



HOLMWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Principal: Jenny Lewis

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Term 1 Week 2 – Week Ending 8th February 2013

Teaching Position

This week the selection panel for the teaching position was finalised and the advertisement will be on the Jobs@DET website from next Wednesday. Applications will close on Wednesday 27th February with interviews to follow. Thank you to the staff and P&C who both nominated representatives to be on the panel. Thank you also to John Smith, Principal of Mulyan, who assisted with merit selection panel training.



Cowra Small Schools' Swimming Carnival

This year's Cowra Small Schools' Swimming Carnival will be held **NEXT** Wednesday 13th February, with the alternate date being Wednesday 20th February. It is hoped that all children are able to attend the carnival! Please note that parents will be required to transport their children directly to and from Cowra Pool. We will have the large Holmwood PS shade tent set up for families to sit under and cheer on our students as they compete. There will be events and activities for children of all swimming abilities, including plenty of games for our non-swimmers. Please find a program and canteen menu attached to this week's Newsletter.

Parent/Teacher Information Evening



Mrs Kiely, Mrs Benett and I would like to invite parents and carers to a combined Parent/Teacher Information Evening to be held **this evening** from 5:30-6:30pm. During this time we will briefly discuss how

our classes will operate this year, including homework expectations, opportunities for parental involvement, class routines and timetables. Thank you to all of those parents who have indicated they will be coming tonight – we look forward to seeing you there!

School Newsletters

What a fantastic effort from all families last week on returning all permission notes and Newsletter folders. Your speedy return of information to school is greatly appreciated by Mrs Bayl!



Library

Could parents please ensure their child/children have a Library Bag for borrowing. Library day for **all classes** will be every **Thursday** with Mrs Watt.

School Swimming for Sport



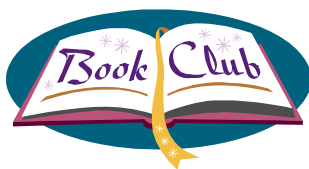
We will start school swimming for sport in Week 4 and will continue through until the end of Week 8 with our annual swimathon. Swimming for Sport will be held on Fridays from 1:45-2:45pm. Children will be organised into swimming groups based on their swimming ability and will be taught by HPS staff and qualified swimming instructors. The cost for swimming each week is just \$1 for the bus trip into town and \$2 pool entry (free if your child has a season ticket). Attached to the Newsletter is a permission note for swimming – please complete and return with to the office with payment.

School Fees

Voluntary School Fees are an essential source of funds for our school, which does not receive any 'extra' funding through Departmental grants. School fees directly cover the costs of student Text Books (Maths, and Handwriting) which the school purchases at the beginning of the year so that we are ready to go from Day 1. As you can appreciate, this is a substantial outlay (around \$2,000), which we need to recoup as soon as possible.

The cost of school fees is \$35 per child for the year.

It would be greatly appreciated if parents could arrange for school fees to be paid to the Office as soon as possible. Thank you.



Book Club

Please find the latest Scholastic Book Club catalogues in your Newsletter folders. All Book Club orders and

payment are due by MONDAY 18th February.

Contacting the School

If parents need to contact the School during school hours when the office is unattended, please phone and leave a message. Messages will be checked during Recess and Lunch times by a Staff member. I will not have a phone in the classrooms when I am teaching as this is extremely disruptive to the children's learning. I also cannot check emails during the school day, so for urgent matters (e.g after school pick-up arrangements), please ensure you leave a voice message on the answering machine. Thank you.



School Website

Our website is up and running again this year. Be sure to check it out at

<http://www.holmwood-p.schools.nsw.edu.au>

Our weekly Newsletters are uploaded each week and our photo gallery is always great to have a click through!

Going Home Arrangements

Just a reminder that if your child has a change to their normal going home arrangements, the school needs to be notified. This can be via a note from home or a phone call. Without parent's consent, Staff cannot allow students to alter their normal arrangements. Your assistance with this is appreciated.

Head Lice

We have had a reported case of Head Lice this week. Thank you to that particular family that notified the school so promptly. Could all parent please check your child's hair for lice and treat accordingly.

