Welcome to week 5 of Term 1 for 2015.

Meet and Greet Interviews
Family Meet and Greet teacher interviews will be held on this Thursday 26th February. Please make your appointment online: [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) and follow the prompts. We would like to see as many parents as possible attend.

Family occupations
The school is currently updating family information which is a school requirement. To assist with this every parent will be required to fill out a quick form in relation to the family occupation. This will be handed to you at the start of the Meet and Greet meetings to be completed before leaving. One form per family is needed.

Pupil Free Day – Friday 27th Feb
The day following the Interviews- Friday 27th Feb is a pupil free day. On this day the staff will be completing their compliance for CPR, asthma and anaphylaxis training. The OSHC program will operate from 8.00am till 6pm. Bookings are essential.

Team China- Overseas Learning Experience Fundraiser
Every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at afternoon recess and after school, the 3 students travelling to China- Molly, Callum and Emily will be selling 99% fruit icy poles for 50c (at afternoon recess) and water icy-poles on a stick for $1 (at home-time). This is part of their fundraising effort for their overseas trip.

Grade 5/6 Camp
Next week on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday the Grade 5/6 students will be heading off to camp. I know that the children are excited as the camp is an adventure camp full of wonderful fun activities and personal challenges. If you have any concerns about the camp, do not hesitate to contact your child’s class teacher for further clarification.

Parents and Friends
This year we have many new families in our school community which is wonderful to see. Getting involved in the school community is an important part of your child’s education. Children love to see mum, dad or other family members contributing in some way and the school could not function so effectively without your valued support. 

On Friday 6th March the Parents and Friends will have its first meeting for the year which will also be its AGM. I encourage new or not so recent family members in our school community to come along. The P&F group is a dynamic bunch of parents who make a diverse contribution towards our school through fundraising, providing support to families, are involved in regular ‘cook-ups’, organise our Mothers’ and Fathers’ Day stalls and assist in many other ways.

This year is the final year for the school’s current Strategic Plan which is the basis for the school’s achievement goals over the past 4 years. Therefore during the year the school will be involved in a school review. This process involves a whole school of the review over the past 4 years in the key areas of: student learning, wellbeing and transition and pathways. During this time I will be seeking some parent feedback and input as well as feedback from the students and staff. The process is quite arduous but also very rewarding as we reflect on the Specimen Hill journey over the past 4 years.

If you have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or by appointment. Best wishes for the week ahead.

Di Craig, Principal
Our Integrated Studies topic this term is ‘I love a sunburnt country’.

ICT
It has been great to see the high quality work that students are producing using the classroom iPads. A reminder for all Grade 6 students to ensure that they pay for and collect their netbooks as soon as possible.

Nude Food
All students should be making an effort to bring nude food lunches to school every day. This promotes healthy eating as well as decreasing the amount of landfill that we create. Some handy hints are to use small containers, a sectioned lunch box and/or reusable snap lock bags.

Meet and Greets
Make sure that you sign up for Meet and Greet interviews by 9am tomorrow morning. Important information will be given out regarding school policies, behaviour expectations, learning expectations etc. It is a great time to catch up with your child’s teacher, gain information about the year ahead and share any concerns.

MIDDLE CLASSES
Meet and Greet
Students received a Meet and Greet Interview sheet on Monday afternoon. Our school’s Meet and Greet Interviews will take place on Thursday 26th February between 2:00pm – 7:00pm. In order to book a time for these interviews, parents need to log on to schoolinterviews.com.au and use the school event code (G3RRV). This will allow them to book a suitable time. It would be great to meet with all parents to discuss the education of your child.

Home Reading
Reading daily is extremely important to a child’s development. The more words a child reads, the more words they use in both their written and spoken vocabulary. Can parents please ensure that their children are being listened to at least five nights per week for approximately 20 minutes each night. This term the 3/4 department has organised to run a ‘Home Reading Competition’. Students will be required to return their home reading diaries daily, with teachers counting up how many nights students have read for in their class on a weekly basis. The winning class will receive a trophy for the week, as well as being celebrated at Assembly on Mondays. The class who has read for the most nights for the term will also receive a special celebration in the last week of term.

