Dear Parents,

END OF TERM
What a busy time of year this is! Every year we all say that we are going to be more prepared and ready for the end of year/Christmas/holiday period but it still seems to creep up on us all.
Staff have been extremely busy finalising for 2010 and preparing for 2011.
Over the next couple of days children will be bringing home work samples and collections as well as some of their school requisites no longer required at school. Please take the time to share any work brought home with your children.

TRANSITION DAY
Yesterday was the last transition day for the year. The grade 6 students spent the day at their new secondary schools and all children moved up to experience a ‘taste’ of 2011. The class groupings were randomly selected and not an indication of next year’s classes. What a delight it was walking through the rooms to see everyone highly engaged and focussed on learning.

2011 CLASS GROUPS
On Thursday the 16th of December, the children will experience a half hour transition in their class for 2011. Where possible all children will have their 2011 class teacher present also. Class lists will go home that night so that parents are aware of their child’s class. Teachers have spent many hours selecting class groupings focussing on friendships, ability groups, behavioural issues and group dynamics. As you can imagine this is not an easy task. In all cases teachers focus on what will be the best learning opportunity and environment for each child.

BULLYING
I have mentioned on many occasions that bullying will not be tolerated at Speci in any form. If there has been an incident that your child has reported to you please do not hesitate to contact Corey Warne or myself. Naming It is about children naming inappropriate behaviour to another child or adult who will act to stop the behaviour. But if we do not know about it we can not act! I do appreciate any contact from parents in this manner. All students know quite clearly that if they were involved in an inappropriate incident then they need to be responsible and accountable. It is not about punishment but about stopping, reflecting on and changing inappropriate behaviour.

LIBRARY BOOKS
Mrs. Young is working very hard to get the Library in order before the end of the year. She requires the help of all parents and students to return all library books to school as soon as possible. Please take the time to search for any school books at home and to return them by next Monday.

PARENT HELPERS
It was wonderful to see so many parent helpers attending the Morning Tea today. This is only a small thank you to everyone who contributes to the school in some way. We do appreciate your support and this only strengthens the home school partnership. We are all here to contribute to developing the best outcomes for your child.

EXCURSION CREDIT
A note has gone home advising those parents who have an excursion credit left. Please return notes by this Friday to let the school office know what you would like done with the amount you have left.

PAYMENTS
Could parents who have money owing for school fees, excursions, computers, OSHC and chocolates please have payment to the office by the end of this week.

Di Craig
Acting Principal
**STARS OF THE WEEK**

The Star of the Week awards were presented on **Monday 29th November**.

- **P/1J** - Kaitlyn W & Khairi I
- **P/1M** - Daimen W & Trasiah C
- **P/1Q** - Oliver C
- **1/2M** - Caeleb J & Darcy R
- **1/2O** - Lily I
- **1/2S** - Ziontelle L, Cassidy S & Lauren L
- **3/4B** - Jake L
- **3/4G** - Jet C
- **3/4Q** - Brooklyn R
- **4/5C** - Douglas D
- **5/6B** - Brandyn M
- **5/6C** - Shaniah C
- **5/6S** - Mitchell W

- **Art Award** - Thomas G
- **PE Award** - Connor L
- **PE Class Award** - 1/2 Maxwell
- **BSC Award** - April S
- **ASC Award** - Dacoda M-G

**Dates to Remember…**

- **Fri 10 Dec** - Tabloid Sports Grades Prep-2
- **Mon 13 Dec** - Art Show 3-6:60pm
- **Tues 14 Dec** - Grade 6 Graduation Dinner
  - Grade 3-6 Gym
- **Fri 17 Dec** - Last Day of Term 2.15pm

**BREAKFAST**

Breakfast Club is on this Thursday (9th Dec.) starting at 8.15am **(no earlier please)** and no later than 8.30am to allow time for serving and clean-up. This will be the last breakfast for the year.

**CLASS NEWS**

**Senior Department News**

Grade 6 students attended future secondary colleges yesterday and will have now experienced the environment they will learn in for 2011. There is a lot happening in the next week. Please ensure all monies are paid on time for Netbooks, Graduation Dinner and 2011 Grade 5/6 Camp. Grade 6 students will attend Lilley Lodge on Thursday morning to offer our school community support to the elderly residents. They will talk to residents, present cards we have made and sing songs to entertain them. Please make sure permission notes are returned for this event.

**5/6 Team**

**Middle Department News**

Children are working on their projects in Integrated Studies. They are using a prepared sheet of facts, books and computers for information.

In Maths we are solving problems. Children have been writing persuasive texts. Parents can help children with this by asking them to give reasons to support a point of view in discussions. Many children have borrowed library books which now need to be returned. Could you please check for library books at home.

Yesterday was the Statewide Orientation day. Our Grade 4s spent the morning in Grade 5 and Grade 3s changed to a different room to participate in Grade 4 activities. It was an enjoyable experience for all.

**Middle Dept. Team**

**Junior Department News**

The Junior Tabloid sports are on this Friday. If you have not returned your child’s permission note or money please do so tomorrow. It will run from 11:45 – 3:15 and the cost is $2.00 per child. You can get another permission note from the office if you need to.

