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

School Values: excellence, honesty, persistence, resilience and respect. This week the key value in Mr Stringer’s classes is persistence. Always put in your best effort and if things are not working out...keep trying.

**Literacy and Numeracy Family Fun night**
Thank you to the many families (over 150 people) who attended the Numeracy and Literacy evening last Thursday. It was wonderful to see so many families playing/learning together. Congratulations to the many winners of the competitions and a special thank you to Mrs Jackson for organising the event and to the staff members who attended providing extra support on the night. The whole evening demonstrated how numeracy and literacy skills are developed and enhanced through fun family games and activities.

**School Fees**
Every year we have an incentive for all families who have paid their school fees by a particular time. This year we will once again be offering a family Pass at the Zone. For all families who have paid their school fees by the end of week 4 - Friday 9th August their names will go into a draw for the prize. The prize winner will be drawn at the Assembly on Monday 12th August.

**Jeans for Genes Day**
This day was conducted by the Junior School Council and was a great success with well over $200 raised to contribute towards the Jeans for Genes fundraising.

**Cobalt Blue Day on Friday**
Cobalt Blue Day will be held this Friday at Speci Hill. The day is in memory of Amy E in prep, whose grandmother Christine sadly passed away after losing her battle with cancer. Christine was an artist and regularly used her favourite colour cobalt blue in her paintings as well as in the clothing that she wore. As a lasting memory to Christine, Amy’s family has decided to dedicate time and energy into raising funds for the Cancer Research Foundation to assist with finding developments for a cure for cancer. The Junior School Council decided to support this effort by holding an out of Uniform Day where all students are asked to wear clothing or an item of clothing in the colour Cobalt Blue for a gold coin donation. The sausage sizzle will also support the day.

Next Thursday 15th August there will be a Blue Disco held at ‘Goldies’ in Marong Road from 6.30 to 8.00 pm. Once again students are asked to wear their Cobalt Blue items of clothing. The cost for the disco is $4.50 or $5.00 at the door. Tickets will be sold at the Office each morning before school as well as after school or on the night. Proceeds from the night will be put towards the purchase of a ‘blue’ item in our school.

**Science Activity Day - Thursday 15th August**
Next week right across Australia it is national Science Week. The students at Speci are fortunate to have exposure to a science program across the school on a regular basis. The regular science program will be enhanced by a Science Activity Day on Thursday 15th August. On this day students will be organised in multi-age groups and they will rotate through 5 science activities throughout the day. Sounds like loads of fun. Thank you to Mrs Manley for planning the day.

**AEF Conference**
Next week I am attending a Conference in Melbourne based around Asian Literacies and Education. The Conference is run by the Asian Educational Foundation and promises to be very interesting as well as informative. Close links and understanding of Asian cultures is part of educational direction for the future. Have a great week.

Di Craig (Principal)
CLASS NEWS

SENIOR DEPARTMENT
Dear Parents
Transition: Please keep an eye on this space to get the latest transition news. There has been a date change already with Friday Sept 13th, activity day, now cancelled.
Current dates are we aware of include
Thursday September 12th – Big day out for Eaglehawk Secondary College students only
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.
Maths: We are encouraging all students to use Mathletics at home. Each student has a password and it is an excellent way to reinforce their Math knowledge. This week’s win a chocolate question is: How many grams in 2.05kg? See Mr Pysing with the answer. The first correct answer wins a chocolate.

Our topic work on micro-organisms has a science focus. We have been observing, describing, following procedures and recording results like a scientist. Microorganisms are everywhere and some groups are talking about the ones found in homes. The good news is 95% are harmless.

Netbooks: Students are required to bring these to school every day fully charged. If your child’s netbook is damaged encourage them to follow up immediately with Mr Dodson.

Homework: Do you know what your child is currently reading? How is their spelling coming along? Which times tables troubles them the most? Ask them these questions over an after school snack.
Until next week...Scott, Matt and Anne.

MIDDLE YEARS DEPARTMENT
We are almost half way through Term 3 already and have had many enjoyable activities and competitions already this term. Last week we celebrated Literacy and Numeracy week with great success! All students enjoyed learning about different types of poems to choose their own and create their Poem in their Pocket. Students shared this with as many people as possible throughout the week and experienced a wide variety of poetry.

This week students are starting to design and create their egg drop project. They have been challenged to drop an egg from the front of the Grade 1/2 portable buildings and hopefully have their eggs survive the fall. We are still in need of things that the students could use in order to complete this project. If students could please bring in objects such as cotton balls, milk cartons, plastic bags etc it would be greatly appreciated.
Lastly, a friendly reminder to parents and students about homework. Can students please be supervised to ensure they are reading for at least 15 minutes each school night, while also practising their spelling words each night. The more our students read the better their skills, strategies and knowledge will become. Reading is a vital skill that we all need.
Thank you.
Adam, Rebecca, Leah, Hayden.

