Meet & Greet Meetings Thurs 27th

To students, families and friends,
Welcome to students, families and friends to week 5 of Term 1.

School Council
Thank you to the parents and staff members who have been nominated for council for 2014-2015. Congratulations to the following members:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parents</th>
<th>Staff members</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hayley Davis</td>
<td>Helen Turpie</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dean Stewart</td>
<td>Jenny Ball</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Primary School Council</th>
<th>Staff</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wendy White</td>
<td>Di Craig</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lee Webb</td>
<td>Corey Warne</td>
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<td>Wendy Jackson</td>
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These members will join parents and staff to form the Specimen Hill Council. There will be a council meeting to discuss the addition of seconded community members to council before the first council meeting for the year on Monday 17th March.

There are still 2 parent vacancies for council. If you are interested in filling these vacancies please contact Di Craig.

Meet and Greet Information meetings
Meet and Greet Information meetings will occur tomorrow evening starting at 2.30 until 7pm. This evening 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. Children may also be asked to sign an Agreement in respect to expectations for the year.

The new electronic sign in system has been very successful and it allows parents more choice for times.

The Interviews are 3 way interviews involving teacher, parent and child so children must accompany parents to the interview.

The children must attend school ALL DAY on Thursday.

Readiness for Learning
The following are a few reminders for all students:

- All students are required to wear full uniform every day.
- School lunches should consist of healthy foods with a focus on Nude food (no wrappings)
- Children should be clean and refreshed each day, with adequate sleep.
- All students should arrive at school by 8.55 ready to start the school day. Too many students are already allowing lateness to creep in.
- All students are expected to be at school every day - unless unwell.
- All students are expected to participate in all physical activities (at their specific skill level).

Any exclusions from activities will require a letter from parents.

Healthy Eating
All students are required to have a healthy lunch at school every day. We know that children operate at their best whether in a cognitive, emotional or physical manner if they are well nourished and are adequately hydrated. We encourage all students to have a water bottle on their tables at all times. Healthy lunches may include:

- Tuna, salmon, fresh fruit, healthy sandwiches made from grainy bread (not white) and fillings such as salad, yoghurts and home-made items. Soft drinks, lollies and fast foods should not come to school. Any food that has a wrapper is usually a processed food and usually not a healthy choice. The school canteen provides healthy choices as we have to operate within very strict guide-lines.

Students should not bring nuts of any kind into the school. These include- pea-nuts, cashews, any form of nuts, Nutella, cakes, biscuits or bars that include or have traces of nuts. Many children have allergies and nuts are an item that cause many allergic reactions.

Children should not share food at school. Any foods such as cakes and celebration foods must only be brought up to school following a consultation with the classroom teacher.

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

Di Craig
**SENIOR CLASSES**
A HUGE congratulations to the three elected Junior School Council representatives from each grade! You obviously outlined your strengths, had great fundraising ideas and spoke clearly and confidently during your speeches last week. We look forward to watching you proudly accept your positions in the induction assembly!

Netbooks: Unfortunately we still have a few families who have either failed to attend an information session, or organise payments with the office. We have given all students two weeks grace. We are now enforcing full regulations in regards to kids without netbooks.

**Students who have failed to bring their lap top or don’t have it fully charged will miss out on all netbook sessions that day and will have to complete tasks manually.**

Some desk tops are available for use, however, we are asking parents to support this program so that every student can benefit from a one to one netbook. Please find the time to organise an appointment with your class teacher or the admin office to address any issues.

**Homework requirements are well underway. The expectations are:**
- Children read for 20-30 mins every night and record information in their diaries.
- A set of 8 weekly spelling words are recorded down 3 times following the ‘look, say, cover, write, check’ policy. These words are then turned into complex sentences.
- Some form of mental maths practise. Either questions in school diaries or times table revision.

We understand that at times, tasks are not completed to their full potential due to illness and busy weeks. However, if your child is continually missing these due dates, they will be expected to work in the ALP program. These really are basic tasks that are in place to help develop organisation and general academic improvement.

