Term 1 Week 3 – Week Ending 12th February 2016

Student of the Week
Congratulations to our Week 2 Students of the Week!

Jake McVicar (Stage 2), Mia Kiss (Kinder), Lara Collins (Stage 3) and Addison Skinner (Stage 1)

Week 2 Merit Awards went to;
Kinder – Jack Billing
Stage 1 – James Cameron
Stage 2 – Bethany Anthony
Stage 3 – Tyrone Gee
Library/PE – Lucas Sandry, Leetisha Nestor and Annaliese Cameron

Congratulations to all students!

Swimming Carnival is TOMORROW!
Excitement has been building all week with our Annual Small School’s Swimming Carnival on TOMORROW 12th February. The Carnival is due to start at 9:30am with gates open at 9:15am. All students are expected to attend the Carnival and participate in novelty events, 12.5m and 25m or the competitive 50m, 100m and 200m races. A Program for the day is attached to the Newsletter.

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 15th 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. 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!

GO HOLMWOOD!

Cowra Guardian ‘Captains and Kindies’
Each year the Cowra Guardian does a special article and photo spread of the ‘Captains and Kindies’ from all the Cowra schools. Last week Matt from the Guardian came out and took photos of our new Kinders and our Year 6 leaders. Make sure you keep an eye out in the Guardian as our photo will be published sometime in the next few weeks!

Welcome Miss Camps
This week we welcomed Charles Sturt University student Miss Jessica Camps to our school. Miss Camps will be undertaking a three-week Teaching Practicum in the 5/6 class with Ms Edgerton. We hope Miss Camps enjoys working and learning at our school and we look forward to her teaching all students K-6 during her time at Holmwood.
Paint Shirts
All students K-6 are asked to have a paint shirt for art activities this year. All paint shirts were sent home at the end of 2015 for washing so at the moment we have none. An oversized shirt works best as it covers school shirts AND shorts/skorts and keeps everything protected. Paint shirts need to have your child’s name clearly written on the collar and are to be handed in to class teachers. Your assistance with this is appreciated.

Dental Visit
All students will receive a consent form for Dental Screening with this week’s Newsletter. Screenings will be conducted on Tuesday 1st March. This is a terrific opportunity for your child to get a free check-up and referral should any dental work be required. Robyn Browne will be the visiting Dental Nurse and will be conducting a “Brush-in” following the screenings. Children will be shown the correct brushing techniques and receive a toothbrush and toothpaste. Please complete the consent form and return to school as soon as possible.

ICAS Tests
The International Competitions and Assessments (ICAS) Tests are run each year through the University of NSW and are available to students in Years 2-6. These are external tests which the school administers. Tests are marked independently and students are given a report and certificate detailing their achievements. ICAS tests are OPTIONAL and parents are required to pay a fee if they wish their child to sit the tests. The tests and prices are listed as follows; Attached to this week’s Newsletter is an ICAS entry form. If you would like your child to participate, please indicate which tests they are going to sit and enclose payment for each. Please return form with payment to school by Friday 4th March.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICAS Subject</th>
<th>ICAS Sitting Date</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Technologies (Year 3-6)</td>
<td>17 May 2016</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Science (Year 2-6)</td>
<td>31 May 2016</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing (Year 3-6)</td>
<td>13 June 2016</td>
<td>$18.70</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spelling (Year 2-6)</td>
<td>15 June 2016</td>
<td>$12.10</td>
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<tr>
<td>English (Year 2-6)</td>
<td>2 August 2016</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics (Year 2-6)</td>
<td>16 August 2016</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
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Uniforms
We have received our latest batch of new school uniforms and school hats ready for pick up and purchase! We also have a large amount of second hand uniforms in for sale. Items from the clothing pool are available for just $2.00. Please see Anthea in the office for all your uniform supplies.

School Photos
Kay and Cliff from Cliff Dykes Photography were at school on Tuesday to take our 2016 school photos. They also took a whole school photo of all students and staff on the play equipment which will also be available to purchase. This will be a separate order to the envelopes that were sent home last week. I will advise families when the whole school photo is ready for ordering via the Newsletter. If you have any questions or concerns regarding school photos, please contact Cliff Dykes directly on 6342 3070.

