Thank you!
Thank you to the students, staff and parents for the warm welcome back! I had a terrific three weeks in China, seeing so many interesting places, and meeting so many incredible people…it really was an amazing experience! I am looking forward to sharing lots of photos and stories with the 4/5/6 Class over the next few weeks.

Thank you to Ms Edgerton, who did a fantastic job relieving as Principal in my absence. Thank you also to Mrs Knight and Mrs Kiely for teaching the 4/5/6 class and ensuring that their learning program was not interrupted. It was great to be back in the classroom on Monday!

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

Harry Seears (K/1), Jett Cummings (2/3)- absent, and Katelyn Judd (4/5/6)

Merit Awards were presented to;

K/1 – Addison Skinner and Caleb Crowe
2/3 – Jake McVicar and Charli Light
4/5/6 – Thomas Seears, Anneliese Cameron and Harry Beaumont

Library/PE – Samuel Lawler, Jake McVicar and Claire Lewis

Swim Test – Next Monday 2nd November
Next Monday 2nd November the whole school will be attending Cowra Aquatic Centre in order to complete a “Water Challenge” Swim Test. This is a Department of Education requirement for all students attending excursions where unstructured water activities are to occur. This swim test is required for both the Kiama and Bush to Beach excursions. Students will need to bring swimmers, rash shirt, towel, goggles (if required) and a plastic bag to put wet swimmers in. We will depart from school at 1:30pm and will be at the pool until 3:00pm. Parents are asked to collect their child/ren from the pool at 3:00pm or alternatively, students will be walked up to the buses at Cowra PS by a staff member. Please ensure your child comes prepared to go swimming on Monday. There will be no cost for the swim test – the school will cover both the bus cost and pool entry for this day. A permission note is attached to this week’s Newsletter – please sign and return to school asap.

Kiama Whole-School Excursion
Our excursion is now less than a week away! A list of what to pack and a detailed itinerary are included with this week’s Newsletter. Please ensure you read all the information in the note carefully. Students not attending the excursion are expected to attend school. Mrs Kiely has a terrific range of activities planned for the three days. We will see you all at the school at 7:00am on Wednesday morning!

Excursion Departure Time – 7:00am
Wednesday 4th November
Excursion Return Time – 8:45pm Friday
6th October
School Swimming Scheme – Weeks 6 & 7
In weeks 6 and 7 of this Term our school will be participating in the Annual School Swimming Scheme. This Scheme is targeted at those students who are developing water confidence, beginning swimming skills and who are not yet able to swim 50m unaided. As a small school, however we are fortunate to be able to offer swimming to all students, with the more capable students working through their Lifesaving Levels.

Thanks to a VERY GENEROUS donation from the P&C, there will be NO BUS COSTS for students again this year. The P&C will cover all Bus fees for ALL Students! This means that for students with Season Tickets, there will be NO COST this year for swimming. For all other students, the cost is now $20 ($2 pool entry per day for 10 days).

We thank the P&C again for their kind donation towards our Swimming School. Please sign the attached permission note and returned to school with payment by Monday 9th November.

Selective High Schools Test for Yr 7 2017
If your child is in Year 7 in 2017 and you wish for them to take part in the Selective High Schools Test, applications are now due. Go to www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement for application details. Applications close on 16th November 2015. If you require further information, please contact the school for an Information Booklet. All applicants are required to sit the Selective High School Placement Test to be held on Thursday 10th March 2016.

Emergency Contact Details
Mrs Hubbard has urgently asked for all parents to ensure their Emergency Contact details are up to date. If you have a new mobile phone number, the school needs to be informed in the event that we need to contact you regarding emergency care for your child/ren. Your attention to this is appreciated.

Asthma Medications
This term the staff has noticed a number of students bringing Ventolin Puffers to school to relieve symptoms of Hayfever or Asthma. These students are able to self-administer their own puffers, however the school must have a record of this and signed consent from the parent, for their child to do so.

Any children who have “Asthma” listed as a medical condition on their school enrolment form are required to have an Asthma Management Plan. These are completed by your child’s doctor. Mrs Hubbard has gone through all enrolments and for any Asthmatic students, has attached this documentation to your Newsletter this week. Please complete all paperwork and return to school as soon as possible.

Cherry Tree Avenue – Cowra Council
Since 1988 Cowra Council has committed to the completion of ornamental trees connecting the Cowra War Cemeteries to the Cowra Japanese Garden. The ornamental trees are donated by Japanese individuals and organisations whose contribution is acknowledged on a plaque bearing the donor’s name and the name of a local Primary School student. Students listed on donor plaques are invited to attend the Tree Planting Ceremony, to make contact with the tree’s Japanese patron and to take an active interest in the ongoing Cowra-Japan relationship.

