From the Principal ..........................  

Dear Parents,

**Student and Parent Surveys**  
Our Supportive School Environment Policy highlights four areas that our community regards as important for the wellbeing of our school. These areas are:

- Teaching and Learning
- Community Links
- Culture and Environment, and
- Personal Development.

In 2008, we developed surveys for students and parents to provide feedback on school performance in these areas, and we wish to continue this process as a biannual event. We hope that as well as highlighting strengths of our school, it will also indicate to us areas where we can improve. This will help us in our planning for next year and beyond.

Students will be completing their surveys online over the next week, and we have included the parent survey with this week’s newsletter. We will report results from the survey in the newsletter in November.

It would be most helpful if parents/carers could complete the attached survey and return in the envelope to the school office.

**Professional Learning Days for 2011**  
Also included in the newsletter today is the outline of our professional learning plan for 2011. We need parent approval for the three Professional Learning Days in our plan, which are in addition to the moderation day (May), and the four Professional Activity days which teachers undertake in their own time out of school hours. The three Professional Learning Days are planned for February before students return, one day in April with Latrobe Kentish Cluster Schools working with Deb Sukarno working on Writing Strategies, and one in third term focussing on the new Australian Curriculum and moderation of student assessments. Full details of these are included in this newsletter, and it would be appreciated if this survey form could also be returned in the envelope provided.

**MALCOLM MOORE**  
PRINCIPAL
Calendar dates…..

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>29th October</td>
<td>Grade 4D/M Excursion to Hagley School Farm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st November</td>
<td>Public Holiday – Recreation Day (students do not attend)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd &amp; 3rd November</td>
<td>Personal Relationship Sessions for Grade 6 Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd November</td>
<td>3-10 Assembly 12.15pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th November</td>
<td>NWPSSA Athletics Carnival at Penguin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th November</td>
<td>Sheffield School Show</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th November</td>
<td>Westbury Show (Cattle Handlers)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th November</td>
<td>K-3 Assembly (Music Room) 1.45-2.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th November</td>
<td>Remembrance Day Assembly 10.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Parent Newsletter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th &amp;13th November</td>
<td>Scottsdale Show (Cattle Handlers)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15th November</td>
<td>9/10 Fine Dining Experience 5.30pm – 7.30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17th November</td>
<td>3-10 Assembly 12.15pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18th November</td>
<td>School Council Meeting 7.00 pm VET room</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Classes for 2011

Staff are beginning the process of establishing class lists for the 2011 school year. This process aims to ensure equitable classes based on class size and ability levels. Allocations to classes are based on many factors: mix of sexes, range of learning abilities and strengths of individuals. Our prime consideration is to continue the ongoing educational developments of all students. Change throughout schooling is a part of this development, in order that our students experience a wide range of teaching and learning styles. Careful consideration is given to the placement of all students.

If you have a concern relating to the education needs of your child, please make an appointment to meet with the relevant staff member:

- K- 2 – Debbie May/Greg Hinrichsen
- 3 – 6 – Catrina Davies/Angela Craze
- 7 – 10 Carmen Pearce

Appointments must be made before Friday, 5th November, 2010

Remembrance Day Service 11th November, 2010

On Thursday 11th November a P-10 Remembrance Day Service will be held at the school. The service will be held at the main campus in the Remembrance Courtyard. Any parents are welcome to attend this important assembly. The assembly will commence at 10.50 am.

Recorders Wanted!!!!!

Mrs Bentley is collecting recorders for our Early Childhood Orchestra to use at the Arts Concert on 2nd December. If you have an unwanted recorder, please consider donating it to the school.

Any parent wishing to receive the newsletter by email please notify the office staff of your email address or email sheffield@education.tas.gov.au
### Robotics

Robots are used for many purposes such as underwater research, performing medical procedures, space projects, military missions such as deactivating bombs, and in factories doing jobs such as welding and assembling. They are programmed by computers to perform and respond in certain ways. Robots often do jobs that are too dangerous for a human to do.

A small team of grade 9 students, Callum Hayes, Josh Bell, Zach Hampson, Corey Jasper-Winwood and Harry Kim, have been learning about robots and designing programs to allow LEGO robots to perform simple tasks. This group competed against students from other schools in the RoboCup Competition earlier this year.

During term 3, the grade 9s have been tutoring a small group of grade 7 students, introducing them to building robots and simple programming.