Swimming for Sport
We will start School Swimming for Sport on Friday 26th February and will continue through until the end of Week 9 with our Annual Swimathon. Swimming for Sport will be held on Friday 26th February, Friday 4th March, Friday 11th March, Thursday 17th March and Thursday 24th March 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. If Kinder parents wish to come a little earlier to assist their child with changing back into dry clothes, you are more than welcome - please be at the pool by 2:45pm.

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.

Bus Safety Talks
Next Wednesday 17th February we will be hosting Bus Safety talks with members from the NRMA and Cowra
Bus. These talks are a timely reminder to all students about their responsibilities when travelling on the bus to and from school. Kinder will be having their talks from 9:30-10:00am; Years 1-3 from 10:00-10:30am and Years 4-6 from 10:30-11:00am.

All parents are reminded that NO students are to be waiting at Cowra Public School to catch the Holmwood Bus before 9:00am. The only exceptions are those few students whose connecting bus arrives a few minutes before 9:00am. These students know that they are to sit and wait quietly where the Holmwood Bus picks up. It has been brought to our attention that some students have been walking to the bus stop and arriving at around 8:45am. There is NO supervision at the bus stop at this time and students who are congregating there are blocking the entrance gate to Cowra Public School. Your assistance with ensuring ALL students are safe is appreciated.

Book Club
Just a reminder that all Book Club orders are due with payment to the office by Wednesday 17th February.

School Fees
Voluntary School Fees are an essential source of funds for our school. 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.

Canteen
The first day for Canteen in 2016 will be Monday 21st March and will be every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from then on. We wish Samantha a speedy recovery and look forward to her return.

Calendar

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1 Week 4</th>
<th>Term 1 Week 5</th>
<th>Term 1 Week 6</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon 15th Feb</td>
<td>NRMA – Kinder 9:30-10am; Years 1, 2, 3 - 10 – 10:30 am; Years 4, 5, 6 - 10:30-11:00am.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 17th Feb</td>
<td>Mrs Lewis and Ms Edgerton – STEM Conference in Sydney; Mrs Webster (Kinder), Mrs Kiely (Stage 3)</td>
<td>Mrs Lewis – Principal’s Meeting – Orange (Mrs Knight K/1/2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 19th Feb</td>
<td>Book Club orders with payment due</td>
<td>Swimming for Sport K-6</td>
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<td>Bus Safety Talks with Cowra Bus and</td>
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Kind Regards,
Jenny Lewis
Principal

Attachments
- Small Schools’ Swimming Carnival Program (K-6)
- P&C AGM Invitation
- Dental Screening Permission Note (K-6)
- Swimming for Sport Permission Note (K-6)
- Mental Health Workshop flier
- ICAS Testing Form (Years 2-6 only)

Kinder News
We have had another busy week in the Kindergarten classroom and I am very excited to say that we have now completed our first set of 6 Jolly Phonics sounds! Kinders now know the sounds – s, a, t, i, p and n. A HUGE thank you to the Kinder parents who have been working with their children at home on their sound books and ensuring they are returned to school every day!

This week to accompany our sounds learning we have made “i-i-i-indians”, “n-n-n-nests” and on Tuesday we made “p-p-p-popcorn’! It was delicious and we LOVED watching the popcorn kernels explode once the heat made the moisture inside the kernel turned to steam! Mrs Lewis had a glass
topped frypan so we could see the popcorn jumping and dancing in the pan!

Angel and Ruby enjoyed cooking and eating popcorn on Tuesday!

Jack L, Malachi and Daniel LOVE popcorn!

We are all looking forward to our very first Swimming Carnival tomorrow!

Kind Regards,
Mrs Jenny Lewis
Kindergarten Teacher

Stage 1 News
Year 1/2 have settled in beautifully to the new school year.

In English, our L3 groups are in full swing. The students are displaying great work habits and are staying on task. They are working well and enthusiastically with the Reading Eggs Program and are developing strong Spelling skills and knowledge through the use of technology. This ensures the learning is productive, meaningful and engaging.

In Mathematics, we have continued looking at Whole Numbers. The students have played Maths games and completed independent learning focusing on place value, number patterns and groups of 10. The whole class has used ‘Rainforest Maths’ – an online Mathematics Program, to further enhance learning.

