From the Principal ………………………

Dear Parents,

Welcome to term 2, I believe the general feeling within the school community was that the term break came at just about the right time and hopefully everyone is feeling refreshed and ready for the busy term ahead.

NAPLAN Testing
All students in grade 3, 5, 7 and 9 will participate in NAPLAN testing next week, May 14- May 16. Testing will be in the areas of reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation and numeracy. The aggregated, grade cohort and individual data obtained from this testing, along with other school based testing data is very important and assists to inform school and class planning for the following year in the areas of literacy and numeracy.

Moderation Day
As parents would be aware this year students are being assessed against Australian Curriculum achievement standards in the areas of English, Mathematics, Science and History. During the Moderation Day held on the last day of term 1, our staff collaborated with other staff from across our cluster and the wider network of schools in the North West Learning Service, to further develop a common understanding of the assessment standards associated with the new curriculum. The ultimate aim of these days is to ensure equity in assessment across all schools i.e. a work sample from a student in Sheffield may be assessed at a “C” rating, and if that piece of work were assessed by a teacher in another school we would expect the same assessment. The feedback from our staff in regard to the progress achieved from these opportunities to work with their colleagues from other schools has been very positive and beneficial.

Student Uniform
In recent times there has been a considerable change in the temperature, with winter just around the corner. Our students with the support of parents have presented extremely well in school uniform over the course of term 1. Unfortunately with the colder weather we often see students wearing jumpers and hoodies that are not a part of our school uniform. As a school we have a fleecy jacket option for Primary students and a wind stopper jacket for Secondary students or a rugby top for all grades as a measure to counter the colder weather. I would appreciate parent support to ensure students continue to wear their full school uniform over the remainder of the year.
Cambodia Volunteers Abroad Trip
As publicised towards the end of 2012, later this year a group of 9 students (pictured below) and 3 adults will travel to Cambodia to volunteer their services on a project to support local people. Whilst very excited about the contribution that we as a school community can make to those people living in third world conditions, and the learning and growth for students that comes with such an experience we are acutely aware that the cost of the project is beyond the capability of our school to resource on its own. This is a project that will require a partnership between the school, parents and the local community to meet the associated costs. Over the course of this term we will be approaching organisations and businesses within our local community seeking sponsorship. We will recognise sponsors contributions in future newsletters, as well as keeping our school community up to date with our fundraising activities and progress, as well as information on the project that we will be raising funds for to complete whilst in Cambodia.

RON DALY
PRINCIPAL
### Calendar dates.....

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 May</td>
<td>Newsletter</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 May</td>
<td>Grade 9’s Youth Expo Burnie</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mother’s Day Stall</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 May</td>
<td>Farm Management Meeting 4.15pm VET Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 May – 16 May</td>
<td>NAPLAN Testing</td>
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<td>16 May</td>
<td>School Council Meeting</td>
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<td>17 May</td>
<td>Immunisations HPV, Boostrix</td>
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<td>Prep 1 Allen and 2 Moore Melrose Arboretum</td>
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<td>21 May</td>
<td>Try a Trade Grade 9 to Burnie</td>
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<td>22 May</td>
<td>P-6 Assembly</td>
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<td>23 May</td>
<td>Newsletter</td>
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<tr>
<td>24 May</td>
<td>Walk Safely to School Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>28 May</td>
<td>Farm Management Meeting 4.15pm VET Room</td>
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<td></td>
<td>NWPSSA Cross Country - Ulverstone</td>
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<tr>
<td>31 May</td>
<td>3/4 Dowie Arboretum Excursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 June</td>
<td>7 -10 Assembly</td>
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<td>6 June</td>
<td>Newsletter</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 June</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 June</td>
<td>P-6 Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 June</td>
<td>Newsletter</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 June</td>
<td>Farm Management Meeting 4.15pm VET Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 June</td>
<td>School Production Evening Session – 7.30pm</td>
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<td>4 July</td>
<td>School Socials</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Newsletter</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 July</td>
<td>Term 2 Concludes</td>
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### Student Absence Procedures

When a student is to be absent from school, our preference is for the office to be notified on that morning. This can be done by phoning 64918222, and if the office is unattended leaving a message on the answering service. Alternatively a message can be sent via email to sheffield@education.tas.gov.au or a text message may be sent to 0447 100 250. Please note, this is a new mobile phone number for texting purposes only. Please do not telephone this number.

If a student in grades Kinder to 10 is absent from school without explanation, at 10.00am on that morning a text message will be sent to parents. This message has two purposes. Firstly, it is an opportunity for parents to explain the absence quickly and conveniently with a reply text message, or as a reminder to send a note to the teacher the next morning. Secondly, this is an important safety issue, ensuring the whereabouts of all children. Obviously our mobile phone contact details for parents need to be accurate, so if yours have changed, please let the office know.

