NEWSLETTER: Term 1 Week 8
From the Principal’s Desk

National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy: It is important that all students in Year 3 and Year 5 take part in the NAPLAN assessment next term. These assessments will take place between 13th May and 15th May. Friday 16th May is set aside as a catch-up day for students who miss a test due to illness.

Students DO NOT need to study or practice for these assessments. Teachers use them to help identify what students can do independently, so it is important that their performance is an accurate reflection of their learning. Students who perform poorly (in the bottom 2 skill bands) receive additional follow up support to address their areas of need.

Supervision Before School: A reminder to all parents that students should NOT be at school before 8:50am unless they are booked into Bright Sparks Before and After School Care. There are no teachers on duty before 8:50am and students are at risk if left unsupervised in the playground. Please ensure you have in place appropriate arrangements for your child’s care.

Homework Club: We recognise that some families don’t have access to a computer that children can use to do their homework and sometimes homework can turn normally happy households into a war zone. If this sounds like your experience, then help is at hand. We are trialling a VOLUNTARY homework club on Thursday and Friday mornings from 8:50am till 9:20am. A teacher will collect students who are interested in taking part from the seats under the COLA at 8:50am. Students will go with the teacher to the Library, where they will get support. We hope this initiative will help both students and parents.

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.

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. 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 up to date. Could all families please return the green sheet sent home last week by Monday 24th March.

Swimming Congratulations: I was delighted to hear that the students who represented our school at the Zone Swimming Carnival demonstrated excellent sportsmanship and behaviour. All students gave their best and our boys and girls relay teams were successful in going through to the next round of competition today. Ethan Ross and Mackenzie McEvoy-King are also representing in 50m events. Good luck! The Junior Boys Relay Team (Zach Thompson, Alec Rochaix, Aaron Stonebridge and Ethan Ross), The Junior Girls Relay Team (Gemma Brittain, Lauren Goodall, Elisha Hampson and Ayla Costello), Ethan Ross (50m Freestyle) and Mackenzie McEvoy-King (50m Freestyle).

Play Group: The Benevolent Society held its first Play Group for pre-schoolers and their parents in the Canteen Hall yesterday from 9:15 till 11am. I am sure that those who attended had a great time. 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 each Monday!
**Uniform:** Kirsten, our P&C Uniform Shop Coordinator has advised that there have been a few issues with our new uniforms. If you have any problems with uniforms purchased, please let Kirsten know, so she can follow up concerns with the supplier.

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**School Photos Thursday 27th March 2014**

The photographers will visit our school on Thursday 27th March 2014. Envelopes were sent home a couple of weeks ago with students. Parents wishing to purchase these photos are asked to return the envelopes with payment to the office before photo day. **Each child needs to have their own envelope on the day to have their photo taken.** Please take advantage of the online payment system now available. If paying by cash, correct money must be placed in the envelope or a note to say that the money is in oldest child’s envelope. Packages are available from $34.00. Family photos (students at school only) will be taken upon request. **Family envelopes are available from the office.** Special photos will be taken of Ministers, Sport Captains, Band, etc. These photos will be displayed at the office and will be available for parents to order at a later date.

Please make every effort to ensure that children wear correct full SUMMER school uniform on this day. Our new green school shirts (larger sizes) should arrive this week!!

Please note class photos will have names of children as they appear in the photo. If you do not wish your child to be included in the class photo or to have their name included, please let the office know.

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**DISCO Entry to be paid by 21st March – THIS FRIDAY PLEASE!!:** 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.

**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
Awards
Silver: Lauren Foreman, Aaron Stonebridge, Evlyn Booth, Casey Thompson
Bronze: Aaron Stonebridge, Evlyn Booth, Beau Tones, Keahna Kumar, Jett Smith, Holly Bridge, RJ Connor, Jera Thomas-Gearsdie, Riley Coulter, Jack Bexterman, Paige Jenart, Ebony Shearer, Casey Thompson

P&C News
Easter Raffle - 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 were sent home last week. They are $1 each or 3 for $2. Please return all tickets and money to school by Wednesday 9th April. Thank you.
P&C Meeting- 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 Thank you. Natalie Shearer; Secretary

Stewart House: We are hoping to support Stewart House once again this year. Stewart House provides ongoing support to disadvantaged children in NSW. If you would like to make a donation, please return the envelope sent home today, clearly marked with your child’s name and class to the office by Thursday 11th April 2014. Donations over $2 go into a draw for a fantastic Family Holiday, valued at $4000. Thank you for your support.

Aussies of the Month: Presented at the assembly on Friday 28th March.

CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL 2014 SPONSORSHIP PERMISSION NOTE

I give permission for my child/ren:

____________________________________ of class ______
____________________________________ of class ______


to participate in the adidas Fun Run Sponsorship program to raise funds for Appin Public School. I understand that it is my responsibility to adequately supervise my children’s out-of-school fundraising. I have agreed to return my child’s sponsor sheet forms along with all proceeds raised.

Signed ___________________________________________ Date ______________

8 Easy Steps to our Fun Run Fundraiser:
1. Return your signed permission note for a sponsorship form.(Included in this newsletter)
2. Once given your sponsorship form, find sponsors and record details on your sponsor form.
3. Complete the Cross Country run on Friday 2nd May and have your teacher sign or stamp your sponsor form. (This acknowledges participation)
4. Collect all sponsor money owing to you. (Write your total on the form)
5. Select a prize from the appropriate category. (Write your prize selection on the form)
6. Return your sponsor form and money to the school office by Monday 19th May 2014.
7. Once all sponsor forms and money have been returned to school our prizes can be ordered.
8. Delivery is usually three to four weeks.

Thank you for your anticipated support of our Cross Country Fun Run Fundraiser for 2014
SHOWBAG DAY!
Wednesday 2nd April 2014

PLEASE PRE-ORDER BY 31st MARCH TO ENSURE YOU RECEIVE YOUR ORDER….

Your awesome pack in our special showbag consists of the following choices:

- 5 Chicken Nuggets **OR** Cheese Pizza
- Packet of Jumpies
- Apple Popper
- Wicked Fizz Chew x 2

All for the fantastic price of $6 with a donation made to the school for each bag sold. Please circle the following and return to the canteen by 31st March 2014.

**Canteen Order - 2nd April 2014**

Name:____________________ Class:__________ 5 Chicken Nuggets **OR** Cheese Pizza
Name:____________________ Class:__________ 5 Chicken Nuggets **OR** Cheese Pizza
Name:____________________ Class:__________ 5 Chicken Nuggets **OR** Cheese Pizza

I have enclosed a total of $_________________($6 per order)