FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As you are all aware, yesterday the school put in place a partial lockdown due to a "custody issue". I was immensely proud of students. (Whom might I add, wanted me to have the postman who broke down just outside the school grounds arrested.) The students followed instructions and took it in their stride when I explained that sometimes adults make silly choices and behave badly.

I know staff roll their eyes when I bring up school security but I can safely say we have drilled and practised Lockdowns, Evacuations and Shelter in Place so well that if we ever need to use one of these emergency procedures we will be able to safely.

Parents have in the past played a big part in ensuring our school is safe by letting the office know when suspicious people have been lurking around the school, by signing in at the front office and by providing us with information in regard to issues that may impact on their child at school.

If we all try to be patient and follow these guides the area around the school will be safe for students at this time of the day.

Easter Tuesday
Please mark on your calendar that the school will be closed on Easter Tuesday. All schools are closed on this day as it is considered a holiday.

Running late to pick up your child
I truly understand the difficulties of juggling family and work life, in particular the pick up and drop off of your children to school. Over the last week we have noted an increase in the number of students who are being picked up late. If you are running late please call the school and we will have your child brought to the office for safe keeping and pick up.

Help your child thrive at school
The first years of children’s education are so important and parents play a crucial role. How can you support your child’s learning?

Join Ros Thomas as she looks at how WA public schools are transforming to give our children an even better education. She talks with the experts to get free and simple ideas to help your child thrive.

Search Bigger Picture Education for the full story.

Enjoy your long weekend

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FOR YOUR DIARY

2016 # 2 Term 1 / Week 5
2 March

FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 3 March
Canteen Roster:
Room 7

Monday 7 March
Labour Day Public Holiday

Tuesday 8 March
Canteen Roster:
Room 11

Wednesday 9 March
Wrap Free Wednesday

Public Speaking @ Gidgegannup PS

Thursday 10 March
Canteen Roster:
Room 11

Friday 11 March
Movie Night

Monday 14 March
Board Meeting
Finance Meeting

Tuesday 15 March
Canteen Roster:
Room 7
T20 Cricket @ Glen Forrest Oval

Wednesday 16 March
Wrap Free Wednesday

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3700 Helena Valley Road,
HELENA VALLEY WA 6056

PHONE (08) 9294 1062
FAX (08) 9255 1598
EMAIL HelenaValley.PS@education.wa.edu.au
WEB helena.valley.wa.edu.au
FROM THE DEPUTY

Jump Rope for Heart
Each year, Heart Foundation Jump Rope attracts over 300,000 school students, in over 1,300 schools around the country - we've given Australian schools enough rope to stretch from Australia to Hawaii! Heart Foundation Jump Rope for Heart is all about teaching Aussie kids how to keep fit and healthy. It improves their strength and confidence in physical activities and builds healthy bones and muscles. Students can have lots of fun with their class mates and play lots of skipping games too. At the same time they will be helping save Australian lives by asking their family and friends to sponsor them for being a part of this fun program. Funds raised go towards research to help the fight against heart disease and stroke. Please support this worthy initiative.
Footy and Cricket Coaching
In the last couple of weeks, during their PE lessons, the students have enjoyed some specialised training from visiting experts and participated in modified AFL football and T20 Cricket games. On March 15th, a year 5/6 Boys team and a Year 5/6 Girls team will travel to Glen Forrest to compete against other Hills schools in the T20 Blast Lightning Carnival.

Faction Swimming Carnival
Don’t forget the Faction Swimming Carnival for year 3-6 students on Thursday, March 17th at Bilgoman Pool. Entry forms should be returned by tomorrow and we encourage all students to nominate for at least one event. Excursion permission notes will be sent home tomorrow.

White Boards
The school has received advice from Campion that the new shipment of white boards have arrived and have undergone testing by Crayola and are no good. We are currently awaiting further advise from Campion. The school will liaise with Campion and we will advise parents of any further developments.

Absentees

**Attendance at Helena Valley Primary School - Everyday Counts!**

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child’s education. Research confirms there is a strong link between attendance and student outcomes. We all want our students to achieve successfully at school and the building blocks for such success begins with students attending school each and every day. If a student misses school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in the later years 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 and social outcomes...EVERYDAY COUNTS!

**Parent responsibilities**

Parents are required to ensure their child attends school and to provide an explanation for their child’s absence when not at school. The school must then record the reason given by the parent and determine from the records if the excuse given was reasonable in terms of the parent meeting their legal obligations. Parents should inform the school of the reason for their child’s absence so that the school can:

- determine if the child’s absence needs to be excused by the principal, in line with school policy and guidelines
- determine the appropriate follow up to ensure the child’s education and wellbeing is supported
- record if the parent has a reasonable explanation for not meeting their obligation to ensure their child attends school each day.

Where possible, parents should inform the school in advance of upcoming absences.

**School responsibilities**

Additionally, the school must record student attendance on a daily basis. This is necessary to:

- meet legislative requirements by the Department of Education of WA.
- discharge schools’ duty of care for all students
- assist calculation of the school’s funding

(taken from: http://www.education.vic.gov.au)

If there are any queries or issues which are preventing your child from attending school regularly, please feel to contact me through the front office to make an appointment to discuss any concerns.

The school utilises an SMS messaging system for students who are recorded absent. The message is sent to parents or care-givers, depending on what contact advice you have given to the office on enrolment. The SMS is sent out at 10am every morning. You can message back the number but it is unable to take calls. Responses to the message are recorded as reason for absence on our system. If you are unable to respond via SMS, you are required to provide an explanation for your child’s absence within 3 days of them returning, either verbally or in writing.

