Dear Parents, Carers and friends, Welcome to week 6 of Term 4.

Parent Requests for 2016 - All parent requests for students in 2016 must be put in writing and addressed to me and placed in the office mailbox by Tuesday 17th November. All requests must be based on educational grounds and will be considered when placing your child in their class for 2016. If there is an ongoing issue can you please readdress it by including it in a letter as it is not always easy to remember particular or ongoing family or student issues from previous years.

In the past we have asked students to nominate a group of students who they wish to be placed with (or at least one person from the group) for the next year’s class. This year, teachers will be asking students to nominate a group of friends and these will be considered when placing a child in the class but it will not determine who they will be placed with. In the past we have found this to be helpful as a guide but not always an accurate indication of lasting or helpful friendships. Staff work diligently to place students in the most suitable, productive and supportive peer group possible.

Chinese students - Last weekend Maliya one of our Chinese students left the house of her first Homestay family, Molly Nicholson’s family and is now staying with Issy and Xavier Lock’s family for the following 4 weeks. My sincere thanks to Molly, Tracey and family for your love, friendship and care shown towards Maliya over the past 4 weeks. She shared with me that she loves her Homestay family and that they were so kind to her. I was speaking to Maliya’s parents last week and they were overwhelmed with gratitude shown towards their daughter and also the growth and development that she has made in a month since arriving in Bendigo. Mandy and Alice remain with the Marks and Lee families until the end of the 8 week stay. Both girls are loving their time with their homestay families, they feel that they are very spoilt with wonderful meals, outings and the generosity of the families. Over the past 2 weeks the girls have spent time in 5/6Pysing and this week they have moved into 5/6 Williams for a 2 week period. This weekend the girls will be travelling to Melbourne with the whole Chinese student group. Mrs Bergin and her family are now hosts to Mandy the Chinese teacher who has accompanied the Chinese students to Bendigo. Thank you to Jo, Kevin and girls for their generosity and support for the program.

Prep Orientation and Step Up Transition session - Yesterday was the first Prep Orientation Day and the first Step up into next year Transition session for the rest of the school. It went very well and I am very pleased to say that we have 45 to 47 students in our prep group for 2016. This will eventuate into 2 prep classes and a Prep/one class. The rest of the school spent an hour of a ‘taste’ of what is expected at the next grade level.

Pupil Free day - Monday 16th November is a Pupil Free Day at school. Children are not required at school although the Out of School Hours Care will still be operating from 8:00 to 6:00pm. All students who are attending must be booked in prior to the day.

Student Behaviour - I am very concerned with some disrespectful or violent behavior demonstrated by a small number of students at school. Any violence whether it is physical, verbal or emotional abuse has a lasting effect on its victims whether they are other children or adults. It is important that all parents work in partnership with the school to seek help or support. The hard work that is put into a child at an early age will make a difference in the future. We want the best opportunities for every child and for them to be respectful, productive and happy people now and in the future.

Court Orders - Many students have shared living arrangements with parents in the case of separation. Often the courts determine that school is a suitable place for changeover from one household to another. Unfortunately change overs are not always calm and compliant situations and an altercation may eventuate. This type of situation cannot occur at school for the sake of the children involved or for other families in our school community. I am requesting that all parents consider an alternative neutral ground away from school for future change overs to avoid any incidences occurring. Please see me if you require further clarification or support with this.

Food Fair and School Concert - Our annual school fair and concert will be occurring on Thursday 10th of December. If you are able to provide some assistance to your child’s class for the Food Fair please let your classroom teacher know. This year the concert theme is the 90s. Children will be dancing and singing along to memorable and favourite tunes from that decade. Please highlight the night in your diary. The Food Fair starts at 5.30 to 6.30 followed by the Concert starting at 7pm. All families and friends most welcome on the night.

If you have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Have a wonderful week ahead.

