Dear Parents,

YEAR 5/6 PERFORMING ARTS
Well done to our Year 5/6 students who performed last night and will perform again for the final time tonight. The theme for the performance is Suburban Circus. Thank you to Mr. Regan and to the Year 5/6 staff—Mrs. Brown, Ms McDonald & Mr. Sing who supported Mr. Regan and especially Bu Turpie for all the props that she has made. Also to the other staff members who came along and to the parents and other family members who enjoyed the production.

WORK STARTS ON BASKETBALL COVER
Work has started on our new all weather cover for the basketball court. The footings have been poured and construction will take place and we hope completed in the vacation break ready for use in Term 4.

We have just decided on the company which will supply and install the new shade sails. We will replace the old shade sails over existing areas and we will create three new shaded areas. They are: 1. Over the sand pit; 2. Over a section of the artificial turf and 3. Over the amphitheatre

These will not be completed until January 2010

KIDS CONGRESS 2009
Last year our school conducted the Regional Kids Congress but this year it is Strathfieldsaye P.S. We have been able to send eight of our Year 5 students to be a part of this rich ICT experience.

ZONE ATHLETICS
Well Done to all the students who competed in the Zone Athletics last Thursday at Bendigo Athletics Complex. Thank you again to Mr. Warne for coordinating the entire event and to our staff for supporting Mr. Warne & our students.

SUNSMART POLICY CHANGE
We have been advised by SunSmart that their policy has changed and they now advise caution from the start of September. Parents can access the SunSmart website at www.sunsmart.com.au/ and click on Today’s UV levels or look at the UV alert in the weather section of the daily newspapers.

Parents are encouraged to check conditions and if UV levels are going to be high—apply SPF 30+ sunscreen. We encourage broad brimmed hats and use shade whenever possible. If practical the use of wrap-around sunglasses (marked AS1067) should be worn. This will help minimize the risk of skin & eye damage and skin cancer.

STARS OF THE WEEK
The Star of the Week awards were presented on Tuesday 7 September to:

PG - Holly B
PQ - Brandon W
P/1B - Marli F
1/2 H - Brianna H
1/2 MY - Bryce S
1/2 SW - Breanna M
3/4B - Kasharni C
3/4JG - Marlee D
3/4NG - Harrison M
3/4J - Shona S
5/6B - Tim R
5/6M - Mikhaela C
5/6S - Jake K

Congratulations to all these Students for their achievements & contributions

Dates to Remember…
Sun 13 Sept - Working Bee
Mon 14 Sept - School Council
Fri 18 Sept - Last day Term 3 (2:15pm finish)

Term 4
Mon 5 Oct - First Day Term 4
Wed 7th, 14th, 21st Oct. & 4th Nov. - Grades 1 & 2 Gym
Fri 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30 - Grades 3-6 Gym

WORKING BEE - Sunday 13 Sept.
Please make some time to come along and help us on Sunday Sept. 13 at the School Working Bee. It starts at 9:00am and will conclude at 12:30pm with a pizza lunch for all. Even if you can only spare an hour of your time it all helps! We are getting the school ready for spring. Jobs will include - installing new vegetable beds; installing some...
seats; installing the rest of the front watering system; sowing some lawn seed and pruning roses & trees.

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

PICKING UP CHILDREN AFTER SCHOOL (reminder)
A reminder to parents that after school we have teachers on duty to support students as they leave for home. This duty finishes at 3:30pm and any children who have not been picked up at this stage must come to the office until the person taking them home arrives. Children are not allowed to be in the yard (unsupervised) after this time. That means children are not allowed to play on the playground equipment while they wait for parents unless the parents are directly supervising them at the play ground. Staff often have meetings after school and are required to attend them from 3:30pm.

