



HOLMWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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Term 1 Week 7 – Week Ending 15th March 2013

Western Region PSSA Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to Claire, Abbie and Annelise for a wonderful effort at the Western Region swimming Carnival last Friday. The girls all swam very well, recording some “personal best” times. Thank you to the parents who accompanied the girls to Dubbo and were a great cheer squad!

Swimming for Sport

It should be another wonderful day at the pool tomorrow with sunny skies forecast again! Don't forget to pack....

- Swimmers
- Towel
- Rash shirt
- Sunscreen
- Goggles (if required)
- Plastic bag for wet swimmers to go in.



A reminder to all students that the Holmwood Swimathon is on NEXT WEEK! – All students should be busily collecting sponsorships in order to reach our target of \$2,000.00!!

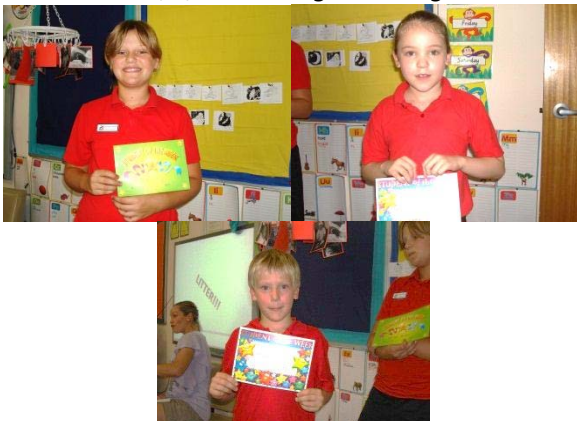
“Students of the Week” – Week 6

Congratulations to our Week 6 Students of the Week!

K/1 – Boston Petty-O'Brien

2/3 – Maddi Sim

4/5/6 – Ashleigh Harding



Well done to Ashleigh, Maddi and Boston!

Week 6 Merit Awards went to the following students;

K/1 – Letitia Layla and Charli

2/3 – Zslea and Miah

4/5/6 – Jarrod, Damien and Kynan

Congratulations to all these students!

Cowra's 2013 “Festival of International Understanding” Window Display

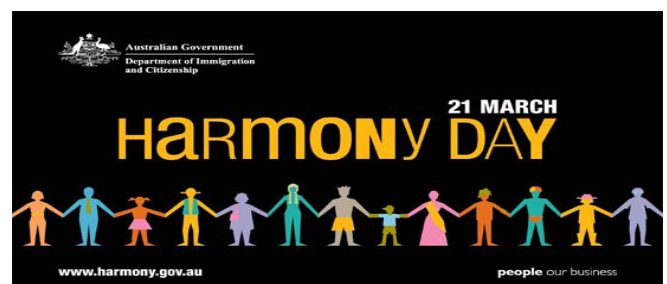
Congratulations to Holmwood PS students on receiving an award for the Schools Window Display competition for Cowra's Festival of International Understanding! Thank you again to Tony Ryan from “Browse Awhile” for hosting our window display!

Combined Schools Hockey Gala Day

Tomorrow is the combined schools Hockey Gala Day! Remember, primary students will be met by Mrs Lewis, Cheri and Mrs Watt at Cowra Public in the morning, and will walk over to the Cowra Hockey Fields for a 10am start. Children will mix with students from the other Cowra primary schools in fun skills-based activities throughout the day, with games to follow in the afternoon. The day will conclude at 2:30pm where students can be picked up from the Hockey fields, or walked back to Cowra Public to catch buses home.

There is no cost for this excursion, however ALL students attending **MUST** have a mouthguard. We have a supply of these available at school for sale at \$5.00. Shin pads are also encouraged, but not essential.

This should be a wonderful day for all who attend and Mrs Watt has been preparing our children for this by focusing on hockey skills in PE over the past few weeks.



Harmony Day!

This year our school will be taking part in "Harmony Day" celebrations. Harmony Day celebrates our rich cultural diversity and this year's theme is "Many Stories – One Australia". At HPS we will be celebrating Harmony Day by...

- Coming to school dressed in **ORANGE** (the 'official' Harmony Day colour) – if you don't have orange clothing – pink, red or yellow are all OK!
- Cooking a traditional Sri Lankan feast for lunch. 2/3 will be preparing the entrée, 4/5/6 will be making the main meal and K/1 will be cooking dessert!
- Sharing a meal together in celebration of Sri Lankan culture – our guest nation for Cowra's Festival of International Understanding.

To cover the food costs for Harmony Day, each child is asked to contribute \$5 for their three course lunch.

If parents would like to assist with cooking activities in any class, please let the school know. Parent helpers are invited to stay and enjoy lunch with the staff and students.

