



Halls Gap Primary School Newsletter No 8 Tuesday 22nd March 2011

MARCH 2011	
Tuesday 22 nd	Active After School 3.15 – 4.15pm
Thursday 24 th	Active After School 3.15 – 4.15pm
Thursday 24 th	1 st meeting of new School Council (to co-opt community members) 6.30pm 2 nd meeting of new School Council (election of office bearers) 6.40pm Presentation of Annual Report to School Community meeting 7.00pm March School Council Meeting 7.30pm
Tuesday 29 th	Active After School 3.15 – 4.15pm
Thursday 31 st	MARC
Thursday 31 st	Active After School 3.15 – 4.15pm
APRIL 2011	
Friday 1 st	Cluster Day 2 Yr3-6 Great Western, P-2 Concongella
Tuesday 5 th	Active After School 3.15 – 4.15pm
Thursday 7 th	Active After School 3.15 – 4.15pm
Friday 8 th	Last day of term
Friday 22 nd	Good Friday
Sunday 24 th	Easter Market
Wednesday 27 th	First day term 2
Thursday 28 th	MARC
MAY 2011	
Thursday 12 th	MARC
Friday 13 th	Community Breakfast 8.00am at the school
Friday 13 th	Cluster Day 1 Cross Country Carnival – P-2 Pomonal, 3-6 Halls Gap
Wednesday 18 th	Grade 6 Information Night – Stawell Secondary College
Thursday 19 th	Cluster Athletics Carnival 2011 (Concongella host school, North Park)
Friday 20 th	Cluster Athletics Carnival 2011 backup day
Thursday 26 th	MARC
JUNE 2011	
Thursday 9 th	MARC
Monday 20 th	Cluster Day 2 P-2 Great Western, Yrs3-6 Concongella
Thursday 23 rd	MARC
JULY 2011	
Friday 1 st	Last day term 2

Dear Parents and Students

In helping students understand the values set by our school, each class has a set of signs to remind them what these are and what they mean. A couple of weeks ago we asked that you discuss with your child what they mean and how we can demonstrate that we understand them. The first I would like to outline in detail is respect.

Our Strategic Plan definition for respect is simple:

- **Respect** – *Treating self, others and your environment with care and respect*

The Children Youth and Women's Health Service of South Australia breaks respect down in to a number of areas. Firstly what is respect, then respect at home, followed by respect at school and finally earning respect for yourself. As part of our learning program students explore and develop understandings of social networking. Respect for others is a key ingredient for appropriate and successful social networking. Downloaded and attached are points for consideration when discussing what respect means for us as a community.

Congratulations to our team of swimmers who travelled to Horsham for the Regional Swimming Carnival last week. All students swam with confidence and again showed an improved personal best in their races. A very big thank you to Blanche for training our students before school each morning and to those parents and friends who travelled with Frau Stoffel and the team to support them on the day.

In addition to swimming we hosted playgroup on Wednesday and had a group of students attended the footy clinic run by the AFL at Central Park in Stawell. It was great to see so many students participate in the Ride to School day last Wednesday – and some parents!

Please remember this Thursday our new School Council will meet for the first time (please see the calendar above for details). Meetings will be held in the school office.

Have a wonderful week
Judy Hilbig



ALLERGIES – PLEASE AVOID SENDING NUTS TO SCHOOL

Just a reminder – we do have a child at school with a serious allergy to nuts (anaphylaxis). We do ask that you refrain from

STAWELL 13&U FOOTBALL 2011

Stawell 13&U Football Assoc (Friday night footy)

(inc. Tigers, Bulldogs, Magpies & Hawks)

Registration night

Wed 23rd & Wed 30th March 2011

North Park Clubrooms 4.30 to 5.30

Intending players must have a parent attend one of the registration nights. No late entries will be accepted this season

A new entry level - players must be in at least Year 4 to play this year, maximum age will remain at 13.

Fees - \$60.00 per player or \$90.00 for 2 players in family PLUS \$25.00

jumper/helmet holding deposit. \$15 to be refunded + \$20 duty levy to be refunded at end of season if duty is completed.

Any queries

Wes Illig 53583968 Toni Stewart 53585541

JUNIOR SCHOOL COUNCIL

Junior School Council News –

- About to purchase some sport equipment
- Developing plans to improve the cubby
- Exploring options for the Easter Raffle

EXPOSITION WRITING – WOULD YOU TAKE COMPUTERS AWAY FROM THESE STUDENTS?