If your child is going to be late or absent from school, please notify the office via email (HelenaValley.PS@education.wa.edu.au), SMS on 0437 410 293 (text only) or call on 9294 1062 before 9.30am.

Please would ALL parents make sure that children who arrive to school after the 8.50am siren report to the front office and take a red late card to the class teacher.

Thankyou

Jo Jones (Attendance Officer)
Thanyou to Mrs O’Reilly and the year 2/3 students of room 5

HONOUR CERTIFICATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room 2</th>
<th>Ezekiel Fregin, Ella Curry, Gemma Boys</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Room 4</td>
<td>Emma Goronski, Emma Grant, Holly Davey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 5</td>
<td>Cade Young, Gabriel Leaney, Jakob Donovan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 6</td>
<td>Jamie Holloway, Laysie Grossman, Chloe Oliver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 7</td>
<td>Mayan De Saxe, Tom Oliver, Seth Casson-Doumas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 11</td>
<td>Zoe Boll, Orlando Haines, Aaleyah Ekayasa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Room 12</td>
<td>Brandon Taylor, Adelle Roy, Declan Fry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 14</td>
<td>Emile Spring, April Laird, Kahle Black</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 15</td>
<td>Kate Taylor, Justin Holmes, Maya Leano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Sophie Daniele, Tayla Edwards, Jack Milewicz</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The P & C are holding a movie night on Friday March 11 on the Top Oval outside the Administration Office. The movie that will be played is the Wizard of Oz. More information is to come.

Canteen News

Canteen would like to thank those who have been in to help this last fortnight. The canteen relies on volunteer help, please check room rosters and volunteer if you can. Your children will love seeing you at school on canteen day. If you can help at any time please SMS me on 0456060064.

Thankyou

Jackie
**Playgroup**

Due to overwhelming popularity, the Monday session is now full! A new session on Wednesday morning has just started and we are looking for new members. Room 3 has been transformed into a wonderful space full of toys, books, puzzles, playdough and more! Outdoor and nature play are also encouraged.

Helena Valley Primary School Playgroup operates on a Monday and Wednesday morning from 8.50 am - 10.45. Children enjoy arts and craft, outdoor play and mums enjoy a cuppa. Fees are $30 per term, plus annual Playgroups WA Insurance $30.

Please contact us via email Helena_valley_primary_playgroup@yahoo.com if you would like any further information.

**UNIFORM SHOP**

New Dress - After a successful trial period, and with some minor alterations, the new dress will be available after 25 February at a cost of $45.

New Reversible Faction Hats - Faction hats with new logo will be available also after 25 February. Limited numbers are available for the first order. The new hats are adjustable with a toggle. Pricing will remain the same at $16 per hat.

These should be delivered between Tuesday 8-11 March. Catherine will contact everyone who is waiting on a pre-order, and all remaining stock will be available for purchase.

Discounted Stock

Please note that this is the last year students can wear uniforms with the old logo. There has been a two year phase out period of the old logo which ends in December 2016. New school uniform with new logo will be compulsory from January 2017.

All uniform items with the old logo have been significantly discounted to $4 per item. This includes jumpers, faction polos, bucket hats. This stock can NOT be returned for a refund or credit.

Opening Times for Term 1, 2016
Wednesday 2.30pm - 3.20pm

If you have any queries, please email us at: hvpsuniformshop@gmail.com

**COMMUNITY NOTICES**

**Kalamunda Senior High School**
**An Independent Public School**

**Year 4 - 6 Parent Information Evening**

Wednesday 16 March 2016 at 6.30pm in School Cafeteria

A Year 4-6 Parent Information Evening has been organised to provide an insight into how Kalamunda Senior High School operates including information about:

- School History
- Facilities
- Pedagogy and Values
- How the Year 7 team works
- Specialist Programs
- Academic Achievement of Kalamunda Senior High School

Opportunity for discussion and questions will be an integral part of the evening and members of the Learning teams will be present.

We look forward to your attendance and meeting you at this information evening. To reserve your place please call the office on 9293 6400 if you will be attending.
COMMUNITY NOTICES

Easter Bilby family fun day

Easter craft, family nature trail
Meet a live Bilby and his native animal friends
SUNDAY 27TH MARCH
Choose from 10am-12noon or 12.30-2.30pm
Members prices $10 Child / $14 Adult
Ages 3+

Join our Easter Family Night

Free

Wednesday 16th March 2016 6.30pm & Tuesday 22nd March 2016 6.30pm

CRICKET

Specialist Program
Endorsed by the Department of Education
and The WACA

Applications accepted from
Year 6 Students
TRIAL DAY
Monday 4 April 2016
At The WACA

The Rotary club of Kaluamunda is very excited to announce that we will be having the children’s author Wendy Binks at the March 2016 Kaluamunda Village Markets.
Wendy is an artist, author and illustrator. She wrote, illustrated and self-published her first 3 books, about an emo chick called Stingsey. These books have sold over 170,000 copies and have featured in a stage show. She has also illustrated 2 books for scholastic Australia.

Wendy will be doing an author visit at the KADIS Hall at 12—1pm where Wendy will show kids the fascinating process of creating a book, from the tiny germ of an idea to when the book appears on the shelves. Including storyboards, roughs and final illustrations.
Wendy will also be having a stall at the markets where you can see all of her beautifully illustrated books.

So come along and bring the children to see Wendy in action. Children under 10 need to be accompanied by an adult.