Dear Families,

Welcome Back!

Amongst the rain and showers, there was a very excited buzz around the school this morning as everyone settled back into their classes and caught up with all their holiday adventures.

Despite the weather, I still will remind families about our SunSmart policy and the need to ensure everyone has a hat. Students are required to wear hats at school until the end of April. Please ensure that your child has a clearly named hat at school every day.

Staffing

We are delighted to congratulate Ms Melanie Voigt on the news that she is expecting a baby later in the year. Mel and her baby are doing well, but she is currently under the supervision of her doctor as she is experiencing extreme morning sickness and is not able to return to work full time at this stage. We have appointed a new teacher to our team, Ms Maria Trantino, who will be in Prep V and continue on when Mel takes family leave. Prep transition was very smooth this morning and I would like to thank Maria for her dedication and professionalism since joining our team at short notice!

Parking at School

Parking is a challenge for families around all schools during the peak times of morning drop off and afternoon pick up. Local Council develop parking restrictions around the school to ensure a safe traffic flow and deter long term parking from the nearby station overflow. Parents please be aware that the parking officers routinely monitor the school boundaries and will issue fines if parents are illegally parked. They were here this morning to welcome us back!!

Assembly

We will have a brief assembly on Monday at 9:00am in the courtyard as usual.

PREPS will not attend this assembly, but come straight to their classrooms as usual. We will have a few practices next week and be ready to join assembly on Monday 8th February!

Jackie Green
Principal

To Do Notes / Forms / Reminders

- Pay 2016 Books & Resources Levy
- Complete local excursion/photo/head lice permission forms (students new to Spotswood PS in 2016)
- Complete application for Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (if eligible) by 22nd February
Skoolbag App

Each week our newsletter is uploaded to the Spotswood Primary School Skoolbag App. We also include important reminders throughout the year. Our App can be downloaded via the App Store or the android alternative. Search for Spotswood Primary School.

Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF)

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school excursions, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. Concession cards must be valid as at 27th January 2016. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:
- $125 for primary school students
- $225 for secondary school students.

HOW TO APPLY

Please see Sharon in the office for an application form. Applications close on 22nd February 2016.

Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday to:

Mila
Michael