Welcome to Week 3 and eleven very settled and happy classrooms. We were thrilled to meet our 49 Kinder students last Tuesday morning and as well as reminding everyone just how cute Kinders can be, they are quickly learning school routines. I am so proud of our Year 6 students who are being outstanding buddies to two Kinder students each by eating lunch with them daily and guiding them to their lines after our play breaks. Congratulations and thank you Year 6!

Starting school
Starting school and changing schools can sometimes be an anxious time for both students and their parents. Every parent wants their child to have a friend and for everyone to like their child. The secret is to give this process some time. Teachers and students need to get to know each other and build rapport. This will not happen overnight but gradually over the next few weeks. Students need to get to know how we do things at Appin Public School. Our expectations are related to our school rules of:

• Be safe
• Be friendly and respectful
• Be resilient
• Be a learner

Our focus for the first half of this term is to “be friendly and respectful”.

If you are worried....
For our first time school parents who are a little anxious, think of your child’s teacher with the following in mind. Try to remember the last time your child had a birthday party and how you felt trying to manage half a dozen children, get them fed, entertain them and stop them jumping all over the furniture or disappearing. I’m fairly sure you were exhausted at the end and only after a couple of hours!

Teachers are required to manage the needs and behaviours of around 20-30 students on their own for 6 hours each school day as well as teach them numerous very important skills and be accountable for how well each child progresses academically. So.... as a gentle reminder to anxious parents, please be patient, be understanding and don’t read anything in to a teacher asking your child to put a lunch box away or keep their hands and feet to themselves as anything other than a simple request to manage and teach children our expectations. Parents too need to be resilient.

If at any time you have a concern of any nature please make an appointment to speak with your child’s teacher. Little concerns can be quickly rectified with the teacher rather than having them escalate. Please always remember teachers are professionals and we take our jobs as educators extremely seriously. We wish to build a partnership with you to ensure your child receives the very best education possible.

Dates to Remember:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10th Feb</td>
<td>Campbelltown Performing Arts High School Information Evening</td>
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<tr>
<td>12th Mar</td>
<td>Assembly - Swimming ribbons presented</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15th -18th Feb</td>
<td>FREE Dental Check - Please return permission notes</td>
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<tr>
<td>17th Feb</td>
<td>Meet the Teacher Family BBQ 5pm to 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>23rd Feb</td>
<td>P&amp;C AGM 7:00 pm</td>
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<td>Ambartour 5.30pm to 7.30pm</td>
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<td>26th Feb</td>
<td>Assembly - Class names explained!! February Aussies of the Month presented</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Mar</td>
<td>Walkathon - 2pm to 3pm (Start finding sponsors now!!)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4th Mar</td>
<td>Clean Up Australia Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>17th April</td>
<td>Memorial Ceremony - 200th Anniversary of Appin Massacre 11am - 3.30pm Cataract Dam Picnic Area</td>
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P&C AGM - 23rd February 7pm
All positions on the P & C committee will be declared vacant and it would be great to have all positions filled on the night. The positions to be filled are: President, Secretary, Treasurer, Fundraising & Uniform Shop.
Everyone is welcome to come even if you don’t want to fill a position. Even if you are new to our school or have never been before, please come along and see how the P&C contribute to our children. The P&C meet on the 4th Tuesday of every month at 7pm in our school library. It is a great way to get involved in ways to help our school, meet new people and to be informed of things coming up. Hope to see you there!

Welcome to School BBQ
We are holding a “Welcome to School” barbecue on Wednesday 17th February from 5-7pm in our school grounds. This will provide a relaxed and friendly opportunity for parents and teachers to meet each other; however, it is not an opportunity for a one-on-one interview. These will be offered later this term. Sausages sandwiches and cold drinks will be available to purchase quite cheaply. Please return the slip below to assist us with catering for the event.

Welcome BBQ
Family Name..................................................
Number of family members attending......................

Walkathon
Our school is holding a Walkathon to be held on Tuesday 1st March 2016 from 2-3pm. This is a major fundraiser for our school providing much needed additional funds to lay quality artificial turf in the large area surrounding the metal picnic tables under the shade cloth area.
Students will walk around part of our playground as well as some paths and gardens around the classrooms. Parents will be most welcome to join us as we walk our laps.
Today students will be issued with a sponsor sheet to start obtaining sponsors. A good way to gain sponsors and sponsorship money is to have parents take this sponsor sheet to their workplace. An iPad mini will be the major prize for the student earning the most sponsorship money. There will also be a “popcorn and movie at school” prize for the class earning the most sponsorship money, $50 vouchers for the K-2 and Years 3-6 student earning the most sponsorship money and many other incentive prizes as well for students who return their sponsorship money in the first three weeks following the Walkathon's completion.

