I do acknowledge that there has been a lot of illness going through the school recently and if children are sick they need to be at home. But it is not OK for students to ‘decide’ that they are not going to school. Every day that a child is away is a day of missed learning opportunities and opportunities to enjoy social connections at school. Research shows that good attendance habits at an early age sets students up for positive attendance at secondary schools and the pursuit of further education.

Have a great week ahead
Di Craig

The 3-6 Athletic Sports finally got underway last Thursday on the school oval. The weather held off and it was a very successful day with all students putting in amazing efforts. Congratulations to Mitchell R - 3/4 P and Anton P - 5/6P for their success in receiving top scores in every event on the day. Both boys received sports medals acknowledging their great efforts. Well done! Thank you to Mr Dodson for organising the day and to the many parents who assisted with activities or came along to watch. There will now be a team of about fifty students attending the District Sports on Tuesday 10th September.

$5 Bus Payment
The $5 payment which was to be spent on the bus to the Flora Hill complex that was cancelled will be kept for a further 3-6 excursion in Term 4. We are planning a Mystery Fun Day so the payment will be used for this event instead.

It’s not OK to be away.
Grade 3/4 Eastley are the winners of the ‘It’s not OK to be away’ competition recognising the least amount of days absent for the month. The classroom’s total was 19.5 days over the month. Well done and the students will enjoy a 20 minute free play time along with a treat.
CLASS NEWS

SENIOR DEPARTMENT

Dear Parents

What amazing weather we are having for this time of year. As it gets warmer students should be bringing a bottle of water for drinking in the classroom (not cordial or juice). Having a sun smart hat is also a sensible idea although not compulsory until next term.

Breaking News: The Year 6 Graduation has been booked for Tuesday December 19th. Pencil this date in to your diaries and there will be more information to follow.

Homework: Students are working on their passion projects and may need some help finding answers to their wonderings. Please encourage students to include Mathletics as part of their weekly homework routine, along with spelling and nightly reading.

Netbooks: A small number of students are leaving netbooks at home or not bringing them to school fully charged ready for learning. It is not possible to have all students charging their netbooks in the classrooms; being ready for learning at the start of each day is an important organisational skill.

District Athletics: The notes for the qualifying athletes went home yesterday. What a great opportunity for these students who will have a fantastic day. Good luck from all the 5/6 learning community.

Transition Reminder

Thursday September 12th – Big day out for Eaglehawk Secondary College students only (notes to come home early next week)

Thursday September 19th – Kylie Freer will conduct a transition session at school for the Year 6. The Year 5 students will continue to participate in a leadership program run by Mr Pysing.

October 17th - Class Visits to Crusoe- Sessions will be 1.5hrs duration from 9:30am-11am, and include a school tour. Year 6 students only.

Mr Pysing’s Maths Problem of the week: How many sandwiches can you make from one loaf of bread?

Regards
Anne, Scott and Matt

MIDDLE YEARS DEPARTMENT

G’day everyone! The Grade 3/4 students have recently been studying about our communities Emergency Services. So far, classes have investigated 2 Emergency Services and this week they are talking about a third. As you should know by now, 3/4 students will be finding out even more about these life saving services at the Bendigo Showgrounds next Tuesday the 9th of September. Students should have returned their permission forms in as of Tuesday this week. This will be a great hands on experience where students will be able to witness what is involved in Emergency Services and ask questions to actually and volunteers within each service.

Last Thursday was a great day to hold our Athletics Carnival and students all showed fantastic sportsmanship throughout the entire day. A selection of students will be taking home notes this week as they have been selected to participate in the District Athletics day which will be held at Flora Hill Running Track. This day is to be held on the 9th of September, which coincides with our excursion to the Bendigo Showgrounds. This is unfortunate, but neither event can be changed. Students who have been selected for the Athletics day are able to choose which event they would like to attend.

Quick Reminders..................HOMEWORK – completed every week. READING – completed every night.

