Dear Parents and Friends,

Welcome to week 2 of term 2. Most students returned from the holidays in a very refreshed and happy manner showing that they are ready for a new Term of learning.

ANZAC Day service
On Friday starting at 9.10 the school will be presenting its ANZAC Day ceremony in the Multi Purpose Room. Students from the Grade 3/4 Department will be conducting the service. We have some guests from the RSL -Ms Lisa Gellatly along with her daughter Bec Dodshun and another guest who will be contributing to the service. Parents are welcome to attend.

On Monday, Mrs Jackson along with 2 Speci students will attend the ANZAC Day service at Kangaroo Flat. The students will lay a wreath on the cenotaph in remembrance from the Specimen Hill community.

ANZAC Day holiday is Monday 25th April.

Parents and Friends meeting
The Parents and Friends are frantically getting organized for the Mother’s Day Stall which will be held on Friday 6th May. All donations can be left on the front table outside the office. Suggestions for donations are: soaps, face-washers, mugs, chocolates, plants, T towels, cooking equipment etc. There will be a raffle also held on the day. Students will be limited to the number of raffle tickets that they can purchase.

The Speci Cook Book is still available for purchase as that special gift for your Mother.

Team China Dinner
On Tuesday 26th April, there will be a dinner at the Bendigo Stadium in aid of the two students who are travelling to China. We are hoping that we have a large number of people attending. The school will receive 50% of the total cost of the meals for the night. Throughout the evening there will be raffle tickets sold with a raffle table full of fabulous prizes to choose from. Please see Mr Pysing or contact the office if you would like to attend.

Working Bee
There will be a working Bee held at school on Thursday 28th April. It will start at 3.30 and finish by 5.00. Lucky dips for all students who attend and a snack and drink provided at 3.30 in the staff room. An induction session and sign in will be conducted in the staff room at 3.30 and anyone arriving later than this time will need to sign in at the staff room and to be quickly inducted before being involved.

Cyberbullying and safety
Cyber bullying and safety is always a concern. Any child at Primary school age should be closely monitored whenever they are on the internet. Just a reminder to parents to check your child’s access, ‘friends’ and communication. Develop clear rules around internet usage and encourage openness and honesty in the home. Regular checking of your child’s access is being very proactive.

If you have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact Wendy or myself. Have a wonderful week ahead.

Di Craig, Principal
**SENIOR CLASSES**
We are straight back into it for Term 2! The students have had a relatively settled start to the term.
In Literacy we have been focusing on comprehension of poetic texts and writing descriptively in Narratives.
In Numeracy, the students have been developing their understanding of fractions and working on their knowledge of 12 and 24 hour time.
Last week, all Grade 6 students received a note asking for the email address of their parents. This is so that high schools can contact your family about important news regarding transition. Please ensure that this note is returned to school by the end of this week. Information nights are being held on May 4th at all the secondary colleges. Please phone them for details.

Personal development notes went home last week also. Please ensure that these are returned to your child’s class teacher by the end of the week. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this, please contact your child’s class teacher.

It is an expectation that students are reading every night at home and are organising their time to ensure that they complete all weekly homework tasks.

Bec, Sophie, Scott

**MIDDLE CLASSES**
We have had a wonderful 1st week back at school with everyone settling back into a fabulous work routine.

**Excursions in Term 2** - This term our Integrated Topic is Remembering Bendigo. We will be researching Bendigo’s gold mining history and the changes to our city. An excursion note will be sent home next week in preparation for the two excursions we will be taking during 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 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, this is especially important as we come into NAPLAN time. 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**
Welcome to week 2. Last week children had their first gym session. We were impressed with the behaviour and skills of our students. They all seemed to have a great time as well. We are learning about plants in Integrated Studies and children are growing seeds at the moment. They have been writing information reports and looking at our school gardens. We have a terrific vegie garden that is tucked away behind the garden shed and tank area.

In maths we have been looking at patterns in counting and in shape and colour. Children are encouraged to practise counting in the car or at home. We have been focusing on reading with fluency and expression which can improve with practice and by making sure selected books are not too difficult.

