Dear Parents,

**SOLAR POWER SUCCESS!**
We have just been notified today that we have been successful in our second application for funding our new School Solar Power System. Now we have State Government Funding and Federal Government Funding we will be able to put in a 6.3KW solar power system.

We hope to see installation starting soon!
More details about this project as I confirm dates.
Stay tuned!

**VISIT TO ICT RICH SCHOOL**
I was able to visit Silverton Primary School in Melbourne yesterday to look at the ways they are integrating Information Communication Technology (ICT) into their school.

The school has flexible learning spaces and a lot of ICT resources. I was glad to see that their school resources were not a lot different to ours although they do have a community radio station (2km radius) and another small room set up for filming (TV room). These areas were advanced but their philosophy of using the ICT equipment at the point of need is the same as ours.

We are working towards the increased use of ICT in teaching and learning but having staff and students use it as the need arises.
This will be the way the Year 5/6 staff and students will be encouraged to use their new netbooks.
The netbooks have arrived at the school and are nearly ready to go into the classrooms.

**Dates to Remember…**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sat 14 Mar</td>
<td>Working Bee (9am—12:30pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 16 Mar</td>
<td>Parents &amp; Friends AGM (2:15pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 16 Mar</td>
<td>Artist in Residence project begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 19 Mar</td>
<td>Leadership Investiture 2.15pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 23 Mar</td>
<td>Annual Reporting meeting-6:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 23 Mar</td>
<td>School Council meeting (7:00pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 24 Mar</td>
<td>Arts Incursion- whole school</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 3 April</td>
<td>Last day Term 1—2:15pm finish</td>
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**STARS OF THE WEEK**
Stars of the Week awards will be presented next Monday 16th March.

**PARENTS & FRIENDS AGM—2009 - reminder**
The Parents & Friends AGM will be held on Monday 16 March at 2:15pm. Please come along and contribute to this active group who support school wellbeing programs such as: Play group, School Canteen & Parent managed Head Lice program. They also support our school fundraising efforts, organise our school photos each year as well as many other school programs. They help us welcome new families into the school. Help them support your child / children!

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**
Anyone who has never made a mistake has never tried anything new. Albert Einstein

Doug Jones
Principal

**LEADERSHIP INVESTITURE**
Last week it was advertised that the School Leadership Investiture would be held this Thursday 12th March. Unfortunately this will need to be postponed until the following Thursday 19th March at 2.15pm.
Sorry about any inconvenience.

**ATTENTION**
There were 2 EFTPOS payments made on 18th Feb. that did not go through due to ‘no dial tone’. They were both for uniforms for the amounts of $40.00 and $89.00. It would be appreciated if those concerned could come into the office to have these payments re-entered. I apologise for any inconvenience caused.

Val Quinlan
BEP - Bendigo Education Plan communication strategy for 2009

I would like to take this opportunity to bring parents up-to-date with the Bendigo Education Plan project to construct four new state-of-the-art secondary schools in Bendigo. These new secondary colleges are part of the Victorian government’s Victorian Schools Plan which will fund the rebuilding, renovation or extension of every government school across the state.

The design of our new secondary schools will result in modern educational facilities that support a wide variety of teaching and learning approaches. A key feature of the designs is the creation of learning communities and neighbourhood areas that will provide a ‘home base’ for students. Within these areas, small teams of teachers will provide the academic, wellbeing and mentoring support for students in their care.

Each learning neighbourhood will include studio classrooms for up to 25 students, work spaces for small groups, art/science studios and a link to specialist areas for Design and Technology Studies, Health and Physical Education and Performing Arts. The neighbourhood design will encourage students and teachers to work with their peers and with each other in many different ways: one-on-one, in teams, in small groups, in studio (traditional-style) classrooms, in breakout spaces and in open areas.

Each school will have a Multi Media Centre, Global Learning Centre, student café and canteen, terraces that link learning to the outdoors and extensive use of information and communication technologies.

Site activities are now underway at all four schools and passers-by will note that the construction programs are well advanced at both the Eaglehawk and Crusoe College sites.

Eaglehawk Secondary College expects to move into the first of its new Learning Communities in August, while staff and students at Crusoe College will move into their new buildings in Term 1, 2010.

