Welcome to week 9 which is the final week of Term 1. This term has been only 8 ½ weeks long but it still has flown! We have squashed an amazing amount of activities and learning in this term. Some of the highlights of the term have been: The start of the new preps, the grade 6 buddy program, the Playgroup which is now catering for about 28 children and their parents, the 3 students preparing and fundraising for their overseas trip to China, the Meet and Greet interviews, teacher training on the Pupil Free day, the Tuesday morning running club, Wednesday morning breakfasts, the walking school-bus, ride to school day, Harmony day, JSC Investiture, disco, the Global Research Project and much more. What a busy and very engaging term of learning, fun and friendships.

Easter Egg Raffle
The Easter egg raffle tickets should all be returned by tomorrow morning at the latest as the raffle will be drawn at the final assembly. Mrs Gould and Lee Cassells were extremely busy this morning wrapping all of the Easter baskets which look delightful. Thank you to all families who so generously donated chocolate eggs, bunnies as it would not be possible without your generosity. A huge thankyou to all of the children who sold tickets, the money is definitely adding up.

Harmony Day
What a wonderful day it was on Friday for our celebration of Harmony Day at Speci. The students rotated through a range of activities including: Making and tasting food from other cultures such as Indian food, looking at digital footage of the daily life of children from other cultures, craft activities and games. There was a very calm and harmonious feel in the school.

School Council
The first School Council meeting for 2015 was held on Monday night. We farewelled three Council members: Dean Stewart, Wendy White and Lee Webb. All three members have made a substantial contribution to Specimen Hill over the years. All members were extremely active in their involvement with a common aim of making Speci the best learning environment possible. Our sincere thanks and appreciation for this.

New Council office-bearers for 2015 were elected. Congratulations to the following members.
President: Hayley Davis       Vice President: Rob Marsh
Secretary: Naomi Evans        Treasurer: Tim Knapman
I look forward to working closely with these members over the following 3 terms.

Junior School council Investiture
The Junior School Council Investiture occurred yesterday afternoon and it was delightful to see the students recite their pledge with such pride. The students who presented the ceremony, Jacob, Audrey, Sean and Hayley also did an outstanding job. I was very pleased to see the 4 Crusoe school captains speak and reinforce some very important points about leadership. Some of the points were: to enjoy the role, put in the effort, keep focussed and treat the position with respect, you are now a role-model and must behave in this manner, always be positive and bring other students along too. Some fabulous advice.

Evacuations
The school has been involved in a range of evacuation procedures throughout the week. On Thursday the school will undertake a site evacuation to our nearest off-site evacuation point which is to the Schweppes Centre. All procedures so far have run very smoothly and with no issues or concerns by any students. Teachers have followed up each session with sharing information and debriefing.

Reading
At assembly on Monday it was wonderful to see the number of students who are reading regularly every night and receiving awards for doing so. But the real reward is the improvement in reading and to all literacy areas. Well done. Can you please continue to assist the children to maintain their reading routines over the holidays for ongoing progress. The success of the home-reading program reinforces the strong home-school partnership in working together in strengthening and improving the learning and outcomes of our kids. Fabulous effort!

Holidays
I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday period and hope to see everyone return happy and refreshed for the start of Term 3 on Monday 13th April.

A reminder that there is an early dismissal on Friday at 1.45pm.

If you have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or by appointment.

Best wishes for the weeks ahead.
Di Craig, Principal
SENIOR CLASSES
Here we are in the last week of Term 1!! How this term has flown! We have had a great term 1 and the students have achieved great things. Many students showed persistence and resilience during our camp at Baanya Biami. We were thoroughly impressed with the behaviour and attitude of all students during camp. It was an incredibly enjoyable experience for all involved.

It was fantastic to see our Junior School Councillors celebrated during the Investiture yesterday. All representatives were elected by their peers and are excelling in their role already. Congratulations to all students who participated in the volleyball last week. Mr Broadbent and Mr Pysing reported that all students showed great skills and attitude throughout the day and we are very proud of our results, with one team even making it into the semi-finals. We hear that Mr Pysing needs to take up a career in volleyball coaching! Thank you to all participants and helpers.

Students should be ensuring that they are borrowing regularly from the school library. Whilst students have a wide selection of books in their classroom libraries, the school library will allow them to explore different authors, genres and text types which will challenge them and assist their reading development.

Thank you for a great term, we wish all families a safe and relaxing holiday and we will see you rested and ready to go at the beginning of Term 2.

