

# Speci Express

Specimen Hill Primary School  
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Term 4 – 7th Dec – Issue 10  
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School Office: (03) 5443 5353

CANTENEN IS NOW CLOSED

Dear students, parents and friends,  
Welcome to week 10 of Term 4.

## Swimming

The swimming program has finished and the improvement made by every student in their water safety and awareness and swimming competency has been exceptional. On the final day the students were given some free time and many took the opportunity to go into the deeper pool, to throw away the noodle or venture underwater with eyes open. All of which shows that every child is demonstrating improved confidence and ability. The Fun Day at the Pool on Dec 19<sup>th</sup> will be another opportunity for all students to extend their skills and confidence in the water. This is a family day with all family members invited from 11.00 onwards and there is no cost. A BBQ will be held from 1.00pm and the pool canteen will be open throughout the day.

In the newsletter there will be a quick swimming survey for you to complete and to return to school by Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> Dec. This will help us to provide the best program possible in the future.

## Final School Council meeting for 2016

Last night was the final school council meeting for the year followed by the dinner given in appreciation of the work and commitment shown by all council members throughout the year. I would like to sincerely thank the council members –Hayley Davis (council President), Naomi Evans, Lauren Roberts, Rob Marsh, Michael Seymour, Linda Lee, Wendy Jackson, Mandi Jennings, Helen Turpie and Bernadette Wright for their dedication in providing outstanding governance at Specimen Hill Primary School.

## Statewide Orientation Day

The Grade 6 students headed off to their new secondary schools yesterday with I'm sure, a mix of trepidation and excitement. All Grade 6 students have shown that they are ready for their next major development in their education after 7 years of primary education. I'm sure that they had a great day. The new 2017 prep students arrived for a half day at school yesterday and spent 2 hours with their big buddies who assisted them with school familiarization and friendship. At the end of their session the Preps received a 'goody educational bag' put together by the Prep teachers consisting of a social story and some learning tools so that each child can practice the alphabet, reading, numbers and writing over the holidays. This will assist with their preparation for school.

## Bushfire readiness

On Thursday the school will practice its bushfire off site evacuation. Could all students make sure that they have a drink bottle of water at school to be kept on their tables throughout the day and on Thursday they will grab this off their tables to take with them for the evacuation.



In the event of an evacuation, which could be for a number of reasons but primarily a fire, the offsite points are: the Uniting Church on the corner of Chum and Maple Streets, the Schweppes Centre (*currently out of action*) and the Wade St Football oval.

If the school has to evacuate we expect the following from parents:

- **Not to contact or come to the school** but you will be contacted by SMS or a phone call of the evacuation point by the school. Parents calling or coming to the school will put everyone in danger.
- Students will walk calmly to the evacuation point where parents may collect their children from this point. All students will need to be signed out when collected and it **must be by a person listed on the Family emergency list only**.
- Reports of a danger on Facebook or on the news and then phone calls made to the school only lock up our system and create chaos. In any emergency event all parents need to wait for any information sent to them from the school. We will contact you.
- This is a good time to check that the school has updated family information: current phone numbers and names on the family emergency list. These must be people who are familiar to the children, who live in the Bendigo area and who are able to collect the children in the event of any emergency.

**Please update your current details at the office if they have changed recently.**

## Food Fair and Concert

Next Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December is the Food Fair and the concert at Speci Hill. This is an occasion where our whole school community comes together to celebrate the end of the school year and it is also a fundraiser for the school. Please come along from 5pm on Thursday for the Food Fair and enjoy food from many cultures and then stay on for the concert which will start at 7pm on the Basketball court. You will need to bring along a blanket to sit on for the concert. There will be limited chairs available around the edge of the court for those who require them and you may bring along your own chair to place around the edge if required. Seating in the middle area will be designated for blankets and pillows only. During the concert, all children may sit with their families and Craig Barker who is the MC will call up each Grade one item in advance where students will line up at the side of the stage with their teachers waiting for their turn to go onto the stage and perform.

