Dear Parents and Friends,

Welcome to the first week of term 2. Hopefully everyone has had an enjoyable holiday break and are ready for the business of Term 2.

**Mr Warne has moved to White Hills PS for Term 2**

Over the holidays Mr Warne was selected to fill the Acting Assistant Principal at White Hills PS for term 2. White Hills is a very large school and Mr Warne has gone over to share his level of expertise and skills as well as to experience a different school setting which is always a great experience. We wish him well at White Hills and look forward to him returning in Term 3.

Mrs Jackson will be Acting Assistant Principal at Specimen Hill for Term 2. All students are very familiar with Wendy as she has acted in the Principal or assistant Principal role in the past which demonstrates her skills and flexibility so the Wellbeing program should continue as normal.

**Holiday Reading**

I have to congratulate all students and families on the fabulous work in maintaining the reading routines over the holidays. At Assembly on Monday about 80% of students indicated that they maintained at least 5 nights per week reading over the holidays. This is fabulous to see. It is the wonderful support and the high expectations by parents and the strong home school partnership that has enabled the huge improvement in reading progress across the school.

**Reminders**

On Friday the Junior School Council members will attend a Student Leadership Day in Bendigo. Notices will be handed out today and need to be returned ASAP.

Parents and Friends meeting on Friday at 2.15.

ANZAC Service will be held at school on Friday 22nd April at 9.10. All parents welcome to attend.

**ANZAC Day holiday will be on Monday 25th April.**

Prep to 2 Gym Program will be held every Thursday, until Thursday 12th May. Could all students be prepared with shorts/track pants rather than any dresses on the day please.

The canteen will be open from Monday 18th April and it will NOT be open this Friday as earlier advertised.

**Parking around the school**

Parking around schools is always a concern as the number of spaces is always so limited. Before the end of last term the Parking Inspector did randomly visit the school at the end of the school day. Unfortunately some families were fined for illegally parking. I usually inform families if spot checks are being made although random checks will be occurring on a regular basis. If you are parked in a non parking zone it is your responsibility to address this. Seek out alternative pick up points for children. The school has other exit / entry points in surrounding streets.

**Food Hampers**

The school has access to food from the Bendigo Food bank as well as the Parents and Friends group who provide nutritious meals from their regular cook ups. Each fortnight Food Hampers will be made available to families in our community on a needs basis. If you would like to be included on the list can you please contact Wendy Jackson, Bernadette or myself. If you have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact Wendy or myself.

Have a wonderful week ahead.

Di Craig, Principal
SENIOR CLASSES
Welcome to Term 2! We hope that your holidays were relaxing and enjoyable. We are set for a very busy term with many activities planned such as Melbourne Museum Excursion, NAPLAN, Personal Development, Cyber Safety Presentation, Cross Country, Team China trip, Science Day, Divisional Hockey – Just to name a few!
We are currently working on ANZAC Day themed activities during Integrated Studies and will move into our “Exploring Our Own Backyard” topic a little later in the term, which focuses on geographical and cultural aspects of Bendigo and Australia. In Writing, we are developing our Narrative writing skills, in Reading we are practising locating information within a text and in Numeracy we are covering number lines, positive and negative numbers and reading 12 and 24 hour time.
Homework will begin again this Thursday. Please ensure that you assist your child in completing their homework and working with them to establish a homework routine that fits around your family’s schedule. Homework is due every Thursday and students will be expected to finish incomplete homework either at lunchtime or during Fun Friday activities. Students should be reading every night and filling in their diaries to track their reading progress.
Please return your child’s Personal Development forms to their classroom teacher ASAP.
Bec, Sophie, Scott