All students will need to have these tasks completed by Fridays.

Thankyou for your ongoing support,

**Hayden, Leah, Scott and Rebecca.**

**MIDDLE CLASSES**
Thank you to all of the students who have returned their camp permission note and medical notes. As of today, the deposit should be paid. If you have any queries regarding this please see Kaye or Wendy in the office.

Next week in Literacy we will begin to look at Narrative texts. This would be a great opportunity to share your favourite stories at home. Please ensure that your child is reading ‘Just Right’ texts. We are finding that some children are taking home books that are too hard for them and not benefiting from them. If you are unsure, do the 5 finger test. If they have more than 5 errors on a page, the text is too hard. If this is the case, please make a note in your child’s reading diary.

**Natalie, Adam and Julian**

**JUNIOR CLASSES**
Thanks again to all parents who have been supporting their children with reading and spelling. It really does make a difference.

**Rule books**
Children have been working on Class Rules over the last few weeks. We have had discussions and role plays. Rule books will be coming home soon. We would like you to read through the rules and consequences with your child and then sign the back before returning the book to school. The book is a great way to help children make good behaviour choices in the classroom.

**Library**
These sessions will be as follows. Friday- P/1M and 1/2 S. Tuesday 1/2 O and 1/2B

Children need to bring a library bag on these days to protect the books they borrow.

**Interviews**
We are looking forward to meeting the parents of children in our classes on Thursday. It will be a great opportunity to find out more about children’s interests and any special needs they have. We will also outline some of the programs we have at school.

**Joan, Brad, Jacqui, Jo and Jenny**

**PREP CLASSES**
This week we are talking about the words ‘the’ and the sounds ‘N’ and ‘O’. Please look for these sounds and words during your reading time each night. Thank you to all the wonderful families who are reading every night and filling in the yellow books. The children are looking forward to earning their reading awards.

**Brain food**
Thank you for all the wonderful fresh and veg that children are eating during brain food. It is very important that all children have a piece of fresh fruit/vegetable for eating at 10am in their lunch box.

**Water**
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**
Wow - so many Preps are bringing nude food lunchboxes every day, this is fabulous! Please make sure you have clearly named with room number on all containers that come to school for lunch, this makes them very easy to return is found outside.

Kim, Emily and Joan

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**CANTEEN NEEDS HELP!**
We only have a small band of helpers to assist Mrs E. with Canteen duty.

We URGENTLY require extra volunteers on Monday & Fridays.

Please contact the office.

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**STARS OF THE WEEK**
As there was no assembly on Monday

No Stars this week!
**Parents and Friends’**

**AGM Report 2014**

President: Linda Lee  
Secretary: Bianca Glinski  
Treasurer: Belinda Seymour

The incoming Committee would like to thank outgoing members Danielle Boulton (President), Anne Marks (Secretary) and Kerrie Bowers (Treasurer) and the 2013 committee for all the hard work and dedication to assisting the school.

Remember - Many hands make light work!

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**Out of School Hours Care**

A reminder to parents that OSHC accounts should NOT be exceeding $100. Payments can be made by internet direct credit or at the office.

Printed envelopes are available for OSHC payments to made by placing payments in office mailbox.

Consider making weekly or fortnightly contributions to ease the financial load.

**PLEASE MAKE BOOKINGS VIA THE OFFICE**

PH: 5443 5353

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**LOST JACKET**

Tyrone has lost his school micro-fibre track jacket. Please return to the school if you have mistakenly taken it home.

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**EMI APPLICATIONS CLOSE 28TH FEB**

(Education Maintenance Allowance - Centrelink card holders)

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**NEWSLETTERS & INFORMATION**

You can view the school newsletter on-line at:  
www.shps1316.vic.edu.au  
Or you may request a copy to be emailed directly to you. Request a copy by emailing:  
specimen.hill.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

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**Parents Note**

Children who suffer from Asthma must have a current Asthma plan printed and handed into the office. Plans must be renewed every 12 months. Each child MUST have their own spacer for school use.

