School Photos Day Friday

To students, parents and friends,
Welcome to week 3 of Term 2.

Cross Country
All students tried their best in the mixed schools cross country event last Wednesday at the Bendigo Racecourse. Although there weren’t any outstanding results just knowing that all participants put in their best effort was a great outcome. Thank you to Mr Polglase and to Michael L for escorting the students on the day.

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

Grade 5/6 Camp
Following a fabulous camp, the Grade 5/6 students are now reflecting on their camp experience through many tasks and conversations in the classroom. Whenever students go on camp there are many facets of each child that is exposed. Many step up to take on leadership roles, others show an added independence and confidence and others who may normally be quiet or withdrawn show improved confidence when it comes to accepting challenges and hands on outdoors activities. It is a treat for the teachers to watch the children develop and to respond to the many challenges that the camp presents. Congratulations 5/6 students on a wonderful effort at camp.

SUPA Club
Every Friday the Supa Club will be operating from 11.15 to 11.45 in the Art room. This program 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. Last week we had about 20 students attend and I have received very positive feedback from the students of their first session.

Prep students for 2014
We are seeking enrolments from any Pre-school students starting school next year. If you have a family member or a friend or neighbour who is currently attending Kinder can you please remind their parents to visit the school and to collect their enrolment forms from the school office. We are always keen to show prospective parents around the school to highlight the many programs that we have to offer.

School Photos
The school photos will be taken this Friday 3rd May. Please make sure that all children are tidy and looking their best on the day and that they have returned their money and forms. We will start with prep students at 9.00 am. Please make sure that children arrive to school on time as photos will not be reshot to accommodate late-comers photos.

Parents and Friends and Mother’s Day Stall
The Parents and Friends are running the Mother’s Day Stall once again this year and we are currently seeking any donations from families. The Mother’s Day Stall will be held on Friday 10th May. A table situated at the front of the office is available for any donations. Your generosity is appreciated.

Grade 6 Transition Information Evenings
Transition for Grade 6 students is now getting underway. There is a meeting for all secondary schools (years 7-10) next Wednesday 8th May. You are encouraged to attend the meeting at the school where your child will be attending in 2014. This is an important meeting as it gives you a ‘snapshot’ of what the school has to offer and expectations for your child’s transition into secondary school.

Please do not hesitate to contact Corey or myself at school if you have any concerns or queries.

Wishing you all a wonderful week ahead,

Di Craig (Acting Principal)

EMA FORMS
For new families to the school EMA forms are available at the office.
CLASS NEWS

SENIOR DEPARTMENT

Dear Parents

Transition Believe it or not the transition program has commenced for our Year 6 students. The secondary schools all have their information sessions Wednesday 9th. You will have also received a secondary school information pack in the mail. For more information check the website of your local secondary school.

Camp Warner Brothers movie world look out as the Year 5/6 students create a ‘Windows Live Movie’ about their experiences at camp. We are sure we have future film makers and script writers in our midst. Your child will have the finished movie ready for viewing by the end of the week so get your popcorn ready! All this is being done with programs on the Edustar bar on their computer and does not rely on the internet.

English We are extremely pleased with the way students are engaging during independent reading time. All students have a book they should be taking home each night for their home reading practise.

In writing, the year 5 continue to work on persuasive text while the year 6 are reading, viewing and listening to a range of reviews with the goal of identifying what makes a good review.

Maths Addition and subtraction are being reviewed but our main focus is on representing and interpreting tables and graphs. When revising addition and subtraction we have noticed a number of students not fluent with adding numbers to 10. This is an area where you can support your child by playing simple card games. Ask your child to teach you the ‘add to 55’ game.

Rules
- Select one of each of these cards (A, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10)
- Shuffle up these cards and arrange in a line (face down) on the floor
- Remember the idea of this game is to add the numbers as you turn them over and to quickly get to 55.
- Players must ‘say aloud’ what they are doing.
- The idea is to get to 55 the quickest and beat your opponent.
- The winner is the person with shortest amount of time.

Keep an eye on your partner’s adding as they go.

