



HOLMWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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Term 1 Week 11 – Week Ending 12th April 2013



Happy Holidays!

*Congratulations to the students and Staff on a very productive first Term at HPS! I am very pleased with the progress of all students in our school and appreciative of the hard work the staff put in each and every day. I hope all families enjoy the two weeks of holidays and come back refreshed and ready for a BIG Term 2! Just a reminder that students return to school on **WEDNESDAY 1st MAY**.*

"Students of the Week" – Week 10

Congratulations to our Week 10 Students of the Week!



4/5/6 – Paige Nestor; 2/3 – Katelyn Judd and K/1 – Igloo Beaumont

Week 10 Merit Awards went to the following students;

K/1 – Sascha and Boston

2/3 – Lara and Lilly

4/5/6 – Victoria and Oliver

Congratulations to all these students!

End of Term School Assembly

Our end of Term Assembly was held this afternoon. Thank you to all those families who were able to come along and watch the student's performances. It is always great to see so much parental support at our end of Term gatherings and the children really love seeing a familiar face in the audience! Congratulations to Year 6 on the smooth running of today's assembly! Photos from the Assembly will be posted on the school website during the holidays.



Thank you Miss Benett!

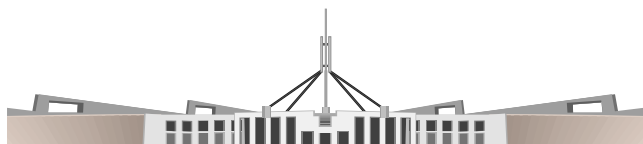
*This week is Miss Vanessa Benett's last week teaching the K/1 Class and I know I speak on behalf of all the students and staff when I say **"Miss Benett – we will miss you!"** It has been a pleasure working alongside Vanessa this Term and the K/1 class are coming along in leaps and bounds, due to Vanessa's enthusiastic and engaging teaching style. Thankfully we will still see Miss Benett's smiling face at Holmwood PS next Term as she will be taking on a casual teaching role, prior to her baby arriving in July. I would like to thank Vanessa for the outstanding commitment she has shown to her teaching role, the contributions she has made to the HPS team and her great sense of humour!*

Welcome Mrs Lynch!

On behalf of the students and staff I would like to extend a warm welcome to Mrs Heidi Lynch, who joins the HPS teaching staff next Term. Miss Benett and Mrs Lynch have had the chance to get together and discuss the K/1 class, as well as hand-over information about each child's skills and personalities so that the transition for the K/1 students is as smooth as possible. It was wonderful to see Mrs Lynch at our Assembly this afternoon and for parents and students to have a chance to say 'hello' before the start of next Term.

Last Day of Term – "Star Wars"!

As is now becoming the Holmwood tradition, the last day of school TOMORROW is an "out of school uniform" day for students. However, as we will be playing a whole school game of Star Wars, children need to wear their joggers as they will be involved in lots of running activities in the morning. I believe the "Princess of Funk" will be in attendance at "Kangaroo Court" following the Star Wars game, so I am sure all students will be keen to impress her once again!!



Whole School Excursion 2013

This year our whole school excursion will be to Canberra in Term 4. The dates are **Monday 6th Tuesday 7th and Wednesday 8th November**. This excursion is for all students from Kindergarten to Year 6 and should be a fantastic experience for everyone! While in Canberra, some of the places we will be visiting include the War Memorial, Australian Institute of Sport, Questacon, the National Botanical Gardens (Night Tour), the Mint, National Exhibition Centre, National Zoo and Aquarium, Laser tag, Mount Ainslie Lookout, Parliament House (Yr 4,5,6) and Cockington Green (Kinder, Yr 1,2,3). We have booked two nights' accommodation at the popular Bush Capital Lodge and are at the point where we need to have some idea of numbers attending.

The anticipated cost for this year's excursion is approximately \$220 per child. This includes bus fare, accommodation, all meals, as well as entry to all attractions. **Please note this price is NOT taking into account any fundraising done by the P&C,** who have indicated that they are very willing to support the excursion in an effort to reduce costs for all families.

To help us to confirm numbers and proceed with our bookings, we require a \$30 deposit for all students attending. Please complete the attached Canberra Excursion Expression of Interest form and return to school with \$30 deposit by the end of Week 3 next term (Friday 17th May).

Parents of Kindergarten children are welcome to attend our excursion as "helpers" and are required to pay for their accommodation, food and entry to the attractions. These costs run similar to the student price. Last year we were fortunate to have Craig and Jo Gregory and Amanda Brooke attend as our helpers and I believe they had just as much fun as the children!! If you would like further information about attending as a Kinder parent helper, please feel free to contact me at school.