MIDDLE CLASSES
Welcome back to students and parents for Term Two. It is wonderful to see students coming back to school refreshed and rejuvenated. All students have made a calm and settled start to the term. We look forward to the great effort and behaviour continuing throughout the term.
Hats - Term Two is a non-compulsory term for hats. However, early on in the term we can still have the odd day that is warmer and would therefore recommend parents to consider this when deciding whether their child should bring a hat to school. Sunscreen and water bottles are still highly encouraged, especially early on in the term.
Home Reading and Homework - Students have been given the first week to settle back into school before they receive their first homework sheet and spelling list. Students are still encouraged to read at least five nights each week. Homework and spelling lists will be handed out this Friday and every Friday thereafter. Students who do not submit their completed homework by the following Friday will be required to attend Homework Club on a Friday lunch time to finish off.
Breakfast and Lunch - Students attending school have growing bodies and developing minds. We therefore need to ensure that we are giving them the best possible opportunity to achieve success at school, by providing them with a nutritious start to the day with an adequate breakfast. It is also important that students are coming with a packed lunch and water bottle to enable them to sustain their energy and concentration throughout the day. Students who are well nourished will be able to work to their full capacity and achieve great things.
Thank you for your ongoing support. We look forward to seeing you throughout the term.
Hayden Polglase, Julian Regan, Kim Manley, Adam Tanner

JUNIOR CLASSES
It was great to see everybody again after the term one break. We were impressed with those children who read throughout the holidays. Well done. Reading is like any other skill. The more you practise the better your skills become.
This term will be another busy one. We are learning about plants in Integrated Studies. This week we begin our gym sessions. Children need to wear shorts or track pants. Long hair needs to be tied back and earrings need to be left at home or taped over. Other jewellery is not to be worn at the gym.
Please put names on jumpers and jackets. At this time of the year with cold mornings and warm afternoons many children remove their jumpers during the day and they can get mislaid.
Brad, Jacqui, Felicity, Kylie and Jen.

PREP NEWS
Congratulations to all the Grade Preps for an excellent start to Term 2! We enjoyed listening to all the children share highlights from their holidays and it was fantastic to see that most children kept up their nightly reading over the holiday break. As a result many students have achieved the 50 night reading milestone which is wonderful to see.
We have an exciting term ahead with the 5 week Gym Program starting this week. Parents are reminded that students are not to wear any jewellery or denim for safety reasons. Students need to wear track pants or shorts, along with normal fitting jumpers and hair must be tied back. This will ensure that students are comfortable and able to move freely when participating in different activities. The gym session times are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gym Program</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep L &amp; Prep P</td>
<td>10:30 – 11:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep/1 O &amp; 1/2S</td>
<td>11:30 – 12:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2BG &amp; 1/2A</td>
<td>12:30 – 1:30</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

This week the children have been practising their letter formation for the letters Ss and Mm. Our word of the week is ‘in’ and students have been challenged to find these letters and all the words we have been learning during Independent Reading. The words that students have learnt so far this year include: go, to, I, and, can, the, and like. Children are also encouraged to record these words correctly in their writing as well as record the dominant sounds in words by applying their knowledge of the letter sounds. In Numeracy, we have been focusing on ordinal numbers and 2D shapes. During the week students have also shared their prior knowledge on our integrated topic ‘Plants’ and they are looking forward to planting their own seeds and watching them grow throughout the term.

Reminders:
- All notes should be dropped at the Office - not the classroom teacher
- Thursdays – Nude Food Day
- Breakfast Program on Wednesday mornings (starts again next week)
- Gym Program starts on Thursday 14th April - 5 week program
The Grade Prep teachers would like to thank all the parents who have volunteered their time to assist with the Reading Program. This support is greatly appreciated and the children really enjoy your involvement. If you are interested in being a parent helper please see your child’s classroom teacher.
Courtney Lawrence, Emily Jacobs and Jacqui O’Shea

MUSIC! MUSIC! MUSIC!
All classes will be studying famous music composers this term. Ludwig van Beethoven is the first. Our studies will involve all the ELEMENTS of music. Students will be asked to create/compose their own music using the Garage Band app on the iPads. This will be completed in music lessons at school. Students will present and share their compositions with their class.

CHOIR: Both choirs will be meeting this week for practice in the music room.
Junior Choir will meet on Monday and Senior Choir will meet on Thursday.
Music quote for this week is “KEEP CALM and SING A SONG”
Stay Tuned

Jordan Mullen

STARS OF THE WEEK & VALUES AWARDS 11 April

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room 7</th>
<th>Star</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Room 8</td>
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<td>Room 9</td>
<td>Olive D.</td>
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<td>Room 10</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Room 11</td>
<td></td>
<td>Daniel H.</td>
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Our children’s future in the very best of hands.................
Space Racing

At the end of last term many children from Grade 3-6 took notes home about Space Racing.

