Dear Parents,

Yes! We have now completed another term at Speci! How the weeks have flown past. It has been a very busy yet productive term.

I would like to thank the staff and parents for supporting our wonderful children.

Thank you to all for the hours spent supporting school programs and for the caring way you have supported each other.

I hope all have a safe, relaxing and enjoyable break and look forward to seeing all those smiling faces back next term.

As you can see by the ‘Dates to remember’, we have a lot happening in Term2!!

EASTER RAFFLE
Thanks to the staff, students and parents of Prep/1 Ball & 1/2 Maxwell/Young for organizing this years Easter raffle. We also very much appreciate the fantastic support which the community has provided by way of donations of Easter eggs, bunnies etc. We raised approx. $1300.00!!

This Term we have been raising funds to support the purchase of paint for the Artist in Residence program. Three poles have been started!!

Dates to Remember…
Fri 3 April - Last day Term 1—2:15pm finish

Term 2
Mon 20 April - Start Term 2—2009
Mon 20 April - School Photos (1st day Back!)
Tues 21st, Thurs 23rd, - Swimming Program
Fri 24 April - School ANZAC service
Mon 27-29 April - Year 5/6 Camp
4th, 5th, 7th & 8th May—Swimming Program
Wed 6 May - Incursion “Sticks & Stones”
Tue/Thu 12-14May - NAPLAN testing (Years 3 & 5)
Mon/Fri 18-22 May - Education Week

Mon 18 May - School Council
Thur 21 May - Healthy Brekky & Open Morning
Fri 22 May - Harmony Day
Mon 8 Jun - Queens Birthday
Fri 12 Jun - State-wide curriculum day
Mon 22 Jun - School Council
Tue 23 Jun - Year 3-6 Athletic Sports
Thu 25 Jun - Proposed Parent, Student & Teacher interviews (12—7pm)
Fri 26 Jun - Last day Term 2

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE
Our school Artist Kim Donald has started working with the Year 5/6 students on their totem poles. The Year 5/6 students have three poles (one for each grade) which hold up the shade sails in the playground area. These will be transformed to reflect the value each grade has chosen. The designs will have pictures, symbols, works and plenty of color to convey the meaning of the value. After the Year 5/6 students have finished we will move through the school to give each grade & each child their opportunity.

PARENT ACCOUNTS STATEMENTS
The School Council is again offering a raffle prize which will be drawn after the 15th May. All families who have paid their child’s materials & the school levy by this date will be in the draw, as well as those families who receive EMA. School Council has now secured 3 fantastic prizes.

We have 3 prizes donated by the Zone Entertainment Complex
We have 3 Family Mega passes which include a laser game, skating and mini golf.
We will draw out 3 families after the 15th May and each will win one of these fantastic prizes.

THANK YOU
Thank you to Ms Judi Garwood who has been taking Grade 3/4C this term. Mrs. Campbell will be back from Long Service Leave at the beginning of term 2. Ms Garwood will still be here after the holidays, replacing Mrs. Helen Turpie who will be away on LSL for 1 week.

STARS OF THE WEEK
The Star of the Week awards were presented -
Monday 30 March to:
PG - Hayley C
After School Care Award - Abby E (PG)

Congratulations to all these students for their achievements & contributions

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK
Have a safe and relaxing Term break—don’t forget school photos first day back!

Doug Jones Principal

SCHOOL FAIR
The date has been set, the wheels are in motion for the School Fair on Friday November 20th. This will be a twilight occasion starting at 5.30pm till 7.30pm. It promises to be loads of fun for the children, family and friends with displays, competitions, plants and produce, cakes and food galore, spinning wheel, circus, talent quest, show bags and heaps more!!

Mark the date down on your calendar. Anyone with ideas for the fair or willing to put up cuttings, sewing, etc. please see Di Craig.

Thankyou for your support.
Di Craig

ALLERGIES AND ANAPHYLAXIS
To minimise the risk for children who have food allergies and anaphylaxis the following strategies will be used in the school:

- Children should eat their own food only
- Children should not share any food at all
- We discourage all children bringing along nuts and nut products such as peanut butter in their sandwiches/ lunches to school.
- The school must be contacted immediately if any food allergies or anaphylaxis is identified.
- In the case of class parties/special occasions food for allergic students should be approved and provided by the students’ parent.
- The canteen will avoid all nuts or nut products.
- The school will have risk management plans in place.
- Parents of allergic or anaphylactic children should remind their children of their personal responsibility in minimising risks.

