To students, families and friends,

Welcome to students, families and friends to week 4 of Term 1.

School Council
School Council nominations are due at the office by 4pm today.
Nomination forms can be collected from the office. You can be nominated by another parent or you may self-nominate.

Meet and Greet Information meetings
Meet and Greet Information meetings will occur during week 5 of the term (Thursday 27th Feb). This is an opportunity for all parents to ‘officially’ meet their child’s new teacher and to discuss any concerns or information that your child’s teacher should know. This year we will be trialling an electronic timetable system which should be more convenient for everyone. Details were sent home last week. If you are having problems accessing the online schedule, members from Parents and Friends are available in the Staff room from 3pm each day to provide assistance.

Nightly Reading
Most students have returned to school and have quickly returned to their routine of nightly reading at home. This is fabulous as it reinforces what has been taught throughout the day and develops an enthusiasm and love for reading- which hopefully will be life-long.

Parking
A reminder to all parents in regards to parking around the school.
The parking inspectors have made numerous visits over the past 2 weeks to monitor the situation. They are issuing fines if rules are not abided by. So please be cautious and follow all road and parking rules as well as not parking in neighbourhood drive-ways or dropping children off in the turning circle.

Pupil Free Day - Monday 24th Feb
Monday 24th Feb is a pupil free day at school. Staff will be participating in Professional Development. The Out of School Hours Care program will be operating from 8.00am till 6pm and bookings are essential.

Talking About your Child’s Day at School
Some children can’t wait to tell mum and dad about their day at school yet others when asked respond with no comment or nothing happened- which we all know is not true.

Some strategies to assist with conversations in this area are:
Simple specific questions about parts of the day can get children talking. These questions invite longer answers rather than ‘yes’ ‘no’ or ‘OK’.
Some question examples are: What did you like best at school today? What interesting things are happening in your classroom at the moment? Who did you play/talk with today?
Be persistent with conversations. Don’t give up easily as children have to be patterned into conversing more freely about their lives. Great spots to initiate conversations are in the car (no escape), out walking, whilst cooking or especially around the table during eating time. Make this a regular occurrence with no TV or other electronic devices operating.

Chinese Exchange
Cadbury Chocolates will be available for sale for $1-00 at the end of each day to assist in raising funds for our students who are going on the Chinese Exchange trip.

Please do not hesitate to contact Corey or myself if you have any concerns.
Hopefully everyone has a wonderful week ahead.

Di Craig
Brainfood: It is very important that all children have a piece of fresh fruit/vegetable for eating at 10:00am in their lunch box. Children also must have a bottle of water for drinking throughout the day so as not having to leave the classroom during learning time.

Nudefood: All children who regularly have nude food lunches will be placed in the weekly draw for a prize. Zip lock bags are not counted, but yogurt and Prima’s are. Please consider what you pack your child for lunch everyday not just Thursdays.

Interviews: We are looking forward to meeting with all our parents/carers next Thursday at interviews, if you require assistance with booking a time please ask, we are happy to help. Kim, Emily and Joan

**STARS OF THE WEEK**

17 FEB 14

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Room 1</td>
<td>ADAM G.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 2</td>
<td>JASPER S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 3</td>
<td>JACOB W. NICOLA JP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 4</td>
<td>TAHILIA K.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 5</td>
<td>SKYE L.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 6</td>
<td>BEN C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 7</td>
<td>JASMIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 8</td>
<td>JORDYN A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 9</td>
<td>LAYZ M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 10</td>
<td>LUKE F.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 11</td>
<td>TOM R.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 12</td>
<td>APRIL S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 13</td>
<td>JACOB C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 14</td>
<td>TYE REIGN M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOTE AWARD</td>
<td>TYE REIGN M.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CALLING FOR VOLUNTEERS**

Calling for Volunteers to assist with various programs run throughout the school.

NEW PARENTS ARE MOST WELCOME!

Get involved in your school community.

Please complete the form on the back page of the newsletter and hand in to the school office. WWC check list is available from the office.
Tomorrow morning (Thursday) the ‘Walking School Bus’ will be operating with pick up time at 8.30am.

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’.

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

NEW POLO SHIRTS

have arrived along with other items that were out of stock.

The uniform shop is open Mon-Wed
Please place an order at the office.

Out of School Hours Care

BEFORE SCHOOL CARE
LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE
AFTER SCHOOL CARE STILL HAS VACANCIES

If your child is enrolled as a casual booking, please phone the office the day prior to any booking.
DO NOT ASSUME THERE IS A PLACE AVAILABLE
In order to comply with our licensing agreement we cannot exceed our number of bookings.

