From the Principal ………………………

Dear Parents,

Students have generally settled well into the year. My observations over the past two weeks have been of students focused and working hard on their learning programs across all areas of the curriculum.

Swimming Carnival
Last Friday we held our annual swimming carnival at the new Splash Aquatic Centre in Devonport. It was great to see so many students participating and enjoying themselves on a beautiful summer’s day. The result of the carnival will be announced at tomorrow’s 3-10 assembly. Congratulations to the Kentish student ironman team who were successful by the smallest of margins over a fast finishing staff team in the final event of the day. Thank you to those parents, family and friends that were able to attend and support their children. Finally a thank you to all staff, particularly Mr Hays, Miss Scattergood and Miss Parsons for the organisation of the carnival.

Bus Safety
Each year we focus on bus safety within an early newsletter, this is due to the fact that approx. 80% of our student population utilise this mode of transport to get to and home from school. I would recommend parents take some time with their child/ren to visit the website http://bussafety.dier.tas.gov.au/. There are some excellent tips, activities and visual reminders that support safe practices both on and around buses.

Congratulations to the following students who have been appointed Bus Monitors for 2014. Bus Monitors assist the drivers and school staff in the safe operation of buses to and from school. I am sure the following students will carry out this role diligently this year.

Railton
Kristy Mason, William Kerr, Rainee Stafford

Beulah
Daniel Perkins, Georgina Rayner

Lower Barrington/Wilmot
Jeremy Denby, Paige Tirant, Damian Colgan

Nook
Bronte Page, Jessica Temple, Katelyn O’Neill

Staverton
Bianca Eberle, Liam Davies

Paradise
Thomas Febey, Madelyn Keen

Claude Road
Keeley Hurley, Hayley Rowland, Sarah Barker
Cement Australia Visit
Last Wednesday evening Mrs Von Schill, Mrs Turnbull and I attended Cement Australia’s community consultation meeting. The evening included a tour of the site and an overview of the operations. Cement Australia is a great supporter of local community organisations through its annual community grants program. The Railton campus chaplaincy program was the recipient of a $1000 grant at the end of 2013, to assist with resources and materials to support activities. We look forward to continuing our relationship with Cement Australia and taking up the opportunity for students to visit the site and strengthen scientific concepts studied through the industry examples provided at the Railton site.

Ron Daly
PRINCIPAL

Calendar dates…..

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>28 February</td>
<td>Grade 3 – 10 Assembly (commences at 11.45am)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Clean Up Australia Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 March</td>
<td>Grade 7 and 9 Immunisations</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Inter-high Swimming Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 March</td>
<td>Eight Hour Day Public Holiday</td>
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<td>13 March</td>
<td>NWPSSA Athletics</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 March</td>
<td>NWPSSA Twilight Finals</td>
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<tr>
<td>22/23 March</td>
<td>Relay for Life (Penguin Sports Complex)</td>
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PLEASE NOTE – Tuesday 4 April 2014 is NOT a Student Free Day as stated in the last newsletter. The date should have read Tuesday 4 February 2014, which has already passed.

STUDENT FREE DAYS
Professional Learning Day Tuesday 4 February 2014
Moderation Day Thursday 17 April 2014
Professional Learning Day Monday 21 July 2014
Professional Learning Day Friday 24 October 2014

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS 2014
Long Weekends Monday, 10 March, Monday, 9 June, Monday, 3 November
Devonport Show Friday, 28 November
**Instrument Tutors**

Please welcome Cam Sherriff to our school. Cam is an experienced musician and teacher who will be teaching students to play the guitar and drums this year.

If you are interested in your child receiving a private instrument lesson, please contact the tutor as detailed below:

- **Marie Cole** 0429 482 119 Flute, Clarinet, Recorder and Saxophone
- **Lucy Crowther** 6496 1333 Brass and Piano. (lessons also available at Railton)
- **Sue Andrzeiczak** 0408 282 744 Piano, Keyboard, Violin and Cello
- **Kim Paisley** 0407 810 033 Voice
- **Cam Sherriff** 0467 381 981 Drum and Guitar (direct debit available)

Please remember that if your child is going to miss a lesson, it is your responsibility to contact the tutor or you may be charged for the missed lesson.

**PATHWAYS UPDATE**

Pathways has had a busy start to the year with a number of Career Awareness Programs already becoming available.

I have been able to meet briefly with all Grade 10 students to help with ensuring those with an interest in any particular area are able to access appropriate information as it becomes available. The pathway planning process will soon commence with the intention that each student will commence their individual plans for next year by the end of this term.

During terms 2 & 3, grade 10 students will continue to build on this term’s work and extending their plans to include preliminary subject decisions and choices for next year.

Term 3 will mostly likely see the ‘Don Taster Day’ again – this has been a huge success in previous years as Don College help students to become familiar with the college, with the teachers and with the subject content.

