



# HOLMWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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**Term 2 Week 4 – Week Ending 24th May 2013**

## **“Students of the Week” – Week 3**

*Congratulations to our Week 3 Students of the Week!*



2/3 – Mackenzie Nestor; 4/5/6 – Annelise Brown; and  
K/1 – Charlotte Collins

*Week 3 Merit Awards went to the following students;*

K/1 – Liam and Bella  
2/3 – Thomas and Zsalea  
4/5/6 – Jacob and Victoria

***Congratulations to all these students!***

## **Cowra Eisteddfod Success!**

**The small school with a big voice** ☆

May 17, 2013, midnight



*Congratulations to the Holmwood Choir who performed so well at the Cowra Eisteddfod last Friday!*

*The children sang “Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious” and “Respect” in front of a large audience which included some very enthusiastic parents who came along to watch. HPS finished second behind Koorawatha (by just one point!) and won a \$25 voucher. Thank you to Mrs Kristie Hodges who worked with the Choir in polishing their performances and also to the parents who assisted with transport on the day. It was also lovely to see the attached photo and article on the front page of Friday’s Guardian! The Choir will be doing an encore performance at the end of Term Assembly. Watch out in 2014!*

## **Home Reading Workshop**



*We had a great group of parents attend our Home Reading Workshop this afternoon. Thank you to Mrs Lynch who organised the presentation and handouts for parents. We hope you found the session informative and feel more confident in being able to assist your child in this area. If you have any further queries, please don’t hesitate to contact the school and speak with your child’s teacher.*

## **Grip Leadership Conference**

*It was a wonderful day on Tuesday with the fantastic Year 6 students as we attended the 2013 Grip Leadership Conference in Bathurst. We arrived in plenty of time to get front row seats and found every session very interesting and LOTS of FUN! The presenters were all dynamic speakers who had all been leaders in their own Primary Schools and had lots of practical ideas and tips on how to be a great leader. “Loud Noises” was by far the most popular session and there was plenty of audience participation, shouting, dancing and even a game of charades. Thank you to Mrs McFarland who assisted with transporting the students to and from Bathurst in her car. The perfect end to the day was of course the visit to Annie’s Ice Cream Parlour! Congratulations Year 6 on your wonderful behaviour and willingness to give every task a go – you were a pleasure to take away!*



*Just before the Conference started....*



*YUMMMM...Annie's Ice Cream is the best!*

## Earn & Learn 2013



**Don't forget to keep collecting your Earn & Learn Stickers from Woolworths!**

### **Cowra Small Schools' Athletics Carnival**

*Next Thursday 30th May is the Cowra Small Schools Athletics Carnival. Attached to this week's Newsletter is a permission note and Program for the day. It is expected that ALL students K-6 attend the Athletics Carnival as it is an important social and sporting event in our Yearly Calendar. All Staff will be attending the Carnival; therefore there will be no supervision available at school. The Carnival begins with the March Past and this will be at 9:00am SHARP so please be at Twigg Oval by **8:50am at the latest.***

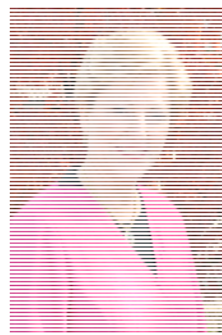
*It is Holmwood's turn to cater for this year's carnival and the P&C have been working hard to get things organised for the day. Please don't forget the **CAKE STALL** will be happening at the Carnival and the P&C*

*need all cupcakes brought in to school on Wednesday 29th May; or taken to the Canteen at Twigg Oval on Thursday morning. Thank you to those families who have sent in donations of bags of lollies. The 4/5/6 Class will be bagging these up next week ready to sell in the canteen so please keep them coming in! Donations of time to work on the BBQ and in the canteen are still required so if you can donate an hour or so it would be greatly appreciated.*

*Final Field Event trials are being conducted this week and all entries forwarded to the organising school tomorrow. If the weather looks doubtful please listen to 105.9FM from 7am onwards. If you have a mobile, I will send out a group text to let you know if it has been cancelled.*

*We look forward to seeing lots of parents there to cheer on our students!*

Due to the Athletics Carnival being held next THURSDAY, next week's **LIBRARY DAY** will be **TUESDAY!** Don't forget to bring your Library Books!



### **Western NSW Regional Education Director Retires**

After almost 40 years as an educator, Western NSW Regional Director, Carole McDiarmid will soon step back from leading the west's 195 public schools, almost 40,000 students and more than 4000 staff.

Our school has enjoyed a strong working relationship with Mrs McDiarmid during her time as Regional Director.

