Dear Parents,

TOURNAMENT OF THE MINDS (TOM)
This Saturday we have two teams represented at the Regional TOM competition. They have all practiced and prepared themselves for the day and their final presentation. Thanks to Ms MacDonald for coordinating this event again this year & she is now the Regional coordinator!! Thanks also to Mrs. Jackson & Ms Gleeson who have taken on a group each to support. Also to Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Craig, Mr. Regan and some students from La Trobe University who will be helping out with judging on the day. The event will be held at La Trobe University.

Good luck All!

ANNUAL PARENT OPINION SURVEY
The Annual Parent Opinion Survey will be sent out to 44 randomly selected families on Monday 24th August. This is a great opportunity for us to get some feedback from you. All surveys are completely confidential and are sent directly to Melbourne for processing. We get the combined data from these surveys in October, which helps us define strengths as well as areas for improvement.

If your family has been one of the 44 randomly selected, please complete the survey and return it to school by Friday 28th August.

The Parent Opinion data, THE Master Planning for the school grounds, along with a range of other data, has helped us plan for future development at Speci.

STARS OF THE WEEK
The Star of the Week awards were presented - Monday 17 August to:
PG - Keely P
PQ - Tiah M
P/1B - Ruby E
1/2 H - Shanae C
1/2 MY - Brooklyn R
1/2 SW - Ja’cobie R
3/4B - Ebony W
3/4C - Thomas G
3/4G - Rikki W
3/4J - Darcy W
5/6S - Jessikah S

Principal’s Award - Georgia M (5/6M)
Principal’s Award - Paris S (3/4G) Last Week!
- My apologies to Paris as it was in as After School Care.

Reading Recovery Graduation Awards
Well Done to these students for graduating from Reading Recovery with Mrs. Bainbridge & Mr. Regan. They are:
Aiden K, Lincon P, Jayden M, Makayla H, Antonio C & Ethan P

Congratualtions
to all these
Students for their achievements & contributions

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...
Sat 22 Aug - Tournament of the Minds
Mon/Fri 24-28 Aug - Book Week—Book Safari
Sun 29 Aug - Advanced unicyclists event
Mon 31 Aug - P/1/2—Incursion ‘Animals on the Move’
Mon/Fri 31Aug/4Sept- Literacy & Numeracy Week
Thurs 3 Sept - District Athletics

Our children’s future in the very best of
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.

THANKS
Thanks again to Maria Humphreys who has continued to weed the garden beds at the front of the school. They are looking even better!

It was great to hear the School Choir sing at our Monday morning assembly this week. It was special having Ms MacDonald’s guitar group supporting. Thanks again to Ms MacDonald, our guest student guitarist & Mr. Barker supporting the guitarists.

MASTER PLANNING
Parking (as per last week’s newsletter)
One area that parents identified was parking. This is a little out of our hands but we will continue to pressure the Bendigo City Council on the matter. (School Council has raised it a number of times!). Some people may not be aware that the access track at the back of the school has been upgraded thus picking your child up in Henderson Street (off Chum) may be another option.
Please note that there is no stopping at the tops of Hasker and Croxton Streets. A parent was booked last week by police.

BOOK WEEK
Next week is Book Week and the theme is “Book Safari”.

CHALLENGE FOR THE WEEK
For all to work harder at ‘Getting Along’ and working productively together.

Getting Along with others is an important skill for making friends & keeping them—It is also a key skill these days for getting a job and retaining it.

Doug Jones
Principal

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.

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
We would appreciate chocolate money being returned to school asap. If you would like to sell more chocolates there are full boxes available at the office.

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.

SCHOOL FAIR—reminder
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
- Any other craft skills such as frames, soap, bath bombs, candles
- 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)
CLASS NEWS

JUNIOR NEWS
The children are looking forward to ‘Animals On The Move’ visiting them on Monday 31st August. Please make sure permission notes and money are returned to school by Wednesday 26th August. This will be a fabulous experience for the children to be able to check out these animals at such close proximity. Please keep up the reading practice at home. The more practice the children get the better readers they become. Boxes of all shapes and sizes are required in the classrooms for the children’s investigations. Send these along at any time.

