Every student succeeding every day

What a great day we all had yesterday at our end of year excursion. The Cobb and Co Museum was a great place too visit with many interesting things to see as well as a number of interactive displays. Many students enjoyed the energy display and realised how much energy was needed to make an incandescent light-bulb work as compared to a LED. Bowling was a highlight with some students taking on the staff and challenging their bowling abilities, we all know someone has to come last and this award came to me.

I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on 2016 and what a fantastic year it has been for Glen Aplin School. Some of the highlights for me, as a Principal, include the fantastic efforts of students in NAPLAN with all students reaching National Minimum Standards in literacy and numeracy and particularly the improvement of our Year 3 and 5 students in reaching the Upper Two Bands. Our attendance has improved significantly in 2016 with all students above 85% attendance, well done everyone. We have also had some great sporting achievements throughout the year.

With only a week of school to go it is important to look back on the year and see all the successes we have had this year and continue to think about how we as a school will continue to improve. I am looking forward to a fantastic 2017!

Hot Weather

Above average temperatures are expected for the coming days, in fact the weather bureau predicts the temperatures could be as much as 10 degrees above average. Could you please ensure that you send a water bottle to school with your child as we will allow these to be taken into the classrooms to ensure students are drinking enough water. It would also be a good idea to put an ice brick into your child’s lunchbox to keep their food cool, a frozen popper works well for this as it is an ice brick and a drink!

Christmas Cards

This time of the year many students bring Christmas cards to school and some also bring candy canes to give to others. This is a very nice gesture, however we are asking if all students could please hand their Christmas cards to their class teachers in the morning and we will allow them to hand these cards out at the end
of the day. If you could ask your child to do this it would be greatly appreciated.

**Swimming Carnival**

Next Monday the 5th December students aged 9 (born 2007) - 13 (born 2003), will compete at the Granite Belt Small Schools Swimming Carnival. This carnival is designed to promote participation and students are encouraged to enter either 25m or 50m races. Students are encouraged to wear togs under uniform to the event and to bring hat, lunch and morning tea, water bottle, towel (a spare is always handy as towels get quite wet). Students are able to wear thongs or sandals on this day. A canteen will operate, however students are not permitted to buy lollies or soft drink form the canteen. **This is a regular school day and students are expected to attend, if your child is unable to compete it is expected that they attend school and provide a written reason as to why they are unable to compete.** A bus will depart school at 8:50am, parents may also take their own children to the pool.

**End of Year Dates**

Thursday 1st December - Year 6 Graduation Dinner at Happy Valley  
Monday 5th December - Granite Belt Small Schools Swimming Carnival 9-12 year olds.  
Tuesday 6 December - Year 6 Orientation Day SSHS  
Wednesday 7th December - School presentation night at Glen Aplin Hall  
Thursday 8th - Fun day. Report cards sent home.

**Year 6 Graduation Night**

Thursday December 1 (tomorrow night) the Year 6 Graduation dinner will be held at Happy Valley. We meet at 6pm for a 6.30pm start.

**End of Year Presentation Night**

This year we will be holding a formal presentation night at the Glen Aplin Hall to acknowledge our school and students achievements throughout the year. This will take place Wednesday 7 December and will commence at 6:30pm. Students will need to have dinner before they attend. All students have been learning some dances for this event. Could all families please provide a plate for a shared supper after the presentation concludes? **This is not a BYO event.** A bar will open after presentation of awards, the evening will conclude at 8:30 pm.

**School Accounts**

Payments can be made by cash, cheque, bpoint (details on statement) or direct deposit into account.

**Head Lice**

Please check your child’s head regularly for head lice. If head lice are found, please treat promptly and regularly until you have found no lice for some days. If you require any more detail on treatments available, some do not involve expensive chemicals, please contact our office or see your local chemist.

**Awards**

The following students have received awards for following our school expectations of being Safe, Respectful, Responsible and a Learner: Phoenix, Louella, Thomas, Shakira, Emily, Zali, Brodie, Hayden, Bailey, Megan and Haley.

**Christmas**

We will be having a small Christmas tree set up in the library. Instead of giving presents, we are asking students - if they wish - to donate a small non-perishable item of food which will then be passed onto The Pantry, a local group who supports needy families. Donations will be collected next Wednesday 7th December.

**Library Books**

All library books should have been returned to the library by now. If you find a Glen Aplin book at home, please return it to the school!
**Chess**

*School League*
Well done to Max who narrowly won the Grand Final of the 2016 Senior League. The top 7 of the Junior League are currently playing off in their finals this week. Congratulations to Nick who is Chess Player of the Week.

Mr Huckins will take the final chess training this Friday.

*Granite Belt Chess*
Senior A team swept to victory against St Joseph’s A in the final of the GB Chess tournament on Friday. Senior A only lost one game the entire season and were pleased to be presented with the Shield again. All players in this team played last year in either the winning team or in the 2nd placed B team. Senior B, though even on points with St Joseph’s A, played off to gain 3rd place against Greenland. A fabulous result for both our competitive teams in 2016.

Senior C (our extra team) won 8/8 games
Junior A team won 5/8 and drew 2.
Junior B: team won 7/16 and drew 4.
Junior C won 14/16 games.
Junior D played Junior A in a friendly, then some students from Amiens and Severnlea as a team was missing on the day.

Thank you to the parents who transported; Mrs Zanatta, Mr & Mrs Walters, Mrs Dot Hill and Mrs Amanda Smith.

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**Positive Behaviour for Learning - PBL**

*I am Respectful……*

*When I show whole body listening!*

Our school expectations are: I am Safe, I am Responsible, I am Respectful, I am a Learner.
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STREET STALL—next WEDNESDAY, 30th November 2016
We need more donations for our Christmas Hamper/Multidraw Raffle. If you haven’t already done so, would you kindly consider donating an item such as Christmas decorations, small gifts (such as soap, photo frame, candles, gardening items), vouchers or store bought Christmas baking.

Thank you to everyone who donated to the street stall today!

STANTHORPE SHOW 2017 3/4 February 2017 - Thank you for the great response to helping at the 2017 Show. We will keep you informed as to whether we are successful in our tender.

Booklist Packages for 2017 - There was a huge response regarding interest in the booklist packs. Sharee will be working on sorting out the booklists in the coming weeks.

P&C Collection Box — There is a green P&C Collection box in the library. Please use this box for P&C notes and NOT the Red Box. Thank you.

Next P&C Meeting — TBA

Important Dates

- Mon Dec 5 GB Swim Carnival (9-13yrs only)
- Tues Dec 6 Yr 6 SSHS Orientation Day
- Wed Dec 7 6:30pm Presentation Night @ Glen Aplin Hall
- Fri Dec 9 Last day Term 4

Our school expectations are: I am Safe, I am Responsible, I am Respectful, I am a Learner.