



# HOLMWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Principal: Jenny Lewis

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**Term 1 Week 3 – Week Ending 14th February 2014**

## **Swimming Carnival is TOMORROW!**



Excitement has been building all week with our annual Small School's Swimming Carnival on **TOMORROW** – Friday 14th February. The carnival is due to start at 9:30am with gates open at 9am. All students are expected to attend the carnival and participate in either novelty events, 12.5 and 25m or the competitive 50m, 100m and 200m races. A program for the day is attached to the newsletter.

At this stage rain is predicted for Friday, which I know will be a welcome sight and sound for all of us! Please note – if it is raining the carnival will still go ahead as planned. The only reason we will cancel the carnival is if we have lightning and thunderstorms. I will send a text message to all families on Friday morning if the carnival is cancelled. In this case, school will continue as normal. The alternate date for the carnival will be Monday 17th February.

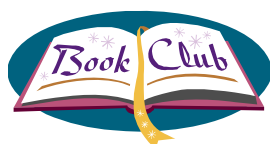
So...what to bring?

Swimmers, rash shirt, sunscreen, goggles, towel and lots of food and drink! I would like



students to wear their red HPS shirts over their swimmers. The pool canteen will be in operation on the day – please find a canteen list attached. I will have the large double HPS shade tent set up so that families can sit underneath and cheer our students on as they race. The students have been practising their Holmwood cheer all week and are rearing to go!

**SEE YOU THERE!  
GO HOLMWOOD!!**



## **Book Club**

A reminder that Book Club orders are due with payment by Monday 17th February.

## **Parent/Teacher Information Evening**



Thank you to all the parents who turned up to last week's Parent Information evening at the school. There was quite a big roll up which is wonderful to see! Don't forget if you have any questions or concerns about your

child's learning, please contact the school to make an appointment to speak with their class teacher. Strong home-school partnerships are vital to every student's success at school.

## **Students of the Week – Week 2**

Congratulations to our Week 2 Students of the Week!



William Skinner (2/3/4); Charla Moorfoot (5/6) and Macey Rowley (K/1).

Merit Awards were awarded to;

K/1 – Addison Skinner and Eloise Newell

2/3/4 – Charli Light and Boston Petty-O'Brien

5/6 – Nigella Stevenson and Tailor Hampton

**Congratulations to all of these students**

## **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.

## **Swimming for Sport**

We will start school swimming for sport on Friday 21st February and will continue through until the end of Week 9 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). Students will need to be picked up from the pool at 2:50pm or will be walked up to Cowra Public by a staff member, to catch buses at the end of the day.



**What to bring for SWIMMING:** PLEASE ENSURE ALL ITEMS ARE LABELLED WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME.

- Swimmers
- Towel
- Goggles (if required)
- Sunscreen
- Rash Shirt
- Plastic bag for wet swimmers

Attached to this week's Newsletter is a permission note for school sport swimming. Please complete and return with payment to the Office.

## **Resilience Day at HPS**

On Wednesday 5th March, Holmwood PS will be hosting a "Resilience Day" for all Holmwood, Woodstock and Koorawatha students. This will be an all-day event with sessions run by the teaching staff and staff from Relationships Australia and Cowra Family Support. Students will be grouped according to their age and will participate in a number of fun, hands-on games and activities to teach them about resilience. We will be having a special canteen "Lunch Deal" on this day where children can purchase a Lunch Pack for \$5.00. This will include a sausage in a hotdog bun with tomato sauce, a drink and a piece of fruit. There will be no cost to the students for participating in the day's activities – this will be covered by the

school. Lunch order forms will be sent home next week. There will be no "normal" canteen on this day.

## **Student Council Elections for Term 1**

This week the Student Council Elections were held at school. Congratulations to our Term 1 Student Leaders-



**President-Mitchell Amos**

**Vice President - Annelise Brown**

**Secretary - Dylan Whitty**

**Vice Secretary - Claire Lewis**

**Treasurer - William Skinner**

**Vice Treasurer - Catie Whicker.**

We look forward to an exciting term with these students as our leaders and they will be especially busy organising the HPS Annual Swimathon to be held on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March!