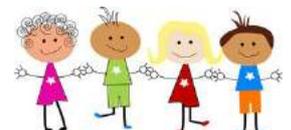
The theme for the concert will be 'COLOUR' and all students will be performing to a song reflecting this theme. The guitar players and senior and junior choirs will also perform.

We are getting so close to the final days of the school year. School will resume in 2017 on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup>

January for Grade 1 to Grade 6 students and Preps on Thursday Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>.

If you have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Di Craig  
Principal



## CLASS NEWS

### SENIOR CLASSES

We are close to the end of the year but we have a busy few week ahead of us.

Please see your child's classroom teacher in regards to donations for the food fair. Classes are collection items now and it would be amazing to have lots of donations so reduce the amount of purchases the school needs to make.

2017 Grade 6 students will receive the Year Shirts that were ordered last month, next week. Shirts will only be distributed if they have been paid for.

All students are practising frantically for their concert performances. All Grade 5/6 students are asked to wear black for their performances. It is important that all students attend this night because classes have specific routines that involve all members of the class and it is a wonderful night to be a part of.

Grade 6 students are reminded about Graduation next Wednesday. Arrival time is 6:10pm.

**FINAL PAYMENT** is required by this Friday the 9th of December, at the latest.

*Bec, Sophie, Scott*

### MIDDLE CLASSES

**Water bottles and Hats:** Students must have a drink bottle of water on their table at all times. This assists with their learning and keeps them hydrated in this warmer weather. Hats must be worn in 4<sup>th</sup> term. Please make sure your child has one everyday so they can be outside with their friends.

**Homework:** We would like to outline again that reading is to be completed each night for 20 – 30 minutes and signed by a parent/guardian to acknowledge this. These are logged into student's diaries. Weekly homework (*spelling and numeracy*) is to be completed by Friday. All students have the challenge of submitting 8 homework sheets this term and will receive a prize if they achieve this. Please assist and encourage them to do so.

We would like all students to achieve this goal so please assist them by asking if they need a hand or guiding them to ask for assistance from their teacher.

*Adam, Kim, Judi, Julian & Hayden*

### JUNIOR CLASSES

This week in Reading we are consolidating our reading skills observing the strategies we use; predicting, connecting with texts, summarising, solving words and self-correcting. We have been sharing many interesting and informative texts on Reading eggs using the library to find books on different topics. Reading Eggs is an excellent place for your children to safely explore over the holidays and keep reading.

In Writing we have been working on recounts and reflecting on our learning at the swimming program. We have learnt that thinking and planning about writing is very important before we start to write and editing a draft copy allows us to write our finished pieces without mistakes that are well presented.

In Mathematics we have continued to explore fractions to divide objects we have found or created evenly into halves, quarters and eighths. We are also measuring time by the half hour which is really interesting to observe how much we do or don't achieve in that time.

Concert practice is going well and we are sure it will all come together for a really exciting performance. Also please return any forms from your class teacher asking for donations and times you are available for serving and assisting at your class stall.

*Jacqui, Brad, Felicity, Kylie and Jen.*



### PREP NEWS

Good afternoon all. The Grade Preps had a wonderful morning on Tuesday experiencing what it is going to be like as a Grade One next year. A gentle reminder to donate the foods mentioned on the note sent home for the Food Fair next Thursday. If you did not receive this note can you please see your child's classroom teacher.

Also as we are performing the song *Rubber Ducky* for the school concert, we are hoping for each child to have a white towel and rubber ducky. Can you please bring these items into school when you have them in a plastic bag with your child's name on it.

We hope you have a wonderful week.

*Courtney Lawrence, Zoe Light and Jacqui O'Shea*

### MUSIC WEEKLY MELODIES

All classes throughout the school are busy practising their items for the Annual Concert on Thursday December 15<sup>th</sup>. This year we have a COLOUR theme for the concert. It will be a very happy and colourful event! Come along and share this night with the students and the school community. It begins at 7:00pm after the Food Fair on the basketball court. Gates will open at 6.45 pm.