Education Maintenance Allowance
The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) for Semester 1 has been deposited into nominated accounts for those parents who elected to receive their Education Maintenance Allowance by EFT. If you have not received the EMA, could you please contact Kaye in the office.

If you requested a cheque payment, or indicated you would like to use part of your cheque for excursions etc, please call in to the school office.

Those parents who requested the full amount of their EMA cheque to be used for excursion credits, camp etc. this cheque has been deposited into our school account and a receipt will be sent home with your child. Please remember to indicate on your permission forms when you would like to use your credit. Please call in to the office at any time to enquire about the balance remaining on your child’s excursion credit.

CLASS NEWS
JUNIOR NEWS
We have spent this term on “Uniquely Me”. The children have been working hard on their projects and will be given the opportunity to share them with their peers.
Prep and Prep/1 have been participating in the Play Based
Program. The focus has been on co-operating in a group, using imagination and sharing. We would still love Reading helpers, please see your child’s classroom teacher if you are interested. Continue sharing books with your child over the break. If children return their library books this Friday they can take home a new book for the holidays. We wish you all a very happy and safe holiday.

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

SENIOR NEWS
Grade 3/4
It is hard to believe that the end of the term is here. We say goodbye to Mrs Judy Garwood on Friday as a regular in our team. We would like to thank her for the wonderful contribution to the 3/4 team. Judy has enjoyed teaching your children this term and it is clear that Judy has developed a wonderful rapport with the students in her class. You will be missed Judy.

Just a couple of reminders. Swimming begins on the second day of Term 1, so if you wish your child to participate, please make sure that notes and payments are returned. Also, please encourage your child to read regularly over the holiday period.

We would like to wish you all a safe and enjoyable Easter. We are looking forward to seeing all of our students back from holiday rested and refreshed ready for a busy term.

Thankyou,
Judy, Natalie, Craig and Wendy

Grade 5/6
Swimming begins early next term. Children are not to wear bathers to school but are able to change at school. Please ensure all items are named.
Photos are on Monday April 20th. Make sure students are in uniform and have “smiling faces”. Camp notes and money should be finalized this week. Friday is a 2:15pm finish.
Happy Holidays

5/6 News Team

PE NEWS
Netball News
All games start this weekend. Games are played at the Schweppes Centres netball courts.
All students should have taken home a draw for this week’s matches, a more comprehensive draw will be sent home when they are made available. If your child didn’t receive one please contact the front office.
Students need to wear the correct sports uniform. Blue skirt/‘Speci’ shirt and supportive footwear. Netball bibs will be supplied.
If your child is unable to attend a netball match because of (illness, injury etc.) please ensure the coach has been made aware so a replacement player can be found.

Please Note-If your child was enrolled in the Grade 3 clinic after team registrations had closed, parents will need to visit the netball registration office on Saturday morning to register their child in the Specimen Hill netball clinic.
*A reminder that all fees should be paid at the school office by the end of this week.

New Enrolments are currently being accepted for Term 2, 2009.
At only $10.90 (incl. GST) per lesson, this keyboard music program is Great Value!!!

Enrolment forms are available from keyboard music teacher(s), the school office or you can enrol electronically on our website – www.primarymusicinstitute.com.au, Small Reminder
Re-enrolment from one term to the next (including from one year to the next) is automatic so, once enrolled, you don’t need to send in a new enrolment form each term in order to continue.

If at any stage you wish to cancel: Written advice to that effect must be mailed or faxed to PMI at the above address/fax number at least two weeks prior to the start of any given term in order to avoid incurring the next term’s fees. (Please note: It is not sufficient for this advice to be communicated to the school or keyboard teacher).

The Primary Music Institute wishes all families a safe and musical holiday!!!

