Dear Parents,

As we near the end of a busy term I would like to acknowledge the achievements of the following groups of students that have demonstrated excellent leadership in conducting a range of activities over the last month for the benefit of younger students within our school community.

**Science Fair**
Last Wednesday afternoon Miss Dudley’s grade 9 Science students hosted the early childhood classes for a wonderful and enlightening scientific experience to celebrate Science Week. The feedback from the students and staff was very positive. Well done to Miss Dudley and all of the grade 9 students!

**40 Hour Famine**
Our SRC have been particularly busy this term, with the most recent project being the organisation of the 40 Hour Famine fundraiser. The SRC students demonstrated excellent leadership and responsibility in supporting the staff to ensure a successful sleep over for secondary students recently. From all accounts there were lots of rumbling tummies, all for a good cause!

**Mini Olympics**
The countdown is on for the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; locally our students had their own taste of the Olympics with early childhood students getting into the spirit of the games on Tuesday 31st July, with the primary students participating the next day. We witnessed enthusiastic and friendly competition with everyone striving to do their best. Thank you to the teachers and our Leading Active Communities students for their organisation and leadership in conducting these events.
NWPSSA Representatives
Unfortunately this year the weather intervened and the 5/6 Sports Day was cancelled, however a number of our students attended try outs and were successful in being selected to represent the Devon area in the recently held Darwin vs Devon Carnival. Congratulations to the following students:

Hockey – Ayden Grey
Netball – Lillian Maddick, Bronte Page, Ranni Lockett and Sarah Rayner
Football – Kurt Mason

Parent Survey
Included within this newsletter is a parent survey. 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. Please take a moment to complete the survey and return back to school. Results will be reported to parents in term 3.

Dogs in the School Grounds
Over the past few weeks I have had a number of people within our school community express their concern over dogs entering the grounds without the appropriate level of tethering and control. It is important that students, staff and visitors to our school feel safe and sometimes the unpredictable nature of responses by dogs can cause distress particularly to younger members of the school community. Dog owners, thank you for your cooperation on this matter.

RON DALY
A/PRINCIPAL

CALENDAR DATES.....

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23 August</td>
<td>Parent Newsletter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MADD Night 6.30 pm Related Arts Building</td>
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<tr>
<td>27-31 August</td>
<td>Primary Book Fair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 August</td>
<td>4/5, 5, 5/6, 6 Classes Drama Excursion Burnie</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Farm Management Meeting 4.15 pm VET Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>29 August</td>
<td>Book Week Assembly (note date change)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 August</td>
<td>Secondary Sports Presentation Evening</td>
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<tr>
<td>3-7 September</td>
<td>Grade 10 Work Experience</td>
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<td>4-7 September</td>
<td>Grade 5 Camp</td>
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<td>7 September</td>
<td>Final Day of Term 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>24 September</td>
<td>Student Free Day (students do not attend)</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 September</td>
<td>First Day of Term 3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Farm Management Meeting 4.15pm VET Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 September</td>
<td>School Council Meeting 7pm VET Room</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
P-6 AWARDS
WEDNESDAY 22 AUGUST 2012

Prep
Dylan Smith
Tiarna Kenzie
Michael Kubanek
Leo Mulvey

Prep-1
Alexandra Keddie
Natalie Mason
Ethan Saunders
Matilda Wordsworth
Malissa Frankcombe

Grade 1/2A
James Currie
Maggie Brown
Lillian Rockliff

Grade 1/2B
Sky Burton
Reuben May
Jasmyne Milton

Grade 3/4A
Georgie Brown
James Knight
Annalee McCarthy
Nathan Smith

Grade 3/4B
Liam Rouse
Amber Chatterton
Jasper Mortyn
Adam Kemp

Grade 4/5
Jamien Frankcombe
Nathan Huett
Kasey Woods
Alysha Mulholland

Grade 5
Emily Barnes
Erika Pagel
Aleida Keenan

Grade 5/6
Jayke Robertson
Pyper Page
Isabelle Hester
Daniel Baigent

Grade 6
Jack Febey
Ranni Lockett
Zara Rogers
Rainee Stafford
Shelby-Lee Coleman-Mannie

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
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 to class teachers, 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

### Community Links

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

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Statement</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>My child has good relationships with teachers</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>My child has good relationships with other students</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Children have good leadership opportunities at this school</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The school prepares my child for life after school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The school encourages active healthy lifestyles</td>
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CELEBRATING LITERACY AT OUR SCHOOL

Last week, on Monday the 13th of August we had J.C. Burke, (author of Pig Boy) come to our school for the day. She spoke to the Grade 9-10 students about how she came to become a writer, how she was able to get ideas for her books and told us how to keep an open mind. During the middle block she worked with the Grade 9 students who had been studying ‘The Story of Tom Brennan’ as their class novel.