Junior and Senior Choir will meet this week to practise for their items in the concert. The choirs will be joining together for their songs. The guitar group will be accompanying the choirs.

At the Food Fair there will be Buskers singing and also guitar players performing.

*Stay tuned.*

*Joan Mullen*



## LOST PROPERTY

The Lost Property is located in the Art Room.

Misplaced items from **Grade 3/4 Camp** are also located in this room. There are **FOUR** large bags of clothing items that were left behind at Camp, unnamed!

Items from swimming, lunch boxes, drink bottles etc are overflowing the box.

The quantity of items highlights the need to **NAME ALL ITEMS BROUGHT TO SCHOOL.**

Please come and collect your items or they will be donated to charity over the Christmas break.

## Speci Fitness Club

### Let's Get Moving - Tuesdays

**Tuesday mornings from 8:00am to 8:30am** under the school shade sails. The Fitness Club will be conducted on Tuesdays and continue through to the end of Term.

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

Tuesday 13th December

Parent Helpers morning tea

Wednesday 14th December

**Graduation Dinner - Gr 6**

Thursday 15th December

Food Fair and Whole School Concert

Monday 19th December – Pool Party Whole School

Tuesday 20th December – Last day of school for 2016

Tuesday 31st January, 2017 – School starts for Grades 1-6

Thursday 2nd February 2017 – Preps commence



## GRADE 5/6 CAMP 2017

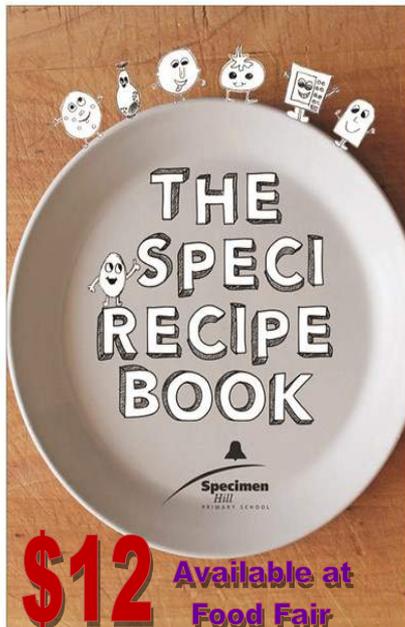
Cost = \$245

*Baanya Biامي Adventure Camp - Anakie*

*Pay by installment or in full*

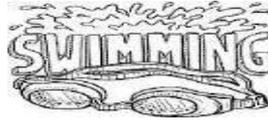
*Deposit \$50 – by end of year please*

*Eligible families must apply for Camps, Sports Excursion Funding in February to receive CSEF in time. (Centrelink / Health Care Card holders)*



**\$12** Available at Food Fair

Now Available



with the lessons, it made running the program so much easier (special mention to Lydia for getting into the pool every session).

A massive thank you to Bec, Sophie, Brad, Mon, Joe and Kaiden for all their hard work and assistance over the last two weeks - they all did an outstanding job and made the program so enjoyable for the students. I couldn't have organised and run the program without their great work.

We all had a great time and really enjoyed seeing the students' development

and improvement over the two weeks. *Todd Broadbent*

Thank you very much to all the staff for the last two weeks with the Speci Swimming Program. All the instructors really appreciated the staff getting involved and assisting



## COMPULSORY MATERIALS & REQUISITES FEE

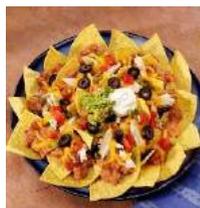
**PLEASE PAY**

Our School Council has in place a Materials & Requisites fee which is compulsory for every student. The fee is \$100.