Council is inviting any students from Holmwood who would be willing to be added to the list for inclusion on future plaques. There is no cost to the students. Please note that donations are received at irregular intervals and it may be some time before a tree becomes available and a student is paired with a donor. Students names are removed from the list at age 15. If you are interested in this opportunity, please call the school – 6342 2172.

Canteen
There will be NO CANTEEN tomorrow (FRIDAY), next week or the week after as Samantha will be away. Canteen will resume on Monday 16th November. We thank Sam for her time in running our Canteen and wish her a happy holiday!

Correspondence to the School
Parents are requested to ensure that any correspondence to the school, whether it be payments for excursions, letters or absent notes, are clearly signed and dated. Any correspondence received with no name or signature is difficult to receipt or follow up on. Your attention to this is appreciated.
Dates for your Diary

End of year events are rapidly approaching. Please note the following dates for your diary...

Kiama Excursion – Wed 4th – Fri 6th November

School Swimming Scheme – EVERY day during Week 6 and Week 7

CHS Year 6/7 Social – Wed 11th November

Bush to Beach Excursion (Year 4/5/6) – Monday 23rd – Friday 27th November

Concert Dress Rehearsal – Wed 2nd December

Concert Night Performance – Thurs 3rd December

Year 6 Farewell – Mon 7th December

Presentation Night – Thurs 10th December

Last Day of Term – Wed 16th December

CHS Year 6 – 7 Social

Year 6 students attending CHS in 2016 have been invited to attend a School Social on Wednesday 11th November from 7pm-9pm at Cowra High School Hall. Come dressed in a “bright colours” theme. A canteen will also be in operation. This social is only for current Year 6 and Year 7 students. For further information, contact Cowra High School – 63 42 1766

Kinder Transition

The new Kindergarten students had another terrific morning at school on Tuesday. They enjoyed completing all their class activities and all took home a wonderful artwork of Ten Fat Sausages in a Frying Pan! This year’s FINAL Transition date will be;

Tuesday 3rd November – 9:30am – 11:30am

We are all looking forward to seeing our new Kinders for their last visit next week!

Calendar

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 4 Week 5</th>
<th>Term 4 Week 6</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mon 2nd Nov</strong></td>
<td><strong>Mon 9th Nov</strong></td>
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<td>NO Canteen</td>
<td>NO Canteen</td>
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<td>All students K-6 to Cowra Pool 1:30-3:00pm – Swimming (Water Challenge Test)</td>
<td>Mrs Skene – RFF Day (Mrs Knight 2/3)</td>
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<td>All Staff – “Sports Ability” Training at HS 3:30-6:30pm</td>
<td>SCHOOL SWIMMING SCHEME</td>
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<td><strong>Tues 3rd Nov</strong></td>
<td><strong>Tues 10th Nov</strong></td>
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<td>Kinder Transition 9:30-11:30am</td>
<td>SCHOOL SWIMMING SCHEME</td>
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<td><strong>Wed 4th Nov</strong></td>
<td><strong>Wed 11th Nov</strong></td>
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<td>Whole School KIAMA Excursion! NO Canteen</td>
<td>SCHOOL SWIMMING SCHEME</td>
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<td><strong>Thurs 5th Nov</strong></td>
<td><strong>Thurs 12th Nov</strong></td>
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<td>Whole School KIAMA Excursion</td>
<td>Cowra High Yr 6/7 SOCIAL – 7-9pm</td>
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<td><strong>Fri 6th Nov</strong></td>
<td><strong>Fri 13th Nov</strong></td>
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<td>Whole School KIAMA Excursion NO CANTEEN</td>
<td>SCHOOL SWIMMING SCHEME</td>
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<td><strong>Term 4 Week 7</strong></td>
<td><strong>Term 4 Week 7</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Mon 16th Nov</strong></td>
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<td>SCHOOL SWIMMING SCHEME Canteen</td>
<td>SCHOOL SWIMMING SCHEME Canteen</td>
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<td>P&amp;C Meeting – 6pm Services Club</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting – 6pm Services Club</td>
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<td><strong>Tues 17th Nov</strong></td>
<td><strong>Tues 17th Nov</strong></td>
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<td>SCHOOL SWIMMING SCHEME Mrs Kiely – Live Life Well Workshop</td>
<td>SCHOOL SWIMMING SCHEME Canteen</td>
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<td><strong>Wed 18th Nov</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Thurs 19th Nov</strong></td>
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Kind Regards,
Jenny Lewis
Principal

Attachments

- Kiama Excursion Itinerary
- Kiama Excursion “What to Pack” and Information Note
- Year 6/7 Cowra High Transition Note
- School Swimming Scheme Permission Note (K-6)
- “Water Challenge” Swim Test Permission Note (K-6)

K/1 News

A huge welcome back to Mrs Lewis! We hope that you had a fantastic time away and you’re ready for a busy term!
It certainly has been a very busy week in the K/1 classroom. Over the last week many Assessments have been given to the students including Reading and Comprehension tests, Benchmark Reading Levels, Spelling test, Writing test, sounds and sight word recognition and Maths Assessments. These are delivered during Term Four and are taken into consideration for Report writing together with all the accomplishments and progress the students have made over the current year.