Please ensure that your child reads on a daily basis. We also have weekly spelling homework. If a child forgets to bring their spelling book to school the words are sent home on a loose sheet of paper. Have a great week

Brad, Jacqui, Felicity, Kylie and Jen.

**PREP NEWS**
The Prep children had a very enjoyable first week back at school. They loved their first Gym session last Thursday and were so good that the staff at Jets gym thought they were Grade 1 students! We are all looking forward to our next visit to the gym.

Last week we planted broad bean seeds and learnt how we will need to look after our seeds so that they grow nice and big. We also created class books about the word of the week ‘in’ where children went out into the yard and had a photo taken ‘in’ something which they then wrote about.

This week the children have been practising their letter formation for the letters Ll and Rr and identifying words that begin with the letters Uu and Jj. Our word of the week is ‘my’ 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, l, and, can, the, like, in and my. 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 location language, the number 12 and skip counting by 10s.

**Reminders:**

- All notes should be dropped at the Office - not the classroom teacher.
- Each Thursday is Nude Food Day
- The Breakfast Program is up and running again on Wednesday mornings
- Remember to listen to your children read each night
- Don’t forget to pack some fruit or vegetables in your child’s lunch box for our brain food break at 10am each morning.

The Grade Prep teachers would like to ask each family to please donate a box of tissues to your child’s classroom as our supply is running low.

Courtney Lawrence, Emily Jacobs and Jacqui O’Shea

**MUSIC! MUSIC! MUSIC!**

Music Questions for this week: Please write down your answers and hand them to me in the music room.

Where was Beethoven born?
Name one of Beethoven’s famous piano pieces.
What happened to Beethoven when he was around 28 yrs old?
Junior Choir will meet on Monday
Senior Choir will meet on Thursday.

Music quote for this week is ……………

Stay tuned….. Mrs Mullen

**STARS OF THE WEEK**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Room 1</td>
<td>Abigail N.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Room 2</td>
<td>James R.</td>
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<td>Room 3</td>
<td>Tj S.</td>
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<td>Room 4</td>
<td>Isabella L.</td>
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<td>Room 5</td>
<td>Aylah P.</td>
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<td>Room 6</td>
<td>Daria F.</td>
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<td>Room 7</td>
<td>Henry C.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Room 10</td>
<td>Connor K.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Room 11</td>
<td>Beth M.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Room 13</td>
<td>Kobe R.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Nate S. Deborah C.</td>
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**PAY SCHOOL FEES**

To be eligible for a $100 Canteen voucher by May 30th
Team China Fundraiser Dinner

Tuesday 26th April @ 6pm
Bendigo Stadium

A percentage of all meals purchased goes towards the students from Speci to assist students in the cost of their trip

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

If attending advise the SCHOOL OFFICE PLEASE!

Working Bee

Thursday 28th April
3.30- 5.00pm

We are looking forward to a great turn up by all families to our first Working Bee in 2016. With many willing helpers we will have our children’s learning and playing environment looking amazing.

Bring along gardening gloves and any equipment you could use for weeding and general gardening and maintenance.

Please note: There will be a short induction at 3.30pm in the staff room to discuss safety procedures and specific tasks to be done. All staff, parents and children need to attend the induction. Those who miss the induction still need to report to the staffroom upon arrival to read and sign the Induction sheet.

Hope to see you here!!

School Camp (Gr 3/4)

School Camp will be held in the middle of Term Four this year. The school will be 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.

Our children’s future in the very best of hands……………. 
2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri 22nd</td>
<td>Grades 3-6 Cross Country</td>
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<td>Mon 25th</td>
<td>ANZAC DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY</td>
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<td>TUES 26TH APRIL</td>
<td>TEAM CHINA FUNDRAISER SPORTS CENTRE DINNER</td>
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<td>Wed 4th May</td>
<td>SCHOOL PHOTO DAY Envelopes have been sent home Year 7 - 2017 Information Nights</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 6th May</td>
<td>MOTHERS DAY STALL Please donate gifts at the school office</td>
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**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

**MOTHERS DAY STALL**

**FRIDAY 6TH MAY**

Volunteers are required for the day of the stall.
Please leave your name and contact number at the office.

**DONATIONS CAN BE LEFT AT THE OFFICE**

Items for the stall will be priced from $1.00 - $5.00

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