Term 4 Week 9 – Week Ending 4th December 2015

Bush to Beach!

What an amazing time we had last week during our Bush to Beach exchange with Collaroy Plateau Public School. The CPPS students arrived on Monday morning to screams of excitement from the Holmwood students. Our playground numbers almost doubled as 24 CPPS students and 3 staff got off the bus, ready for their ‘country experience’. A day spent at HPS was an eye-opener for some of the students who found the large playground, small number of classrooms and the fact that Primary students are allowed to play with the Infants kids, a surprise. After a Marimba concert and game of Star Wars, it was off to the billets homes.

That night we had an icebreaker BBQ at the pool, and it was clear to all, that strong friendships between the students were already being made.

The next day it was off to Watervale Farm with Alison, Steve and Katelyn Rutledge as our hosts. HPS and CPPS kids enjoyed a tour of the shearing sheds, watched a sheep be shorn, had a bush sausage sizzle and competed in a STEM challenge where they had to work in teams to reconstruct a skeleton of a cow. The weather was very warm and it was great to head off to Wyangala Dam that afternoon for a cool, refreshing swim! That night Mrs Lewis and Miss Gee came to our homes and saw most of us with our billets.

The next morning we were off to Collaroy for the ‘city’ leg of our trip. We arrived at around 1:30pm and it was straight to Assembly (300 kids and that was just Years 3-6!). Our billet families were waiting for us after school and we were treated a bit like celebrities! Mrs Lewis and Miss Gee came and visited most of us in our billets homes again and took lots of photos.

Thursday morning was SURF lesson time! We had a great two hour lesson with Manly Surf School and most of us managed to get up on the boards. Half of us had a go at body-boarding, which was a little easier. The weather was really hot (38 degrees), so it was a lovely way to start the day. After our surf lesson we went to school for the day. Most of us went and
visited other classrooms and told them all about living in the country. We showed our HPS video we made before the trip to the whole school and they loved it!

When school finished we took the bus to Manly and had an ice cream, then it was on to the Fast Ferry to the city. We walked around Circular Quay, saw the Opera House and explored the Botanical Gardens. Then we were back on the ferry to Manly, and back to school for a Pizza and Movie night.

The next morning we had another surf lesson with Manly Surf School and then ventured up to Palm Beach, where the TV Show “Home and Away” is filmed. We saw the Diner, the Surf Club and even the Summer Bay Surf Life Rescue Vehicle! Unfortunately, the actors were not filming that day, but the opportunity to visit Summer Bay was a highlight for some of our students.

Back on the bus again, we headed back to CPPS where it was sadly, time to say good-bye to our new friends. It was one of the BEST excursions EVER!! Thank you to all the businesses, sponsors, families, P&C’s, staff and students who made this trip possible. The 4/5/6 students were outstanding ambassadors for our school and town and I am so impressed and proud of every single one of them. We hope that this is the beginning of a wonderful relationship with Collaroy Plateau PS and look forward to doing it all over again…in a few years’ time!

HPS Big Top Circus Concert is TONIGHT!!

If you haven’t got your tickets yet, never fear! Mrs Hubbard will be selling tickets at the door from 6:00pm for a 7pm start. Tickets are $5 each with entry for under-school age FREE!

All students are to be at the Civic Centre by 6:00pm so that costumes, make up and face painting can be done! Students will be given their black shirts and black shorts after our final dress rehearsal TODAY and are to wear these TO the Concert.

HPS P&C are planning to sell home baked goods during intermission at the Concert. They require donations of cakes, biscuits, slices etc so that they can make up cake trays as an additional fundraiser. All baked goods can be dropped to the Civic Centre on Thursday 3rd December or taken to Riverside Fruit Markets. PLEASE HELP the P&C to raise funds to support your child!

The Concert should be finished by around 8:30pm. We look forward to seeing you there!
Congratulations to BRITTNEY WORTH whose Concert Program cover design was chosen as our winning entry! Britney received a special prize at school on Monday!

Year 6 Farewell
On Monday 7th December we will be having the Year 6 Farewell party at the Cowra Pool. All Year 5 and Year 6 students are invited to attend. A permission note and invitation is attached to this week’s Newsletter. 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 $2.00 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!

Presentation Night
Holmwood Public School’s Annual Presentation Night will be held on Thursday 10th December 2015 starting at 7:00pm at the school. All students and families are encouraged to attend to celebrate the achievements of our students in 2015. It is expected that the Awards Ceremony will conclude at around 8:15pm, with supper to follow.