We are hoping to have numbers for at least one school team. There will be an opportunity for children to come and try it next Tuesday 19th April at 4.00 at the Kangaroo Flat Gardens in Camp Street.

Fruit and a drink will be provided so you can go straight from school. Competition finishes at 5.00.

From Bendigo turn left at the traffic lights near Aldi and continue to the park. If you have any questions or need a note please see Ms Ball - Room 5.

Team China Fundraiser Dinner

Tuesday 26th April @ 6pm
Bendigo Sports Centre

A portion of all meals purchased goes towards the students from Speci to help subsidise the cost of their trip.

We would love to see the school community support this event, bring the whole family!

RSVP: no later than Tuesday the 19th

Gym Program starts Thurs!

Please ensure you have returned a signed permission note for the Gym program for Grades Prep - 2. Dress & skirts are not permitted for Gym sessions, earrings must be taped or removed.

Have you lost some glasses??
Do they belong to your child??
These children's frames have been left at the office since last term.

School Camp (Gr 3/4)

School Camp will be held in the middle of Term Four this year. The school will provide a three-step payment of $80 per term, beginning next term. If families are wishing to pay the full amount, they may do so at the beginning of Term Two, however all families will need to pay a deposit of $80 at this time.

Families will NOT be able to pay the full amount in Term Four.

Please come and join our walking school bus this Thursday! The bus will leave at 8.30am from three locations:
1. School crossing on Specimen Hill Road.
2. School crossing at Schweppes Centre
3. The corner of Maple and Chum streets. We also pick up along the way!

Come and join the fun, see you on Thursday.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2016</th>
<th>EVENTS CALENDAR</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| Thrs 14th April | Prep 2 Gym Program  
Please return forms before end of Term |
| Fri 15th | Parents & Friends Meeting  
Staff Room - 2:30pm |
| Fri 22nd | Grades 3-6 Cross Country |
| Mon 25th | ANZAC DAY  
PUBLIC HOLIDAY |
| Tues 26th April | TEAM CHINA FUNDRAISER  
SPORTS CENTRE DINNER |
| Wed 4th May | SCHOOL PHOTO DAY  
Envelopes have been sent home |

**BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE**

Please pay account fortnightly. Balances should not exceed $100.

Absences not notified will be charged. Staff are employed according to numbers booked. If your child is going to be absent please advise by texting the numbers below.

- BSC - Karen - 0438 062 561
- ASC - Leah - 0447 788 636

**SCHOOL TERMS 2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TERM</th>
<th>DATES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TERM ONE</td>
<td>28 JAN - 24 MAR</td>
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<tr>
<td>TERM TWO</td>
<td>11 APR - 24 JUN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TERM THREE</td>
<td>11 JUL - 16 SEPT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TERM FOUR</td>
<td>3 OCT - 20 DEC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Messy Action for Kids and Parents**

- Multiple messy activities
- Parents can join in or enjoy a cuppa
- Brief quiet time together prior to meal
- Communal meal provided
- Positive, caring place for all ages

Bring a parent - gold coin donation. This Friday 5pm to 6.30pm Uniting Church Chun St cnr Maple
Golden Square

**PAY SCHOOL FEES BY MAY 30TH**

To be eligible for a $100 Canteen voucher

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**SCHOOL VALUES:** Resilience, Excellence, Persistence, Honesty & Respect

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**Get your smiles ready it's...**

**School Photo Day**

**4th MAY 2016**

**Family Package**

Envelopes available

**UNIFORM SHOP**

MON-WED

Place your order via the OKR payment app and the item will be sent home with your child.

Rugby Jumper? Jacket? For Term 2

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**SCHOOL PHOTO ZONE**

**TURNING ONLY**

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**Messy Netball**

A different way to play

We have a FREE Rock Up Netball session starting on Friday 29th April 10.00-11.00am at Bendigo Stadium. The sessions are a different way to play netball, in a fun and relaxed environment, targeting women aged 15+ to increase activity levels and provide a social atmosphere. If you are new to the sport, looking to return, or simply would like more netball in your life, these sessions are for you!

Register at: https://rockupnetball.com.au/events/view/150

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**Event:** Simply Messy! Simply Fun!

**To be eligible for a $100 Canteen voucher**