Dear Parents, Students and Friends,

I am writing this newsletter in the place of Di Craig who is absent this week due to illness. It is a busy week and Mrs Craig is disappointed that she cannot be present.

SCIENCE DAY - Yesterday we held a Science day with all students involved in multi-age groups. This is a great way for students to get to know others outside of their age group as well as participating in lots of exciting and engaging tasks. Thank you to Kim Manley and the Science team for all of their hard work in organising, yet again, a successful day.

OPEN DAY - Once again a vibrant and exciting day. We enjoy showing our school off to the community and potential families. There is much to celebrate at Speci with students wonderful achievements in many areas. Many families considering Speci for their child have passed on that they have heard many good reports about the school. This is very pleasing and acknowledges the hard work of all staff and our commitment to continual improvement.

MATHS MADNESS WEEK - Miss Lawrence has led the Maths team in planning engaging lessons for the day. The Chicken Plop being one of the most popular. A wonderful student performance today showcased our guitar group, the senior and junior choir, Chinese group and the Circus Troupe. These programs add a lot of colour and interest to student programs and help to make Speci the unique school that it is.

NAPLAN - Our Year 3 and 5 students completed their NAPLAN tests last week. The teachers and students involved are to be congratulated on their preparation for the tests and the mature way in which students undertook these tests. We are sure that students were given every opportunity to do their best on the day. Results of these tests are not received by the school until the end of term 3.

COMMUNITY COOKING - I would like to acknowledge Belinda Seymour, Renee Brew and Joyce Lee for the wonderful contribution they make to our school. Yesterday they cooked meals that have now been frozen for families in crisis. Thank you ladies. Your efforts are greatly appreciated and I am sure families will be very grateful.

JUNIOR SCHOOL COUNCIL - The Junior School Council are doing a wonderful job in organising engaging events for the whole school. With a talent quest organised for later in the term, and an Act of Kindness day that will go towards supporting our Hamper program. The Resilience group are working with Mr Polglase on promoting fitness and health throughout the school. Well done to all students involved.

CYBER SAFETY EVENING - I would encourage all parents to take advantage of tonight’s cyber safety session. This session is open to parents only, but child minding is available in the library. There are many perils for young people engaging in social media and the better educated that teachers, parents and students are, the more likely it is that the pitfalls of this media can be avoided. A small pizza snack will be provided after the session which will be held in Room 13. Today students in Year 5 and 6 participated in a session ran by the presenter, Tracey Porter.

A reminder from the office staff that school fees are now due. All families who have paid their fees by the 30th of May will be eligible to go into a draw for a $100 canteen voucher.

Wendy Jackson
(Acting Assistant Principal)
SENIOR CLASSES
What a busy week it has been! It was fantastic to see so many students inspired by the Science Day yesterday. Many of the Grade 5/6 students participated in the Open Day assembly this morning. We have many talented musicians, singers and circus performers throughout our classrooms! Congratulations to the JSC reps for providing tours around the school for the parents and families that attended our open day today.

In the last hour today, we had a visit from Tracy Porter who presented to us about the importance of Cyber Safety. Her presentations are fantastic. We HIGHLY encourage ALL families to attend the session at 5pm tonight.

Please ensure you are assisting your child to develop their homework routine. Their Speci diaries are a great tool to assist with this.

Personal Development sessions begin this Friday. Please remind your child about the expectations regarding these sessions.

Bec, Sophie, Scott

MIDDLE CLASSES
Wow another busy and exciting week for the 3/4 grades. Science day allowed everyone to make discoveries and experiment in a wide range of interesting topics, including bubbles, surface tension boats and catapults. It has been wonderful to see all students taking an active role in their personal learning and having fun.

Camp payment - First camp payments should have been made to the office allowing the camp numbers to be finalised. If you have any concerns please come and speak to your child’s teacher about them ASAP. Thank you to all those who have done this.

Excursion - Tomorrow (Thursday) we are off on our Remember Bendigo excursion. Please make sure that your child is in full school uniform, has suitable walking shoes, a jumper/rain jacket for warmth, drink bottle and a healthy packed lunch and snacks. We are leaving school promptly at 9am and need everyone to be on time.

Home Reading and Homework - Students are required to read at least five nights each week, this is an expectation of their weekly homework program. Homework and spelling lists will be handed out on Friday’s, giving all students 7 days to complete the sheet. 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, this is to encourage independence and organisational skills on the students part.

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.

Hayden Polglase, Julian Regan, Kim Manley, Adam Tanner, Judy Garwood

JUNIOR CLASSES
We are already half way through the term and we have had a very busy time with Education Week activities.. We had our Science Day yesterday. Children went to three different activities with children from other classes. These activities included floating and sinking, optical illusions and making sherbet. Today was Open day, featuring Numeracy. Our main activity involved grouping in arrays. It was based on the story of 100 ants who walked in different arrays. This week we start our mini beast unit in Integrated Studies. We are looking forward to the incursion tomorrow.