**Pictured with “Wally the Robot are Zach Hampson, Callum Hayes, Jakob Bingham and Jack Hanlon**
New Telephone Number for Sheffield School

Please note that due to the introduction of our new telephone system, the school now has a new telephone number 64 918222. The existing number 64 911302 is currently diverted to the new number but will cease to operate at the end of the year.

Solar Water Challenge

Around eighty Primary and Secondary students took part in the Solar Water Challenge with twenty eight uniquely engineered Solar Water Heaters entered. Each team of students developed a plan and built their creation using mainly recycled materials such as plastic bottles, tin foil, mirrors, insulation, old window frames, poly pipe, and even an old satellite dish! The challenge was to heat one litre of water in one hour with the size restriction for the device being one meter squared. There were prizes offered for winners in Primary and Secondary divisions, as well as prizes for innovation. Conditions on competition day were mainly cloudy with some sun peeping through at the end of the one hour time limit!

The starting temperature of the water was 14°Celsius and some teams managed to raise the temperature to more than 40°Celsius which was a great effort.

Local Kentish organisation KEENER (Kentish Energy Efficiency Network Embracing Renewables) have been actively supporting this project and were officiating on completion day. Winners will be announced at our next assembly.

All participants are invited to test their Solar Water Heaters again on the KEENER Prize Giving and Demonstration Day, Saturday 13th November outside the Cradle Mountain Candy Store.

Primary Fair

On Friday 5th November, the primary fair will be held along the primary corridor. Each class has prepared stalls and have exciting goodies to offer. Fair vouchers can be purchased for 50 cents each, from class teachers from this coming Monday or on fair day at the voucher booth. Students are asked to pre-buy their vouchers as cash will not be accepted at the stalls. Parents are invited to attend with their children. The fair commences at 1.30 pm.
I had the privilege once again this year of helping out back stage for the school production – and I enjoyed it every bit as much as I have for the past 2 years. Having attended many such performances as a parent over the years, I had no understanding of what goes on behind the scenes – but now I well and truly do.

I am impressed by the maturity and professionalism with which the students conducted themselves as well as their ‘intestinal fortitude’ even to consider going on stage and performing in front of a live audience which included their family & peers.

Back stage I get to see first-hand the stress created by pre-performance jitters, the need for extremely quick costume changes, props disappearing from the props table, costume malfunctions and temporarily forgotten lines. But behind the scenes it is also a huge blessing to have been a witness to the sister helping her younger brother put on his stage make-up, the high-fives between performers in between scenes, the words of encouragement between students as they support each other waiting in the wings for their time on stage and students assisting each other with the quick costume changes. During the 1st performance, a student was shaking in the wings next to me, saying ‘I can’t do this – I’m too nervous’. I watched as, with a few words of encouragement, she took some deep breaths, pulled herself together, went on stage and did what she’d been rehearsing for. The huge smile that lit up her whole face as she came down the stairs after her act said it all – she had ‘nailed it’!

I can’t help thinking ‘isn’t this very much like life?’ We all face challenges in our lives – some big, some small, some huge and some seemingly insurmountable. Sometimes we can ride the small storm on our own and get through it comfortably. But often we are unable to get through what life throws our way without the help, support and encouragement of those around us. Life is a journey that I believe we are meant to take together. Solomon, the wisest man in history put it beautifully:

‘You are better off to have a friend than to be all alone, because then you will get more enjoyment out of what you earn. If you fall your friend can help you up. But if you fall without having a friend nearby you are really in trouble. …….. Someone might be able to beat up one of you, but not both of you. As the saying goes ‘a rope made from 3 strands of cord is hard to break’

No-one should have to go it alone through the hard times in life. Sometimes it helps immensely just to have someone sit and listen as you talk. I am available to assist the school community, so if you are facing a difficult circumstance and would appreciate someone to talk to, please contact the office.

Please remember that I am available to assist the school community. If I can help to support you or your family, please contact me through the school office.

Pam McCulloch

Acknowledgement: The National School chaplaincy Program is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.

Disclaimer: The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the Australian Government Departments of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.
Enrolment Process for 2011

By now you may have heard that there will be some changes to Post Year 10 (PY10) education next year. This will mean that students will have a single enrolment point being Don College in the case of the Devonport region. Staff at Don College have knowledge of the full range of Certificate courses available across the state, including Devonport Polytechnic courses (or Vocational Education and Training – VET). The aim of the enrolment process is to enrol students in courses appropriate to individual interests, abilities and future aspirations.

