Students of the Week

Congratulations to our Week 7 Students of the Week!

Eloise Newell (Stage 1), Jack Billing (Kinder), Layla Hood (Stage 2) and Hamish Newell (Stage 3)

Week 7 Merit Awards went to;

Kinder – Riley Smith
Stage 1 – Alana Kiss
Stage 2 – Jake McVicar
Stage 3 – Matthew Russell

Library/PE – Anabelle Newell, Grace Murphy, William Skinner

CITIZENSHIP AWARD – WEEK 7 – KATELYN JUDD

Katelyn was chosen as the Week 7 Citizenship Award winner by Ms Edgerton for being a happy, cheerful and polite member of HPS. Well done Katelyn!

Congratulations to all students!

Cowra Festival of International Understanding

Congratulations to all HPS students for the outstanding job done in creating our school’s window display entry in last week’s Festival of International Understanding. Our school claimed 2nd place in the Small Schools’ Section and won a Certificate and Gift Voucher to the value of $30. Thank you to Mrs Knight for organising our entry, Kelly Skinner for allowing us to use her shop window and Jay Kennedy for accepting the Award on the school’s behalf at the Presentation Ceremony last Saturday.

Swimming for Sport – LAST DAY!

Our last day of Swimming for Sport is on next THURSDAY 24th March. This will also be our Annual HPS Swimathon. Mrs Kiely has added some information about the Swimathon in her section in the Newsletter – please, if you have any questions, don’t hesitate to contact the school. Last year our school raised approximately $1,200.00 in sponsorship, so this year we are aiming to beat that! For swimming next week, don’t forget to bring...

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

Parents are invited to come along and watch the Swimathon take place on Thursday afternoon from 1:45pm at the pool. We hope to see you there!

Combined Schools Hockey Gala Day

Tomorrow is the HOCKEY GALA DAY! This will involve ALL students in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6.
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. 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 2:30pm after which students will walk from the Hockey Fields to the Cowra Public School to catch buses home. There is no cost for this excursion, however ALL students attending MUST have a mouthguard. 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! Ice blocks will be available for sale at the Gala Day for 50c each. I’m sure all students will have an enjoyable day!

Harmony Day – NEXT WEDNESDAY!!

This year our school will again be taking part in “Harmony Day” celebrations. 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, pink, red or yellow are all OK!
- Cooking a FABULOUS Tongan cultural feast for lunch. Kinder will be making appetisers, Stage 1 will be preparing entrée, Stage 3 will be making the main meal and Stage 2 will be cooking dessert!
- Sharing a meal together in celebration of our cultural diversity! The LUNCH will start at 12:30pm under the COLA.

To cover the food costs for Harmony Day, each child is asked to contribute $6 for their FOUR course lunch. Parents are also invited to attend the lunch with the students and staff - just $6 per person.

Thank you to those parents who have indicated they would be willing to assist the students and staff in preparing our Tongan feast! Class teachers will contact those parents individually to organise times. Please return all HARMONY DAY Lunch Forms to the school by MONDAY 21st March – this is to assist with catering quantities.

Calendar

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<th>Term 1 Week 9</th>
<th>Term 1 Week 10</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 21st March</td>
<td>Mon 28th Mar</td>
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<td>P&amp;C Meeting – 6pm - Services Club</td>
<td>EASTER MONDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY</td>
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<td>Wed 23rd March</td>
<td>Fri 1st April</td>
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<td>HARMONY DAY LUNCH! Start time – 12:30pm</td>
<td>Mrs Lewis – PPA Meeting (Young) 9am-12pm</td>
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<td>Thurs 24th March</td>
<td>School Visit from Director Mr Duncan Auld 1-3pm</td>
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<td>HPS Swimathon</td>
<td>Term 1 Week 11</td>
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<td>Fri 25th March</td>
<td>Thurs 7th April</td>
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<td>GOOD FRIDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY</td>
<td>End of Term Assembly – 1:45pm start under the COLA</td>
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<td>Fri 26th March</td>
<td>Fri 8th April</td>
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<td>Scripture Last day of Term 1</td>
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Kind Regards,
Jenny Lewis
Principal

Attachments

- Kinder Best Start letters to parents

Kindergarten News

Another week down and only three more weeks until Kinder have finished their first TERM of learning!! When I think back to the start of the year, I am so proud and amazed at how far each Kinder student has come after just 8 weeks of school! The Kinder Best Start Assessment letters have been included with this week’s Newsletters. Please remember that these assessments
were given to the students in their second week of school, so you may find as you read them, that your child has already progressed in many of these areas. If any parents have any concerns about the Best Start letters, please don’t hesitate to contact me at school.

