Key Dates for 2015

Tuesday 27 October – Wednesday 18 November
Water Orientation Program

Friday 6 November
Sheffield School Show

Tuesday 10 November
Gr 10 iParty Information Session

Wednesday 11 November
Remembrance Day Assembly

Thursday 12 November – Saturday 14 November
Cattle Handlers Scottsdale Show

Friday 13 November
LAC Excursion – Launceston

Tuesday 17 November – Thursday 19 November
Gr 10 Exams

Tuesday 17 November
Don College Enrolments

Issue No. 16 : 5 November 2015

Dear Parents

Remembrance Day Service
Next Wednesday at 10.40am we will conduct a Remembrance Day Service in our remembrance courtyard. Members of the RSL Sheffield Sub Branch will be attending and we would like to extend an invitation to parents, carers and community members.

Cambodia Volunteers Abroad Trip
Two weeks ago we waved off 7 students and 2 staff as they embarked on a life changing trip abroad to volunteer in Cambodia. Over that time some classes have had the opportunity to Skype the group and learn firsthand of their experiences, for those that have not had this opportunity our school Facebook page has been an excellent source of updates, with photos and daily entries being uploaded. We look forward to their safe return later today and hearing of their wonderful journey.

Year 11/12 Provision at the Sheffield School
Late last week the Minister for Education wrote to all high schools seeking Expressions of Interest for Round 3 of the Extending Years 11/12 Program, with schools selected to commence with year 11 in 2017. Submissions close on Friday, 20th November.

As most of you would be aware last year following extensive consultation with our school community the overwhelming opinion was that the current arrangement with students transitioning to Don College at the end of grade 10 was meeting the needs of the majority of students. However, it was also determined that as a school community
we should continue to review our position on this into the future. It is also worth mentioning that prior to this year we were able to offer VET here at Sheffield as an alternative to Don College, which in some cases better met student needs.

Since the consultation process a number of changes have occurred in relation to the criteria around extending to year 11/12, there also appears to be more possibilities around flexible provision and the potential models of implementation. In addition to these changes it is anticipated that we will host VET (Year 11/12) Agriculture Studies at the School Farm in 2016. These students will be enrolled at Don College, however using our facilities and with Mr Barber delivering the course.

Prior to the cut-off date for submissions we will have the opportunity to discuss this matter at School Association level, to better inform the meeting I would appreciate any feedback from our parent community, we will also invite our senior students to complete a short survey to provide additional information to better inform our path forward.

Ultimately if we as a school community believe there is merit in exploring the possibilities of introducing year 11/12 at Sheffield School to provide an even greater range of choice of pathways for our students and to provide improved outcomes it may be pertinent to submit an expression of interest, however it is important that this decision is considered and based on the information and evidence available to us.

**School Show**

This afternoon the first events of the 2015 Junior Cattle Handlers Show of Tasmania commenced up at the School Farm. This is a terrific event for our school and is yet another opportunity for our students to shine and achieve a sense of pride in their performance. This year we have students participating from across a range of schools within the state, with again a great deal of interest in the cattle handling events, and also the popular Hoof and Hook competition. An initiative of this year is the auctioning off of the place getters in each of the three classes in the Hoof and Hook competition. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the show committee and all of the many volunteers that contribute to the success of this event. Results from the show will be featured in our next newsletter.

Ron Daly  
Principal

**Arts Concert And Exhibition**

You are invited to our annual Arts Concert and Exhibition on Thursday 3rd December 2015 commencing at 7pm in the Related Arts Building at Sheffield School.

Students from all grades will demonstrate their progress in 2015 in dramatic and musical performances and their artworks will be on display. Come along to vote for this year’s Art Acquisition Prize – look for the artworks with orange dots!

Children must be accompanied by adults and gold coin donation entry required.

**Athletics Carnival Lunch Order**

On the Athletics Carnival day, **November 20th 2015** there will be a BBQ for all students (Kinder – Grade 10) to pre-order food.

To assist with catering we require **ALL food to be pre-ordered** and request you complete an order form and return to the homeroom teacher with the correct money by **Friday the 13th November**. Forms will be sent home with your child shortly.

Sausages will be $2.00, hamburgers and vegie and chicken burgers $3.00. A variety of sauces will be available and the canteen will also be selling their usual range of drinks.

