Dear students, parents and friends,
Welcome to week 4 of Term 1, 2013.

School Council
Congratulation to our 2 new School Councillors who have renominated for a further 2 year tenure. They are Mrs. Wendy White and Ms. Liz March who have both renominated. Wendy and Liz have been on Council for a number of years already and are dedicated and active members on council and in our school community. I look forward to working with them again and into the future.

Unfortunately Mr Trevor Humphreys will finish his time on School Council at our next AGM as his last daughter has now moved on to Secondary School. Trevor has been an extremely committed, energetic and supportive member of Council over a number of years. Trevor has worked tirelessly at working bees, barbeques, mowing the school oval and keeping the mower in tip top condition. His contribution to the Management committee as the convenor and recent Treasurer of council and his contribution to school policy is highly commended. My sincere thanks from the whole school community Trevor on your dedication to Specimen Hill.

Pupil Free Day
A reminder that Friday (22nd March) is a School Council approved pupil free day. Students will not be required at school. Out of Hours school Care will operate from 8.00am to 6.00pm for those who require it. Please ring to book your time. Staff will be at school participating in Professional Development.

Confucius School
Enclosed in the newsletter is information for parents and students who may be interested in learning Chinese through the Confucius school. The sessions are after school for those who are interested.

Home Reading
It is great to see that most students are reading for their required 5 nights per week for at least 20 minutes per night. Reading not only improves our reading skills but also our level of comprehension, understanding, word knowledge and vocab, speaking and listening and writing as well as our knowledge of the world. Keep building up those reading miles!

Meet and Greet
There will be Meet and Greet information meetings being held next Thursday 28th Feb from 1.15 to 5.15. Parents will need to indicate a suitable time-slot to come along to meet their child’s teacher and to share relevant information about their child. More information will come home on Monday.

If you have any concerns or celebrations please do not hesitate to contact Corey Warne or myself- Di Craig to share.
Wishing you all a fabulous week ahead.
Di Craig (Acting Principal)
Parking
A reminder that there is NO parking or drop off in the turning circle in Tambour Heights. This area is for turning only. The police randomly check school areas during drop off and pick up times and people will be fined if they are breaking road rules.

STARS OF THE WEEK
Rm 1 Amelia L
Rm 2 Freya W
Rm 3 Brodie A
Rm 4 Keenan S
Rm 5 Kurtis C
Rm 6 Charlie S
Rm 7 Audrey S
Rm 8 Bailin M
Rm 9 Abbey E
Rm 10 Lauren L
Rm 11 Chantel S
Rm 12 Eh Klu
Rm 13 Ebony R
Art Award Hayley C; Hannah E
LOTE Award Tarras P; Hayley H
PE Award Room 09—3/4P
OSHC Award Charnize M

LIBRARY BAGS
To protect our books we encourage all children to have a Library bag. Some will be available for sale for $2 from Mrs Young next week. Children are welcome to use a plastic shopping bag, pillow case or other containers to protect books from drink bottles and sandwiches.

.... Sandy

UNIFORM ORDERS 2013
The Uniform shop is open before and after school for purchases. We are still waiting on the supply of short sleeve polo shirts.

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE (EMA) School Fees
A note explaining the School Fees at Specimen Hill has previously been sent home. If you require a copy, the note is available from the school office. The “books & requisites fee” of $100 per child is a compulsory fee for all families that DO NOT receive the EMA. Every child at Specimen Hill Primary School is given all their school supplies, therefore alleviating the need for “book lists” and parents having to purchase supplies themselves. If you are eligible for the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) (a holder of a valid health care card or valid pension card as at 29/1/2013) please complete the EMA application form and return it to the school office by 28th February.

The school office hours are from 8.30am—4.00pm every day.

Payments can be made by EFTPOS, Direct Deposit, Cash or Cheque.

OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE
NEW ENROLMENTS FORMS MUST BE COMPLETED FOR 2013
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
Staff at After School Care this year will be Leah Johns, Karen Emerson and Michael Lawlor (Monday - Wednesday) and Leah Johns, Michael Lawlor and Lil Smith (Thurs and Friday nights).
Children have all settled in very well but being the end of the day are often very tired - especially the preps!!!
The ASC phone is now up and running again so any bookings/cancellations can be made on 047788636 (please leave a voicemail message).

We have also been learning about the country of Georgia - where it is, the flag and how to say "hello". We practise saying hello in many different languages and children are very good at remembering many of them. We can say hello in Danish, German, Greek, French, Italian, Maori, Arabic, Chinese, Russian, Hungarian, Turkish, Vietnamese and others !!!
We will continue learning about other countries, their language and culture this term.

Please remember to pack an extra snack on the days your child attends ASC as they are often still hungry after the snack that is provided.
Please dont hesitate to contact us if you have any queries about the program.

All day care will be provided on the Student Free Days (Curriculum Days) - February 22nd, March 12th—8.00am—
**CLASS NEWS**

**SENIOR CLASS**

**Grade 5/6**

**Camp Newsflash:** The initial camp estimate was incorrect, the cost will be closer to $280 but a note with confirmed cost will be out soon.