This week our focus in Maths was “data”! We have been learning all about picture graphs and how they can tell us lots of interesting information. We have graphed our favourite colours (a tie between blue and pink) as well as our favourite zoo animals – giraffes were by far the most popular, closely followed by meerkats!

One of our picture graphs we completed in Maths this week.

In HSIE this week, K/1/2 continued their unit on “Celebrations” with a closer look at some of the celebrations from other countries and cultures. We have enjoyed learning about St Patrick’s Day, Chinese New year, and this week we discovered lots of interesting information about Diwali – the Festival of Lights celebrated in India. We had great fun designing our own Mehndi patterns on outlines of our hands to resemble the intricate Henna patterns that the Indian women decorate their bodies with during this Festival. These are on display in our classroom and look amazing!

In Maths, we focused on Data. As a whole class, we participated in a “real life” collection of data activity. The children tallied and calculated the number of cars, according to colour, that drove past Holmwood PS. White was an overwhelming winner with silver a long way behind. We also looked at our favourite colours (green was the favourite), the length of our name (we have 8 students with a 5 letter name) and Year 2 investigated the most common eye colour in Year 1/2.

On Wednesday, Kindergarten joined 1/2 for Drama. We used the stories “The Very Cranky Bear” and “Follow that Bear if you DARE!” to re-enact the tales through movement and expression. Holmwood Public School has some future Hollywood actors in the making.

Huge congratulations to the students of Holmwood PS for coming away with a second place in the Festival of International Understanding window display. Great work!!

Until next week…

Mrs Amylee Knight
Stage 1 Class Teacher

Stage 2 News

This week in English we started our writing focus on Narratives; which everyone is excited about as we all love writing and reading interesting and intriguing stories! We started by analysing and discussing different characters in various stories that we enjoy. After viewing and listening to the storybook, in the Library and can’t wait to serve our special Tongan dish to everyone!

Kind Regards,
Mrs Jenny Lewis
Kindergarten Class Teacher
‘The Bad Case of Stripes’ written by David Shannon on www.storylineonline.net we discussed and completed a character analysis of the character in this story. We then moved on to focusing on ‘setting the scene’ in our stories and how important this is. The class will be immersed in a variety of story books that are good examples of narratives over the next two weeks. We are looking forward to writing our own narrative and using all of the skills that we have been learning.

In Maths we have been learning all about fractions and we all know that a fraction is an equal part of a whole. We have folded paper to represent different fractions, we have made ‘Fraction Sundaes’ for display in our classroom (I have included some photos for you), and the best activity was cooking pancakes and cutting them into fraction pieces and then of course eating them!

News topic next week is: What is your favourite board game/card game? Explain it to the class. Hope you have a lovely weekend with your family.

Kind Regards,
Mrs Fiona Skene
Stage 2 Class Teacher

Stage 3 News
This week the year 5/6 class finished their STEM projects that they have been working on in groups over the last few weeks. The aim of the project was to come up with a design and then build a tower that was 50cm tall and would support a tennis ball at the summit. The students looked at designs and shapes of commonly built structures such as the Eiffel tower, Centre Point Tower, the Leaning Tower of Pisa and Windmills and came up with a design that they thought would be suitable to make from paddle pop sticks, masking tape and string. All groups were successful in their task although some were sturdier than others.
Harry and Katelyn’s design had an interesting shape!

Lily, Matthew and Mackenzie put in a great effort on their design.

This week Stage 3 students have been learning about long and short division. This is quite a tricky Mathematical concept and the students are really starting to get the hang of it. Knowing your times tables really helps, so it is advised that students practise their times tables as often as they can until they know their tables.

In English we are on the downhill slope with completing our Spelling matrix. Each week the students complete 4 different activities from their Spelling matrix, so none of the activities are the same. This provides students with a wide variety of activities when learning their Spelling words.

In Science the Stage 3 students started their mini information reports on the human body’s systems. Each student is responsible for learning about one system in depth and presenting their findings to the class. I look forward to each student’s PowerPoint Presentations in the coming weeks.

Have an enjoyable weekend.
Ms Heidi Edgerton
Stage 3 Teacher

**Mrs Kiely’s News**

The recent rain and cooler weather has certainly been most welcomed. We greatly appreciate the outstanding job that Mr David Kiss, our GA, does in maintaining our beautiful grounds and oval. His efforts ensure that the children at HPS have a beautiful play area and PE/Sporting Fields. This has been a quite a challenge during the long hot months this year.

