



HOLMWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Principal: Jenny Lewis

✉ Cowra-Carcoar Road, Cowra NSW 2794 ☎ 63422172 0458 422 000 🖨 63411247

@ holmwood-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au 💻 www.holmwood-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Term 1 Week 6 – Week Ending 6th March 2015

Students of the Week!

Congratulations to our Week 5 Students of the Week!



Brodie Rye (2/3), Portia Mansley (K/1) and Akiko Beatty (4/5/6)

Merit Awards were presented to;

K/1 – Samuel Lawler and Eloise Newell

2/3 – Katie Boatwood and Layla Hood

4/5/6 – Thomas Sears, Annaliese Cameron and Oliver Beaumont

Congratulations to all students!

Clean Up Australia Day

Wow! Don't our School grounds look spotless?! To coincide with Clean up Australia Day turning 25, last Friday Holmwood Public School did our little bit for the environment. Every student from K-6 were kitted up with some gloves, enthusiasm, determination and a desire to make our School grounds as clean as possible. Everyone was extremely busy collecting rubbish, sticks, pine cones and anything else to make our school grounds litter free. We found a few interesting items! The day was a huge success with rubbish bags, wheelbarrows, wheelie bins and recycling bags being filled with litter by lots of busy bees. The aim of Clean Up Australia Day is not only to

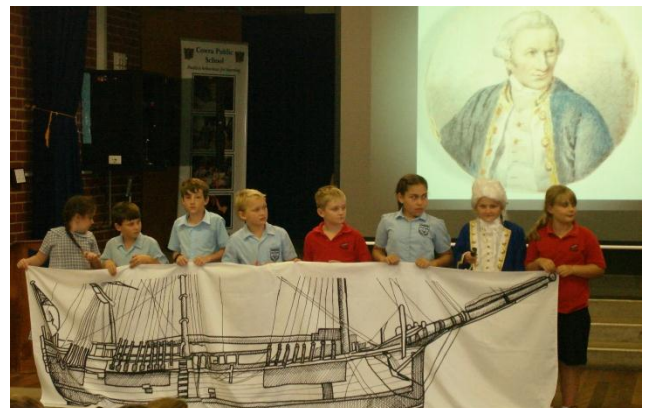
make our environment a cleaner place, but also to raise awareness for caring for our environment and becoming citizens who reduce, recycle and reuse – this was all certainly achieved in our clean up session! Mrs Skene would like to say a big thank you to all the students who participated and made it a worthwhile event...AND the students and staff would like to say a big thank you to Mrs Skene for organizing such a great day!



Maddison and Portia all gloved up and ready to participate in Clean Up Australia Day!

State Library Visit

On Tuesday all students from Year 3-6 attended a visit from the NSW State Library at Cowra Public School. This was a fascinating display and students were thoroughly amazed looking at some of the incredible artefacts from the early days of British Colonisation. Thank you to the organisers at the State Library for taking such an interesting exhibition to Regional Centres so that all students can have access.



Students from all Cowra Schools were involved in recreating the "Endeavour's" journey to Botany Bay!



Akiko, Zsalea and Ilyssa looking at some of the artefacts including an original shoe buckle that belonged to Captain Cook!

Good Luck Regional Swimmers!

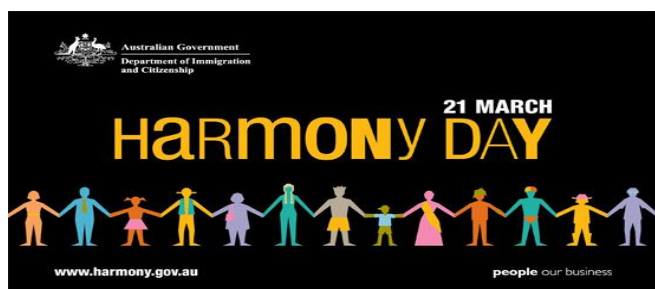
Good luck to Lilly Whitty and Claire Lewis who will be swimming at the Western Region PSSA Swimming Carnival in Dubbo tomorrow! GO GIRLS!!

