Key Dates for 2015

Wed 19/Thu 20 Aug
Golf Clinic (Primary)

Wed 19 Aug
WotOpera! Gr 8 Drama

Thu 20 Aug
40 Hour Famine Sleepover
Bravehearts Presentation K – 2
Railton & Sheffield Campus

Fri 21 Aug
3/4R Queen Victoria Museum
Excursion

Mon 24 – Fri 28 Aug
Book Week

Tue 25 Aug
Child Studies Excursion to Mersey
Community Hospital

Wed 26 Aug
Wot Opera! Grade 8 Drama

Fri 28 Aug
Book Week Assembly

Issue No. 11 : 13 August 2015

Dear Parents

I just wanted to draw your attention to a couple of matters that have created some concerns of late.

Firstly, this term an increasing number of students have been bringing containers of noodles to school for their lunch. In the past either teaching staff or canteen staff have assisted students to prepare their noodles by placing the hot water into the container. However because of the larger number of students bringing noodles to school, the practicalities of supporting this number of students, and concerns around the safety and wellbeing of all around boiling water, this practice will not continue into the future. I apologise for any inconvenience caused by this decision.

Secondly, in regard to student mobile phones and their use at school, our Technology Policy supports secondary students utilising their phones appropriately during break times, unfortunately however in recent times a large number of students have been using their phones during class time. In this case the teacher will generally confiscate the phone and sign it into the office to be collected at the end of the day. Just a reminder for urgent matters parents are able to contact their child by phoning the school office on 64918222. Alternatively, parents can contact their child during break times on their personal mobile phone. Thank you for your cooperation in regard to both of these matters.
NAPLAN Results 2015
Parents of grade 3, 5, 7 and 9 students should receive their child’s individual results for the National testing of literacy and numeracy today. These were sent home via students in an envelope marked to parents. A summary of results for all students who sat the tests is included in the table below. Each number shows the percentage of students who have achieved or exceeded the national benchmark.

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<tr>
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<th>Grade 3</th>
<th>Grade 5</th>
<th>Grade 7</th>
<th>Grade 9</th>
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<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>93</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>70</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>78</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grammar and Punctuation</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>85</td>
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<tr>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
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Teachers use the results in two ways:
Firstly, to identify those students who are not meeting the benchmarks, and ensure that they are getting the support needed to help them to achieve. Secondly, to identify areas that are a focus for improvement.

How can parents help?
(1) Ensure your child attends school regularly. Results often show students not reaching the benchmarks also have many absences from school.
(2) Encourage your child to actively participate in home programs. This may be in the form of home reading or homework activities.
(3) Show your child that you are interested in and value their education. You can do this by asking about their work, and talking with teachers about their progress not only at report time, but throughout the year.

Elevate Education
Recently Elevate Education visited our school and conducted seminars for our grade 9 and 10 students focusing on how to develop effective study skills. For many students their workload increases as they progress into senior secondary school and then onto college and for many students this can be overwhelming. The Elevate Education program identifies strategies that enable students to effectively manage their increased workload, meet deadlines and prepare for exams. The seminar presenter Kirun was very enthusiastic and the students were fully engaged during his presentation. He also ran a session for teachers which was very informative, this provided staff with some background knowledge of the research that supports the messages shared in the seminar. The Elevate team will return early September to run a follow up session with our grade 9 and 10 students.

External Review
I have included a summary of feedback provided by the panel following the recent External Review; overall the feedback was really positive; they were really impressed with the physical aspects of the school - spacious, well presented, clean, orderly, well organised inviting learning environments; they were really impressed with the students that they talked with, using words like exceptional, articulate, proud, thinkers to describe them; in their conversations with students it came through that the students valued the quality of the student/ teacher relationships, that teachers have high expectations and the learning programs are tailored to individual needs, feedback is provided, students felt they were being challenged and that they were eager to attend school; it was obvious to the panel that our staff are very committed, the morale is high, and that there was strong evidence in the use of learning intentions, rubrics and the use of data to inform teaching; the main area for future focus was in relation to whole school planning with an identified need to simplify and reduce the number of priorities and ensure a through line between the DoE strategic plan, school strategic plan, operational plan, staff PDPs, and professional learning.