During February and March we have been fortunate to have the cricket expertise of Mr Matt Tabbernor, Regional Cricket Manager. He has come to HPS on a Thursday to share his expertise with the children and staff. This has been a very beneficial program and the subsequent development of each child’s skills has been evident. We have many very capable Cricket players amongst our girls and boys!

Sports Monitors Layla and Charli thank Matt Tabbernor for all his assistance during Cricket lessons this term.

Lara Collins was chosen by Matt for the Milo Cricket Prize for demonstrating skill, potential, enthusiasm and sportsmanship qualities each week! Congratulations Lara.
Next Thursday is the Swimathon which each year concludes our Summer Sport Swimming Program for K-6. We thank Della, Di and Claire for their expertise and all the HPS teachers for making this program available for all our students. The students at HPS are very fortunate to have this summer swimming program and the development of confidence, stamina, style and lifesaving skills become more evident each week. We especially thank Mr Phil Dowd, who generously provides the bus transport at minimal cost.

Attached to a previous newsletter was your child’s Swimathon information and Sponsor Sheet. This is the Student Council’s main fundraiser for the year. All proceeds go towards assisting your child’s learning by reducing the cost of the annual excursion and by purchasing new PE and Sporting equipment for our school. The generosity of the Holmwood families is always greatly appreciated. This form must come to school next Thursday 24th March please so that the swimming teachers can sign off activities and laps completed. The form will go home with your child after the Swimathon so that all sponsorship money can be collected and returned to school by FRIDAY APRIL 1st please.

The exciting PE news this week has been the commencement of a Hockey Fundamental Skills Program for Year 3-6 students, in preparation for the Combined Schools Hockey Day tomorrow. These gross motor skills continue to improve the hand eye co-ordination and bat and ball skills and fitness levels that were developed during the recent Cricket Clinic. Who will be the HPS leading Hockey Player this Year as last year it was Christian Petty? It is judged on skill, sportsmanship, fitness and being a team player...essential skills for sporting success.

Thank you to Ms Edgerton and Mrs Skene who are taking their classes to this sporting event on Friday. Remember to pack extra water bottles, sunscreen and mouthguard please.

It is important that children do not misplace their mouthguard over the holidays. We will be playing Hockey for sport after the Athletics Carnival next term and a mouthguard is also essential to play Hockey for sport.

During the Swimming School K/1/2 Library books will come home on Monday, via Cheri, to avoid books being damaged in wet swimming bags. If all Library books could be returned each Thursday it would be greatly appreciated and assist me enormously, as this Friday is Hockey Day and next Friday is Easter Friday. Thank you.

I greatly appreciate your wonderful support and I look forward to a very exciting swimathon!! Hope to see you there.

Deirdre Kiely
RFF/Library Teacher

P&C News
The Holmwood P&C are now selling Cadbury chocolates as a fundraiser. Boxes will be brought out to school to be distributed to families who indicate they would be willing to sell them. 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 to raise funds. Please contact Karen Beaumont – 0419 229 755 if you need more information OR are able to lend a hand!!

The next P&C meeting will be held NEXT Monday 21st March 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.
COWRA JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE

Registrations are open for Cowra Junior Rugby League for ages under 6 to under 16.

Games are played Saturday morning at River Park for 6’s to 12’s. The boys in under 13’s to 16’s compete in the Group 10 Junior Rugby League competition and play teams from Orange to Oberon.

Register online at http://www.foxsportspulse.com/club_info.cgi?c=1-2182-42141-0-0 or attend our Registration day on Friday 18 March at 4pm (birth certificate required for all new players).

Players 6 - 12 years cost is $80 which includes shorts and socks.

Players 13-16 cost $120 which includes shorts and socks, plus 13’s receive bag & jacket, 14’s training singlet and hoodie and 15 & 16’s get a CJRL polo shirt and flat hat.

Please register as soon as possible so we can get our teams sorted.

Come along and play the Greatest Game of All. Swoop Magpies Swoop.

COWRA NETBALL

2016 Season dates are:
Seniors will commence 2nd April @ 1pm
Juniors from 10 yrs & older will commence 2nd April @ 11am
5-9 yrs will commence 7th May @ 11am

2016 Registrations costs:
Seniors (18 years +) - $130
Juniors (11-17 yrs) - $100
NetSetGo (5-10yrs) - $55 (All participants receive a NetSetGo pack)

ALL REGISTRATIONS ARE ONLINE ONLY NOW & ALL PLAYERS HAVE TO BE REGISTERED BEFORE PLAYING.

We are also holding some 'Come and Try' days for anyone new to netball that would like to have a try at netball and it's FREE.

All this information plus more is available on our website http://cowrana.nsw.netball.com.au/