Dear Parents, Friends and Students,

Overseas Learning Experience
Tomorrow three of our students, Miss Eastley and Mrs Craig leave for China for a 10 day cultural visit. We wish them well for the trip and, having been on the trip last year, know that they are in for a wonderful time that will be part of a lifelong memory. We encourage you to follow the student’s trip on the Team China blog. Later in the year we will be hosting three Chinese students from our sister school Xing Hia elementary school in Suzhou. Our relationship with the school continues to develop with many connections being made through hosting students and return visits.

Congratulations on 40 Years of Service
Last week Mrs Teresa Smart received an award from the Education department for 40 years of service. Most of this service has been completed at Specimen Hill Primary School. Over many years Teresa has shown her strong commitment to do the best for all of her students. She is currently working in Reading Recovery and is committed as ever. Teresa has shown huge dedication to the school and the community working tirelessly on many fronts. Words are insufficient to describe the contribution that she has made to the school and to education over many years. Congratulations Teresa on this wonderful milestone and thank you for your commitment to Speci and its students over many years.

Reports
Teachers are currently busy completing reports. These will be sent home at the end of Week 10. It is planned that Teacher/Parent interviews will take place on Wednesday the 24th of June. This will be a Pupil Free Day.

Prep Enrolments 2016
If you have a child who is ready to begin school and intend enrolling them at Specimen Hill, we are now accepting enrolments. Information packs and enrolment forms are available from the office. On enrolment students birth and immunization certificate should be presented.

Thankyou
I would like to acknowledge Mr Broadbent’s father Ray, for the contribution he has made to the school. He assists around the school in many ways, mowing lawns, helping to assemble the table tennis tables that are now ready for use and making ladders, balancing beams for Mr Broadbent to use in his PMP program. Thank you very much Ray.

School Fees
A reminder that fees need to be paid by the end of the term. These fees are used to purchase classroom supplies that is, books, pencils etc. As a school we like to ensure that all students begin the year with the same materials as all of their classmates. Families who pay their fees before the end of the term will enter a draw for a $100 canteen voucher.

Stay warm,

Wendy Jackson (Acting Principal)
SENIOR CLASSES
Greetings all. In Literacy, our reading focus this week is Morals and Fables as well as Metaphors and Similes. In Numeracy, we’ve continued our focus on BODMAS. Our Integrated topic of “We are Global Citizens” is ramping up. Families are asked to supply their classes with any recyclable items such as, cardboard boxes, cartons, string etc. Anything that may be used to build models of displays relating to the topic. Students have all chosen related topics to the unit and they’re enjoying getting involved in the “Take Action” stage. Thursday the 18th of June will be a great and active day for our senior students. We will play Golden Square Primary in a sports day at Wade St Golden Square, all welcome; Girls’ Football, Boys’ Football, Girls’ Netball and Boys’ Netball. Sign up and training will commence shortly. Our 3 Speci students and Miss Eastley head off to China tomorrow. We wish them all the best!!!! You can keep in tune with their international experience by logging into this Blog: http://specihillpstc.global2.vic.edu.au/ and post comments (appropriate ones) along the way. Now, the first person that tells Mr Pyssing both a Metaphor and a Simile will win a chocolate frog!!!
Regards, Bec, Sophie, Adam and Scott.

MIDDLE CLASSES
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 student 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.
Homework - Each Friday your child will be given homework which is to be completed and returned to school the following Friday. This will give each child seven nights in which to work on the tasks. Spelling: each child will have five words which they need to practise. They will need to complete the Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check for their words. They also need to write each word in a sentence underlining the spelling word in colour. The children are expected to read for at least five nights each week and these are to be recorded in their Reading Diary.
Some children are coming to school on the Friday saying they didn’t have time to do their homework. Given that they have seven nights to work on it and it would take 30 minutes at the most to complete, it would seem that they haven’t organised their time very well. Please ensure your child has ample time to finish this important task. Failure to present finished homework will mean completing it during lunch time program.
Meals - Students need to be eating all of their lunch, especially the main part of their meal (sandwich, wrap, roll etc.). Can parents please re-iterate the importance of this and we will continue to monitor students during eating times. DON’T FORGET NUDE FOOD on Thursdays!
Integrated Studies - Adopting a Bandicoot - At our visit to the Werribee Zoo we were given a classroom challenge to raise $15 by collecting Scent coins to help feed an endangered Bandicoot for a month. We have not only engaged in this activity but as a group have decided to try and raise a donation to adopt a Bandicoot also. Each student is now working on a strategy to raise $10 by working hard at home or in their local community to do this. They are creating flyers with their ideas of how they personally can make a difference to a local endangered species. Please support them in this exciting endeavour.

