



# Halls Gap Primary School



## Newsletter Monday, 15 March 2016

Dear Families,

Another successful market weekend. Thank you to everyone who assisted in any way. Nearly \$2300 was raised!

Jaala, Archie, Paddy and Tobie headed off to Somers Camp very early this morning. We hope they have a wonderful time and we look forward to hearing all about it next Thursday when they return to school.

Thank you to our JSC who organised a games session last Friday. It was great to see them exhibiting leadership skills and I'm sure they have learned a lot from the experience too. Please see the below request from them for Easter Raffle donations. I also think they're planning a casual dress day for the last day of term but we will confirm this in next week's newsletter.

This year we had 3 parent vacancies and 1 DET vacancy for School Council. Congratulations and thank you to our newest members Angeline Martin and Aidan Leahy for your willingness to be part of the governance process as parent members and to Gjalt who continues in his second term. Welcome back to Sam Stoffel as the DET member. We look forward to working with you. Our other returning councillors are: Poll Ripper, Dannie Hutchins, Mandy Noble and Stacey Hewitt. [There is a school council meeting this Thursday from 3.45pm.](#)

You will find attached the request for assistance at the Easter Sunday craft market on 27<sup>th</sup> March.

Ja-San Trimble  
Principal

We need Easter Egg Donations!



Dear families,

**EASTER is now only two weeks away .... !!!**

**We would like to thank those families who have already donated, however we still need a few more Easter donations for our Easter Raffle please.**

**The tickets will be sold by the students that are willing to help out.**

**All donations should have something to do with Easter and there will be a box in the front hall for all the donations to go in.**

**We hope everyone will donate some awesome gifts.**

**Thank-you, Junior School Council☺**





## **WHY READ AT HOME FOR 20 MINUTES A DAY?**

### **Reading is "brain food"**

Our brains develop as we "feed" them with experiences. The experience of reading (whether you're the reader or the one being read to) activates and "exercises" many of the areas of the brain. The visual cortex works as your eyes track the words on the page and look at the illustrations. Your memory makes connections between what you already know about the topic of the story and its content. You integrate new information learned through reading further strengthening and growing your network of knowledge. Reading provides one of the most enriching and complex brain activities available in life.

### **Reading improves listening skills**

What parent doesn't want their child to be a good listener? The experience of being read to helps children develop good listening skills by keying them into the components of language. Through reading they learn to recognize phonemes (the sound building blocks of language), learn new words to add to their oral vocabularies and connect written words to their real world applications.

### **Practice makes perfect**

Generally, the more time you are exposed to something and the more time you spend practicing it, the better you'll become at performing it. This is absolutely true for reading.

### **Reading improves academic performance**

There is a strong correlation between a child's ability to read and her academic performance. Because so much of our schooling relies on our abilities to read, children must have strong reading skills to succeed and thrive in school.

### **Reading improves relationships**

Because we are often busy it can be difficult to have "quality" one-on-one time with our children without distractions. Building 20 minutes into each day for reading together provides this important bonding time.



Source: <http://www.k12reader.com/why-read-20-minutes-a-day/>



## **Holiday Program**

The Stawell Neighbourhood House Inc have finalised their April 2016 Holiday Program. The information is available at the Stawell Neighbourhood House Facebook page and website: [www.snhlc.weebly.com](http://www.snhlc.weebly.com).

Programs will be running from the Stawell Neighbourhood House and Budja Budja Neighbourhood house.

Included in our program you will also find activities run by the Northern Grampians Shire, Central Grampians LLEN and Stawell Library. A Program has been put up on the front door at the Halls Gap Primary School for your interest.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

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Grampians Wimmera  
**ARTS ATLAS**

**FREE WORKSHOP**

**WHO?**  
Artists, art groups, art enterprises, and event organisers

**WHAT?**  
Free training on web-based resource developed to share and promote information about arts, events, news, spaces, people, and opportunities in the Grampians Wimmera region.  
Covering - Arts Atlas basics, creating online Arts Atlas profiles, uploading images, and integrating your online presence.

**WHEN?**  
16 March 2016, 6.30 - 8.30pm

**WHERE?**  
Stawell Neighbourhood House, Sloane Street

**RSVP**  
Registration is essential to Kaye Devlin on 5358 8700 or email [kaye.devlin@ngshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:kaye.devlin@ngshire.vic.gov.au)  
*You are welcome to bring images, logos (low res < 500 MB), iPad or laptop.*

Grampians Wimmera ArtsAtlas  
NORTHERN GRAMPAINS SHIRE COUNCIL

# dates to Remember

## MARCH 2016

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
14 <b>LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b>	15 Somers Camp	16 Somers Camp	17 Somers Camp MARC VAN SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING	18 Somers Camp Regional Swim
21 Somers Camp	22 Somers Camp	23 Somers Camp	24 Early Dismissal 2.15pm	25 <b>GOOD FRIDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b>

## HALLS GAP CRAFT MARKET EASTER SUNDAY 27<sup>th</sup> March 2016

## APRIL 2016

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
11 TERM 2 COMMENCES	12	13	14 MARC VAN	15 Cluster Cross Country
18	19	20	21	22