Update of Enrolment Data: Each year we will be asking all parents not only to update your emergency contact details but also information about your current occupation and educational qualifications. We need correct contact phone numbers and emergency contacts so that, if your child becomes ill or is injured at school we are able to contact you quickly. We need information about your occupation and educational qualifications as the Department of Education is using this information to decide how much support each school needs. It is very important that this information is accurate and kept up to date, as issues such as rising unemployment in the community will significantly affect the level of resources our school receives. The higher parents educational qualifications and occupation, the less additional funding the school will receive.

Please help us by returning the sheet sent home today as soon as possible. If you need assistance in identifying your occupation group please contact the school. All information provided will be treated confidentially.

Early Action For Success: I have received information in the last week that our school is going to receive considerable additional resources to improve our students’ literacy and numeracy outcomes. This support will include additional money for Professional Learning and additional staffing to assist in mentoring teachers to further build their capabilities. We are very excited about the potential of this initiative and are delighted that our school will have these additional resources for the next 3 years.

Play Group: The Benevolent Society will be holding its first Play Group for pre-schoolers and their parents in the Canteen Hall next Monday from 9:15 till 11am. I hope this service will provide wonderful opportunities for our local pre-schoolers to play and learn and also for parents to meet. This is a free service – just bring along a piece of fruit to share!

Year 6 Farewell: This year the school will coordinate the fundraising for the Year 6 Farewell. Teachers are planning one fundraiser per term and the money from Canteen Red Food Days will also be used to support the Year 6 Farewell. Any shortfall in funds will mean that parents will be asked to make a co-payment to cover the cost of their child attending the Year 6 Farewell. This will enable me to ensure that staff focus remains on teaching and learning rather than fundraising.

We have used Appin House for many years and we felt it was time to collect information about alternatives so parents could decide if they believe they are getting value for money. It is our intention to survey students as well as parents and staff about the venue for the Year 6 Farewell and to use this information to make an informed choice about the venue. We felt this was a more inclusive way of making a decision, as many parents are not able to attend committee meetings.

Zone Swimming Carnival: I would like to wish those swimmers who are representing our school at the Zone Swimming Carnival the very best of luck tomorrow. I am sure they will give their best and demonstrate the wonderful behaviour and sportsmanship that we are so proud of.

Woolworths Earn and Learn: Last year parents provided wonderful support to our school by collecting their Earn and Learn Stickers and sending them in to school. Yesterday our school took delivery of some wonderful new Maths resources. On behalf of the children at Appin PS, many thanks to parents and Woolworths for your support.

Good Guys School Dollars: If you need to purchase an appliance and you decide that the Good Guys offers the best value, don’t forget to ask for your School Dollars. Fill out the details on the back of the School Dollars and send them to school. We then save them and are able to use them to ‘purchase’ resources for our school. This year our school has already received a free ipad from the Good Guys by redeeming the Good Guys vouchers collected by our families.
Child Protection Workshops: Today all classes took part in a 40 minute Child Protection workshop.

Anti Bullying Message: On Friday 21st March our school is taking part in the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence. There are resources online to assist parents to reinforce this important message. We teach students that everyone has a role in stamping out bullying. The approach that deals with the ‘bully’, the ‘bystanders’ and the ‘victim’. The nature of bullying is that it usually takes place in such a way that it is difficult for staff to detect. If your child believes they are being bullied it is important to encourage them to report this. If you feel it hasn’t been resolved please contact the school so we can work together to support your child.

Unfortunately the term bullying is often used to refer to any conflict or disagreement between peers. I have included below an extract from Department of Education and Communities policy that defines bullying as:

Bullying is repeated verbal, physical, social or psychological behaviour that is harmful and involves the misuse of power by an individual or group towards one or more persons. Cyberbullying refers to bullying through information and communication technologies. Bullying can involve humiliation, domination, intimidation, victimisation and all forms of harassment including that based on sex, race, disability, homosexuality or transgender. Bullying of any form or for any reason can have long-term effects on those involved including bystanders.

Conflict or fights between equals or single incidents are not defined as bullying.

Professional Guitar & Keyboard Tuition at School: An external provider has contacted the school to offer professional guitar and keyboard tuition to students in the Canteen Hall AFTER SCHOOL, starting in Term 2, 2014. The program is run by Music Stars.