Congratulations to Ms Burman’s class who received the Nude Food award. Congratulations also to those children who received school value certificates. This month we are focusing on persistence and never giving up.

Some children have not brought Communication books back yet so could this be done asap. Have a great week.

Brad, Jacqui, Felicity, Kylie and Jen.

PREP NEWS
This week we have celebrated Education Week at Speci Hill. The students have thoroughly enjoyed getting involved in plenty of maths activities and games throughout the week and we all especially enjoyed having our loved ones visit for the open morning. A very big thank you to all those who attended!

On Tuesday it was Science Day. The Grade Preploved visiting some different classrooms and taking part in various science experiments. It was a great opportunity for them to also mix with other children and meet other teachers at Speci. We learnt a lot and had fun in doing so!

At the moment we are learning about mini beasts and we are all very excited about the Mini Beast Incursion that is happening this Thursday.

The prep teachers are very proud of the learning that is continuing to happen this term. We have seen so much growth in the students already and we are extremely proud of all their achievements to date. We hope that the prep families enjoyed viewing their child’s communication book/folder. Thank you to those families who have returned the book/folder with a comment. It is much appreciated as the students have been producing some excellent pieces of work that would be a great addition to their books/folders.

Reminders:
Mini Beast Incursion Thursday 19th May
Each Thursday is Nude Food Day (no packaging please)
Don’t forget to pack some fruit or vegetables in your child’s lunchbox for our brain food break at 10am each morning.
Please ensure that children come to school with sufficient lunch such as a sandwich.
Children are not permitted to play with toys from home at school so please do not send children to school with them unless they are for ‘Share in the Chair’.

Courtney Lawrence, Emily Jacobs and Jacqui O’Shea

MUSIC WEEKLY MELODIES
JUNIOR AND SENIOR CHOIRS- Thanks you to the both choirs for their enthusiastic performance today for Open Day. Also many thanks to the families who supported them by coming along to listen to the concert.

CLASSICAL INSTRUMENTS: This week we are looking at the four families of instruments in an orchestra. The Brass, Percussion, Woodwind and the String families.

Music is Fun Band will be visiting next term.

Music TASK this week is - In which family in the orchestra is the Double Bass?

Stayed tuned.

Joan Mullen

DIVISIONAL CROSS COUNTRY
Congratulations to all of the students who participated in the in Divisional Cross Country last Friday 13th.

Good weather for a change for the event with all students representing Specimen Hill performing & behaving well. Thank you to the parents who came along and supported the students at this event.
2016 PREMIERS READING CHALLENGE

Reading is both a wonderful relaxation and learning pastime to undertake. As we are about to start the 2016 Premiers Reading Challenge at Speci, it would be fabulous to see as many students as possible taking part. If your child wishes to participate in this please ask them to collect a consent form from their classroom teacher to fill in and return to the office ASAP.

STARS OF THE WEEK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room 1</th>
<th>Room 2</th>
<th>Room 4</th>
<th>Room 5</th>
<th>Room 6</th>
<th>Room 7</th>
<th>Room 8</th>
<th>Room 9</th>
<th>Room 10</th>
<th>Room 11</th>
<th>Room 12</th>
<th>Room 13</th>
<th>Nude Food</th>
<th>Music</th>
<th>Reading Recovery</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

16 May

Dear Parents and Carers.

The weather has turned very cold and I have noticed many students have inadequate clothing. Please ensure that your child arrives at school with adequate warm clothing, including socks with shoes. I would also encourage you to make sure that it is labelled clearly with your child’s name. If the jacket or jumper is labelled it can be immediately returned to the student who owns it. If you are finding it difficult to fit your child out in their uniform please see the office. There are ways we can assist.

The Head Lice Management has begun. If you have been notified that your child has live lice or eggs could you please ensure you follow up and treat them accordingly. One untreated head can lead to a major break out in a classroom. Only junior classes were checked yesterday due to NAPLAN taking place in the senior department. If parents of senior students could check their child’s head it would be appreciated. We are receiving reports of cases of nits across the school.

Wendy Jackson
Acting Assistant Principal

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, continue along Chum and up Henderson Street.

We also pick up along the way!

Come and join the fun, see you on Thursday

WINTER WARMTH

Dear Parents and Carers.

The weather has turned very cold and I have noticed many students have inadequate clothing. Please ensure that your child arrives at school with adequate warm clothing, including socks with shoes. I would also encourage you to make sure that it is labelled clearly with your child’s name. If the jacket or jumper is labelled it can be immediately returned to the student who owns it. If you are finding it difficult to fit your child out in their uniform please see the office. There are ways we can assist.