Next week we are beginning to work on our endangered species posters. We will be researching, creating and presenting these to our classmates. Please don’t hesitate making contact with your child’s teacher if you have any concerns.

JUNIOR CLASS
Congratulations; we’ve officially passed the halfway mark through the term! In Integrated Studies this week, some classes are busy finishing off their Indigenous Studies Unit whilst others have begun to look at healthy eating. In this unit, we are beginning to look at how food affects our body in different ways. Students will be creating healthy eating pyramids, healthy meals, and identifying everyday foods from sometimes foods. During Literacy this week, we are focusing on predicting during reading. Students are learning to identify strategies for predicting when coming across unknown words such as using picture information and looking at the initial letter of the word. Numeracy this week is focused around fact families as well as subtraction. Students will be learning to recognise that when subtracting a smaller number from a larger number, the answer and the smaller number, when added together, equals the initial larger number.

Reading at home - Just a reminder that it is expected that students are reading at home using assigned classroom readers at least five times a week. If any difficulties are occurring with student motivation, please see their classroom teacher. Parents also need to be signing their child/ren’s reading diaries each time they read so teachers are able to accurately keep track.

Toys at school - Students should NOT be bringing any toys from home to school, unless it is their share in the chair day. Please leave these at home as we wouldn’t want any valuable broken or lost.

Jumpers - With the icy cold mornings we have been encountering lately, please ensure students are being sent to school with a warm school jumper. Just a reminder that there are free second hand school clothing items available at school if another jumper is needed.

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

PREP NEWS
Integrated Studies: Our next unit is focusing on Healthy Food. We will be looking at the Food Pyramid, growing vegetables, making orange juice, looking at our favourite foods and checking out the food in our lunch boxes.
School Value: the focus until the end of term is PERSISTENCE. The value awards are presented at assembly every Monday.
PREMIER READING CHALLENGE. Thanks to all the students and families who are participating in the challenge. Remember you can borrow books on the list from our box at school.

WORD OF THE WEEK: ‘on.’

Learning to write the letters Dd and Gg and our sounds of the week are Hh and Kk.

Nude Food: on Thursday every week. NO WRAPPERS please.

Home Reading every week night please.

Brain Food: students need to have a piece of fresh fruit or vegetable in their lunchbox daily to eat.

RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERSHIP: visit last week gave the students some do’s and don’ts as how to approach a dog in a safe way. We have some information booklets in the classroom if you would like one.

SCIENCE DAY: Thursday May 28th. This will be a fun day where students will all be involved in many science activities in multi age groupings.

Emily and Joan

CAMPS, SPORTS, EXCURSION FUND FORM - PLEASE RETURN
Parents are reminded that the $100 per student is now due. This is a compulsory fee for all families. Family statements have been sent home with your child this week. Please check their school bags!! Payment at the school office or via the QKR payment app, or Direct Credit.

Are you doing The Premiers’ Reading Challenge?

We hope that students are continuing to read their books with Parent encouragement!

If you would like to take part please see Mrs Pelly or Mrs Manley to collect a form to take home.

Team China Take Off

Team China take of this Thursday. The three students are Emily, Callum & Molly. They will be accompanied by Mrs Craig and Ms Eastley. We are sure they will have a marvellous time and look forward to reading about their adventure on the Team China Blog.

www.specihillpste.global2.vic.edu.au

Cooking Program

**Fried Rice**

**Ingredients**

- Rice - 1 Cup
- 2 cups hot water
- 4 Eggs
- Ham
- 1/2 cup grated carrot
- 1/2 cup parsley
- soy sauce
- sweet chilli

First you cook the rice then put it in a pan. Beat the eggs, chop the ham and parsley. Grate the carrots. Put it all together and eat it up! Yummy!!!

