Welcome to students, families and friends to week 6 of Term 1.

INFORMATION INTERVIEWS
Thank you to all of the families and staff who attended the Information Interviews at school last Wednesday. All teachers spoke very positively about the sharing of information and it being a two way process.

READING ATTITUDES
It is very exciting to see the improvement in reading attitudes and behaviour across the school so far this year. It is wonderful to recognise positive and diligent readers at Assembly each week and this will continue. Starting at Assembly on Monday 21st March a beautiful book will be awarded each week to a student who is demonstrating outstanding reading progress or attitude. The awards have been donated by Lisa Case Books (www.lisacasebooks.com.au). We thank them for their generosity and support.

SCHOOL COUNCIL
Our new School Council Office Bearers were elected on Monday night at the first Council meeting for the year. Not much has changed in respect to these positions which is a good sign of others having faith in the roles that are being carried out. Positions are:

- **President:** Wayne Sherriff
- **Vice President:** Trevor Humphreys
- **Secretary:** Liz March
- **Treasurer:** Dean Stewart
- **Other councillors are:** Mark Snell, Wendy White, Helen Turpie, Wendy Jackson, Corey Warne, Hayley Davis, Marie Cox and myself.

Congratulations to them all and I look forward to us all working together throughout the year. Thank you to Veronica Collins, Sally Brown and Kylie Gould for their time on Council.

SLEEPING & EATING HABITS
I am quite concerned with the number of students coming to school with unhealthy lunches and looking and feeling very tired. Unless these basic necessities are maintained to a healthy and sensible level and manner children will not be able to work to their optimum at school. This may result in poor focus and attitude, disruptive behaviour and wasted learning opportunities. We all want the best for our children and providing and closely monitoring sleeping and eating habits are essential.

PERSONAL ITEMS
Could parents keep a close eye on toys and other personal items which are being brought along to school please. Toys are usually a distraction at school and are best left for home play. At school they may become lost or broken and then children are upset. There is a wide range of play and sports equipment, games etc to interact with at school, so games (lego, beanies, remote control cars etc) should be left at home. Thank you for your support with this issue.

Step up to Crusoe News: The school has recently completed the school swimming sports with great success. The sports provided for students of all water sporting abilities and also encouraged cheer squads and other supportive participation. Crusoe is also focussing on students participating in the Premiers’ Reading Challenge for 2011. All students have been registered and will be ready to go in the coming weeks.

CONCERNS/ISSUES
If you have any concerns or any issues please do not hesitate to contact classroom teachers or Corey Warne or myself. Issues with other students need to be dealt with by the school. Under no circumstances do parents approach another student in relation to the child’s behaviour. The parent Code of Conduct can be accessed for further clarification.

SCHOOL VALUE - RESPECT
Our value for this fortnight is respect. What is respect? It is showing care, consideration and good manners towards others. It is about listening to others, obeying rules and instructions. Being polite and positive and allowing others to have a point of view and opinion. Please speak to your children about what it is and what does it look like in action.
CONGRATULATIONS
A huge congratulations to all staff for providing very engaging and calm learning environments for all students at Specimen Hill. Together we learn better!

Thank you for strengthening the home/school partnership in your child's learning journey.

Dates to Remember…
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 7th March to:

Rm. 1 - Ella T & Dillon B
Rm. 2 - Zach C
Rm. 3 - Liam T
Rm. 4 - Grace M
Rm. 5 - Indianna W
Rm. 6 - Macee F
Rm. 7 - Kayla R
Rm. 8 - Cassidy S & Zac C
Rm. 9 - Josh W
Rm. 10 - Brock R
Rm. 11 - Sophie J
Rm. 12 - Jake N
Rm. 13 - Audrey S

Phys. Ed. Award—Class—Room 1 (1/2G&Q)
Reading Awards - Ethan F, Jeremy W, Zane M, Trey A & Zara W
Art Award - Ebony W
BSC Award - Chloe W

Di Craig
(Acting Principal)

WELLBEING NEWS
HEAD LICE
How do I know if my Child has Headllice?
Many head lice infections cause no symptoms, and probably less than half cause itch. So you have to LOOK to find out if your child has head lice. Do not rely on itching and scratching.

However, finding live lice can be difficult since the climbers move away quickly from disturbances in the hair, and they are very difficult to see.

An easy way to find the climbers is to use the conditioner and nit comb technique:
1. Apply conditioner to dry hair aiming to cover each hair from root to tip with a layer of conditioner.
2. Detangle the hair using an ordinary comb.
3. Immediately comb the hair with a fine tooth comb. The best comb for this is a Lice Comb.
4. Wipe the conditioner off the fine tooth comb onto a paper tissue and look for lice and eggs.
5. Repeat the combing for every part of the head at least 5 times.
6. Also examine the comb for lice and eggs.