Working with Children information sessions
We welcome parents who have time to assist us at school in any way such as reading in classrooms, changing home readers, assisting with sport, covering books or sharpening pencils.
If you plan to volunteer your time this year in any capacity at our school, it is a mandatory requirement that you attend an information and training session at school and complete a “Working with Children” check.
Two of these sessions will be held in order to accommodate busy schedules. You only need to attend one session. These will be held on:
• Tuesday 16th February 2016 at 9am in our Library
• Thursday 25th February 2016 at 2:15pm at school at a place to be confirmed

Covered Walkways
During the school holidays Walker Corporation enabled funding for covered verandahs and walkways to connect our classrooms. Our students will now be able to walk from any classroom to anywhere in our school under cover. An added bonus is that our demountable classroom now has a large 4 metre verandah that has greatly reduced the temperature inside for students and teachers in our hot weather. Our gratitude goes to Peter who completed all of this building to a very high standard.

Anaphylaxis
Just a reminder to all parents not to send foods containing peanuts and egg to school, because we have students with severe and potentially life threatening allergies to these foods.
It seems that almost all food packaging these days contains the warning ‘may contain traces of nuts’. It is NOT NECESSARY to exclude these foods from school. Only foods which list peanuts/peanut oil as an ingredient are of concern. Foods such as cakes, which have egg as an ingredient, are OK, but we ask that you avoid sending egg sandwiches or whole eggs. Those who support us in maintaining a safe learning environment for all students by complying with our request not to send foods containing peanut or egg, send a powerful message to their own children. You demonstrate that you care about others, upholding one of Australia’s most important values- mateship.
Appin has always been a school where we care for, support and encourage each other. I look forward to seeing the continued demonstration of these wonderful attitudes.
Student of the Week
Seoul – Ava Matthews
Sydney – Olivia North
Melbourne – Sophia Hansen
Mexico – Joshua Booth
Tokyo – Lily Melville
Rio de Janeiro – Erin Still
Beijing – Hannah Deering
Moscow – Allysia Barry
Athens – Matilda Peer
Barcelona – Jayden Cook
London – Patrick Mannix

Important Newsletter Information
• The newsletter can be viewed on the school website (preferred option):
or skoolbag App
• For your convenience, the newsletter can also be emailed to you as an attachment each
  Tuesday. Send your request to:
  appin-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au if you would like to
  be included on the newsletter database.
  WARNING: Please consider this option carefully,
as we cannot guarantee the privacy of your email
  address. If an error occurs, there is a
  possibility of your email address being viewed by
  other recipients in the newsletter database. (Just
  one wrong click of the mouse is all it takes!!) If this
  concerns you at all, it would be advisable to view
  the newsletter via the school website and not have
  it emailed. Although every effort is made to ensure
  your privacy is maintained, unfortunately human
  error can occur.

Don’t forget to label your child’s belongings
You can:
* use a permanent laundry marker to label clothes, hats and shoes, or sew or
  iron on personalised labels
* go through your child’s bag with them each night
* check that labels haven’t faded with washing
* if something doesn’t come home, ask at the office where your school’s lost
  property area is.

Appin Waratahs Netball Club looking for more players.
We are still taking registrations for this year’s season. Looking for players for
our 8-9yr, 10yr and 12-13yr teams.
Fees only $100 for 5-9 years and $160 for Junior players for the full year.
Registration forms need to be completed this week.
Please contact Karen Foreman 0423 095 495 for all enquires. Rego forms can
be collected from Karen at school.

Campbelltown Performing Arts High School Information Night
Parents and Year 7 students 2017 are invited to an information evening on 10th February at 6pm at CPAHS.
Applications for audition can be found on the school’s website www.cpahs.nsw.edu.au or collected from Appin Public
School office. Closing date for applications is 26th February 2016. Contact CPAHS on 4625 1403 for further details.

Ambarvale High School - Tour
Parents and students of Years 5 and 6 are invited to attend the 2016 Ambartour. Discover what your local High School
has to offer!! All welcome.
Details: Tuesday 23rd February 2016, 5.30pm to 7.30pm at Ambarvale High School.