Dear Parents,

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORT STAFF
Next week is ESS week - ESS stands for ‘Education Support Staff’.
Next week we will celebrate the great work that all our ESS’s do in the classroom, Out of School Hours Care and in administration. We will have a morning tea for them to acknowledge the work they do and they will go out to lunch. Our ESS staff do a fabulous job and they are all part of effective school teams: in Administration, in the classrooms and at Before & After School Care. These wonderful people support teachers, students and parents.

They are: Kaye Blackley, Val Quinlan, Leah Johns, Karen Emerson, Rachel Frappell, Anika Blackley, Mandy Pickering, Trevor Meehan, Ruth East & Louise Smith.

Please find time to thank them personally for the work they do.

THANK YOU
Thank you to Maria Humphreys for coming up to school this week and doing some much needed weeding. We also appreciate the work done by students and staff in Year 3/4 as part of their gardening program. We welcome any other volunteers to help with gardening.

STARS OF THE WEEK
The Star of the Week awards were presented - Monday 3 August to:

PG - Lauren L
PQ - Zontelle L
P/1B - Grace W
1/2 H - Jasmin A
1/2 MY - Riley M
1/2 SW - Casey M & Matilda W
3/4C - Becky D
3/4G - Zane M
3/4J - Brock R
5/6B - Olivia H
5/6M - Nejmeh A
5/6S - Thomas W

After School Care Award - Bronte M (5/6S)

Congratulations to all these students for their achievements & contributions

BUNNINGS—Making Tool boxes
Thanks to the staff from Bunnings who came out to work with a group of students selected from Prep to Year 6 to make tool boxes. All had a great time and completed excellent boxes.

ENROLMENTS (PREP 2010)
We have sent letters home to parents informing them of their child’s place at Speci for 2010. This year we still have room for a few more Preps starting next year. Please pass this information onto any of your friends/relatives who have a child starting in 2010.

I welcome the opportunity to meet any parents to discuss our school, the questions you may have and also provide you with a tour.

Phone 54 435 353 for an appointment.

Dates to Remember…
Fri 7 Aug - EMA 2nd semester applc. Due
Mon10-14 Aug - ESS Week
Mon 10 Aug - Parents & Friends mtg 2.15pm
Mon 17 Aug - School Council
Sat 22 Aug - Tournament of the Minds
Mon/Fri 24-28 Aug - Book Week—Book Safari
Sun 29 Aug - Advanced unicyclists event
Mon/Fri 31Aug/4Sept- Literacy & Numeracy Week
Tues/Wed 8/9 Sept - Year 5/6 Production
Mon 14 Sept - School Council
Fri 18 Sept - Last day Term 3

EMA (Education Maintenance Allowance)
EMA applications close this Friday, 7th August.

KEEP US UPDATED!
Have you changed address, phone numbers (especially mobile phones) or your occupation?
If so, we need to know this information ASAP. Please send a note along or come into the school office so we can update this information on our system.
STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS
Information on student scholarships which the Department of Education and Early Childhood advertises but does not administer.

All scholarships can now be viewed on the scholarships website at www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/scholarships and online scholarship applications will be accepted commencing in late November 2009.

JUNIOR SCHOOL COUNCIL—Last Week
Junior School Council members will be selling products in support of the Junior Diabetes Foundation each morning (before school) at 8:45am in the Multi Purpose room.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Items</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jelly Baby Lollies</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Badge</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wristbands</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pins</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lip Balm</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bear Key Tags</td>
<td>$6.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key Rings</td>
<td>$6.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Reminder: If lollies are purchased they must remain in the child’s bag until the end of the school day.

FUNDRAISING
A special thank you to Linda Ferrari for her work in coordinating the Jewellery fundraiser last term.

FATHERS DAY STALL
We will be holding our Fathers’ Day Stall in 4 weeks time which will be Friday 4th September. We are seeking suitable donations (all items must be new). All gifts can be placed on the table at the front of the office.

Gift suggestions:
- Car cleaning products
- Boxed/bagged lollies and chocolates
- Diaries / pens
- Socks
- Hankies
- Tool kits
- Mugs

Reject and $2 shops are a great source of items.

CHOCOLATE FUNDRAISER
Money and unsold chocolates need to be back at school by Monday 17th August.

BREAKFAST PROGRAM
- Tomorrow for an 8.15am start in the Multi Purpose Room. All children must arrive at the program by 8.30am.
- Only children who have already returned their permission slips can attend.
- Staff helpers - Bernadette, Mr. Jones, Mrs. Young and Mrs. Craig.
- Thankyou to Miss Heard and Mrs. Emerson for their help last week.

SCHOOL FAIR
Friday November 20th - 4pm to 6:30pm.
- Calling all parents, grandparents and friends. If you are able to help out with items or providing a service that could help us with the school fair could you please fill out the slip below or contact Di Craig at school

Ways you could help
- Woodwork skills
- Sewing to make aprons, embroidered towels/face washers/headbands/baby clothes
- Jewellery
- Paper/crafts - cards, tags, note books
- Any other craft skills such as frames, soap, bath bombs, candles
- Gardening - potting up cuttings, seeds/seedlings
- Gardening produce
- Decorated pots
- Knitting / crocheting

If you are able to donate any supplies / materials or equipment that would be greatly appreciated. Otherwise the school can supply materials for you to use. Other support that we will be requiring closer to the date will be:
- Gourmet cakes/slices
- Assistance with operating stalls

Thankyou for your support.

