Term 1 Week 10 – Week Ending 1st April 2016

Students of the Week
Congratulations to our Week 9 Students of the Week!

Annaliese Cameron (Stage 3), Riley Smith (Kinder), Makayla Toohey (Stage 1) and Charlotte Collins (Stage 2) - absent

Week 9 Merit Awards went to;
Kinder – Jack Lawler
Stage 1 – Macey Rowley
Stage 2 – Jaydan Wright
Stage 3 – Harry Beaumont

CITIZENSHIP AWARD – WEEK 10 – LEETISHA

LEETISHA
Leetisha was chosen as the Week 10 Citizenship Award winner by Cheri for being a responsible and caring member of our school. Well done Leetisha!

Congratulations to all students!

HPS Swimathon!
Congratulations to all students who participated in the HPS Swimathon last week and thank you to Mrs Kiely and the Student Council for their organisation of this event. It was fantastic to see so many parents come along and encourage their children whether they be playing water confidence games in the little pool or swimming laps in the big pool! Congratulations to Layla Hood and Lily Lawler who top-scored the lap count in the Lifesaving group this year with a whopping total of 25 laps!! Don’t forget all sponsorship money is due back at school by the end of this term as a portion of these funds will go towards payment for the bus for this year’s Whole School Excursion.

Some of our K-2 students practicing their floating and kicking in the big pool during last Friday’s Swimathon!

District Cross Country
The Cowra District Cross Country will be held on Friday 20th May in Cowra. In the past, the Cowra Small Schools’ have been encouraged to send as many students as are able to run the distance to this event, without having to have a preliminary trial or selection process. This year however, due to the increase in numbers of students wishing to participate, Cowra Small Schools’ have been asked to follow the same guidelines as the other District Schools and send in only 6 runners in each age group (combined from ALL Cowra Small Schools).

Bearing this in mind, Mrs Briggs from Koorawatha will be compiling a list of ALL small schools’ students who wish to attend the District Cross Country event AND are capable of running for the majority of the distance. Depending on the number of students from each school, we MAY need to hold a HPS “trial” early next term. If there are only 6 nominees in an age group, then those runners will be put forward. Now that we are aware of this change, we will endeavour
to hold a combined Small Schools’ Cross Country Carnival next year in Term 1. Unfortunately the short timeframe this year has not made this possible.

The distances for Cross Country are as follows;

- 8, 9, 10 years – 2000m (2 kilometres)
- 11, 12, 13 years – 3000m (3 kilometres)

If your child is interested in nominating for the District Cross Country event, and they are able to run the above distance, please complete the note that was attached to last week’s Newsletter and return to school to Mrs Kiely by TOMORROW.

End of Term Assembly
All parents and community members are invited to our end of term Assembly to be held NEXT Thursday 7th April starting at 1:45pm sharp, under the COLA. We look forward to seeing items from each class, as well as our usual Reports and Class Awards. Hope to see you there!

Hockey Gala Day – TOMORROW!
The Hockey Gala Day has been rescheduled and will now be held tomorrow Friday 1st April. Students will be met by Ms Edgerton and Mrs Skene at Cowra Public in the morning, and will walk over to the Cowra Hockey Fields for a 10am start. The day will conclude at 2:30pm after which students will walk from the Hockey Fields to the Cowra Public School to catch buses home.

ALL students attending MUST have a mouthguard. Shin pads and long socks are also encouraged, but not essential as there will be some available for our students to use on the day. Ice blocks will be available for sale at the Gala Day for 50c each.

Soccer Skills Clinic with Football NSW
On Monday 4th April, all students in Stage 2 and 3 will have the opportunity to take part in a specialised soccer skills clinic with Andrew Fearnley from Football NSW. This clinic will be free of charge and we are grateful to Football NSW for including our school in their visit to the area. Stage 2 will run from 10:00-10:45am and Stage 3 from 11:15-12:00pm.

Calendar

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SCHOOL HOLIDAYS – Saturday 9th April – Tuesday 26th April inclusive

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Term 2 Week 2

| Mon 2nd May | P&C Meeting – 6pm Services Club |
| Thurs 5th May| Cowra Small Schools’ Athletics Carnival – Twigg Oval, Cowra. |

Kind Regards,
Jenny Lewis
Principal

Kindergarten News
Week 10 has been a short week but Kinder have still managed to pack lots of great learning in! This week we have completed some fantastic writing about what we did on the long weekend…some of us had our cousins come to visit, some went to Grandma’s house and lots of us had a visit from the Easter Bunny which was very exciting!! We had fun in reading groups again and would like to thank Naomi and Rachel for assisting in our classroom this term!

Our Maths focus this week has been on “position” which looks at the language we use to describe an object’s location. For example, next to, above, behind, in front of, below, etc.

We enjoyed listening to everyone’s “News” again this week, and news time is fast becoming the highlight of our day. This week Jack brought in his Dad’s trumpet to show the class for news and we loved listening to the funny noises that it made!
Kinder are becoming increasingly confident when speaking in front of a group and we look forward to practicing this at next week’s Assembly!

Keep up the AMAZING effort with homework and Home Reading Kinder!! Well done 😊.

Kind Regards,
Mrs Jenny Lewis
Kindergarten Class Teacher

Stage 1 News
I hope you all enjoyed the Easter weekend with friends and families. During our short week, Stage 1 has continued to work hard in L3 reading groups. We have completed lots of writing in class including recounts, sentences and imaginative texts. Stage 1 are further developing their knowledge of characters in books through comprehension activities and reading.