JUNIOR DEPARTMENT
Speci Hill Extravaganza!
With our Circus performance fast approaching, classes are busily readying themselves for the ‘Speci Hill Extravaganza!’ Plates are being spun, balls juggled and hoops twirled all to the uplifting beat of circus tunes.
Our Performance will be held at 1pm on Friday 23 August and I’m sure the performers would love a supportive audience, so please come along.
Could parents please be aware that students will not need specialised outfits for the day. Any bright coloured top children already have will be suitable and will match perfectly with the school tracksuit pants. Polka dots are optional!

Nude Food
Congratulations to Prep/1 Manley for again winning the Nude Food Award for last week. They are really setting the bar high. Last Thursday, the entire class only brought in 3 wrappers! Whilst we acknowledge this can initially be challenging for parents, making Nude food a daily habit, rather than a once a week occurrence, is teaching our kids lifelong habits. As well as providing them with the many nutritional benefits offered by eating fresh, un-packaged food.

PREPS

The word of the week is ‘with’, the letter of the week is ‘Jj’ and the blend we are looking at is ‘st’. There are still some communication journals at home, please write a comment in them and return them to your classroom teachers as soon as possible. Don’t forget Thursday is nude food, please send your student with NO wrappers in their lunch boxes as the number of wrappers particularly in Prep L is beginning to creep up! This coming week and a bit Mrs Pelly will be away on her honeymoon and Miss Michell will be in Room 1 over this time. Welcome Miss Michell. Students who come to school out of school uniform will be sent to the office and will wear a second hand uniform, so make sure you are arriving to school in appropriate school uniform. Next Thursday Prep L along with the Junior School Council will be hosting the Speci Hill Cobalt Blue Disco. - Natalie, Di and Kim

Our children's future in the very best of hands.............
STARS OF THE WEEK

Room 1  Caleb W
Room 2  Olivia B
Room 3  Ashton M
Room 6  Tia L
Room 9  Chantell L
Room 10  Ebony M
Room 11  Declan R
Room 12  Grace W
Room 13  Abby W
Reading Award  Haley, Sophie W, Zanda W, Liam B, Amalie
PE Award  1/2 B
OSHC Award  Trey A & Dylan M
Nude Food  Prep 1 Manley

SCHOOL DISCO

When: 6.30pm – 8.00pm Thursday August 15th
Where: Golden Hills Motel, Marong Road
Who: Current Students Only (No older or younger family members)
Theme: DRESS IN COBALT BLUE
Bring: Plate of supper to share
Cost: $4.50 or $5.00 at the door.
Tickets: On sale in the office between 8.45 and 9am from Thursday August the 8th

Rules:
Children must be walked to, and collected from the venue.
No admittance before 6.30pm
No adults, pre-schoolers, or older children will be admitted.
Children will be supervised by teachers at all times
No children will be permitted to leave the venue during the disco unless collected by their parent.
Children going home with another family will require a permission note from their parent.

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.
Please 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. Not through the sliding front door of the school.
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.

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Thursday 8 August  Biscuits and Bubble Dough
Friday 9 August  Flavoured Milk and Library

Please continue to pack EXTRA FOOD for After School Care. Children are often still hungry after the snack provided by us - especially in this cooler weather.

PARENTS’ & FRIENDS’ NEWS

16th August  2:30pm  School Community Afternoon Tea - All Welcome - in the Staffroom
23rd August  1:30pm  P&F General Meeting - in the Art Room
30th August  From 9am  Father’s Day Stall - in the Multi Purpose Room

FATHER’S DAY STALL

It’s almost time to celebrate our great Fathers. Parents and Friends will be running the annual Father’s Day Stall on the 30th August. So, it’s time to start those donations rolling in. Here is a list of suggestions for gift donations. Think: What would your Dad like? - Veggie seeds, gardening gloves, key rings, measuring tapes, note pads and pens, beanies and scarves and of course....coffee mugs. The usual table outside the office will be set up for you to leave your gift donations. Thank you.
To participate, students simply register online at msreadathon.org.au with approval from parents, or by completing and returning a registration form which can be downloaded from the website. It is the responsibility of the students to organise and collect donations and complete the program by reading as much as possible throughout August.

THE SPECI READING CHALLENGE

BELLA L

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.

On Thursday we will be having a full day of engaging science activities. All students will participate in a variety of handsome and engaging experiments. Bring your questioning brains and take on the challenges of Science.

