



Halls Gap Primary School Newsletter No3 Wednesday 15th February 2012

FEBRUARY WEEK 3/9 TERM1	
Tuesday 14 th	Active After School Sport session 1 – Minor Games
Thursday 16 th	Active After School Sport session 1 – Yoga 3.15-4.15 (parents welcome)
Thursday 16 th	School Council 4.00pm (finance to be merged with meeting, major consideration – playground)
Friday 17 th	Community Breakfast, 8.00am (everyone welcome, school families and community members)
FEBRUARY WEEK 4/9 TERM 1	
Friday 17 th	Final swimming session, BBQ lunch (park) followed by pool activities afternoon
Monday 20 th February	Closing date for nominations to School Council
Tuesday 21 st February	Active After School Sport Minor Games session 2, 3.15-4.15pm
Thursday 23 rd February	MARC
Thursday 23 rd February	Active After School Sport Yoga session 2, 3.15-4.15pm

COMMUNITY BREAKFAST THIS FRIDAY 8.00AM ALL WELCOME - SCHOOL FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF THE SCHOOL (Egg and bacon roll, juice, tea and coffee. Gold coin donation, costs only.)

Dear Parents and Students

Tennis was the name of the game last Friday when Rebecca McDonald (supported and assisted by Janine McDonald), ran a tennis clinic for all students. Rebecca works for Tennis Australia, and as part of her role organises and facilitates clinics for students in schools. The Tennis Australia Clinics for 2012 are centred in our region and we were one of the lucky schools selected to receive a visit. In addition to the sessions the school was given a whole school set of tennis equipment for use during physical education lessons. If your child hasn't told you all about the clinic please ask them, ask them to tell you about the special size racquets and tennis balls.

We have enjoyed watching students improve their swimming skills throughout the past week. The intensive program allows for children to work daily towards increasing and improving their skills. Our youngest swimmers just yesterday were able to confidently leave the step and swim to a platform in the middle of the pool using only a noodle – not the teachers neck, arms or hair!! It was a very exciting moment for everyone. Our more proficient swimmers are already preparing for the zone swimming carnival. In addition to session at the pool students are working through a water safety program each morning. With a focus on water safety at beaches, rivers, dams and safety in relation to water around the home, we are expecting our students to understand the importance of safe behaviour at all times when around water.

Both classrooms have spent time learning how to work their diaries for 2012; we are keen to make this a useful tool for students, parents and teachers. We do ask that diaries come to school each day, reading is entered each day and parents please initial that you have noted the contents on a regular basis. Thank you to those parents who listen to students read on a regular basis, learning to read is very much a partnership between school and home. Next week students will resume their two hour literacy block followed by their numeracy block after recess. Additional aspects of the homework program will be introduced throughout the next few weeks.

This Friday will be the final swimming session for 2012. Students will be based at the pool all day. Lessons and testing will take place throughout the morning followed by a BBQ lunch in the park. Students will need snacks and a good sized water bottle for the day. A sausage sizzle will be provided for students at lunch time, if your child/ren do not eat sausages please provide the normal packed lunch. Parents are welcome to come along and join us for the afternoon activities. If the weather is warm we may still be at the pool at pickup time.

A very big thankyou to everyone who supported our school through helping with the Jazz festival markets and food sales. It is our biggest weekend and with 81% of our families working across the weekend we were able to spread the load. It was wonderful to have the support of a number of grandparents who either came along and helped, or looked after children so parents could work the various shifts. We even had one of our 2011 exiting families and a past student return and help! The final takings for the weekend were \$9386.35 minus expenses of approximately \$1500.00. A fantastic effort, I have not worked in a school that enjoys such a high percentage of parental support in relation to the number of students in the school.

We welcomed Keira and Paddy along with Josephina and Rohan to our assembly on Monday. Keira and Paddy spent the morning visiting the classrooms and getting to know students and teachers. We look forward to Keira and Paddy joining us in the near future.

I am fielding lots of questions about the new buildings and yes they are still running to schedule. I do have a meeting with builders and project manager tomorrow afternoon which should outline the final days. The oval was seeded yesterday, internal cabinets are being installed and the final bits of cladding are being added. All happening! The builders tell me all rostered days off have been postponed, so the pressure is on! Very exciting.

Have a wonderful week
Judy Hilbig

BUDDIES 2012



Georgia and Jenna

Bethany and Zali

Angus and Tobie
Kaylee and Lila

Sam and Spencer



Kate and Ethan

Georgia and Jordyna

Henry and Jasper

Haylee and Jaala

Brooke and Kira



Eugene and Nathan

Charlie and Dylan

Izzy and Aleisha

Charlie is looking forward to welcoming Paddy and Dylan is pleased Keira will be his buddy.

CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE – IMPORTANT

School students attending a government school

To be eligible to receive a conveyance allowance, a student must:

- be of school age (between 5 and 18 years)
- reside 4.8 kms or more by the shortest practicable route from the school attended
- be enrolled at the nearest appropriate government primary, secondary or specialist school

If you require further details please contact the school. If you need a form please contact the office.

EMA FORMS - IMPORTANT

The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) helps to cover the costs related to your child's schooling. The EMA provides families on a low income with financial assistance to support their child's education up to the age of 16.

The allowance is paid in two installments throughout the year; the first installment from March onwards and the second installment from August onwards. Half of the payment is paid to the school and half to the parent or guardian.

You need to submit your EMA application to your child's school by **28 February 2011**, in time for the first installment, or by **5 August 2011** for the second installment.

If you are eligible forms are now available at the office. Please collect your form and return it to the school as soon as possible.

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.

HEAD LICE

Please note heads were checked last week and we did have several cases head lice. Please help us by checking heads weekly.

CALENDAR

OTHER DATES FOR THE CALENDAR	
Tuesday 28th February	Zone Swimming (nominated students only)
Tuesday 28th February	Active After School Sport Minor Games session 3, 3.15-4.15pm
Thursday 1st March	Active After School Sport Yoga session 3, 3.15-4.15pm
Tuesday 6th March	Close of School Council ballot
Tuesday 6th March	Active After School Sport Minor Games session 4, 3.15-4.15pm
Thursday 8th	MARC
Thursday 8th March	Active After School Sport Yoga session 4, 3.15-4.15pm
Monday 12th March	Labour Day holiday, school closed
Tuesday 13th March	Active After School Sport Minor Games session 5, 3.15-4.15pm
Tuesday 13th March	Regional Swimming (nominated students only)
Thursday 15th March	Active After School Sport Yoga session 5, 3.15-4.15pm
Tuesday 20th March	Active After School Sport Minor Games session 6, 3.15-4.15pm
Thursday 22nd March	MARC
Thursday 22nd March	Active After School Sport Yoga session 6, 3.15-4.15pm
Tuesday 27th March	Active After School Sport Minor Games session 7, 3.15-4.15pm
Thursday 29th March	Active After School Sport Yoga session 7, 3.15-4.15pm
Friday 30th March	Last Day term 1, school dismissal 2.30pm
TERM 2	
Friday 20th April	Cluster Athletics Carnival, Great Western
Monday 23rd April	Cluster Athletics Carnival backup day, Great Western
Friday 4th May	Head lice checks – Northern Grampians Shire

STAWELL 13&U FOOTBALL ASSOC INC

Stawell 13&U Football Assoc Inc

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday 5th March 2012
at 7pm at the Stawell Football Clubrooms Central Park.

Parents of new and existing players are urged to attend. Further information can be obtained by contacting the Secretary.

Toni Stewart – Secretary – 53585541