Welcome to week 7 of term 3 for 2015.

Dear Parents, students and friends,

Last week I headed to Canberra to represent the school in its involvement in the global research project on school autonomy. It was a fabulous occasion and a great opportunity for Specimen Hill to shine. Professor Brian Caldwell used the results and story of Specimen Hill’s student achievement success in his presentation. I had an opportunity to talk about the strong partnership between home and school and that without the wonderful parental support in reading and homework, each child’s progress would not be as successful. When I ask parents the question, “what is the future that you see for your child?” Most parents have high aspirations for their children. They want them to get well paying jobs and be healthy, happy and connected citizens who seek and enjoy wonderful careers. That is what we love to hear and see and it is certainly possible for the students at Speci.

Literacy and Numeracy week

A wide variety of fun activities will be occurring throughout the week. These include: the 5c challenge, dress up as your favourite book character, favourite book classroom door displays, bring along your favourite story to share and much more. An exciting week ahead for everyone. A key message for all. ‘Immerse yourselves in a good book whether it is fact or fiction.’

Men and Kids Night

This Thursday at 6.00 sharp till 7.30pm the Men and Kids night will be held in the multi purpose room at Speci. We are asking children to bring along a significant male in their lives. This could be Dad, an Uncle, Grandpa or a favourite friend. Come along and enjoy some fun activities culminating in pizzas to share at the end of the night. This is always a fabulous occasion to share.

School Review

Every four years, each school is involved in a school review. This is a time when the school reflects on its progress over the past 4 years in 4 key areas: Student Learning, Wellbeing, Productivity and Engagement. Four years ago Specimen Hill had its last review. Goals were set in these key areas and during this review the school has to look to see whether these goals have been achieved and the how, when and why this has been done. To assist the school in its collection of information and data we will be sending home a survey this Friday and we would like all families to complete the survey and to return it by Friday 4th September. It shouldn’t take long and it does allow for parent comments across many areas as an option. The survey will be extremely helpful in assisting us to understand what our parent community think of the school, its programs, participation, policies etc and gives parents a voice in reflecting on the past and setting goals for the future.

Three Weeks of Wellbeing

Next week we start our Three weeks of Wellbeing. Throughout the three weeks the children will be focussing on areas of wellbeing through their learning as well as many whole school activities to be involved in. Some of the activities include: making and sharing friendship bracelets, giving positive comments about each person’s best qualities in the classroom, focus on our values, week without violence and much more. There will be an information session for parents about setting good routines and being well organised in the home. We look forward to everyone being involved in more engaging learning opportunities at Speci.

Di Craig - Principal
MENS & KIDS NIGHT

THURS 27TH AUG
6:00 - 7:30PM
At Speci Hill PS
LIGHT SNACKS PROVIDED
GAMES & ACTIVITIES FOR ALL TO ENJOY
Held in the Multi-purpose Room.
Enjoy some special time with the kids,
just for you and them – with a few friends.
GUEST PRESENTER
STARTING AT 6PM SHARP!

CANTEEN REQUIRES VOLUNTEERS PLEASE MON & FRI

PARENTS & FRIENDS COMMITTEE

Are conducting a

Fathers Day Stall
Friday 4th September

The success of this stall relies on families donating appropriate presents for the students to purchase. All donations should be left at the school office please.

Items can consist of chocolate, stationery, small tools, mugs, picture frames, anything suitable to purchase by a child from 50c—$5.00

(NO tobacco products or alcohol please)

DAD

Volunteers Required to assist with Fathers Day stall…. Please
**SENIOR CLASSES**

Hello Speci Senior News readers.

This week is a special week with it being Literacy and Numeracy week. As a school we are celebrating this great time with many activities each day and we are continuing to enhance our literacy and numeracy skills at the same time. Students have been busy creating beautiful decorations for their classroom doors to share the love of reading. Each class has chosen a book they have either read or a theme they enjoyed to do with reading and have used their creative juices to create a fantastic display. This task has demonstrated great cooperation between students and the ability to communicate and create something together. It has been fantastic to watch each door be created piece by piece.