Thank you

Anne, Matt and Scott

MIDDLE YEARS DEPARTMENT

Thank you to parents for ensuring their children are coming to school with healthy and nutritious lunches each day. As we are coming up to NAPLAN in week five of this term, can parents please continue to monitor this. It is also extremely important that students are having a restful sleep each night before coming to school. Likewise, students need to be eating a healthy and substantial breakfast to ensure their brains are fed and ready to be active during all learning situations.

Currently, our students are learning about Australian history as part of their Integrated Studies topic. If parents have any historical artefacts they are happy for their children to bring along and share with the class, that would be fantastic. In particular we are looking at the historical impact Indigenous Australians have played in our history, the First Fleet and also the Gold Rush.

Can parents please continue to supervise their children read each night. Students should be reading 'just right' books for at least 15 minutes each school night.

Thank you for your ongoing support,

Leah, Hayden, Rebecca & Adam

JUNIOR CLASS

Grade 1/2

LITERACY

It is pleasing to see how the students are improving in their writing quantity and quality. Many are able to write a page or more each session. We are concentrating on using punctuation and sequencing in their stories and making sure they reread and edit their work to check whether it makes sense.

MATHS

Our areas this week are Multiplication and Length. We posed an interesting activity for the students to work out -if there were 20 sheep in Baa Baa Black Sheep, how many bags full would they have? Students’ problem solved and worked this out in many different ways. We then gave them larger numbers to work out.

INTEGRATED STUDIES

‘Looking Back in Time’ - if you have any items of interest from the past please send them along to school. This week we are looking at different ways people communicated in the past compared to now.

REMINDERS:

SPELLING books- back to school by Fridays please.

HOME SCHOOL JOURNALS- return to school with a parent comment as soon as possible. Many students already have brought them back. Thanks to parents for their positive, encouraging comments.

NUDE FOOD DAY- every Thursdays. P/1 Manley are winning every week. Well done. Let’s see if the other grade 1 /2s can win this week.

HOME READING- regularly each night.

SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES- Monday 2.45 pm. Until next week.

Aaron, Jenny, Jo, Joan and Kim.

PREPS

This week our words of the week are ‘in’ and ‘up’, our letter is l. On Wednesday students will bring home attached to their reader bag a keyring of words to learn, these are not to stay at home as they will be used daily at school and should be used each night to support your child’s ongoing literacy learning.

We have noticed that some students are not reading every night, this IS making a difference to their personal learning levels. Reading at home supports all the activities that we work on during our school day. Reading every night enables them to practise the skills they require for all areas of their education.

Natalie, Di and Kim.
STARS OF THE WEEK
Room 1    Maggie F
Room 2    Breanna R
Room 3    Shakyhla
Room 4    Sebastian C
Room 5    Xavier T
Room 6    Chloe W/Riley H
Room 7    Tyran A
Room 8    Jacob C
Room 9    Jazy R
Room 10   Abbey O
Room 11   Aidan D
Room 12   Ja’Cobie R
Art Award  Jennah L
Nude Food  P1 Manley

PARENTS’ & FRIENDS’ NEWS
MOTHER’S DAY STALL
FRIDAY 10th MAY
Please leave any donations on table outside of office.

SCHOOL PHOTOS - FRIDAY
School photos will be taken THIS Friday 3 May.

LIBRARY NEWS
May is National Family Reading Month...So read more in May. Read every day. Lead a better life. We encourage all families to get involved.

Library will be open before school on Tuesday and Thursdays for regular changing of books.

FOUND
A vintage ring has been handed in at the office. A full description will be required upon pick up.

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.

PLEASE NOTE:
Limited positions are available this Term so late cancellations will incur a fee this term. 24 hours notice is required to cancel your booking.

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.

PARKING in Tambour Heights for easier access may be more practical in future.