Mrs McDiarmid has expressed confidence that our school and the others in Western NSW are in a strong position to continue to improve educational outcomes and benefits to students under the guidance of our enthusiastic and dedicated staff and through the combined resources of the public school network.

She said our students are advantaged by the region's widely-recognised leadership in innovation and technology, our public schools' strong commitment to social justice through education and our determination to see better outcomes for all students. Although Mrs McDiarmid will be stepping back as an educational leader, she still plans to stay involved in schools and has already signed on as a 'reading grandma' at her grandson's school.

Mrs McDiarmid is looking forward to the experience on the 'other side of the desk' and urges other grandparents or parents and community members with some spare time to seek opportunities to engage



with their local public schools, regardless of whether they have children or grandchildren there as students. As well as offering a rewarding experience, involvement can bring immense benefits to the students.

## Calendar

<b>Term 2 Week 5</b>	
Mon 27th May	Di Watt (School Counsellor) will be at HPS
Tues 28th May	LIBRARY DAY for Week 5 (swapped due to Athletics Carnival) Aboriginal Pedagogy Module 4 Training – all Staff 3:30-4:30pm
Thurs 30th May	Cowra Small Schools Athletics Carnival
Fri 31st May	Musical Marimbas with Mrs Hodges
<b>Term 2 Week 6</b>	
Mon 3rd June	P&C Meeting – 7pm
Thurs 6th June	Alternate date for Athletics Carnival
Fri 7th June	Book Fair
<b>Term 2 Week 7</b>	
Mon 10th June	Queen's Birthday PUBLIC HOLIDAY
Tues 11th June	Conductive Hearing Loss Visit – all classes
Fri 14th June	Scripture

Kind Regards,  
Jenny Lewis  
Principal

## Attachments

- Small Schools Athletics Carnival Program
- Small Schools Athletics Carnival Permission Note
- Camp Waratah Rugby Flier

## K/1 Class News

*It has been another busy week in the K/1 classroom. In literacy sessions we are very busy learning our Jolly Phonics sounds and our sight words. We are improving vastly on this which will help with our reading. This week we started in class 'Buddy Reading', where we read books to our partners and they read their books in return. The Big Book we have been learning about for guided reading and comprehension is "Meanies", and*

*by the end of the week most of us could read it on our own! Students are really enjoying all the literacy games that we play each day on a rotational basis to reinforce the sounds, words, sentence building and story writing that we do. Our visual art complemented our Big Book this week. Students had to draw their interpretation of a Meanie, and glue various craft items onto their creation and cut it out to put on display.*

*In Maths we are still enjoying the warm up game 'Buzz off Please' which is helping us to learn number patterns in counting by 10's and we have just introduced it for 2's and 5's. We have also been discovering 'Friends of Ten' for addition and subtraction. During Maths we play lots of hands on maths games and use interactive software on the internet to reinforce the concepts we are learning.*



*In Science we have been using our senses to discover and make meaning of the world around us. We have been focusing on the sense of Hearing and Smell this week, listening to music playing games that require listening skills, such as musical statues and musical chairs, follow the leader and dancing to action songs. We went outside to discover objects and things around us that we need our ears for hearing and nose for smelling to make meaning of the environment in which we live.*

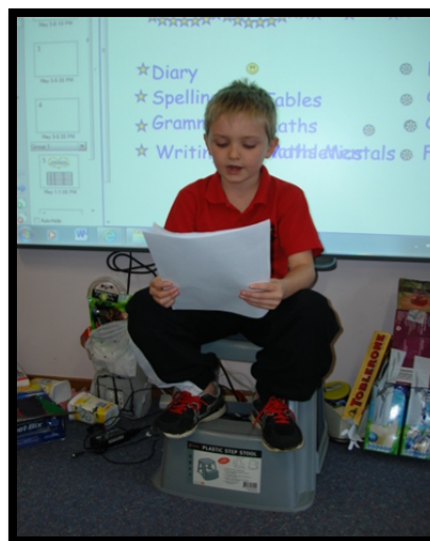
*We would like to thank Mrs Hodges for the fun music lessons we have been having on the Marimbas learning the keys/notes, beat, and rhythm. The children thoroughly enjoy the Friday afternoon sessions.*

*Have a lovely weekend.*

*Mrs Heidi Lynch - K/1 Class Teacher*

## 2/3 Class News

There has been enthusiasm plus in our class this week as the children enjoyed reading the story "Simpson and his Donkey." They then compared this story with their own research information. The children learnt new researching and publishing skills and each child presented his/her research project to the class. The children are becoming more confident in oral presentations. Parents can assist in this learning area by researching topics of interest and sharing ideas and viewpoints on a variety of topics with their child.



Children are always very excited when they bring in their own Home Research Information.