## THURSDAY 15TH DECEMBER FOOD FAIR & SCHOOL CONCERT

### FOOD FAIR – 5.00-6.30pm

- Rooms 1 & 2 Pizza
- Room 3 Soft drinks
- Room 4 Stir Fry
- Room 5 Ice Creams
- Room 6 Pulled pork sliders with coleslaw
- Room 7 Popcorn
- Room 8 Cup Cakes
- Room 9 Fairy Floss
- Room 10 Lolly Bags
- Room 11 Kebabs
- Room 12 Spiders
- Room 13 Nachos



PLUS – Hot Dogs; Baked Potatoes/Sloppy Joes, BBQ; Fruit Salad; Karen Food

**PLEASE SCONTACT YOUR CHILD'S CLASS TEACHER TO SEE HOW YOU CAN HELP!!**

## PLEASE ASSIST YOUR CHILD WITH CROSSING THE ROAD



### STARS OF THE WEEK & VALUE AWARDS

	STAR	Persistence
Room 1	Aaliyah J.	
Room 2	Will G.	
Room 3		
Room 4		
Room 5		
Room 6		
Room 7		
Room 8	Ariel R. Tahlia K.	
Room 9	Zinnia L.	
Room 10	Gemma P.	Tyler S.
Room 11	Ella V.	
Room 12	Charity R.	
Room 13		
Music Award	Kurtis C. W.	Blake W.
Nude Food	3/4T	Wk 7 R8



2016	EVENTS CALENDAR
Tues 13th	PARENT HELPERS MORNING TEA 11:15AM
Wed 14th Dec	GRADE 6 GRADUATION NIGHT Venue: Bendigo District RSL—Long Gully
Thurs 15th	<b>FOOD FAIR &amp; CONCERT</b>
Friday 16th	<b>End of Term Final Assembly</b> End of Term Awards & Certificates presented 2:15pm
Mon 19th Dec	Pool Party Day—Whole School

**BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE**  
**BOOKING ARE ESSENTIAL.**  
**SOME DAYS ARE FULL IN ASC.**  
**Absences not notified will be charged.**  
 Staff are employed according to numbers booked.  
 Students must be booked for Before School Care  
**BSC - Karen - 0438 062 561**  
**ASC - Leah - 0447 788 636**  
**PLEASE FINALISE YOUR ACCOUNT**  
 END OF YEAR IS FAST APPROACHING, PLEASE REDUCE  
 YOUR BALANCES TO A MINIMUM OR FINALISED TOTALLY.  
**Please pay account fortnightly**  
**Balances should not exceed \$100**  
 Please contact the office if you have not received a statement.



## Parent Helpers Morning Tea

A morning tea will be provided on  
**Tuesday 13th Dec**  
**11:15am**

in the Staffroom for all  
 Parent, Friends & Family  
 members who have assisted in any way throughout  
 the year.  
 The school is grateful for the assistance we regularly  
 receive from the volunteers. Please come along and  
 have a cuppa and a nibble as a thank you for your  
 services.

**\$50 ICT Fee**  
 Specimen Hill Primary School incorporate ICT into all areas of the school's curriculum. Students are exposed to using different devices such as iPads, desktop computer and netbooks in order to develop their digital literacy skills. To allow the school to continually stay up to date with current technology requires our community to help in our investment. The voluntary \$50 ICT fee helps us achieve this standard and allows for all students each year to improve their digital literacy as it is an important skill for their futures.  
**PLEASE PAY YOUR SCHOOL FEES**

**PLEASE PAY  
SCHOOL FEES**



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

**KANGAROO FLAT LIONS CLUB**  
**COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CAROLS**  
**COME & JOIN IN THIS GREAT FAMILY EVENT**  
**WEDNESDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**  
 Kangaroo Flat Uniting Church Grounds  
 \*High Street (opposite ALDI) \*if raining the event will be held in the Church & Hall.  
**free Sausage Sizzle 6:30pm**  
 Soft Drinks & Candles for Sale (Tea & Coffee provided)  
**Carols at 7:30pm**  
 MC: Wally Smilie (KfM)  
 featuring Bendigo & District Concert Band, Guest Singers, Community Carol Singing & Santa  
**EVERYONE IS WELCOME**  
 BYO chairs and rugs  
 an "alcohol-free" community event

**SPECIAL CHRISTMAS PRICE \$12.00**

**THE SPECI RECIPE BOOK**

Specimen Hill Primary School

**Available at the Food Fair**

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