Dear families and friends, Welcome to week 3 already.

CONGRATULATIONS
I would firstly like to congratulate Mr. Polglase and his wife Sophie on the birth of their new son-Miller Jackson. He is an absolutely delightful and precious start to their new family.

HOME GROUPS
The naming of classes has altered slightly this year. Instead of classes being referred to by the class teacher’s initial eg 1/2S they are now referred to by their class door number. A list of classes and their numbers are on Page 5 of the newsletter.

CHINESE STUDENTS
In the last Newsletter I mentioned that the Expression of Interest forms for hosting a Chinese student from May this year can be collected from the front Office desk from 15th Feb onwards. (yesterday) If you are interested in participating in the program you can collect a form. This form is only an expression of interest but may give you more information about the program.

SCHOOL COUNCIL
School Council nominations are due today at 4pm. If you are interested, please collect a form from the front desk. This is a very important, highly valued and rewarding role in our school community and we need people who are interested to volunteer their time to positively contribute towards the operations of our school.

WHOOPING COUGH
We have another case of whooping cough diagnosed in the school community. This is indicative of outbreaks across the whole of the Bendigo Region. If you or your child have any symptoms please refer to the information form on Page 4 of the Newsletter. Whooping cough is a serious illness and is highly contagious. Any child showing symptoms or has been diagnosed must stay at home for the nominated period of time.

SCHOOL UNIFORM
Last week I mentioned that every child should be wearing school uniform to school every day. If this is not possible a note stating the reasons why your child is out of uniform should be returned to school.

We have a supply of preloved uniforms at school which are available free of cost, although some of the articles and sizes may be limited.
Make up, dangling ear-rings and jewellery are not part of the uniform and should not be worn to school.
During Terms 1 and 4 it is compulsory to wear school hats whenever children are outside. These are available to purchase at the Uniform Shop.
Please name all clothing items.

HOME READERS
All students will be bringing readers home each night and as part of the home school partnership ALL children should be heard to read each night for at least 20mins. We are asking parents from students of all grade levels to sign off in each student’s reading diary on a nightly basis.
We are closely monitoring home reading behaviours across the whole school.
The most significant way to improve or to extend ourselves further is to practise! Research shows that children who read for an average of 4 minutes per day learn about 251,000 new words per year. Whereas children who read for 25 minutes per day learn about 1,697,000 words per year! This is staggering and clearly indicates the huge impact of regular reading on general language development.

CLASSROOM RULES
Walking around the school and spending time in classrooms there is a lovely calm tone across the school. All classrooms have now developed their classroom rules and each child will be bringing a copy home to share with parents. Please take the time to talk about each rule so that children are aware that there are common understanding and expectations within the home-school partnership.

NEWS FROM CRUSOE COLLEGE
Each week in the Newsletter there will be an article about the happenings at Crusoé College (starts next week). The feeder schools who have students going onto Crusoé in year 7 are part of the ‘Step up to Crusoé’ program. This program is aimed at strengthening the transition program between the schools and assisting families in their knowledge and understanding of Crusoé College before their child actually attends. I look forward to any feedback from the information shared.
Hopefully everyone has a another great week of learning, caring, fun and friendship.
Our children’s future in the very best of hands.............

Dates to Remember...

- Wed 16 Feb - Nominations close—School Council elections
- Fri 4 Mar - Parents Club meeting 2.15pm
- Mon 7 Mar - School Council meeting
- Mon 14 Mar - Labour Day Holiday
- Tues 15 Mar - P-2 Arts Incursion
- Mon 21 Mar - Swimming program starts Prep-6
- 6-8 Apr - Grade 5/6 Camp
- Fri 8 Apr - Last day Term 1

STARS OF THE WEEK
The Star of the Week awards were presented on Monday 14th February to:

- Rm. 1 - Taitan M & Oliver C
- Rm. 2 - Emily S
- Rm. 5 - Caleb B
- Rm. 6 - Shakirra S
- Rm. 7 - Daniel H
- Rm. 8 - Paige A
- Rm. 9 - Chantel S
- Rm. 10 - Abby W
- Rm. 11 - Callum M
- Rm. 12 - Jasmine R
- Rm. 13 - Tiarni B

OSHC Award—Dacoda M, Callum M
Art Award—Jordyn A

Acting Principal:
Di Craig

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE (EMA)
Parents eligible to receive the EMA must fill out the appropriate paperwork and return it to the school office after presenting current evidence (as at 1st February 2011) of eligibility. Parent or guardians must be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 1986 or be a foster parent; and submit their application to the school by 28th February.