Rebecca, Sophie, Scott and Adam

MIDDLE CLASSES
Home Reading (Holiday Challenge)
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. Over the holidays our students often ‘relax’ their reading routine which can make it difficult when returning to routine after the holidays. Can parents please continue to listen to their children read over the holidays, with all students aiming to read for at least ten nights over the 16 days. We will be running a ‘Holiday Challenge’ as an incentive for students to read as much as possible. If all students within the class read for at least ten nights over the holidays, a surprise will be given on returning to school.

Homework
Students will need to read over the holidays, but in terms of official homework, that is the only requirement. As a department we are encouraging students to be independent learners who display initiative, therefore if students feel that they need to work on certain areas of their learning (spelling, times tables etc) we strongly encourage them to do so over the holiday period.

Hats
Term Two is a ‘non-compulsory’ hat term. Generally the first two-to-three weeks can still have warmer weather so we encourage our students to continue to bring their hats to school, however they are not required to. All students will be able to play in the playground, whether they bring a hat or not.

Lunch
As we come in to the cooler months of the school year, students will often start to eat foods that are quick and convenient, and not necessarily the healthiest choice. Can we please continue to provide lunches that are nutritious for our students to ensure they are able to concentrate and focus for sustained periods of time, helping them to achieve success within their learning.

Integrated Studies
Next term our topic is ‘Going, going, gone’. We will work to develop our understanding of endangered species around the planet and the impact we as humans have on their struggle to survive. As part of our unit we will be attending an excursion to the Werribee Open Range Zoo on Wednesday 20th May (Week Six). The excursion will cost $45 per head, with the cost covering entry to the Zoo as well as transport to and from. If any parents would like to organise a payment plan to ensure the $45 is paid by the due date (Friday 15th May) can they please speak to Di Craig (School Principal) early next term.

We look forward to maintaining a close relationship between home and school during the school year.

Julian Regan, Kim Manley & Hayden Polglase

JUNIOR CLASS
What a busy term we have had! All children should be really proud of their efforts at school - it has been a lovely start to the school year.

Over the school holidays we expect that children will continue reading for 20 minutes each day. We encourage sharing stories as a family, reading recipes to cook together and visiting the library to experience new books as just a few ideas. Don’t forget to label all of your children’s uniform and also check the items at home - some items have accidentally been taken by the wrong owner even though they are clearly named. Check lost property before the end of the week to see if any items can be returned. Next term hats are not needed so it would be great if these could get a wash over the holidays. Feel free to return them to school early next term so they don’t get lost.

Tomorrow is nude food and the school disco! We look forward to seeing many children dressed in their crazy colours! Doors open at 6:30pm. Please stay safe over the school holidays, we look forward to seeing all of your smiling faces next term. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Natalie, Stacey, Brad, Jacqui, Jo and Kylie.

PREP CLASS
HOLIDAYS are nearly here and the Preps have experienced their first term at school. It has been a busy learning term and it is pleasing to see they have developed many new friendships.

READING: We will be sending home six reading books for the holidays. As well as listening to your child read it is vital that you read TO your children books you may have at home or you have borrowed from the library. 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. This week we have been learning about the letters Mm and Cc and the sounds they make as well as the word ‘a’.

WRITING: Many prep are beginning to write using the words they have learnt and having a go at other words. Encourage them to write during the holidays and praise them for their efforts.

MATHS: Encourage your children to count objects during the holidays. Eg. Cars, pegs, people, animals, food, toys etc. They can also practise writing their numbers.

NO REST DAYS in Term 2. Preps will be required to attend every school day.

REMINDERS:
Small boxes and scraps for our construction box pile.
A box of tissues from each family to share throughout the year

Thanks for your support.
Have a safe and happy holiday.

Emily & Joan

LOST PROPERTY
The lost property box is located just inside the Art Room door. Please check for lost items of clothing and lunch boxes.
Please name all articles being brought to school, so they can be returned to students where possible.
Art News
This term junior students have worked on increasing their fine motor skills with cutting, pasting, colouring and painting skills. They have worked on naming the Primary colours, blue, red and yellow.

Grade 1 & 2 students have looked at the Elements of Art: line, colour and shape. They have been introduced to the warm colours: red, yellow and orange, and cool colours: blue, green and purple. Students have completed sketching activities where they were to observe carefully the creatures they were to illustrate looking for shapes and lines to help them in with their efforts.