On Wednesday, Kindergarten joined the Year 1 and 2 students for some craft. This was first time K/1/2 have had Mrs Knight all at the same time. With a lot of glue, paper and crayons the students created a beautiful paper flower as part of our Tongan window display for Cowra’s Festival of International Understanding.

Thank you to all parent helpers – we look forward to having you assist with reading groups in our classroom.

Monday – Rachel Kriss-Newell
Tuesday – Still available
Wednesday – Rachel Kriss-Newell, Katie Rowley, Naomi Lawler

Good luck to all students participating in the Small Schools Swimming Carnival in Boorowa on Friday. GO HOLMWOOD!!!

Kind Regards,
Mrs Amylee Knight
Stage 1 Teacher

Stage 2 News
Another wonderful week has flown by in the 3/4 classroom! In English this week we have been very busy writing Poetry, learning about Nouns, using Reading Eggs on the computers to help us learn our Spelling words, listening to and reading Roald Dahl stories and reading Flat Stanley. We were all excited to view the photos that Charlotte brought in on Monday of Flat Stanley eating a yummy dinner with her family, going to work with Dad, and camping in a tent. Wow! What an action packed week-end he had with the Collins family.

In PD Health on Monday we learnt about the benefits of working in a team or group and how we behave and contribute in group activities. The children thoroughly enjoyed the challenge I set them of ‘building the tallest free standing structure using 15 pipe-cleaners’ in their groups. It was wonderful to see the skills of problem solving, decision making, interacting with others and communicating effectively within their groups being used. The extra challenge of using no language and only one hand was brought in during the task and it was pleasing to see some of the students using other means (their feet!!) and working together to build their structure.
Thank you to everyone who returned their homework last Friday. It was wonderful to see so many enthusiastic students completing their homework. The News topic for next week is What is your favourite movie? Tell the class all about it.

Have a lovely weekend!
Mrs Fiona Skene
Stage 2 Class Teacher

Stage 3 News
Well the week has flown by and already we are at the end of Week 3. Where is the time going?
Last Friday as part of our STEM Unit (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) we had a productive afternoon designing and making sustainable packaging for our eggs. As the nursery rhyme states Humpty Dumpty fell off the wall and he shattered into many pieces. The students aim was to make a package to stop their egg from cracking when dropped from a height of two metres. First they had to design the packaging using a number of given resources. Then they had to construct their casing and finally test their theory and design by dropping their named eggs from the fort in the playground. Well done to the four teams that had their egg survive the fall.

In Science this week each class has been investigating living things. We have a number of tadpoles growing very fast in our indoor pond. The K/1/2 class began to grow some beans. They planted them in zip lock bags so that we can examine the roots structure as they grow.

In English we are well into learning about Comprehension strategies and how we use these to understand what we are reading. We are applying these to our novel ‘James and the Giant Peach’. We are also learning about Poetry and exploring the eight types of speech by making an interactive Grammar journal.

Good Luck to everyone participating in the Swimming Carnival tomorrow. LET’S GO HOLMWOOD!

Regards
Ms Heidi Edgerton
Stage 3 Class Teacher

P&C News
The Holmwood Public School P&C will be holding their first meeting for 2016 next MONDAY 15th February at the Cowra Services Club starting at 6pm. ALL parents are encouraged to come along and have a say in their child’s education. P&C Meetings usually only run for about an hour and are held monthly. We would love to see some of our new families come along — parents, grandparents, everyone is welcome! If you need more information or have any questions about being involved in the P&C please call Karen Beaumont (P&C President) on 0419 229 755. See you on Monday night!

Michelle Whitty
P&C Secretary

Community News
OOSH Flier

Let’s Bring Healthy Back to Cowra
As part of the ‘Let’s bring Healthy Back’ initiative, two of the group organisers - Tabitha Jones and Bron Johnson would like to make some short videos to upload on the “Let’s Bring Healthy Back to Cowra” Facebook page and also to play through the TV at the Doctors surgery.
They are hoping to interview some school students from a variety of schools asking these students about which sports they play in Cowra and which clubs they are involved with.

It is their intention to get a cross section of students and clubs to showcase what is available, and what people can get involved in the Cowra District.

If parents are interested in their child being a part of this, please let the school know by phoning 63422172 and we will pass on the details to Tabitha and Bron. From there permission notes can be organised and the filming/interviewing date can be set up.