Instalment 1  
Parent share $80.50  
School share $80.50

Instalment 2  
Parent share $34.50  
School share $34.50

The application form was sent home last week (Note: It must be presented in person to the school office with your Centrelink Benefit Card).
The school’s share is used to cover your child’s school fees and the balance goes towards your child’s excursion levy.

CHANGED YOUR ADDRESS OR PHONE (mobile, home or work) NUMBER?
If you have changed your address or phone number - WE NEED TO KNOW! Please see Kaye or Val at the school office or call 54 435 353. Thanks for your support with this matter.

BOOKS & REQUISITES PAYMENT—reminder
A reminder to parents about the schools Books and Requisites payment for 2011.
This fee pays for the books we purchase on your behalf for

PARENT MANAGED HEAD LICE PROGRAM
Name: .................................................
Student: .......................................... Grade .........
I am able to assist with the program on -
[ ] Wednesday [ ] Thursday [ ] Friday

We request that each family contributes a voluntary $40.00. This amount will support the continued development of our grounds & upgrading school learning programs.

Thus the amount owing to the school is:
$140.00 for the first child and $100.00 for each child thereafter.
We are very happy for families to arrange to pay this off or pay as a lump sum.
EMA recipients (School Share $115.00) have these fees partly covered.

EXCURSION LEVY - reminder
We have an option of pre paying your child’s excursion levy. This system has worked well over the past three years. Parents can pay up front for those parent funded items (like visiting performances) that previously needed to be paid for just before the performance. If you pay up front, your child will not miss the performance and you won’t have to be chasing around for change on the day before. That will mean you pay in advance and not worry about it for the rest of the year.

PICKING UP STUDENTS AFTER SCHOOL
As you are aware, school concludes at 3:15pm each day. In the interest of your child’s safety our rule is that students not picked up by 3:30pm must come to the school office and be picked up there. This is because our yard duty teachers come in at 3:30pm. Your co-operation is appreciated.

Di Craig
Acting Principal

WELLBEING NEWS
Resources for families affected by the 2009 Bushfires
A range of online resources is available on the Education Department’s bushfire website. This material provides information on areas such as external support services, referral pathways and staff self-care. You can access the resources at http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/bushfires/support/default.htm

PARENT MANAGED HEAD LICE PROGRAM
A reminder that parents need to be checking their child’s hair regularly (every night if possible). Early detection is one of the key factors in treating lice outbreaks and preventing them from spreading.
We are seeking parents interested in assisting with this highly valued program. The program runs fortnightly. Please fill out the form below and return to school.
CLASS NEWS

Senior Department News
We have had a busy and positive beginning to our year. Please ensure your child commits to the reading of a text for 20-30 minutes each day.
We do not expect you to listen to them read but follow up discussion and signing of the reading journal is encouraged and will support your child’s literacy development.
Netbooks have been distributed to senior grades and students will have a familiarization time of several weeks use at school before taking them for home use. Attendance at a parent/student information session and e-Learning payment will be required before Netbooks are taken home. We are looking forward to using these Netbooks as a great learning resource again this year, More information will be sent home shortly.
Organization for the camp is underway. Please ensure all forms are returned promptly and fees are paid on time to support the camp organization.
5/6 News Team

