Dear Parents and Friends,
Welcome to the final week of Term 1.
It is quite unbelievable that first term has now almost finished. We have had a very calm and smooth start to the year although it has been very busy. We have 296 students enrolled which is the highest number over the past few years. Some of the highlights of the term have been: Prep buddies, Meet and Greet meetings, Parents and Friends welcoming afternoon tea and AGM, Parent Managed Head-Lice program checks, School council elections, Dinosaur Incursion, JSC Investiture and Grade 5/6 leaders Leadership day, Harmony Day and a celebration of 95% of students reading for at least 5 nights per week. A very busy term with some fabulous outcomes.

Easter Egg Raffle
Congratulations to all winners who have received scrumptious prizes from the Speci Easter Raffle. A huge thank you to the families who donated Easter eggs and gifts, the response was overwhelming. Thank you to the students and families who sold raffle tickets and to the students who sold the most tickets from each room. Also to 3/4 Manley and the P&F group who coordinated the fundraiser. I am very pleased to say that the final total raised is $1,130.00 Congratulations to everyone involved and the school will certainly benefit from the money raised.

Reminders
The final Term Assembly will be held tomorrow morning at 9.05 outside under the shade sails. We have a singing item from the Grade 5/6 area.
Playgroup will still be on in the Multi Purpose Room starting at 9.00.
The Easter Egg Hunt will be starting at about 10.00am.
School will finish at 1.45 on Thursday as Friday 25th-March is Good Friday. The school holidays will be for two weeks and students will return on Monday 11th April.

Emergency Procedures
Throughout the week we have been practicing our Emergency procedures such as Lock-downs and Evacuations. We follow a regular routine of practices. The students have carried out all procedures in a very calm and efficient manner which is very pleasing to see.

Junior Gymnastics Program
Next term for the first 5 weeks the Juniors will attend Jets Gym for their Gymnastics Program. These will be held every Thursday and students will need to wear appropriate clothing such as shorts or track bottoms to enable them to freely participate. Please return permission forms and payments if you have not already done so.
I wish all families a happy and safe Easter break. Remember kids to keep reading and I look forward to seeing everyone return to Speci on Monday 11th April full of zest and enthusiasm for Term 2.
Di Craig, Principal

Easter Raffle prizes to be collected

Blake (written in green text)
Mellory Ballangary
Julie Cooper

Our children’s future in the very best of hands…………….
SENIOR CLASSES
Greetings and a big welcome to our last week of term.
Well done to those who competed in last week’s volleyball tournament. Students displayed excellent sportsmanship and applied themselves brilliantly. Their skill level was very commendable. Some of our teams actually reached the semifinals which is a great effort. If students are interested playing in a domestic volleyball tournament of a Sunday afternoon in Term 2 please see Mr Broadbent for more details.

Students were also intrigued with the Dinosaur incursion last week. Student homework throughout the school holidays will be to read on a daily / nightly basis and document their reading activities in Diaries. We wish you all a safe and happy Easter before we ramp up a big term 2! Now, the first person to tell Mr Pysing what was the name of Captain Cook’s vessel during his maiden world voyage will win a small treat. Good luck!!!!

Regards, Bec, Sophie and Scott.

MIDDLE CLASSES
School Camp - School Camp will be held in the middle of Term Four this year. Once again we will be going to Cottage by the Sea in Queenscliff. It is a fantastic location where students get to explore and learn about marine life in the local area, while also learning some wonderful historical information about the Queenscliff Fort. Unfortunately there are a few events occurring in Term Four, such as Gym and the Swimming Program. We understand that this may cause a stretch for some families financially and are therefore mentioning camp at this early stage to give families as much time as possible to plan for. Without giving an exact amount, the approximate price of the camp will be $240. The school will be sending out more information throughout the term in relation to 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 at least $80 at this time, as this will be used for a deposit. Families will not be able to pay the full amount in Term Four. Hopefully this gives all families enough time to plan and arrange payments to ensure their child does not miss out on this fabulous camp. We look forward to seeing your child have a great time at camp this year.

Hats - Term Two is not a compulsory hat term, however we do recommend students wearing hats outside in the early weeks as there may still be some hot weather around. Please keep this in mind when coming back from the holidays.

Homework and Home Reading - Thank you for your support in listening to your child read so far this year. Can you please continue to listen to your child read over the holidays, as this is still an important time in your child’s school year.

Thank you for your wonderful support in Term One. We look forward to seeing you all again in Term Two.
Hayden Polglase, Julian Regan, Kim Manley, Adam Tanner

JUNIOR CLASSES
Welcome to the last week of Term 1. What a great start to the year it has been for everyone. This term has been filled with lots of engaging and exciting learning opportunities.

Hopefully our Communication Journals reflect the fabulous work we have completed when they go home in week 2 of Term 2.

