



HOLMWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Principal: Jenny Lewis

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Term 1 Week 10 – Week Ending 4th April 2014

Students of the Week – Week 9

Congratulations to our Week 9 Students of the Week!



John Hill (K/1), Taylor Hampton (5/6) and Akiko Beatty (2/3/4)

Merit Awards were awarded to;

K/1 – Sascha Pettit and Lilly Hood

2/3/4 – William Skinner and Katelyn Judd

5/6 – Dylan Whitty and Abbie Lewis

Congratulations to all of these students

HPS Swimathon!

Congratulations to all students for a fantastic effort at last Friday's Swimathon! On what was a VERY wet day, all students gave it their best effort to complete as many laps as possible in order to raise money for our major school fundraiser. All sponsorship forms should have arrived home and students should be busy collecting sponsorship money which is due back at school by the end of Term. As funds come in, the Student Council will add the totals to our large display chart, with \$2000.00 as our target!



Mrs Patten's group swam laps of the little pool for the swimathon! Pictured are Brodie R, Makayla, Alana K, Tyler, Micah, Caleb and Chad!



Charla, Kara and Isobella had a ball at the Swimathon!



Oliver, Harry and Matthew about to start the Swimathon!

Thank you to Mrs Kiely for her organisation in getting all the sponsorship forms ready, Di Browne and Della Toohey for assisting with teaching the older swimmers, the Cowra Aquatic Centre for their assistance each week during our swimming activities, Dowd's Bus for transporting us to the pool each week and all the parents who came along to watch and cheer us on! Thank you to Karen Beaumont for taking some great photos during the Swimathon.

State PSSA Swimming Championships

Good luck to Lisa Brien, Kynan Rowley, Abbie Lewis, Claire Lewis, Sophie Light and Annelise Brown as they head off to the PSSA Swimming State Championships next Wednesday and Thursday in Homebush! I'm sure they will have the Holmwood cheer ringing in their ears as they compete against swimmers from all over NSW!

Western Region Rugby Trials

Good luck to Brent Kiss and Dylan Whitty, who are heading off to the Western Region Rugby League trials in Dubbo next Monday! We wish them all the best and thank their parents for arranging transport so that they can attend. Congratulations to Kynan who participated in the Western Region trials for Rugby Union on Tuesday this week. Unfortunately Kynan missed out on selection in the Western Team but should be congratulated on the huge effort he made to make the Cowra District side.

Netball Gala Day

Our Stage 2 and Stage 3 girls have been invited to take part in a Netball Gala Day to be held on Tuesday 8th April 2014. Girls will play as a HPS team in a fun round-robin style competition. Mrs Watt and Cheri will accompany the girls on this day. Please return permission notes to school by Monday 7th April.

Mrs Lewis – Long Service Leave

I will be taking the last week of Term as Long Service Leave so I can attend the CHS and PSSA Swimming Championships in Sydney during the week with my children. Ms Edgerton will be relieving as Principal during this week and Mrs Watt and Mrs Skene will be teaching the 5/6 class in my absence.

End of Term Assembly

Thank you to the large number of parents and family members who turned up to watch our end of term Assembly this afternoon! The students enjoy sharing what they do at school with you and your attendance is appreciated.

Athletics Carnival



Please mark Friday 9th May as the date for this year's Cowra Small Schools Athletics Carnival. We will be running trials for Field Event selection for 8-13 year old students during the first two weeks of Term 2. We have ordered a brand new High Jump Bar which should arrive by the end of Term so students will have an opportunity to practise at school prior to the Carnival. The Athletics Carnival involves ALL students from Kindergarten to Year 6 and is always a fun day!

NAPLAN – 2014

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 13th May – Language Conventions (Grammar, Spelling and Punctuation) and Writing
Wednesday 14th May – Reading
Thursday 15th 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 16th 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.



Head Lice

We have had a reported case of head lice at school this week – thank you to the parent who informed the school. We are asking that all parents/carers examine their child's hair for signs of lice infestation. The lice themselves are often hard to find because they move around on the head. Therefore, you should be looking for the eggs or nits. These appear as tiny silvery white specks attached to the hair shaft near the scalp. Dandruff and hairspray may look similar but these are easily brushed away, the eggs are not. Other signs of lice infestation maybe a red rash and scratch marks on the scalp, nape of the neck or behind the ears. For more information on the treatment of head lice go to the following website - <http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/studentsupport/studenthealth/conditions/headlice/index.php>
Your assistance in checking and treating your child's hair is appreciated.