## **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.

## **Calendar**

<b>Term 1 Week 4</b>	
<b>Mon 17th Feb</b>	Alternate date for Small Schools Swimming carnival P&C Meeting – 6pm in the 5/6 classroom. Book Club due
<b>Tues 18th Feb</b>	All Staff CPR update at Mulyan 3:30pm
<b>Term 1 Week 5</b>	
<b>Mon 24th Feb</b>	Mrs Lewis – District Swimming



	<i>Carnival – Cowra (Mrs Watt 5/6) Ms Edgerton – L3 training Parkes (Mrs Webster K/1)</i>
<b>Tues 25th Feb</b>	<i>Mrs Lewis – Orange Principals Meeting – Mrs Watt 5/6</i>
<b>Fri 28th Feb</b>	<i>Scripture Swimming for Sport</i>
<b>Term 1 Week 6</b>	
<b>Tues 4th March</b>	<i>Mrs Webster –Autism course at Canowindra</i>
<b>Wed 5th March</b>	<i>Resilience Day at Holmwood PS – Woodstock and Koorawatha PS attending</i>
<b>Fri 7th March</b>	<i>Western Region Swimming Carnival – Dubbo – Mrs Lewis attending Swimming for Sport</i>

*Kind Regards,  
Jenny Lewis  
Principal*

## **Attachments**

- Cowra Small Schools' Swimming Carnival Program
- Carnival Canteen List
- PCYC "What's On" Information sheet
- Cowra Council reminder note about School Zones
- Swimming for Sport Permission note

## **K/1 Class News**

Despite the heat this week we have been very busy in K/1. All Kindergarten students have completed their Best Start assessments and Boehm Concepts Tests. Individual student information sheets will be sent home to parents and carers as soon as possible. Kindergarten students have started their Jolly Phonics program this week. We aim to learn 3 new sounds per week - please help your child at home to revise these sounds with their sound book and work sheet that is taken home each Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. We have also started our L3 reading and writing program for both Kinder and Year 1 students. Sight words have also been sent home. Please revise these with your child each night so that they can retain these new words. Sight words must be known instantly and will benefit your child in their home reading.

Thank you to the parents that have offered to spend some time in our classroom to help with the L3 program. A time slot has been allocated to you and is attached to this week's newsletter. Year 1 have started their weekly reading, maths and

spelling programs. I encourage the students to complete their homework during the week and hand it in on Fridays, however if you have a busy life during the week, I fully understand and homework can be handed in on a Monday morning.

This week in Maths we have been looking at whole numbers. Kindergarten children are learning a new number a day. They complete a work booklet on that specific number and engage in rotational maths activities to further develop recognition and understanding of numbers. Year 1 students have been exploring teen numbers and ordering skills.

In science this week we began our topic "Back to Nature". Students are set to explore a range of man made products and trace them back to their natural source.

During creative arts this week, K/1 students began to paint the background of our combined school art display for the Festival of International Understanding that will be displayed in the main street during the Festival week, so watch this space to see our masterpiece!



*Alana, Eloise and Lilly (above) and Lexi and Addison (below) having great fun painting the backdrop for our window display for the "Festival of International Understanding!"*



Just a note about fruit break - it's great to see nearly all children bringing fruit, however parents please be aware if you order fruit from the canteen

on Monday or Wednesday this is an extra piece of fruit that comes at lunch time **not** fruit break, so please pack a piece of fruit for these days. Thank you.

Good Luck to everyone for the swimming carnival tomorrow! Remember there are lots of games and fun in the little pool for the younger students.

Kind Regards,

Ms Heidi Edgerton

K/1 Class Teacher

## **2/3/4 Class News**

In our classroom this week the children have been industriously applying new skills in all learning areas and displaying increasing levels of independence and confidence.

In the classroom the composite Yr 2-3-4 classes enables children to be extended in Literacy and Numeracy and be supported with additional revision and support as needed.

The Year 2 students have quickly adjusted to the increased responsibilities of the Middle Primary classroom and enjoy being stimulated by the range of learning activities in our room. In our Computer classes Year 2 are learning the independent publishing skills needed to publish their own Recount Writing Tasks.