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

SENIOR NEWS
Grade 3/4
We welcome Mrs Judy Garwood back to the 3/4 team. She is currently replacing Mrs Campbell. Mrs Garwood worked with 3/4C earlier in the year, replacing Mrs Campbell when she was on long service leave. Judy knows this class well and has built an excellent rapport with these students over the year.

It is two weeks until The Lore of Flight incursion. This is an excellent presentation about flight and presents the key principles of flight in a child friendly manner. We have previously had these presenters in school and all teachers who attended were very impressed with the quality of the presentation. A note will come home tomorrow outlining the details of this incursion and the cost per student.

Please make sure students wear school uniform everyday. If for some reason students are unable to wear uniform it is expected that a note be sent to the school outlining the reasons why students are out of uniform. Also jewellery needs to be kept to a minimum. A watch and stud or small hoop earrings only. We would appreciate your understanding and support in this matter.

Wendy, Craig, Natalie, Judy

Grade 5/6
Hello everyone hope you are all having a great week,

Just a few reminders this week. First of all could all outstanding chocolate money please be handed in to the office immediately.

Please remember that the District Athletics Sports are coming up soon on the 3rd of September, so could all notes from the students that are participating please come back soon.

Thankyou
Maddison R and Jake K

OTHER SCHOOL NEWS

NETBALL NEWS
Our Speci Netball teams are well represented in the finals this season with Speci Red top of the ladder and Speci Purple finishing 4th. Speci Purple are playing White Hills Maroon this Saturday at 12noon and the following weekend Speci Red are playing St. Killians on 29th August at 12noon in the second set of finals. 

Supporters are urged to attend.

The Speci One Wheelers
Dad’s Day Out Event
Family event at Rosalind Park
Sunday, Aug 30th.
Around 15 selected advanced unicyclists are looking forward to riding at the “Dad’s Day out event” in Rosalind Park. Many hours have been put in by the students towards learning how to ride and it will be great to see them using their skills out of the school. The event is a family fun day to celebrate fathers and there will be lots of fun activities for the whole family. Our ‘Speci One Wheelers’ will be adding some extra colour and entertainment to the event between 1:30pm and 2:30pm.

Craig Barker

WANTED
The 3/4 classes are making scarecrows for the vegetable garden. We urgently require some old colourful shirts, pants and straw hats to dress the scarecrows. If you have anything suitable that you no longer require, it would be gratefully appreciated. These items can be left at the office or sent to any of the 3/4 classrooms. If we have excess to what we need, we will store them so that we can replace clothing as items become faded or tattered.

MS READATHON
A big thank you to the families and friends of our Specimen Hill Primary School participants who have sponsored their reading during the 30th year of the MS Readathon!

Mitchell B.  Mikhaila C.
Aaron F.  Tahlia G.
Annie J.  Kyklara L.
Tanneika M.  Dacilda M-G.
Indiana P.  Paris S.  
Ebony W.  Maxine C.  
Georgia E.  Brooke G.  
Samuel H.  Jake L.  
Georgia M.  Dylan M.  
Grace O.  Maddison S.  
Jacinta W.  Ebony W.

The official money-due date is August 31st.

Sandy Young, 
Librarian

BOOK CLUB
All book Club orders are due back Tuesday 25th August please. No late orders accepted.
Sandy Young

PERFORMING ARTS
Years 5&6 will be presenting their major work ‘Suburban Circus’ this term on the evenings of Tuesday 8th September and Wednesday 9th September. Yes they are performing twice. This is a spectacle not to be missed. Tickets are available from the office now at the amazing price of $5 per ticket – same price for all. Get in early as numbers are limited for each night.

Wanted – a pedal car - for use in Suburban Circus.

Julian Regan

EGGS FOR SALE
$2.50 per dozen available from the school office.

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. A $20.00 deposit is required.

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER
The Speci Newsletter is available on our web site at—

COMMUNITY NOTICES
THE PRIMARY SCHOOL NURSING PROGRAM & BENDIGO CONTINENCE CLINIC
Invite all parents, teachers & carers to a FREE information evening on Bedwetting, Day Wetting, Soiling on 2nd September 2009 from 7pm to 8.30pm (light supper provided) at DHS Building, Cnr. Edwards & Queen Street, Bendigo.
Guest Speakers: Cheryl Ludwick - Continence Physiotherapist & Michelle Larkin - Continence Nurse Consultant

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.
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 10\textsuperscript{th}, 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