Middle Department News
All students in the 3 /4 area have made a smooth transition into their new classes. There will be an opportunity later in the term for you to have a one on one meeting with your child’s teacher to help us to get to know your child and also for you to get to know us. Please take the opportunity to come along and discuss your child with us.
We have placed or will be placing a list of questions inside all children’s reader covers that you can ask your child after they have read. Asking questions and talking to your child about their reading is the best way in which you can help to improve their understanding and knowledge of what they have read. Some questions will be more appropriate than others, depending on the book. Try asking your child at least one or two questions per night about what they have read.
Some children are reading independently at this stage, however we still expect that their reading diaries are signed and their reading monitored by you. In addition to the monitoring of the reading, we also ask that you discuss your child’s reading with them.
This week all classes have or will be involved in cooking soup from the produce that has been grown in the garden. We are asking that all students bring along a labelled plastic bowl and spoon that will remain at school. These will be returned at the end of the year and will be used when students are involved in cooking activities.
A reminder that all students also need an art smock and a library bag also.
Leah Backas, Lisa Maxwell, Wendy Jackson, Sandy Young and Hayden Polglase

Junior Department News
Prep
The Preps are quickly learning our school routines and are doing a wonderful job!

We are very proud of all the children reading at home and returning their readers each morning. Thank you to all the parents/grandparents offering to help in the classroom. We will send a note home in a few weeks when we are ready to schedule helping times. Don’t forget to complete a ‘Working With Children Check’ and sign a SHPS Protocol form. See the office for these.

Grades 1 & 2
It has been very pleasing that most children have been remembering to bring their reader each day. Please hear your child read each night as it is very important. Studies show that the more children read the better they get. Children also need to bring hats and water bottles each day. Hats are compulsory for children in Terms 1 and 4. The Grade 1 and 2 teachers are now ready for parents to help with reading etc. in the classroom. Please see your child’s class teacher if you are willing to help out.

Preps-2 Team

GENERAL NEWS

LIBRARY NEWS
Library will be open at 8.45 to 9am each morning for students to change Library books.
We would encourage all children to take up borrowing books from our Library.
All children will require a Library bag which are available from Mrs Young for $2.00, or you may use a shopping bag or pillow case to protect our books. Anyone finding books at home from last year please return ASAP. All books gratefully received.
Grade 1/2 will change their books on a Wednesday if parents could assist children in having their Library bag and book at school EVERY Wednesday.
Grade 3/4J will have Library Tuesday.
Borrowing will also be available on Monday and Wednesdays at lunchtime if children visit the Library during recess.
Thanks
Sandy

BOOKCLUB - Reminder
Bookclub order forms need to be returned by Tuesday 22nd Feb. All money needs to be returned in a named sealed envelope to the office please. No late orders will be accepted.

BREAKFAST PROGRAM
Speci Healthy Breakfast program next Wednesday 23rd Feb. All children are welcome to attend.
Time: 8.15 to 8.45 - children must be in the MPR by 8.30
Where: Multi Purpose Room
What: Cereal, toast, juice, fruit.
Teresa Smart
Our children’s future in the very best of hands.................

**SWIMMING PROGRAM**
Swimming notes will go home soon. Cost per child is $47.00

**CANTEEN NEWS**
Canteen starts up this Friday for lunch orders. Please have order written on brown paper bag (20c extra if school supplies) with money enclosed and handed in to the classroom tub at 9am.

**UNIFORM SHOP**
S/S polo shirts have arrived. Art smocks and shorts are also in supply.
Uniform Shop hours—8.30-12.30 Mon. & Tues. and all day Wed.

**NEWSLETTERS** are available from our website http://www.shps1316.vic.edu.au.

**WHOOPING COUGH (pertussis)**
Dear Parents,

There has been an identified case in the school of a child diagnosed with Whooping Cough. It is the school’s responsibility to inform the school community.

**DESCRIPTION:**
Whooping cough is a highly contagious bacterial disease. The illness may begin with cold-like symptoms which progress to a cough, or the child may simply begin coughing. After several days, severe coughing fits may cause the child to vomit after coughing or to lose their breath. Sometimes a high-pitched crowing (the whoop) is heard when inhaling. The coughing can last 1-3 months. Whooping Cough is transmitted by direct contact with droplets from the nose and throat of an infected person.

**INCUBATION PERIOD**
Commonly 7-10 days and not more than 21 days.

**INFECTION PERIOD**
Whooping cough is highly contagious in the early stages. The child is no longer infectious to others 5 days after starting antibiotic treatment. Although children who have not been immunised need to visit their doctor as a preventative measure.

**RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARENTS**
If children show any symptoms the parents should consult their doctor immediately. Parents should keep the child away from other children for the period of exclusion.