Your cooperation with this matter is appreciated.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK
The Constitution only guarantees the American people the right to pursue happiness. You have to catch it yourself.
Benjamin Franklin

Doug Jones
Principal

FATHERS DAY STALL
Our Fathers Day Stall was a wonderful success with a wide range of gifts suitable for all male interests for sale. Hopefully everyone’s dad had a lovely surprise and happy day. We were very fortunate to have had some wonderful donations from the following sponsors:

- Thales
- Bunnings
- Hume & Iser
- Rebel Sports
- Fitzpatricks Home Hardware
- Bicknels Sports

Thank you all for your generosity.
The final total raised was $802 which will contribute towards the upgrade of the coming events sign at the front of the school.

Thank you to the hard working mums from Grade 3/4C, 1/2H and Prep G. A great team effort.
The prize winners of the major raffle were:
1st - Grace W  
2nd - Callum R  
3rd - Blake M  
4th - Shania B

5th - Brittany  
6th - Callum R  
7th - Jasmine A  
8th - Georgia M  
9th - Teesha  
10th - Callum R  
11th - Maddi S  
12th - Brianna H  
13th - Chelsea  
14th - Ryan  
15th - Emma  
16th - Marlee  
17th - Shona  
18th - Brooke  
19th - Mitchell S  
20th - Bronte

NUMERACY and LITERACY WEEK
It was wonderful to see so many children and adults participating in and enjoying Numeracy and Literacy Week across the school last week.

Many parents came up to share their favourite story book in their child’s classroom. What a strong message this sends to children that reading is a life long practice enjoyed by people of all ages.

The many competitions were well received with the following students showing their artistic talents in the favourite character/setting stamp competition. (All stamps on display in the Multi Purpose Room.)
The winners were:-
Prep - Tom R
Grade 1 - Chantel S & Kiet C
Grade 2 - Tabitha W
Grade 3 - Josh R & Shauna M
Grade 4 - Caleb E
Grade 5 - Codie W
Grade 6 - Tiffany L & Indiana P

Thank you to the people who contributed 5c pieces towards the 5c line. All money raised will go towards the Alola Foundation at the end of the year.
The following children made excellent guesses to win:-
Length 43 metres - Bailey B
Mass of 6.5kg - Darcey W
Value of $126.35 - Darcey W

What wonderful maths thinking in 3/4C

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 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)

CLASS NEWS

WANTED
Shoe Boxes for the 1/2 area to make Dioramas.

SENIOR NEWS
Grade 3/4
Students enjoyed participating in many competitions during National Literacy and Numeracy Week throughout last week. To those students who were successful in winning a competition congratulations.
Many students also competed in the District Athletics Carnival. Congratulations to all those students and to any who were successful in obtaining selection to the Zone finals.

This week we are continuing to work on our Flight unit. The unit has involved students undertaking experiments around the science of flight. Students have experimented with making parachutes, hot air balloons, whirly gigs and the list continues. Next week students will have the challenge of producing a paper aeroplane that flies further than one they produced before the unit.

Our unit next term will be titled Going, Going…. , a unit around endangered animals. We are in the process of planning this unit at the moment.

This week is the last week of the 21 Fact Challenge in Maths. All facts have been published in the newsletter. Any assistance you can give your child to assist them master their times tables is time well spent. Please make sure that students continue to undertake home reading. We cannot emphasise how important this is to your child’s education.

Wendy, Craig, Natalie, Judi

Grade 5/6
The Grade 5/6 performance was on yesterday and will be on tonight also. It will be a very enjoyable performance.

On Thursday chosen students went to the District athletics sports. Some students have passed to the next sports which are the Zone athletic sports. All students did a fabulous effort.

The Gym program starts next term. Could all notes please be returned promptly. Children should have a great time developing co-ordination skills.

Maddison & Jessikah (5/6 reporters)

OTHER SCHOOL NEWS

PE NEWS
Twilight Netball
Starts 16th September.
Reminder—Students who didn’t play in the winter season will need to pay fees at the Netball office.

District Athletics
Our school had 50 students participate in the District Athletics sports last Thursday. It was pleasing to see all students trying their best and giving 100% at each event. Students should be extremely proud of what they achieved on the day. Some students will now have the opportunity to represent our school at the Zone sports which will be held in Term 4.