Di Craig (Fair Committee)

SCHOOL FAIR
Name: ______________________ Child’s Class: ________
Phone: ______________________
I can assist with __________________________
________________________________________
I can supply _____________________________
________________________________________
I would like the school to provide me with _________
________________________________________

Thaough for the week:
Happiness consists in not having many things but in needing few.

Doug Jones
Principal

Our children’s future in the very best of
CLASS NEWS

JUNIOR NEWS
Preps have been making wonderful discoveries during their Investigation Activities. During this time the children plan, make and discuss their projects with an emphasis on cooperation and sharing. The investigations provide great stimulus for their writing. You will have noticed a change in your child’s writing from the beginning of the year. The children talk about the use of upper case letters, full stops, the need for spacing between words and stretching words out to hear and record the sounds.

Our first group of Year 1 children have completed the Reading Recovery Program. The second group are about to commence. It is vital that the children’s reading is listened to daily both while they are on the program and when they have finished. Reading Recovery gives these children a boost but the home reading ensures they progress more quickly.

Corey, Jenny, Julian, Julie, Katie, Kylie, Lisa, Sandy, Teresa

SENIOR NEWS
Grade 3/4
Year 3 and 4 students will be involved in making scarecrows for the garden over the following weeks. For this we require old, colourful items of clothing for students to dress the scarecrows. If you have any suitable items of clothing please send them along as soon as possible. Students continue to enjoy their weekly sessions working in the Gardening Program. Please take the time to go and have a look at the progress that is being made.

Thanks Mr. Warne and Mr. Barker for taking the 3/4 students to the Sideline Basketball Challenge at the Schweppes Centre last Friday. The students involved enjoyed the day as well as improving their basketball skills.

Keep on reinforcing the table facts for the week with your child. Students should have mastered their times tables by the end of Year 4. Working together will assist us to achieve this.

Wendy, Craig, Natalie, Lorraine

Grade 5/6
The Melbourne Symphony Orchestra excursion is on tomorrow at the Capital Theatre. Make sure your permission slips are back. Please don’t bring lunch orders tomorrow because of the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra excursion. We will be leaving school at 11am.

Have a great week.
Jessikah S and Maddison R

OTHER SCHOOL NEWS

PE NEWS
THANK YOU
A big thank you to all those parents who have assisted me with various activities throughout the year. Your help is very much appreciated.

TWILIGHT NETBALL
Names to Mr. Warne as soon as possible please.

Corey Warne

SPECIAL LUNCH DAY
PIZZA
MONDAY 10TH AUGUST
Special homemade muffin pizza lunch orders will go home tomorrow to be returned on Friday.
After lunch sales will be as per usual.

SPECI SHOPPING TOUR
Saturday 10th October
Cost $55.00
Hurry and book a seat. Bring along your friends/family and have a great day out.

PLEASE NOTE: Media Permission notes have been re-sent due to returned notes being misplaced. Only those who DO NOT wish names to be published need to sign and return to school. We apologise for this inconvenience.

LOST
A POLISHED GEMSTONE (ZEBRA ROCK) WHICH IS BLACK AND WHITE IN THE VICINITY OF THE SCHOOL SANDPIT. Please return to Audrey S in Prep G - stone belongs to her Nan.
A Note from Golden Square Auskick

Hi there Auskickers!

Congratulations to everyone who participated in Auskick at the Golden Square Oval this season. What great skills you’ve all learnt. You’ll make fine footy players in the future! On behalf of all the coaches, parent helpers and myself, we hope you all enjoyed your time at Auskick this season. We had a great time organising games and activities for you all, and we hope to see you back next season. So keep an eye out for registration day next year by regularly checking the AFL NAB Auskick Website.

A big Thank You goes out to all the parents who assisted in the running of Auskick. Without these volunteers the program would not go ahead. We are always seeking to improve things, if anyone would like to share their ideas, or help out please contact Jasmin the Administration Coordinator via email at jasi-21@hotmail.com.

If any registered Auskicker missed out on a NAB $48 Gift Voucher for a Junior Savings Account, please collect one from the school office.

2009 MEN’S HEALTH WEEK

A ‘Calendar of Events’ starting 29th August to 5th September.
For more information phone Bendigo Community Health Services on 5434 4330 or call at the school office for a pamphlet.

GO FISHING VICTORIA

Catch a new Hobby!

Free Family Fishing Festival at Kennington Reservoir

Sunday 9th August 2009
9am - 4pm
It’s On Again

Speci Hill Shopping Tour
Once again Grade 1/2 S/W in conjunction with Bu is running the shopping tour as part of the schools fundraising program.
Why not join us for a day of fun and bargain hunting?

Includes
- Bus trip to Melbourne.
- A full day guided tour to approx. 12 factory outlets.
- Great discounts.
- Morning and afternoon teas – delicious homemade cakes and slices.
- 2 course lunch at a hotel with a glass of wine or soft drink plus tea or coffee.
- Free raffle- lots of prizes.
- Good company and lots of fun.

Date: Saturday Oct 10th, 2009
Cost: $55.00

Why not pay it off? Just a few dollars a month and you will be able to have a great day out, loads of fun and take advantage of bargain prices at factory outlets.

See Mrs Smart, Kaye at the office Or Bu Turpie in the Art room