STATEMENTS OUT THIS WEEK

Payment can be made by direct credit or at the office. Envelopes available for OSCH payments.

Pupil Free Day
Monday 24th Feb

Out of School Hours Care will be available for the day at a fee of $35 for the day.
Bookings are essential - please phone the office: 54435353
BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL

DIRECT CREDIT TRANSACTIONS

Two transactions have been processed via a Direct Credit from Bendigo Bank on 06/02/14 without giving a family name for reference!!

Payments were listed for Camp & Voluntary Fees.

If you made these transactions please provide a copy of your receipt to the office so we can allocate it to the correct family??
SPECI HILL PLAYGROUP
THURSDAYS 9:00 - 10:45 AM
MULTI PURPOSE ROOM
@ SPECI HILL
COST = $1.00 PER CHILD
Please bring along a healthy snack and hat for your child

Playgroup is an educational, fun and interactive experience for children and Parents/Carers. Playgroup is open to all children under school age. Speci Playgroup is a member of Playgroup Victoria and provides a wide range of exciting and engaging activities. Come along and meet new people, make new friends and get involved in the school community.

Further enquiries to school office:
Ph: 5443 5353

CAKE NUTS" MONDAYS AND FRIDAYS
Lunch wallets available from the office $7.00

SANDWICHES, ROLLS & WRAPS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sandwich</th>
<th>Roll</th>
<th>Wrap</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(G) Chicken &amp; salad</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(G) Ham &amp; salad</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(G) Tuna &amp; salad</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(G) Vegemite</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(G) Cheese</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(G) Chicken, lettuce &amp; mayo</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(G) Egg, lettuce &amp; mayo</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DINOSAUR SALAD $3.50
Chicken dino nuggets served with lettuce, cherry tomatoes, cheese, carrot & hash browns.

BURGERS $3.50
(A) Chicken, lettuce, cheese & mayo
(A) Beef, lettuce, cheese & tomato.

SPECIAL PASTA $3.50
(G) Bolognese sauce served over twista pasta & grated cheese.
(A) Steamed dim sims 60c each.
(A) Nacho’s $3.50
(A) Corn chips, salsa & cheese
   (A) Fantastic chicken noodles $2.50
Dino nuggets (5 pack) $2.00

TOASTED SANDWICHES
(G) Cheese & ham $2.50
(G) Cheese $2.20
(G) Bake bean $2.20

MEAL DEALS $4.50
Dinosaur salad pack or any wrap with choice of small milk, juice or water.

DRINKS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>NIPPY’S MILK</th>
<th>JUST JUICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chocolate, strawberry &amp; honeycomb</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
<td>apple, orange &amp; apple &amp; blackcurrant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>375ml</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
<td>$1.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>250ml</td>
<td>$1.20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AFTER LUNCH SALES (available during lunch time.)

Moosies $1.30
Zingy frozen yoghurt 50c
Chocolate mousse pot $1.50
Honey soy chips $1.00
Sea salt chips $1.00
Gingerbread babies 60c
Yoghurt frogs 20c each (limit 5 per student.)
School Council Elections 2014

What is a school council and what does it do?
All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?
There are three possible categories of membership:

- A mandated elected Parent category. More than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Early Childhood development (DEECD) employees can be Parent members at their child’s school.
- A mandated elected DEECD employee category. Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
- An optional Community member category. Its members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DEECD employees are not eligible to be Community members.

The term of office for members is two years. Half the members must retire each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is Parent membership so important?
Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school. Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

How can you become involved?
The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in February or March each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

What do you need to do to stand for election?
Standing for election is a commitment to be a willing member of the school council. In view of this, you might seriously consider:

- standing for election as a member of the school council
- encouraging another person to stand for election.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?
No. What you do need is an interest in your child’s school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school’s future.

What do you need to do to stand for election?
The principal will issue a notice and call for nominations following the commencement of term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March. For parents, this notice will probably be given to your child so you may need to check with them whether it has been sent home.

If you decide to stand for election, you will need to arrange for someone to nominate and second you as a candidate in either the Parent or DEECD employee category. Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the notice of election.

If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted in the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Remember
- Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do.
- Consider standing for election to council this year.
- Be sure to vote in the elections.

Contact Di Craig - Ph: 54 435353 for further information

---

School Council Vacancies

Four (4) Parent positions
Two (2) Staff positions

Nomination forms are available from the front office.

Term of office: From declaration of the poll 2014 until declaration of the poll 2016.