Halls Gap Primary School

Halls Gap, Victoria

11th March 2011

Dear Mr Millar,

Our school is alarmed at hearing that our computers might be disallowed at our school.

I am studying a unique subject at the moment that I couldn't find in a book. However, I still use books to record my information. Computers are fantastic resources, so why should they leave

Our school has joined multiple educational sites, such as Super Clubs Plus. On this website, we learn how to be safe on the internet, while still having fun. Another is Mathletics, where we answer mathematics questions online. Without the computers, we wouldn't be able to easily access these helpful websites.

It is hard to share one book between a whole class if someone finds a good book, but with websites, everyone can access it on their own computer with ease.

I exercise daily, do my chores and homework and everything else I need to. Computers are one of the parts of my life, like school and sport. My parents use the internet frequently for business too. Most people have a computer, and when the children do, they learn to manage things a lot better as well.

These are some of the reasons why my school wants the computers to stay.

Yours sincerely,
Charlie Faulkner

Halls Gap Primary School,
Halls Gap 3381

11 March 2011
Dear Mr Millar

My classmates and I have heard you might take our computers.

Well I think that is shocking because we learn lots heaps from them, and if you take our computers it would be like you stealing a piece of our learning and education.

For one thing we need them to do research because sometimes we can't find the information we need in BOOKS!

We also need them for communication because if I had a friend overseas and my family could not afford to visit them we could use email and webcam.

Another thing is, what about Phil our technician? If we don't have computers he won't have a job.

We still use books way more often like for writing stories but we normally type up so it looks readable. And we can use computers to make awesome covers.

The other reason is to work on responsibility because in our school we have to bring them charged and clean and show our parents and teachers we can be responsible.

My last reason is we need FUN. There are heaps of educational websites but we still need 20th century FUN. So I hope you can find it in your heart to let us keep our computers.

Yours sincerely,
Bethany.

Halls Gap Primary School
Halls Gap Victoria
11 March 2011

Dear Mr Millar

I was very unhappy to find out from my teachers this morning that we might be losing our computers. These computers are very important in our life and I hope you will have second thoughts about this decision.

I believe that we should keep our computers because there are a lot of education sites on it and we can't even play games anyway.

Because we are such a small school we don't have many good research books so we rely on the internet a lot.

I also think that we should keep our computers because some schools and families might not have a lot of money so they might not be able to afford a new one.

Another reason we should keep them is because these day we do a lot of tests and stuff on the internet. Also our teacher gets a lot of stuff on the computers to help us learn better and in different kinds of ways.

I hope you take this letter into lots of consideration. I would really appreciate it.

Yours sincerely
Zellah Eastwood

Halls Gap Primary School
Halls Gap

11 March 2011

Dear Mr. Millar

When I arrived at school today the first thing I heard was "You might not be able to take your computers home today" I was so disappointed. I cannot believe that living in 2011 we could **NOT** have computer. I hope you take all of what I write into consideration.

At my school we all take very good care of our computers. We all keep them safe at home and we put them on the charger when we get home. This is a big lesson for us in responsibility and ownership and I think it really helps us with research and learning.

We (all) use safe and educational sights and we (all) use them for school research and projects. At the moment we are all studying something of our own choice and it's hard without computers. We use special programs with our computers and even though you need exercise and books you can still have fun on computers. When we take our computers home we can do research and homework at home.

I think you **SERIOUSLY** need to rethink this decision. I think that computers do help your education but I don't play my computer all the time I like to read books and do sport as well.

Yours sincerely

Ashlyn Magill

Halls Gap Primary School
School Road
Halls Gap
3381
11\3\2011

Dear Mr. Millar

I would be extremely sad if you took away the school's computers for lots of reasons. Computers are really important to me because everyone has a net book in our class. And my grade has only just got theirs! Here are some reasons why you shouldn't take our net books away.

- I. There are websites like the ultranet™ because of all the learning tasks.
- II. Also...say if someone's up in QLD and someone's down in VIC, because if you're a child... you cannot use a phone. So you have to just e-mail that person.

So... what do **you** think???

Yours sincerely

Henry Read-Spinks