



Halls Gap Primary School Newsletter No 26 Tuesday 30th August 2011

AUGUST 2011 WEEK 7	
Monday 29 th – Friday 2 nd Sep	Literacy and Numeracy Week
Monday 29 th	Stawell Secondary College Ambassadors – transition program years 4-6
Tuesday 30 th	Active After School Session 6 Bike Ed (students must have their own bike and helmet) 3.15-4.15
Wednesday 31 st	Year 6 Transition Day 1 Stawell Secondary College
Wednesday 31 st	Joining the Chorus – mass rehearsal
SEPTEMBER 2011	
Thursday 1 st	Count Us In
Thursday 1 st	MARC
Thursday 1 st	Active After School Session 7 3.15-4.15 Minor Games NB this is the last Thursday session for the term
Saturday 3 rd	Grampians Wildlife Arts workshop in main street under the sails, children invited to participate (pavement artist Bev Issac (Big Hill Art and Framing) conducted a workshop at the school recently – a good introduction to this workshop workshop, gold coin donation to help cover cost of pastels)
WEEK 8	
Tuesday 6 th	Active After School Session 7 Bike Ed (students must have their own bike and helmet) 3.15-4.15 Last session for the term
Thursday 8 th	Years 5/6 Maths Olympics Stawell Secondary College
Thursday 8 th	School Council Finance 3.45pm School Council 4.00pm

Dear Parents and Students

Last week each family was provided with a copy of the Parent Opinion Survey. As this stage we have received only five returns out of nineteen. If you haven't done so yet please help us by returning your survey as soon as possible. For data to be representative of our school community we need as many returns as possible. Larger schools are required to gain data from a minimum of forty randomly selected families, this is considered a fair representation of a school community – given we only have nineteen we need to be submitting one from each family.

This week we have students attending rehearsals for 'Shine On', year 6 students attending Stawell Secondary College for the first of the transition days, all students participating in the 'Count Us In' singing activity on Thursday, and yesterday Nathan and Charlie were competing in the Victorian School Sports Golf Championships at regional level in Ballarat.

We recently received the University of NSW Writing Competition results for our students in years 4-6. All students are to be congratulated. Analysis of writing is provided to the school. Students were asked to write an argumentative text. The students were given the following –

Your local district wants to build bicycle paths so people can ride their bicycles safely. However, many people believe the money should be spent on improving roads for cars because more people use cars than bicycles.

Their task was to write a letter to the planner for their local district. They were instructed to either argue for or argue against building bicycle paths in their local area.

The following students are to be commended for receiving higher outcomes –

Ashlyn – High Distinction
Henry – Credit
Izzy – Distinction
Angus – Credit
Charlie F – Credit.

Students in years 4 and 6 also complete the University examinations in Mathematics and English. Earlier in the year students in years 3 and 5 completed the NAPLAN assessments. The results for these assessments have not been made available to schools at this stage. Assessments such as these provide an indication as to where our students sit in relation to other students from across Australia – very important in a small school. The examiners for these tests provide detailed responses to teachers which are then used to cross reference against internal assessments.

A reminder that this Saturday is the pavement art workshop under the sails in the main street of Halls Gap. Our students have already participated in a workshop at school in readiness for this event. We would encourage parents and students to go along and support the initiative which is working towards promoting activities in our local area. The workshop is sponsored by Big Hill Art and Framing and the only cost to participants is a gold coin donation to help cover the costs of the pastels used throughout the activity. The workshop will run from 11.00am – 3.00pm and is an activity especially designed for children.

Have a wonderful week

Judy Hilbig



HEAD LICE

Please remember to check weekly. If you need help to determine if you suspect your child has an infestation please speak to a teacher.

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 sending nuts or products that contain nuts to school.

COUNT US IN – THIS THURSDAY

'Music Count Us In' is Australia's biggest school music initiative. With support from The Australian Government, it has run since 2007 and is all about celebrating the value of music education to students' development, whoever they are, wherever they are. It involves about half a million students, teachers - and often parents! – from schools all over Australia signing up to learn, rehearse then perform the same song, on the same day, at the same time. The sing date for this year is Thursday 1st September. We are intending to sing our song in the Stony Creek shops area (depending on weather). We would invite parents and friends to come along and listen to the wonderful voices of the Halls Gap PS students.

NETBALL - STAWELL

The **Stawell Interchurch Netball Association** will be conducting its **AGM** on the **7th September at 7.00pm** in the meeting room at the Stawell Leisure Complex. All parents are urged to attend.

ADDITIONAL DATES TO ADD TO THE HOME CALENDAR

WEEK 9	
Wednesday 14 th	Year 6 Transition Day 2 Stawell Secondary College
Wednesday 14 th	Play Group visit
Thursday 15 th	MARC
Saturday 17 th , Sunday 18 th	Joining the Chorus Performances
WEEK 10	
Monday 19 th	Year 6 Transition Day 3 Stawell Secondary College
Friday 23 rd	Last day term 3 School dismiss 2.30pm
OCTOBER 2011 TERM 4 WEEK 1	
Monday 10 th	Day 1 term 4
Monday 10 th	Welcome back coffee for parents following assembly, old school room
Thursday 13 th	MARC
Thursday 27 th	MARC
Thursday 27 th	School Council Finance 3.45pm School Council 4.00pm
Friday 28 th	Community Breakfast – mark it on your calendar and invite a Halls Gap community member
NOVEMBER 2011	
Tuesday 1 st	Melbourne Cup Day Holiday – school closed
Wednesday 2 nd – Friday 4 th	Out There Camp years 5 and 6 (no cost)
Wednesday 2 nd	Year 7 2012 Stawell Secondary College Information Night
Wednesday 9 th – Thursday 10 th	Out There Camp years 3 and 4 (no cost)
Thursday 24 th	School Council Finance 3.45pm School Council 4.00pm
Monday 28 th Thursday 1 st Dec	School Camp years 3-6 Cape Bridgwater Coastal Camp (estimated charge to parents at this stage is \$180.00 per child)
DECEMBER 2011	
Tuesday 13 th	State Wide Transition Day – yr 6 students to Stawell Secondary School
Thursday 15 th	School Concert