Other tasks like the 5 cent challenge, lolly guess, whole school book reading and parade are to be held throughout the week also. It is a great week to celebrate the love of Literacy and Numeracy. Last week the Boys and Girls basketball teams competed at the Bendigo Stadium on Friday. Teams had a fabulous day with mixed results. The boys collected one win and one draw and the girls finished with two wins for the day. Both teams gathered a large amount of fun, fitness and enjoyment for the day and displayed the Speci colours with pride!

This week Grade 6 students will also be participating in their first transition days at their new schools for 2016. Hopefully students ask many questions and soak up the opportunities given to them to see what next year will begin to bring them. It will be sad to see these students leave but it is a step they must take to further their academic.

***A reminder that students participating in transition on Friday to BSE are to wear their school uniform to school for transition but they may pack their costumes to change into on their return to Speci for the Book Week Dress up Day. Students transitioning to Crusoe are allowed to come in costume at the beginning of Friday but must pack their uniform to change into before attending their transition event.***

Classes have started creating their models for Integrated Studies and some classes are still in need of objects they can used to build these. Items such as milk cartons, shoe boxes, toilet rolls, cereal boxes and any item your child thinks will benefit students to complete the models they will be creating of their parks will be much appreciated. Thanks to those people who have already brought in objects to use.

Reminder – Homework is due Thursdays – Read every night! – Numbers are everywhere so train your maths!

Regards, Bec, Sophie, Adam and Scott.

**MIDDLE CLASSES**

It’s been pleasing to see so many children increasing the number of words which they are reading. Bring on the 3/4 challenge! Keep up the wonderful home reading.

This week is Literacy & Numeracy week, the children have the opportunity to come to school dressed as their favourite book character. The parade with take place on Friday 28th. Students will be creating a flying machine at school in the next few weeks. They will need to collect materials from home with which to do this and bring them to school.

Please check with your child that he or she has their homework book, homework sheet and reading diary in their bag on Friday morning.

Julian Regan, Kim Manley & Hayden Polglase

**JUNIOR CLASS**

Week 7 is now upon us! Thank you to all the parents/grandparents/friends/families that came along so we could share our work from our Space unit! Lots of fantastic displays were put up around the Junior Department. That brought an end to our Space unit and upon reflecting on the unit the students were thoroughly engaged and lots of great learning experiences were undertaken.

This week we will move into our new topic of Asian Studies. We are starting with a week of study about Indonesia. We encourage parents to ask lots of rich questions about what the students are learning so they can share some of the new knowledge.

A few reminders

**Library books** – Some people have overdue books, so we need people to have a really good look at home to try and find the missing books!!

Please ensure your child has weather appropriate attire (jumpers/jackets for colder months)

Tissue boxes for runny noses

**Nude Food Day is every Thursday**

Home reading should be completed each night Communication Journals need to be returned ASAP

We hope everyone has a great week!

Natalie Stacey, Brad, Jacqui, Jo and Kylie.

**PREP NEWS**

Thank you to all those parents and friends who came to our Space Expo on Friday! It was so lovely to see so many of you there and the children loved sharing their work with you. We have thoroughly enjoyed our unit on Space. For the rest of term we will be looking at Asian Studies and participating in wellbeing activities as weeks 8, 9 & 10 will have a Wellbeing focus at our school.

Thank you to everyone who has returned their communication books. Please remember to do this ASAP if you haven’t already. The positive comments about your child’s work are wonderful and they are so proud of them when sharing.

Please continue to read at home every night. As we near towards the end of Term 3, some students are progressing quickly! To give your child the best possible chance with their learning, they must be reading at home every night. Please remember to practise the words on the word list as well.

**Reminders:**

Monday is Share in the Chair day

Library day is Thursday for Prep H and Friday for Prep M

Nude Food day is Thursday - congratulations Prep H for your award at Assembly!

As we near the end of term, it is normal for students to get tired. Please ensure they are getting a good night’s sleep as this will make getting through the day easier.

We are so proud of how well are Preps are going, thank you all for your continued support. As always, if you have any questions or concerns please pop in and see us.