Winter Uniforms

Next Term we move into our Winter Uniforms which are long black pants and red jumpers. Julie has a limited supply of winter uniforms in stock. If you urgently require uniforms for Term 2, please send in your **ORDERS WITH PAYMENT TOMORROW** (uniform order attached) so that Julie can place your order **BEFORE** the holidays. If you require a fitting, Julie will

be available to fit uniforms between 9:15 and 10:15am on Wednesday 1st May.

Staff Development Days – Week 1 Term 2

Please be aware that next Term BOTH Monday 29th and Tuesday 30th April will be Staff Development (pupil-free) days. This year the Department of Education has allocated an additional day for staff to become familiarised with the new Australian curriculum which comes into effect next year with the English syllabus being the first mandatory document all staff must comply with. Holmwood PS will host 35 staff from the Cowra Small Schools on Monday 29th April for a professional development day on Aboriginal Pedagogies. On Tuesday 30th April all teaching staff at Holmwood PS will be attending the English curriculum day at Eugowra PS.

All students return to school on Wednesday 1st May.

NAPLAN – 2013

Next Term students in Year 3 and 5 will sit the National Assessments in Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). The dates for this year's NAPLAN tests are;

Tuesday 14th May – Language Conventions

(Grammar, Spelling and Punctuation) and Writing

Wednesday 15th May – Reading

Thursday 16th May – Numeracy

Mrs Lewis will be supervising both Year 3 and 5 students during the testing period. NAPLAN gives both parents and the school a 'snapshot' of where each child is sitting in areas of literacy and numeracy and is a valuable diagnostic tool for teachers. Friday 17th May is allocated as a catch up day if students are absent. We will be doing practice papers next Term to get children familiarised with the testing format and to try and make them feel as comfortable as possible when sitting the assessments.



Woolworths Earn & Learn

Woolworths are running their popular "Earn and Learn" rewards for schools promotion again this year and Holmwood PS has registered for 2013. Earn & Learn points began on Monday 8th April, so if you shop at Woolworths, please collect your stickers and send them in to school, or place them in the collection box at Woolworths.

Don't forget to keep collecting over the School Holidays!

ANZAC DAY

This year ANZAC Day falls during the school holidays. I will be attending the ANZAC Day Community Wreath Laying Service at the Cenotaph in Brisbane Street and would like to invite any Holmwood PS students who are planning on going to the service, to join me in laying a wreath on behalf of our school. Please refer to the Cowra Guardian for details regarding the time of the service. Students will need to be wearing their HPS school uniform. If you require any further information, please call the school mobile – 0458422000.

Calendar

School Holidays 15th April – 28th April

Term 2 Week 1

Mon 29th April	PUPIL FREE DAY – Staff Training in Aboriginal Pedagogies (Holmwood PS)
Tues 30th April	PUPIL FREE DAY – Staff Training in the new Australian Curriculum (Eugowra PS)
Wed 1st May	All students return to school! Mrs Kiely – Interactive Whiteboard Training Day (Miss Benett 2/3)
Thurs 2nd May	Mrs Reidy – Connected Learning Coach in to work with Mrs Kiely and 2/3.

Term 2 Week 2

Mon 6th May	Mrs Kiely Road Safety Training Day (Miss Benett 2/3)
Tues 7th May	Mrs Lewis – Maths Matters Training Day (Miss Benett 4/5/6)
Wed 8th May	Mrs Lewis – Maths Matters Training Day (Miss Benett 4/5/6)
Fri 10th May	Scripture
Sun 12th May	MOTHER'S DAY!

Term 2 Week 3

Tues 14th May	NAPLAN – Language Conventions and Writing
Wed 15th May	NAPLAN - Reading
Thurs 16th May	NAPLAN - Numeracy
Fri 17th May	Cowra Eisteddfod - Choir Deposits due for Canberra Excursion (\$30 per child)

Kind Regards,
Jenny Lewis
Principal

Attachments

- Raffle ticket books
- Uniform order form
- Netball Flier
- School Holiday Recycled Project

2/3 Class News

WOW! What an amazing term it has been in our classroom! For the children and myself it feels like home with our incredible smart board, their magnificent work displays, bulging reading folders and home spelling books completed. The children have completed their Term 1 Assessments with pleasing results and can have a well-deserved holiday! Please continue to enjoy reading and learning to spell new challenging words. Being a Times Tables Whizz comes with daily revision, so please keep up your Tables/ Star Jump Challenge to be ready for Term 2!



Our classroom came to life last week with our 3D Recycled Projects Display. What creative and imaginative students we have in our class, who can convert boxes and bits into robots, human beings, a life size pink flamingo. The children look forward to sharing their creations and ideas at our School Assembly.

We have the Designers and Engineers of the Future in the making...nothing purchased, everything was recycled!!



The Student Council have planned a Whole School Holiday Project, again using recycled items. So please see attached flyer. Autumn Holidays are a great time to be active, creative and enjoy time together. Please have fun and enjoy this Family Activity.