After lunch she held a creative writing class for writing for interested students from Grade 7-10. Jane told us about how to write to get the reader’s attention. She also helped us to really understand how to capture the minds of readers by using a range of ‘10/10 verbs’! She gave us a dull paragraph then we had to visualise the scenario that we wanted to adapt it to.

Here are some examples:

10 – Yaminah: “Sweat begins to prickle his long sandy hair beneath his beanie as his heart beats deep and hard in his chest. There are unfamiliar sounds all around. The squeak of the nurse’s shoes pacing the corridor, strangers making quiet, idle small talk and magazine pages being turned. He looks down at his mother who is on the floor, staring mindlessly into the distance. The only movement is her chest slowly rising and falling as she breathes. As he walks towards the door, he is startled by a strong voice. ‘Stand back’ the guard yells, and he means it. Ben drags his feet as he moves slowly back to his cold plastic seat. As he sits he gently picks up his mother’s soft hand and squeezes it lightly. She does the same back. He looks into her tired eyes and tells her that he’ll be ok, despite the uncertainty in his quiet murmur.”

9 – Jess: “The neon colours flash, illuminating the shiny sweat plastering his black hair to his chiselled face. The music vibrates through the rough brick wall, making him tremble further. His legs almost cave under him as he sees his erratic mother. Matted, oily hair, bags under her hooded eyes and shaking violently. He makes a move toward her, but the bouncer stops him. ‘Stand back’ he growls. He stares at his mother, gives a shrug and a small wave. ‘I’ll be fine’, he rasps into the icy night air.”

8 – Dayna: “Samuel takes his mother’s hand, hoping to keep her calm. Her palms are sweaty against his hot ones, though the room made of many was cool. With the occasional smile and squeeze of her hand he tries to tell her it will all be fine. When the door opens next to us and people shuffle out, a guard yells ‘Stand back!’ ‘I’ll be fine mum.’ He mumbles and lets go of her hand and wipes his hand on his suit. ‘I know’, she stutters as he gets cuffed.

7 – Bradley: “The young man taps his sneaker. He feels a slight chill as the rickety air conditioning stops running. As he waits there, near the creaky old automatic doors, his mother reaches for him to touch him before it’s too late. He ponders what to do for her. ‘Stand back!’ The guard roars. The young man shakes his head. His Mummy understands. ‘I’ll be fine’ he mutters.”

By Emily Roberts – Grade 10
HAT REMINDER

In third term all K-6 students will be required to wear their school hat during play times.

Children who do not have a hat will sit in a shaded area and will be unable to play. Hats can be purchased from the school office for $7.00.

McSheff Muffins

$1 each or 6 for $5
When: Friday 24th August
@ Lunchtime.
Where: The Canteen
What: Buy a muffin and PAY IT FORWARD to someone else.
Help children living with a serious illness learn and laugh.
On the 15th August the much awaited Sheffield School Science Fair took place. The Fair was planned, organised and conducted by the Grade 9 students, who invited all of the students from Prep—Grade 2 to attend.

There were 18 different science experiments for the younger children to watch and participate in and the Grade 9 students had a wonderful time demonstrating and explaining their work.

Some of the stand out demonstrations were the Amazing Bottle Rocket which was launched about 50m into the air, the big tub of Squishy Orge Snot, the String Telephone and the Floating Eggs.

The Science Fair was funded by a National Science Week Grant.
“Wow, Science is even more fun than Lunchtime!” “Can we do this again next week?”
“Next time we do this, can we invite our parents?” “Oh, the little kids are so much fun”.

