



APPLETHORPE STATE SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER ISSUE 03

FEBRUARY 20TH 2026

Principal's Message



Badge Presentation Ceremony

Our School Leaders Badge Presentation was held last Wednesday with Mr James Lister MLA in attendance to present school leadership badges to the students. Our Year 6 students also received their Senior Shirts at this ceremony.



A large contingent of parents and family members also attended and stayed on to enjoy morning tea with the students and staff.

Back to School Boost

Thank you to those parents who have returned their forms indicating where these funds can be spent. Please return any outstanding forms as soon as possible so these funds can be applied to individual student accounts.

Swimming Lessons

Permission forms for swimming lessons have been forwarded and need to be returned to the school by Wednesday 25th February. Lessons commence in the Week beginning 2nd March. Years 3-6 will go on Mondays and Prep-Year 2 students will go on Wednesdays. The bus cost is \$5.00 per lesson per student. Back to School Boost funds can be used for this activity.

NAPLAN Tests

Year 3 and 5 students will undertake the Naplan Tests from the 11-13th March. If required, make up tests can be administered up to the 23rd March. All Year 3 and Year 5 students are expected to undertake these Australia wide tests. Parents seeking an exemption from these tests are asked to contact their child's teacher as soon as possible.

Apple & Grape Festival

Applethorpe will be participating in the Festival Parade on Saturday 7th March along with all other schools in the Granite Belt. We would like all students to march in the Parade to represent our school. Full details of the school's participation will be provided closer to the event.

PLD Learning

Yesterday morning, I had the pleasure of observing the wonderful Prep students learning their phonic sounds and word structure with Mrs Butler. Their work in the classroom was truly amazing and I look forward to visiting all classes over the Term to see how well the students are progressing with the Program.

P&C News

The P&C **Annual General Meeting** will be held on Tuesday 10th March commencing at 7pm. The P&C Uniform Shop will be open on the 3rd Thursday of each month from 2:30-3pm. Parents are asked to confine their uniform requirements to those days.

School Sport

Due to a lack of nominations for the school cricket and softball competitions, these may not go ahead this term which is very disappointing. A modified competition for both sports is being negotiated with a number of schools. Our school **Cross Country** event will be held on the last day of Term-Thursday 2nd April.

Staff News

To enable teachers to access their Non Contact Time, Mrs Goodwin will be replaced by Mrs Jamieson on Tuesday and I will be taking Mrs Cannon's class next Thursday.

Kind regards
Martin Hodgson
Principal

Applethorpe APPS

Good Manners

Accept Responsibility

Respect for Others

Pride in our Work

Pride in our School.

2026 AIP Focus

***PLD implementation**

Coming Events

February

March

2nd —Swimming commences

7th—Apple & Grape Parade

10th -P&C AGM

Community Notices

Blue Light Flyer



School Attendance Rate -96.3%

Containers for Change

Scheme ID: C10134953

Please quote this number when redeeming recyclables to raise funds for our school!



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APPLETHORPE STATE SCHOOL

Prep News - Mrs Butler

The bright star of our week was our Letter P, 'Pink and Purple Party' today. Such fun and so many cute activities were enjoyed by all. Thanks to parents for the lovely food you sent along for our shared morning tea.



On Wednesday we loved watching the Year 6 School Leaders receive their badges and we are so glad they will be excellent role models for our young students. It fills me with great pride to have watched our Year 6's journey, from Prep, to being the capable, kind young adults they have matured into.

We are continuing our exciting study of living things during our Science lessons and this week we focussed on what Preps need to stay alive and thrive. Students drew and shared with the class the names of the very special people who make up their family.

Miss Adela in her 'Fun Friends' lessons is helping students understand their feelings and regulate their emotions. They are also learning ways they can make new friends.



Our study of number to 10 is zooming along and all Preps are amazing at making CVC words using SATPIN letters.