Adam, Leah, Hayden and Rebecca.

JUNIOR DEPARTMENT

With only 2 and half weeks of this term remaining classes are busily attending to the Solar System. Some informative displays are being created as well as knowledge developed on our Universe. This week students have begun writing narratives which we hope they’ll be able to redraft and publish.

Mathletics

All students are encouraged to log onto Mathletics at home. Students have their own passwords and are able to complete tasks assigned to them by their teacher or compete against other students from around the world. It’s a great resource and one we hope everyone in utilising.

End of Term Sleepover

On Thursday the 19 September, students from Grade Prep, 1 and 2 are invited to participate in an afternoon of activities, dinner and for the Year 2’s only, an evening sleepover. All students will return to school on the afternoon of the 19/9 at 5pm. They will be participating in organised activities and sharing a BBQ dinner. Prep’s and Year 1’s will then be collected at 7pm whilst the year 2’s will remain for further activities and a school sleepover.

Watch this space for further information and your child’s bag for permission forms.

PREPS

The word of the week is ‘went’, the letter of the week is ‘Xx’ and the blend we are looking at is ‘dr’. Tuesday we had a visit from Kooka and the Bendigo Advertiser, so be sure to look out for the Speci preps in the Bendigo Advertiser over the next week. As the weather is warming up please ensure your child brings a labelled drink bottle of water not cordial to drink in class. If your student is more than 5 minutes late to school they are required to bring a ‘Late Pass’ (from the office) and if they are away for a day they need to bring a note of absence otherwise their absence day is marked as unexplained.

Natalie, Di and Kim

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

Page 2
Our children’s future in the very best of hands... 

**STARS OF THE WEEK**

Room 1  Tyler S
Room 2  Gemma P
Room 3  Jamison F
Room 4  Jay S
Room 5  Taryn E
Room 6  Rogan W
Room 8  Paige G
Room 9  Sean B
Room 10 Kaitlyn W
Room 11 Grace N
Room 12 Zac C
Room 13 Natalie D-N

OSHC Awards McKenzie

Nude Food Prep/1 M
Improvement 3/4 T
Writing Distinction Grace W

Australasian Tests
Least absenteeism 3/4 E
over last four weeks

Reading Sophie E
Luke F

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**PARENTS’ & FRIENDS’ NEWS**

Speci Community Afternoon Tea - All Welcome
Friday 13th September from 2:30pm in the Staffroom
Pop in for a cuppa and a chat while you wait for the bell to go.
Hot drinks and cordial provided.
Please bring a plate of food to share, if you are able.
Toys available for under school age children.

**Father's Day Stall & Raffle**

Thank you to the many people who supported stall and raffle.
The raffle and stall raised a combined total of $1100.
The children who bought from the stall very carefully considered the person they were buying for.

We hope that Father's Day was enjoyed by all.
The raffle was drawn by Mr Pysing on Friday.

1st - Welder and Mask donated by Hume & Iser - N. LIGHTBURN
2nd - Adidas Sports Bag and Drink Bottle donated by Bicknells - E. JACK
3rd - $25 Meal Voucher donated by The Boundary Hotel - L. LIGHTBURN
4th - Sports Supporter Pack donated by Before The Bounce & Athletes Foot - TELLE F
5th - Achy Bones Relief donated by La Scents - S. JEFFERIES
6th - Movie Pack donated by various Speci Families - GRACE W
7th - Shed Essentials Pack donated by various Speci Families - P. FLAHERTY
8th - Saving with Malteasers and Comm Bank donated by various Speci Families - TASH LIGHTBURN

A very big THANX TO Anne Marks for coordinating everything and all the parent helpers:

Michelle Robinson, Georgia Parker, Jackie Naughton, Kerrie Bowers, Hayley Davis, Linda Lee and Tash Lane.