Thank you for another wonderful term and your continued support. Have a safe and happy holiday with your beautiful child.

Mrs Deirdre Kiely
2/3 Class Teacher

K/1 Class News



In our final week for Term 1, K/1 were been brilliantly busily preparing their final work samples and performance for Holmwood Public's end of term assembly. We are just so

calm and collected that although we may have felt a teensy weensy little bit nervous, we are truly awesome at coming together for the big show! For Term 1, 2013 we came together to conclude through celebrations of 'Understanding Ourselves'.

We hope that you enjoy reflecting on K/1's progress as you browse through your child's term folder and see a glimpse of how much they have achieved so quickly. As a classroom teacher, I feel very privileged to have spent this term with the children. They hold so many positive values and are charged with an exuberant quantity of enthusiasm for learning and each other!

And WOW...how awesome are you, the parents? K/1 could not have meshed together so well without your ongoing support. Thank you for meeting the needs of your children. Thank you so much to Jo, Tracey, and Nadine for your parental involvement in the classroom – I will miss cooking with you!

Congratulations K/1, I wish you all the best for your journeys into the future. Thank you Holmwood Public for introducing me to your wonderful community of staff, parents and students.

K/1 have successfully completed a huge Term 1!

Over and Out..

Miss Vanessa Benett

K/1 Class teacher



K/1 with Miss Benett!

4/5/6 Class News

Congratulations to all the 4/5/6 students on a wonderful Term 1! They have all worked really hard throughout the Term and enjoyed all the exciting and interesting units of study. Next Term we have lots to look forward to including the Impact Leadership Conference for Year 6, the Small schools Athletics Carnival, Cowra Eisteddfod, District Cross Country, and Book Fair, just to name a few! I hope all students have an enjoyable two week holiday and come back ready and rearing to go for another busy Term!

Happy holidays!!! See you on Wednesday 1st May!

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

"Watt's happening" with Mrs Watt!

Library News

I am pleased to announce the winning class for the Library Class Challenge for Term One, i.e. the class that borrowed the most books for the term. **Congratulations to the wonderful K/1 Class!** Each week I was greeted by this happy class, library bags in hand ready to borrow another great book from our Library. Today they celebrated this wonderful effort by having a special lunch- tablecloths, flowers and all, as well as some fun games. Much excitement though was had when they decorated Cheri. Pictures of Cheri looking delightful will be in next term's newsletter. Also congratulations go to Toby, Jayden, Layla, Charli and Igloo who borrowed a library book every week! I wish a happy and a safe holiday to all.

Kind Regards,
Mrs Watt
Librarian

P&C News

It was another well-attended meeting on Monday night – thank you to those parents who came along! The P&C will be holding a Major Raffle to be drawn next Term on the 30th May. The prize is a 7x5 trailer load of wood – just in time for the winter months. Each child will be given a raffle ticket book to sell. Tickets are \$2.00 each. Parents not wishing to sell tickets may make a donation instead – ALL raffle tickets MUST be returned to the P&C sold or unsold. All money raised from the raffle will go towards the school excursion.



WANTED – OLD MOBILE PHONES (WORKING or NON-WORKING!)

The P&C are registering to be part of a fund-raising program called “Foneraiser”. This is an organisation which pays \$3.00 for every mobile phone that is sent in for recycling. If you have any old mobile phones (working or non-working), please send them into school and we will send them on to Foneraiser to be refurbished and distributed to developing countries.

Canteen News

The canteen will be in operation next term from Wednesday, 1st May (first day children return to school). The new Term 2 price list was sent home in last week’s newsletter.

Community News

Tom’s Manure!



Cow manure – delivered to Cowra and Holmwood School

\$5.00 for a 30kg bag

\$25.00 for a trailer load

Contact 63429450 or see Tom Cummings

Also available on Gum Tree

NETBALL CLINIC

Looking for something to do during the school holidays? Why not register for the Netball NSW School Holiday Clinics! Participants will receive a Netball NSW goodies bag with a Gilbert netball, Netball NSW drink bottle, certificate of participation and a sticker set inside!

Date: Friday April 19

Venue: Cowra Netball Association, Col Stinson Park, Binni Creek Rd Cowra

Start time: 8:30am registrations for a 9am start

Finish time: 12pm

Cost: \$40 per participant

Age group: 5-12 years old (in 2013)

Bring: healthy snacks, drink bottle, sunscreen and a hat

Registrations close: 5pm Friday 5 April 2013

Registration Forms are available on the Cowra Netball Website <http://cowra.netball.asn.au/> in the Resource Library or Netball NSW Website www.netballnsw.com click on the School Holiday Clinic section on the right hand side.

Registration forms must be returned to:

Claudia Keady- Netball NSW Regional Coordinator
West/Central West

Po Box 2913 Dubbo 2830

Fax: (02) 6884 7812

E: ckeady@netballnsw.com