Our Week 5 Research Topic is Ned Kelly.... So see what you can find out about him? Was he a Hero or a Villain?

We are very appreciative of the wonderful work that Mrs Joy Webster does each Tuesday in the whole school as our Learning Support Teacher. This week she has been busy assessing children and providing valuable feedback information. She has taken on this new role in our school this year and it is a major task. Thank You, Mrs Webster!



*Asher and Mrs Webster working on Oral Reading Fluency.*

Parents can assist their child's Oral Reading Fluency by listening to them read aloud each night and assist Reading Comprehension skills by asking WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE and WHY questions about the story.

Thank you for another wonderful week.  
Mrs Deirdre Kiely  
2/3 Class Teacher

### **4/5/6 Class News**

We have had a terrific week in the 4/5/6 Class. Mrs McFarland has already taught us two HSIE lessons and we are really enjoying our unit for this Term – "Rainforests". On Wednesday afternoon we had a great time in Visual Arts creating a Rainforest Mural which will add to the eye-catching displays in our classroom. Frogs, butterflies, leaves and vines have all started to appear in our classroom this week and students are encouraged to bring in any items from home to add to our Rainforest theme.

Thank you to Mrs Watt who taught the Year 4 and 5's on Tuesday while the Year 6 students attended the Grip Leadership Conference in Bathurst.

This week in writing we have been focusing on Information reports. All students wrote a terrific report on Orangutans, which are one of the animals on the endangered species list, and coincidentally, live in the rainforests. We worked hard researching our topic, taking notes and ensuring we put this information into our own words. I was very impressed with the skills the 4/5/6 class showed completing this task.

A reminder that our Term 2 Novels – "Boss of the Pool" and "The Silver Sword" need to be completed by Monday as we will be starting our matrix of activities. Students will need to have their novels at school EVERY day from Week 5 onwards.

During PD/Health in our Active Lifestyle Unit 'On the GO' we have been discussing the positive benefits of "being active". We have been discussing *Setting Goals* and how they need to be achievable, meaningful and rewarding. Each student has thought of a personal Fitness or Performance goal that they would like to achieve. From here they identified an activity that will help them achieve that goal. Hopefully you have seen your child practising their personal activity at home over the past few days. The class also compiled a list of the energetic things they do during the week - what an active group they are!!!

Have a lovely weekend!

Mrs Jenny Lewis  
4/5/6 Class Teacher

### **News from Mrs Watt**



*Here is the 'green thumbed' Vegetable Garden group tending to the newly planted winter vegetable plants - silverbeet, lettuce, the herb coriander and one shallot.*

The very productive tomato plants that were planted at the end of last year are still producing so they didn't have the heart to pull them out. With the colder weather we are now having, this will be the group's next job. This will then make space for the next planting of broccoli and cauliflower.

We look forward to the plentiful produce from the garden in the near future.

### **Library News-**

We are well into the Premier Reading Challenge. I will be adding the PRC books that the K/1 and 2/3's have read on their personal reading log, which can be found on the Premier Reading Challenge website.

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

Children log in using their school details. The 4/5/6 students are entering their own books. It is pleasing that some have nearly reached half the amount needed.



*Harry, Katelyn, Lara and Lilly enjoy the "Reading Corner" in the Library.*

### **P&C News**

The Athletics carnival day fundraising efforts are starting to come together and we need parent help! You can help the P&C by;

**1. Donations of Lollies** – We will be making up lolly bags to sell at the Carnival – any donations of bags of lollies can be sent in to school... THANK YOU!

**2. Donations of Cakes** – for the Cake Stall – this will also be held at the Athletics Carnival. It would be appreciated if the plastic cupcake containers that were sent home last week could be filled with yummy cupcakes or muffins and returned to school by Wednesday 29th May or brought to the Carnival on Thursday 30th May.

**3. Donation of time** – to assist with serving on the canteen at the Carnival. It is only an hour or so... and the more helpers we have, the better!

We need as much help as possible as all money raised goes towards the school excursion to Canberra. If you require further information, please call Karen Beaumont – 0419 229 755.

### **Raffle Tickets –**

The P&C Major raffle of a trailer load of wood will be drawn NEXT Thursday 30th May at the Small Schools Athletics Carnival. If you require more raffle ticket books, please see Julie in the office. All tickets (sold and unsold) need to be returned to school on Wednesday 29th May.

Michelle Whitty - P&C Secretary

### **Community News**

#### **Cowra High School P&C Quiz Night**

Come along and test your general knowledge, win a prize, have some fun and support your local High School.

Saturday 25th May.

7 for 7:30pm

Tickets \$10 pp, Tables of 8.

BYO Drinks and Basket Supper

Book your table at Cowra High School Front Office ph - 63421766