

“Educating successful students, confident and creative individuals, and active and informed citizens”

Calendar (new items highlighted in red)

May

24th Friday Entries close for the Skipton Photo Competition. Long Lunch.
28th Tue Wide Open Road optometrists.

June

3rd Monday **Cross Country race at Warrnambool**
7th Friday Student-Free Curriculum Day
10th Monday Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday – no students at school
11th Tues-Wed Grade 5/6 Sovereign Hill (inc. overnight stay)
17th Monday **School Council, 6pm**
18th Tuesday **Wide Open Road optometrists (2nd visit)**
20th Thursday **Winter Sports, 3-6**
21st Friday **Baked Potato Lunch (Parents Club)**
28th Friday **Last Day of Term – 1.30pm finish**

REMINDER: sign the head lice consent form given today and return to school ASAP

Note: We have changed the school photos date to August 12 to try and get as many families involved as possible.

The website calendar has all the dates for the year and is continually updated.

Principal’s Message

Last Friday sixteen students entered the **Cross Country running event** in Ballarat. This year we had five qualify for the regional level which will be held in Warrnambool and others just missing out. The qualifiers were George Wills, Noah Connell, Bronte Molloy, Cate Connell and Lillian Barr. A great effort by all runners, and thanks to the parents for your support.



On Monday the Grade 2s spent the day in a **1850s school at Sovereign Hill**. This is a terrific way to experience our local history and our children took full advantage with their enthusiasm. Thanks to the parents for your transport, and to Ma’am for the experience. Grade 5/6 will be attending the two-day program next month.



Keep an eye out on our **Facebook page** as there are lots of photos to enjoy. You will also get updates on programs, such as the wonderful **Music program Kathleen** provides. She is working together with Georgie to integrate digital technology into music and art. She is teaching rhythm and timing with the 3/4s using a simple instruments called Boomwhackers.

As part of literacy and numeracy week, the 5/6s went to the **Ballarat Art Gallery** to understand how to develop a career in art curating and designing exhibitions. They had a tour of the current exhibitions and then had a go at designing their own. Win News came out to interview our captains, Sara and James, about their experience. They followed this up with a trip to **Major League Sports**, the entry which was funded by the state government Country Education Program. I would like to thank the Art Gallery for funding the excursion and transport. Meanwhile the **P-4s had a multi-age day** at school where the children were divided into five groups and visited classrooms for various maths and English activities. It was wonderful to see them interacting and helping each other out so naturally.

As you can see there are a lot of activities going on to enhance our regular curriculum. In talking with the staff, we thought it would be good to acknowledge **some of the regular work** that students are doing well at. So from time-to-time we will publish their achievements.



We have had a **few students come down with an illness**. Some children have had viral infections, and others had bacterial infections. I spoke with Mohammed and he assured me that this is **very common for this time of year**, particularly when children are in classrooms or other spaces together. The illnesses can be treated with medications and rest. A reminder that we have on the downloads section of the website a guide for the period of exclusion from school. This is to help you should your child contract something listed there such as conjunctivitis or diarrhoea.

On Monday we had our second **School Council meeting**. The **Annual Report for 2018** was presented and is available to download off the website and a printed copy from the office. Again, our data was excellent overall and as a consequence Skipton has been nominated as a **School of Influence**. There is lots of interesting information in the report and I encourage you to take the time to read it.



Council also **ratified a number of policies** developed by our policy committee (Victoria Kennedy, Lisa Wills, Natasha Frisby, Michelle Liston and myself), which will be available on the website. They are: Sports Team Selection, Visitors, Fundraising, Digital Technologies and Head Lice policies.

As part of our efforts to **control the spread of head lice**, Council has approved the attached a form for you to give permission for your child to be inspected for head lice and nits at school. We are working together with

the hospital to undergo a check **within a week or two** and seek your cooperation in **signing the consent form and returning it to school**. If you do not want to sign the form, please contact me for other arrangements. If we all work together, it will help keep the problem to a minimum of disruption and expense.

Finally, lots of families have returned forms to have their children's eyes tested by the **visiting optometrists**. If you haven't, please do so. It is free and very convenient.

GOOD ON YOU!

Prep/One: Congratulations to Georgia Liston in Prep for reading 100 nights! What a fantastic achievement!

Also congratulations to Jackson Partridge for using beautiful manners in the mixed age group day. Mrs Harper was very impressed. Thank you Jackson for this and all your help during the class.

Grade 2: Our young misses and masters looked adorable and worked cooperatively during our day at the National School at Sovereign Hill on Monday. They practised handwriting (1850s style) made butter and learned to sing a song for a neighbour, among other lessons under the strict eye of Ma'am. Well done to grade two for your wonderful spirit of participation and good behaviour.

Well done to all students who participated in Literacy and Numeracy Day on Tuesday (Prep to 4). Everyone attempted tasks with enthusiasm, resulting in great achievements on the day. It was great to see older children offering guidance to younger students when they needed it.

Grade 3 and 4:

Grace Barr - reading 100 nights
Olivia Kennedy - reading 100 nights
Caden Clark - putting the chairs down and mats out in the classroom every morning he is at school early.

Grade 5 and 6: Friday 20 word spelling test after 10 weeks.

Keeley Clark: 200 correct, Lillian Barr: 199, Bronte: 199, Lyla: 198, Cate: 196

Garden Roster

We ask that each family take a fortnight to come in when convenient and do some gardening. Jobs include mowing – (including the nature strip), weeding and sweeping paths.

14th May – 27th May: Sarah Meek, Elizabeth Barr, Dallas Connell, Simone McAuliffe.

28th May – 10th June: Gemma Molloy, Emily Gilliland, Lisa Wills, Kate Medson

11th June – 24th June: Dione Gardiner, Peta Byrne, Jane Gardner, Margot Barr

25th June – 8th July: Sarah Meek, Jessie White, Megan Read, Dave O'Neil

Student Photography- Due Next Week. Thursday 23rd

June 3.30pm to Mrs Crosbie. Lunch time help at school.

If you or your children are planning to enter photos in the Skipton Photography Show we are taking entries until Thursday 23rd. 3.30 pm. delivered to Mrs Crosbie. If you need help, we will be mounting and entry support at lunch time on 1.40pm to 2.15pm

Wednesday 22nd May. Your support helps us keep this great event going. We are one of the largest shows in Victoria. Myself, Karen Bradshaw, and our 'seasoned' student photographers are volunteering to help mount student photo entries at lunch time in the school hall. Perhaps you as a parent of a student planning on entering may like to also attend to help or gain more information?

I have entry forms if required and mounting board.