Installation of Solar Panels



Next Monday and Tuesday representatives from Solgen will be at the school to install our new solar panels. Last year we received a substantial grant

(\$33,000) to have solar panels installed in an effort to reduce both our high electricity bills and our carbon footprint. The panels will be installed on the roof of the main building and will occur during school hours, however we will attempt to keep the disruption to the students as minimal as possible.

ICAS Tests

The International Competitions and Assessments (ICAS) tests are run each year through the University of NSW and are available to students in Years 3-6. These are external tests which the school administers. Tests are marked independently and students are given a report and certificate detailing their achievements. ICAS tests are **OPTIONAL** and parents are required to pay a fee if they wish their child to sit the tests. The tests and prices are listed as follows;

ICAS Subject	ICAS Sitting Date	Cost
Computer Skills	Tues 21 May	\$8.80
Science	Wed 5 June	\$8.80
Writing	Mon 17 June	\$18.70

Spelling	Tues 18 June	\$12.10
English	Wed 31 July	\$8.80
Mathematics	Tues 13 August	\$8.80

Please return payment to school by Friday 22nd March.

School Mobile Phone

The school has a new mobile phone. The number is;

0458 422 000

Please be aware this is for **emergencies only**.

Book Club



The latest catalogue from Scholastic Book Club was sent home last week. All orders are due with payment next

Monday 18th March.

Expression of Interest in attending a NSW Government High School – Year 7 2014.

All forms are due back on Friday 22nd March. If you have any concerns or questions about the forms, please ring the school.

Calendar

Term 1 Week 8	
Mon 18th March	Miss Benett – Best Start Training (Mrs Webster K/1) Book Club orders due Mrs Di Watt (School Counsellor) visiting Installation of Solar Panels P & C AGM meeting 7 pm at school
Tues 19th March	Installation of Solar Panels cont.
Thurs 21st March	Harmony Day Celebrations @School – come dressed in ORANGE and send in \$5 for a fabulous SRI LANKAN feast!
Fri 22nd March	HPS Annual Swimathon Scripture ICAS entry forms due EOI to attend a Government High School in 2014 due.
Term 1 Week 9	
Fri 29th March	GOOD FRIDAY
Term 1 Week 10	
Mon 1st April	EASTER MONDAY

Kind Regards,
Jenny Lewis
Principal

Attachments

- Free Toothbrush and colouring in competition!
- Road Safety Guide

K/1 Class News

New! K/1's Joke Juice: Q. Why did the chicken cross the road? A. To prove that it wasn't a chicken!!

Seriously, K/1 can't always be this funny, so what's been cooking?

K/1's Master-Chef Kitchen:

K/1 has been kept healthy and hasn't even caught Monday-itis thanks to our celebrated Chef's - Jo Gregory and Tracey Beaumont. This week in the kitchen with Jo (assisted by the wonderful Nadine Light), we got to make Vietnamese Rice Wraps. A delicious and easy recipe consisting of fresh carrots, capsicum, lettuce, avocado and chicken all wrapped together into a layer of rice paper! For the extra brave there was an added flavour of dipping sauce. We completed our lesson by writing a procedure text type - very tricky, but very clever K/1.



Nadine and Jo get busy soaking rice paper

Tracey rustled a few feathers with her egg-citing range of egg-licious eggs! We measured 3 different types of eggs belonging to the Muscovy duck, Plymouth rock chicken and guinea fowl. We used a measuring tape to measure egg sizes and we used scales to measure egg shell weight. We recorded our results and finally, we drew the yolk after the eggs were cracked! But best of all, we got to taste and compare flavours of the 3 eggs! Eggs-actly - now we're cooking!



Tracey really knows how to get K/1 cracking!

We know that more has been happening in K/1, right?

OUR NEWS! K/1 has been immersed in a variety of cultural experiences this week. We explored Sri Lanka as the guest nation for the Festival of International Understanding and this week's ***OUR NEWS!*** focused on developing further our curiosity in other countries. We had students bring in items that represented their country of interest, like Toby's Vietnamese rice paper, Sascha's English bear and Brodie's amazing artefacts (a jockey's helmet, racing photographs, map and tourist information guide) from Japan! Families, we are so thankful for your continued and ongoing support. You make *Our News!* a top rating broadcast!

Website of the Week: ABC Splash!

<http://splash.abc.net.au>

ABC Splash is a new education website for Australia, packed with 100s of videos, audio clips and games. Totally free to watch and play at home and in school! See volcanos erupt and microbats fly. Investigate fossils, megafires and worm farms. Unwrap an Ancient Egyptian mummy and explore the Great Barrier Reef without getting wet!