**Is your child anaphylactic?**

Do they have a severe allergy?

The school must have an Action Plan for any children who require the school to hold medication for emergency purposes. The medication must be dispensed by the Pharmacy in the child’s name to be held for school to administer.

All medication for students must be presented to the office – it is not to be left in children’s school bags. Only asthma medication can be kept in classrooms or schoolbags.

**BIRTH CERTIFICATES**

**IMMUNISATION RECORDS**

A reminder to parents to hand in a copy of the students immunisation record AND Birth Certificate to the school. A copy must be held with all enrolment forms.

By law, your child must have an immunisation status certificate to enrol in primary school.

How do I obtain an immunisation status certificate?

From the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register  
- phone 1800 003 800 or  
- email acr@medicareaustralia.gov.au  
- www.immunisation.gov.au or online  
- visit your local Medicare Office.

The most common type of immunisation status certificate is a Child History Statement from the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register (ACIR). You will be sent this statement when your child turns five years old, however you can request a certificate at any time. You should also contact ACIR if you:  
- are moving or have recently moved, to ensure your contact details are up to date  
- think your child’s statement is incomplete or incorrect.

**From your doctor or local council**

If your child is not eligible for a Medicare card, then contact your doctor or local council immunisation service who will be able to assist you in obtaining an immunisation status certificate.

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**Catch the Walking School Bus**

Every Thursday

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’.

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Remember - Many hands make light work!
In room 4 (Grade 1/2 Stringer), the students have been working on their descriptive writing. Here are some pieces from our writing session about a picture of a reef fish.

I like the feel of the scaly fish
I like the sound of the fish
I like the smell of cooked fish
I like the look of the bright coloured fish
By Sophie

I like the feel of the scaly skin
I like the sound of its blob noises
I like the mouth-watering smell of fish being cooked
I like the look of its bright yellow and blue scales
I like the taste of grilled fish
By Keenan

I like the feel of the fish skin
I like the sound of the fish going ‘blob blob’
I like the smell of the fish cooking
I like the look of the bright purple fish
I like the taste of fish
By Tahlia

I like the feel of the rough scales
I like the sound of the fish going ‘pup pup pup’
I like the scales they feel lumpy
I like the look of the fish it has bright blue, yellow and a bit of black
By Kasey

I like the feel of the rough scales
I like the sound of the ‘blump blump’
I like the smell of the fish it smells weird
I like the look of the scales they look smooth
I like the taste of fish royals, they taste like chicken
By Cohan

Come & Try HOCKEY
Come along and try something new!
Open to all ages.
Sign up for Term 1 Hooked in2 Hockey.

Sunday 23rd Feb
10:00 – 12:00noon
Equipment supplied on the day
BBQ Lunch available
Garden Gully Reserve
Ashley Street Ironbark
strathdalehc@gmail.com (or)
www.strathdalehockey.org.au
Contact Nic for Q&A
0400 833 203

PARKING INSPECTORS HAVE BEEN GOVERNING PARKING RULES IN THE STREETS SURROUNDING THE SCHOOL.
PLEASE OBEY PARKING SIGNS IF YOU SEND A FRIEND TO COLLECT CHILDREN PLEASE ADVISE THEM OF NO STANDING ZONES ALSO.

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Our children’s future in the very best of hands.............
At the end of May, five students from Specimen Hill Primary will be participating in a ten day trip to China. This is part of a program run across Bendigo where many schools and families have hosted Chinese students for a period of 8 weeks. For every meal bought on the night, half the cost will be donated towards the trip costs. Come along for a fun night and help support our students who have this wonderful opportunity.

**FUNDRAISER DINNER**
Tuesday 4th March
6:30pm
BENDIGO STADIUM BISTRO

**Student Absences (including late arrivals & early departures)**

It is important for parents to realise that absences do impact on a child’s capacity to maximise their learning.