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**MATHLETICS**

The school pays an annual subscription for Mathletics. For parents to buy this program it would cost approximately $100 for a year's subscription. By the end of next week, all students in Years 1 to 6 will have brought home their log on code. The program is divided into two sections. The first part of the program, allows teachers to set learning tasks for their students, the second part of the program allows students to compete online with other students from around the world, this is called Live Mathletics.

Teachers can set learning tasks for their students. These tasks can be made harder or simpler according to student's skills. Teachers are then able to access student results to monitor student progress. Students will have to complete any tasks that have been set by the teacher, before they will be able to access the Live Mathletics section of the program.

Live Mathletics allows students to compete with other students from around the world. This is the section or part of the program that students usually enjoy the most. The program aims at improving number fact knowledge and multiplication facts. Once again, teachers can set the level and the type of questions your child will be asked to answer.

Please encourage your child to spend some time on Mathletics every week if you have access to the internet. It can help build accuracy and speed with number and assists students develop their maths skills. It is a more tailored program then other programs on the net, such as Cool Math.

Any questions, please see your child’s teacher.
School Improvement Officer
Wendy Jackson
THE SPECI READING CHALLENGE

Gemma P

Any children that would like to sign up can see Mrs Pelly for a permission note.

Junior students are not expected to read books on their own but to “experience” these books by a parent or sibling reading to them.

WORKING BEE

SUNDAY 8th SEPTEMBER from 9.00 to 12.00 noon.

We are looking forward to a great turn up by all families to our Term 3 Speci Working Bee of 2013. With many willing helpers we will have our children’s learning and playing environment looking amazing.

WE NEED YOUR HELP THIS SUNDAY FOR JUST 2 HOURS.

From 9-12 we ask for as many hands on deck in our school yard to clean tidy and re-vamp our playground before term 4.

There are Prizes for all children who attend.

- Raking, sweeping
- Mowing and whipper snipping of grass areas.
- New sand into sandpit area
- Fix fence of chicken yard back area
- Clean-up embankment outside school boundary fence
- Lowering blue monkey bar
- Dead trees behind room 5/6 to be removed and replaced.
- Pruning roses
- Mulch on garden beds.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Sales from Tuesday 2nd September until Wednesday 11th September. Parents and friends will be invited to view and purchase books.

PIRATE DAY

THURSDAY 19th SEPTEMBER

Pirate Day – Thursday September 19th.
The time of year has come to school that we can all be cool and dress like a fool.

Dress up as a Pirate to celebrate National Talk like a Pirate Day.

Gold coin donation for the day which will raise needed funds for the school.

PREP ENROLMENT 2014

Enrolment forms are available from the Office for any families that have school age children ready for school next year.

Volunteer Families Wanted

for small gardening jobs to keep our school looking fabulous as we head into spring.

Please see Kim Manley Room 3

Also a Big thank you to the couple of families who have volunteered to adopt a garden area and assist in keeping our school looking wonderful. If your family would like to help out with an area please contact Kim Manley Room 3.

SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM

EVERY WEDNESDAY

All children are welcome from 8:15am

Our children’s future in the very best of hands................
Last Thursday at school, we had our Athletics. We split into our age groups and competed in 6 different events, sprints, long distance, shot put, high jump and relay. I got the highest points possible in high jump, long jump, long distance and sprints. Relay was a team sport so we didn’t get points for that. After the events were finished, four students got chosen to run in the student and teacher relay, they were Eklu, Locky, Paige and I. We competed against Miss Baker, Mr Curnow, Mr Tanner and Mr Polglase in the relay. In the end it was a dead heat! I ran first against Miss Baker, then Paige against Mr Tanner, then Eklu and Mr Curnow and last Locky and Mr Polglase. I have been chosen to represent our school at the district sports in 4 different events, relay, long jump, triple jump and sprints against other schools. I had a great day at our athletics and I’m really looking forward to the opportunity to go on to district level.
By Abby 5/6C