Following the Taster Day, Don College will visit Sheffield School to commence the enrolment process and finally during term 4, they will provide students with a head start to 2015 with the ‘Start Day’ program.

As dates are locked in, we will be sure to keep you informed and if anyone would like to be involved with any part of the transition process, please feel free to contact me via email rachel.matchett@education.tas.gov.au or at the school office. Attached is some further information about the role of Pathway Planning in schools.

**Defence Forces Day**

Each year the Defence Forces run an information day at the Wivenhoe Barracks. The day is designed to help students become aware of what careers are available in the Defence Forces and how the recruitment process works. The day also includes practical activities to help students develop a sound understanding of the physical demands that go with being a member of the Defence Forces. This year Keeley Hurley from grade 10 attended and reported back that it was a valuable experience. Keeley said she learned a lot and would recommend any grade 9 student to seriously consider applying for this day when it becomes available next year.
Discover Agriculture & Discover Dairying Programs
Rural Skills Tasmania each year run programs in Agriculture and Dairy that are designed to help students discover some of the vast range of careers that are available in this growing industry. This year there is a 3 ½ day program for Discovering Dairying and a 5 day Discover Agriculture program that are available for our students to apply for.

In previous years Sheffield School students who have attended have benefited so much they have gone onto extended programs and further study in this field. Given the growth of this industry, it is well worth considering. If any students are interested in participating or would like more information, please contact Rachel as soon as possible.

Guaranteeing your child’s future
Many parents will remember a time not so long ago when you could finish school at 15 and walk straight into a job or start a trade. Well, times and technology have changed.

Teenagers of today find themselves competing for jobs and study opportunities against many other experienced applicants and older workers.

There is no longer the guarantee that once your child finishes school there will be a job opportunity waiting for them. And, it’s likely that your child will need to re-skill or seek further training at least once in their working lives.

That’s why it’s so important that today’s teenagers realise the importance of getting a good education; and that finishing Year 10 is not the end of their education, but the beginning of a life-long journey of learning and education opportunities that will enrich their lives and help them achieve success in all areas of their lives.

Research shows that young people who continue their education or training after Year 10 are more likely to have better opportunities and chances of choosing what they want to do in life than those who leave at the end of high school.

To help Tasmanian students have the very best chance of getting a job and leading happy and healthy adult lives, all students completing Year 10 in Tasmania are required by law to continue participating in education or training programs until they turn 17 or until they achieve a Certificate III vocational qualification*

Eligible education or training options for a young person after completing Year 10 include:
• under taking a course of study at a senior secondary college or district high school
• under taking a course of study at the TAFE
• under taking an apprenticeship or traineeship
• under taking a training course through a registered training organisation
• being home educated through registration with the Tasmanian Home Education Advisory Council

As a parent, it is your responsibility to ensure your child continues beyond Year 10 to further education or training.

So, make sure that you take the opportunity to sit down and talk to your child about their options after they finish Year 10 and their future prospects, and remind them that the more skills they have, the more career opportunities they will have available to them.
While many students may be tempted to finish school and get out into the workforce as soon as they possibly can, staying in school and/or getting a qualification will significantly improve their chances of embarking on a fulfilling career later on in life.

Remember, it's never too early (or too late) to talk to your child about their future!

If you or your child would like more information, or are unsure about further education and training options talk to your Pathway Planner or Year 10 Coordinator.

* An exemption may apply for young people who are in regular employment for at least 25 hours per week. An application can also be made for an exemption for special circumstances.

What is pathway planning?  
...and why is it important?

Pathway planning is the Department of Education's initiative to help your child plan and prepare for their transition to further education, training, or full-time employment.

Pathway planning helps students in Year 10 understand more about themselves and the world of work. It aims to equip them with the skills they need to make informed and realistic choices about their future and to help them make a decision about what education or training option they want to continue with at the end of Year 10.

Through the pathway planning process, your child will identify their strengths, interests, goals, aspirations and will be supported in exploring their learning needs and abilities.

Each high school has a Pathway Planning Officer who will work with your child in Year 10 to develop a Pathway Plan. The Pathway Planner's role is to provide information and advice about education, training and career pathways. They will support and encourage your child to think about what they know about themselves, what they might want to do in the future and what they need to do to get there.

In developing their Pathway Plan, your child will think about questions like:

- What do I want for my future?
- How do I get there?
- Who can help me?
- What are my choices?
- What is my decision?
- Why is this right for me?

The Pathway Planner will meet with your child throughout the year, and will also provide opportunities for your child to participate in vocational education and learning programs and career-based activities.

At the end of Year 10, your child will have had the opportunity to complete a Pathway Plan that will assist them in making a clear decision about the education, training or work options they would like to pursue the following year. * At the end of Year 10, schools are required to register each student's destination for the following year.

How can you help?  
As a parent, you play a vital role in helping your child to make pathway choices.