THANK YOU

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the School Councillors – Parent members - Dean Stewart, Hayley Davis, Marie Cox and Naomi Evans Co-opted members - Wayne Sherriff and Trevor Humphrey.

Staff members – Helen Turpie and Joanne Bergin

all whose term as Specimen Hill Primary School Councillors has been completed.

We appreciate their many contributions and dedication over the past two years towards making Specimen Hill Primary a better place and a great school.

Our sincere thanks.

We will be making time in the future to formally thank the outgoing members for their contribution to the Specimen Hill school community.

---

School Council Elections 2014

An election is to be conducted for 4 new members of the School Council of Specimen Hill Primary School.
Nomination forms are available at the school office on Wed 12th February and must be lodged at the Office by 4 pm on Wednesday 19th February 2014.

- Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school office by – Thursday 20th February 2014
- Ballot papers will be distributed (if required) Friday 21st February 2014.
- The ballot will close at 4 pm on Friday 28th February 2014.
- A co-opted meeting of School Council will be held on Monday 17th March 2014 at 6.30 pm.

A School Council meeting to farewell outgoing Council Members then to elect new office bearers will be held on Monday 17th March 2014 at 7pm.

Our children’s future in the very best of hands..............
SHOULD CHILDREN READ EVERY NIGHT?
I think reading every night is a bad idea for children.
Children should not read every night even if they
have a lamp it will irritate your eyes.
Another good reason is because they don’t need to.
Children can decide if they want to read every
night or not but I think they can not read every
night.
Children should not read every night because playing is more im-
portant because you are using your imagination.
Lara

Should children read every night?
Reading is good for you.
You can be smart because you know new words.
When you are working you will not be able to read.
You will be smart.
Reading is good for you. It makes you smart.
Mikai

Should children read every night?
I think kids shouldn’t read every night at home.
You miss out on the fun because it it’s a big book with
little words it takes forever.
It’s boring because you might know all the words.
If you’re going somewhere you shouldn’t have to read.
Reading every night is not good because if you read too
long you get tired.
Rogan

Should children read every night?
I think children should read every night at home.
Children should read every night to help them
learn tricky words they do not know.
To help kids read harder books and to help
them learn at home and school.
To help them get better so they can get to higher levels in
reading.
It is good to read at home so we can improve our skills on
reading.
Charli
There is a nice big blue sea. There are three little kids. The little boy has a green bucket. The little girl has a yellow scoop. There are eight dry, soft sand castles. **Bronte**

The little boy is playing in the soft sand. The little girl is making a sand castle. The other girl has got red bathers. In the background there are trees. The kids are building sand castles. The water is on the left. **Georgia**

There are lots of sand castles. There is a green bucket and a yellow shovel. The sand is wet and dry. The little boy is getting comfy in the sand. **Mitchell**

The little girl is happy at the beautiful beach. **Deakon**

---

**This contribution comes from: Room 5 Grades 1/2 - O'Shea**

1/2O has been using pictures to create descriptive writing pieces. Here is some writing about the above beach scene.

The big girl is wearing red and orange bathers and playing in the dry sand. The little boy is getting very comfy in the dry sand. **Liberty**

The children are playing in the sand at the beach. They are making some sand castles at the beach and they are having fun making sand castles. They are having so much fun they don't want to go home. **Breanna**

The little girl is playing with the dry sand. The little boy is playing with the sand to make a seat. The big girl is wearing orange and red bathers. They are all playing with the sand and making sand castles. There is a green tree in the background. They are playing with the dry sand. **Olive**

The girl has a red bucket and the other girl has a rocket toy. **Corey**

---

**EMA APPLICATIONS CLOSE 28TH FEB**

*(Education Maintenance Allowance - Centrelink card holders)*
Giggle Your Way To Good Health
6-7pm

Squash Vic. are conducting an innovative female-only learn to play program, affectionately known as ‘Hits & Giggles’.

With many women from the Bendigo area having already completed a program, the ‘Hits &Giggles’ program is on again in February enabling the sport of Squash to be taught in a unique way. Run over six weeks from Wednesday 19th February, the Bendigo Squash Club ‘Hits & Giggles’ Program introduces women and girls to the sport of Squash in a supportive and judgement free environment that promises a bit of fun as well as fitness. Participants will receive coaching designed to their fitness level and playing abilities all whilst in the company of like-minded women, helping to boost their self-confidence, self-esteem and form new friendships. For more information or to sign to Hits & Giggles program, visit www.squashvic.com.au

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