Dear Parents,

P-2 TABLOID SPORTS & ZONE ATHLETICS
We had a wonderful morning for the P-2 Tabloid sports on Friday last week. Mr. Warne organized for a company to provide lots of interesting and engaging activities for the students to do / play. We had a lot of parents helping and watching as well as staff supporting the event. Thanks to the parent helpers and staff who supported Mr. Corey Warne, who coordinated the event.

On Monday we had six students compete in the Zone Athletics. This is the last step before the State finals. Students have done a great job to get to this level.
They were: Jessikah S, Thomas W, Mikaela C, David S, Makaelah C & Shaniyah C.
Rusty H also made it to this level but was unable to compete on the day.
We are very proud of our students efforts and the way they have conducted themselves. A fantastic run from Shaniyah C has given her a spot in the State finals!! Thanks again to Mr. Warne for making these opportunities available for students and to Sue McLean for volunteering to supervise the students on the day.

SHOPPING TOUR
Thanks to Helen Turpie for organizing this year’s successful Shopping Tour. All had a great day and got some bargains. Thank you to all the parents (friends) and staff who attended.

GRANDPARENT’S DAY
Thanks to Mrs. Craig for organizing a great grandparents day last week. Thanks also to the School Captains for guiding our grandparents around the school and organizing afternoon tea with Mrs. Craig. We had a huge turnout! Thank you also to the staff for opening up their classrooms during the afternoon.

LONG SERVICE LEAVE FOR MRS CRAIG
Mrs. Di Craig will be taking long service leave for the next six weeks starting next Monday. Mrs. Wendy Jackson will be Acting Assistant Principal for the time Di is on leave. We hope Mrs. Craig has a wonderful break! Ms. Tina Spence will be taking Wendy’s grade while she is

Acting Assistant Principal. Next week we welcome back Mrs. Sally Brown who was on long service leave for the past two weeks. A big thanks to Ms. Lucy Spalding for taking the grade in her absence. She has done a wonderful job!

Dates to Remember…
Grades 3-6 Gym - Fri 16th, 23rd & 30th Oct.
Wed 14 Oct - Men & Children night out 6—7.30pm
Wed 28 Oct - Bendigo Cup holiday (No school)
Wed 4 Nov - Prep 2010 first orientation (9am)
Thur 5 Nov - Peace Picnic
Wed 11 Nov - Prep 2010 orientation
Thur 12 Nov - Incursion (Shake, Rhubarb n Roll)
Wed 18 Nov - Prep 2010 orientation
Mon 16 Nov - School Council
Fri 20 Nov - School Fair
Mon/Fri 7-11 Dec - Year Prep –5 orientation week
Mon 7 Dec - School Council meeting
Tues 8 Dec - Statewide orientation Day
Thurs 10 Dec - Junior Arts Share 12noon
Tues 15 Dec - Year 6 Graduation
Fri 18 Dec - Last school day for 2009

STARs OF THE WEEK
The Star of the Week awards were presented on Monday 12th October to:
PG - Dylan M
PQ - Emily S
P/1B - Maxine C
1/2 H - Declan R
1/2 MY - Tabitha W
1/2 SW - Kiet C
3/4B - Amy N
3/4JG - Deanna H
3/4NG - Jordan H
3/4J - Lucas L
5/6B - Ben N
5/6M - Shelby S
5/6S - Maddi W

Principal’s Award - Zara W (After School Care P/1B)
Congratulations to all these students for their achievements & contributions

Our children’s future in the very best of
ENROLMENTS (PREP 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.

SUNSMART FOR TERM 4! (Reminder)
Just a reminder that in Term 4 students are required to wear sunsmart hats (no caps!) and sunsmart clothing (no exposed shoulders). Broad brim hats can be purchased from the Uniform Shop for $10.

VICTORIAN STUDENT NUMBER (VSN) (repeat)
What is the VSN? The VSN is a student identification number that will be assigned by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) to all students in government & non government schools, and students in Vocational Education & Training Institutions. The number, which is unique to each student, will be used as a key identifier on a student’s school records, and will remain with the student throughout his or her education, until reaching the age of 25. The VSN is nine digits long, randomly assigned, and tied to identifying information about the student (name, gender, date of birth). See - http://www.education.vic.gov.au/management/governance/vsn/overview.htm

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK
The happiness of your life depends on the quality of your thoughts.
Doug Jones
Principal

WELLBEING MONTH
Week 2 of Wellbeing month is Family week and the value is Care and Compassion, care for self and others.
Tonight is the Men and Children's night from 6-7:30pm so males and children come along and enjoy a night of fun games and pizza.