Swimming for Sport – TOMORROW!

Swimming is on again tomorrow! Don't forget to pack-

• Swimmers	
• Towel	
• Rash shirt	
• Sunscreen	
• Goggles (if required)	
• Plastic bag for wet swimmers to go in.	

A reminder to all students that the Holmwood Swimathon is only a few weeks away and students are hopefully busy getting sponsors! Last year our School raised approximately \$1, 400.00 in sponsorship, so this year we are aiming to beat that!



Harmony Day – 15th Anniversary!!

This year our School will again be taking part in "Harmony Day" celebrations and 2015 marks the 15th year of Harmony Day in Australia! Harmony Day celebrates our rich cultural diversity and the theme is "Everyone Belongs". At HPS we will be celebrating Harmony Day by...

- Coming to School dressed in **ORANGE** (the 'official' Harmony Day Colour) – if you don't

have orange clothing – pink, red or yellow are all OK!

- Cooking a **FABULOUS** South Korean Cultural Feast for lunch. 2/3 will be preparing Entrée, 4/5/6 will be making the Main Meal and K/1 will be cooking Dessert!
- Sharing a meal together in celebration of our cultural diversity!

To cover the food costs for Harmony Day, each child is asked to contribute \$5 for their three course lunch.

Parents are also invited to attend the lunch with the students and staff at a cost of just \$5 per person.

If parents would like to assist with cooking activities in any class, please let the School know by completing the Helpers Note attached to this week's Newsletter...the more the merrier!

Please find a HARMONY DAY Lunch Form attached to this week's Newsletter – Forms and payment are due to the school by MONDAY 16th March – this is to assist with catering quantities.

Combined Schools Hockey Gala Day

Our Stage 2 and 3 students have been invited to attend a combined Cowra Schools Hockey Gala Day to be held on Friday 20th March. This will involve ALL students in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 and will be run similar to last year's event.

Students will be met by Mrs Kiely and Mrs Skene at Cowra Public in the morning, and will walk over to the Cowra Hockey Fields for a 10am start. Children will mix with other students from the other Cowra Primary Schools and Small Schools in fun, skills-based activities throughout the day, with games to follow in the afternoon. The day will conclude at 2:15pm after which students will walk from the Hockey Fields to the Cowra Pool to have a quick swim to cool off. Pick up will be as normal (either parents collect from the Pool OR students will be walked up to Cowra PS to catch buses home).

There is no cost for this Excursion, however ALL students attending **MUST** have a mouthguard. We have a supply of these available at School for sale at \$5.00 each. Shin pads are also encouraged, but not essential as there will be some available for our students to use on the day. Long socks are also encouraged in order to hold shin pads in place!

Please find a Permission Note for all Stage 2 and 3 students to attend with this week's Newsletter.



2015 Whole School Excursion

This year Ms Edgerton has taken on the responsibility of organising our Whole School Excursion and I am excited to announce that we will be heading to Kiama! This will be a three-day/two-night Excursion and will run from Wednesday 4th November to Friday 6th November. On Wednesday and Thursday we will take part in a wide range of activities including a visit to Minnamurra Rainforest Falls, the Shoalhaven Zoo, beach games, rock-pool explorations and the Illawarra Tree Top Walk! On Friday morning we will leave Kiama and travel to Jamberoo where we will spend the day at the Jamberoo Water Park. Accommodation has been tentatively booked at BIG 4 Easts Beach Holiday Park in the Bunkhouse. You can check out the facilities at <http://www.big4.com.au/caravan-parks/nsw/illawarra/easts-beach-holiday-park> We will return to Holmwood on Friday evening.

The School and Student Council have generously agreed to subsidise part of the cost of hiring the bus, however this year there will be no additional subsidy provided from the P&C.

The cost for each student to attend our Kiama excursion is as follows;

Students - \$205.00

Parents – \$195.00

This covers transport, accommodation, meals and entry fees to ALL activities. The only thing students will need to provide is a packed recess/lunch for Day 1. The costs for students are slightly more than adults as all adults enter Minnamurra Rainforest Falls for free. As spaces on the bus and at our accommodation venue are limited, helpers at this stage will be restricted to Kindergarten Parents only.

