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

Calendar (new items highlighted in red)

August
6th Tuesday WPPSA P-2 Athletics at Skipton. BBQ lunch available
12th Monday School Photos
22nd Thursday Book Week whole school trip to Sovereign Hill (forms due in)
23rd Friday WPPSA Athletic sports at Llanberris

September
6th Friday Skipton Kinder Comedy Night (see flyer included today)
12th Thursday Grandparents’ Day and Writer’s Festival
17th Tuesday P-2 Trip to Werribee Zoo
20th Friday Last day of Term 3

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

Principal’s Message
Thank you to the staff who worked well together in the school over the past fortnight while I was on leave. In particular, I would like to thank Amelia who took on the acting position and did an excellent job.

The Skipton community rallied again for the Corbett family. The funeral was an excellent testament to the life of Narelle, and we were pleased to see the whole family there, with Bec and Addy’s participation a moving and courageous tribute. Thanks for all the offers of help from so many sources.

This week we welcome a new student in Grade 4, Bailey Childs who has moved into town from Colac. Please make their parents, Janine and Michael, welcome.

Many of our staff are undergoing training in the Sounds Write program. This is a highly successful evidence-based phonics approach and the program is being used extensively across the world. It teaches all key elements of conceptual understanding, factual knowledge and the three essential skills of blending, segmenting and phoneme manipulation.

Meanwhile our 5/6s are on their Tasmanian Trip, learning about our convict era and enjoying some of the sights and activities that Tassie can offer. They are having an excellent time and are due back this Friday.
Next week Tuesday we have the Western Plains P-2 Athletics here at Skipton. The weather looks like it will hold for the event and Parents Club are providing a BBQ for lunch, which will be open to all the other grades ($2.00 a sausage and $4.00 a burger). Bring money on the day.

Brad McLean has refreshed and extended the running track over the past couple of weekends. It has come up a treat as he has rolled the new sand mix (supplied from a local quarry), and it should settle down beautifully. We have put in some mini goal posts as well to provide an extra play area for the younger students.

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.
23rd July – 5th August: Erin Fletcher, Fiona Collins, Victoria Kennedy, Natalie Clark
6th -19th August: Jess Harding, Sarah Pratt, Georgie Green, Chrissie Cartledge, Zoe Bennett
20th Aug- 2nd Sept: Damian Bell, Karlie Kennedy, Sarah Matthews, Silvia Lupton

Parent Opinion Survey.
Our school is conducting a survey to find out what parents think of our school. The Parent Opinion Survey is an annual survey offered by the Department of Education and Training and is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of parents’ perceptions of school climate, student behaviour and student engagement. Our school will use the survey results to help inform and direct future school planning and improvement strategies with the data and anonymous comments shared with the School Council and teachers.

All responses to the survey are anonymous. This year the Parent Opinion Survey will be conducted from Monday 22nd July to Sunday 11th August. The survey will be conducted online, only takes 10-15 minutes to complete, and can be accessed at any convenient time within the fieldwork period on desktop computers, laptops, tablets or smartphones. The log in details for the survey have been sent home with your child last week, if you did not receive your copy, please see Natalie in the office. The more responses we get, the better the data.

Scholastic Book Club
Please return Book Club orders to school tomorrow at the latest.
Please ensure that all orders are clearly named with a contact phone number. If paying by cheque, please make cheques payable to “Skipton Primary School”.


Skipton Primary School earns 20% in Scholastic Rewards from all Book Club orders. These rewards assist our school to obtain free books and additional learning resources.

**Sustainability**
Next Monday the 5th of August Eleanor Lang will be visiting the Grade 2 and 3/4 classes. She will be sharing her knowledge of Eastern Long Neck Turtles with the students. Eleanor will also explain the role citizen science has to play in the conservation of the species. The children will spend time at the lake or creek so please ensure your child has warm clothes and spare socks. Any interested parents are welcome to attend these sessions.

**Art**
Grades Prep-4 will be taking part in the Central Highlands Water Week Poster Competition. They will bring home consent forms tomorrow could you please ensure these are returned as soon as possible, in order to submit entries on time.