Your child's hair needs to be checked every week. If you find lice, your child's hair has to be treated. A complete regime consist of two treatments of 7 days apart, the first to kill the climbers, and the second to kill the juvenile lice hatched from the eggs over the intervening 6 days. A good strategy is to use the conditioner and fine tooth comb technique between treatments.

Speci Head Lice Parent Managed program took place today for some grades.

CLASS NEWS
Senior Department News
Further information about the Senior Camp should be sent home this week. Please return forms promptly so final organization can proceed. The camp management will require final numbers soon so please notify your child’s teacher if they are not attending camp.

Alwyn Davey and Paddy Ryder from Essendon Football Club operated a coaching clinic at Spec yesterday which was thoroughly enjoyed by all students involved. It was also a great opportunity for students to interact and learn from two successful role models.

The parent/teacher interviews held last week were helpful in establishing a contact between parents and class teachers and should enable ongoing communication to support the education of your child.

ICT Acceptable Use Information Sessions are completed and hopefully have caused us all to think carefully about internet communication and be on the "look-out" for potential misuse of this terrific resource.

5/6 News Team

Middle Department News
Thank you to all those parents who attended our ‘Get to Know You’ interviews. We found these interviews valuable and they provided us with additional information about your child which will assist us to work more effectively with them.

It is very pleasing to see most children undertaking at least twenty minutes of home reading every day. Please continue to maintain this routine. This is considered to be your child’s homework and helps to establish the habit of completing tasks outside of school.

A reminder that students require a labelled spoon and plate for the gardening program. Apple and rhubarb crumble is on next week’s menu. Children have/or will be sampling apples and rock melons that have been grown.
in the garden. The garden is really becoming a very productive space. 
Children bringing toys to school is becoming a real issue.
We are asking that they not be brought to school, as valuable learning time is being taken up with finding missing toys, children being distracted by them during class time and looking for toys that have been lost. Thank you for your cooperation.

Leah Backas, Lisa Maxwell, Wendy Jackson, Sandy Young and Hayden Polglase

Junior Department News

Prep
In the Prep room this week we are challenging ourselves with learning about shorter and taller. We are using our hands to measure ourselves and things in our room. Our word of the week is “IS” and the letters we are investigating are L and I. We have some children who have achieved their 25 Nights of Reading this week, congratulations. Don’t forget to listen to your child read every night. This creates a positive routine for your child and engages them in the wonder of books and reading.
When you pick your child up from school please ensure that they have packed their home readers, lunch box, drink bottle and jumpers into their bag. We do remind children several times and help some students but we are unable to check everyone’s bag each day.
Our specialist days are as follows:

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<td>Friday</td>
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Natalie & Kim

Grade 1/2
We are really pleased with the amount of reading children are doing at school and home. Keep up your great efforts. This week children will be bringing home spelling books. These books will have some words in them that children have had trouble with in their writing. Parents, could you please help your child to practise these words.
This week children will also be bringing home rule books. They explain some common rules and consequences. Could you please read through the rules and discuss them with your child before signing them and returning them to school.
Could you please take the time to name your child’s property. As mornings become cooler children often come to school with jumpers on and then remove them as the day gets warmer. Named jumpers can be easily returned to the owners.
Some children have been bringing their own pencils and textas to school. Even though children like to do this it is not necessary as we have sufficient. If children bring their own it is their responsibility to care for them.

Teresa, Jenny, Kylie, Julie, Jacqui & Hayden

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GENERAL NEWS

SWIMMING PROGRAM - Payment due (reminder)
Permission notes have gone home. Please note cost is $47 not $43 as per 2011 School Payment note (approximate cost).
Dates:
21st, 22nd, 23rd, 28th, 29th & 30th March.

BREAKFAST PROGRAM
Speci Healthy Breakfast program next Wednesday 16th March. 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

PREP-2 INCURSION - ‘A LITTLE BIT OF BLUE’ 15th March
Permission notes have been sent home. These need to be returned with $4 to the school office asap.

WINTER NETBALL – Expressions of Interest
This year Specimen Hill Primary School will be entering three teams into the Golden City Netball Association’s Winter Netball Competition. The school will be entering two 11/Under teams and one 13/Under team. School Netball is a great opportunity for students to develop their skills and knowledge within the sport of Netball. While co-operating with others in a team environment, students also develop new friendships with other students.

