Dear students, parents and friends,
Welcome to week 11 of Term 4. This is the final full week of school for 2016. It certainly is full with so much happening. There will be a mini Newsletter sent home on Monday.

New classes for 2017
Yesterday all students moved up into their classes for 2017 with their new students and teachers for next year. We will have two new teachers joining our staff for 2017. I would like to introduce Ms Kate Ward who will be working in Grade 1/2 and Mr Joseph Hartney who will also be in 1/2. We are excited to have them on board for 2017. Next year Helen Turpie will be taking leave for a period of time and then retiring following her leave. Jenny Ball will be taking leave for 12 months with the intention of retirement to follow and Joan Mullen will be retiring for the second time!

The classes and staff for 2017 are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Mrs Courtney Lawrence</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Mrs Zoe Light</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Prep/one</td>
<td>Mrs Felicity Burman</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Mrs Kate Ward</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Mr Joseph Hartney</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Mrs Kim Manley</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>4/5</td>
<td>Ms Sophie Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>Mr Julian Ragan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>Mr Hayden Polglase</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>Mr Brad Stringer</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Mr Scott Pysing</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Mr Adam Tanner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Mrs Rebecca Kinsman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Artroom</td>
<td>Art</td>
<td>Sandra Young</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phys Ed</td>
<td>Art</td>
<td>Todd Broadbent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chinese</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ma Hong</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior Music</td>
<td></td>
<td>Kylie Gould</td>
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<tr>
<td>Literacy Support</td>
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<td>Emily Jacobs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading Recovery</td>
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<td>Mandi Jennings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Explore</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jo Daley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Circus/guitar</td>
<td></td>
<td>Craig Barker/Natalie Pelly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td></td>
<td>Di Craig</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistant Principal</td>
<td></td>
<td>Corey Warne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Improvement Officer</td>
<td></td>
<td>Wendy Jackson</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Reports
On Friday, the student reports will be sent home. Over the past week I have read every report and I have thoroughly enjoyed looking at the progress of every child. Most student results have been fabulous with many students working above or way above expected level and all making wonderful progress. This is testament to the dedicated teachers, the fabulous home/school partnership and the hard work, high aspirations to achieve and effort put in by every student.

Bushfire readiness
Last Thursday the school evacuation was cancelled due to the rain. We will now be practicing this event on Monday 19th December before lunch.

Food Fair and Concert
Tomorrow is the Food Fair and concert at Speci. This is an event for the whole community. The Food Fair will start at 5.00 o’clock when all of the Food Stalls will start. They will continue until 6.30. Parents and friends will then proceed to the basketball court where the concert will start at 7.00pm. We encourage everyone to bring along a blanket to place on the ground. There will be limited chairs available around the edge of the court for those who require them and you may bring along your own chair to place around the edge if required. Seating in the middle area will be designated for blankets and pillows only. During the concert, all children may sit with their families and Craig Barker who is the MC will call up each Grade one item in advance where students will line up at the side of the stage with their teachers waiting for their turn to go onto the stage and perform. Prep L and Prep Z will sit together so that they will be together going onto the stage.

The theme for the concert will be ‘COLOUR’ and all students will be performing to a song reflecting this theme. The guitar players and senior and junior choirs will also perform. Please bring along a jumper as it may get cooler throughout the night.

If you are available to help (even for 30 minutes) with a stall at the Food Fair can you please contact your child’s classroom teacher or Kaye or Wendy in the office.

Grade 6 Graduation
Tonight is the special event for all Grade 6 students where they attend their Grade 6 Graduation and Awards night. All students will give a speech which reflects on their past years of education at Speci. It is a most enjoyable and heartfelt evening. I would like to thank the Grade 6 teachers, Bec Kinsmen, Sophie Williams and especially Scott Pysing for their hard work and effort in preparing the students for the evening. A huge thank you to the Parents and Friends for their table decorations and group photos on the night.

Final Assembly
The final assembly for the year will be held on Friday at 2.15pm. This is when we say good-bye to our Grade 6 students, staff and other students and other awards will also be given out. Parents and friends are invited to attend.

We are nearly there.
Di Craig, Principal
**CLASS NEWS**

**SENIOR CLASSES**
Thank you to all families for a wonderful year.
Tonight we celebrate the Graduation of our Grade 6 students. We are very proud of them and wish them all the very best for their future.
Grade 5 students moved into their new classes for 2017 yesterday. The classes had a great feel about them and we are looking forward to next year.
We look forward to seeing all families at the food fair/concert tomorrow night. All Grade 5/6 students are asked to wear black.
We wish all families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Please have a safe and relaxing break and we will see you next year.
*Bec, Sophie, Scott*

**MIDDLE CLASSES**
Congrats to everyone for making it this far! A short message this week to complete the term.
We hope that students will have a fun and safe holiday break and come back refreshed ready to begin in a positive fashion next year. It is important that students continue to work on their academic skills during the holidays by continuing their love of reading and numbers.
Stay safe and enjoy the time with your families!
*Adam, Kim, Judi, Julian & Hayden*

**JUNIOR CLASSES**
The last Junior News of the year. Wow, where did the time go?
Lots of exciting things happening over the last few days.
- Class parties
- Food Fair and Concert on Thursday evening
- Under the Sea Expo Friday afternoon
- Fun Day at the Pool on Monday
- Last day of school on Tuesday
Hopefully all parents/families/carers have returned notes if they are available to help at the Food Fair and what time they can help out. Also the Junior Under the Sea Expo will begin at 3pm on Friday afternoon in each of the Grade 1/2 classrooms. We hope that all students and families have an enjoyable and restful holiday period and continue to keep up their home reading, ready for term 1 next year.
A massive thank you from all the Junior teachers for your ongoing and continued support.
*Jacqui, Brad, Felicity, Kylie and Jen.*