Finally, if parents have not taken any of these opportunities to explain absences, teachers will send a ‘notification of student absences slip’ home with students the week following the unexplained absence, to be completed and returned to school. If this slip is not returned teachers will attempt to make contact by phone, and failing that a letter will be sent from the office.
Grade 5 Camp Fundraiser – Mother’s Day Stall

On Friday May 10 May (tomorrow), the Grade 5’s will be hosting their Mother’s Day Stall in the Primary Equity Room to fundraise for Grade 5 Camp. Items will range in price from $1 to $5. Early childhood and primary classes will be visiting the stall so that students can purchase a special gift for Mother’s Day and support our Grade 5’s in their fundraising efforts.

Thank you for your support!

Sheffield School Cuppa-For-Cancer

Sheffield School will be hosting a cuppa for Cancer MORNING TEA on Wednesday 22 May 2013. We were delighted with the community support last year and look forward to providing morning tea again this year for $5 a plate.

To assist with our catering, students will deliver order forms to businesses early in May and collect completed forms by May 13. Pre-ordered morning tea plates will be delivered before 9.30am on Wednesday May 22 and will be COD.

We will also offer a sit down morning tea at school for community members on Wed 22 May with entry from Main Street. A $5 morning tea plate consisting of hot and cold items will be available from 11am with the choice of a cuppa or soup. We will also offer a trade table this year.

Any enquiries to Anna Maddick 64918222

WALK SAFELY TO SCHOOL DAY

On Friday 24 May Sheffield School will participate in the Walk Safely to School Day. This is where we encourage students to walk to school and to keep active. All students who travel to school by bus will be dropped off at the Recreation Ground in Sheffield. Students will be met by teachers who will walk to school with them. Students who travel by car are encouraged to show their support by being dropped off a block or two away from school and walk the remaining distance.
With the retirement of Kathy Young, our new library assistant is Amanda Grey. To assist her in ensuring our library functions efficiently, it is important to remind students of their responsibility in returning books within the allocated time frame for borrowing. Over the years many valuable books have gone missing and these are costly to replace. We would appreciate it if parents and guardians can monitor the borrowing of books and ensure that they are returned on time so that other students can enjoy these valuable resources. Thank you very much for your cooperation in this matter.

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

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**ORAL HEALTH SERVICES TASMANIA**

**Did You Know?**

Oral Health Services provides **FREE** dental examinations and preventive care to **ALL** children under 18 years of age.

Treatment following examination is **FREE** if your child is covered by a current Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card.

Treatment following the examination will incur a co-payment if your child is **NOT** covered by a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card.

Please talk to staff about payment options.

**Medicare Teen Dental Vouchers accepted**

Call today for a dental appointment:

**6421 7729**

[webpage link: www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/oralhealth]

Department of Health and Human Services
Dental Services for Children and Adolescents

Who is eligible?
All children under 18 years of age, including preschoolers.

What services are available?
Oral examination, x-rays, fillings, preventive care, advice on dental development, dietary advice, oral hygiene instruction and referral for further assessment/treatment if required.

How do I make an appointment for my child?
Call your local public dental clinic. The telephone numbers are listed on the back of this information sheet.

How much will I have to pay?
All children receive free examinations and preventive care.

Treatment following the examination is free if your child is covered by a current Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card.

Treatment following the examination will incur a co-payment if your child is not covered by a current Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card.

Please talk to our staff about payment options.

Can I use my Medicare Teen Dental Voucher?
If you have a Teen Dental Voucher it can be used at any of our clinics for preventive care.

For a Healthy Mouth and Body...
Brush twice a day with fluoride toothpaste, spit out and don't rinse.

www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/oralhealth
Department of Health and Human Services

Come along to the Gearing Up Expo, showcasing employment, education and community options for people with disability.

Thursday 6th of June 11am - 5pm
Tahflag Riverside
Call Us: 6324 3758  www.gearingupexpo.com.au

The DisabilityCare Australia Agency will be there preparing Tasmanians who are aged between 15 to 24 for the launch of the National Disability Insurance Scheme in Tasmania.
Helping students get ready for the NAPLAN tests

The most resilient children and young people are those who rise to meet rather than retreat from the challenges presented to them. Perhaps it’s best to view the NAPLAN tests as good learning experiences rather than dreaded pressure tests.

During the second week of May Australian children in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will take part in the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). The stated purpose of this testing program is to gain an overall picture of educational attainment levels to assist education policy and decision-making.

The program first implemented in 2008 has drawn some criticism from a number of different quarters, particularly in regard to the use of the information gained through the NAPLAN tests. You’ve probably heard a number of different viewpoints expressed in the media over the last few weeks.

One view commonly put forward is that the NAPLAN tests put undue pressure on children to perform in test situations. If so, then perhaps the best approach for parents and teachers is to help them handle the pressure rather than avoid it. “The most resilient children and young people are those who rise to meet rather than retreat from the challenges presented to them. Perhaps it’s best to view the NAPLAN tests as good learning experiences rather than dreaded pressure tests.

