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

Calendar (new items highlighted in red)

Nov
29th Thursday Grade 4 Melbourne Expo, 4:30
30th Friday State Final for cricket

Dec
3rd Monday Parents Club meeting, 9am. All welcome.
6th Thursday Grade 3 Melbourne Expo
7th Friday Prep/1 to visit hostel
10th Monday School Council 6:00pm
14th Friday Grade 6 graduation dinner (City Oval)
17th Monday Miss Morris Skipton Spectacular, 4:30pm, Mackinnon Hall
19th Wednesday School Concert and Graduation Ceremony
20th Thursday Last day of term, 1.30pm finish

Please note: the website calendar has all the dates for the year and is continually updated.

Principal’s Message

Congratulations to Grade 3 who have installed fishing line tangler bins at the reservoir this week. Sustainability becomes so much richer when the grade then decides upon a real action in response to what they have learned in class.

This Friday we look forward to enjoying our girls’ cricket team display their skills against the best teams in Victoria. We have a great culture of participating in sport in the school, and provide opportunities to excel. You only need to walk through the grounds at recess to see lots of children from all grades working on their skills and being active. We have two buses travelling to Greenvale for the day. See Natalie if you want to come along. There is a cost for the transport.

Next week we have two new students starting school: Ruby and Jake O’Neil. Ruby will be in Grade 4 and Jake in Grade 2. Dad’s name is Dave. Please give them the customary warm Skipton welcome.
Some of our children are still being afflicted by the gastro virus. We need your cooperation in controlling the spread of this, as it is highly contagious. There is no immediate cure; the body needs time to rid itself of the virus. Symptoms have been either vomiting or diarrhoea and have been severe for some of the children. If your child comes down with gastro, you must keep them away from all contact with other children. I spoke with the Department of Health and they said the diarrhoea can last for quite a number of days; between five and ten days for some cases. Therefore you will need to be vigilant in checking your child’s bowel movements to ensure that indeed they have recovered. Please do not send them back early to school, or allow them to have other contact with children! The department recommends at least 24 hours since the last loose bowel movement, but can I ask that you give it 48 hours to be certain. The school has hand wash in each classroom and toilets, and is thoroughly cleaned each day. Please help by teaching your child how to thoroughly wash their hands (hint: sing ‘Happy Birthday to Me’ while washing). Washing needs to be done after toileting and before eating.

Tomorrow we welcome our new Preps for next year. They are so excited to make the transition across the road to the big school, and we are excited to have them as well. I have been working on grades and staffing for next year, doing lots of modelling in order to get the best possible grade structure and staff for the budget and numbers that we have. I anticipate that this will be announced early next week.

As staff we have begun the work on looking at the way we teach mathematics. The school has excellent results in this field. Indeed, I bumped into a maths teacher from Grammar at Springfest and she told me that Skipton graduates have an excellent reputation for their maths skills and knowledge needed for college, especially when compared to other feeder schools. So we want to ensure that we are all on the ‘same page’ and sharing our best practice in this field.

After the watering and rains, I am pleased to see tiny sprouts of grass emerging on the ovals. I am hoping that by early next year this will be transformed into a lush ground ready for the footy season. The installation of the rock wall has been moved to next week due to rain interrupting the installers. The telephone system has been disrupted also due to rain getting in the pits (Optus tells us). We hope it will be back up and running soon. In the meantime the phone has been diverted. I want to thank all the families who have been helping out with the garden roster. For example, last weekend the front steps were pressure cleaned and they have come up a treat. Finally, thank you to the people who organised and attended the Trivia Night. It was a lot of fun and raised over $1300 for the school. A special mention to Ange Gowans and Anna Johnson-Knight for their tricky questions.

Calvin Tromp.
Hi Calvin, I would like to comment following my visit to your lovely school!

As an educator for Life Education, I visit approximately forty schools in the Ballarat & District region each year. Following my visit to your school, I wanted to praise the student cohort at Skipton Primary School.

It was my absolute pleasure to spend two days with your students during my visit with the Life Education van. The students were receptive and eager to learn, motivated, friendly and above all, kind and considerate towards myself, the teachers and fellow classmates. I would, without hesitation, suggest that your students were the most cooperative, cheerful and eager cohort I have had the pleasure of teaching!

The students are an absolute credit to your school and the Skipton community.

Thank you for hosting me at your lovely school Calvin and I look forward to my next visit!

Best regards,
Sharon Dundas,
Program Facilitator - Life Education

Grade 2 Camp reports - MOORAMONG

*We went to Mooramong on the bus with Miss Dowling. For afternoon tea there was rocky-road and biscuits. I was in cabin seven and I was room-mates with Violet. We slept in sleeping bags. One of the books on the bookshelf was a lady and she was staring at me and Violet. It was soon night.

I made dinner. We had tacos for dinner. We went on a night hike. We went looking for possums but we didn’t find any, but that was ok.

For breakfast there was cereal. We went gardening. I planted a pelargonium and I made one for Mrs Britton.

After, we got on the bus and Olivia and George gave Charlie a present from all of us. (Esther).

*When it was Thursday I was excited to go to Mooramong. When it was lunch play the bus came. We knew it was the bus to Mooramong. It had blue and white stripes. When we got to Mooramong we saw lots of sheep, we even saw some on the driveway. We saw sheep in the yards and there was a motorbike and a ute.

George told me that door 7 was the scariest. Mrs Britton showed us around the house. When we got to the shower Mrs Britton said, “Are you ready?” Everyone said “Yes!” So she opened the door and everyone laughed because the people who were making the showers have not finished! Noah was the first one to choose anybody for him to sleep with. He couldn’t choose so Tyson chose and he chose Noah! I was with George, Ethan and Jaxon. (Sam)

SCOBIE AND CLAIRE

Scobie MacKinnon and Claire Adams took four weeks to fall in love. They went on a honeymoon around the world in one year. Then they went on another journey and moved into the homestead. They made it look fancier and better. They loved children, they liked horses. They didn’t have any children but they had lots of visitors. They had lots of animals, especially dogs and horses.

They donated some money to the school because they were rich and generous. (Tyson and Tom).
Sustainability
Grade 3 completed the first task of their environment support grant yesterday. They installed their first Tangler Bin at Jubilee Park today so everyone can dispose of their broken fishing line responsibly. Georgie.

CELEBRATING OUR LANDSCAPE
Encouraging the school community of ALL ages to be involved in this important community project. The aim is for our community to photograph, sketch, paint, write stories or poems and share these at a community celebration mid-2019.
I would love some paintings, photos, and so on from the children, their parents and grandparents for this celebration. We will create an historical file that will be given to the Historical society to be protected forever.
Regards, Pat Gabb.
Please bring any items you may have to Natalie at the school office or email to clark.natalie.e@edumail.vic.gov.au

INVITATION
Dr Mohammed would like to say thank-you to all the Skipton Community for their support. Please come and celebrate with our much loved and respected doctor at the Skipton Golf Club this Sunday 2nd December at 4pm. There will be a free BBQ and drinks at bar prices.

Garden Roster
- Weeding  *Mowing front lawn and nature strip if needed  
  - Paths cleared and swept

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Responsible People</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13th Nov. – 26th Nov.</td>
<td>Helen Purvis, Megan Read, Tracey Miller, Sally Wills</td>
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<tr>
<td>27th Nov. – 10th Dec.</td>
<td>Peter Liston, Michelle Liston, Jane Draffin, Karen Bodman</td>
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<td>11th Dec. – 24th Dec</td>
<td>Margo Barr, Elizabeth Barr, Dallas Connell, Simone McAuliffe</td>
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