We ask that all students continue to complete nightly home reading during the holidays. It is vital that students do complete home reading over the holidays so they don’t slip backwards in the learning when we return.

We hope that everyone has a wonderful break over the holidays and everyone gets plenty of rest and we all come back ready to hit the ground running in term 2.

Jacqui, Brad, Kylie, Jenny, Felicity and Jo

PREP NEWS
What a wonderful first term we have had in Prep! Although it was only a short term, our Preps have already started to grow and learn so much. We are very proud of their efforts and achievements so far.

This week it’s been all about the letters Ll and Rr and the word ‘and’. The teachers have been challenging students to find these letters and all the words we have been learning during independent reading. The words that students have learnt this term include: go, to, I, and, the, and like.

Over the holidays, please continue to read at home as much as possible. It is very important not only to keep the routine but to ensure all the progress your child has made this term isn’t lost. Students can also be practising the ‘Ants on the apple’ and their numbers to 20.

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 term)

Tomorrow is the last day of Term - Early dismissal at 1:45pm.
We would like to wish everyone a happy and safe break. We appreciate your support throughout this term and look forward to seeing you all again in Term 2.

Courtney Lawrence, Emily Jacobs and Jacqui O’Shea

MULLEN’S MUSICAL MUSING MOMENTS MELODIES MADRIGAL MEANDERINGS Muddled MAYHEM MINIS
Congratulations to the Junior Choir who performed so well at the Harmony Day Ceremony and the Senior Choir who helped lead the singing of ‘We are Australian’. The whole school sang from their hearts and it was a very moving moment. Thanks everyone.

I would like to mention the following students who have participated in the Music Questions on the newsletter each week.


Have a safe and happy holiday.

Stayed TUNED!!!!

Mrs M.

STARS OF THE WEEK & VALUES AWARDS 21 March

| Room 1 | Maddison W. |
| Room 2 | Natalie M. |
| Room 3 | Ryan M. |
| Room 4 |  |
| Room 5 | Netahni L. |
| Room 6 | Ronan M. |
| Room 7 |  |
| Room 8 |  |
| Room 9 | Akaisha L. |
| Room 10 | Gemma P. |
| Room 11 | Brylie McL. |
| Room 12 | Luke J. |
| Room 13 |  |
| Music Award | Hayley P. Decon M. Marcus R. |

EARLY DISMISSAL THURS - 1:45PM

Get your smiles ready it’s... Photo Day

Family Package Envelopes available

Page 2
Our children’s future in the very best of hands...............

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.

On the weekend we tried our hand at Busking during the Eaglehawk Dahlia and Arts Festival. Luke sang and played the guitar with Charlotte singing as well. We sang songs such as; Count on me (Bruno Mars), Riptide (Vance Joy), Hoops (The Rubens) and Don’t worry be happy (Bobby McFerrin). Once we overcame our nerves the experience was wonderful. We’re happy to say that we raised $100 towards our Team China experience.

We are really enjoying the whole Team China experience. We are learning key skills such as; being organised, public speaking and taking responsibility and ownership of the fundraising. We are placing ourselves out of our usual comfort zone.

This week we’re selling icy-poles every night after school and stay tuned for more information on our major fundraising event to be held at the Schweppes Centre on Tuesday the 26th of April. We hope you can attend the dinner.


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!

Have you lost some glasses??
Do they belong to your child??
These children’s frames have been left at the office for the past two weeks.

Uniform Shop MON-WED
Place your order via the QKR payment app and the item will be sent home with your child.
Rugby Jumper ? Jacket ? For Term 2

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

Safety basics: bicycles, scooters and skateboards
Here’s a list of safety basics to get you and your child started on the fun of learning to ride bicycles, scooters and skateboards:
Wear a helmet. Helmets are compulsory when riding bikes and scooters and recommended when riding skateboards.
Use protective gear and do cycle training to help protect your child against serious injuries – falls can and do happen.
Teach your child to look carefully at the riding environment to decide whether it’s safe to ride.
Give your child some practice in a safe area, such as your backyard or a park, before heading onto the footpath or road.
Always make sure a grown-up is with your child while she’s riding, until she’s at least 10 years old – no matter how much she knows about road safety and how good she is at riding.

Helmets
Helmets are compulsory for riding bikes and scooters and recommended for riding skateboards. Wearing a helmet will help protect your child against serious head injuries.

Safety basics: bicycles, scooters and skateboards

A timely reminder for safety basics with the school holidays starting. Please discuss with your child to ensure we all stay safe for the break.

Safety basics: bicycles, scooters and skateboards

On the weekend we tried our hand at Busking during the Eaglehawk Dahlia and Arts Festival. Luke sang and played the guitar with Charlotte singing as well. We sang songs such as; Count on me (Bruno Mars), Riptide (Vance Joy), Hoops (The Rubens) and Don’t worry be happy (Bobby McFerrin). Once we overcame our nerves the experience was wonderful. We’re happy to say that we raised $100 towards our Team China experience.