Spelling
Once again, our students will receive five weekly spelling words to study and practise. The words will be selected from their writing pieces, ensuring every student has an individual spelling program catered to their needs and vocabulary use. Can parents please ensure students are practising their words each night to help them further develop their writing vocabularies. Partner testing will take place on Fridays and then students will take a new list of words home.

Hats
As part of our school policy, students are required to wear wide brim hats during term one and four of the school year. If students do not have hats on while outside at break times they will unfortunately be asked to play indoors or undercover.

Integrated Studies
Our Integrated Studies topic this term is ‘I love a sunburnt country’.

SENIOR CLASSES
Camp
All yellow medical, permission and camp agreement forms should have been returned to Miss Eastley. FULL AND FINAL payments must be made by this Friday the 27th of February. A final information note will be given out next week, indicating any last minute information, travel times etc. Please see your child’s teacher or Miss Eastley if you have any concerns about camp.

PREP CLASS
INTERVIEWS: We are looking forward to meeting the Prep parents at the Interviews this Thursday. The preps have settled into school routines very well. We will be setting learning goals for the preps to work on for the term. These interviews are a valuable connection between school and home.

READING: Preps have made a fantastic start to their home reading. Remember to make a special quiet time to read and share their take home books. Please sign the yellow log book as the preps earn a WOW bead for home reading. Encourage your child to point under the words themselves as they read. You can guide them with your finger. We have been learning about the letters Aa and Ss and the sounds they make as well as the word ‘to’ this week.

LUNCHES: We have noticed that our Preps are coming to school with a good healthy lunch box. Please try and keep wrappers to a minimum as we are trying to be a nude food classroom. This means, no wrappers in our school lunch boxes to reduce waste at our school. Thursday is Nude Food Day where wrappers are counted in each classroom. Also, please be aware that fruit boxes aren’t encouraged, just a bottle of water to sip on throughout the day.

RULE BOOKS: The preps will soon be bringing home a Rule Book to share with their families. Please discuss the rules with your child and sign and return the books to school ASAP.

REMINDER: We are collecting small boxes and suitable small ‘bits and pieces’ to use for construction activities. These can be deposited in the big box in the passage outside our rooms. Thanks for your support.

PREPS ATTEND SCHOOL NEXT WEDNESDAY.
Emily & Joan

JUNIOR CLASS
We have already made it to week 5 of term! Students are working hard completing procedural writing, enjoying making lots of delicious treats this week. Home reading efforts from many children are fantastic. Please continue reading regularly at home and working on your spelling words each week. We appreciate your support in this area. Tomorrow is our parent teacher meet and greet afternoon - ensure you have booked a time online before 9am tomorrow or contact your classroom teacher if you have any issues. Remember drink bottles should be at school to keep everyone hydrated. Thank you for your ongoing support, Natalie, Stacey, Brad, Jo and Kylie.

OUR CHILDREN’S FUTURE IN THE VERY BEST OF HANDS……………..
Our children’s future in the very best of hands...

STARS OF THE WEEK 23/2/15
Room 1 Ryan M.
Room 2 Jeremy W.
Room 3 Logan K.
Room 4 Zara G.
Room 5 Tahlia K.
Room 6
Room 7 Ashlyn B.
Room 8 Ricki Lee
Room 9 Jordan A.
Room 10 Hayley H.
Room 11 Tom R.
Room 12 Destiney S.
Room 13 Kira H.
LOTE Award Isaac H.
Nude Food 3/4 Manley
Phys Ed Award Henry C.
Reading Challenge 3/4 = 123 Nights

DO YOU HOLD A CENTRLINK CARD? HEALTH CARE CARD?
Copies need to be given to the school office in order for you to receive your Excursion Levy Credit prior to the end of February.

The school requires the assistance for various school programs, fundraising events and canteen duty.
Please consider contributing a small amount of your time to assist. Complete the form on the last page of the newsletter and drop to the office.

ICY- POLES FOR SALE
Overseas Learning Experience Fundraiser Every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at afternoon recess and after school, the 3 students travelling to China-

Molly, Callum and Emily
will be selling 99% fruit icy poles for 50c (at afternoon recess) and water icy-poles on a stick for $1 (at home-time). This is part of their fundraising effort for their overseas trip.

