



HOLMWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Principal: Jenny Lewis

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Term 4 Week 9 – Week Ending 5th December 2014

Students of the Week – Term 4 Week 8



*Congratulations to our Week 8 Students of the Week!
William Skinner (2/3/4) Abbie Lewis (5/6) and Sascha Pettit (K/1)*

MERIT AWARDS were awarded to;

K/1 – Tyler Charnock and Alana Kiss

2/3/4 – Leetisha Nestor and Taylah Boatwood

5/6 – Mitchell Amos and Jarrod Hodgson

Sports Awards – Caleb Crowe, Layla Hood and Anna Russell

Congratulations to all of these students



School Swimming Scheme

Tomorrow is the last day of swimming! We have had a terrific two weeks at the pool and it is pleasing to see the improvements all students have made! I would like to thank Ms Edgerton, Mrs Patten, Miss White, Mr Lewis and Mrs Toohey for providing such high quality instruction to our students. Students in these groups will be tested tomorrow and receive a Certificate in due course outlining their achievements.

I strongly urge all parents to consider following up the School Swimming Scheme Lessons with additional swimming lessons run through by the Department of

Sport and Recreation. These are held over the January school holiday period – please check out the website <http://www.dsr.nsw.gov.au/swimandsurvive/> for dates the Program is running in Cowra. You can book online – it's that easy! Swimming is such an important life skill for all children.

*Students who are participating in Mrs Lewis's Lifesaving Group will have the opportunity to be assessed by Mrs Corrie Bryant next **Wednesday 10th December** – a note regarding Lifesaving Testing went home yesterday. If you wish for your child to be tested, **please return the signed note by tomorrow** so that arrangements can be made. The Lifesaving Group are required to perform some swimming activities and rescues in clothing. Students will need to bring their clothing + swimming gear next Wednesday for testing!*

Level 4 – Shorts and T-shirt
Level 5 – Long pants and a long sleeved shirt
Level 6 – Long pants, long sleeved shirt and jumper
Dry Rescue and Wade Rescue students do not need any clothing to swim in.



Some of the Lifesaving Group



Mrs Toohey's clever Swimming Group!

School Surveys



At this time of year all schools are preparing their Annual School Reports. As part of this Report, schools need to evaluate several areas of school policy and procedures.

We do this by seeking the

opinions of students, parents and staff. This year we will be evaluating the following areas;

- **School Satisfaction (mandatory)**
- **English**
- **Homework and Study Skills**

THANK YOU to the large number of families who have already completed and returned their surveys! We would like all surveys to be returned by **Friday 12th December**. Mrs Hubbard will have an icy cold zooper dooper for all students who remember to bring their surveys back! Thank you.

2014 School Magazine

Pre-orders for the 2014 Holmwood Public School Magazine are due tomorrow! If you would like to pre-order a copy of this year's School Magazine, please contact Anthea in the office and send \$6 payment to the school by tomorrow - Friday 5th December. Magazines will be distributed on Presentation Night. There will be some copies for sale, however, once we run out, there will be no further copies available – be sure you don't miss out!

Holmwood "Helping Hand" Hamper

This time each year, the Student Council collect non-perishable food items to make up a food hamper for a family, who is in need, at our school. Any items that you can donate will be greatly appreciated but please check use by dates, as these pop up on all of us before we know it. We hope that we can soon fill the empty basket, or maybe two, as has been the case over past years. Your generosity is greatly appreciated, as always. As every act of kindness counts and is passed on for the good of others.

Year 6 Farewell – CHANGE OF DATE!!



The Year 6 Farewell party at the Cowra Pool will be held next **Monday 8th December**. All Year 5 and Year 6 students are invited to attend. A permission note was sent

home to all Year 5 and 6 students.