Teachers have been extremely busy completing reports and getting them ready to send home to parents. They will go home next week. Please take the time to read them and discuss them with your child.

Children are currently participating in transition days in preparation for next year. They are enjoying these sessions and are making new friends and becoming used to the new surroundings.

**The Junior Team**

**GENERAL NEWS**

**WANTED**

Your ‘junk’ for the Art Room in readiness for 2011. We would appreciate any of the following if you could save them and send them in - washed and clean.

- 1 lit. plastic milk/juice bottles
- Lids - any size, from anything
- Jigsaws - that have missing pieces

*Our children’s future in the very best of hands..............*
- “real” junk - nuts/bolts/springs ....
- Spray can lids
- Ice-cream containers
- Magazines

Anything that you don’t want the Art Room might love.
Thanks
Sally Brown

LIBRARY NEWS
Library is now closed for borrowing. All borrowed books need to be returned asap.

CANTEEN NEWS
NO CANTEEN TOMORROW OR NEXT MONDAY—CANTEEN IS CLOSED
SPECIAL LUNCH DAY - Hungry Jacks Cheeseburger meal lunches for last day of school (17th Dec.). Orders will go home this Friday to be returned no later than Tuesday. Cost $4.50 for burger, chips and drink.

LOST
1 school hat belong to Cassy with Meehan in yellow writing on inside.

TABLOID SPORTS EXCURSION GRADES PREP-2 FRIDAY 10TH DECEMBER
There are still some permission notes and money ($2) outstanding. Please send to the school office asap.

FINAL PAYMENTS FOR 2009-10 NETBOOK AGREEMENTS NEED TO BE FINALIZED ON FRIDAY 10TH DECEMBER.

Re- Lenovo S-9 / Thinkpad Mini 10 change-over
The change-over of these units is almost completed.

If a choice has been made to complete the agreement by making the final payment, the payment is required by December 10th.

Late payments will not be accepted and it will be deemed the unit is not required if payment is not made by this date.

All Thinkpad Mini 10 Netbooks will be retained at school from Thursday, December 9th to facilitate re-imaging of the units. Netbooks will be returned to students as soon as possible after that date providing final payment has been confirmed.

Please Note: Once payment is made no returns of computers or payment will be made.

Please be aware that information we are given about these computers is:
- Lenovo have discontinued manufacture of Thinkpad Mini 10 computers
- Thinkpad Mini 10’s will have Windows XP as the operating system. This system is 7 years old and Microsoft will discontinue support for this system in the near future. Therefore this unit may be only as good as the operating system it supports.
- The system will not be upgradable to a more recent operating system. eg Vista or Windows 7.
- None of the existing software is to remain on the unit.
- Computers will be installed with Internet Explorer and Open Office.
- These computers will not be welcome in government secondary colleges, as they will manage their own computer agreements.
- Students will be requested to enter into separate financial agreements with secondary colleges in 2011.

Thankyou,
Allan Sing

Our children’s future in the very best of hands....................

GRADE 5/6 CAMP
Deposits of $30.00 to be paid by December 10th for the 2011 Camp.

GRADUATION DINNER
FINAL PAYMENTS FOR THE GRAD. DINNER NEED TO BE MADE BY DECEMBER 10TH TO CONFIRM INDICATED RESERVATIONS.

SPECIMEN HILL PS ART SHOW
Monday 13th December @ 3-6.30pm
Come along and see your child/ren’s artwork on display in the Art Room and Multi.
There will also be an opportunity for parents to do an art activity run by Mrs. Brown.
A gold coin donation at the door would be appreciated.
OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE

ASHC Phone No. 0447 788 636. Please ring Leah for bookings/cancellations. Accounts will go home on a fortnightly basis and need to be paid at the school office.

Some accounts are overdue and need to be paid ASAP.

Program:
- Thurs. 9th Dec. - Biscuits & Dip / Memory games & Drama
- Fri. 10th Dec. - Chips / Movie
- Mon. 13th Dec. - Tasting Platter / Balloon fun
- Tues 14th Dec. - Cooking — salad wraps with juice / Free play
- Wed. 15th Dec. - Flavoured Milk & Biscuits / Outside play
- Thurs. 16th Dec. - Fruit & Veg. platter picnic with cordial / Craft: Xmas Cards
- Fri. 17th Dec. - Last Day Party / Movie 2.15pm start

BSHC Phone No. 0438 062 561. Please ring Danika for bookings/cancellations.

COMMUNITY NEWS

BENDIGO TRAMWAYS
Celebrating 38 years of vintage “talking” Tram Tours.
Take a tram for FREE on Sunday 12 December for the summer holiday showcase.
On the day you can:
- Travel on a variety of vintage trams for free
- Hear about all the Bendigo events and activities during the Summer holidays
- Sign up for an Ambassador Pass
- Be in the running to WIN spot prizes
- Have a great day out with the family

For more info visit: www.bendigotramways.com or call 5443 8322

CANTEEN IS CLOSED

NO MORE LUNCH ORDERS

SPECIAL LUNCH DAY
LAST DAY OF TERM

HUNGRY JACKS CHEESEBURGER MEAL

ORDER FORMS TO GO HOME FRIDAY TO BE RETURNED NO LATER THAN TUESDAY 14TH.
Our children’s future in the very best of hands………...