At this stage we need to get approximate numbers of students attending the Excursion and in order to proceed with our booking, we require a \$50 deposit for all students attending. **Please complete the Kiama Excursion Expression of Interest Form and return to school with \$50 deposit by the end of Term 1 (2nd April).** If you are a parent of a Kindergarten student and would like to also attend, please indicate on the attached Expression of Interest

Form. If you would like further information about attending as a Kinder parent helper, please feel free to contact me at school.

The countdown begins.....!!



Book Club

Attached to this week's Newsletter is the latest edition of Book Club. All orders are due with payment by **Monday 16th March.**

Calendar

Term 1 Week 7	
Wed 11th March	Canteen
Thurs 12th March	Selective Schools Test
Fri 13 th March	Scripture Swimming for Sport Canteen ICAS Entry Forms due
Term 1 Week 8	
Mon 16th March	AECG Meeting – 2pm @ Cowra PS P&C Meeting – 6pm @ School Book Club Orders due
Wed 18th March	HARMONY DAY Celebrations @ HPS! Don't forget to wear ORANGE! No Canteen
Fri 20th March	Hockey Gala Day (Yrs 3-6) Swimming for Sport Canteen
Term 1 Week 9	
Wed 25th March	Canteen
Fri 27th March	Scripture HPS Annual Swimathon! Canteen
Term 1 Week 10	
Mon 30th March	School Photos
Wed 1st April	Canteen RED FOOD DAY!
Thurs 2nd April	Deposit for Kiama Excursion due End of Term Assembly – All families and community members invited to attend – 1:45-2:45pm
Fri 3rd April	School Holidays Start

Kind Regards,
Jenny Lewis
Principal

Attachments

- Hockey Gala Day Permission Note
- Harmony Day Meal Deal Note
- Harmony Day Helpers Note
- Book Club catalogue

K/1 Class News

What an exciting end to last week we had, with a visit from Mr and Mrs Patten's furry friends! Eight little bunnies and two dogs - Henry AKA Hairy McLary and Sammy! All students had so much fun throwing Henry a toy bone and having him return it to each child in turn. We loved having our special visitors.



Addie getting a special cuddle from one of Mrs Patten's new baby bunnies!

A big thank you to Mrs Skene for organising and running our Clean up Australia Day activities which we will continue in our PD/Health lessons this week. We also ended a fun day with our first day of Swimming for Sport, and welcomed the chance to cool off for the afternoon. Students were grouped into their swimming abilities from building water confidence right through to life saving skills. We are fortunate to have enough teachers and staff for six groups.

This week in the K/1 Room we have been focusing on positive friendships, helping each other out with our classroom lessons, sharing and taking turns during games and talking and listening activities.

The Kindergarten students have learnt 12 sounds now and are beginning to blend these single sounds together to form words. First we say each sound slowly then blend them together using a finger count, such as t-a-p, then say it quickly "tap" to hear the sounds in the word and have a go at reading what the word says. Some simple words that we are learning are - sat, cat, pat and mat. We start with simple rhyming words and build on from there.

Year 1 are consolidating their sight words, developing their skills on extending simple sentences into more complex sentences, using descriptive words and actions, capital letters and full stops and focusing on correct letter sizing and formation.

In Maths we are learning about the many concepts related to time, from the length of particular events to days, weeks, months and years. We have been learning how to sequence the days of the week, months of the year and the seasons. This reflects in our Science topic "What about the Weather" where we have been discussing the types of weather commonly associated with each season.

On Tuesdays the K/1 students are very excited to join with the year 2 students and Mrs Patten for Art and they are creating some beautiful artworks for display in the Multi- purpose Room. Thank you to Mrs Patten for all your wonderful and artistic ideas - the room is looking amazing.