ALL FAMILIES ARE ASKED TO PLEASE BRING ALONG A PLATE FOR SUPPER.
At around 8:30pm, “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. 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!

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.

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!

School Magazine pre-orders
Thank you to all families who returned their School Magazine pre-order forms. Your 2015 School Magazine will be available for collection from Mrs Hubbard on Presentation Night, following the presentation of Awards. There will be some copies for sale on Presentation Night however once we run out; there will be no further copies available – be sure you don’t miss out, as this year’s edition is spectacular!! Congratulations to Lily Lawler and Alana Kiss who were the winners of the front and back cover art design competition this year!

Dates for your Diary
End of year events are rapidly approaching. Please note the following dates for your diary...
Concert Night Performance – Thurs 3rd December
Year 6 Farewell – Mon 7th December
Presentation Night – Thurs 10th December @ 7pm
Class Parties & DISCO – Tues 15th Dec @ School
Last Day of Term for Students – Wed 16th December

Calendar

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Term 4 Week 11

| Mon 14th Dec  | CANTENE  |
| Tues 15th Dec | Class Parties and School Disco (more info to come with next week’s Newsletter) |
| Wed 16th Dec  | Last Day for Students K-6 – HAPPY HOLIDAYS! CANTENE |
| Thurs 17th Dec| Staff Development Day – All Staff |
| Fri 18th Dec  | Staff Development Day – All Staff finish at 12pm. |

Kind Regards,
Jenny Lewis
Principal

P&C News

There are a couple of end of year activities the P&C will be involved in and we need your help!

The P&C will be holding a cake stall etc at the School Concert during Intermission. We need donations of baked goods PLEASE! These can be brought to the Civic Centre on Thursday 3rd December OR dropped off at Riverside Fruit Markets to Karen Beaumont.

The Cowra Night Markets is on Friday 11th December. Holmwood P&C will be running the Snow Cone Stall again this year as well as a Lolly Bag Stall. We need donations of bags of lollies (please send these into school) as well as volunteers to run the stall. Please let Karen Beaumont know if you are able to help. It is from 4:00pm – 9:00pm.

URGENT!! The P&C need donations of bags of lollies for the Cowra Night Markets Stall. Please send this in to school ASAP…1 lolly bag per family is needed!!!!
HELP our P&C raise money to HELP your child!

Thank you
Michelle Whitty – HPS P&C Secretary

Community News

Cowra Early Childhood Services
OOSH (out of school hours care)

Vacation Care Program December 2015 - January 2016

Bookings for the upcoming school holidays are open now and filling fast
Call now to avoid disappointment
Admin on 63422338

A variety of craft and physical play experiences will be on offer to the children throughout each day with the following highlights,
Thursday 17th Dec - Giant movie day with all the trimmings
Friday 18th Dec – Snow Globe making, Totem tennis, cricket in the park
Monday 21st Dec – Christmas cooking, sock wrestling
Tuesday 22nd Dec – Bunnings visit us Christmas craft, Christmas Owls.
Wednesday 23rd Dec – Cooking Christmas pudding, making Christmas cards
Thursday 24th Dec – To be advised due to numbers

Service is closed 25th December 2015 to 3rd Jan 2016

Monday 4th Jan – Skipping competition, Woodwork
Tuesday 5th Jan – Technology Day bring your own devices if you choose
Wednesday 6th Jan – Nerf Gun war in the park BYO Nerf gun
Thursday 7th Jan – Karate Shidoin David Simpson will demonstrate and teach basic self-defence techniques
Friday 8th Jan – Skate Park excursion
Monday 11th Jan – Candle making
Tuesday 12th Jan - Excursion to Bunnings to participate in DIY workshop
Wednesday 13th Jan – Super hero dress-up day, Scavenger hunt
Thursday 14th Jan - Water play day, sprinklers & slip n slide in the park, sausage sizzle lunch
Friday 15th Jan – Laser Tag in the park
Monday 18th Jan – Cooking Day
Tuesday 19th Jan – Pottery Cassie Scammell will bring her pottery wheel
Wednesday 20th Jan – machine sewing making treasure bags and curtains
Thursday 21st Jan – Little Athletics competition
Friday 22nd Jan – Water war in the park, photo frame making
Monday 25th Jan – BBQ and Lamingtons to celebrate Australia Day

Tues 26th Jan – Closed Australia Day
Wednesday 27th Jan – Last day party, dress-up day