Student Absence
In recent times a large number of students have been absent suffering from a variety of illness. A reminder to parents that if your child is away from school please contact the school via one of our communication methods - phone, e-mail, SMS or face to face notification. This is a legal requirement of the Department of Education and assists the school to maintain accurate attendance data. Thank you in anticipation of your cooperation with this matter.
**Student Achievements**

Recently Pyper Page, returned from representing Tasmania in the Australian team of five riders that competed in the Prince Philip Games Exchange at Lexington Kentucky in USA. I can now report that the team had great success, winning the championship. A wonderful achievement! You can read more about Pyper’s trip within this newsletter.

Congratulations also to Isabel Wells who has been selected to compete at the Equestrian Inter Schools National Championships in Sydney in September this year. A terrific achievement!

Ron Daly  
Principal

**My Adventure by Pyper Page**

On the 9th of July my adventure of a life time began.

I was fortunate enough to be selected to compete for Australia in the International Mounted Games Exchange for 2015 at the beginning of January. I didn’t think it was real, until the day came and I set off with people I had met 2 days before. After a 16 hour flight to The United States of America, I was tired but incredibly excited.

Unfortunately, the time had come. It was competition time where all the teams were willing to give it all that they had. Over the competition night, the scores were close and we did not know who was going to win.

The presentation came and we were all eager to find out the final scores. Read out over the sound system was: 4th place. America. 3rd place. Canada. 2nd place. Great Britain. At this moment we were all so surprised that the winners for the 2015 International Mounted Games Exchange was Australia.

This amazing opportunity allowed me to meet people from all around the world. Representatives from Great Britain, Canada and America were all on the tour with us over the two weeks. We all seemed to bond and make new and awesome friendships.

This was an amazing opportunity for me to participate in, and I would encourage all of you, if you have this sort of opportunity, to jump at it.

I would like to thank everyone for the kind donations and their support leading up to and during my trip.

Pyper Page
With just over two months until we leave for Cambodia, our team has been hard at work with final fundraising efforts. We are also in the final stages of planning our trip itinerary. We would once again like to thank everyone for their generous contributions, particularly at our Christmas in July Beef, Beer and Burgundy Night. We hope that everyone enjoyed the night (we certainly did). It was great to see so many familiar and new faces there supporting us and our cause. We managed to raise an outstanding $2058 to go towards our trip, bringing our fundraising total to an amazing $5264.40.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone that has donated their time or resources to us. Although money is very important, these contributions, big or small, are also a huge part of our fundraising. We have various people knitting us items such as toys and hats using wool they have donated or that has been donated to us by members of our wider community. We have also had many different donations of bric a brac, toys, craft items etc. which we will gladly take with us on our trip to give as gifts to the people of Cambodia.

Thankyou to everyone for your ongoing support. Your donations and time are gladly accepted by all of us, and will make a huge difference to someone less fortunate than us. Stay tuned for more information on fundraising events and further information on our trip.

**Sheffield Junior Cattle Handlers Brisbane Show 2015**

From Tuesday the 4th August to Saturday 8th August our grade 10 cattle handlers travelled to Brisbane to attend EKKA. The trip helps our students gain life skills associated with animal husbandry and agriculture which has been a starting point for many of our past cattle handlers, who are now successfully employed in associated fields. Former Handler Tim Woodham was a great example of this, as he was the judge of the Hereford breed at this year's EKKA. The 800 cattle attending the show was amazing for the students to see with many tropical breeds represented and many Bull buyers also attending. They also got to witness the steer competition which had over 300 entries with many Queensland schools and colleges participating.