We are seeking expressions of interest from those who are interested in Coaching, Managing or Umpiring a team this season. We endeavour to fill these roles for each team in the next two weeks. Your ongoing support of school sport is greatly appreciated.

Could those interested in any of the above roles please contact me on 54 435353 or see me in person.

Yours sincerely
Hayden Polglase (PE Co-ordinator)

CANTEEN NEWS
NO AFTER LUNCH SALES EXCEPT FOR LUNCH ORDER DAYS—MONDAY AND FRIDAY.
Please note there will be Canteen on Friday ONLY next week as Monday is a holiday. No lunch orders on Tuesday.

We are still after helpers for the Canteen and After Lunch Sales. If you are able to volunteer please let the school office know or see Corey Warne.
LUNCH WALLET ORDERS
Pink wallets that have been ordered and should arrive this week.
We have ordered extra pink, blue and green wallets. These can be collected from the office upon payment of $7.00

EASTER RAFFLE
Could all families please donate an item for the Easter Raffle. Please bring them to school and leave them at the office.
If all families donate an item or 2 we will have a wonderful raffle.
With thanks
Home groups 10 & 11

UNIFORM SHOP
Please find a winter uniform order form enclosed with the newsletter. Please take the time to fill out and return if you require new winter uniform items. This will allow time to order what is required ready for the cooler weather.
Uniform Shop hours—8.30-12.30 Mon. & Tues. and all day Wed.

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.
Accounts went home last week, payment of your account would be appreciated. Fortnightly payment helps keep the amounts manageable.

Fri 11th Mar. - Raisin Toast & cordial / Balloon fun
Mon 14th Mar. - Holiday
Tues 15th Mar. - Fruit Platter picnic / Group games inside and free play on playground.
Wed 16th Mar. - Banana Splits / Craft: No Fire Clay

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

WANTED - WOODEN PLAYPEN
Playgroup is seeking the donation of a wooden playpen to keep our smaller children safe.
If you can help please contact Danielle Boulton on 0400 916 385

WORKING BEE
WANTED - Willing workers.
WHEN - Sunday 20th March
10am-1pm
WHERE - Speci playground/oval/gardens
WHY - Because our school needs a bit of a tidy and if lots of mums and dads and kids come to help it will look even better.
The Physical Environment Committee will be providing morning tea, pizza lunch and refreshments.
Lucky raffle tickets will be circulating too.
PLEASE COME AND SUPPORT YOUR CHILD’S LEARNING ENVIRONMENT.

TUPPERWARE PARTY AT SPECI PLAYGROUP
Thursday 17th March from 10:15-11:30am.
All welcome!!!!
Come for a browse at the Autumn/Winter Collection.
Hostess Gift will be used to raise funds for playgroup at a later date.

SPECI PLAYGROUP
Playgroup is an educational, fun and interactive experience for children and parents/carers.
Playgroup is open to all children under school age. 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.
Time: 9am to 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.

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

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

Welcome back to Hookin2Hockey, 2011!
We are once again conducting Hookin2Hockey in Term 2 and Term 3 this year. And some of you may be participating in Hockey Victoria's school roadshow this week!
TERM 2 dates: Sat 30th April to Sat 4th June
TERM 3 dates: Sat 23rd July to Sat 27th Aug

EXCITING NEWS: For those of you who are coming back and are ready for it, we are extending the H2H program to offer smaller-format hockey games ("U9/U11") on the wet pitch - these will run concurrently with the H2H program. Selections to these games will be based on a combination of age & skill, as selected on the days and as we progress. This provides the "next step". Coaches & team shirts will be provided by us each week. Also, we're hoping some of our parents might get involved as "managers/helpers".

REGISTRATIONS ARE NOW BEING TAKE ON-LINE IN 2011.....

(Option A) If your child has all the gear and does not need anything else, the cost will be $30 (registration fee only) for each Term of 6 weeks.
Register here now ....https://reg.sportingpulse.com/v5/regoform.cgi?aiD=3090&formID=12712

(Option B) If you are looking to purchase more gear for your child (full pack=$35 with stick, shinpads, t-shirt etc) OR they want a new t-shirt+goal for $25, these are on top of the min $30 registration fee.
You'll need to register here for Option B.... https://reg.sportingpulse.com/v5/regoform.cgi?aiD=16596&formID=12237

Should you have any questions about registration or the programs, please call me or email me on hcv.hin2hi@gmail.com (we are changing from yahoo to gmail over the next few weeks).
I look forward to seeing your children return to hockey again this year and having more fun!
Kerri Wellman  H2H Coordinator  Ph. 5449 3527