NEWSLETTER: Term 4 Week 11
From the Principal’s Desk

Many thanks
I would like to thank the executive team, Karen Sellick, Vanessa Mozayani, Ruth Goldstein, Karen Hunt, Katie Corcoran and Tara Silverstone for the wonderful job they did in leading the school while I was on leave. Leadership positions provide new opportunities to learn and share, but they are not without their stressors. Many staff and parents have commented on how well this group rose to the challenge while I was away. I was certainly able to relax, as I was confident the school was in good hands.

Final farewells
Parents and community are welcome to join us under the COLA at school tomorrow at 3pm to farewell Year 6 and those leaving the school, as they ring the old bell for the last time.

Uniform shop
Uniform Shop will be open tomorrow morning (Wed 17/12) from 9am till 9:30am. Uniform shop will also open on Friday 23rd January 2015. Please check the school facebook page and ‘Skoolbag’ app for the times.

A final word or two…
I would like to thank the staff and community for the honour of receiving an Osgood Award at Presentation Day. I was especially humbled by the reaction of the audience. I leave Appin feeling well loved and appreciated. Thank you just doesn’t seem enough to sum up the huge bulb of gratitude that is in my heart. Leading Appin PS has been a huge honour and privilege. I, like everyone else, have learnt a lot along the way. In my job you have to make many decisions and I was always guided by a strong ‘moral compass’ and made decisions that I believed were in the best interest of students. With the benefit of hindsight, perhaps I would do some things differently, but few of us have a reliable crystal ball. Sometimes things are done for all the right reasons, but circumstances conspire against you, and the plans made don’t yield the result you hope for. I have always tried to model respectful behaviour and I hope staff, parents and students always felt they got a fair hearing, even if in the end we disagreed.

I will not miss some of the routine admin work or fights with DEC over maintenance issues, but I will miss the staff, parents and students of Appin. I have spent a decade building relationships in this community. I have helped many through various personal crises and this has been reciprocated by staff and community when I have struggled with the death of my mum and other issues. I will take away many wonderful memories and lifelong friends from my time at Appin.

Please look after and appreciate the wonderful teachers and your new principal. I have worked with many teachers during my career and I can assure you that you will not find a more cohesive, caring and dedicated group of educators anywhere. They are amazing! Be confident that your children are receiving a great education, delivered by people who really care.

Finally, I would like to congratulate all students of the learning gains they have made this year. I can promise that if you keep ‘striving to improve’, you will! It is persistence and effort that succeed. Being brilliant is not enough, indeed it isn’t even necessary. What is critical however, is the belief that you can succeed, and the determination to continue, even when things are hard.

Please stay safe and enjoy Christmas with your families. I hope you get a chance to recharge your batteries and do something you enjoy.

Best Wishes for the future
Vicki Walsh

IMPORTANT: Please return Permission to Publish Forms
Last week a new consent form went home seeking permission to publish photos of students. All forms must be returned to school. Please assist us by returning this note. If you have not received a copy, please ask for another note at the office!!
Important Dates 2015: Please cut this out for the front of the fridge:

Term Dates for 2015

Term 1:
27th Jan   Staff return to school
28th Jan   Students years 1 to 6 return Wednesday
28th & 29th Jan Kindergarten Best Start assessments (see individual appointment time)
30th Jan   Swimming Carnival Yrs 3-6
2nd Feb     Kindergarten students return Monday
2nd April   Term 1 ends

Term 2: Students return 21/4/2015 to 26/6/2015
Term 3: Students return 14/7/2015 to 18/9/2015
Term 4: Students return 6/10/2015 to 16/12/2015

School Security 24 hour hotline: 1300 880 021

2015 Classroom Requirements

Below is a guide to what each year group will require for 2015. This may help you prepare over the holiday break. Please note that all Stage 3 students will be provided with a 2015 student diary.

Kindergarten:
- 1 large scrap book (covered)
- 5 Bostik Blu glue sticks (large) for class use
- 1 old oversized t-shirt (for painting)
- 1 display folder
- 4 packets of whiteboard markers (Faber Castell/Staedler)
- 1 plastic zip envelope for home readers
- 1 school library bag for home readers
- 1 library bag for library books
- 1 boxes of tissues
- 1 document wallet
- 1 bottle cream hand wash
- 1 small whiteboard eraser

Years 1 and 2:
- 3 Bostik Blu glue sticks (large) for class use
- 5 Bostik Blu glue sticks (large) for class use
- 2 boxes of tissues
- 2 packets x 12 colour pencils (please leave in packet)
- 1 paint shirt
- 1 A4 64 pg books for homework (covered)
- 1 roll of paper towel
- 1 A4 64 pg books for homework (covered)
- 1 library bag
- 1 pack of connector textas (12 only)

Years 3 to 6:
- 4 lead pencils – HB
- 1 soft white rubber
- 1 x 128 page A4 exercise book for homework (covered)
- Dictionary and Theasaurus (optional)
- Pencil case no larger than 15cm x 30cm
- 4 Bostik Blu glue sticks
- 2 boxes of tissues
- 1 x 30cm ruler
- 2 red ballpoint pens
- Coloured pencils
- Scissors
- Paint shirt (recommended)
- Sharpener
- Library bag
- 4 x document wallets
- 4 packets of whiteboard markers (Faber Castell/Staedler)
- 1 pack of highlighters
- 4 blue ballpoint pens (fine to medium)

Years 4 to 6 only:
- 4 blue ballpoint pens (fine to medium)
- 1 black felt tip pen
- NO WHITE OUT

Years 5 and 6: An additional display folder for Peer Support

Term 4 Reminders and Diary Dates

17th Dec     Last day of school for students + Farewell Ceremony for Year 6 leavers at 3:00pm
17th Dec     Farewell for Mrs Walsh at Appin Pub 3:45 till 5pm
19th Dec     Last day for staff

The staff at Appin School wish all our families a happy and safe Christmas. Enjoy your holidays!!!