Recently all students wishing to study a certificate or VET course in 2011 have been interviewed by Don College staff. This process is to assist staff to determine the appropriate level of certificate course for students based on their academic achievements and experience/interest.

On Thursday 18th November, course counsellors from Don College will visit Sheffield School to enrol students for next year. Grade 10 students have been working with Rachel Matchett, the Pathway Planning Officer to select courses and subjects for next year appropriate for their personal interests and future plans. To assist students with enrolment they will be given a copy of their personal transition plan. While most students have a fairly clear idea of their selections some are still unsure. We will keep working with these students but in the meantime you may be able to assist your child by reading together the recently issued ‘Guide to Post-Year 10’. Alternatively, you can check out the new website for course information http://py10.yourchoice.tas.gov.au

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Rachel Matchett at school on 6491 8222 or rachel.matchett@education.tas.gov.au

Community Software Plan (Information Brochure attached)

Families who wish to order software from the CSP need to ensure that all orders are provided to the school office by Friday 5th November.

The school is providing information about the CSP as a community service and will not retain any record of orders, so please ensure that you keep your own record of purchase as the School takes no responsibility for lost orders.

2010 School Magazine

A reminder that the school magazine can be ordered through the office for $20 per copy.

Please complete the attached slip and return to the office with your order and payment.

2010 School Magazine Order

Name ______________________  Class/Home Room _____ wish to purchase _____
copy/copies of the 2010 school magazine.    Amount $ enclosed ______

Signed: _______________________________  Date:   _______________________

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………
COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

Devonport Little Athletic Centre

Try your first 2 FREE competition days before you decide at anytime throughout our season at Girdlestone Park, Corner John & Caroline Streets, East Devonport for children aged from 5-14 at 30th September, younger siblings of athletes aged 3-4, participate in tiny tots. Commencing at 8.25am - 10.30am Saturday 30th October & 5.00pm Monday 1st November, for more information contact Paula 0458 577 918 mjplbrown@bigpond.com or Selina 0408 730 117 rushsbck@bigpond.com

Railton Community Outside School Hours Care Program

We are extremely pleased to say the program is running now 5 days per week. Tammy is our Team Leader, Tammy is well known at the school as she masters a variety of roles within the school setting. The Outside School Hours Care program is open to all children; this includes children of both working and non-working families. We also welcome children who attend other schools and may live in the area. If you have any enquires or even if you would like your child to attend occasionally on that one day when you “get stuck” please do not hesitate to be in touch.

Position Vacant:

If you consider that you have the relevant qualifications and or experience to be able to assist with being a relief staff person when Tammy is unable to work the Outside School Hours Care program, please do not hesitate to be in touch with us at Elanora Children’s Centre on 64 24 3638 or email Elanora@devonportchildcare.org.au

Disclaimer: Parents should note that advertisements for education services, companies, activities or similar events are published as a ‘community service’. Sheffield School is in no way liable for the quality, supervision or integrity of the provider and strongly suggests that parents make their own enquiries before engaging with the advertised event.

Malcolm Moore, Principal
This survey gives parents the opportunity to comment on the aspects of school performance that have been identified as important to parents in our Supportive School Environment Policy. Along with student and staff surveys, this will help us identify areas for improvement. Results will be reported to parents in term 3.

Please return this form at parent teacher meetings, or directly to the school office.

Please rate each statement as either  
- (a) Strongly disagree  
- (b) Disagree a bit  
- (c) Neither agree or disagree  
- (d) Agree a bit  
- (e) Strongly agree

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Community Links</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1)</td>
<td>As a parent I have a good knowledge of how our school operates</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I feel welcomed in my dealings with staff</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>If I have concerns I have been satisfied with the response</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The school keeps me well informed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I have opportunities to participate in the school</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I often use these forms of communication with the school (Please tick)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Newsletter, Email, SMS, Web, Phone, Note, Visit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Teaching and learning</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(2)</td>
<td>My child's individual learning needs are met</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>My children are taught well</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>My child is kept up to date with technology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Teachers are committed to improving their work</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I am kept informed about my child’s learning</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Culture and Environment</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(3)</td>
<td>Behaviour is well managed in the school</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>All children’s achievements are well recognised</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>My child feels safe at school</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Support is available for all my child’s needs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The school has a pleasant physical environment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I am pleased my child attends this school</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Personal Development</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(4)</td>
<td>My child has good relationships with teachers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>My child has good relationships with other students</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Children have good leadership opportunities at this school</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The school prepares my child for life after school</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The school encourages active healthy lifestyles</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ATTACHMENT