Swimming
Change of date - No swimming on the 24th April. It has been changed to the 4th of May, due to the ANZAC Day ceremonies.
Swimming begins first week back in Term 2. Please ensure all clothes/goggles are clearly named. All permission notes and money MUST be returned prior to the first swimming session.
Swim Dates: 21st & 23rd April, 4th, 5th, 7th & 8th May
Times:
11.45—12.25pm—PrepQ, 3/4B, 5/6S
12.25—1.05pm—Prep G, 3/4C, 5/6M, 6B
1.05—1.45pm—1/2H, 3/4G, 5/6B, P/1B
1.45—2.25pm—1/2YM, 1/2S, 3/4J
Corey Warne

PERFORMING ARTS-performance for the year
May 6 Wednesday 9.30am Sticks & Stones
July 23 Thursday 11.30am Music Is Fun Band
Nov 13 Friday TBA Shake, Rhubarb & Roll
Julian Regan (Arts co-ordinator)
SCHOOL PHOTOS - reminder
Our school photos will be taken on the first day of term 2. Please remember to dress your child in full school uniform and bring your photo envelopes to school on the day. Family envelopes are available from the office. Please put the correct change in the envelopes. The school will not have change available for parents.

THANK YOU to all the parents who helped sort raffle book, count money and wrap raffle prizes. Your help is much appreciated.
Grades P/1Ball & 1/2MY.

LOST
Last Friday 20th a black tortoiseshell cat named Zoi (desexed female) went missing from the Hicks-Hobgen home. Please ring Rosz on 54442152/0420276327 if you have seen her.

1 x Size 12 Navy blue zip front polar fleece vest ‘Uraban Supply’ Brand. It is brand new—worn once, belonging to Baylee Y in 5/6S. It is unnamed. Please return it to Baylee in 5/6S.

EGGS FOR SALE—from our Specimen Hill PS chooks!!
$2.00 per dozen. See Mandy Pickering.

UNIFORM NEWS
There are some second hand uniforms available free. These will be in the staffroom to look through at anytime.
Uniform shop hours are:
Monday to Wednesday 8.45am - 12.30pm

CANTEEN NEWS
CANTEEN DUTY:
Monday 20th April—Tricia Ryan, Janine Brown
Tuesday 21st April—Tricia Ryan
Wednesday 22nd April—Tracey English
Thursday 23rd April—Tricia Ryan, Cheryl Brown-Sarre, Margaret Sherriff

OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE NEWS
After School Care operates from 3.15pm - 6.00pm
Please ring Rachel on 0414 068 475 for Bookings/Cancellations.
Please note that ASC is fully booked on Fridays unless a permanent booking cancels.

Program:
2nd April - Fruit, Yoghurt, Craft: Masks
3rd April - Chips, Movie

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

COMMUNITY NOTICES
‘Hook in2 Hockey’ Central Victorian Hockey Association (CVHA) Beginner/Junior Hockey Program
To register, please call: Kerri on 5449 3527
Or email cvha.hookin2hockey@yahoo.com.au
Or download a registration form from www.cvha.org.au/Development.html

BENDIGO REGIONAL YMCA HOLIDAY PROGRAM
Look at www.bendigo.ymca.org.au to view the brochure and venues for the holiday programs available.

HOLIDAY FUN
Children are guaranteed to be entertained these Easter school holidays as each of Bendigo’s top attractions provide a myriad of activities that will capture and inspire everyone’s imagination. Central Deborah Gold Mine and Bendigo Tramways are hosting the Easter Bunny Investigation (EBI): Case of the mysterious disappearance, while the Discovery Science & Technology Centre present the Science of Sport Show and the new Bendigo Planetarium show; Way out there: Human adventures in space.
For more information please visit www.centraldeborah.com or call 5443 8322 OR
For more information please visit www.discovery.asn.au or phone
5444 4400

YUMMY HOT CROSS BUNNS AVAILABLE AT THE CANTEEN on Friday 3rd April
$1.00 for a whole hot cross bun
50c for half a hot cross bun
(With or without fruit)
These will be served warm with butter at lunch time on Friday. Please put your money and order in TOMORROW.

EGGS FOR SALE
— from our Specimen Hill PS chooks!!
$2.00 per dozen. See Mandy Pickering.

Happy Easter!