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

Calendar (new items highlighted in red)

Feb
18th Monday School Swimming continues

March
1st Friday Skipton Primary School House Swimming Sports
11th Monday Labour Day Public Holiday
12th Tuesday Curriculum Day (Student Free Day)
15th Friday Western Plains Swimming Sports Gr.3-6
18th Monday Young Leaders Excursion Grades 5 & 6

April
5th Friday Last day of Term 1: 1:30 finish
23rd Tuesday First day of Term 2

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

Principal’s Message
Last Friday our Grade 6s presented speeches on why they wanted to be a school captain. This is a role that is awarded to a boy and girl each year through a vote from the grades 4 to 6. The speeches were of a very high standard reflecting a high-quality field of candidates. The captains for 2019, I am pleased to announce, are James Read and Bronte Molloy. Congratulations to James and Bronte.

We consider the grades 5/6 years to be the leadership years and so provide a range of opportunities for our students to show leadership. Along with school captains, there are captain roles in science, art, computers, library and sustainability. There are also opportunities for sports and house captains. We also take all our 5/6s to a leadership conference in Melbourne. Our senior students are great role models for the younger students.

It was a great night of fun, dancing and socialising last Friday at the bush dance. Thank you everyone who made it. Ken was a great caller, and got us up and dancing – from pre-school
dancers right up to parents. I think Maisy danced the whole night, and it was really special to see four preps work out the moves together.

Interviews are still occurring this week. It is a large task as the teachers are spending quality time with you. Thank you to them for finding so much time out of teaching hours – the school appreciates it.

Last Monday we had the final meeting of the current School Council. Gavan Corbett submitted his resignation and thanked us for his time on council. On behalf of the school I would like to thank Gavan for his six years of service on Council, including the environment committee. We wish Gavan, Narelle and the kids all the best as they draw together as a family – the community are here for you! Scott Barr, Anthony Mulcahy and Les Meek all renominated for another two years and we are pleased to accept Victoria Kennedy as the fourth councillor for the new school council.

This year we will be forming two sub-committees of Council: policy development and environment. These groups will meet once a month to come up with recommendations for council. If you would like to be a part of a sub-committee, please let me know. You do not need to be a member of council to be on a sub-committee.

The swimming program is now in full swing. It is a great sight to see all the kids in the water, building confidence and skills in their strokes. Our program has been recognised as an exemplar in the state for other schools to copy and it cannot happen without our parents and teachers getting involved (and wet) and so we thank you all. Remember our primary focus is water safety: the number of drownings this year was horrific and so this program is vital for the safety our children. While the swimming program is on there will be no Assembly as the program does not allow for it.

Finally, there has been cases of croup in the school. This is contagious and so be aware of signs of croup in your child. There are no exclusion requirements, but children with croup should not attend school if they are unwell. For more advice visit https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/conditionsandtreatments/croup.
**Reading**
Reading every night with your child, and listening to them, is one of the most important and effective things you can do. Look at the illustration to see the massive difference it can make.

**Conveyance Allowance**
These forms are now available from the office. To qualify for this allowance you need to travel 4.8km or more to your nearest bus or school. Any queries please contact Natalie Clark in the office. If you have previously received Conveyance Allowance you do not have to fill the form in again, it automatically rolls over each year.

**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 (not too short please), weeding and sweeping paths. The new mulch also needs to be spread from its pile, to under the playground equipment please.

26th Feb - 4th March: Emma Smith, Amy Sim, Jade partridge, Kerrie Mulcahy
5th March – 18th March: Natasha Frisby, Elizabeth Kusanke, Alicia Pettigrew, Hayley Pappin
19th March – 1st April: Angela Gowans, Fiona Meek, Michelle McIntyre, Helen Purvis

**Parent’s Club**
Parents Club have been given the opportunity to cater at the Bradvale Camp Draft on Saturday 13th April, 2019. We will be cooking and serving a roast meal followed by dessert on the Saturday night.

We are looking at raising $2,000+ from this event. We need people to help with cooking food, serving food, washing dishes etc. Camp Drafting is a unique event that is worthwhile seeing at least once! So if you haven’t been before, this could be your opportunity, whilst helping the school raise some funds for things such as our lovely green oval and newly painted classrooms. Please contact Margot on 0418 125 321 if you can help out.
Easter Raffle Donations

Every year the primary school organise an Easter Raffle. We are asking all families to please donate one chocolate Easter item for the raffle to help us make up the prizes for the raffle. A bunny, an egg or a bag of small eggs for example, would be greatly appreciated. All items can be dropped off to the school office and placed in the box provided. Thank you for your kind donations, Skipton Primary School Parent Club.

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**Skipton Triathlon**

**WHEN:** Sunday 17th March, 2019. Skipton Swimming pool at 10 am (under 8).

**COST:** $5 for Individuals and $15 per team.

**REGISTRATION:** Forms available from the Primary School or Pool prior to the 17th of March. Late registrations will be taken at the Pool on the 17th of March from 9.15am.

**Events**

In each age group, there will be events for female individuals, male individuals and teams.

- **8 Years and Under:**
  - Swim, 50 metres (2 laps of pool with kickboard noodle and/or flippers)
  - Ride, 3 km
  - Run, 700 metres

- **10 Years and Under:**
  - Swim, 150 metres (6 laps of pool with kickboard noodle and/or flippers)
  - Ride, 1.5 km
  - Run, 1 km

- **14 Years and Under:**
  - Swim, 250 metres (10 laps)
  - Ride, 4 km
  - Run, 1.5 km

- **18 Years and Under/Open:**
  - Swim, 300 metres (12 laps)
  - Ride, 6 km
  - Run, 3 km including 500m dipper

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Skipton Tennis Club would like to invite all its current and past members, and the Skipton community to the

**Court Resurfacing Project**

**GRAND OPENING!!**

**Sunday 3rd March 2019**

Skipton Tennis Courts

10am-12pm
‘Hot Shots’ tennis clinic for Junior Tennis Club members

12pm
BBQ lunch provided, followed by an afternoon of tennis for those wishing to try out the new courts!

This will be an opportunity to welcome you to our club, and to thank sponsors who made this project possible!

Enquiries: Erin Fletcher 0409990723 (president),
Khoria (marketing purposes): Natalie Clark (secretary) 0439395998