*Layla and Charli using the netbooks during writing.*

Our Public Speaking classes continue each week. Please check that your child has prepared a short speech on an interest topic to then present each week to the class. Class days are Year 2 - WEDNESDAY, Year 3 - THURSDAY, Year 4 - FRIDAY. Please listens to your child's short speech and assist their confidence. They can use prompt cards, smart board or visual objects but the emphasis remains on developing verbal speaking skills and listening skills...both being essential life skills.

This week we commenced the "Paws for Reading" Challenge and thank you to the parents who are filling in the record sheet each night and returning daily in the Home Reading Folder. Once a nightly routine is established the process will become automatic. The children loved giving their Cat or Dog an affectionate nickname.



*Katelyn and Miah love reading "Flat Stanley".*

As a part of the K-6 PD/Health program I am organising a Resilience Workshop Day to be held at HPS on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March. Koorawatha and Woodstock Schools will be joining our school for the day. Relationships Australia will run one session per class group and aim to teach children how to develop and use resilience skills in daily life. The remainder of the day will reinforce these valuable resilience skills in indoor and outdoor activities. In the evening Relationships Australia will be running a Parenting Evening. This will be beneficial for parents to attend, as irrespective of the age or stage of children, we all benefit from learning new strategies....as there is no magic key! More information will be in Week 4 newsletter.

## **5/6 Class News**

We have had another busy week in the 5/6 Class. Everyone has enthusiastically embraced the concept of Genius Hour and all research questions have now been approved. This week students have moved on to the research phase of their projects, with many using their 'inside play' opportunities at lunch time this week to work on their presentations - very impressive!!

This week in maths we worked in the Patterns and Algebra strand and focused our attention on number patterns. Number patterns can be very tricky to work out and the students are working hard to determine whether the pattern is going up (adding or multiplying) or down (subtracting or dividing). We have played some fun "Buzzer" Games in class where we had to work out the



10th term of a pattern and 'buzz' in with our answers. Our Addition timed Challenge concludes today – I am pleased to see how much students have improved their mental processing speeds...next week's challenge is SUBTRACTION!

Visual Arts is always so much fun, and this Term we are focusing on 'seasonal' art. We have kicked off the Term with "Summer" and with the recent spate of hot weather, it seemed appropriate that our first artwork reflected a place we would like to be on a hot summers day...THE POOL! We were inspired by English artist David Hockney's paintings of swimming pools and used a combination of oil pastels and a blue wash to create a picture of us floating in a shimmering swimming pool. They look terrific!



It was great to see so many Homework folders returned last Friday – 16 out of 20! Don't forget Homework is due every Friday and students earn 2 DOJO points if their Homework is completed and handed in on time.

Week 4 and 5's News topic will be 'free choice'.

Have a great weekend and see you at the Swimming carnival tomorrow!

Kind regards,

Mrs Jenny Lewis

5/6 Class Teacher

## P&C News

The first P&C Meeting for 2014 will be held on Monday 17th February at 6pm in the 5/6 Classroom. **THIS WILL BE THE AGM.** We

would like to encourage all new parents to our school to come along. The meetings only go for about an hour and the P&C works hard to raise additional funds for all HPS students. If you have any questions or would like to know more about how you can become involved please come along on Monday night.

Michelle Whitty

P&C Secretary

## MESSAGE to K/1 FAMILIES!

Mrs Lewis is still waiting on some children in K/1 to bring in a photo of them attending a celebration. This is required for this term's HSIE topic on "Celebrations". Children will be using their photos as a stimulus for writing and artwork in this subject area. Thank you to those parents who have sent in or emailed a photo already. For those yet to do so, we will be using the photos **NEXT THURSDAY**. All photos will be photocopied and the originals returned.

Thank you. Mrs Lewis

## Canteen News



The canteen has added an extra item to its menu! Icy cold bottles of water can be ordered for recess and lunch for just 50c each. Thank you to Kelly Murphy who assisted with canteen last Monday. Don't forget if you would like to assist with canteen we would love to have your help! Please call Gail on 63 411595.