Di Craig, Principal
Let’s Do it Again!
Last year Specimen Hill Primary were the winners of the Bendigo Marketplace competition. Monday 2nd Nov to Sunday 13th Dec
We are requesting the school community support this competition once again. Please place your shopping receipts for all stores in the Marketplace, in the Schools drop box located in the centre tree display area.
Funds from last year were utilised to purchase Reading Books and items for our Circus program and Table Tennis tables for the students to develop their skills.
SENIOR CLASSES
Greetings. We trust that everyone has been enjoying their week so far and will continue to do so for the next few days.
Students were lucky enough to be involved in an Aboriginal Culture Show on Monday afternoon, we enjoyed the show very much and learnt a lot. Thanks to the students for their excellent listening and participation.
We are busily practising speech writing and presenting at the moment, so far students have been very impressive with their speeches and we look forward to hearing the Grade 6 speeches at Graduation night.
Congratulations to the boys and girls Cricket teams who did an amazing job at the cricket tournament yesterday! Our boys finished third and the girls finished in second place! Top job by everyone who attended, special thanks to the people who were able to fill in at the last minute.
Graduation is quickly approaching, could anyone who has not yet purchased their tickets please do so as soon as possible. Payments can be made through the QRK app and to the front office at school.
Any Grade 5 students wishing to purchase a T-shirt for next year needs to return their form as soon as possible so the orders can be made prior to end of year.
Have a lovely week.
Regards, Bec, Sophie, Adam and Scott.

MIDDLE CLASSES
Home Reading - It is really important that students continue to be consistent with their nightly reading routine. Students need to be reading for at least five nights each week to ensure they are developing as readers, writers and speakers. Currently the three classes are participating in a ‘Play Reading’ rotation where one group from each class presents to the three classes each week. Students have performed extremely well so far and will continue to receive support and guidance to develop their fluency, expression and tone when performing. It would be wonderful if parents could help with this at home by modelling or providing some helpful tips to your children.
Homework - Similar to reading, students also need to ensure they have a consistent routine for completing their spelling homework each night. Students will also be required to complete their homework sheet.
Hats - Term Four is a compulsory ‘hat wearing’ term. It is extremely important that all students are wearing a hat during break times at school. It would be advised that students apply some sunscreen at the beginning of each day to ensure they are protected at break times. Ample drinking fluid (preferably water) is also advised.
Food Fair - Our annual Food Fair is coming up soon (Thursday December 10th of Week Ten). Teachers will begin to advertise for any goods to be donated in the next couple of weeks. We thank you in anticipation for your wonderful generosity. The Food Fair is always a wonderful night and one of the most enjoyable events we have on our school calendar.
We look forward to maintaining a close relationship between home and school during the last term of the school year.
Julian Regan, Kim Manley & Hayden Polglase

JUNIOR CLASSES
Transition Day: Yesterday the Grade 1 & 2’s took part in a Transition activity. All teachers and children thoroughly enjoyed their time together. Please ask your child about their morning.
Gym Program: Our Gym Program at Jets has finished for 2015 and children blossomed learning new skills and practising these.

PREP NEWS
Prep 2016 Transition and Step Up Morning :The first Transition Session for 2016 prep was went off very smoothly yesterday. All students settled well into the classrooms and are looking forward to returning on Tuesday November 24th 9.00am-10.00am when they will meet their Grade 6 Buddies for 2016. Today all classes moved up to their next year grade level.
Integrated Studies:
Junior Department Mini Circus
will be on this Friday starting at 12.00. All families are welcome to attend so ROLL UP ROLL UP the Circus is in Town.
Reading Focus: this week involves looking solving words and rereading to check if our reading makes sense. Please encourage your child to read with expression as this helps them to gain the meaning of the text.
Writing Focus: is practising writing numbers and their words.
WORD OF THE WEEK: ‘they’ Sounds of the week: “ tr” “ in”
We are continuing to practise our spelling words each week at school. The students learn to read and write five high frequency words.
REMINDERS:
HATS: Great to see nearly all our prep’s wearing their hats outside each day. A few hats have gone missing. Please check at home and make sure the hats are clearly named.
NUDE FOOD: Every Thursday please remember to have Nude Food as your children feel great when their class has minimum wrappers.
WATER BOTTLES: are essential to bring to school especially in this warmer weather. Students are encouraged to drink during class time. We must remember to have fresh water in them daily.
HOME READING: complete every night and sign the yellow book please.
LIBRARY SESSIONS: Thursday at present is the day we will be going to the library to borrow and read books. All students can change their books every morning before school if they wish to.
Emily and Joan