Please come and join our walking school bus this Thursday!
The bus will leave at 8.30am from 3 locations
1. School crossing on Specimen Hill Road.
2. School crossing at Schweppes Centre and
3. The corner of Maple and Chum streets. We also pick up along the way!
Come and join the fun, see you on Thursday

DOWNLOAD TWO SCHOOL APPS

1. Qkr! by MasterCard

For quicker, hassle-free school payments, try Qkr! today

2. SCHOOL INFORMATION APP
Access School calendar, Newsletters, Push notifications, Excursion advice

SCHOOL INTERVIEW BOOKINGS
STUDENT ABSENCES ADVISE VIA THE APP

Emails are sent directly to the class teacher when you advise student absence via this app.
Just search the app store for Specimen Hill Primary
Our children’s future in the very best of hands ...............
**Speci Running Club**

**Let’s Get Running**

There was a great turn up of students for our first week. Come along and join us! Grade 3 - 6 students can participate in the Specimen Hill Running Club with myself (Mr. Broadbent). This is a fantastic way to get healthy and fit especially with the

**Cross Country event being in early Term Two.**

Running Club will be on a

**Tuesday mornings from 8:00am to 8:30am**

on the school oval. If students are able to complete **100 laps** of the school oval they will receive a $10 gift voucher from Rebel Sports - Bendigo.

The running club will go to the end of Term Two.

I would like to thank Sam Bennett for this donation to the running club by Rebel Sports, we really appreciate the support.

Looking forward to seeing you with your running shoes on!

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**Harmony Day**

Harmony Day celebrates Australia’s cultural diversity. It’s about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone.

In 2015 we celebrate **15 amazing years of Harmony Day.**

**Friday 20th of March**

beginning at 12:00Noon we will be holding an afternoon of fun filled activities to celebrate this day. We invite you to come along and spend the afternoon involved in some engaging and fun filled activities in the classroom with your children.

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**BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL FOR BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE**

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

Do you need to book for All Day School Care on Friday 27th??

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Pupil Free Day = Friday 27th Feb

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Our children’s future in the very best of hands..............
**2014 EVENTS CALENDAR**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 26th Feb</td>
<td>Meet &amp; Greet Interviews 2pm – 7pm BOOKINGS CAN BE MADE ONLINE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 27th Feb</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>4–6th March</td>
<td>Grade 5/6 Camp Have you paid?????</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 6th Mar</td>
<td>ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING PARENTS &amp; FRIENDS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 9th Mar</td>
<td>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 20th Mar</td>
<td>HARMONY DAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 27th Mar</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 1</td>
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**PARENTS - PLEASE OBEY PARKING RULES**

**Volunteers!**

The school relies on a number of Volunteers to assist with various programs throughout the year. Please consider coming along to assist and contribute towards the school community. CANTEEN IS IN NEED OF NEW FACES.

Name:..........................................................................................................

Contact No................................................................................................

☐ Canteen duty  (only required for the morning)
   Mon     Fri     (circle which day suits)

☐ Head Lice Check Program

☐ Parents & Friends Fundraising / Welfare cooking

Please return to the school office

**Hockey Come and Try Day**

All people, young and young at heart are welcome to come and try the fantastic sport of hockey! Come down to the hockey fields in Ashley St, Ironbark

**Sunday 1st March**

10:00am till 12 Noon

It’s an all ages day with no experience required, ran by Speci’s very own Michael Lawlor.

No equipment is required on the day and a free BBQ will be provided afterwards.

**JUNIOR NETBALL TEAMS**

Students who expressed interest in playing junior netball this coming season, need to return their forms.

The teams will be co-ordinated by school community member Lauren Kleinitz.

These forms need to be returned as soon as possible to the school, in time to meet registration deadlines.

**SPLASH INTO FUN**

WITH PLAYGROUP VICTORIA - NATIONAL PLAYGROUP WEEK

**Anz & Hot Shots tennis**

Have you returned your tennis note?

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