**Principal’s Message**

Last Thursday the 3-6s went to Lismore to play in a summer sports series. It was a fun day, and an opportunity to try out sports such as bowls, volleyball, golf and tennis. It was good to see our students mixing with students of the other schools. Then on Friday our girls played their first round of cricket. Amelia has a report in this newsletter, but suffice to say that they played with great skill and with a great sporting disposition. This week saw Toby Coad and Holly Draffin go to Melbourne: Toby to accept his science award at Latrobe University and Holly to represent the school in our first qualifier in state athletics. Congratulations to both of them.

Last night Margot Barr and I attended the Bendigo Bank AGM. They have established a branch in Skipton after the closure of the CBA. The bank announced the successful application for $13,901.80 to erect a rock-climbing wall for our children. Thanks to the bank for their generosity and Margot as president of our PFA fundraising committee for her efforts. Bendigo Bank have also funded St Johns to teach your children a First Aid lesson this Friday (there won’t be an Assembly because of this).
A reminder that **Monday is a pupil-free day**. We have a consultant, Deb Sukana, working with us to look at our whole-school spelling program. Then Tuesday is the **Melbourne Cup public holiday**. We also see the 3/4s go to Melbourne for their trip next week, and they are most excited. A reminder that the Department of Education does not provide accident cover for activities such as the Melbourne trip, or even while your child is at school.

You may have noticed that the oval has been hoed and graded. Soon drainage and irrigation will be installed and then the field re-sown. I have been assured that this is the best time of year for this to happen for the variety of grass we are planting, even though we are coming into summer.

Calvin Tromp, Principal

**5/6 Girls Woolworths T20 Blast Cricket**

Last Friday, the Girls Cricket Team competed in the first Ballarat T20 Blast Cricket Carnival. The girls were enthusiastic and ready to go after weeks of practise at both recess and lunch time. The girls started the day playing Myrniong Primary School, which they won 269 to 75. Next they played Dana Street Primary and won 288 to 69. In the last round, they played Ballarat Christian College and won 383 to 57. Overall, the girls made a total of 940 runs, which put them into the final against Miner’s Rest Primary School. They won the final 390 to 39. It was an impressive win, with all the girls stepping up and playing some fantastic cricket. The girls are now looking forward to competing in the Regional Competition later in the term.

Thanks to Mr Baker who scored and coached and the parents who came and supported for the day. The behaviour, sportsmanship and class displayed by this group of girls was incredible and we should be extremely proud of them.

In Week 6, we send off both boys teams and the girls team to Ballarat to compete in the Carnival #4. This year, our girls team will play in the competition as well. We wish all teams the best of luck and know they will represent Skipton Primary School well!

**State Athletic Championships**

On Monday, Holly competed in the High Jump at the Victorian State Schools’ Athletics Championships, held at the Lakeside Athletics Centre, Albert Park. It was a wonderful experience for Holly to compete at this high level and to jump very well. We are very proud of you Holly.
Parent’s Club Dates to Remember

Dates for the diary:
Trivia Night: Friday 16th November
State Election BBQ: Saturday 24th November

Melbourne Cup Visit to Mooramong
Parents Club catered for 150 guests at Mooramong last week on behalf of the National Trust of Victoria. A huge thankyou to the families who helped make the day a great success by being there on the day, setting up, packing up and providing food. It was a fabulous team effort earning the school about $2,500.

Bakers Delight Sebastopol
Thanks also to Bakers Delight Sebastopol for their bread donation for the Mooramong event. Bakers Delight Sebastopol are also giving our school the opportunity to fundraise using their “Postcard” offer. For only $20 you can get 2 x Hi Fibre Lo GI Loaves, 8 x White Round Rolls, 4 x Finger Buns & 6 x Mini Cheese and Bacon Rolls, with $5 being donated back to the school. As a bonus offer, if you buy 1 High Fibre Lo GI Block loaf you can get 6 free traditional round rolls. Please see Natalie at the office or Margot Barr or Gemma Molloy to purchase your $20 Postcard.

Parent’s Club are wondering if anyone may have borrowed their marquee? We are missing a black cricket sized bag containing a few essential accessories for the school marquee. If you happen to know where it is, can you please let us know? Thank you.

Science
On Monday Toby Coad travelled to Latrobe University in Bundoora to receive his medal and minor bursary prize for the Science Talent Search. Toby received his award in the computer programming section, he created an interactive program that allows users to travel around a virtual Museum of Australian Scientists, users learn about many Australian scientists and their contributions to science. One of the things Toby enjoyed about the day was sharing his program with other students from around the state. Toby was very self-motivated creating his program. Only receiving help from others to check spelling and to play his game to locate any bugs so he could remove them. Congratulations Toby!

Grade 2 and 3 homework assignments.
Many Grade 2 students have not completed their mixtures at home assignment, it would be great if these could be completed by Monday week. I will post a copy of the sheet on the Facebook page. Grade 3 have a small living and non-living things assignment to complete in their science journals. The students have created a code for caring to keep themselves and the living things they are exploring safe please review this with your child. These are also due Monday week as we will be using the information in class that day. Thanks Georgie.
A family pass to Santa’s Magical Kingdom on Friday 30th November at 6pm (worth up to $146) is one of many goods on offer in our silent auction at the Trivia Night! If you would like to place a bid on this wonderful prize before the night, please see Natalie with your bid! Bidding closes on Monday 12th November!