**CONTROLLING THE SPREAD**
Exclude the child until well and until 5 days after starting antibiotic treatment. Children who have not been immunised should visit their doctor as a preventative measure. If you have any further concerns or queries please contact your doctor, Health Clinic or the Greater Bendigo City Council.

**MEDICATION**
If your child requires any medication at school whether natural, bought over the counter or prescribed medication, parents MUST come up to the school to fill out and sign the school Medication forms. We are unable to give medication without this appropriate authorisation. A letter from home is not sufficient.

Medication must have child’s name and label with details on prescribed medicine.

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**Thursdays 9-10:45am in the Multi-Purpose Room**
Please bring along a healthy snack and hat for your child. Cost is $1 per child.

Tea and Coffee is available for parents/carers.

Playgroup is an educational, fun and interactive experience for children and parents/carers.
Speci Playgroup is a member of Playgroup Victoria and provides a wide range of exciting and engaging activities.

Come along and meet new people, make new friends and get involved in the school community.

Further enquiries to the school office.

Co-ordinator: Danielle Boulton
COMMUNITY NOTICES

AFTER SCHOOL TUITION AND HOMEWORK HELP
The Kangaroo Flat Community Centre provides tuition for Prep to Year 10 students who need assistance with reading, spelling, English and maths. Financial help may be available to students who qualify. For information call the office on 5447 9687 during business hours to leave a message or phone Michael directly on 0413 116 096.

EAGLEHAWK SOCCER CLUB
Eaglehawk Soccer Club is holding registration night for junior players (Under 6 to Under 16) on Wednesday February 23rd, 2011 from 6pm to 7.30pm. Eaglehawk club rooms, Murdoch St California Gully. Further details www.eaglehawksoccerclub.com.au or call Tim 0418 590 928 after 4pm.

FOR SALE
CHOCOLATE FROGS
EVERY WEDNESDAY
END OF SCHOOL DAY
FOR $1.00

OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE
ASHC Phone No. 0447 788 636. Please ring Leah Johns for bookings/cancellations. Accounts have gone home and need to be paid asap.

Thurs 17th Feb. - Flavoured milk & Cookies / Movie
Fri 18th Feb. - Sandwiches & Juice / Craft
Mon 21st - Tasting Platter / Group games
Tues 22nd - Cooking—Toast / Drama Activities
Wed 23rd - Pancakes & Cordial / Craft

BSHC Phone No. 0438 062 561. Please ring Danika for bookings/cancellations. Victoria Daniels will the BSC program co-ordinator starting next Monday. Thank you to Danika for her contribution to Speci ? BSC.

Dear Parents
Leah Johns and Karen Emerson are studying for a Certificate in Childrens’ Services and a Diploma in Childrens’ Services respectively, through the Victorian Training Group (VTG).
As part of these studies we are required to make observations of the children in various activities and provide narratives and evaluations of our findings. At times we are also expected to provide photographic evidence.
Children’s’ surnames will not be used under any circumstances and the schools policy of confidentiality will always be observed and respected.
We will not provide photos of children for whom permission has not been granted through the school’s authorisation process.
If you do not wish to have your child’s images provided to our Training group in the process of our studies or you have any queries at all please do not hesitate to speak to Leah or Karen at After School Care or contact the school office.
(This will only apply to children attending the ASC program.)

HOME ROOMS
Room 1 - Kylie Gould & Julie Quinlan - Gr. 1/2
Room 2 - Teresa Smart & Julie Quinlan - Gr. 1/2
Room 3 - Natalie Gleeson - Gr. Prep
Room 4 - Kim Manley - Gr. Prep
Room 5 - Katie Heard - Gr. 5/6
Room 6 - Scott Pysing- Gr. 5/6
Room 7 - Allan Sing - Gr. 5/6
Room 8 - Wendy Jackson & Sandy Young - Gr. 3/4
Room 9 - Leah Backas - Gr. 3/4
Room 10 - Lorraine Campbell - Gr. 4/5
Room 11 - Lisa Maxwell - Gr. 3/4
Room 12 - Jenny Ball - Gr. 1/2
Room 13 - Jacqui O’Shea - Gr. 1/2

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