Unfortunately the cattle that they were to lead were unable to attend the show due to a bad case of ringworm infecting the breeder’s herd. With the help of a former handler our students helped to look after 80 Santa Gertrudis cattle which required a great deal of hard work and early starts with a day in the city of Brisbane to test their shopping skills and a relax at the awesome night show to wind down on our last day. Mr Barber was extremely pleased with the effort and resilience the students displayed throughout the trip with some great praise received from other breeders which will help our younger students in future trips.

Chloe Temple leading The Champion Santa Gertrudis Bull
Do you fancy a bit of a challenge? Want to learn about something interesting from a world expert? Then this is for YOU!

In conjunction with a number of Australian Universities and tertiary education providers, Open Learning Australia provides access to a wide range of short “taster” style courses that are designed to introduce students to higher education, and also to topics that they might not otherwise encounter in their regular schooling. These are delivered in an easy-to-follow online format, with short quizzes and online tests to check learning, and even online forums if learners have questions for the professors who are running the courses. These courses are free, and have no obligation whatsoever. Some of them are listed and described below.

Open Learning Australia’s courses are appropriate for most Year 9 and 10 students to complete unaided or with minimal assistance. However, past experiences with these programs in schools have shown that they are achievable by students as young as Year 4, if completed in conjunction with a teacher. Courses start at the beginning of each month and require an email address to register and about 1 hour of work a week to complete. Each has four units that last a week each. All materials required are provided online, at no cost.

To support the participation of our students in this tremendous extra curricula opportunity Mr Ashby will be offering to mentor students in hourly after school sessions on Thursdays from 3.15 - 4.15pm in the VET Room, situated at the rear of the Library / LINC facility.

The first session will start on Thursday the 3rd of September, so there’s plenty of time to let Mr Ashby know you are interested, ask questions and investigate these programs for yourselves. Mr Ashby will be conducting a group course during each monthly session, but students may complete other courses on Thursdays, or at home. Sign up will be in the week before the session begins.

To discuss this program with Mr Ashby, please contact him at school or via email on bob.ashby@education.tas.gov.au. You can hop online and check the courses out for yourself as well, on https://www.open2study.com/

AGRICULTURE AND THE WORLD WE LIVE IN How agriculture feeds the world: a study of farms, farmers and the challenges they face.

ASTRONOMY: DISCOVERING THE UNIVERSE Explore the evolution of the universe, the future of astronomy & the role technology plays in new discoveries.

BECOMING HUMAN: ANTHROPOLOGY Gain an introductory understanding of evolution, including how we evolved from primates and became human.

CLIMATE CHANGE Find out how climate change will affect us, why we should care about it, and what solutions we can employ.

CONCEPTS IN GAME DEVELOPMENT Explore key ideas in game design, programming, architecture, game engines, player experience and game AI.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION Examine the world of children from 0 to 5 years. Explore how they develop and learn in this critical stage.

FOOD, NUTRITION & YOUR HEALTH Walk through the basics of nutrition, how eating disorders develop, and learn the benefits of various diets.

FOUNDATIONS OF PSYCHOLOGY Start learning how psychologists comprehend and study human nature and its disorders.

INDIGENOUS STUDIES: AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND Explores Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Māori history, society, culture, language and demography.

WORLD MUSIC Discover a world of music exploring your community or family to learn how music represents cultural identity.
INTRODUCTION TO NURSING IN HEALTHCARE
Considering a career in nursing? This course will introduce you to the role of nurses in Australian healthcare.

UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

MARINE AND ANTARCTIC SCIENCE
Over 70% of our planet is ocean, and life itself evolved in the sea so come and join us on this tour of Planet Ocean!

MICROBIOLOGY AND FORENSIC SCIENCE
Explore the basics of Microbiology and Forensic Science so you can better understand the world around you.

MIDWIFERY
This midwifery course covers the history of the profession and what it means to be a midwife today.