Stage one building activities recently began at Weeroona College and involve the construction of two learning communities and a performance building. Bendigo South East College has also started stage one of its construction program. Students and staff at Weeroona College and Bendigo South East expect to occupy the first of these new buildings in Term 1, 2010.

The construction of these new schools is an exciting project that will transform secondary schooling in Bendigo. To keep up-to-date with developments, look out for community/shopping centre displays and school-based information sessions that will be held as the construction programs progress at your local secondary college, or call the Loddon Mallee Regional Office of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development on (03) 5440 3111.

Regards
Rob
Rob Hallisey
Project Director
Bendigo Education Plan

Our children’s future in the very best of

JUNIOR SCHOOL COUNCIL

The Junior School Council had their first meeting for 2009 on Tuesday. Office bearers were elected and are as follows:

Semester 1.

- President - Jess S.
- Vice President - Jake S.
- Secretary - Karley S
- Treasurers - Amy P [1]
- [2]
- Cassandra M [3]

The Council then discussed some future activities to be held. It was decided that the Council wished to raise money for the purchase of play equipment for the sandpit so an Out of Uniform Day is planned and will be held on Friday 20th March. Cost: Gold Coin donation. The theme is colours. Class reps have nominated the following colours for their class -

- Prep G and Prep Q - Rainbow colours
- Prep/1 - Blue 1/2H - White
- 1/2MY - Green 1/25C - Red
- 3/4C - Yellow 3/4J - Rainbow
- 3/4B - Pink 3/4G - Stripes
- 5/6B - Purple 5/6M - Dark Blue
- 5/6S - Black

WELLBEING NEWS

Referral Forms

At different times throughout a child’s schooling there may be the necessity or opportunity for a child to receive extra support in a particular area eg. Speech Pathology.

Before any child can receive support by a visiting specialist a Referral Form must be completed and signed by the child’s parent/guardian and returned to school.

If your child has brought home a referral form can you please complete it and return it to school as soon as possible.

Try to answer all questions with as much information as possible so that we can get a clear picture of your child’s development and the intervention required.

If you have any concerns about the referral forms please don’t hesitate to contact me - Di Craig on 5443 5353.

Di Craig, Assistant Principal
CLASS NEWS

JUNIOR NEWS
We have been noticing the healthy lunches the children have been bringing to school. It is great to see such variety in their lunch boxes. It is important for their growth, physical energy and mental stimulation.

Reading every night is essential for the children. It is a great opportunity to share some special time with your child. Chat about the book before and after you read it. If your child is struggling with a book which they have brought home, read it to them or with them, and then chat with the teacher about the book.

When referral forms are sent home for your child to attend services to assist them with their learning it is vital that these are signed and returned promptly. If you have any questions about the referral please contact the class teacher or Ms Craig.

Parent helpers are always highly sought after and valued immensely. If you are able to assist in any way your child’s teacher will be forever grateful.

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

SENIOR NEWS
Grade 3/4
Students are enjoying the fruits of their labour this week. Throughout the next week students will be making pancakes with the eggs that the hens have produced. Hopefully, as the program develops, students will have more opportunities to be involved in food preparation as well as tasting foods made from the produce.

Just a reminder to return the notes and payment for the upcoming incursion. Students can become very distressed if they miss out on the performance. We cannot ring on the day for your permission etc, as you would appreciate.

Our Integrated Unit is focusing on studying different areas in Victoria. The students will be asked to make a judgement on where and why they would recommend others to live in a certain place. As part of assisting students to make this judgement, we are looking at the reasons we live in Bendigo. It would be appreciated if you could add further information to the concept map that students have begun to complete. Thanking you for your assistance with this matter.

Thankyou,
Judy, Natalie, Craig and Wendy

Grade 5/6
Camp is approaching soon so could all payments please be payed ASAP. This is a great experience for your children and it would be a shame if they missed out on this opportunity.

The Netbook’s have arrived and will be delivered to the 5/6 classes soon.

If you haven’t paid your lease for the Netbooks please pay it ASAP. This will be a great opportunity for children to enhance their learning.

The JSC representatives and the school captains will be presented with their badge on Thursday the 19th of March starting at 2:15pm in the Multi purpose room. Parents and Friends are welcome to stay for afternoon tea after the ceremony.