Calendar

Term 1 Week 3	
Wed 13th Feb	<i>Cowra Small Schools' Swimming Carnival – Cowra Pool (K-6)</i>
Thurs 14th Feb	<i>Valentine's Day!</i> 
Term 1 Week 4	
Mon 18th Feb	<i>Book Club due</i>
Wed 20th Feb	<i>Alternate date for Small Schools Swimming carnival</i>
Thurs 21st Feb	<i>Cowra District Swimming Carnival – 4pm Grenfell Pool</i>
Fri 22nd Feb	<i>Swimming for Sport Scripture</i>
Term 1 Week 5	
Fri 1st March	<i>Swimming for Sport Scripture</i>

*Kind Regards,
Jenny Lewis
Principal*

Attachments

- Cowra Small Schools' Swimming Carnival Program
- Cowra Small Schools' Swimming Carnival Canteen Menu
- Book Club
- Caritas Fund Raiser Event Flier
- Swimming for Sport permission note

K/1 Class News

K/1 is abuzz with excitement at the prospects of entering a new stage in their life! We are now settling in very well to our new classroom and school routines. We are enjoying meeting new people and are making great friendships along the way.



It has been a very busy week of learning the more formal aspects of education and I too, have also been learning about new ways of helping K/1 best achieve. On Wednesday I participated in Best Start training and will begin assessing students in Week 3. Please

find attached a letter for parents and/or caregivers regarding Best Start.

A quick reminder about this evening

Between 5.30pm – 6.30pm, we have our parent information evening regarding aspects of your child's routines and other useful bits and pieces. It is a wonderful opportunity for you to meet teaching staff and to discuss timetables and other questions that you may have concerning your special child.

So, what has been happening in our week?

Literacy:

This week children have had a bad case of having ants on their arms! K/1 have been revisiting letters and sounds that they know or are learning to know...and this week our letters have been 'a', 's', 'm' and 't'.

We have also been exploring different ways of writing our name. We have used play-dough and even graffiti...but don't despair we only cut out the fancy letter designs of our name and decorated them for our English books!



And of course we have been learning to handwrite and read and write about the things that we are really good at...like jumping on our trampolines!

Numeracy:

K/1 has been visited by a *very hungry caterpillar!* We have been exploring number through patterns and sequencing and also numbering fruit to numerals in our special booklet.

Other cool stuff:

Ask your children about sleeping lions and colourful chameleons and Picasso portraits and, and, and... you'll just have to come visit our classroom to investigate all about these interesting bites!

Useful website of the week:

Starfall - all about abc's, phonics, reading, calendars and much more!

<http://www.starfall.com/>

Kind regards,

Miss Vanessa Benett

K/1 Class Teacher

2/3 Class News

Wow, what a wonderful week it has been! We have settled into our lovely new room, made new friends and started our new units. ...being in the Middle Primary is very exciting! Our class groups are working well together, so it has been a happy and productive start to our new year.



Blake and Mackayla reading with Cheri.



Maths is exciting in our Maths groups with Zsalea, Gregory, Kadan and Mackenzie.



Making new friends and sharing ideas - Katelyn, Lara, Lilly and Harry.

Thank you for assisting your child to be organised for school with his/her class books covered and named. They are proud of their books and feel confident when they are well prepared for school each day. The children are into a daily reading routine in class so the nightly home reading program will now commence. Please encourage your child to read to you each afternoon/evening , please fill in the green record book and return both to school each day in their reading folder. Reading is a special one-on-one time to share together and your time is a precious gift that your child will always remember. The weekly Home Spelling List and Times Tables activity will now come home each Friday and is due before the following Thursday please, ready for each Friday's Morning Quiz.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Deirdre Kiely
2/3 Class Teacher

Just a reminder that Homework is due tomorrow!

Have a great weekend!

Kind Regards,
Mrs Jenny Lewis
4/5/6 Class Teacher

4/5/6 Class News

What a busy week in the 4/5/6 class! We started many of our units for this Term on Monday and are already enjoying "My Place" in English; "British Colonisation" in HSIE; "Masks" in Visual Arts and Place Value in Mathematics.

Thank you to all students for their wonderful behaviour and attitude this week – it is a pleasure to work with such an enthusiastic and motivated class!

We are all looking forward to the swimming carnival next week and to posting our first comments on our new class blog. Thank you to those families who have returned permission notes for their children to do so.

Our class blog web address is <http://jennylewis2000.edublogs.org/>