MOBILE ROBOTICS
Discover the world of mobile robots - how they move, how they interact with the world, and how to build them!

THE ART OF PHOTOGRAPHY
Get introduced to a range of skills and concepts to broaden your understanding of contemporary photographic art.

THE HUMAN BODY AS A MACHINE
This course introduces how the human body works and how it is more than the sum of its parts.

UNDERSTANDING COMMON DISEASES
Explore four common diseases and body systems: how they work, how they are treated and prevented.

UNDERSTANDING THE ORIGINS OF CRIME
Learn to understand criminal behaviour by looking at our evolutionary history and animal behaviour in general.

WATER IN A THIRSTY WORLD
This course explores the world of water management on a drying planet.

Short Film
Feel like turning those social networking skills into something useful? This year Hill Street and MONA are hosting the Australian Childhood Foundation annual dinner on September 12, in Hobart. And they want YOUR short film to feature at their function.

How short? How's fifteen seconds for short?

How easy? All you have to do is make a 15 second film with three other students on the topic of "Celebrating Childhood." Entries must be by teams of four high school students, and can be on Instagram or on other media.

And what's in it for you? How about winning a GoPro for the school, and a $100 voucher for JB HiFi for each team member? That'll help keep you tied to the social network! For more information or to enter, please see Mr Ashby in S31 a.s.a.p., and go get creative! Entries close on August 28, and teams must pre-register.

Parents interested in information about this competition can contact Mr Ashby at school, or by email at bob.ashby@education.tas.gov.au.

2016 Classes
Staff will soon begin the process for creating class groups for 2016. A number of considerations are taken into account to create classes and a number of hours are dedicated to ensuring classes are equitable. Once classes have been created teachers are allocated a class, therefore requests for individual teachers cannot be made.

Parents are invited to discuss any educational concerns or important information they may have for their child with the senior teacher in charge of their child's current area of the school. Whilst all requests will be considered there is no guarantee that it will be possible to grant them.

K-2 Mrs Wallace (Mon-Thurs)
3-6 Mr Bakes
7-9 Mrs Maddick (Tues/Wed)
Railton Campus Mrs Turnbull

Please make appointments to see staff by Friday 18th September 2015.
### P-4 AWARDS (RAILTON CAMPUS)
**THURSDAY 6 AUGUST**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kinder/Prep</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mila Bos</td>
<td>Ky-Jana French</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charlie Richardson</td>
<td>William Lowery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amaya Tucker</td>
<td>Ella Taylor</td>
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<td>James Eastley</td>
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<th>3/4</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lillie Lacey</td>
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<td>Ezekiel Bond</td>
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<td>James Taylor</td>
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### P-6 AWARDS
**WEDNESDAY 12 AUGUST**

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<tr>
<th>Prep 1/A</th>
<th>Prep 1/B</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Roland Skirving</td>
<td>Bridie Duff</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sebastian Keen</td>
<td>Paige Jenkins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amanda Padman</td>
<td>Lillie Bishop</td>
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<td>Jacob Beswick</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>1/2A</th>
<th>1/2B</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dylan Stevens</td>
<td>Riley Stevens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wyatt Roberts</td>
<td>Lily Gillard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jaxon Ainslie</td>
<td>Jordan Burton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zavier Patterson</td>
<td>Baxter Brown</td>
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<tr>
<td>James Middleton</td>
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<tr>
<th>2/3A</th>
<th>3/4A</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ethan Frankcombe</td>
<td>Kelsie Burr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mia Brink kemper</td>
<td>Alexander East</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luke Nowell-Chapman</td>
<td>Grace Gladwin</td>
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<tr>
<td>James Middleton</td>
<td>Tiarna Kenzie</td>
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<tr>
<th>4A</th>
<th>5A</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hayley Hawkins</td>
<td>Tahlee Johnstone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annalise Rayner</td>
<td>Cody Hester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jory Keenan-Pickett</td>
<td>James Fergusson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elijah Spanka</td>
<td>Dylan Richardson</td>
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<th>5/6A</th>
<th>6A</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adam Kemp</td>
<td>Georgie Brown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brodie Thorpe</td>
<td>Ethan Duff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grace Young</td>
<td>Brad Connors</td>
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<td>Josh Greenhill</td>
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Our school is about to launch the ‘Under the Sea’ Scholastic Book Fair on Tuesday 25 August and Wednesday 26 August from 3:15 – 4:30pm! We would love to see you there. Just follow the ‘Book Fair Arrows’ from the main office to Early Childhood.