Students will catch the Holmwood bus to Cowra Public where they will meet Mrs Lewis, and then walk down to the Cowra Pool. Students will need to bring all their

swimming gear with them as well as \$2.50 pool entry or Season Ticket card. A scrumptious afternoon tea and dinner will be provided (courtesy of the YEAR 6 "Wish List"!). HPS Staff will be supervising this activity and parents are asked to collect their child from the pool at 7pm. It should be a great night!

Report Folders

Could all parents please return the red HPS Student Report Folders which were sent home with Semester 1 Reports in June. This is so we can add your child's latest report to the folder to ensure it stays safe, ready to be handed out on Presentation Night. Thank you!

Presentation Night

Holmwood Public School's Annual Presentation Night will be held on **Thursday 11th December 2014** starting at **7:00pm** at the school. All students and families are encouraged to attend to celebrate the achievements of our students in 2014. Students are to come dressed in smart casual clothing. It is expected that the Awards Ceremony will conclude at around 8:00pm, with supper to follow.

ALL FAMILIES ARE ASKED TO PLEASE BRING ALONG A PLATE FOR SUPPER.

At around 8:15pm, "Santa" will make an appearance and will present each child with a lolly bag (to HPS students, friends and siblings). Parents do not need to provide a gift for their child this year. Presentation Night will conclude after Santa's visit before it gets dark so that Staff can lock up. We look forward to seeing you there!

Calendar

Term 4 Week 10	
Mon 8th Dec	Year 6 Farewell Pool Party! 3:30-7:00pm at the pool
Wed 10th Dec	Lifesaving Testing Day – remember to bring swimming gear and clothes for testing (Mrs Kiely 5/6)
Thurs 11th Dec	PRESENTATION NIGHT – 7:00pm at the school! See you there!
Fri 12th Dec	Scripture, CANTEEN ALL P&C MONSTER RAFFLE tickets due back to school ALL Surveys due back to school P&C XMAS NIGHT MARKETS! Snow Cones & Monster Raffle – helpers needed!
Term 4 Week 11	
Mon 15th Dec	Mrs Skene and Mrs Patten 2015 Planning Day (Mrs Kiely 2/3/4)
Tues 16th Dec	Class Parties and School Disco!
Wed 17th Dec	Last Day of School!!

Thurs 18 th Dec	Staff Development Day
Fri 19 th Dec	Staff Development Day

Kind Regards,
Jenny Lewis
Principal

K/1 News

Well we are nearly at the end of yet another busy year! This week we saw the last of the intensive Swimming Scheme and have seen the progress in students skills, confidence and swimming abilities. Well done to all the students and teachers and Swimming Instructors on such a busy two weeks in the pool.

The highlight of this week for the Kindergarten and Year One students was definitely the excursion to some of our local food businesses and the Cowra School of Ballet performance at the Civic Centre. We had a fantastic day.

First we started the day at Cowra Public School meeting all students at the bus stop - they were very excited for their big day out. Once we had our recess and lunches sorted we headed for the Oxley Wine Bar to meet Sascha's parents. At the Wine Bar we pretended to order from the menu, lashing out on some lavish breakfasts, morning teas, coffees and cakes. We discovered that the Wine Bar uses local products including some from Micah and Lilly's mums businesses.

On from the Wine Bar, we walked to Skinners Butchery where we discovered the world of meat. Addie's dad was kind enough to let us see how sausages were made! The children thought this was great. Then even more exciting, Mr Skinner opened the Cool Room and we discovered a pig! 'Fascinating', the children thought.

After that we went on a trip to 'Neverland' with the Cowra Ballet. This was a thoroughly enjoyable performance by all the students. We even got to see Sascha and Bella perform on stage as Indians. On to Liam's Mum and Grandma's fruit shop we went. Here we enjoyed some tasty and refreshing watermelon and learnt all about the fresh fruit and vegetables that are grown locally in Cowra.

Then it was on to the park for a play and lunch before we ended the day at the pool for swimming. The students were all very well behaved during the day. The teachers were proud to take the K/1 students around the town on such an enjoyable day out. A big Thank You to the parents of the

businesses we attended, our helpers and Mrs Webster and Cheri for assisting on the day. I heard some of the children saying "It was the best excursion ever".