Week 3 (next week) -
Focus—Demonstrating good values. Value of the week is responsibility - taking care of ourselves and the environment.
Thursday 22nd October—Speci for Life.

Reminder
Men and Children's Night is on tonight (Wednesday 14th) from 6pm to 7.30pm. All children must be accompanied by a male.

Di Craig
Wellbeing Co-ordinator

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 NEWS
Please mark Friday November 20th - 4pm to 6:30pm on your calendar for our school fair.
Invite family, neighbours and friends to come along and to enjoy an evening of fun.

Activities at the Fair -
- Mini golf
- Nachos
- BBQ
- Lucky bags
- Show bags
- Treasure island
- Camel rides
- Produce table
- Bouncing castle
- Gourmet cakes
- Face painting
- and much more

Each class will be operating an activity and classroom teachers will be sending notes home seeking assistance from parents. If you are able to help please let classroom teachers know or contact Wendy Jackson (who will be replacing Di Craig in this role during her absence).

CHILDREN’S WEEK
Children's Week will be celebrated from Saturday 24th October to 1st November 2009 to coincide with Universal Children's Day on Wednesday 28 October 2009.

Children’s Week is a national event recognising the talents, skills, achievements and rights of young people. It is based on the articles expressed in the United Nations Convention on the Right of the Child, highlighting play, wellbeing and protection.

The Department works in partnership with local governments, Victorian schools and early childhood services to host activities during Children’s Week that focus community attention on the needs and achievements of children and young people as they thrive, learn and grow. The activities are based around this year's theme of A Caring World Shares.
To find free events in your local area visit the Children's Week website www.education.vic.gov.au/childrensweek
Other 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)

JUNIOR NEWS

Junior Classes had a fantastic time last Friday at their Sports Day. They were fortunate to be able to try many different activities. It was a very well organised event. Thank you to Mr Warne for organising the day and to those parents who came along to watch and support.

A gentle reminder to continue reading at home and the importance this has in the development of your child as a reader. Please ensure that the books return to school each day.

To help keep the children hydrated during the day it would be great if they could bring a drink bottle to school. It is important to keep drinking water during the day as it helps the body and brain remain active.

The Developmental Curriculum is extending into Years 1&2 this term. Teachers in the Years 1&2 require lots of materials to help with their investigations including: boxes, egg cartons, fabric scraps, plastic containers, newspapers, dress-ups.

Journals will be coming home shortly. These are a wonderful opportunity to share with your child what they have been doing at school. The Journals need to be returned to school next Monday.

Children whom arrive late on Gym days will miss out on their session. They cannot be dropped off at the Gym as the instructors will not allow them into the class.

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

SENIOR NEWS

Grade 3/4

A reminder that notes and money need to be returned for the Werribee Open Plain Zoo excursion as soon as possible, so that numbers can be finalised. This excursion is being subsidised by the school through Drought Relief money that has been received, with the school paying for the buses. Students and staff are all looking forward to the day and hopefully the weather is kind to us.

Gym has begun with students taking part in their first session last Friday. Students enjoyed the experience and improved their skills. Students should come suitably dressed for gym and a reminder that sleeper or dangly earrings are not permitted due to safety reasons.

Congratulations to David S who competed in the Regional Athletics Carnival. A great achievement.

Wendy, Craig, Natalie, Judi

Grade 5/6

Congratulations to all the students that participated in the Zone Athletic Sports all children made a fabulous effort and represented Speci in a wonderful way!!!

Gym is on Friday again. Please make sure you wear your hair up if you’re a girl and no jewellery thanks.

Maddison & Jessikah (5/6 reporters)

“Express Yourself” Activity Day

Grades 5 & 6 all participated in an activity day today all about experimenting with the Visual Arts. Students worked through 12 activities including painting with marbles, finger painting, various forms of printing, computer art, music.