Emily and Joan

**STUDENT ABSENCES**

All student absences are required by law to be notified to the school.

**The preferred method is by means of the school information app.**

Go to the Specimen Hill App, Absence ☐ on the home page

Complete student name and scroll for classroom. This will send an email directly to the class teacher.

This same numerous phone calls to the office of a morning. 

Late Notes can also be made by going to: More
The Book Fair will be arriving again for the first week in September. It is a great opportunity to purchase fiction & non-fiction books for your child to encourage reading. The students love browsing the selection of books. All profits from the Book Fair help buy new books for the School Library.

We encourage the opportunity to purchase books as a great literary gift for students and families to enjoy, while developing a love for stories. Students will bring home an information sheet on Monday, Looking forward to your support,

Thanks - Sandy
### September 2015

**Mon** | **Tue** | **Wed** | **Thu** | **Fri**
---|---|---|---|---
31 | Friendship bracelets (11.15-11.45) |  | Waking school bus - Students are encouraged to walk to school always. Join the group on Thursdays mornings Buddy Bench’ re-launch 11.15am |  | 
1 | **Developing Positive Relationships** | Circus activities at lunchtime | **Father’s Day Stall** |  | 
2 |  |  |  |  | 
3 | **Healthy**  
2:15 - 3:15pm Parenting Group  
focus on Positive Relationships, Routines | **Healthy community breakfast**  
Multi Age day focussing on Health and Nutrition | **Speci’ Walk Against Violence**  
Students will be able to purchase badges/ribbons in support. |  | 
4 |  |  | Picnic on the oval  
11-11.15 (buddy grades) |  | 
7 | **Healthy Living** |  |  |  | 
8 |  |  |  |  | 
9 | **Healthy Living** |  |  |  | 
10 | **Healthy Living** |  |  |  | 
11 | **Week without Violence** |  |  |  | 
14 |  |  |  |  | 
15 |  |  |  |  | 
16 |  |  |  |  | 
17 |  |  |  |  | 
18 |  |  |  |  | 

Each morning students are to participate in structured fitness classes.

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**Wellbeing for the whole community is our focus for the last three weeks of this term. Various activities are planned for students with some arranged for family involvement as well. Please view the calendar below for events that you could come along to and spend some time with other members of the community. Further information will be sent home with students.**

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**MENs & KIDS NIGHT**

**THURS 27TH AUG**

6:00 - 7:30PM

*At Speci Hill PS*

**LIGHT SNACKS PROVIDED**

**GAMES & ACTIVITIES FOR ALL TO ENJOY**

Held in the Multi-purpose Room.

Enjoy some special time with the kids, just for you and them – with a few friends.

**GUEST PRESENTER**

**STARTING AT 6PM SHARP!**
Dear parents, students and friends,

Help celebrate Book Week
Friday 28th August with a fabulous Dress up parade!
Come dressed up as your favourite book character for a parade under the shade sails from 9.00 - 9.30am
Award certificates for the Best Dressed Boy and Girl as well as for The Best Dressed Grade overall.

The students listed below were successful in completing the Victorian Premiers Reading Challenge. Students will be rewarded with an extended recess session on Thursday morning. Congratulations to you all..... A great personal achievement.

Room 1
Augustus W
Lucas H
Jovi B

Room 2
Jemma R
Olivia R
Skye T

Room 3
Mitchell H
Harrison C
Olive D

Room 4
Zara G
Maeghan S
Jordan R

Room 6
Tahlia C
Freya W
Maggie F

Room 7
Kaitlyn W
Ashlyn B
Jordyn A

Room 8
Deacon M

Room 9
Braydee T
Hannah E

Room 10
Georgia G
Hannah E
Chari S

Room 11
Kalo D
Abby E
Tyran A

Room 12
Destiny S
Macey R

Room 13
Georgia W
Jazy R
Darcy R

Kurtis C
Aidan R
Trinity F.

Akaisha A
Hayley P
Isabelle M

Marcus R
Michael E

Our children’s future in the very best of hands.............
We are acknowledging students with awards, to those who display and follow our school values.