SHPS Athletics Sports Day
Last Thursday we had a school athletics day at school. We had 6 activities to do. The activities were high jump, long jump, relay, long distance, shot put, and sprints. During P.E. we did discus. My favourite was long distance and sprints. I have the honour of represent Specimen Hill Primary School with some other students in the Districts Athletics. I get to be in 100 meter sprints and relay. On Thursday last week we had a relay race between the teachers and the students. The teachers were Miss Baker, Mr Curnow, Mr Polglase and Mr Tanner and the students were Locky L, Abby W, Ehklau and Paige A It was great fun and ended in a dead heat. I had a great day at the sports and I’m really looking forward to representing our school next Thursday.
By Callum 5/6C
Book Week Characters in Prep Pelly!

I was Tigger because he is my favourite character – Alectra
I was a dinosaur because I love dinosaurs – Bailey
I was Little Red Riding Hood because I have the book at home and I love Little Red Hood – Olive
I was Angelina Ballerina because I like her because she does Ballet and I used to do Ballet – Tahlia
I was Where’s Wally because I like reading the books – Andy
I wasn’t at school but I would have been Tinkerbell because I would like to fly! – Dallan
I was the Hungry Caterpillar because I have the book and he eats lots of fruit and vegetables and turns into a butterfly – Mitchell
I had a Teddy that had a book on it because I like books – Kenzie
I was the Gruffalo because I have a book of it and the fox and snake and owl were all afraid of a mouse because they thought he was tricking! - Connor
I was the Mad Hatter because he has a funny hat with his hair out – Lilly
I was Batman because I like him and watch him every day – Tyler
I was a 101 Dalmatian because I like dogs – Baxter
I was the Fairy’s Godmother because I like Fairy’s – Charnize
I wasn’t there but I would have been a dolphin because I like dolphins – Kasey
I was Batman because I play Batman on my Xbox – Jacob
I was Fancy Nancy because I like lots of fancy stuff. I have heaps of books about her at home – Maggie
I wasn’t there but I would have been an Angel because they are my favourite – Alicia

Our children’s future in the very best of hands.............
Walking School Bus - THURSDAYS

BE COOL
WALK TO SCHOOL

Tomorrow morning (Thursday) the ‘Walking School Bus’ will be operating with pick up time at 8.30 am. There are 3 points of collection.

1. At Specimen Hill Road at the school crossing.
2. At the corner of Chum and Maple Street
3. At the Marong Road 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’.

Year 6 Transition to Secondary School

Across Bendigo, most Year 6 students will now be enrolled in their new Secondary School for 2014. For many families this will be your first child moving on to begin their secondary education.

Secondary School is an exciting and sometimes daunting stage in your child’s education. To learn more about enrolment, attendance, what your child will learn and how you can get involved, visit the DEECD webpage below:

This semester, Year 6 students will continue their “Preparation for Transition” with the Sandhurst Transition Network. This will involve a final classroom lesson, a visit to Crusoe College for ALL students and the program will conclude with students completing Orientation Day in December at their new Secondary College for 2014.

Kylie Freer - Project Manager, Sandhurst Transition Network.

BENDIGO • Saturday, 7th September 2013.
Lake Weeroona - Bendigo

On the day registration: 9am
Pre-registration check in: from 10am
Walk starts: 11am
Event concludes: 1pm

This September, join Scope in celebrating the achievements of people of all abilities at Walk With Me.

Walk with Me is a national 2km or 4km walk that raises awareness that 1 in 4 Australians is impacted by disability. The non competitive event celebrates the achievements of people with a disability while providing an opportunity for the community to walk, support of volunteer. All funds raised in Victoria will support the continued work of Scope.

Loads of activities such as: • Kids club • Trampoline • Jumping Castle • Games • Face Painting • BBQ and more family fun activities.