THANKS!
A big thank you must go to the wonderful staff who helped run events and manage students throughout the day. A job well done!
I would also like to thank the mums who helped out with the organisation of morning tea for the staff on the day.

Zone Athletics
Zone Sports will be held on 12th October.

Gym
Our Gym program starts up in the first week of Term 4. 1 & 2 will attend on Wednesdays and Grades 3 to 6 on Fridays.

Volleyball
Speci Diggers - NO game Sunday 13th Sept. due to other tournaments being played.
NO training Tuesday 15th Sept.
And no training and no games during school holidays.

Corey Warne

Corey Warne
PERFORMING ARTS
A reminder that our last ‘Suburban Circus’ will be held tonight in the Multi Purpose. Tickets are available from the office or at the door. Performance starts at 7pm. $5 per ticket – same price for all.

Julian Regan

OVERDUE LIBRARY BOOKS
Please check for any overdue Library books at home and return to school asap.

PLEASE RETURN
Bernadette can’t remember who she lent the parenting books to by Nigel Latta.
The books were:-
Before Your Kids Drive You Crazy read this
&
Before Your Teenagers Drive You Mad read this
Please return to school asap.

SPECI SHOPPING TOUR
Saturday 10th October
Cost $55.00
Full payment of $55 per adult and $27.50 per student is now overdue.
Please pay at the office ASAP.

CANTEEN ROSTER
CANTEEN DUTY:
10th Sept. - Tricia, Carol & Cheryl
14th Sept. - Tricia & Kerry
17th Sept. - Tricia, Martine & Carmen

GRADE 3/4G FUNDRAISER
We are going to re-publish our ‘Food for Thought’ recipe book from last year and are inviting parents to contribute new recipes to add to this book.
Natalie Gleeson

OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE NEWS
After School Care operates from 3.15pm - 6.00pm
Please ring Rachel on 0414 068 475 for Bookings/ Cancellations.

Program:
Thurs. 10th Sept. - Milo & Sweet Biscuits / Music Games
Fri. 11th Sept. - Chips / Movie
Mon. 14th Sept. - Soup & Bread / Drama Activities
Tues. 15th Sept. - Fruit & Veg. Sticks / Cooking: Fruit Skewers
Wed. 16th Sept. - Hot Chocolate & Marshmallows / Kids Choice
Thurs. 17th Sept. - Fruit & Yoghurt / ASC Puppet Show
Fri. 18th Sept. - Popcorn / Movie

Before School Care operates from 6.30am - 8.40am. Please ring Anika on 0438 062 561 for bookings.

KEYBOARD OPEN LESSON DAY
Specimen Hill Primary School
in association with the
Primary Music Institute
Cordially invites you to attend a special event - our Keyboard Open Lesson Day.

All parents and relatives, especially those of our present students, are invited to come and see the students take part in a group keyboard music lesson.
The keyboard teacher will demonstrate different aspects covered during a keyboard lesson. This provides a great opportunity for parents to gain a better understanding of the keyboard program and to interact with the keyboard teacher.
Lessons will be held at the usual times unless an unexpected event occurs at school on the big day.
Parents are advised to check with the school or Primary Music Institute on 1300 764 877 if in doubt of the lesson time of their child.

So come and join in the fun on
Monday 14th September 2009 (at the normal lesson times).
See you there!

Please ring Rachel on 0414 068 475 for Bookings/ Cancellations.

Program:
Thurs. 10th Sept. - Milo & Sweet Biscuits / Music Games
Fri. 11th Sept. - Chips / Movie
Mon. 14th Sept. - Soup & Bread / Drama Activities
Tues. 15th Sept. - Fruit & Veg. Sticks / Cooking: Fruit Skewers
Wed. 16th Sept. - Hot Chocolate & Marshmallows / Kids Choice
Thurs. 17th Sept. - Fruit & Yoghurt / ASC Puppet Show
Fri. 18th Sept. - Popcorn / Movie

Before School Care operates from 6.30am - 8.40am. Please ring Anika on 0438 062 561 for bookings.
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