While the pathway planning your child does at school will help them to plan and document the options that they think might be best for them, it's the support and encouragement they receive at home that will really make the difference.
• Talk regularly with your child about their Pathway Planning and other learning activities. Make sure you ask questions that need more than just a ‘yes’ or ‘no’ answer!

• Encourage your child to do casual, volunteer or holiday work. It will give them experience in the world of work and what it involves, and will also help to build networks that may lead to future work or career opportunities.

• Encourage their interests – by exploring and going to places that are related to their learning or career interests. Visiting a workplace or learning venue can help take the mystery out of their choices and help them to make more confident steps towards their chosen career.

• Make a decision together about where your child will be the following year. Make sure your child has either enrolled at college or will be undertaking some sort of training or work. As a parent, it is your legal responsibility to ensure your child continues with their education, training or full-time work after they leave Year 10.

*The law now requires young Tasmanians to continue participating in education or training until they turn 17. For more information, on guaranteeing your child’s future, go online at www.education.tas.gov.au/school/curriculum/guaranteeing-futures/legislation.

Launching into Learning

It’s on again in the Kindergarten building, Sheffield School, Henry Street Campus.
Every Friday, choose to come either from 11:15am-12:30pm or 1:30-2:40pm.
Open to all local children from birth to four years and their families.
It’s fun and it’s free!
This week’s theme is Water Ways.
We are looking forward to seeing you there.

Karie van der Velde
Launching into Learning Co-ordinator
Sheffield School, Henry Street Campus

Soccer 2014

A reminder that “Expressions of Interest” soccer slips need to be returned to the office by 17 March and registration forms and money to be returned to the office by 17 March.

There will be no Under 6 (prep) soccer in 2014. Sorry for any inconvenience.
Parent involvement – the secret ingredient to children’s school success

Positive parent participation demonstrates to children that you value learning as well as holding their school in high regard.

If you want the best outcomes for your child or young person then it’s important that you become involved in as many aspects of your child’s education as practical.

The involvement of parents helps break down the mystique about school that can exist for some children. Their chances of success are better when they see school as an extension of home rather than merely an institution for learning.

Positive parent participation demonstrates to children that you value learning as well as their school. Children copy many of their parents’ views so your positive attitude to school and learning is catching.

Parent involvement takes energy

Many primary schools offer parents classroom jobs such as hearing kids read, taking small groups in elective activities and assisting children when writing stories.

Unfortunately, finding parents who are willing to take part in these activities is increasingly difficult. Many parents find themselves worn out from working too hard or being involved in a variety of activities. They find themselves with no energy left to be involved in their child’s school.

Make sure kids are school ready every day

Participating as a parent can be much broader than helping out in the classroom. There is a range of simple things you can do at home that will assist teachers to maximise the learning of your child.

These include: talking with your child about their day, hearing young learners read, helping with homework and making sure kids go off to school happy, healthy and having had plenty of sleep.

Here are some more ideas to help you participate in your child’s education in positive ways:

- **Find out** what your school is trying to achieve for your child and show your support for its aims. Discover what sets your child’s school apart from others.

- **Support** a broad, balanced curriculum that offers children a variety of educational experiences rather than a program that focuses narrowly on the traditional 3 R’s.

- **Direct conversations** through the correct channels such as your child’s teacher, the principal or the school’s governing body. Gossip or thoughtless criticism within the general community can easily tarnish a school’s reputation.

- **Become an advocate** for your child’s school and promote its positive features throughout the wider community. Encourage your child to take pride in their school through your example.

- **Attend** school activities such as open days, concerts, sports events and celebrations. Invite other members of the community along as well.

- **Consult** with your child’s teacher about practical ways that you can assist both at home and at school.

Positive parent participation in school and learning is a proven contributor to student success. One practical way to assist your child as a learner is to become actively involved in his or her school life.

Parenting ideas just got better! Parenting Ideas Club has just been launched and has all the answers you need. There are 100’s of articles, videos, guides, how to’s, book reviews and more available for members. Become a member today at parentingideasclub.com.au.
COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

**Hook in 2 Hockey**

Under 14 Roster 2014

Grades 6 - 9

For more information contact Jess Ryan on 0438571525 (after 3.30pm), jess.ryan@education.tas.gov.au or Sharlene Hardy on 0419357433 / 64273339 or csmhardy@bigpond.com

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**Disclaimers:** 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

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**STEAMFEST**

6-10 March 2014

Train rides from the original Sheffield railway station • Model Trains

Steam-powered threshing, chaff cutting • Live music

Rock crushing, straw pressing, road building • Vintage cars

Best dressed Steampunk and Victorian/Edwardian era competition

Light horse demonstration • Children’s rides • Steamrollers

Tractor pulling • Food & craft stalls • Working bullock team

Blacksmithing • Live music

& Much More!

(Please print & present this to redeem)

www.steamfesttasmania.org.au

Steamp train rides first weekend of every month:

www.sheffield.tas.gov.au

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