We have had a massive first semester. I often have discussions with parents, staff and other schools about the things we do and offer our students. It is only natural to compare what we do with other schools, however it is only fair to do so if you understand what we really do. In a very brief summary (and I am unable to include everything..... Interschool events, Nature Play, New Gardening project.......), here are some of the highlights of Helena Valley Primary School for the school year so far.

TECHNOLOGY

Mr Brown has started this year off with CODING. Students are enjoying these lessons where they are using simple codes to give directions.

In addition to this we have Minecraft club which I assist with on Tuesday and Friday lunch time. The latest building challenge of a small village has very specific criteria and may be entered into as a team, promoting cooperative learning. On Tuesdays Minecraft is run by Justin Holmes, a year 5 student, who has been teaching his peers some interesting Minecraft skills, for instance a trap door which when triggered, explodes the area.

The school is very lucky in regard to the amount of technology we have available to the school. Each class having a whiteboard and access to banks of Laptops, IPads and the school Library Computer Bank.

As a school we have nominated to participate in the NAPLAN Online trial, which will shortly see us testing the technology and suitability for when NAPLAN goes on line in the near future.

We have also seen the schools website become more functional and is kept up to date for all parents requiring information. As it is an evolving communication tool any feedback in regard to the website is happily accepted and can be forwarded to the school.

Students have access to Mathletics, Spellodrome and BookFlix as part of their Personal Items list requirements. These are used daily by teachers in class with your child. In addition the school purchased Literacy Pro and World Book Encyclopaedia - online. Most Families are very familiar with Literacy Pro as students take home appropriately level books to read and complete reading comprehension quizzes on line. World Book is a hidden treasure, families can access this at home using the schools log on details (see page 4).

In addition Room 5 has been using IPads and their Lego to make stories and bring them to life on the IPads. I know that Mrs O'Reilly also has the Robots ready for use in semester 2.

BUZ PROGRAM

Room 4 students have been working with our School Chaplain on the BUZ program which teachers skills around self esteem, friendships, bullying and resilience. It is hoped that in term 3 Room 14 and 15 will participate in this also.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR SCHOOL

Our PBS strategy is going strong, thanks to the PBS team that meet in their own time each fortnight. As you may have heard at our recent assemblies students have been focused on 'at assembly behaviour' which in real life leads to good audience behaviours for places like the cinema, theatre and concerts. This has also led to active listening and audience listening.
SUPPORT-A-READER

Mrs Budd has lead a great campaign on attracting new Support-A-Reader volunteers. A recent visit to the Lifestyle Village has seen an increase in the number of students we are able to offer this assistance too.

SCHOOL BOARD

The School Board meets twice a term with a number of subcommittees meeting between these times. The Board assists the school in assessing the achievement of the school targets in the Business Plan and ensure governance. After self reflection I believe the School Board to be working effectively and represents the school community very well.

PERFORMING ARTS

Students have access to two very different performing arts activities at the moment. Wakakirri, story by song, is an event students in year 4 - 6 participate in every two years and is led by Ms Ferguson, Mrs Young and Mrs O'Reilly. Previous feedback from parents has been very positive about the experience their child may never have had before.

Choir is also working towards a big concert at Burswood. Mrs Subotic and the School Choir always do an amazing job at representing the school at this yearly event.

PLAYGROUP PARTNERSHIP

It is really exciting that the Playgroup partnership is growing. The idea around establishing Playgroup really started through the idea of strengthening our Early Intervention strategies. Our AEDC results indicate that some students come to school vulnerable in areas of Social Competency, Physical and Health Wellbeing, Language and Cognitive Skills and Communications Skills. Playgroup has provided a great avenue to develop relationships at a school level with parents coming into the school community.

STAFF COLLABORATION

Staff meet with their collaborative group every week with our Curriculum Coach Mrs Lydiate. At these meetings they use data and discussion to determine the needs of the school and individual students. It is a very powerful process and has added great value to the work of our teachers.

OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Part of the Department of Education vision is to identify talent amongst our staff and develop these people into the future leaders of our schools. Mrs Lydiate (Curriculum), Signora Jones (attendance), Mrs O'Reilly (Behaviour) and Mr Brown (Technology) make up our leadership team. I meet with them every week to discuss direction and identify any whole school or individual student needs.

We also have the Expert Teacher Team, which is a team under development, their role will become to manage the operation play that underlies the School Business Plan. The staff included in this are Miss Schoenmakers (Systematic Curriculum Design), Mrs Patriarca (Differentiation), Ms Ferguson (Data), Mrs O'Reilly (Positive School Culture) and Mrs Lydiate (Partnerships). Signora Jones and Mr Brown are also part of this team when required/available.