This week we have also had the third round of transitions for the new Kindergarten students. On Tuesday mornings we have seen some very confident and excited students lining up ready for a fun filled morning of learning and new experiences. This week we focused on patterning of shapes and identifying differences. Some new games were introduced into the rotation activities which included ‘Beat the Bear’ – a letter and phonics game, threading for fine motor control and the favourite – using the Interactive Whiteboard. This week the Nursery Rhyme that we sang was “Ten Fat Sausages”, and the students completed a craft activity for this rhyme.

On Wednesday we were lucky enough to have a Commonwealth Bank Associate come and talk to the students about Financial Literacy. We learnt about money and identified the types of money we have to purchase goods such as cash, Bank Cards and Credit Cards.

2016 Kinder students working hard to complete their craft activity on Tuesday morning.

Amie from “Start Smart” taught us all about money during her visit this week.

Concert practice is well underway. Just a reminder that we need all costumes in to school for 4/5/6 students before we go on excursion. The dancing dogs costumes are just about finished thanks to Cheri’s hard work, and the elephants are all sorted.

Kind Regards,
Ms Heidi Edgerton
K/1 Class Teacher

2/3 Class News
6 sleeps to go before we head off on our action packed school excursion to Kiama and it is becoming increasingly hard to contain our excitement! But as I keep reminding the students, we have a lot of work to do before we head off! Week 4 at Holmwood has been the same as every other week …….very busy!

We are extremely fortunate to have the very talented Mrs Hodges teach us Music here at Holmwood. Everyone thoroughly enjoys her lessons and last Friday was no exception. She had us singing, drumming, playing
Marimbas, creating our own beats and all sorts of fun things to do with Music. It is a lesson that everyone looks forward to and gives their 100% effort.

Next Tuesday will be our final week of having the current Year 1’s visit our classroom for the morning session. Everyone has been very busy learning new skills in our classroom creating their ‘Passion Projects’ and we cannot wait to learn all about their passions next week during the class presentations.

Because of our school excursion there will be no Homework or News topic for Week 5. Everyone can enjoy the week off! I would still love to see everyone reading each night though.

Have a wonderful weekend.
Kind Regards,
Mrs Fiona Skene
2/3 Class Teacher

4/5/6 Class News

What a great week I have had back with the awesome 4/5/6 class! This week has zoomed by and the students have been hard at work completing lots of activities across all key learning areas.

Our Roald Dahl ‘Revolting Rhymes’ English Unit is progressing well. This week our Rhyme was a twist on the traditional story of ‘Goldilocks and the Three Bears’. Students discussed the crimes that were committed by Goldilocks – namely break and enter, theft and destruction of property. In pairs each student had to write a witness statement as either Baby Bear or Goldilocks and be persuasive enough to convince me (the Judge) that they were innocent or guilty! Our Grammar focus was on awesome Adjectives, amazing Adverbs and clever Connectives. I was very impressed by the students creativity!

We are also writing our own Fractured Fairy Tales and producing a children’s book based on this concept. They are looking fantastic and we can’t wait to finish and test them out by reading them to the students in K/1 and 2/3 later this term.

In Maths this week our learning has been focused on the Order of Operations. We used the Youtube clip - PEMDAS Rap - to help us to remember the order and grooved along to the song NUMEROUS times!! The letters in PEMDAS stand for Parentheses, Exponents, Multiplication, Division, Addition and Subtraction. Hopefully the Year 5/6 students remembered this in their Homework task this week!

The Concert rehearsals are going well and I am pleased to see how the Year 5 and 6 students have learnt their lines. Future practices will now be SCRIPT-FREE, so please ensure you keep practicing at home until you are word-perfect!

We are all really looking forward to next week’s excursion to Kiama!

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

P&C News

The next P&C meeting will be held on Monday 16th November at the Services Club at 6pm. All parents welcome.

Community News

Cowra Evening Branch of the CWA invites you and your friends to dinner on Wednesday 11th November 2015 at 6:30pm for 7pm at the Cowra Services Club.

Guest Speaker - Sue Murray, CEO of Suicide Prevention Australia.

Tickets available at ‘The Closet’ - $25 per head.