The following is worth noting: Days absent per semester (Two terms)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 – 6 days</td>
<td>This is the normal range for school absence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 – 10 days</td>
<td>This attendance is below average. This student could miss over one year of schooling from Prep to Year 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 – 20 days</td>
<td>This attendance rate is poor. This student could miss over two years of schooling from Prep to Year 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20+ Days</td>
<td>This attendance rate is very poor. This student could miss over two and a half years of schooling from Prep to Year 10</td>
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**Bendigo Health Community Dental Clinic**

Bendigo Health Community Dental Clinic is currently offering dental examinations and treatment to children at your school.

If you would like your child to have a dental check up or your child is experiencing dental pain please contact us via our web page link:


**LADIES BE THE TRADIES**

**FREE DIY NIGHT**
THURS 27TH MARCH
6:00 – 9:00PM

Demonstrating how to: Fix leaking taps, Using Power Tools, General garden tips, fixing holes in plaster, special effects with painting and much more.

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL
CONTACT KRISTY: 5444 8555

**EMA APPLICATIONS CLOSE 28TH FEB**
( Education Maintenance Allowance - Centrelink card holders )
CALENDAR OF EVENTS - 2014

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>THUR 27 FEB</td>
<td>PARENT/TEACHER MEET &amp; GREET 2:00 - 7:00PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRI 28 FEB</td>
<td>EMA APPLICATIONS CLOSE</td>
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<tr>
<td>MAR 4</td>
<td>Chinese Trip Fundraiser Dinner 6:30pm Bendigo Stadium Bistro</td>
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On hot days, it is important to remember that children should never be left alone in a car.

The temperature inside a car on hot days begins to rise as soon as the door closes and within minutes the temperature inside can be double the temperature outside.

Leaving children in hot cars – even for a moment – can result in injury or death.

Young children’s smaller body size and underdeveloped nervous system places them at a much greater risk of life-threatening heatstroke, dehydration and other serious health risks.

Victorian legislation makes leaving a child unattended in a car a criminal offence, with penalties ranging from fines of $2165 or three months in prison.

If you are travelling with a child in a car and you need to get out, make sure you take your child with you. No exceptions. No excuses.

For more information, see: Kidsafe Victoria

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JUNIOR NETBALL
PLAYERS REQUIRED
As there are some changes and the school will no longer be running school based netball teams, I am looking for any students that still wish to play so we can organise our own teams.

Students can range from Grade 3 to Grade 6.

Express your interest A.S.A.P for registrations.
For more information please contact
Lauren Kleinitz 0434218274
or email: laurenkleinitz14@gmail.com

(note new email address)

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Come’n’Try & Registration night
Wednesday 5th March @ 5:30pm.

Any juniors who wish to play hockey for the 2014 season are invited to

SENJUNS Hockey Club

Where: HCV Hockey Fields, Garden Gully Hockey Complex,
14 - 30 Ashley St, Ironbark Victoria, 3550.

Training for Seniors is Wednesday nights from 6:30pm.

Senior Fess $290   Uni Students $215   Juniors $150   Family discounts apply.

Contact: Suzanne 0408031260 or Maree on 0407093301 AH

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Cruise just Coz

Please come along on the ~ 2nd of March ~

And support a local hot for profit group – Furaver Friends Bendigo.

Forever friends foster animals to give them a chance to find their ‘Forever Home’. All animals are desexed micro-chipped, wormed and vaccinated. The group operate purely on donations and money from their own pockets.

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COLD COIN DONATION ENTRY

Cruise from Kannaroo Putt Home Maker Centre leaving at 10:00

Cruise to Pratty’s Patch for a judged Show & Shine of a Chat and a Cold One.

Followed by lunch at the Marong Family Hotel with Live Music in the Beer Garden.

Prizes for: Best Modified, Muscle, Original & Best Overall.

For more info please visit
www.facebook.com/cruisejustcoz

Show & Shine - Prizes - Live Music - Cruise