STUDENTS AT RISK

Students are identified through collaboration or data analysis (Disciplined Dialogue) or by parents at enrolment. These students can be identified by anyone number of risk factors - disability, Gifted and Talented, underachieving, mental health, medical condition or living in care. Staff have worked hard over the last few years to ensure all students identified have a documented plan, with at least a discussion with a parent or a carer. We have had some significant gains and wins with these students and they have gone on to be a very productive part of our school.

P&C

The P&C are a very supportive and hard working group of parents who have recently pledged up to but not more than $10,000 to upgrade our school library. The P&C run the canteen, uniform shop and the fundraising events across the year. All these contributions help the school make a rich learning environment for your children.

So when people ask what makes us a great school to choose for their children. It isn't about being an Independent Public School or that we have an awesome uniform. It is really about what we offer to students, the way we cater for students and the relationships we make with them that develop a sense of belongingness to the school.

Mr Payne

Room 12 presented a beautiful assembly that provided the perfect back drop to farewell the much loved staff member Mr Chris Payne.

Mr Payne is in the delightful position where he can retire after almost 15 years of working at our beautiful school.

We wish Mr Payne all the best in his retirement journey.

Tamala Wilkinson.

Everyone is fighting a battle you know nothing about. Be Kind Always
Swan View Senior High School Showcase Assembly

On Friday 10th June, Swan View Senior High School held their annual Showcase Assembly, and what a performance it was! The school hosted 250 local primary school students and teachers, from Helena Valley, Swan View, Middle Swan, Greenmount and Clayton View, with many parents and relatives also attending.

The students, as always, performed professionally and with ease and confidence. There were performances in Drama, Dance, English, Music and Basketball, and presentations from the Arts and Media students. At the assembly, School Principal, Ms Sands, presented the incoming 2017 ACE (Achieving Curriculum Excellence) students from the primary schools with a certificate and pencil case.

Congratulations to Nikolas Sneddon and Adam Kemish on being selected in the ACE program.

Freo Footy Skills Competition

Last week, a number of year 4, 5 and 6 students tried out for selection in the annual Freo Footy Skills competition. Those who won selection will be invited to participate in the semi-finals at Fremantle Oval in the coming school holidays. Over 150 schools have entered the competition and the winning six schools in each category from the semi-finals, will play off in the Grand Final, to determine champion and runner-up winners. This will be held on Sunday, 14th August at Domain Stadium prior to the Fremantle v Adelaide AFL game. The events are the Freo Long Bomb (long distance kicking); Freo Kwik Kick (short passing speed and accuracy) and Freo Fast Ball (handpassing team game). Those students who competed in our school competition, will have a special treat next Tuesday afternoon, with a coaching clinic conducted by two Fremantle Dockers players.

Edu Dance Program

Next term, pre-primary to year 6 students will be involved in the Edu Dance programs as part of their Physical Education and Arts program. Qualified instructors will teach the children amazing hip hop dance moves and routines which are always great fun and excellent for their fitness. Pre-primary to year 6 students will be participating in weekly Edu Dance lessons every Wednesday from 20th July, for 9 weeks, culminating in a showcase dance presentation for parents at the end of term 3. Permission notes will be sent home this week with all the relevant details.

National Judo Championships Success

Congratulations to Year 6 student, Liam Collidge, who recently represented Western Australia at the National Judo Championships in Victoria. Liam demonstrated his amazing talent in this sport by winning a bronze medal in the Junior Boys – 38kg Weight Division.
Good news! Our library subscribes to the following World Book Web products:

**World Book Kids** is designed to give younger students, ESL students and reluctant readers a rewarding online learning experience. The site illustrations, diagrams and maps enrich thousands of articles selected for appeal and relevance. Includes facility to compare animals and compare places side by side, plus interactive games and activities, and science projects.

**World Book Student** forms the foundation of an expansive reference database that includes over 40,000 encyclopedia and reference articles and thousands of links to age appropriate outside web sites. It also includes an extensive biography feature, local and country research guides, dictionary and atlas, plus audios, visuals and animations. An excellent tool for research at school and home.

**Early World of Learning** has been designed for preschoolers and children in early primary. It teaches childhood themes such as numbers, colours, shapes, etc, provides levelled reading practice and a dynamic visual encyclopedia, together with classic children’s stories, nursery rhymes, sing-along songs and printable activities.

Our World Book subscription allows us to give you and your family access to this valuable reference source at your home computers 365 days a year, 24 hours a day.