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 ‘Under the Sea’ 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.

If you have any further questions regarding the Book Fair please contact Marcus Bakes at school on 64 918222.
Data Collection
Grade 3/4 T at the Railton campus have been collecting various kinds of data and recording it in graphs. We decided to collect data on the amount of students who wore full school uniform. Over the course of a week students visited classrooms and recorded data of those students in full school uniform. Our results showed us that over the course of the week 78% of students that attended school wore their full school uniform.

Aims
To record how many students wore full school uniforms for the last week in July.

To motivate students to wear their uniform.

Prediction
More than half of all students would wear their full school uniform

Result
K/Prep 76%
Grade 1/2 83%
Grade 3/4 74%

Conclusion
78% of all students wore their full school uniform in the last week of July.
Tuning into Teens

Would you like to learn tips around how to:

- understand teen talk & learn how to talk with your teen?
- understand your teen?
- help your teen learn to manage their emotions?
- help to prevent behaviour problems in your teen?
- help your teen to deal with conflict?

Tuning in to Teens is a 6 week program that teaches you how to help your teen:

- To be self-aware, and assertive when dealing with peer pressure
- Develop good friendships and be more able to manage conflict with peers
- Be more able to cope when upset or angry and manage challenging situations

Who?
Parents and Carers of Teens

When? To be announced

Where?
At the Kentish Family Support House,
5 Austin Place Sheffield

Contact:
Rachel (Coordinator, Kentish Family Support Service)
Ph: 64912322 for more information and to express your interest in attending.
Raising a critical generation

In a digitally literate world of ‘likes’ and social criticism, Lakshmi Singh looks at how parents can foster critical spirit in a constructive, healthy and balanced way.

The age of entitlement

Parents have always wanted the best for kids, but taking the ‘you deserve the best, this/his/her is not good enough’ mentality a bit too far can also be detrimental, says parenting and education expert Ronit Baras.

“The rules of education are very simple, judgmental parents will raise judgmental kids. Why? Because judgment is a coping mechanism to fight inadequacy. Judgmental people have weaknesses (and) judgment is their way of hiding. ‘If I find faults in others, I will be able to hide mine.’ If parents model this mentality, kids will adopt it.”

Similarly projecting a “my child is special and they need to know that” vision by over-supplying them with activities, commodities and even praise can lead to an unhealthy sense of entitlement, says Dr. Ash Nayate, clinical neuropsychologist.

“Narcissism (i.e. a feeling of entitlement) is a sign of unhealthy self-esteem. Narcissistic people don’t see themselves as equal to others, they see themselves as better than others - and the reason they hold this belief is to cover up their fear of ‘not being good enough’,” she says.

Judging people helps alleviate that fear, she says. To help stop the cycle, she believes parents need to lead by example.

“Developing a healthy self-esteem is critical. If as a parent you have low confidence and low self-esteem, your kids are going to pick up on that as well. If you want your kids to be resilient and confident then you need to work on the confidence and self-esteem within yourself.”

readily accessible forums to dish out criticism

It is no secret that Millennials are more digitally literate than the rest of us. With most having access to their own mobile phones, laptop and social media accounts, the stage through which they can communicate with others is wide and always available.