Students have started Chinese lessons with Mr Lin and this week were learning about the Chinese New Year. Ask them to tell you about this topic not only as a great way of checking their understanding but also to find out some interesting facts about another culture’s celebrations.

A reminder that Year 5/6 students need to be reading for 20-30 minutes each night. Talk to them about what they are reading. Some questions to prompt the discussion could be:

- Is this a just right book for you and how do you know?
- Tell me what has happened so far.
- Who is the story about?
- What do you think of them?
- What do you think will happen next?
- What were the tricky words?

Zero in a number is proving to be tricky for some students (eg $2057) If you see examples of a number with a zero ask your child to read it as practise.

Anne, Matt and Scott

**Middle Years Department:**

It’s been a hot week this week!! Does your child have access to a water bottle in the classroom??

This term out integrated studies topic is “I love a sunburnt country.” We are looking at all the natural landmarks of Australia. If you have any visual posters at home, we would love if they could be brought in and shared with the class.

This week, classes have developed their weekly spelling program. This is a homework task and is expected to be completed each week. Please ensure that you are finding the time to check over the words and sentences that your child has written.

A HUGE congratulations to Mr Polglase, his wife Sophie and son Miller. They have a new son/brother to add to their family! We can’t wait to meet Lenny Polglase.

Have a great week!

Leah Backas, Hayden Polglase, Rebecca Eastley and Adam Tanner.

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**Grade 1/2**

**SPECIALISTS**

Every week our grade 1/2 students attend one hour of Art which is taken in the art room by Mrs Young, one hour of Indonesian taken by Bu Turpie and one hour of Physical Education taken by Mr Dodson. The students enjoy these sessions immensely and learn many new skills.

**MATHS**

Our focus this week in Maths is Place Value and Length. All the activities are hands on giving students real life experiences in learning these concepts.

**WRITING**

The type of text we are practising to write this week is Procedural text. Things like the steps involved in order of how to make toast, sandwiches or a milkshake or even a lego model. Maybe at home you could involve your children in the process of preparing or making something.

**INTEGRATED STUDIES**

Soon your students will be bringing home a ME bag to fill with 5 to 10 things that they treasure or are special to them from home. They will return this to school and share the contents with their class mates telling them why these things are special to them.

Please don’t allow them to bring anything too valuable.

See you all soon at the MEET and GREET sessions after school.

Until next week.

Aaron, Jenny, Jo, Joan and Kim.

1/2 Teachers.

**PREP NEWS**

Children are continuing to settle into our routines beautifully! They are becoming more independent and this will be complemented by walking out of the classroom on their own next week (don’t forget to return the permission note to inform us of your intentions with this). Children are beginning to pick up some important reading and writing skills at home and in the classroom. Please ensure that you are reading EACH night and return your child’s reading bag and diary each day. This is an expectation and is stated in our Specimen Hill P.S Homework Policy. This week we are focusing on the letter ‘Ll’ and the word ‘THE’. We would love for you to practise reading and writing these as well as ‘I’, ‘a’ and ‘my’. Thank you again for your support!

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**NEWSLETTERS & INFORMATION** are available from our website:

www.shps1316.vic.edu.au
Easter Raffle
Dear Parents,

Nearly time for the annual Easter Raffle fundraiser. This year 5/6R in room 12 are organising the raffle. In the next few weeks we will be asking families to assist by donating an Easter Egg or chocolate Easter item. We will also be asking all families to sell a book of 10 tickets and these will be coming home soon.

Donations can be left at the front office.
Thank you from 5/6 Rochford.

Premiers Active Families Challenge

Registrations are now open for 2013 – with instant prizes for simply signing up!

Last year more than 80,000 Victorians registered to participate, improving not only their personal fitness but also helping to make their community stronger and healthier.

All you need to do is
30 minutes of exercise a day, for 30 days.

This year’s Challenge runs from 4 March to 14 April.

Registration is free and there are plenty of great prizes and incentives to encourage you along the way. You are encouraged to register as a family and some of the incentives are only available to children. So come on, join the Challenge and register as a team, family or individual here: http://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/bhc2/bhcsite.nsf/pages/pafc_get_active_2013

Special offers
By joining the Premier’s Active Families Challenge, not only will you get active and have fun, you also have access to an exclusive array of offers.

Just by registering, participants of the 2013 Challenge will receive:
- 20 free YMCA passes*
- 15% off at Rebel Sport*
- one hour free tennis court hire at Melbourne Park or Albert Reserve*
- one free child pass to the Melbourne Aquarium and 10% off entry fee for current YMCA Members*
- one free child pass to the National Sports Museum and MCG Tour*
- a chance to win some great prizes including iPads and Rebel sport vouchers*
- a chance to win coaching clinics at your school with high-profile athletes*
- weekly email tips on being active and healthy eating.