- Caters for all grades & music levels
- Group guitar and keyboard tuition for weekly 30 minute sessions
- Guitars and keyboards supplied for use during lessons

Registrations Close Soon!
Please register online via [www.musicstars.com.au](http://www.musicstars.com.au) Fortnightly and monthly payment options are available. If minimum numbers are not met the program will not be able to run.

More Information: If you require more information or would like to discuss the program in more detail please contact Music Stars directly using the information below.

Phone: 1300 889 179
Email: info@musicstars.com.au

News from the Eco-Committee
The Eco-Committee and garden club have partnered up and will be working on existing gardens and creating new gardens around the school. We will be running a ‘Garden Express’ fundraiser to fund this project. The Garden Express Fundraising organisation will give 50% of the profit to the school, if the school community orders bulbs to a total of over the value of $200.

We have sent a catalogue home with the newsletter for you to look through. If you are interested in purchasing any bulbs, please take your order to the office before Friday 28th of March 2014. In the unlikely event that the bulb has sold out, Garden Express will send the closest possible match. Orders will be distributed in Term 2.

If you are able to donate plants for our gardens, please contact Ms Kiddle or Miss Turhanlar.

Thank you for your support. Miss Turhanlar

Awards
Gold:   Tess McEvoy-King
Silver:   Tess McEvoy-King, Laeisa Kumar
Bronze:  Hannah Deering, Eliza Brady, Lauren Foreman, Nick Jr Constantin, Cherysh Flexman, Cooper Bridge, Mackenzie McEvoy-King, Blake Nonenmacher, Charlize Beattie,
Student of the Week:  KB Ethan Matthews  KS Brady Wilson  1M Ayden Caruana
1/2L Leonardo Difazio  2/3M Allyssa Barry  3/4P Rhys Haeren
3/4T Ellie Hodges  5/6C Casey Thompson  5/6M Ebony shearer

School Song: The ministers have come up with an idea for a school song. They are holding a competition for the lyrics. All you need to do is write the best lyrics to an Aussie tune (ie: Kookaburra sits in an old gum tree or True Blue). The best lyrics, decided by the staff will become our school song. Please give your ideas to Ms Mozayani by Week 10.
ICAS University Competitions – Return entries by 28th March

ICAS provides an opportunity for all students in Years 3 to 12 to gain a measure of their own achievement in an external testing situation.

This year Appin Public School will participate in the following competitions:

The entry fees per student are as follows:

- Computer Skills – 20 May 2014 ($8.00)
- Writing – 16 June 2014 to 20 June 2014 ($17.00)
- English – 29 July 2014 ($8.00)
- Mathematics – 12 August 2014 ($8.00)

Notes have been sent home to Primary students. Please return the permission slip with entry fee by: **Friday 28th March 2014** if your child is interested in participating. **No late entries can be accepted.**

Change of details for the DISCO: To help raise money for the Year 6 Farewell, we will be holding an Infants and a Primary social disco for students of Appin Public School. We hope you can all enjoy the great night and help support our fundraising efforts!

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION:** So that we know how many students are attending the disco, we will now be collecting entry fee before the disco. Please return the slip below with your $5 payment to the office before 21st March.

The disco will be on **Wednesday 9th April**

- **Time:**
  - K - 2: 4:00pm – 5:30pm
  - 3 - 6: 5:45pm – 7:45pm

- **Tickets:** $5.00 per child for entry and a bottle of water (**Payable at school by 21st March please**)

- **Where:** Appin School Hall
- **Theme:** 80’s and 90’s

For sale on the night: iceblocks, chips, glow sticks.

**Hot dogs are available to order for the disco.** If you would like to order a hot dog, please return the order form below to the office by Friday 21st March. If you are able to assist in any way, please return the note below or contact the school office.

**IMPORTANT:**
- This disco is for CURRENT students at Appin PS. Pre-schoolers and siblings may not attend
- Students will not be permitted to leave the hall once they arrive. Parents must collect their children from the hall.
- After School Care will operate from the small (Canteen) hall on the afternoon of the disco.
- School rules and standards of behaviour will apply.