Sheffield School Science Fair
INSTRUMENTAL AND VOCAL TUITION 2012

We are delighted to have the following instrumental and vocal tutors available for 2012:

- Kim Paisley – 0407 810 033 – singing
- Lewis Elliott – 0488 227 943 – drums
- Lucy Crowther – 0488 127 343 – brass
- John Baxter – 0403 318 944 – guitar, bass guitar
- Marie Cole – 0429 482 119 – flute, clarinet, recorder and saxophone
- Sue Andrzejczak – 0408 282 744 – piano, keyboard, violin and cello

Individual lessons cost $25.00

Group lessons cost $12.50

For more information please contact Miss Tawse.

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MADD NIGHT

Come to our MADD Night Thursday 23rd August, 6.30pm – 8pm in the Sheffield School Related Arts Building.

An evening of Music, Art, Drama and Dance to celebrate your children’s artistic journey.

Gold Coin donation
Dear Parent/Guardian,

Our school is about to launch a Scholastic Book Fair on Tuesday 28th and Thursday 30th August from 3:00 - 4:30pm! We would love to see you there. Just follow the ‘Book Fair Arrows’ from the main office to the Primary Equity Room.

Our fair will be a wonderful reading celebration giving your family the perfect opportunity to select books together. Plus your support of this fundraiser provides valuable learning resources for our school.

We hope you can join us at our Book Fair to help us celebrate reading with our students and the school community.

If you are unable to attend at the above times, students will be visiting our fair during class times when you are also welcome to attend. This time can be found on the pamphlets that students will bring home on the week before the fair.

Sharon Allen Prep/1 Teacher
Marcus Bakes Grade 6 Teacher
RED CROSS BLOOD SERVICE VISIT

On the 10th of August, the Leadership and Citizenship class listened to guest speaker Arvind Gunasekaran who came to talk to the class about blood donation and its benefits.

After breaking down blood and its three main components he told us that one person donating their blood could save 3 lives! The fact that only 3% of Australian citizens donate blood really is shocking considering that we need a lot more and different blood types can’t always have different blood types inserted into them.

A leukaemia patient that gets treatment for a year needs blood from 900 people! There are three types of blood donation that you can choose from. If you decide for whole blood, the appointment at the donation centre would be about an hour with you only needing to sit in the chair for approximately 15 minutes. To donate whole blood, you only have to be 16yrs old, over 60kgs and only have to go into the donation centre once every 3 months.

There is also plasma donation where you sit down for 45 minutes to 1½ hours and get ‘liquid gold’ taken out and the rest of your blood put back into your body. As your plasma replaces itself quickly you can have appointments as often as every two weeks. You also can have platelets taken out which is the same procedure as plasma donation and you can have appointments also after 2 weeks. Our class, with the majority under 16yrs, are really keen to do our part and donate!!! Anyone who can donate blood should, as you get so much out of helping people who you don’t know.

Chelsea Rayner

CELEBRATING LEADERS AT SHEFFIELD SCHOOL

On Wednesday 29th of August the G10 SRC will be hosting a workshop for the G3-G9 Sheffield student representatives from 12.50 -2.50pm. Invitations have been handed out and lunch will be provided. We look forward to providing students with a chance to celebrate as leaders, feel empowered to make a difference in our school and enjoy the afternoon.

FIGHT CANCER WITH FOOTY COLOURS DAY

On Thursday 30th August come to school in your best footy colours!! It’s a gold coin donation for all EC, Primary and Secondary students so come along and help fight cancer.
Helping kids with homework

For many parents homework is that time of the day when they routinely harass, hassle and harangue their child to JUST DO YOUR HOMEWORK! Here are some ideas that may help.

Homework causes more headaches for parents than it does for children. Some parents worry because their children don’t seem to do enough while others are concerned because they do too much.

But for many parents homework is that time of the day when they routinely harass, hassle and harangue their child to JUST DO YOUR HOMEWORK!

Okay, what to do?

The first step is to know the homework policy of your children’s school and understand what is expected of you as a parent. Most schools have parent interviews and information sessions at the start of the year. Next year, make sure you get a good handle on how your children’s teacher expects you to assist your child.

It is also useful to find out what your child’s teacher will do if your child doesn’t complete homework. Homework is basically an agreement between a teacher and a child so it should be up to the teacher to ensure the homework is completed. That means the teacher becomes ‘the bad guy’ and puts some consequence in place if the homework is not completed. Your role as a parent is to support the school if a consequence is put in place, such as completing work in recess or whatever the school deems appropriate.