Reminder:

Homework is due on Friday, so for all you eager beavers, keep reading those Home Readers until then. ☺

Kind Regards,
Miss Vanessa Benett
K/1 Teacher

2/3 Class News

The children in K, Yr 1,2 ,3,4,5,6 deserve Three Big Bravos for their outstanding efforts in creating a fantastic Sri Lankan display...Prize Winners again this year! The high level of staff enthusiasm and participation was greatly appreciated. THANK YOU again to Lyndon Amos who kindly assists our school with transporting our big display boards. We also appreciate Mr Tony Ryan who enables us to use his shop for our school display...he has great, cheap books too!

In Yr2-3 PD/Health lessons we have been learning about our Human Body and the important functions it performs day in and day out, often without us even knowing!!!! Hence, keeping our great body safe, in all situations, is extremely important as we only get one body and it has to last us a lifetime!!!! Hopefully, a long safe, happy, healthy life.

Please find attached to the newsletter a very important Road Safety Guide for Parents. Please share the important messages with your treasured children to keep them safe.

Our beautiful school grounds look even more like a Holmwood Parkland after the beautiful rain, Garry's mammoth mowing job and our Super Clever Kids Clean-up of any litter around the school. To the absolute credit of the Holmwood Children and Staff the only kid's litter was - one popper, one rice bubble wrapper, one tiny teddy packet and a plastic cheese pack!!!! WOW what an amazing result!!! Unfortunately, the wind often blows rubbish into our yard but we happily pick it up, just as we would at our homes, parks, streets etc. THANK YOU TEAM as we know that we have the most beautiful school and grounds and we all show that we care about our fantastic school.



Today Mrs Nottingham took photos of our beautiful school and school yard to share with her friends. Share in our wonderful week and get ready for the Games Night your child has planned for Friday Night Family Fun Time !!! It is a relaxing way to end the week and start the weekend. Enjoy!! Thank you for your wonderful support.

Mrs Deirdre Kiely
2/3 Class Teacher

4/5/6 Class News

Thank you to Mrs Webster, Mrs Nottingham and Mrs Watt who have taken the 4/5/6 class over the past week. I have been back and forth to Dubbo twice to attend the regional swimming carnivals and the Western Region Principal's conference. After a hectic few weeks it will great to get back into normal routines next week.

Speaking of next week, we are all ready to get stuck into our new Science unit called



"Switched On" which looks at the different properties of electricity. We have lots of experiments to tackle and it should be a really interesting and fun unit!

I am really looking forward to accompanying the primary students to the Hockey Gala Day on Friday. Don't forget to bring your mouthguards, shin pads (if you have some) and lots of water, food and sunscreen! HPS sports uniform is to be worn on the day along with a hat.

Have a great weekend!

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



Library News... with Mrs Watt!

Hello from the Library,
This year, a couple of challenges are taking place in the Library.

Firstly, a friendly competition is taking place between the 3 classes to see which class has borrowed the most books by the end of each term. After Week 5, K1 class is out in front (their lead has slowly been increasing each week!), with 2/3 and 4/5/6 both equal second. Well done to those who have been remembering to bring their library books back. There are some wonderful books to borrow in our Library.

The second challenge is the **Premier Reading Challenge**

All students have been invited to participate in the Premier Reading Challenge. This Challenge aims to encourage a love of reading and to enable them to experience quality literature. It is not a competition but a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read more widely.

To meet the Challenge students must complete a set amount of reading (see table below) by the 1st of September this year.

Challenge	Number of books needed to complete the Challenge	Minimum number of PRC books for your Challenge	Maximum number of personal choice books
K-2	30	25	5
3-4	20	15	5
5-6	20	15	5

The Premier Reading Challenge books that we have in the library will be available for the students to borrow each week. The Library Monitors and I will be busily trying to find the ones we have in each category so there will be a wide range to borrow. Other PRC books may be found at the Town Library or you could possibly have some at home. The entire list of books for each Challenge can be found on this website.

<https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/booklist/home.html>

As stated in the table, a maximum of 5 books that are not on the PRC list can also be read as part of the Challenge.

To experience a book a child can listen to the book, participate in a shared reading of the book or read part or the entire book independently. Independent K-1-2 readers should attempt the 3-4 Challenge books.

Each student will have a Personal Reading Log and each time a book is read, it must be signed by their parent if the book is read at home or by their teacher if it is completed or read to them at school. It will then be entered onto the website and if by the 1st

September, a student completes the Challenge they will receive a PRC Certificate and appear on the PRC Honour Roll.

So, let the Challenge begin!!

Mrs Watt

Librarian

P&C News

The re-scheduled AGM due to be held on the 11th March has been postponed due to the Staff and Laurie being involved in Interviews for the teacher's position on this day. The date for the AGM will be on Monday 18 March at 7 pm.

Karlene Amos

P&C Secretary

FOUND!

One large pink plastic oval plate which was brought in to school last Thursday for our Student Council canteen! If it belongs to you, please call Julie and we will send it home with the rightful owner!

We also have a variety of plastic lunch containers that no one has claimed to date, so if you are missing some please come into the office and check out what we have.