To Students, Parents and Friends,
Welcome back to school for the start of week 1 Term 2.

Welcome
A special welcome to Mrs Lyn Shaw who is accompanying Wendy Watkins in the office for the following two terms in Mrs Blackley’s absence. Don’t hesitate to introduce yourself to Wendy and Lyn during an office visit so that they can put names to faces.

Cross Country
Today the Senior department held their Cross Country event at school. What a wonderful sight to see the children running, jogging and walking around the school block. Many students displayed a high level of fitness and determination and most endeavoured to do their best. A great effort.

Wedding
It’s with great pleasure that we welcome Mrs Pelly (previously Miss Gleeson) back from the holidays. Miss Gleeson and Warwick Pelly were married in a beautiful ceremony over the holidays and will now continue their life as husband and wife. Congratulations to them both.

School Values: excellence, honesty, persistence, resilience and respect.

Holiday Reading
During my visits to the classrooms this week I was extremely pleased to see how many students had read regularly over the holidays. Hopefully the children spent many pleasurable moments enjoying stories and information over the holidays and good reading behaviours are being further embedded.

New Principal at Maiden Gully Primary School.
During the final days of last term, I received notification that Mr Doug Jones was successful in becoming the new permanent Principal at Maiden Gully Primary school. Doug had been filling in for the Principal who was on leave for an extended period of time and then once the position became vacant Doug was successful in becoming the substantive Principal of that school. 
Congratulations to Doug and I know that he will continue to operate at Maiden Gully in the same professional, caring, friendly and dynamic manner that he has done in the Principal role at Specimen Hill over several years. Doug arrived at Specimen Hill in 2005 amidst the building of our new school. He had a huge impact on the final development of the buildings and the on the smooth transition of staff and students into the new buildings. His hard work continued in completing the grounds and outside environment. Doug will also be remembered for his passion for learning technologies in schools and for enabling exposure to contemporary teaching and learning for all students. Doug developed very strong relationships with many families, staff and students and he will be missed by us all. I would like to take this opportunity to wish Doug continued success as the Principal at Maiden Gully.

Grade 5/6 Camp
The Grade 5/6 students will be heading off to their camp at Baanya Biami next Monday morning with the bus leaving at 8.30 am sharp. Students are required at school by 8.10 am. This is an adventure camp and promises to challenge students in a physical, positive and fun manner. I wish all students a fabulous, safe and fun-filled time and I hope to drive over next Tuesday to join in the fun. Thank you to the staff who are giving up much of their own time to participate in the camp.

SUPA Club
On Friday the 26th April a Supa Club will be operating from 11.15 to 11.45 in the Art room. Supa Club is a Christian Children’s club run by trained workers. The program is non-denominational and is approved by DEECD and the Speci Hill School Council. The Program focuses on positive values and is presented through drama presentations, puppet shows, craft activities, some Bible stories and games. Attendance will be through personal choice by the individual student. If you do not want your child to attend please let them know and you may contact me at school through a phone call or note.

Staffroom
The staffroom is now being used for the storage of some new technology equipment so it is now unavailable for parents to use. We are hoping to build a parents room in the near future as a dedicated Parents area. Thank you for your consideration.

Wishing you all a wonderful week ahead,

Di Craig (Acting Principal)
Dear Parents, Students and Staff at Specimen Hill P.S.

As you are probably aware I have been appointed to the position of Principal at Maiden Gully PS from the start of Term 2 - 2013.

I would like to thank the community of Specimen Hill PS for the opportunity of being Principal since the beginning of 2005. We have all been on a great journey together in developing the school, not only the facilities but most importantly the teaching and learning, to give your children the best possible future. I have always believed in the quote - that ....

“It takes an entire community to educate a child” .... and that is what happens at Speci.

I would like to thank the many parents who have supported school programs during my principal ship as well as the professionalism of staff and the school leadership team to achieve the goals we have set. The support from School Council and the Parents & Friends has been outstanding and continues to be a strength of the school. My belief in the development of leadership culminated in my temporary move as the Acting Principal at Maiden Gully, which enabled Di Craig to have the opportunity to be the Principal of Speci. As things turned out, the Acting position continued on well past the time we expected but I was always very confident that Speci would continue to thrive and in fact grow under Di’s leadership (which it has!).