Here are practical homework tips:

1. **Establish homework time and stick to it each day.** If children tell you they don’t have any formal homework then they can read, revise or organize their work. My feedback tells me sticking to a routine even when no formal homework is set is extremely useful and helps avoid battles.

2. **Put the onus back on your children to take responsibility for their work.** Ask children at the start of a homework session to state how much homework they will do. At the end of the session check it to see if it matches with their intentions as well as yours. If you are more concerned about homework than them, your children are not the ones responsible for their homework.

3. **Homework is as much a time management issue as anything else.** Encourage children to work reasonably quickly and efficiently. Have a set time limit, which they should stick to. There is little point slogging away once they become frustrated or tired. Give them an egg-timer or use a clock and get them to work hard for small chunks of time. A little work each night is more productive than packing it into one weekly session.

4. **Help children decide the best time to do homework and then encourage them to stick to those times.** Maybe on some days homework is tackled after dinner for any number of reasons. If doing homework straight after school is important to you then consider feeding children ONLY after homework is completed. Food can be a huge motivator for some children! (As mentioned in point one, a homework routine is important but the timing can vary.)

5. **Establish a good working environment for students.** Make sure they have a quiet, well lit, well ventilated area away from distractions. A table or desk makes a good workspace, although don’t be surprised if they spread work all over the kitchen table. Some kids hate to be stuck away in their rooms and prefer to work at the kitchen table and can do so productively. Others are easily distracted and work in short bursts. Work out what is best for YOUR child.

6. **Use the motivating factors of technology.** The Internet and other forms of electronic learning are quick, convenient and give access to huge amounts of information. Nevertheless, children should still know how to access information from more traditional means such as books. Check with your child’s teacher as to their specific recommendations and preferences.

7. **Encourage children to get organised.** Help them think ahead to plan their homework around extra-curricular activities. A weekly planner or diary will help older students get organised. Assisting children to become organised is perhaps the best way parents can help at home.

8. **If you are helping with a particular task, keep your explanation simple and practical.** If you become frustrated or upset and the atmosphere becomes tense – stop helping.

9. **Be realistic – don’t expect to solve all homework difficulties.** When in doubt send a note to your child’s teacher letting him or her know the problem. The teacher will appreciate this good communication.

10. **Communicate any concerns.** If you have concerns about how much or the difficulty of homework your child is set, contact the teacher and arrange a time to discuss your worries. Such discussion is the basis of a true partnership between you and your child’s teacher.

The place of homework is routinely questioned by education authorities (now is currently one of those times in Australia) but my gut reaction is that children will always have homework. The name may change and the activities may vary but it will always be homework.

Schools generally try to make sure homework is varied, interesting, engaging and purposeful for children and parents.

Parents also need to be patient with both children (if they struggle) and schools that are trying to find a balance between too little and too much.
COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

RIVERBEND HOLIDAY CAMPS SEPTEMBER 2012

Camp 1: Sunday September 9th to Friday September 14th – Grades 3, 4, and 5
Camp 2: Sunday September 16th to Friday September 21st – Grades 5, 6, and 7

Camp fees are $110 per person. Fee must be paid with your application. Application forms can be obtained from school or by contacting Riverbend Youth Centre by telephone (03) 6452 1635 Fax (03) 6452 1699. Camps are popular and spaces are limited.

SHANIKA’S AUCTION

A Charity Auction will be held this Friday the 24th of August at McKenna Park in Burnie to raise money for a bubbly little 4 year old girl, Shanika Thomas. The auction will commence at 7pm, with a light supper provided and bar facilities will be available. Due to a traumatic start to life, Shanika suffers from Epilepsy, Global Developmental Delay, Microcephaly along with sight and hearing impairments.

Shanika is in need of a specialised pram and requires ongoing treatment and equipment to help improve her quality of life 😊 Some of the items we have on offer are family accommodation and tourist attraction packages, signed sports memorabilia, a mini quad bike and two special collages donated by the Olympic champion herself, Dawn Fraser! Please come along and support this very worthy cause! For more information or donations, please contact Tammy King on 0437 421121.

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