“Social media encourages us to be more vocal about criticism. So instead of just judging people quietly, in our mind, we can do it aloud, behind the safety and anonymity of a computer screen,” says Dr. Nayate.
The privacy that social media affords also brings to the fore a trait that Baras calls a “brain fart.”

“In my program we consider it a “brain fart” when you do not consider others or the outcome of what you say and only want to say it, at all cost,” she says.

She believes the problem is intensified in a society that values external standards and imposes them on the education system through set metrics. “Teachers use marks, tests (and) they flush with standards and rules and this is far away from teaching critical thinking. So, no wonder kids are learning that everything in their life needs to be judged.”

From teacher review sites to specialist groups and threads on social media forums, kids today can critique anything about their school, programs or individual people, making up their mind whether something makes the cut or not.

**A culture that accepts criticism**

With the prominence and popularity of reality TV shows comes the hard truth that our culture is now one of judgement and criticism.

“People are evaluated on the basis of what they’re missing, how they’re not good enough or worthy enough, and what’s ‘wrong’ with them,” says Dr. Nayate.

To compound the situation, today’s society is more geared towards materialism and capitalism, she says.

With the aim of being ‘better’, ‘richer’ and ‘more successful’ comes the habit to indulge in self-criticism, another trigger for engaging in a dialog centred around “I am better than this guy because ...” or “I am so hopeless at this compared to ...”

“Self-criticism is the first step towards judgement of others. We can only judge others if we’re somehow judgemental of ourselves,” says Dr. Nayate.

**Striking a balance**

So, how do we turn all this ‘judgement’ into something that is more considered, evaluated and more respectful of the people and practices involved in the process?

By understanding the difference between informed decision-making or critical thinking and straight judgement, says Baras.

“Critical thinking is when we present kids with options and teach them to evaluate and consider the advantages and disadvantages between options. Critical thinking is considering yourself above others and rating them based on your own individual standard.”

The good news is that critical thinking skills can be developed without being critical of others says Dr. Nayate.

“It’s about adopting an attitude of open-mindedness and healthy curiosity. Just like a three year old who always asks “why” - the child isn’t doing it out of judgement or maliciousness, it’s simply a raw desire to learn more about the world.”

While critical thinking skills depend on the maturity of the child, Dr. Nayate believes parents can nudge kids in the right direction by role modelling it.

Snow Day
Monday 3 August 2015 was a day to remember. Sheffield and Railton Campuses, along with many other schools state wide, were closed because of heavy snowfall. Helen Ashby has provided some photos of the Sheffield Campus. Thank you Helen!
Community Notices

DEVONPORT PRIMARY SCHOOL
BASKETBALL SPRING ROSTER

The spring basketball roster will commence on Friday 21st August and run through until the 20th November. Age groups will be Grades 1 & 2, 3 & 4 and 5 & 6.

Games will be played on Friday nights however two games during the roster will be played on Thursday nights due to other bookings.

The DBC requires all intending players to be registered online by Monday 10th August.

To register go online

LATROBE DEMONS BASKETBALL

U10 Teams
The Latrobe Basketball club is starting trainings for their U/10 teams in preparation for some up and coming Tournaments & Development Roster.

Under 10’s is children born in 2006/2007 (Grade 2 & 3). Boy’s training is on Friday’s 3.30-4.30pm with our Senior Men’s player- Blake Charles.

Girl’s training is on Wednesday’s 5.00-6.00pm with our Senior Women’s players - Emma Forbes & Erin Mann.

If your child would like to come along, they are more than welcome. Cost is $2.00, and could all children please bring a drink and a size 5 ball if they have one. For more information, please contact:

Boys - Katrina Maddigan 0418 604 786
Girls - Nicole Thompson 0439 917 322

Girls Skills Session
Emma Forbes & Erin Mann will also be offering a Skills Session for girls aged 5-12 on Saturday mornings 10.00-1100am. These sessions include basic basketball skills and fun games. Cost is $2.00 and is open to any girls who would like to learn about Basketball.

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