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

Calendar (new items highlighted in red)

June
20th Thursday Winter Sports, 3-6
21st Friday Baked Potato Lunch, Makey Makey Showcase-2.30pm
24th Monday Health Behaviour Study surveys
27th Thursday Last Day of Term – 1.30pm finish

July (note change of date – see note below)
15th Monday First Day of Term 3
19th Friday School House Athletic Sports
16th Tuesday Wide Open Road optometrists (final visit)
29th Monday Grade 5/6 depart for camp to Tasmania

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

Principal’s Message
This week School Council met. Our policy subcommittee has been very busy producing policies that were passed at council. These were policies on Drug, Alcohol and Smoking, Bullying, Cash Handling, Parent Payments and Complaints. They are published on the website for your convenience. In an effort to raise awareness of these policies, the committee are publishing a regular “Did You Know” section in the newsletter.

Our new Visitors Policy requires all people to enter the school grounds via the front door during school hours. We ask that you register as a visitor and wear a lanyard while you are here (unless you are dropping off or picking up your child). We are also locking all external gates to the school with master keyed padlocks (still to arrive). This is to increase security, though not in response to any incident that has occurred. Therefore shortly the bus gate will be locked during school hours and unlocked at home time and we ask that you enter via the side gate. An extra padlock is already on the rear access gate with the key attached to the mowing shed key. This will allow parents on garden roster, or needing to pick up the BBQ, to use this second padlock to open the gate and drive in.

The Environment subcommittee has also approved a refurbishment of the running track. Brad McLean (‘Chops’) will be resurfacing and extending the track over the holidays. Goal posts will also be put in on the mini oval allowing for junior games to be played there.
Parents Club also met last Friday. They have done an excellent job raising significant funds already this year, including well over $3000 for the Camp Draft and almost $600 from the election sausage sizzle. They are having a baked potato lunch this Friday, and are planning a movie fundraiser for next term.

During the winter months we encourage children to bring slippers or moccasins to school. This is a way to keep our carpets cleaner as well as keeping the children’s feet warm (as opposed to wearing just socks).

Next week is the last week of school. As mentioned in last week’s newsletter, we are trying a new system for interviews where we have the Thursday afternoon and evening, as well as Friday morning set aside. The teachers preferred having an interview before the school holidays. Your children are invited to come along to be part of the discussion. Please call the school to arrange a time. Reports will be sent home with your child on Tuesday.

This term Grade 5/6 have been working with a particular digital technology called Makey Makey. This involves using unusual objects to complete an electronic circuit and coded sound boards using a computer program called Scratch. They then composed musical riffs and want to present their creative projects to everyone this Friday at 2:30pm. They are very excited and I encourage you to make some time and come along.

A reminder that this Monday a team from Deakin Uni are coming to collect data for a Health and Wellbeing survey. They are undertake some measurements to provide long-term data about changes in childrens’ height, weight and activity levels – totally anonymously (even the children will not be told their measurements). They are gathering data from all the schools along the south-west regions in Victoria in order to evaluate the effectiveness of programs and to inform future policies and programs to promote healthy weight and activeness among children. If you do not want your child to participate, simply return the OPT OUT form sent home last week, or else contact the school.

**Please note that the last day of Term 2 is now Thursday the 27th June with a 1.30pm finish. This has then allowed for Parent Teacher interviews to be scheduled from 2pm to 8pm on the Thursday the 27th and from 8am to 12pm on Friday the 28th. Parents are encouraged to bring their children with them to the Parent Teacher Interviews.**

**Skipton House Athletics**

On the first Friday next term we have the Skipton House Athletics. This year we have organised all the athletics to be held in the one term, rather than spread it out over two
terms as in previous years. We will be starting with a whole-school house sports, followed by a P-2 and 3-6 Western Plains sports. The term will finish with qualifiers competing in the Eureka Athletics. Last year we had a couple go on to compete at higher levels in Term 4. The dates for each event is on the calendar and more details will be published as the events arrive.

**Garden Roster**

We ask that each family take a fortnight to come in when convenient and do some gardening. Jobs include weeding, sweeping paths and general tidy.

- **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
- **9th June-22nd June:** Kate Dunne, Wendy Carroll, Petrina Phillips, Kim Haley

**Uniform Order**

Fiona Meek is organising another school uniform order. If you wish to order please see Natalie for a form. Order forms are due back next Tuesday the 25th of June and clothing delivery will be the first week of Term 3.

**Skipton Holiday Program**

- **Bible stories, music, games & craft**
- Prep – Year 6 Kids!!
- **When:** Mon. July 1st- Thurs. July 4th
- **9:30am – 12:30pm**
- **Where:** Russell Hall
- **Contact:** Stewart & Belle McKerrow
- **Ph:** 5349 5553

**SCHOOL COUNCIL POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE**

Skipton Primary School Council’s Policy Subcommittee meet at least 4 times per year. Our purpose is to review and develop policies (as required by the Department of Education) that help shape how our school provides education to our children. These policies are uploaded onto the school’s website if you are interested in any further details, however we will insert a ‘did you know’ section in the newsletter from time to time to keep you updated on some useful facts that may impact you and/or your children directly.
**Did You Know?**

The Visitor Policy was recently updated. ALL parents are considered visitors when entering the school (for example, when doing parent help or assisting with a school lunch). As a visitor, you must enter through the front entrance at the school, sign in and out at the front office, and place a lanyard around your neck. If you are unsure what to do, please ask Nat at the front office. The only time you are not required to sign in and out is when you are dropping off or picking up your child. This policy, in conjunction with the locking of all perimeter school gates (when the padlocks arrive), has been developed with your child’s safety as the primary focus.

The Drug, Alcohol and Smoking Policy was recently updated. Our policy, which is in line with legislation, states that there is no smoking within 10 metres of the boundary fence of the school. There is also to be no smoking at any school functions or events where children are present, either on or off campus.

The Bullying Policy was recently updated. A key sentence within the policy that is important to speak to your children about is: ‘Students who may be experiencing bullying behaviour, or students who have witnessed bullying behaviour, are encouraged to report their concerns to a trusted adult as soon as possible’. The full policy is available on the website for further information.

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**Skipton Primary School 2019 School Uniform Order**

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**TOTAL MONEY ENCLOSED $**

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**TELEPHONE NUMBER...............................................................**

**Orders due Back Tuesday 25th June**

- Samples of sizes 6-14, S in both polar fleece jumpers, vests and polo shirts are available at the school. Prices include embroidery of the school logo.
- Students are required to wear navy blue track pants, shorts or shorts, which can be purchased at a reasonably low price from stores such as Lowe’s, Best n’ Lest, Target, Kmart etc.
- Stick on Iron on Name labels available from “That’s Mine” website use SKIPTON PS or #1981 to link to ongoing Reward Program for Skipton Primary School.

*Please see Natalie or Fiona re: sizing queries
Please include your payment with your order
Make cheques payable to Skipton Primary School
Bank transfer details: BSB 933-000, ACCOUNT 162900013
(please include your name in the description)