To access the World Book Web, follow these simple steps:

1. Enter Username: helenavalley
2. Enter Password: worldbook
3. Save your user name and password for faster login – simply tick the box labelled “Remember my ID and password”. The next time you visit World Book the login prompt will already contain your username and password.
4. Once you arrive at the World Book home page, you should bookmark the page or add to favourites for easy access to World Book in the future.

*Please remember that login and password information is for students and their families only, and extending this information to people who do not live within the school district could result in loss of at-home access for our students.*

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### Honour Certificates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Room 2</td>
<td>Hiraina H, Sora T, Orlando D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 4</td>
<td>Kyan C, Kallan B, Sarah K</td>
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<tr>
<td>Room 5</td>
<td>Andrew J, Casey-Lee M, Jack F</td>
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<td>Room 6</td>
<td>Ebony S, Dylan B, Shayla K</td>
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<td>Room 7</td>
<td>Kane J, Mason M, Oliver B</td>
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<td>Room 11</td>
<td>Fletcher D, Addison F, Breanna S</td>
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<td>Room 12</td>
<td>Blake A, Archie B, Dace C</td>
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<tr>
<td>Room 14</td>
<td>Tawhirimatea K, Dominic F, Joshua A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Room 15</td>
<td>Tayla D, Nikki R, Josiah F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Chloe B, Lillie C, Ziggy P</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### 2017 Enrolments

Parents/carers wishing to enrol their children turning four before 30th June 2017 in Kindergarten are invited to complete an ‘Application for Enrolment’ form. These are available from the school office.

Students who are entering Pre Primary in 2017 will also need to re-enrol. “Application for Enrolment” forms were sent home with students. If you did not receive a form, they are available from the school office.

Applications for both Kindergarten and Pre Primary close Friday 22nd July 2016.

Further information is available by phoning the school on 9294 1062.

If your family circumstances have changed we understand you may need to move schools at some time, could you please notify the front office if this is the case for your family.
Attendance

Every day counts

MOST STUDENTS ATTEND SCHOOL EVERY DAY

It’s important that children are at school all day, every day.

OK reasons to stay home from school:
- sick
- natural disasters

It’s NOT OK to skip school to:
- shop
- sleep in
- finish an assignment
- go on holidays

EVERY DAY AT SCHOOL COUNTS

Missing even 1 day can make a difference

1 day off school each fortnight = Missing more than a year of learning over 12 years

Each day’s learning builds on what has been learnt before

Good attendance begins in Prep

It’s where good habits begin

ATTEND ALL DAY, EVERY DAY

What parents can do:
- Promote the importance of school
- Organise homework
- Supervise home work
- Ask about your child’s day
- Read this school newsletter
- Volunteer to help at school

Get involved in your child’s school

For more information
Go to the Every day counts website: http://education.qld.gov.au/everydaycounts/

Head Lice

Some cases of head lice have been reported at school recently. Please be vigilant in regularly checking your children’s hair and treating it promptly before your child returns to school.

If you require further information on treatment, please visit the website:

Thank you for your co-operation.

Absentees

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.
At the last P&C meeting it was decided that the P&C would support the upgrade of the library facilities at Helena Valley PS with funding up to $10,000. This will be the major funding commitment from the P&C for 2016 and is a very worthwhile cause that will benefit all our children for a long time to come. This is only possible thanks to the wonderful support our school community provides to P&C fundraising events.

Last weekend we had the Finding Dory movie fundraiser. With 95 tickets sold it was a full cinema and great day out. This Friday there is a Super Hero themed school disco for all age groups. Please show your support for the wonderful work of the P&C by getting involved and being part of these wonderful community events. Look out too for the P&C sausage sizzle at the school on election day.

Our next P&C meeting will be held on Monday 25th July, 6pm in the library. If you’re not able to attend but would still like to be involved please let us know at hvpspc@gmail.com.

Wishing you all a safe and relaxing holidays.

Nick Stretch
P&C President

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**Helena Valley Primary School Disco**

**Friday 24th June 2016**

**This term we are having a Super Hero theme!!!**

- **Kindy – Year 2**
  - 4.30pm – 6.00pm

- **Year 3 – Year 6**
  - 6.30pm – 8.00pm

**$5.00 Entry Only**

**$10.00 Meal Combo**

- Includes: Entry, Wonder Dog (hot dog) & Drink

**Entry on the night - $6.00 at the door**

**On Sale on the Night**

- Glowsticks 3 for $1.00, Finger Lights $1.00 each and Lolly Cups $2.00 each

There will be prizes for the best dressed so start getting your child’s costume together. Don’t forget to bring your camera so you can capture a special moment with our Super Heroes who will be there on the night at our photo booth!