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**Disco Entry Payment and Hot Dog Order Form**

- **Name/s:** ________________________________  **Class/es:** ____________________
- **I am attending the school disco and have enclosed $5.00 entry fee.**
- **I would like to order _____ (number required) hot dogs. (Hot dogs $3 each)**

I have enclosed a total of $_______ as payment.

Please return order form by Friday 21st March 2014

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**CALLING FOR PARENT HELPERS**

CAN YOU HELP WITH THE DISCO? If you can, please fill your name in the job position that you can do and return to Mrs Corcoran or Ms Mozayani by **21/03/2014**.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Job</th>
<th>Your name and contact number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Purchase hot dogs, hot dog rolls and serviettes before the disco.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase drinks and chips before the disco.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Help set up &amp; decorate the hall.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepare the hot dogs at the disco.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sell food at the disco.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Help pack up the hall.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Thank you for your support! Mrs K Corcoran and Ms V Mozayani
Multicultural Program – (Last chance to return Expression of Interest note!!!!): We are hoping to be able to run a multicultural creative arts program called Cultural Infusion at our school next term. Parents are reminded to return their ‘expression of interest note’ by Wednesday 12th March so we can gauge the level of community support for this program before booking it. Please return this note TOMORROW!!!! If you haven’t already done so.

Cultural Infusion Expression of Interest

Child/ren’s name: _______________________________________________________________
Class/es: _______________________________________________________________________

Please tick appropriate box:

I am willing to pay the fees for the multi-cultural day of $20 per child

I do not want my child to participate in the multi-cultural day

I would like my child/children to participate but I would need financial assistance

Parent Signature:_____________________________________Date:_____________

P&C Agenda for Tuesday 25th March 7pm School Library: The topics that will discussed at the P&C meeting for March will be: Allocation of P&C funds, Market re-instatement, Uniform/ Hair ties, and we also may get updates on how the School will cope due to Walkers development. Please come along and have a tea/ or coffee, have a chat and a laugh while becoming more informed about your school. If you would like add to the agenda please email me brett.nat3@bigpond.com

P&C News: P&C are requesting donations for the Easter Raffle. If you are able to donate an Easter Egg, Choc Bunny etc towards this raffle please have your child take it to their class teacher. The class that brings in the most donations (by weight) will receive a reward of 15 minutes free time at the end of a lunch break and an ice block from the canteen. The raffle will be drawn the last day of term (11th April) during our ‘Kids Matter’ launch. (Details will follow). Tickets will be sent home shortly. They are $1 each or 3 for $2. Please return all tickets and money to school by Wednesday 9th April. Thank you.

Reminders and Diary Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12th Mar</td>
<td>Zone Swimming Carnival (Campbelltown Pool) + Expression of interest note due for Cultural Infusion Day + Issue 2 Bookclub orders due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18th Mar</td>
<td>Regional Swimming Carnival (Campbelltown Pool)</td>
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<tr>
<td>27th Mar</td>
<td>School Photos – All students must have returned their envelope</td>
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<tr>
<td>28th Mar</td>
<td>ICAS University competitions entry due + Aussies of the Month presented at assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Apr</td>
<td>Mini Reports home</td>
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<td>3rd Apr</td>
<td>Mufti Day - Kids of Macarthur – Details to follow</td>
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<tr>
<td>8th Apr</td>
<td>Parent/Teacher Interviews</td>
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<tr>
<td>9th Apr</td>
<td>School Disco – (Hotdog orders and entry due back 21st March)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10th Apr</td>
<td>Year 6 T-shirt order due</td>
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<tr>
<td>11th Apr</td>
<td>Last day of Term 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>28th Apr</td>
<td>Staff return for Term 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>29th Apr</td>
<td>Students return for Term 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd May</td>
<td>Cross Country Carnival and Fun Run</td>
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<tr>
<td>16th May</td>
<td>Year 5/6 Camp deposit and note due</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Appin Playgroup

A fun new Playgroup for families with children from 0—5 years

Where?  Appin Public School
         Main Road, Appin
When?  Monday’s 9.15 a.m.—11.00 a.m.
Cost?  Free
What to bring?  A piece of fruit to share, a drink for your child, hat and sunscreen
What Activities?  Craft, Puzzles, Songs, Stories & School Readiness Activities

For more information about the Appin Playgroup
please call Charmaine on 0437 382 440
or
The Benevolent Society
Camden Office on: 02 4651 4000