



Halls Gap Primary School Newsletter No 13 Wednesday 9th May 2012

APRIL WEEK 4/11 TERM 2	
Tuesday 8th May	Active After School Sport 2/7 3.15-4.15
Thursday 10th May	Active After School Sport 2/7 3.15-4.15
Thursday 10th May	School Council Finance 3.30, Meeting 3.45
WEEK 5/11	
Tuesday 15th-Thursday 17th	NAPLAN for yer 3 and 5 students only
Tuesday 15th May	Parent Teacher Interviews
Tuesday 15th May	Active After School Sport 3/7 3.15-4.15
Thursday 17th	MARC
Thursday 17th	Playgroup visit 9.30 at the school
Thursday 17th May	Active After School Sport 3/7 3.15-4.15
Friday 18th May	Walk Safely to School Day – Junior School Council

Dear Parents

Yes the old buildings did finally go! Already the students have moved into the open spaces and begun to create new and interesting games. With the playground installation still to happen the space will undergo further change. Thank you to all who attended the working bee to clean up and prepare for the market. Even though it was a quiet market we did have 32 stall holders and the BBQ did a steady trade throughout the morning. The final count is close to \$2000 (less BBQ expenses). Thank you to all those that assisted with the various tasks associated with the day.

This Thursday is School Council. Councillors are asked to agenda items by 4.00 this afternoon. Items already on the agenda for discussion include playground and grounds, fundraising and use of buildings by general public. If you are not on council and have areas you would like to be discussed please see a councillor.

We look forward to welcoming playgroup to our school next week. If you know of anyone in our community with preschoolers please pass the word around. We have a joint playgroup with Pomonal. In recent years the playgroup has been based at either Pomonal or Halls Gap. At the moment it is based at Pomonal and the group make 2 visits to our school each term. During these visits our Junior Class teacher runs a session which involves our P-2 students mixing with the playgroup children. Following a series of semi structured activities children move out into the yard to enjoy the outside spaces. Our school students look forward to the visit which is part of our beginning school transition program. Our year 3 students spend the session in the Senior Class as part of their in school transition program which works towards supporting their move from the Junior Class to the Senior Class.

A new tradition has been established! Birthdays are now celebrated with all students and staff joining to make a circle in the new centre space and moving clockwise while singing Happy Birthday in English for the first part and then anticlockwise for Happy Birthday in German. The lucky birthday person gets to stand in the middle and enjoy the performance! We are certainly enjoying the internal spaces – so much room!

Next week students in years 3 and 5 will participate in the NAPLAN (The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy) assessments. It is the annual assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. It tests the types of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, in reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy. The assessments are undertaken nationwide, every year in the second full week in May. The assessments often get quite a lot press coverage at this time of the year. For us at school they provide added information relating to student progress which is assessed externally. Teachers are provided with detail support material to ensure we maximise the opportunity to learn more about our students and their learning. The assessments will take place on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of next week. They are administered at a set time and we encourage all students to attend. The data and feedback is important to both the school and the Education Department. Staff have given each student the opportunity to sit a sample test so they are prepared and feel confident about the process.

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 do not send any foods to school that contain nuts.

HEAD LICE

Please help us by checking heads weekly – we will only eradicate these pests if we are all vigilant!

WALK SAFELY TO SCHOOL – JUNIOR SCHOOL COUNCIL

Junior School Council have agreed to support the Walk Safely To School Day on Friday 18th May. Students are encouraged to meet at either the Bridge car park on entry to Halls Gap or on the corner of Tandara Rd and Grampians Rd (Norval side) at 8.30 and walk to school along the walking paths.

EDUCATION WEEK AND FAMILIES WEEK

During Education Week Wimmera Uniting Care will be visiting our school to explain and provide information about the wide range of programs run within our region to support families. As part of the visit they will be bringing the Youth and Community Care bus for a visit. Students and families are invited to share in a BBQ lunch provided through the program. The bus is a fully equipped and fitted out with state-of-the-art music and audiovisual equipment, computers, TV/DVD/CD players, play stations, Xboxes, sporting equipment and a BBQ. It is designed as a multifunctional facility to provide services, programs and activities in rural and remote regions. The bus will be visiting our school on Thursday 24th May for a period of time across the lunch break. Families are invited to come along and learn more about services and programs running within our region for both schools and families.

CALENDAR

OTHER DATES FOR THE CALENDAR	
Monday 21 st – Friday 25 th	Education Week
Monday 21 st May	Cluster Cross Country – Pomonal P-2/3, Halls Gap 3/4-6 (grouped on age not year level)
Tuesday 22 nd May	Zone Cross Country St Arnaud (students will need to run a qualifying time to enter)
Tuesday 22 nd May	Active After School Sport 4/7 3.15-4.15
Thursday 24 th May	Govenor of Victoria visit to Halls Gap Primary School
Thursday 24 th May	Wimmera Uniting Care Mobile Resource Centre Bus visit and BBQ lunch
Thursday 24 th May	Active After School Sport 4/7 3.15-4.15
Tuesday 29 th May	Active After School Sport 5/7 3.15-4.15
Thursday 31 st May	MARC
Thursday 31 st May	Active After School Sport 5/7 3.15-4.15
Tuesday 5 th June	Active After School Sport 6/7 3.15-4.15
Thursday 7 th June	Active After School Sport 6/7 3.15-4.15
Tuesday 12 th June	Active After School Sport 7/7 3.15-4.15
Thursday 14 th June	MARC
Thursday 14 th June	Playgroup visit
Thursday 14 th June	Active After School Sport 7/7 3.15-4.15
Thursday 14 th June	School Council
Thursday 28 th June	MARC
Friday 29 th June	Semester 2 reports distributed to families
Friday 29 th June	Last day term 2

BUDDIES 2012