ANZAC DAY

Each year on ANZAC Day, Holmwood PS students lay a Wreath as part of the Cowra ANZAC Service held at the Cenotaph in Brisbane Street. I would like to invite all students to attend this important occasion. This year for the first time, I would like to invite all students to join with the Staff in marching in the ANZAC Parade. If you are planning on attending, please complete the attached slip so that we are aware of approximate numbers. Students can meet the Staff shortly before 10am in Brisbane Street and will march down to River Park where the Official Ceremony will conclude. Students are requested to be in full school uniform (black pants, red shirts and red jumpers). Thank you.

Calendar

<u>Term 1 Week 11</u>	
Mon 7th April	Ms Edgerton – L3 training – Mrs Webster K/1. Mrs Lewis – Long Service Leave – Mrs Watt 5/6 P&C Meeting – 6pm in the 5/6

	<i>classroom – ALL WELCOME! Western Region Rugby League Trials - Dubbo</i>
Tues 8th April	<i>Stage 2 and 3 Girls Netball Gala Day at Col Stinson Park Mrs Lewis – Long Service Leave – Mrs Watt 5/6</i>
Wed 9th April	<i>Mrs Lewis – Long Service Leave – Mrs Skene 5/6 PSSA State Swimming - Homebush</i>
Thurs 10th April	<i>Mrs Lewis – Long Service Leave – Mrs Watt 5/6 PSSA State Swimming - Homebush</i>
Fri 11th April	<i>Scripture - LAST DAY OF TERM!</i>
School Holidays 12.4.2014 – 28.4.2014	
Term 2 Week 1	
Mon 28th April	<i>Staff Development Day – All staff will be undertaking English Curriculum Training at Eugowra PS</i>
Tues 29th April	All students return
Wed 30th April	<i>Cowra Small Schools Sports Meeting – 4:30pm – All Staff</i>
Term 2 Week 2	
Fri 9th May	<i>Cowra Small Schools Athletics Carnival – Twigg Oval, Cowra (all day)</i>

*Kind Regards,
Jenny Lewis
Principal*

Attachments

- Cowra Council Recycled Art Workshops for Kids flier
- Canteen Menu for Term 2

K/1 Class News

Well we are drawing close to the end of a very long term. It was lovely weather for all our fish that swam in the Swimathon on Friday. Even though it was raining we still had some amazing efforts by all children and they all swam a huge number of laps. Well done to all our little fish!!

This week we have been very busy finishing off our projects that we have undertaken this term. We have been engaged in some very creative art works, paintings, and craft. Each week we endeavour to start and finish lots of art work. Each piece of art work is chosen to correspond with the letters learnt during the week or the children's book we are reading. This week we have made some beautiful bumble bees, for the letter 'b' and the story 'Willbee, Bumble Bee'.

The kindergarten students have made fantastic progress with learning their single sounds this term. We have learnt 19 sounds so far and we are learning how to blend these sounds together to make words. Next week will be a revision week, so no new sounds will be learnt, however I ask that parents continue to work with their child over the holidays to continue learning and revising the sounds learnt.



Year 1 students have revised many of their sounds and are proficient at sounding out simple three and four letter words. Their reading skills are improving each week. Please remember to read to your child for five to ten minutes every night. It makes a big improvement in your child's knowledge about books and concepts about print. Encourage your child to read their readers to you more than once for familiarity of the story and the high frequency words in the readers. Holiday readers are available to your child. If you would like some please let me know.

Next week we will continue with our L3 Rotation Groups in the mornings. We are very thankful to all our parent helpers that are dedicated to helping us each week. It is much appreciated and I can see a huge improvement in each and every child's progress in all areas of learning. Have a great weekend, and see you for the last week of term.



K/1 pictured with their Chinese Dragons they made with Mrs Lewis in HSIE last week.

Kind Regards,
Ms Heidi Edgerton
K/1 Class Teacher

2/3/4 Class News

We have been busy making a FRACTIONS CHART. It has taken much time and concentration to fill it in and should be a handy reminder for when Stage 2 are working on EQUIVALENT FRACTIONS. We have begun the final publishing of our "What the Ladybird Heard" stories and have completed "triptych" paintings ~ which we shall reveal at Assembly!!