Walk • Support • Volunteer

Email: walkwithme@scopevic.org.au
Phone: (03) 9843 3041
www.walkwithme.org.au

IT’S ON AGAIN !!
SPECI HILL SHOPPING TOUR

If you intend to go on the shopping trip can you please notify the office as soon as possible.
Payment is due by 10th September
See Wendy at the office

Presentation Concert

- Featuring -
Bendigo Colleges Symphonic Band
Bendigo South East Toccata Band
Crusoe & Weeroona College
Combined Schools Senior Band

- Wednesday 11th September
- 7.30pm Capital Theatre Bendigo

Tickets
$10 Adults, $8 Concession
available from Capital Theatre
Box Office

LOST PROPERTY - LUNCH CONTAINERS
There are quite a few lunch containers in lost property (in the Art Room) If you are missing these please check and collect.

LIBRARY NEWS
All students need to return overdue books as soon as possible.

DOES YOUR CHILD KNOW THEIR ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER?

It is important that in case of emergency (ICE) that your child knows their phone number and address.
Please complete and pop in your child’s bag.

Contact Name:_____________________________
Address:__________________________________
________________________________________
Contact Phone No: _________________________

Our children’s future in the very best of hands.................
Speci Hill Under 11’s Netball Team
Jasmine, Tiahna, Tiarni, Karli, Ella, April, Holley, Keira

I just want to congratulate the Under 11’s Netball team on a fantastic season of Netball. Well done on winning all of your games. Also thank you to all the parents for all your support - Jennelle Pollard

NO PARKING RULE
Would parents please observe the NO PARKING rule for the top of Tambour Heights. Some families are repeatedly stopping in the turning circle to allow drop off for the children. This is a traffic offence and will be charged accordingly if found guilty of non-compliance of the rule.
PLease DO NOT STOP & DROP IN THE TURNING CIRCLE!

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

Friday 6 September    Karen
                     Roz HH
                     Terri-Anne
Monday 9th September  Karen
                     Roz HH

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2-11 September  Book Fair Sales
6th September   Pie Day - FOOTY DAY
8th September   Working Bee from 9.00 am to 12.00 noon
19th September  Pirate Day
19th September  Junior Fun Night - Grade 2

Fun Spanish comes to Bendigo

NEW: Spanish classes for primary-aged children
Weekday afterschool OR Saturday morning programs
Definitely NO boring sit-down lessons
Small groups of kids having fun – in Spanish Games, songs/music, drama, craft and fun activities

Special 5 Week Intro Program for KIDS this term
$60 per child

Theme: Spanish Fiestas
Learn basic Spanish and find out about the best celebrations in Spain
Saturday 31st Aug – Saturday 28th Sept
10.15am – 11.15am (1hr sessions held weekly)

WHY SPANISH?

• It's the 4th most commonly spoken language on earth (following English, Mandarin and Hindi)
• Spanish is rapidly becoming a business necessity
• 40% of population growth in US is Hispanic, with the preferred language Spanish subsequently becoming an international power language of the future – trade, communication & travel
• It’s easy – the vocab is similar to English & written Spanish is phonetic
• Better understanding of English: Spanish/English share similar grammar
• It’s a head start for learning other latin-based languages (French/Italian) and even Russian and German. It will help Maths & problem solving skills
• Help your child learn a language the FUN way Immersion-based delivery

Preschooler Fun Language Clubs also available for 2-5yr olds
French / Italian / Mandarin for KIDS also available
Enquiries to Sally-Anne Symes m: 0418 390 824
e: sally-anne.symes@lcfclubs.com.au
www.lcfclubs.com.au

NOT PARKING RULE
Would parents please observe the NO PARKING rule for the top of Tambour Heights. Some families are repeatedly stopping in the turning circle to allow drop off for the children. This is a traffic offence and will be charged accordingly if found guilty of non-compliance of the rule. Please DO NOT STOP & DROP IN THE TURNING CIRCLE!

FOUND
We now have TWO rings that have been handed in at the office. A full description will be required upon pick up.

Important Dates to remember for School:

Term Dates—2013:
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

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