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING PLAN AND STUDENT FREE DAYS 2011

Dear Parents,

The Sheffield School Council strongly supports the need for teachers at our school to have three days set aside next year for professional learning. These days will be student free. The Minister for Education, Ms Lyn Thorp has determined that school communities themselves should decide whether to approve these days in 2011.

Our School Council strongly endorses the purposes of these Professional Learning Days for teachers, allowing all teachers to focus together on the school priorities of the new Australian Curriculum, ICT and aspects of quality teaching. The second purpose is for moderation of student assessments with teachers from other schools, to ensure that all children receive fair and equivalent results regardless of the school they attend.

In order to proceed with these we need your assistance. Please register your approval or otherwise through the completion of the attached survey and returning to the school office. Your response will then be forwarded to the School Council nominated returning officer. Results will be tabled at the next School Council meeting. We need a strong expression of community support for this application to be approved.

TIM DYER
CHAIRPERSON SHEFFIELD SCHOOL COUNCIL

The Principal and School Association are proposing three professional learning days

- **February 15** - Student Behaviour Support / Curriculum Planning
- **April 11** – Latrobe / Kentish Cluster writers notebook session delivered by Deborah Sukarna
- **October 14** - Moderation / Australian Curriculum

TEACHER PROFESSIONAL LEARNING 2011

The proposal for student free days for 2011 enables our school to provide teacher professional learning, curriculum development and moderation of assessments as part of our overall professional learning plan for the year, which is outlined below.

**Priorities:**

**Quality Teaching** – focus on a utilising a variety of engaging and effective strategies to enhance classroom environments and maximise student learning. Focuses in 2011 will include writing strategies and utilising NAPLAN test data to better inform our Mathematics and English teaching.
Information and Communication Technologies – ensuring that all subjects incorporate ICT into teaching and learning, making use of technologies such as our school computing facilities, school web, and interactive whiteboards.

Australian Curriculum – Staff will focus on adopting the curriculum requirements of the new Australian Curriculum which will be introduced in 2012.

Organisation:
The student free days form an important part of our overall professional learning program, which also includes:

- **Monday / Tuesday afternoon meetings** (alternating between Management, Sectional, Curriculum Group and Team Planning sessions + additional sessions as required)

Management – whole school decision making forum, planning and organisation matters

Sectional – incorporating organisation matters as well as a curriculum focus; particularly team planning and the sharing of information and professional learning activities aligned with the school and individual priorities.

Tasmanian Curriculum Groups - teams of teachers working collaboratively to support the implementation of the Tasmanian Curriculum within our school.

Team Planning – Dedicated time for planning in both grade and specialised planning teams.

- **First Term Moderation Day** (May)
  All schools on the North West Coast will meet on this day to develop common assessment tasks and develop a common understanding of the Standards and stages against which schools will assess. Work from this day will be followed up at school meetings and the professional learning days on October 14.

- **Professional Activity Days**
  In addition to the Professional Learning listed above staff are required to complete four Professional Activity Days throughout the year, outside of normal school hours, for teachers to work on their Individual Professional Learning Plans and school priorities.
The survey process will ensure that the Principal, School Council and Staff will not know how you have voted.

Please tick one of the two boxes below

I support the proposal ☐

I do not support the proposal ☐

Note

The Minister for Education is the only person who is authorised to change the attendance times for schools. The Minister has indicated he will approve change when less than 25% of families lodge an objection to the proposal.

If the proposal has parent and staff support as well as the support of the School Council and the Minister approves the proposed professional learning day/s, the day/s will be taken on February 15, April 11 and October 14.

If you have any questions or comments about the survey or you would like more information, please contact the Principal or the School Council Chairperson.

THE FINAL RETURN DATE FOR THE SURVEY IS FRIDAY NOVEMBER 12\textsuperscript{TH}.

Thank you