Warm thanks to Mrs Martine Abbas who came along to help on the day. We really appreciated her assistance.

Allan, Lee and Lucy Spalding.

OTHER SCHOOL NEWS

PE NEWS

Zone Athletics

A great day was had by all. Students performed extremely well and represented our school proudly. Shaniah C finished 2nd in the 10yr Girls 1500m and will now attend the State Athletics championships later this month.

A big thank you to Sue McLean for supervising students and others who came to support.

Gym

Our Gym program continues for Grades 1 & 2 on Wednesdays and Grades 3-6 on Fridays.

Corey Warne

Photos have been posted on our web site re the building of our basketball roof. Go to www.shps1316.vic.edu.au/environment.html
PERFORMING ARTS
Junior Arts Share for students in Years Prep, 1 & 2 will be on Thursday 10th December at 12noon in the school's Multi-Purpose Room. Keep this date free and come along and enjoy what these students have been busily working on.
Shake Rhubarb 'n' Roll uses the food pyramid to explore the importance of correct food choices and exercise in maintaining a healthy lifestyle. This show will be at school on Thursday 12th November at 9.30am.

THANK YOU to Flora Hill Quality Meats i5 Retreat Rod, Flora Hill for donated items for our 5/6 Production.

Julian Regan

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

BOOKCLUB
Could all Book Club orders be returned by Tuesday 20th October please.
Thanks
Sandy

UNIFORM NEWS
Our uniform shop is fully stocked with hats and summer uniforms. Uniform hours are Monday—Wednesday 9.45 to 12 noon.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

CHEER 'N' DANCE
The official home of the “Braves Babes” cheerleaders. Come and try out to join the “Braves Junior Cheerleading” squad.
Pre-Try outs workshop: Sunday 25th October at the Kangaroo Flat Leisure Centre in Browning Street, 5:30pm to 6:30pm.
Main Try outs: Sunday 1st November at the Kangaroo Flat Leisure Centre in Browning Street, 5:30pm to 6:30pm.
*You must be between the age of 7 and 18 years old
*Cost is $10 which includes both try out days
For more information please contact Kim Manallack
Mobile: 0421 803 602 Email: cheerndance@live.com.au

KIDS CHARACTER CARNIVAL BENDIGO
A free family fun day presented by the Greater City of Bendigo on Saturday October 17th from 11am to 3pm. A variety of activities to be held plus a visit by Dorothy the Dinosaur & friends.
Visit www.bendigo.vic.gov.au/events

GOLDEN SQUARE EARLY EDUCATION CENTRE
Enrol Now. Vacancies available. Open between 6.30am to 6.30pm. The privately owned centre caters for all children aged 6 weeks to 5 years. The team would love the opportunity to present our centre to you. 92-94 Specimen Hill Rd., Golden Square. Phone 5441 8955.

U10 GIRLS BASKETBALL
Aztecs team are looking for players. If you were born in 2003, 2002, 2001 you can join the team. The team is coached by Speci mum Christie Harris. Games nights are Monday and training Wednesday. Phone 0403 341 403.

JUNIOR SUMMER COMPETITION
Beginning 16th October 5.30pm start on Friday nights for 8 weeks. U13, U15 & U17 at CVHA Hockey Complex, Ashley St., Ironbark. 1/2 field, 6 a side teams. No hitting just pushing. $3 per player per game. Mouthguard and shin guards required. Sticks are available for loan. Contact Heather Scanlon on 5442 6876 or scanlon-family@aapt.net.au

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. 15th Oct. - Fruit & Veg. Sticks / Craft: Play dough
Fri. 16th Oct. - Popcorn / Movie
Mon. 19th Oct. - Fruit & Yoghurt / Craft: When I Grow Up
Tues. 20th Oct. - Kabana, Cheese & Biscuits / Computer Activities
Wed. 21st Oct. - Fruit & Jelly / Games

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

2010 Term Dates
Staff commence – Wednesday, 27th January
Students in Grades 1 – 6 commence – Monday 1st February
Prep starting date to be confirmed.
Term 1 ends 26th March
Term 2: 20th April – 26th June
Term 3: 13th July – 18th September
Term 4: 4th October to 17th December

Our children’s future in the very best of