I would like to thank the many school community members who supported me as the Principal of Specimen Hill and I leave with many fond memories of the school and our achievements.

Doug Jones

Wedding of Natalie Gleeson to Warwick Pelly
CLASS NEWS

SENIOR CLASS
Welcome back and what an exciting start to the term with camp next week.
This week time tables, menus and maps feature in Literacy and Numeracy as we do a lot of pre-camp work. In Maths, students have been using compass points, coordinates, scales and keys to read and create maps. Using maps at home with your child is a great opportunity to link home and school learning. You could use maps of Bendigo, the Melways, road maps or even world maps.
In writing the Year 5 will continue to focus on persuasive writing while the Year 6 will explore reviews. We will read and write reviews of books, movies and video games (areas students are experts in). 

Homework
Spelling: the focus is math words
Reading: 20-30 min nightly. We are asking students to keep a record of weekly reading in their diary. Please sign this for them.
Math: revision of x2, x3, x5, x10 x9 tables

Have a terrific week
Anne, Matt and Scott

JUNIOR CLASS
Welcome back to school for Term 2.
INTEGRATED UNIT TOPIC for Term 2 is 'Looking back' in time. We will investigate how things have changed over the years. Next week we will be commemorating ANZAC day. If any families have army medals or any other items of interests could you please bring them along to share with the class.
LITERACY- We are studying the structure of Fairy Tales and Fables. We are looking at the characters, the scene or place, the problem and the solution. The students are becoming very good at writing detailed retells and verbally telling the story in correct sequence.
MATHS
We are exploring Place Value using concrete materials and looking at and naming shapes according to their features.

ROTATIONS
These will continue this term for an hour each Friday. Mr. Taylor - PMP, Mrs. Ball - Geography, Mrs. Mullen - Music and Mrs. Manley - Science.

SPELLING BOOKS:
Thank you to the students and their families who complete the spelling home task each week. Please return these books to school by Friday.

HOME SCHOOL JOURNALS
These will be coming home this week. Please take time to read and discuss your child’s work with them. We would like you to write a positive comment in your child's journal acknowledging their great work.

REMINDERS;
NUDE FOOD DAY - Thursdays.
HOME READING - regularly each night.
SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES - Monday 2.45 pm.
Until next week.
Aaron, Jenny, Jo, Joan and Kim.

PREPS
What a wonderful start to Term 2 we have had. The Preps have settled back into routine very well and are enjoying learning with their friends.
This week our letter is ‘Aa’ please take the time to focus on this letter during your alphabet practise and reading time. Our words of the week are ‘and’ & ‘at’ look for these words in your reading and daily life. Don't forget NUDE FOOD day on Thursday although many families have taken this on everyday, this is fabulous. We also say Congratulations to Mrs Natalie Pelly (Miss Gleeson) and Mr Warwick Pelly on their wedding during the holiday break.

Walking School Bus
Tomorrow morning the ‘Walking School Bus’ will be operating with pick up time at 8.30. There are 3 points of collection.
1. At Specimen Hill Rd at the school crossing.
2. At the corner of Chum and Maple St.
3. At the Marong Rd school crossing.
We look forward to meeting students at those points. Parents and friends are welcome to join in and come along for the ‘ride’.
OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE
ASHC Phone : 0447 788 636
Please ring Leah Johns for bookings/cancellations.
BSHC Phone : 0438 062 561
Please ring Karen Emerson for bookings/cancellations.

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL FOR BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE
Some nights and mornings are FULL, bookings are essential.

These week at After School care children created some beautiful works of art on canvas using acrylic paints. They really enjoyed using these different materials. Their creations are on display in the multi.

Please remember to pack extra food for the nights your child attends the program. They are often still hungry after the snack provided and while we try to have spare fruit for these children it isn’t always possible.

The After School Care program will run from 1.45PM this Thursday due to the early finish. At this stage there are only one or two places left.

Have a safe Easter and we'll see you all next term.

As from Monday 4th March all parents/guardians will be required to enter the school from the top gate in Tambour Heights and through the end door of the Multi Purpose room when picking up your child/children.
The table and sign-out book will be placed just inside the Multi purpose room door.
The front sliding glass doors will be locked and will no longer be an access point for OSHC.
Parking in Tambour Heights for easier access may be more practical in future.