Grade 3 & 4 students have worked on sketching techniques and looked at tints and shades of a colour mixing paints to create their own tints and shades for a piece of work. They have looked at famous artist Vincent Van Gogh and his renowned ‘Sunflowers’ work. They also looked at work created by Australian artist Russell Drysdale who painted working class people in the Australian outback. Students recreated his style using charcoal and pastels.

Grade 5 & 6 students have studied sketching techniques and still life drawing. Students created blue portraits in tints and shades of blue, mixing their own colours. They have studied famous artist Sydney Nolan who created the ‘Ned Kelly’ series which influenced our recent art efforts. Students have completed life drawing of hands and eyes in a realistic style and other pieces of work with an abstract slant.

Students have completed some fabulous work which is on display around the school, please feel free to discover examples of work around the school, in the front foyer and passage accompanied by your child. Well done to everyone for their efforts.

Sandy Young (Art Teacher)

CRAZY DISCO

When: 6:30pm – 8:00pm
Thursday 26th March
Where: Golden Hills Motel Marong Rd
Who: Current Students Only
(No older or younger family members)
Bring: Plate of supper to share
Cost: $4.50 or $5.00 at the door.

Thank you to the Henderson Family
(who are members of the school community)
For providing the venue to host the Disco

Junior School Council Investiture
Congratulations to the following students on being elected:

Room 3    Olive D.    Isabella L.
Room 4    Brodie A.    Liberty F.
Room 5    Terri F.    Ben C.
Room 6    Maggie F.    Isaac H.
Room 7    Ebony M.    Jordyn A.
Room 8    Deakon M.    Nick C.
Room 9    Brayden T.    Jordy A.
Room 10   Akaisha A.    Kurtis C.
Room 11   Marcus R.    Audrey S.    Ella T.
Room 12   Jacob C.    Hayley C.    Paige G.
Room 13   Jasmine R.    Kobe R.    Sean B.

STARS OF THE WEEK
23rd March 2015

Room 1    Heidi P.
Room 2    TauKee
Room 3    Cooper C.
Room 4    Ashia M.
Room 5    Tahlia L.
Room 6    Kurtis C.
Room 7    Abbey E.
Room 8    Zach C.
Room 10   Marnie T.
Room 11   Abbey E.
Room 12   Zach C.
Room 13   Tiffany P.

OSHC Award
Nude Food
3/4 Manley - 2 Wrappers!
3/4 Poiglase - 121 Nights
Our children’s future in the very best of hands

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**MOTHERS DAY STALL**

**FRIDAY 8TH MAY**

Volunteers are required for the day of the stall. Please leave your name and contact number at the office.

**DONATIONS CAN BE LEFT AT THE OFFICE.**

- Purchased or handmade gifts: chocolates, coffee sachets, frames, plants, pin cushions, aprons, hand towels are suggestions
- Items for the stall will be priced from $1.00 - $5.00

**ICY- POLES FOR SALE**

Overseas Learning Experience Fundraiser Every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday & Friday this week!! Drink cans as well.

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.

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**Dear Parents,**

**Book Club Payment is now available via QKR payment app.**

If sending cash, make sure money is sealed in plastic bag or sealed envelope when returning to the school, or orders can be paid online with your card.

**Thankyou for supporting our school and your student with these fabulous reading materials.**

Sandy Young

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**EASTER RAFFLE**

- Lots and lots of prizes to win

**Raffle tickets must be returned**

**PLEASE PLACE DONATIONS AT THE OFFICE**

Raffle prizes will be drawn at a special assembly on Thursday 26th @ 2:30pm

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**Do You Still Have a video player?**

**FREE VIDEOS! VHS**

Due to changing of technology we are disposing of a number of VHS videos. If you have a video player please feel free to come to the office tomorrow and Friday to see if there are any videos you would like.

At the end of the week all videos left over will be disposed of.

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**LIBRARY OVERDUES**

Several students have overdue books from February. Could assist your child to follow up on returning books. We like to see children borrowing regularly, but students with overdue books are unable to borrow new books. Any issues please come and see please.

Wendy Jackson

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**Volunteers are required for the day of the stall.**

Please leave your name and contact number at the office.

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**Specimen Hill Primary**

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**VALUE OF THE MONTH:**

**HONESTY**

Students who displayed this value in an outstanding manner last week:

Augie W., Andy P., Raine McF., Deacon M., Aidan R., Tyran A.
**Divisional Volleyball**

Last Thursday, 33 Specimen Hill students went to Bendigo Stadium to compete against 12 teams from other Primary Schools at the Divisional Volleyball tournament.