Have a great weekend
Ms Heidi Edgerton
K/1 Class Teacher

2/3 Class News

What an interesting week!! Spelling lists are all about double letters - new story books for Guided Reading including two new titles "Harry's Hiccups" and "Hedgehog Mountain".

Narrative introductions, officially known as the Orientation were "pulled apart" this week using Fairy Tales as a text.

We are crackerjack at identifying the Time, Place and Main Characters!!

Maths this week is about Addition and Subtraction. Timed Maths Challenge Sheets were introduced this week. These are Addition and Subtraction number sentences all on the basic "need to know automatically" number facts. The children are in competition with themselves. No-one else's results are important, just the improvement in their results and personal bests.

Year 3 had an informative and interesting Excursion to the State Library's Exhibition, which was very well presented and so worthwhile.

Art for this week is based around South Korea - Traditional Costumes (Hanbok Dress), National Animal (Tiger) and Masks (Traditional Drama, Dance, Song and Religious).

Homework - returns are pleasing with an average of 14/16 handed in on Fridays. Thank you.

Each completed Homework Week gets a sticker. Four stickers means a Pick-a-Prize. 9/16 children have already achieved 4 stars and picked their Prize.

Spelling Tests - are generally well learned. Students earn a star for 100% and a sticker for an improved result. Four stickers/stars equals a Pick-a-Prize.

There are lots of chances to Pick-a-Prize when 2/3 works on task.

Until next week!
Mrs Kerry Patten
2/3 Class Teacher

4/5/6 Class News

Week 6 already! Goodness me how time flies! This week the 4/5/6 Class started a new focus area in their Writing called Narratives. Narratives put simply, are stories that entertain us! We have been looking at the structure of a Narrative and really paying attention to the qualities that great writers use in their opening paragraph to really hook us in! Character development and setting are two areas which we have been working hard on and I was very excited to read what the students have written this week!



Kara, Claire and Harry - writers hard at work!

During Maths we have been learning about TIME! This is one of the more difficult concepts which Stage 2 and 3 students come up against and this week we have been focusing on am and pm notation, analogue and digital time and how to work out elapsed time. On Thursday with Mrs Patten the students created a whole class timeline with everyone's date of birth! It was interesting as we have a set of twins in our class - Isobella and Nigella - do you know who comes first on the timeline?

HSIE is always a fun lesson and this week we had to work in collaborative groups to design and make a Penguin Enclosure for two adult Emperor Penguins and three chicks who were being transported from Antarctica to the Western Plains Zoo in Dubbo. Groups had to consider things such as keeping the temperature at 0 degrees Celsius, a food source, some form of stimulation or entertainment for the Penguins, the layout of the enclosure, information for the visitors and of course lots of ICE! Each group are creating a model of their enclosure in the form of a Diorama and they are already looking fantastic! We will continue with this task next week.

Speaking of next week...GENIUS HOUR Projects are due on Wednesday 10th March! Presentations will start on this day so all students must be ready to go as names will be randomly drawn out of a hat. If you require advance notice of the presentation date for the purpose of organising a parent to bring something out to school, please let me know.

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

Canteen News

Thank you to Vanessa Harper who assisted in the Canteen last Friday along with Oliver

and Claire who were the Year 6 helpers. Tomorrow's helpers are Tania Collins (parent) and Will and Isobella (Year 6 students).

Just a reminder to parents not to put money or orders for ice blocks on the lunch order bags. The Year 6 students will be responsible for selling ice blocks at lunch and children need to pay for these separately. Also please put recess and lunch orders in separate paper bags. Thank you.

Community News

COWRA EISTEDDFOD

ENTER NOW

Entries are now open for the
62nd Cowra Eisteddfod
and will close on 16th March 2015

The Syllabus can be obtained from
<http://cowraeisteddfod.com.au>

Section Dates

Vocal - 14th to 17th May
Speech & Drama - 18th to 22nd May
Dance - 22nd to 31st May
Instrumental - 1st to 4th June

Grand Concert of Prizewinners

Friday 5th June 2015 at 7pm
Cowra Civic Centre

Enquiries can be directed to
committee@cowraeisteddfod.com.au