



# Halls Gap Primary School

RESILIENCE EXCELLENCE COMPASSION



## Newsletter

Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> February 2017

### NO SCHOOL FOR PREPS ON WEDNESDAY

Dear Halls Gap PS families,

Please note that, as well as our public Halls Gap Primary School page on Facebook (you can access weekly newsletters, photos and information,) we also have a private page called Halls Gap School Parents Page. If you are on Facebook you can just search this page and request to join. Parents use this to have conversations that are relevant to school; such as, "Can someone please pick up my child today?" Only members of this group can see and respond to these messages.

The Grampians Music Festival are after a volunteer to look after their Art space on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March from 12pm – 4pm. If you have children, they are welcome and the volunteer will receive a free ticket to the remainder of the weekend's activities at Grampians Music Festival. Please let me know if you are available or drop in and see Carly at the "Harvest."

Our first cluster day will be held on Friday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March. We are heading to Concongella to help raise some funds for the Pink Stumps Day. This is the biggest fundraising event that supports the McGrath Foundation which raises money to help place care nurses and raise awareness of breast health. We ask that everyone wear something pink (even if it's just a splash of pink) to join in the spirit and fun of a friendly game of cricket with our cluster friends to support a very worthwhile course.

A couple of reminders:

- School working bee is on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> of March from 9am – 12pm. Morning tea will be supplied. Many hands make light work!!
- If you can help to support the operation of our fundraising markets please fill in the attached form and return to the basket at the office. All parents are asked to work at at least 2 of our 4 markets but these extra roles are included so that our markets can run smoothly.
- Preps continue to have Wednesdays off
- Assembly starts at 8.50am on Mondays. This is working well so will continue.

Have a lovely week,  
Ja-San Trimble - Principal



**DRIVERS – The speed limit for School Road is 40KPH at all times.**



## SCHOOL CLOSURE ON EXTREME FIRE DANGER DAYS & CODE RED DAYS

**EXTREME FIRE DANGER DAYS & CODE RED DAYS** – Halls Gap Primary School have been identified as being at high fire risk and on the Department's [Bushfire At-Risk Register](#), we will close on days determined ***Extreme Fire Danger Days or Code Red*** by the Emergency Management Commissioner. Where possible, four to seven days notice of a planned closure will be provided; parents and carers should, however, ***expect that in some instances fewer than 4 days notice may be provided.***

***Once an Extreme Fire Danger Day or Code Red day has been determined by the Emergency Management Commissioner this decision will not change – regardless of any changes in the weather forecast.*** This will help limit confusion and help your family plan for how your children will be cared for when the school is closed. Advice will be provided to you directly when we are advised that our School will be closed due to an Extreme Fire Danger Days or Code Red Day determination, ***NO staff will remain on site*** and all out-of-school care / after school programs will be cancelled.

## STUDENT BANKING \$\$\$\$

**Getting involved in School Banking is easy!**

You can get involved in the School Banking program by opening a Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account at your local branch. All you need to bring is your current identification as well as your child's birth certificate. If you are an existing Commonwealth Bank customer and have NetBank, you can open an account online.

If your child has an existing Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account they can start banking straight away. They just need to bring their deposit in every week on School Banking day using their Dollarmites deposit wallet.

We will be holding an Account Opening Day at our school:

**Time: 2:00 – 4:00pm**

**Date: Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> February 2016**

**Location: Halls Gap Primary School Office**

**If you are interested in opening a Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account for your child please bring along:**

- ***your current driver's licence or another form of photographic identification.***

We have some excellent prize packs to be won and looking forward to some great savings from our students!!

If you have any questions in relation to the School Banking Program, please call in and see Lisa on Monday.



**Student Banking Registration Day - Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2017**

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

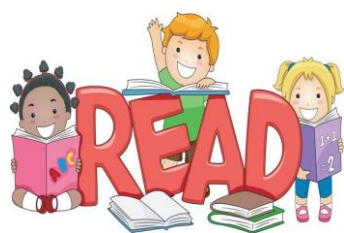
### Reading is “brain food”

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/>



## Every day counts – school attendance

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

Missing school can have a major impact on a child’s future – a student missing one day a fortnight will miss four full weeks by the end of the year. By Year 10 they’ll have missed more than a year of school.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Coming to school every day is vital, but if for any reason your child must miss school, there are things we can do together to ensure they don’t fall behind:

- *Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.*



**Stawell Football & Netball Club**  
**14&U football training**  
Training every Tuesday & Thursday night  
@ Central Park: 4pm start  
New players welcome. Join the fun!  
Queries to:  
Coaches: Ash DeClifford 0400065833  
Darryn Jenkinson 0417509733

# dates to Remember

## FEBRUARY 2017

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
20 Student Banking	21	22 Lunch Orders PREP Students Rest Day	23	24
Swimming Program				
27 Student Banking Registration Day	28 Division Swimming			

## MARCH 2017

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1 PREP Students Rest Day Lunch Orders	2 Mark Van	3 Pink Stumps Fundraising Day Concongella

**Saturday, 4th March 2017 – 9am until 12pm – (Morning Tea Supplied)**



**working bee!**  
Come & join the fun!

Thank You!

6 Student Banking	7	8 PREP Students Rest Day Lunch Orders	9	10
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**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

## HALLS GAP CRAFT MARKET

**Volunteers Needed please contact the School If you are able to help**

**Thank you.**

13 Labour Day Public Holiday	14	15 PREP Students Rest Day Lunch Orders	16 Mark Van	17
20 Student Banking	21	22 PREP Students Rest Day Lunch Orders	23	24
27 Student Banking	28	29 PREP Students Rest Day Lunch Orders	30 Mark Van	31 Last Day of Term 1 Early Dismissal