Kind Regards,
Ms Heidi Edgerton
K/1 Class Teacher



At the "Oxley Bar" where we visited Sascha's mum and dad - Priscilla and Ben.



It was fun to visit Addie's dad Mick at "Skinner's Butchery".



Liam's mum Karen has so much yummy fresh fruit in her shop - "Riverside Fruit & Veg Market"

2/3/4 Class News



The Early Bird Catches the Reading Volunteers?

Well, it's worth a try! Please consider volunteering your time first up of a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday morning, in 2015. Around 40-

60 mins would really assist our 2/3 readers, with oral reading, oral reading fluency and regular changing of Home Readers. Our volunteers don't have to be parents. Interested family, friends or neighbours are welcome to put their hands up. Just be aware that a mandatory 'Working with Children Check' will need to be completed as per Department of Education regulations.

MINI - LESSONS

End of year is a perfect time to catch-up or revise work. This week apart from preparing our School Magazine pages, we have managed to: work on contractions; complete our last Spelling test for the year; revise time on the quarter hour (to be continued); finished our treasure maps and practised reading and writing map co-ordinates; checking out directions; collecting data and making graphs. Each of these lessons is just for the day. We also managed to fit in a Reading Test as well! We shall continue working on mini lessons next week ~ we face a fearsome tables challenge with 5/6 next Tuesday ~ or is it on Tuesday 23rd Dec as I have requested? Hmmm!

ARTWORK ON THE MOVE!

Once swimming is over, our class will be bringing home their artwork, hopefully safe in a large plastic bag! I hope they arrive home carefully as I'm sure there will be pieces of art that you would be happy to display at home. Please return the plastic bag ready for school books in the final week.

Kind Regards,
Mrs Kerry Patten
2/3/4 Class Teacher

5/6 Class News

Another week down...and just two more to go for the year!! This week we have been continuing our completion of units of work on English, HSIE, Visual Arts and Maths. We also watched the final episode on BTN on Wednesday morning and enjoyed taking the Super Quiz which tested our recall of many significant events that have happened in Australia and around the world in 2014.

Our HSIE "Japan" projects are due next week, however many groups have been ready early (!!) – very impressive time management skills! This morning we experienced a Japanese inspired Art lesson from Kynan and Oliver – and 2/3/4 were lucky to join in with us as well. Kynan and Oliver taught us the significance of the colours used in Japanese Art and we all created a terrific 'masterpiece' – thanks boys - a job well done!!

Just a reminder to all 5/6 Lifesaving students that they will need to have their note in by tomorrow and testing day will be next Wednesday...so don't forget your swimmers and clothing to swim in!

All 5/6 books and artwork will be sent home on Monday 15th December – please bring a green recycling bag to transport all belongings home as the plastic bags tend to split once they have a bit of weight in them.

Kind Regards,
Mrs Jenny Lewis
5/6 Class Teacher

P&C News

Thank you to the parents (and kids!) who came along to help out with our Snow Cone stall at last weekends "Harvest in the Park"! The P&C profited almost \$500.00 on the day. Our final P&C Meeting for the year was held last night. Thank you to all families who have supported the P&C's efforts throughout 2014.

We have one more fundraiser to go for the year – the Cowra Christmas Night Markets to be held on Friday 12th December. We will again be running our popular snow cone stall and are asking for any parents who can spare an hour or so to help out, to please contact Karen Beaumont on 0419229755.

The MONSTER RAFFLE will also be drawn on the 12th December at the Christmas Markets so all raffle tickets need to be in to school by this date. The raffle is worth over \$2000.00, so please assist the P&C to sell your family's raffle ticket book as all proceeds go directly to benefitting all HPS students. Extra raffle ticket books are available from the school office. It's a great prize, so please support our school by selling as many tickets as possible!

Michelle Whitty
P&C Secretary