SCIENCE DAY
Thursday 15th August

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Will arrive from Thursday 29th August. Parents and friends will be

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.

BBQ - SAUSAGE SIZZLE
FRIDAY 9th AUGUST
CASUAL CLOTHES
Please dress in COBALT BLUE.

SCHOOL DISCO
THURSDAY 15th AUGUST
6.30 - 8.00 PM
Dress in COBALT BLUE.
This week 1/2 T has continued to explore all the exciting aspects of the Circus. One highlight has been making creating and naming our very own clown. Some colourful creations are now on display and we’d love visitors to come and have a look. Here a couple of examples supplied by Ryan, Hannah, Luke and Sophie.
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 all 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 than other programs on the net, such as Cool Math.

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

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.

It’s On Again

SPECI HILL SHOPPING TOUR

Once again Bu and Mrs Louise are running the shopping tour as part of the school’s fundraising program. Why not join us for a day of fun and bargain hunting?

Includes:
- Bus trip to Melbourne
- A full day guided tour to approximately 10 factory outlets
- Great discounts
- Morning and afternoon teas – delicious homemade cakes and slices
- 2 course lunch at a hotel with a glass of wine or soft drink plus tea or coffee
- Free raffle- lots of prizes
- Good company and lots of fun

Date: Saturday Oct 19th 2013
This is the second weekend after the holidays.
Cost: $65.00 Adults
$32.50 Children 17 & under
(Not suitable for children under 14)

Bring your friends for a great day out.

Why not pay it off? Just a few dollars a month and you will be able to have a great day out, loads of fun and take advantage of bargain prices at factory outlets.

$20 non-refundable deposit to be paid as soon as possible.
Final payment by September.
See Wendy at the office or Bu Turpie

LOST PROPERTY - CLOTHING

There is a large amount of lost property/clothing in the Art Room if families would like to check for lost items please.

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: ____________________________

FIND

Two rings have now been handed in at the office. A full description will be required upon pick up.

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday 9th August  Blue Day - BBQ - Sausage Sizzle
Thursday 15th August  Science Day
12-16 August  National Science Week
Sunday 18th August  Working Bee 9 - 12
Tuesday 20th August  9.20 - The Blurbs (Book Week)
Thursday 29th August  Scholastic Book Fair
Friday 30th August  Father’s Day Stall

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

FOR SALE

New GRADE 6 Short Sleeved Polo T-Shirt - $30.00.
Available from the Office.

NETBALL

Training
13/Under  THURSDAY 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 3rd August 2013
13/Under
Girton Green v Specimen Hill Gold  Court 4  9.00 am
11/Under
St Monica’s Yellow v Specimen Hill  Court 12  10.00 am
Grade 3 Clinic
Specimen Hill v Epsom  Court 7  12.00 am

CANTEEN ROSTER

If unable to attend on your roster day please ring the office on 54433533.

Roster: Friday 9th August
Karen
Roz H-H
Terri-Anne

Monday 12th August
Karen
Viki F

5 CENT FUNDRAISER

As part of Numeracy Week in Term 3, Year 1/2 T will be coordinating a 5 cent fundraiser.

Each classroom is challenged to collect the most 5 cent coins between now and the beginning of Numeracy Week which will run from July 29th until August 4th. Students are encouraged to bring in as many 5 cent pieces as they can and place them in their classroom’s individual collection tin.

There will be Level competitions between each of the 5/6, 3/4, 1/2 and Prep classes early in Term 3. As well as an award for the class with the largest tally of 5 cent pieces. All proceeds will be used to help with our students further learning.

Aaron Taylor

Junior School Council
SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES

The Junior School Council are calling for donations of children’s book, school supplies (pencils and workbooks) and baby clothes to send to needy communities of Luganville in Vanuatu. All donations will be sent across and gratefully received by the wonderful people of Luganville. Thank you for your kindness. All donations can be left at the school office.

SKYDANCERS
GARDEN, GIFT & CAFE PRESENTS

COBALT BLUE
SHAVE & COLOUR
FAMILY DAY FUNDRAISER

Tribute to Christine Sobey
Sunday 18th August

Christine Sobey was an amazing person. As a nurse, her caring and generous nature was well-received. Christine lost her battle with cancer on 29th August 2008, but her courage, love and fight, demonstrated to her beautiful journey.

Although Christine fought hard over the years, it remained a stable pleasure that brought her happiness. “I adore vibrations and particularly enjoy painting a blue element within my work. Every painting I create has a story that is part of my life and I love to share that with you.”

PLEASE HELP ME MAKE A DIFFERENCE

AUCTION 11AM
SHAVE & COLOUR 12PM
RAFFLE DEVONSHIRE TEA AVAILABLE $10

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