In Maths, our focus area for this week was position. Year 1 have looked at left, right, under, above, forward and backward whilst Year 2 focused on using position linked to mapping and classroom layouts. The students have thoroughly enjoyed this topic and have been engaged throughout the lessons.

Wow! One week to go until end of Term 1. Well done Stage 1!!

Until next week…
Mrs Amylee Knight
Stage 1 Class Teacher

Stage 2 News
I hope everyone had a wonderful Easter break, enjoying the superb weather that was on offer and experienced some lovely quality time with family.

This week in the classroom we have been very busy finishing off our Flat Stanley activities. There are some wonderful dioramas being made, some very entertaining interviews being videoed and some other wonderful creative pieces being written. Every single student in the classroom has loved working from the Flat Stanley Matrix and having choice in their activities whilst learning to manage their time to ensure that the required activities are completed on time. The engagement in learning, productivity and enthusiasm has been incredible by the students. With this in mind, I am certainly looking at doing a similar choice matrix again later in the year.

We have also been busy finishing off our Narratives unit with some very entertaining Narratives being written in the classroom.

In Maths we have been focusing on Number Patterns and everyone really enjoyed our number pattern game using buzzers...it is similar to a real-life game show competition...first team to buzz with the correct number pattern wins a point. The excitement and nerves were buzzing around the classroom! Another activity that the children have begged for me to do again!

There is no English homework this week and our Maths homework handed out today is not due back until next Thursday. Free choice for News this week is a very popular option and next week’s topic is: Share what you plan to do on the holidays.

Have a lovely weekend
Kind Regards,
Mrs Fiona Skene
Stage 2 Class Teacher

Stage 3 News
I hope that everyone had a lovely four day weekend for the Easter break. We are fast approaching the end of Term 1. We had a lovely afternoon for the ‘Swimathon’ last Thursday, with all children putting in a huge effort for their laps. Well done to those who have already returned their sponsorship money.

Over the past few weeks in English the students have been focusing on Exposition writing. So far the topics for our expositions have been ‘Computers are better than books’, ‘The City is better than the Country’, ‘School Uniforms are needed at school’ and ‘Children should play Sport’. With each piece of writing the students are becoming better at convincing the reader to agree with their opinion.

In Maths over the last two weeks we have been focusing on fractions, learning about equivalent fractions, adding and subtracting fractions, improper
fractions and mixed numeral fractions. Some of these concepts have proven to be somewhat tricky but we are getting better as we spend time decoding and arranging the fractions in order of size.

Well done to the Stage 2 students who completed their Science reports this week after having a number of interruptions to their Science lessons over the past few weeks.

Kind Regards,
Ms Heidi Edgerton
Stage 3 Teacher

Mrs Kiely’s News
HOORAY HOORAY HOORAY! That’s what I say to all the Holmwood swimmers, families, sponsors, swimming teachers and staff for an absolutely brilliant day last Thursday and a most successful Swimathon! The children were enthusiastic, the sponsors were very generous and the delight of parents and grandparents to see how their fish, frog or tadpole has rapidly progressed over the month of swimming was greatly appreciated!

Each year the Student Council do an amazing effort organising the Swimathon and seeing it evolve into such an enjoyable afternoon is always encouraging. I sincerely thank each of you for your contribution, as it’s your part that helps to make the whole event a success.

To date we have raised an amazing $542.00 with lots more sponsorship money still to come in! This is a fabulous and very generous response! We ask that all outstanding sponsorship money be returned before the end of term please. If your child needs a form please see Mrs Hubbard in the office.

In PE/Sport the Year 3-6 have enjoyed fine – tuning their hockey skills in preparation for tomorrow’s Hockey Gala Day. So please ensure that you pack all the requirements and enjoy this fabulous day making friends with other children from the Cowra and District Schools. We greatly appreciate the commitment of Mr Ben Cooley, from St Raphael’s School, who organises this major sporting event each year.

Week 2, Term 2 is our Small Schools Athletics Carnival and the children are already excited. We have commenced training and selections in PE. So please encourage your child to start extra training at home or by taking your child to River Park, to run the circuits and use the long jump pit.

If K-6 Library books could be returned each Thursday it would be greatly appreciated and also assist me enormously, as Friday is an exceptionally busy day! All books need to be returned before the end of term please. Thank you.

Early in Term 2 we hold our Annual Book Fair. The children present a character study based on their favourite book. So the school holidays are always a good time to start to plan a costume or outfit.

I value your wonderful support and I look forward to seeing you at our School Assembly.

Kind Regards,
Mrs Deirdre Kiely
RFF/Library Teacher
**P&C News**

The Holmwood P&C are now selling Cadbury chocolates and lolly bags as a fundraiser.

ONE Box was sent home with EACH family last Thursday for parents to sell as a P&C fundraiser. Additional boxes are available to be sent home – please call Anthea in the office to arrange this. PLEASE help us to support your child at our school. All monies need to be returned to the school office by the end of Term 2. THANK YOU!

If any parents have businesses, they are easy to pop on the counter, or even the kids may be able to go door-to-door with an adult to raise funds. Please contact Karen Beaumont – 0419 229755 if you need more information or have any concerns or questions about the chocolate fundraiser.

The next P&C Meeting will be held **Monday 2nd May** at the Services Club starting at 6pm. All parents welcome.

Michelle Whitty
P&C Secretary

**Community News**

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

Monday 11th April – Friday 22nd April 2016

Vacation care will run on Tuesday 26th April (public schools pupil free day) if a viable number of bookings are received before Friday 15th April 2016.

**Bookings open for our next vacation care program on Monday 14th March**

**Limited positions available, book quickly to avoid disappointment.**

A variety of craft and physical play experiences will be on offer to the children throughout each day.