Mikayla L

Fried Rice

Ingredients Ham, rice, carrot, egg, parsley, sweet chilli sauce

I loved sweet chilli sauce on my fried rice. Asher F

Parents & Friends

There is now a Suggestions box located at the front office. If you have a suggestion for us to consider, please write it down and pop it in the box. Fundraising Idea? Parent networking idea? School improvement? Let us know!

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:
Olivia R., Milly G. Trei S. Logan K. Ethan C. Jesse G. EhKhee

STARS OF THE WEEK
25TH MAY

Room 1
Sienna C.
Room 2
Will F.
Room 3
Harrison C. Amali P.
Room 4
Ronan M.
Room 5
Miranda F.
Room 6
Nicola P.
Room 7
Bella L.
Room 8
Room 9
Room 10
Tarras P.
Room 11
Abbey E.
Room 12
Bailey M.
Room 13
Art Award
Jeremy W. Harry W. Mikai K.
Nude Food
3/4 M & 5/6E Calum PrepM

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund will ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities.

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance will be paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions, or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

This Fund CANNOT be used for OSHC, Uniforms or School Fees.

The annual CSEF amount per student will be: $125 for primary school students.

How to Apply: Complete the form included in last week’s newsletter or contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Closing Date
You should lodge a CSEF application form at the school by 26 June 2015.
**Puff’s Home Adventures - Prep Mullens’ Pet Dragon**

Puff went to our friend’s house in Ballarat. We also went to the Sky Dancers and checked out the butterflies. Sienna.

Puff and Jovi had fun playing with Lego and Herbie. Jovi

Puff and Tarlie listened to music and danced together, then had tea. Tarlie

Puff and Lucas had pizza for tea then Puff slept at the end of his bed. Lucas N

Puff and Olivia played with Lego and had a game of Hide and Seek. Olivia

Augie and Puff played on Augie’s new drum kit. Augie

Puff and Joel were picked up by Nan and Pa and had ice cream in cones. Joel

Nethani went roller skating with Puff. Nethani

Puff made a birthday card with Jameson and had a good time. Jameson.

Heidi and Puff had great fun going for a walk and having tea together. Heidi

Alex and Puff had fun playing a game of Hide and Seek and built Lego. Alex

Puff and Miley went for a walk with her dog and Puff listened to her read. Miley

Puff had a great weekend at Lucas H house. They saw the gnomes at Nan and Pops, climbed trees and had fun at the park. Lucas H.

Destinee and Puff drew lovely pictures together. Destinee

Puff and Charlie built a Lego together. It was fun. Charlie.
**2015 EVENTS CALENDAR**

**Tuesday**
8:00am Running Club

**Wed**
8:15am Breakfast Program

**Thurs**
Walking School Bus

**Thur 28th May**
Chinese Exchange Depart

**Wed 24th Jun**
Parent Teacher Interviews
PUPIL FREE DAY

**Thur 25th June**
SCHOOL PHOTO DAY
Family Photo envelopes from Office

**Fri 26th June**
LAST DAY OF TERM 2

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**ART NEWS**

Visit our new school Art Blog.
Click on the Speci School App. (If you haven’t already downloaded this App – Search “specimen hill primary school” on the App store for iPhone or on Google Play for Android Phones)
Click on the ‘more’ icon (bottom right).
Scroll down to School Blogs and enter the Speci Art Show to view the fabulous work being created by our students. Click on a photo to see more and scroll down.
Sandy Young
Art Teacher

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**TEAM CHINA**

Callum, Molly and Emily.
Team China Blog available on School Information app OR if on the web: www.specihillpstc.global2.vic.edu.au

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**SCHOOL BEANIES**

HAND MADE BY PARENTS & FRIENDS

$5 EACH

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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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**OVERDUE LIBRARY BOOKS**

**PLEASE RETURN**

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STOP

Students DO NOT enter/exit Via the main building

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