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

Calendar (new items highlighted in red)

March
25th  Monday  \  Parents Club AGM (2pm) and School Council (6pm)

April
5th  Friday  Last day of Term 1: 1:30 finish
23rd  Tuesday  First day of Term 2
25th  Thursday  ANZAC Day public holiday.

May
1st  Wed  Western Plains Cross Country @ Skipton PS
14-16  Tue-Thurs  NAPLAN
20th  Mon  Sovereign Hill for Grade 2
28th  Tue  Wide Open Road optometrists.

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

Principal’s Message

There is always lots of learning and activities going on in our school. A glance through the photos in this week’s newsletter shows what a range of experiences your child is receiving. We have much to be thankful with our dedicated team and community providing such an engagement and active education.

This week is the last for the ‘Festival of the Pool’. All the best to our junior swimmers competing at the Aquatic Centre tonight in the junior meet, and this Friday for Cate, Noah K, Noah C, Patrick and Harry at the Greater Western Region swim at Horsham. Last Friday was the Western Plains Swim Sports. It was an excellent opportunity for our rural schools to get together and celebrate our children’s skills. Thanks to Miss Pollock for putting together the program and ensuring another smooth day. Thanks to our captains for their fine welcoming and finishing addresses. Thanks to the Parents Club for catering, and thanks to all the swimmers for their excellent efforts.

Yesterday we received the exciting news that Iona Bulford is now one of nine Australian finalists in the Toyota Dream Car Art Competition with her turtle car. Iona has won a Faber-Castell art set and a $500.00 Apple Store voucher. Her entry has been sent to Japan for national and world judging, we wish her luck in the next part of the competition. Congratulations, Iona, for this national honour, and thank you Georgie for your part...
you played in this achievement. You can see in the artwork a robotic turtle that swims the oceans cleaning up pollution as it goes. It can also drive onto beaches to scoop up litter. A copy is near the turtle tank in Grade 2 for you to admire.

**Art Report**

On Wednesday the 3rd of April at 2.30pm Grade 5/6 will be attending a Garden Tea Party at the hostel. Their mural will be unveiled at this time. We are encouraging last year’s Grade 6s to attend as they also contributed to its creation.

**Grade 3/4** are collecting recycled materials to create weaving projects, such as packing straps, wire, bailing twine, packaging, foam and of cuts. Grade 2 are collecting natural materials for their projects such as reed type grasses, flax and creepers.

**Prep/1**

Georgie is looking for a parent to help us finish our paper weaving projects this Thursday at 2:30 pm. Please let her know.

**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), weeding and sweeping paths.

19th March – 1st April: Angela Gowans, Fiona Meek, Michelle McIntyre, Helen Purvis

9th April – 29th April: Jimmy Collins, Tim Dunne, Chris Shady, Tracey Miller

**Parents 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. Please contact Margot on 0418 125 321 if you can help out.

**Scholastic Book Club**

Please return Book Club orders to school by tomorrow.

Please ensure that all orders are clearly named with a contact phone number. If paying by cheque, please make cheques payable to “Scholastic Australia”.

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.
Halogen National Young Leaders Day

Last Monday the Grade 5/6 students along with Mr. Baker, Ms. Pollock, Mrs. Crosbie and Natalie attended the annual Young Leaders’ Conference at the Melbourne Convention Centre.

Young Leaders is about bringing together Grade 6 students, and some lucky grade 5 students, from all around Victoria to listen to, and be inspired by, some of Australia’s greatest leaders.

This year we had the privilidge of listening to the famous comedian and newly published Author Cal Wilson. The story of her new book, George and the Great Bum Stampede, and the process and thoughts which were part of that journey, were very funny and imaginative!

Tim Diamond, CEO of the Cotton On Foundation, then explained to us how Cotton On and their partners help children all around the world through their four main philosophies. These were education, healthcare, sustainability and infrastructure. It was awe-inspiring to see the work that this foundation has done in putting in place better schools, communities and living standards, such as clean water and sustainable toilets, which are often taken for granted here in Australia.

Our fantastic school swimmers where then treated with our next speaker: Leisel Jones. Leisel has won many Olympic gold medals in the pool and spoke to the students about her journey and how she preserved to compete at that level for so long. She spoke about breaking up our goals into small bit size pieces which then become less daunting and more achievable. One step at a time, was something she highly recommended.

To finish of the day, Holly Ferling from the Melbourne Stars cricket team spoke. With our Grade 6 students taking the step to Secondary school next year, Holly talked about going from being the big fish in a little pond, to being the little fish in a big pond! The bigger pond gives our students more room for growth. Holly was also all about embracing the scary!

It was a long day for all who attended but a very motivating and uplifting day for our school leadership group. Lots of tips to take in and
put into place over the next few years. A big thank you to Mr. B for organising such a wonderful opportunity for our students.