Terms and conditions apply to all offers and prizes.


CANTEEN VOLUNTEERS
NAME: ..........................................................
CONTACT NO.: ...........................................................
PREFERRED DAY:   MONDAY   /   FRIDAY

PUT YOUR HAND UP NOW!

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS PLEASE!!
The school requires a number of volunteers in order for our Canteen to run successfully. Please consider assisting Karen Emerson if you are available on Monday or Friday mornings. No qualifications necessary, just a pair of helpful hands and a helpful personality.

HEAD LICE PROGRAM:
In order to control Head Lice among school students (and families) we would like to conduct hair inspections at various times of the year. Any assistance would be appreciated.

PLEASE COMPLETE VOLUNTEER FORMS BELOW AND RETURN TO THE OFFICE.

SCHOOL HATS ARE COMPULSORY FOR TERMS ONE & FOUR
WHERE IS YOUR HAT???
$10 FROM UNIFORM SHOP
PARENTS & FRIENDS AGM—
15th March @ 1.15pm followed by a general meeting @ 2.15pm in the Staffroom.

PARENTS & FRIENDS Afternoon tea in the staffroom
Friday 1st March @ 2.30pm.
Please bring a plate of food to share if you are able.
Tea, coffee, milo and cordial provided.
Toys available for toddlers. ALL WELCOME.

PAULS COLLECT-A-CAP—Don’t forget to keep collecting caps and dropping them in the box at the school office. Thanks to all those families who regularly collect caps. Last year Pauls donated $1390.00 to our school for caps.

GR. 6 POLO SHIRT (New) FOR SALE
Size 14—$30 Please enquire at the office

COMMUNITY SPORTS NOTICES

NEW HOCKEY PLAYERS NEEDED
Michael from OSHC is looking for primary school aged children to form a new hockey team. There will be a come and try day on Thursday 21st of February at 6.00pm at the Ashley Street Hockey complex (behind the Fruit Shack). No experience is necessary, and equipment can be supplied.
For more information, contact Strathdalehc@gmail.com or phone 0419048628 or see Michael at OSHC.

SCOTS Baseball Club
Invites You to
Come & Try Baseball
On Tuesday 12th March
@ Albert Roy Reserve (Diamond 1)
Victoria St, Eaglehawk on
All the fun @ the ballpark will be happening from 4:30 - 6:30pm.
BBQ provided.
Come along with your mates and give baseball a go this year.
Baseball equipment will be provided to you by the club.
For further information please contact Lana Harrison 0428 462 149
5/6C Kids Corner

5/6 Curnow

At the moment in 5/6 Curnow, we are working on writing Autobiography’s. This is the start of a couple.

It all started on March 5th 2001 at the Bendigo Base, here comes me first born girl in the family, Sister of Adam, Kyall and Mitchell W ….
Written by Abby W

It all started 9th of February and my mother was very excited to know she was about to give birth to her first daughter/child. They didn’t know what they wanted to call me, my dad wanted to call me Maygen but all of a sudden my dad said how about Brooklyn. They both agreed so now my name is Brooklyn Maree. I almost died when I was born, so did mum we were very lucky. My nickname is chook I’m not sure why but it is very weird.
Written by Brooklyn R

My mother gave birth to me on the 21st of July 2001. It was winter and I was born in Bendigo. I think I was born at St John of God hospital. If I were a boy my dad wanted to call me Oliver.
Written by Natalie D-N

Exciting Innovations with the Netbook Program

This week we have started going on Edmodo. Edmodo is an educational social networking for children like Facebook but the teacher is the administrator and sees what the children are saying and they can ask things like when is homework due and things that are to do with school. So far all the 5/6 grades have their own but in the future we hope 3/4 get one so they can talk between classes and share ideas. Edmodo is easy for teachers to communicate with the students’ the teacher can just post it on to them on the wall and an easier way to get to websites and access the things the teacher would like us to do.
WRITING FROM GRADE 1/2M—ROOM 05

ROOM 05 WONDERINGS????

WHY DOESN’T IT RAIN???

ARE CATERPILLARS BOYS OR GIRLS??????

If you know the answers—see Mrs Mullen in Room 05

Our children’s future in the very best of hands..............
### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday Feb 22nd</td>
<td><strong>PUPIL FREE DAY</strong>&lt;br&gt;(Curriculum Day)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 26th Feb</td>
<td>School Council—7.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 28th Feb</td>
<td>Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) applications close</td>
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<td>Friday 1st March</td>
<td>Parents &amp; Friends Afternoon Tea in the Staffroom @ 2.30pm</td>
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<td>Monday March 11th</td>
<td>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</td>
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<td>Parents &amp; Friends AGM and general meeting—1.15pm Staffroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 21st March</td>
<td>RIDE TO SCHOOL DAY</td>
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### Important Dates to remember for School:
- Monday 11th March—Public Holiday
- Tuesday 12th March—Pupil Free Day—Compliance day for staff
- Thursday 28th March—End of Term 1
- 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—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