School Working Bee
Thursday 12th Nov 3.30- 5.00
Tues Nov 24
Prep Transition - Day 2
The first Transition Day was this week, the next is on the 24th November. If you have a child starting school next year, or family friends have, please ensure enrolment papers have been handed into the school. Transition Days are to assist the child in being prepared and comfortable about starting school next year.

Jacqui, Jo, Kylie, Stacey, Nat and Brad

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

P-2 Junior Circus
SPECTACULAR
Friday 13th November
Show starts at 12:00
in the Multi

Come and enjoy an amazing show,
including juggling, plate spinning, comedy
acts, tightrope walking, tumbling and
magic tricks.

Family and friends
welcome

Please contact your class room teacher
to ask how you can assist

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<td>Popcorn</td>
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<td>Spaghetti Bolognese</td>
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Junior School Council
Frogs in Pond

School Council
BBQ - Sausages & Burgers

Bu & Louise
American Hot Dogs

Kaye & Wendy
Sausage Rolls

FOOD FAIR
DEC 10TH

Come to our
Buy One, Get One
FREE
Book Fair!

Tues 17th
Wed 18th Nov
Before & After School

SCHOLASTIC

CHOOSE FROM 100s
OF BOOKS AND BUILD
YOUR HOME LIBRARY

Scholastic Book Fair is coming to our school with a
Buy One Get One Free! Book Fair! This special event
offers a great opportunity for you to add twice as many
books to your child’s home and classroom library.

For every book purchased, you receive a second book, of
equal or lesser value FREE to give as a gift to a friend,
teacher, donate back to the library, or keep yourself.
Preferred payment for Canteen orders on Mondays & Fridays is by QKR App prior to 9:00am. 

$ Cash orders for Friday must be placed at the office on Thursday.

CLASS OF 2016 POLOS

Orders for the Grade Six Year Shirts are now being taken. If you would like your child to have a year shirt, please fill in the order form below and return to the office with payment or pay via Qkr Payment App.

NO NEW NAMES CAN BE ADDED ONCE ORDERED

Orders must be received by Wed 18th Nov.
2015 | EVENTS CALENDAR
---|---
Wed | 8:15am Breakfast Program
Thurs | Walking School Bus 8:30am
Thurs 12th | School Working Bee 3.30- 5.00
Mon 16th Nov | Report Writing Day (Pupil Free Day)
Tues 24th | Prep Transition - Day 2
Mon 30th | Swimming Program Starts
Thurs 10th Dec | FOOD FAIR NIGHT
Dec 15th | Grade 6 Graduation Night

Tickets now available on QKR

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GRADE 6 GRADUATION
TUESDAY DEC 15TH
FOUNDRY ARMS HOTEL
PLATINUM ROOM
TICKETS $30 each
2 Course Dinner
PAY VIA QKR
OR AT THE
SCHOOL OFFICE
Tickets limited to Student + 2 others (3)

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Working Bee Thursday
12th November from 3.30- 5.00
We are looking forward to a great turn up by all families to our last Speci Working Bee of 2015. With many willing helpers we will have our children’s learning and playing environment looking amazing. Bring along gardening gloves and any equipment you could use for weeding and general gardening and maintenance.

Please note: There will be a short induction at 3.30 in the staff meeting to discuss safety procedures and specific tasks to be done. All staff, parents and children need to attend the induction. Those who miss the induction still need to report to the staffroom upon arrival to read and sign the Induction sheet.

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BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL FOR BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE

Some days are full!

Please phone the correct phone number for bookings
ASC Phone : 0447 788 636
Please Phone or Text Leah Johns
BSC Phone : 0438 062 561
Please Phone or Text Karen Emerson

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