Thank You
5/6 News Team

LIBRARY
All Grades 1 & 2 have library lessons on Fridays. Reminder all children require a library bag. I have some available for $2.

Thanks
Sandy Young

PE NEWS
Netball
Teams will go home on Friday

Swimming Dates - 1st & 3rd week in Term 2
Tuesday 21st, Thursday 23rd & Friday 24th April
Tuesday 5th, Thursday 7th & Friday 8th May

Corey Warne

PERFORMING ARTS
We are very excited about Cosentino visiting in a couple of weeks. Please make sure you get the permission notice and payment in on time.

Julian Regan

SCHOOL PHOTOS
Our school photos will be taken on the first day of term 2.
Cost will be between $16 and $33. There are 6 different options to choose from. Envelopes/forms have gone home with the newsletter today.
Family envelopes are available from the office. Payment will need to be made, with correct money in envelopes supplied, on or before the photo day.

CHOCOLATE/EASTER FUNDRAISER
Cadbury have donated a basket/hamper of chocolate towards our 2009 fundraiser which is to be run by 1/2MY and Prep 1/B. If parents are interested in providing some help please see classroom teachers or Kylie Sonter.
We are now accepting donations of Easter eggs/chocolates. These can be left on the front table/office. The more donations we receive the more prizes there will be.
We are also requiring baskets to put the chocolates in. Raffle books will go home this Friday. Tickets are 50c each or 3 for $1.
LINEN RAFFLE - reminder
A quilt cover (on display at the school office) is being raffled with proceeds going to Specimen Hill PS fire victims. Tickets are 50c each or 3 for $1 available from the office.

GARDEN GROUPS - DONATIONS
The Grade 3/4 Garden Groups are looking for donations of—2nd hand timber, straw, cow/sheep/horse manure, wire mesh, reinforced mesh.

WORKING BEE—reminder
Our first (and hopefully only) Working Bee for the year will be held on Saturday 14th March from 9am-12.30pm. We look forward to your help with a variety of jobs even if only for an hour or two.

BOOKCLUB - reminder
Could all orders for Book Club issue 2 be back at school by Tuesday 17th March. Please seal ends of envelopes so money doesn't escape. Please fill in order forms carefully as subscription orders need a special coupon completed to order that item.
Thank you
Sandy

2008 GRADE 6 GRADUATION DVD’S
DVD’s are available from the office.

LOST PROPERTY
A reminder that our lost property is collected and left in the Multi Purpose room.
Please check names on your child’s clothing regularly. It is very easy to pick up a wrong item of uniform without realizing it.

SCHOOL PAYMENTS - Eftpos
Eftpos is available at the school office. A charge of 1.46% will be added for any credit transactions.

SCHOOL WEB SITE
Web site is up and running again.
You can access school newsletters, permission notes, calendar of events and other information on our web site at http://www.shps1316.vic.edu.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.
Please note that ASC is fully booked on Fridays unless a permanent booking cancels.

Program:
12th Mar. - Saladas / Group Games
13th Mar. - Chips/ Movie
16th Mar. - Sandwiches / Free Play
17th Mar. - Fruit & Yoghurt / Craft: My Paper Bag House
18th Mar. - Biscuits & Dip / Playground Fun

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

COMMUNITY NOTICES
KIDS COOKING CLASSES
Kids Cooking Classes in the School Holidays at the Schweppes Centre.
Registration form available school or Bendigo Stadium Training & Assessment, Cnr. Marong & Inglis Street. Or phone 5440 6246 or visit www.schweppescentre.com.au for more information.

YMCA Holiday Program
Bookings will now be taken at: B Central in Mundy Street, Bendigo 5441 8200.
Look at www.bendigo.ymca.org.au to view the brochure for activities available.

Our children’s future in the very best of
VSL (Victorian School of Languages)
Opening Term 1 2009 - a new VSL language centre at Bendigo South East College, Curtin Street, Bendigo
Visit www.vsl.vic.edu.au for more information.

DANCE FOR DIVERSITY
Explore Korean and Indonesia dance and costume at the Gallery, 42 View Street, Bendigo.
Workshop for adults and families 5-6.30pm 18th March.

MICROSOFT OFFICE
Save at least 75% on specially priced software for Government school students to use at home.