that you need to catch up in your time.

If all of that isn't enough to convince you to be at school every day, being away also means you also miss out on playing with your friends. Being away from school a lot can be lonely. It has a big impact on relationships and social connections.

Believe it or not, everyone wants you at school and it really is better when you attend.

What if I'm having problems getting to school?

Getting to school on time everyday can be about having a good routine. If you find yourself running late or missing school because you're disorganised, try:

- Asking your parents for help getting ready
- Having a set time to go to bed
- Leaving all technology out of your bedroom
- Packing your school bag the night before with everything you need
- Having a set time for breakfast
- Planning to meet up with a friend so you can travel to school together.

Sometimes, though it can just be hard to go to school. You might feel overwhelmed by the work or things might be tough with your friends. Maybe you don't feel safe at school or you really dislike a teacher or things at home aren't great. Perhaps you're feeling down or anxious and don't even really know why.

Whatever the situation is, staying away from school isn't the answer. Many people want to help you - try talking to your parents or a trusted teacher.