We have completed our terrific turtles for T week. This required lots of cutting expertise and fine finger control gluing on shapes to make a wonderful turtle shell.

Wishing you a fantastic week.

Year 1-2 News - Mrs Goodwin

We've had a wonderful and engaging fortnight in our classroom, filled with creativity, exploration, and hands on learning!

Visual Arts

Students have been creating vibrant *hand pattern art*, using their hands as the outline and decorating them with colourful patterns and designs. Their artwork is bright, detailed, and a great celebration of their individuality.



HASS

In Humanities and Social Sciences, students have been discussing *toys from the past*. We explored how toys have changed over time and compared them with the toys children enjoy today. Students loved sharing what they know and imagining what life was like for children many years ago.

English

We are continuing to develop our *sentence writing skills* by focusing on capital letters, finger spaces, full stops, and writing clear, meaningful ideas.

Mathematics

- **Year 1:** Students have been practising *counting to 50* and using *MAB blocks* to represent numbers. They are building a strong understanding of tens and ones.



Year 2: Students have been learning about *sides and corners of shapes* and identifying *parallel lines* in 2D shapes and in the world around them.

Shoebox Donations Needed

As we prepare for an upcoming **science project**, we kindly ask families to donate **clean, empty shoeboxes** if you have any spare at home.

All donations are greatly appreciated and will help support our hands on learning activities.



APPLETHORPE STATE SCHOOL

Year 3-4 News - Mrs Gasparin/Mrs Cannon

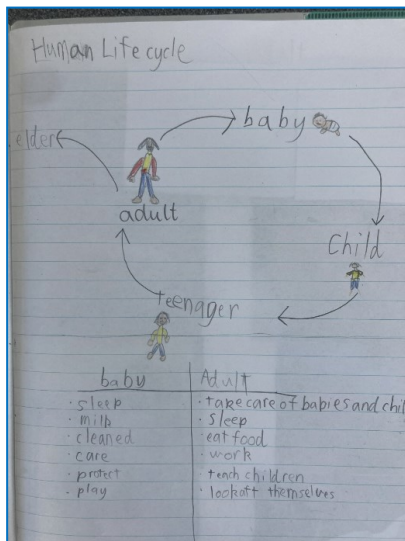
The students have continued to come to school with a positive attitude to learning. They have approached all tasks with confidence and pride. They should be proud of how they are completing their homework, writing tasks and their maths work.

In English the students have continued to explore literary devices like onomatopoeia, alliteration and hyperbole. They have been finding these in texts and writing their own examples, they are very funny. I wonder if your child can remember some and share them with you.

In Maths, the students have concluded their study of mapping. They all did very well. It was an enjoyable topic to learn about. They were able to map their classroom, get up and pace out their directions. The Year 4 students learnt about symmetry and rotational symmetry. They were experts by the end and were able to find and create their own patterns and shapes with rotational symmetry.

In Science, Year 3 and 4 continue the exploration of life cycles, including the human life cycle and animals and their young.

This links to our questions in Design about what food is grown in Stanthorpe and how agricultural technologies are used. Both Science and Design is proving to be an engaging topic, and the students are asking great questions and making connections to push our learning forward.



Today in Science, students investigated how animals use camouflage to survive in their environments and examined the structural adaptations of plants that enable them to thrive in different conditions.



In Visual Arts we began planning artworks for the upcoming Apple and Grape Parade. Our Uluru artworks are complete and ready to be displayed. Make sure you drop in and view these incredible works!



Leadership Ceremony



Year 5-6 News - Mrs Favaro

Congratulations to our Year 6 students who were presented with their leadership badges and senior shirts on Wednesday at our School Leaders Badge Presentation Ceremony. We look forward to their contributions to the school as they step into their leadership roles for the year ahead.

This week in HaSS, students explored the values demonstrated through the actions and behaviours of Peter Lalor on the goldfields. We compared Australia's democracy with the values of our own school community.