Children and young people take cues from their parents about how to handle many situations. American psychologist Martin Seligman discovered more than a decade ago, through his research into children’s thinking styles, how closely a child’s explanatory style mimics that of the parent they spend most time around. Optimistic parents beget optimistic kids, just as anxious parents can beget anxious kids. The impact of a parent’s explanatory style seems to be magnified somehow in small families where there are fewer voices to be heard.

As a parent it helps your child, if you take a positive view of the NAPLAN tests, it’s better to see them as learning opportunities for kids as well as opportunities to overcome any anxieties or nerves that these tests may bring on. It’s also worth remembering that many children don’t stress over these tests. The vast majority take them in their stride, wondering what all the fuss is about.

Whether your child stresses or takes them in his stride here are some tips to help prepare for the NAPLAN tests:

1. **Take your cues from your child.** If your child doesn’t worry about them then neither should you. Be careful not to create a problem that doesn’t exist by incessantly talking about, or worse, worrying about the test.

2. **Focus on doing their best & trying hard.** Choose your words carefully when you speak with your kids. As with all their learning activities place your focus squarely on effort rather than results. The only pressure on kids should be to try hard rather than to do well.

3. **Listen to any concerns they have.** If your child confesses to some nerves then validate their feelings, rather than shut them down with a “get over it!” response. “Yes, sometimes tests can be a little scary, but they get easier every time you take them.” Use this as an opportunity to develop some emotional smarts, which starts with recognising how kids feel.

4. **Give them some relaxation ideas.** Anxious or nervous kids will benefit from some simple relaxation strategies. Taking some deep breaths, changing their thinking and exercising the morning of the test are some simple ways to help kids get some feeling of control.

5. **Help them retain their perspective.** One way to help children who become excessively anxious about an event is to ask what’s the worst thing that could happen? Okay, they may not do as well as they would like but the sun will still rise tomorrow, regardless of how well they do. Keeping perspective is a life skill that we all need to practise.

A positive, caring parent attitude is one of the best gifts you can give a child when they are apprehensive or nervous about approaching any different situation whether it’s going on school camp, joining a new club or sitting a NAPLAN test.
Dear Parents/Carers,

The Active After-schools Communities (AASC) program will commence on Monday 20\textsuperscript{th} May (Netball, Soccer, Thunderhoc) and Wednesday 22\textsuperscript{nd} May (Dodgeball, Volleyball, Futsal).

- The program will operate from 3pm – 4.00pm and run for 7 weeks with the last sessions occurring during the week beginning 1\textsuperscript{st} July.
- \textit{Monday’s activities will be for grades 1 - 4 students only, whilst Wednesday’s activities will be for grades 3-6 only.}
- \textit{Monday’s sessions will be a combination of netball, soccer and thunderhoc.}
- \textit{Wednesday’s sessions will be dodgeball, volleyball and futsal.}

- Children not currently participating in sporting teams are strongly encouraged to participate and join the fun.
- Children will be provided with a healthy after school snack as well as a drink bottle.
- All sessions will be conducted by suitably qualified instructors endorsed by the AASC program.
- Provision will be made for inclement weather; sessions will be conducted indoors in the advent of wet weather.
- Students involved in the program will be supervised at all times and need to meet the supervisor in the assembly area outside the gym immediately after school at 3pm.

If your child/ren is interested in enrolling please complete the form below and return to the school office by Friday 17\textsuperscript{th} May.

**Please note:** there will not be a confirmation slip sent home. Unless notified otherwise you can assume that your child/ren has been accepted into the chosen activity.

If you have any queries regarding the AASC program please don’t hesitate to contact me through the school office.

Tony Hays
AASC Program School Coordinator

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**AASC Program - Term 2 2013**

I would like to enrol my child/ren into the indicated activities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday (Grades 1-4)</th>
<th>Wednesday (Grades 3-6)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>\textit{Netball, Soccer, Thunderhoc}</td>
<td>\textit{Dodgeball, Volleyball, Futsal}</td>
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<tr>
<td>_ _ _ _ _ _ class:____</td>
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Signed ___________________ Contact Number_______________________
**COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD**

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**No 34 Aboriginal Health Service**

**MUM’S AND BUB’S PROGRAM**

Every second Thursday we come together and learn about different local animals and plants, make a crafty activity and meet new friends!

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**East Devonport Child and Family Centre**

**Thursday 9 May 2013**

9.30am — 11.30am

40 Drew Street (next to the school)

please rsvp your interest 6425 0850 or contact no34@tasmedicarelocal.com.au

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**Come Together Concert** — Jessica Mauboy

**Sunday 19th May 7.00pm.**

Venue - New Stadium, Ulverstone Showgrounds

Reserve-A Tickets are $70 and Premium Tickets are $80. Tickets are available from the following outlets: Devonport Entertainment & Convention Centre (Phone: 6420 2900), Mecca Restaurant in Burnie or Maveric Clothing in Ulverstone or you can book online at www.decc.net.au

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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.

Ron Daly, Principal