After School Care
Thursday 2nd Hot Dogs    Movie Night
Friday 3rd  Popcorn       Craft
Monday 6th  Yoghurt       Music
Tuesday 7th Making Salad Wraps
Wednesday 8th Raisin Toast Craft

SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM
EVERY WEDNESDAY
All children are welcome from 8:15am

SWIMMING 2013
As part of our curriculum here at Specimen Hill Primary School, we are offering a Swimming Program in collaboration with the Eaglehawk YMCA. The program will be run at the YMCA in Eaglehawk and is offered to all students. The program runs for two weeks, with students participating in six sessions. The program begins on Monday 17th June. Swimming dates for the program are as follows: Monday 17th, Tuesday 18th, Wednesday 19th followed by Monday 24th, Tuesday 25th, Wednesday 26th May and Friday 1st of June.

The cost for this year’s swimming program will be $57 per student which will cover them for all six sessions of the swimming program.
NAPLAN

NAPLAN (National Assessment Program of Literacy and Numeracy) will be taking place during Week 5 of this term. Students from Year 3, Year 5, Year 7 and Year 9 will sit tests in Reading, Writing, Spelling, Language Conventions and Numeracy. These tests are Australian wide and provide individual, school, state and national wide information about the progress of students.

The first test will be Reading on Tuesday the 14th of May, Language Conventions and Spelling on Wednesday the 15th of May and lastly, Numeracy on Friday the 16th of May. If your child is absent on any of these days, there is some provision for them to sit the test later in the week. Results from these tests will not be available, to either the school or parents, until early Term 3.

Teachers of Year 3 and 5 students have been preparing their students, over the last few weeks, for these tests to ensure that students perform their best on the day. We encourage all parents of students sitting the tests to discuss them with their children. Please be positive and encouraging of your child’s participation in the testing program. All students have been thoroughly prepared for the tests and there is nothing for students to be concerned about.

If you have any questions or concerns about the testing could you please see your child’s teacher or me. We will be happy to discuss any concerns or answer questions you may have.

On the test days, the Breakfast program will run to ensure all students have eaten a healthy breakfast and are ready to do their best on the day.

Yours Sincerely

Wendy Jackson

SEASONS FOR GROWTH

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: ________________________________

Our children’s future in the very best of hands.............
Our children’s future in the very best of hands.............
Tabitha’s Camp Experience

Last week all the 5/6’s went on camp. We went there so we could learn our own independence, and we could learn new skills we didn’t know we had. We stayed at Baanya Biami camp. I was in group 1. Group 1’s first activity was the Giant Slide. The Giant Slide is basically a mountain with a long strip of black tarp going down the mountain with foam down the bottom to cushion your landing. There were three different types of mats green, blue and pink. Green was slow for starters. Blue was for in the middle speed and the pink mats were for daredevils, they go fast!

At night everyone went for a BIG night walk. Mr Curnow told us to watch out for drop bears. Drop bears are possums with big red eyes and pointy ears. I remember one dropped right next to me and Mr Curnow! What a night!

Group 1’s second activity was the Flying Fox. The Flying Fox is a big strong line is from a little hill in the stop zone to a sloped platform were you started. You just run off the platform as you sit in your harness going down a strong rope. At the end you hit a block of wood on the rope were you bounce back and someone has to get a hold on a cord from your harness and they have to pull you back up to the wooden block while someone pulls the wooden block buy ropes to the two tyres at the end. Then you get unclipped then you’re off!

Group 1’s third activity was hut building. We were put into groups of 4 or 5. Our hut was like a triangle with pointy parts on the top we made a tarp floor with a wood wall at the back. We made a fire next to the open door though the fire was fake. We made a fence with rope and I made a trap with rope we also made a clothes line so I think ours was a winner!

Group 1’s fourth activity was archery. Archery looks very fun though it’s harder than it looks and it takes lots of practice to get it right. We got put into groups of five I didn’t really get the hang of archery.

Group 1’s fifth and final activity was Abseiling. A lot of people chickened out but I don’t blame them. I was brave enough to go the hard part was just getting off the rock but it was a fun activity!

Then the next day camp was over and we head back to school. Thank you to Erica, Ella, Penny, Mark and all the teachers for looking after us and this wonderful opportunity.