The Head Lice Management has begun. If you have been notified that your child has live lice or eggs could you please ensure you follow up and treat them accordingly. One untreated head can lead to a major break out in a classroom. Only junior classes were checked yesterday due to NAPLAN taking place in the senior department. If parents of senior students could check their child’s head it would be appreciated. We are receiving reports of cases of nits across the school.

Wendy Jackson
Acting Assistant Principal
## Term Two 2016

### Canteen - Mondays and Fridays

Salad – lettuce, cheese, carrot, tomato, cucumber, mayo

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Roll</th>
<th>½ Wrap</th>
<th>Full Wrap</th>
<th>Sandwich</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chicken and salad</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ham and salad</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egg head (Egg, lettuce, mayo)</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegemite</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheese</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Mega Salads
- BBQ Meatballs and salad
  - $5.00
- Chicken and salad
  - $5.00
- Fish Bites and salad
  - $5.00

### Hot Stuff
- Nachos: Meaty sauce, salsa and cheese
  - $4.00
- Twista pasta bolognaise & grated cheese
  - Small: $2.00, Large: $4.00
- Mini Ham and cheese pizza
  - $2.00
- Mini BBQ chicken pizza
  - $2.00
- Steamed dim-sims
  - $0.60 each

### Toasties
- Cheese and ham
  - $2.50
- Ham and tomato
  - $2.50
- Cheese
  - $2.20

### Drinks
- Flavoured Milk – Choc, strawberry, or vanilla
  - $1.30
- Water 600ml
  - $1.10
- Just Juice – Apple, orange, apple and blackcurrant
  - $1.30
- Warm Milo
  - $1.00

### Snacks
- Moosies
  - $1.50
- Zooper Dooper
  - 50c
- Zingy frozen yogurt
  - 50c
- Sultana box
  - 50c
- Anzac Biscuit
  - 50c
- Apple cinnamon muffin
  - $1.50
- Dried apple and apricots
  - $1.00
- Warm Apple Crumble pot
  - $1.00

The preferred method of ordering is via the QKR payment app. Cash orders for Friday are requested to be placed at the office on Thursdays. Reusable Lunch Wallets are available from the office for Canteen use.

**What is your favourite pizza?**

**Monday 30th May**

**Mini Pizza Day**
- There will be three flavours to choose from:
  - Hawaiian, Vegetarian, BBQ Chicken
- Only $2.00 each

Order forms will be sent home soon.
Education Week 16-20 May

This week Speci Hill will be celebrating Education Week. This year’s theme is ‘Maths Madness’ and teachers have planned many fun and interactive games and problem solving activities for students to take part in throughout the week.

A few whole school competitions will be run throughout the week:

**How long is the Speci Conga Line?** Students will need to estimate how long (in metres) all the students and staff at Speci would be when in a Conga line. There will be a prize for the closest guess.

**The Chicken Plop!** All students and staff at Speci will write their name in a chosen square on a large grid. A chicken will be put on the grid and the people whose names it ‘poops’ on will win a prize.

**What is the combined age of all the teachers at Speci?** There will be a couple of students situated at a table outside at the beginning of lunch and recess next week. Students can enter the competition by providing their name, grade and guess with the volunteers at the table who will record all the information. Again a prize will be up for grabs for the closest guess.

Happy Education Week!

**READING MONTH**

May is family reading month. Reading continues to be an important life skill we all need. Reading is a fabulous recreational pastime. Helping children enjoy reading could be one of the greatest tools we pass on to our students.

As a family try:

- sharing the pages,
  - Singing nursery rhymes
  - Finding words on signs
  - Read a bedtime story
  - Encourage reading
  - Write a diary to read back
  - Enjoy poems,

Let’s all read this May !!

**UNIFORM SUPPORT FOR PREP STUDENTS**

As part of the Victorian Governments funding for school uniforms, every Prep government school student who is a Camps, Sports & Excursion Fund (CSEF) recipient, is eligible for a funded uniform pack.

If you have not applied for CSEF, applications must be processed prior to June 3, 2016. Please contact the school office for an application form.

**What Uniform support is provided?**

Parents are to nominate which uniform items they require:

- PACK A) A rugby jumper and track suit pants / or double knee pants / or girls leisure pant  Or
- PACK B) A track jacket

Green notes were sent home earlier this week. If you could please return as quickly as possibly so we can fulfil requests prior to the real cold weather setting in.

Science Day

The students participated in rotations of several experiments and tasks. Students were given the challenge of making Catapults, windmills, and some sour tasting Sherberts!

Thanks to the team for putting on such a fun day.
Our children’s future in the very best of hands............