**PREP NEWS**
Hello all, what a wonderful warm week it has been!
We are all feeling a little tired with the end of the term fast approaching, but hang in there, we have some fun activities coming up!
A reminder that the food fair and school concert is on this Thursday night from 5pm. To date, we only have five parents to donate their time on the night we are looking for more parent volunteers to help. If you are able to help on the night please see your child’s classroom teacher ASAP. If you haven’t yet donated and would like to you can also contact your child’s teacher for more information.
This Friday morning from 9:00am-10:00am the Grade Preps are hosting a morning tea in their classrooms for their families to show you the wonderful work they have been doing and to celebrate their first year of school. We are hoping each student will have at least one guest, but the more the merrier!
Thank you very much to the wonderful Prep parents who have kindly donated goods towards the Baked Potato stall. If you would still like to donate something, we are still in need of grated cheese and tubs of sour cream. Don’t forget to come and buy a “yummy” baked potato with “sloppy joe” from our stall in the canteen!! We hope you all have a wonderful week.
*Courtney Lawrence, Zoe Light and Jacqui O’Shea*

**MUSIC WEEKLY MELODIES**
Please come along to the Food Fair tomorrow and listen to the Buskers singing and also the guitarists playing.
Following the Food Fair at 7.00pm the Annual Concert will take place on the basketball court. Gates will open at 6.45pm.
Thanks you to all the students, staff and school community for making my stay at Speci so special. I have loved every minute of my time in the classroom and as a music specialist. Speci is a great school and I will miss you all. I am retiring after 48 years of being a teacher!!!
*Joan Mullen*

**THURSDAY 15TH DECEMBER**

**FOOD FAIR & SCHOOL CONCERT**

**FOOD FAIR — 5.00-6.30pm**
Rooms 1 & 2 - Pizza
Room 3 - Soft drinks
Room 4 - Stir Fry
Room 5 - Ice Creams
Room 6 - Pulled pork sliders with coleslaw
Room 7 - Popcorn
Room 8 - Cup Cakes
Room 9 - Fairy Floss
Room 10 - Lolly Bags
Room 11 - Kebabs
Room 12 - Spiders
Room 13 - Nachos
PLUS—Hot Dogs; Baked Potatoes/Sloppy Joes, BBQ; Fruit Salad; Karen Food

*PLEASE CONTACT YOUR CHILD’S CLASS*
UPCOMING EVENTS:
Wednesday 14th December
Graduation Dinner – Gr 6
Thursday 15th December
Food Fair and Whole School Concert
Monday 19th December – Pool Party Whole School
Tuesday 20th December – Last day of school for 2016
Tuesday 31st January, 2017 – School starts for Grades 1-6
Thursday 2nd February 2017 – Preps commence

COMPULSORY MATERIALS & REQUISITES FEE
PLEASE PAY
Our School Council has in place a Materials & Requisites fee which is compulsory for every student.
The fee is $100 PER STUDENT

$50 ICT Fee
Specimen Hill Primary School incorporate ICT into all areas of the school’s curriculum. Students are exposed to using different devices such as iPads, desktop computer and netbooks in order to develop their digital literacy skills. To allow the school to continually stay up to date with current technology requires our community to help in our investment. The voluntary $50 ICT fee helps us achieve this standard and allows for all students each year to improve their digital literacy as it is an important skill for their futures. PLEASE PAY YOUR SCHOOL FEES

PHYS ED REPORT
This year during the PE Program we continued to develop and improve the students fundamental motor skills, tactics and knowledge of many sports. Throughout the lessons the students have also developed their teamwork, co-operation, leadership and last but not least, sportsmanship. All these qualities are very important to Specimen Hill Primary School and also to myself.
It has been a delight to teach PE again at Specimen Hill Primary School and I’m looking forward to many more enjoyable years at Speci.
I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday period and hopefully you can continue to practice your motor and sporting skills over the holiday break.
Thanks again to everyone for another fantastic year.
Todd Broadbent
2016 EVENTS CALENDAR

Thurs 15th Dec
FOOD FAIR & CONCERT
5PM—6:30PM
7:00PM Concert

Friday 16th
End of Term Final Assembly
End of Term Awards & Certificates presented
2:15pm

Mon 19th Dec
Pool Party Day—Whole School

Jan 31st
Grades 1-6 Return to School

Thurs 2nd
Preps Commence

BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE
BOOKING ARE ESSENTIAL.
SOME DAYS ARE FULL IN ASC.
Absences not notified will be charged.
Staff are employed according to numbers booked.
Students must be booked for Before School Care
BSC - Karen - 0438 062 561
ASC - Leah - 0447 788 636

PLEASE FINALISE YOUR ACCOUNT
END OF YEAR IS FAST APPROACHING, PLEASE REDUCE YOUR
BALANCES TO A MINIMUM OR FINALISED TOTALLY.
Please pay account fortnightly
Balances should not exceed $100
Please contact the office if you have not received a statement.

NEW ENROLMENT FORMS ARE
REQUIRED FOR 2017

FARMERS MARKET
TWILIGHT MARKET
THURS 22ND DEC

Same place, Sidney Myer Place, off Pall Mall.
Commencing at 4pm - 8pm. Fresh produce,
great Christmas gifts, fantastic Ham, all your
Christmas needs.
Support your local Bendigo Farmers and Producers.

PLEASE PAY SCHOOL FEES

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