VALUE OF THE MONTH: Honesty

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

Nevada T.  Mia D.  Bladen
Aidan R.  Holley B.  EhKhee
Tayla H.  Kobe R.

SCHOOL FEES
$100 PER STUDENT

Some families will have received the second payment of School Start Bonus in their bank accounts. Please utilise these funds to pay your school fee, per student.

This is a compulsory fee for all families.

Payment at the school office or via the QKR payment app, or Direct Credit.

STARS OF THE WEEK
23 Aug

Room 1  Room 2  Room 3  Room 4  Room 5  Room 6  Room 7  Room 8
Lucas H.  Mason T.  Paw & Kaiden T.  Samantha E.  Adam G.  Dallan W.  Mackenzie C.  Tahlia P. (last week)

Room 9  Room 10  Room 11  Room 12  Room 13  Art Award

NEWS FLASH!!!!

New photos have been uploaded to the Art Room Blog. You can view this via the school information app or go to:
http://sandyasharum.edublogs.org

SEND YOUR RECIPE NOW!

We need your recipe!

Introducing THE SPECI COOKBOOK

The parents and friends committee is producing a cookbook as a major fundraiser this year... Filled with recipes, cooking hints and nutrition info.

Some days are full!

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

The Canteen is urgently seeking volunteers to assist on Mondays and Fridays in the canteen. Volunteers are required to arrive at 9.00 am and are finished by 11.45 at the latest. If you can assist please contact the office. A Working with Children’s check is required, but the school will meet the cost of photographs for this purpose. Please see Kaye or Wendy at the office prior to photos being taken. Applications for WWC are now made on-line at:

Please place your full stickers sheets in the box at the office or GS Woolworths

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

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2015 EVENTS CALENDAR

Wed 8:15am Breakfast Program

Thurs Walking School Bus

Thur 27th Aug Men’s & Kids Activity Night
6:00 - 7:30pm
Pizza snacks supplied

Fri 28th Book Week
Dress Up Parade

Mon 31 – Tue 8th BOOK FAIR

Thur 3rd Sep District Athletics
Selected students only

Fri 4th Sep Fathers Day Stall

Aug-Sep
31st – 4th
7-11 Sep
14-18 Sep
Well Being Focus
Building Positive Relationships
Healthy Living
Week without violence
More information to be provided

Dec 15th Grade 6 Graduation Night

SEDAL in partnership with AFL Victoria
will be running
4 Junior AFL 9s venues
at the end of Term Three.

Junior AFL 9s is a 1 hour session with a warm
up, skills, a mini game and cool down using
the AFL 9s model of AFL. AFL 9s is a non-
contact, touch version of AFL.

An AFL 9s venue closest to your school will
be held at Rodda Oval, Strathdale Park for
participants aged 8 – 12. Details below:

Activity: Junior AFL 9s
Venue: Rodda Oval - Strathdale Park
Dates: 25th August – 15th September
Time: 4 – 5pm
Cost: $25
Website for more
information: www.juniorafl9s.com.au

Golden Square Kindergarten
50 Year Celebration
11am-3pm, 13th September, 2015

This year marks 50 years since Golden Square Kindergarten opened its
doors at 45 Panton Street. To celebrate this momentous occasion, a day
honoring the kindergarten’s contribution to education in Bendigo will be held
for past and present students, families and educators.

The Golden Square Kindergarten Committee are seeking contributions of
photographs, memorabilia and memorable moments linked to the
kindergarten with the vision being to display some of the kindergarten’s
heritage at the 50 year celebration.’ Further input is being sought for
another feature, the “where are they now” display, showing current
photographs and captions of what previous students are now doing.

Contributions can be posted to:
Golden Square Kindergarten  PO Box 157  Golden Square, Vic 3555
or emailed to
golden.square.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au

For more information phone on (03) 5443 7668

Meet past and present students and educators
Opening of Indigenous Garden & Flag raising
ceremony at 11am  Sausage sizzle, raffle, photo
gallery and much more  Birthday cake at 12 noon

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