Tabitha 5-6C

BAANYA BIAMI – CAMP RECOUNT

All the 5/6’s went on camp to Baanya Biami on the 22nd of April. We were all put into a cabin of 5 or 6 people. We were also put into our activity groups. The activities were Giant slide, Flying fox, Low ropes course, Abseiling, Hut building and Archery. For the giant slide we sat on one of the mats. The green mats were slow, the blue mats were a bit faster and the pink mats were the fastest.

At the Flying fox, we were put on a safety harness and were clipped up to the Flying fox. You had to run down the ramp and jump. When you got to the end bit that’s closer to the ground, you had a rope that somebody had to grab and drag you back up to the end. It was really fun.

The low ropes course was where you had to balance along the ropes and as you got further into the course it got harder. You have two friends on each side of you and they are there in case you fall. It was really great and improved your balancing skills.

The Abseiling was awesome! It was a bit scary at the top though. You had to walk to the top of the hill and you were then clipped on to a safety rope and harness. What we had to do was lean backwards and hold the rope behind your back. We then walked backwards down the rock face.

In hut building we had a group of friends we worked with and we built a cubby/hut out of the materials we were given. We were allowed to use 2 tarps, ropes and the sticks and branches around us. There were a lot of creative huts and cubbies that people made. Archery, we had to use a lot muscle! The archery teacher was Penny. There were four different targets and four different groups. In our groups, we had to take it in turns to shoot 3 arrows. The next person couldn’t have a go until the person before them collected all their arrows.

We also had a talent show! We all had to do a performance with our cabin group. We could also do a separate performance with some other people but we had to do a performance with our cabin. We had 4 judges and we were lucky enough to have an international judge! Mr Wong with the Gong! He had the ability to stop a performance if he got bored or something. The talent show was great, everyone joined in and we all had a lot of fun.

Natalie DN 5-6C
TAKE HOME A BIG BROTHER OR SISTER

Give your children the wonderful opportunity to have an international big brother or big sister by hosting one of our exceptional international students arriving in Australia in July 2013 for their 3, 5 or 10 month programs. Our international students from France, Germany, Italy, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland and Spain will live as a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover - all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Visit us at www.scce.com.au, email scceaust@scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501, request our international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship.

Robert Lindsay
Inbound Program Manager
SOUTHERN CROSS CULTURAL EXCHANGE
Telephone: +61 03 9775 4711
Fax: +61 03 9775 4971 Toll Free 1800 500 501
Post: Locked Bag 1200, Mt Eliza, Victoria 3930
Web: www.scce.com.au
Email: robert.l@scce.com.au

Our children's future in the very best of hands.................
**NETBALL**

Congratulations to all the teams who have started the year off magnificently. It is exciting to see all the buzz and excitement happening at the netball courts on a Saturday morning. The next two weeks will continue to be grading for the girls.

Training
- 13/Under Wednesday night 3.20 pm - 4.00 pm
- 11/Under Thursday night 3.20 pm - 4.00 pm
- Grade 3 Clinic Friday night 3.30 pm - 4.00 pm

**Draw, Court and Times - Saturday 4th May**

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<th>Section</th>
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<td>13/Under</td>
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**NETBALLERS WANTED**

Monday Morning Ladies Competition at the Schweppes Centre (Bendigo Stadium).
A chance to socialise, have fun and get fit. Creche available (free) for young children.
If you are interested call Jenelle Pollard - 0431 742 200 or Sheridin Reid - 0413 226 667

**CANTEEN ROSTER**

If unable to attend on your roster day please ring the office on 54435353.

FRIDAY 1st MAY
- Karen
- Roz H. H
- Terri-anne

MONDAY 6th MAY
- Karen
- Kerrie

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 3rd May</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
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<td>Friday 10th May</td>
<td>Mother’s Day Stall</td>
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<td>Monday - Friday 20-24 May</td>
<td>Education Week</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 23rd May</td>
<td>Prep Information Evening - 6.00 pm</td>
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**Important Dates to remember for School:**
- 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

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

**NEWSLETTERS & INFORMATION**

are available from our website:

www.shps1316.vic.edu.au