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Divisional Volleyball

Last Thursday, 31 Specimen Hill students went to Bendigo Stadium to compete against 14 teams from other Primary Schools at the Divisional Volleyball tournament.
We had three teams competing, with teacher Mr. Scott Pysing, student teacher Joe Hartley and past parent Mr. John Sheen coaching the teams, whilst I was the support coach for the three teams. All the teams did an outstanding job, as many of the students have only participated in volleyball during P.E. lessons. The students’ improvement throughout the tournament was impressive with the teams able to dig, set and spike the ball over the net consistently by the end of the day.
Specimen Hill Diggers were able to finish 2nd in their pool and played the team that finished 1st in the other pool, with the winning team moving into the grand final. Unfortunately we were not able to win and get into the final however all the students did a fantastic job, with some outstanding volleyball being played throughout the close match. Overall the Specimen Hill Diggers finished 3rd, Specimen Hill Spikers finished 10th and the Specimen Hill Spikers finished 11th out of 14 teams.
All the students encouraged and supported each other throughout the day and worked as a team, also displaying great sportsmanship to the other teams.
A big thankyou to Ruth East for coming along and supporting the teams and taking some excellent photos and to Mr Pysing, John Sheen and Tia Steen for coaching throughout the day.
All the students involved represented the school proudly, were well behaved and really enjoyed themselves, which was fantastic. We look forward to many more divisional sports next term.
Mr. Broadbent

COOKING PROGRAM

Last week in the Cooking Program we made porridge and it was a hit!!

1 1/2 cups of oats
3 1/3 cups of milk

Place oats and milk in a pan, stir well. Bring to boil, then boil for 5 minutes until thick and creamy.

We added honey to our porridge!
Information about your upcoming photo day!

1. If you are placing an order please ensure each child has their own envelope.

2. Do not place another child's envelope inside their siblings envelope.

3. Please collect a family envelope from the school office if you wish to have a family photo taken.

4. All children are photographed regardless of if you are paying or not. This is for the school's records.

5. When the photos are returned to school, those who did not place an order on the day will be given a second chance to order via a new form distributed when photos are returned to school. You won't miss out!

6. The school does not give change nor do the photographers. PLEASE ensure the correct money is enclosed.

7. If you lose your envelope the photographers and the school carry spares.

8. Only parents who are paying on the day and requesting it will have a family photo taken.

9. Ordering online is the only way you can pay with credit cards.

10. We do not have control over the way your child's name appears in the photo - any changes or requests are strictly handled by the school.

For more information

FREECALL: 1800 750 586

NEED HELP?

Volunteers for canteen mornings, class room reading, and friends fundraising, head lice program, and school gardening - are always needed.

Please contact the office for a time.

Ph: 5443 5353

Our children's future in the very best of hands..............
School Terms

**2016 EVENTS CALENDAR**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 24th March</td>
<td>End of Term 1:45pm Dismissal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 11th April</td>
<td>Tern 2 Commences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 14th April</td>
<td>Prep-2 Gym Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUES 26TH APRIL</td>
<td>TEAM CHINA FUNDRAISER SPORTS CENTRE DINNER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 4th May</td>
<td><strong>SCHOOL PHOTO DAY</strong> Envelopes will be sent home next week</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**SCHOOL TERMS 2016**

**TERM ONE**
28 JAN - 24 MAR

**TERM TWO**
11 APR - 24 JUN

**TERM THREE**
11 JUL - 16 SEPT

**TERM FOUR**
3 OCT - 20 DEC

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**BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE**

Please pay account fortnightly.

Balances should not exceed $100

Statements have been sent this week

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

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**JUNIOR GOLF CLINICS**

**Bendigo Golf Club**

Here at Bendigo Golf Club we want to introduce juniors to the game of golf in a relaxed and fun environment with a range of activities and games, helping them develop the skills required to play golf to the best of their individual abilities.

**When:** Starts Monday 11th of April at 4pm

**How Much:** $10 per class or $90 for the term (11 week term)

**Age Group:** 5 – 13 years old

Please contact PGA professional Brad Wilson for bookings and further information as numbers are limited.

P: 0421 802 337

E: bradwilson@pgamember.org.au

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**PAY SCHOOL FEES BY MAY 30TH**

To be eligible for a $100 Canteen voucher

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**REMINDER:**

**BIRTH CERTIFICATES**

**IMMUNISATION RECORDS**

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

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**A problem has developed with Absence Notes within the Speci Hill Information app. Our Tech team are trying to resolve the problem???. The message issue has been fixed!**

Please check the school calendar regularly to keep up to date with events.