We had three teams competing, with teacher Mr. Scott Pysing, student teacher Tia Steen and parent Mr. John Sheen coaching the teams, whilst I was the support coach for the three teams. All the teams did an outstanding job, as many of the students have only participated in volleyball during P.E. lessons. The students’ improvement throughout the tournament was impressive with the teams able to dig, set and spike the ball over the net consistently by the end of the day.

Specimen Hill Setters were able to finish 2nd in their pool and played the team that finished 1st in the other pool, with the winning team moving into the grand final. Unfortunately we were not able to win and get into the final however all the students did a fantastic job, with some outstanding volleyball being played throughout the close match. Overall the Specimen Hill Setters finished 3rd, Specimen Hill Diggers finished 8th and the Specimen Hill Spikers finished 9th out of 12 teams.

All the students encouraged and supported each other throughout the day and worked as a team, also displaying great sportsmanship to the other teams.

A big thank you to Ruth East for coming along and supporting the teams and taking some excellent photos and to Mr Pysing, John Sheen and Tia Steen for coaching throughout the day.

All the students involved represented the school proudly, were well behaved and really enjoyed themselves, which was fantastic. We look forward to many more divisional sports next term.

_Todd Broadbent_

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**Hawthorn Football Clinic**

Specimen Hill Primary School was very lucky to have two Hawthorn Football Club players come and run clinics with our Grade 3/4 students last Friday morning. James Frawley and Teia Miles ran two great 30-minute clinics, with the students completing handball and kicking activities and certainly gained more knowledge about football skills from these AFL players.

James and Teia came out at lunchtime and had a kick of the footy with students, signed autographs, had photos taken and even participated in a game of four square.

They were outstanding and did a fantastic job and all the students enjoyed the opportunity and loved the experience. A big thank you to Tony McNamara, Football Development Manager – Central Victoria and the Hawthorn Football Club for conducting and organising the clinics. It was a fantastic experience for the students, we hope it can happen again in the near future.
Two students have misplaced their prescription glasses at school. If found, could they please be returned to the office as soon as possible.

With holidays starting, these glasses are a necessity, not just fashion accessories.

In primary school, some students miss on average 3 weeks of school per year. That’s half a year of school by the end of year 6.

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child’s education.

For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit education.vic.gov.au

Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.
Kid’s Corner

Ride To School Day

Our children’s future in the very best of hands................
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<th>EVENTS CALENDAR</th>
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<td>Easter Egg Raffle Draw</td>
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<td>Thurs 26th March</td>
<td>DISCO NIGHT</td>
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<td>Tickets $4.50</td>
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<td>Tues 6th May</td>
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**Senjuns Hockey Club**

**FREE Junior ‘Come and Try’ Day!**

**Wednesday**

25 March 2015

5.30pm – 6.30pm

at the Garden Gully Hockey Complex

(Ashley Street, Ironbark)

For school-aged children and young people!

Come and join in with the Junior teams and have a go!

Wear sneakers and bring a water bottle.

Hockey sticks can be provided if you do not have one.

Contact: Danny from 0438 392 984

**Market College Night**

**WEEROONA**

Date: 26th of March 2015

Location: 383 Napier Street, Bendigo VIC 3550

Katyil Building Car of Napier and Knight St

Time: 6pm — 9pm

Gold Coin Entry

You can buy amazing products from a wide variety of stalls, have a sausage from the sausage sizzle, join in on the family friendly activities and enter in our raffle that’s drawn throughout the evening and participate in our auction.

Some prizes include:

- Weekend in Ocean Grove valued at $1500
- Terms free swimming lessons at Splash Swimming valued at $108
- $300 voucher from One Tree Hill Hotel, which includes a limo ride and VIP Table for two.

With over 50 stalls it’s sure to be a great evening for the family.

Please contact Sara Davis from Weeroona College Bendigo on:

5443 2133 or 0418 445 134

**School Holidays Program for kids**

At the Bendigo Visitor Centre

**Fab Egg Decorating!**

Aimed at children aged 4 - 10. An adult must accompany children

- Cost: $6 per child
- Times: 10.30am – 11.30am (1 hour)
- Dates: Wednesday 1 April 2015

Wednesday 8 April 2015

Bookings essential! Limited places available

PH: 5434 6060

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