2/3/4 CLASS INFORMATION

PART 1. WHAT'S ON IN OUR MORNING SESSIONS?

LITERACY **SPELLING**

We have three Spelling Lists on the go, each week. This week the focus sound families are "ee" & "oo"; "oi" and "ea". This session is heavy on drill and word meanings ~ just ask about "body spelling" and "sound actions" to help with recall and learning words.

READING GROUPS

We have four Reading Groups that rotate around four different activities.

Oral Reading occurs each day ~ students read the weekly story out loud, change and update their Home Reading Books and silently read their chosen DEAR Book.

Worksheets occur each day with set tasks based upon each group's book for the week. These include sight word recognition, comprehension questions, word detective work, and grammar ~ to name a few.

Computer work ~ set tasks for the day which could be creating word clouds, writing spelling lists, publishing stories.

An "All-Sorts" Activity Group ~ which has different tasks set on current themes. Handwriting also "stars" in this activity group. This week we have been concentrating on "nouns".



Bella and Boston working hard in Reading Groups.

HOME READING

There are a small but dedicated group of students that regularly return and change their Home Readers. Time is set aside during Reading Groups for Home Readers to be changed. There is a large basket placed next to the class entry door for Home Readers. Please encourage your child to be responsible for making sure their Home Reader is placed in the basket as they enter the room. I would love to see 100% of students actively participate in this crucial activity.



Thomas completing his work independently during Literacy Sessions.

To be continued in Term 2 with Middle Session Information!!

Have a wonderful weekend.

Kind Regards

Mrs Kerry Patten

2/3/4 Teacher

5/6 Class News

This will be our last Class News for the Term as I will be on Long Service Leave next week. Thank you to Mrs Watt and Mrs Skene for teaching the 5/6 class in my absence. This has been a wonderful term in the 5/6 class and it is hard to believe we are almost at the end!

Congratulations to all students on their spectacular presentations and projects for Genius Hour! To say I am impressed is an understatement! We completed our final presentations this week with Damien (Robots), Catie (Dancing), Tailor (V8 Racing Tracks), Annelise (Horses and Saddles), Nigella (Cats), Oliver (Graffiti Art), Lisa (How to be a Book Illustrator), Sophie (Horses), Jarrod (Old Coins) and Anna (Horses) presenting their work. All students' projects will be marked over the holiday period and returned to them in Week 1 of next Term. We look forward to showing some of our Genius Hour Projects at our Assembly.



Damien taught us about Robots and Nigella shared her knowledge about Cats, with a special guest appearance from 'Teddy' and 'Inky'!



Annelise's presentation on Horses and Saddles was spectacular!



Tailor showed us all the V8 Car Racing Tracks around the world!

A reminder to all students that their English Studies activities for "Holes" are due at the end of next week. All students need to have their English Studies Books, thumb drives and posters handed in to Mrs Watt, who will collect them for me on the last day of school. I will be marking these during the holidays as well and look forward to seeing everyone's work.

We had a fun session on Wednesday where we FINALLY got to watch the film adaptation of our novel "Holes". Everyone enjoyed seeing the characters come to life as the mystery of Camp Green Lake was revealed. This was a great way to finish off this Unit and a lovely way to end the term!

Have a happy and safe holiday and I will see you all back at school on Tuesday 29th April!

Kind regards,
Mrs Jenny Lewis
5/6 Class Teacher

P&C News

Our first major fundraiser for 2014 is coming up on the 26th April. We will be running a food stall at the Canowindra Balloon Glow Gourmet Food Markets. We will be cooking and serving "Walking Taco's" - a delicious meal of corn chips, spicy mince, lettuce, cheese and sour cream. Helpers are required to work in the food tent on Saturday 26th April from about 2pm. Please contact Karen Beaumont if you require further information or are able to assist on 0419 229 755. Remember the P&C fundraising efforts benefit ALL HPS Students so we would appreciate all families contributing in some way to the P&C activities throughout the year.

Michelle Whitty
P&C Secretary

Canteen News

MISSING!!

An Apple "Slinky" machine has gone missing from the Canteen. This belongs to Mrs Webster and she would like it to be returned so that it can be used to cut up apples for fruit break. Any information as to its whereabouts would be greatly appreciated.

Community News

Please see the attached flier from Cowra Council regarding some fun holiday activities for your child.