After School Care

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 18th</td>
<td>Fruit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 19th</td>
<td>Popcorn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 22nd</td>
<td>Yoghurt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 23rd</td>
<td>Fruit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 24th</td>
<td>Raisin Toast</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LIBRARY NEWS
All books borrowed before the holidays are now overdue. Please encourage your child to return books regularly. Lost books will incur a fine. LIBRARY BAGS still available for sale for $2.00 Library will be open before school on Tuesday and Thursdays for regular changing of books.

STARS OF THE WEEK
Room 5  Zander W
Room 6  Xavier L
Room 7  Destiney S
Room 8  Tenelle D
Room 9  Kalo D

PARENTS’ & FRIENDS’ NEWS

Mother’s Day Stall Helpers Needed
Please meet in the staffroom for afternoon tea this Friday (19th April) at 2:30 pm if you would like to help with preparation and/or on the stall day.
All welcome
Toys provided for under school age children.
If you are unable to make it on the day, but would like to help, please leave your contact details at the front office (Name, phone number, email) and ask for it to be placed in the Parents and Friends pigeon hole.

SCHOOL PHOTOS
School photos will be taken on Friday 3 May. Forms have been sent home with every child. Money or credit card details to be included in the envelope or photos will not be taken.

If you require a family photo to be taken, please collect the envelope from the front office.

Please return forms to the office by Friday 26th April.

EASTER RAFFLE
There are still some Easter Raffle prizes to be collected from the office. Could the prize winners please collect them as soon as possible.

Our children’s future in the very best of hands............
Dear Parents,

Loss and grief are issues which affect all of us at some stage in our lives. Learning to deal effectively with these issues is central to personal well being and happiness. Unresolved grief can also affect student’s learning. Specimen Hill PS is offering an Australian education program called Seasons for Growth which supports participants who have experienced change in their family because of death, separation or divorce. The program explores issues such as change, loss, managing feelings, coping strategies and support networks. Seasons is an eight week session program which conclude with an additional ‘Celebration’ session.

If you believe that your child/ren will benefit from this program., Please complete the attached slip and return it to the school. The program will begin in Term2 as required.

Many thanks,
Leah Backas and Jo Bergin
Co-Facilitators

Return Slip

Seasons for Growth

I believe my child ______________________ Room ______ Year Level _____ would benefit from being involved in the Grief and Loss Program ‘Seasons’.

Reasons to support involvement (optional) ________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________

Parent’s Signature: ____________________ Child’s Signature: ____________________
NETBALL UPDATE

Winter Netball
Teams are finalised, training nights are being confirmed (This week 11/U Thursday 3.20pm and 13/U Friday 3.20pm and will run for 40 mins). It all starts this Saturday the 20th of April. We are all very excited and looking forward to the start of the season.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade 3 Clinic</th>
<th>11/Under 2013</th>
<th>13/Under 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Georgia W</td>
<td>Karli Y</td>
<td>Tanneika M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macey R</td>
<td>Jasmine B</td>
<td>Chantel S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ebony M</td>
<td>Ella T</td>
<td>Grace W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Destiney S</td>
<td>Holley B</td>
<td>Zara W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashlyn B</td>
<td>Tiarni B</td>
<td>Makayla H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abbey O</td>
<td>Kobe R</td>
<td>Isobel M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tylah A</td>
<td>April S</td>
<td>Brooklyn R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shayla T</td>
<td>Tiahna P</td>
<td>Chelsea C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Draw, Court and Times

13/Under Section 4 at 9.00 am:
Specimen Hill Gold v Girton Green Court 3 9.00 am

11-Under Section 6 at 11.00 am:
St Monica’s Yellow v Specimen Hill Court 9 11.00 am

GRADE 3 CLINIC AT 12 NOON - 20/04/2013
Eaglehawk North v Specimen Hill Court 9 12.00 noon

Term Dates—2013:
Term 2: 15th April to 28th June
Term 3: 15th July to 20th September
Term 4: 7th October to 20th December

Important Dates to remember for School:
Monday April 15th—Start of Term 2
April 22nd—24th—Grade 5/6 School Camp
Thursday 25th April—Public Holiday
Friday 3rd May—School Photos
Monday June 10th—Public Holiday
17th/18th/19th/24th/25th/26th June—Whole school swim program
Friday June 28th—End of Term 2

NEWSLETTERS & INFORMATION are available from our website:
www.shps1316.vic.edu.au