**Student Assistance Scheme (STAS) 2016**

STAS application forms are now available to those families who would like to apply for the first time from the school office or by accessing the link below:  
[www.education.tas.gov.au](http://www.education.tas.gov.au)

Existing STAS families should already have been contacted regarding 2016. If you have not been contacted please call 1800 827 055.
Super Hero Day
A reminder Super Hero Day will be held on Tuesday 15 December to help raise funds for Muscular Dystrophy

Get your costumes organized and dress up as your favourite Super Hero. Gold coin donation please.

Uniform
School Polo Tops for Primary students are now available in adult sizes – small, medium and large for $20 each.

These sizes will not be kept in stock and must be pre-ordered and paid for.

Please place your order before the end of November to ensure delivery by book sales day 2016.

P-6 AWARDS
WEDNESDAY 4 NOVEMBER

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<td>Indiana Anderson-Bryan</td>
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It’s been well documented in recent years that children/young people are dependent on adults for longer. In Australia one in four 18-30 year olds still lives at home and those numbers are on the increase. There are many reasons for this including lack of housing, affordability, working and partnering later, and simple convenience.

The propensity for many parents to do too much for children is a massive contributor to this increased dependency. Oddly, this is the exact opposite of what parents have always done, which is to develop their children’s independence, and in doing so effectively become redundant from their children.

There are a number of reasons for the current high level of dependency parenting including family shrinkage (parents are able to do a great deal for kids in small families), older parents (often over-concerned), busyness of life (it’s easier to do than delegate) and a heightened fear that the world is a dangerous place for children and young people.

**Independence is the point**

When independence becomes your priority then suddenly you’ve found a pathway to the development of other positive qualities and traits in your children including the key four - confidence that comes from facing fears; competence that’s built through mastery; creativity that’s encouraged when kids must resolve their own problems; and character that is forged under the duress of challenge and hardship.

Adults are the gatekeepers for children’s independence. And of course, independence takes many guises including:

1. **Self-help skills**
   
   The starting point for independence building is giving kids the skills, know-how and confidence to look after their own wellbeing and welfare. This is shown in the many everyday situations where parents model, teach and provide opportunities for children to look after themselves. Including toddlers undressing themselves, primary aged children preparing their own snacks, and teenagers organising their own transport to school and after school activities. Kids develop real confidence from being able to look after themselves and others.

2. **Autonomy to make choices and mistakes**

   Without realising it, as parents we frequently make choices on our children’s behalf. We choose the food they eat, the games they play, their leisure activities and the clothes they wear. When families are large (four or more children) parents usually give their children more space to make their own decisions as well as opportunities to learn from their poor choices.

**More on page 2**
... The many faces of independence ...

This may mean that children choose healthy interests and pursuits that parents are unfamiliar with, or even swim against the tide of their parents’ wishes. In small families parents often know so much about minutiae of children’s lives that inevitably we tend to impose greater well-intentioned control over children's decisions.

1. Freedom to explore the neighbourhood
   On a recent trip to Italy I was struck by how much freedom to wander their neighbourhoods Italian children had. It was a throwback to the type of childhood that many of today’s parents experienced, where we had the opportunity to navigate our neighbourhoods on our own without having to check in with our parents all the time.

2. Freedom to explore unpredictable and potentially risky environments
   Independence is also built when children spend time in unpredictable, potentially risky environments such as the bush or new environments beyond their neighbourhood. There may be some risk involved but this is where real learning lies for children and young people. Eliminate the risk and you eliminate the learning.

3. Taking responsibility for your own problems and actions
   There’s no doubt many kids are adept at shifting their problems and responsibilities to adults. One of my children would always blame me when they were late for school. Even though the child in question had an alarm clock and was more than capable of using it, any lack of punctuality was somehow shifted to me. Go figure! Independence comes when children take ownership of their responsibilities rather than using someone else as a scapegoat.

In order to grant children and young people the type of independence outlined parents need to be brave rather than fearful; work hard to develop the skills and know-how kids’ independence requires; and be willing to give kids the encouragement and support they need to step out of their comfort zones when independence seems to hard.

Michael Grose

Want more ideas to help you raise confident kids and resilient young people? Subscribe to Happy Kids newsletter, my FREE weekly email parenting guide at parentingideas.com.au. You’ll be so glad you did.
Community Notices

Attention all school leavers!

Fashion photographer Chris Puccetti will again be shooting professional images of all year 10s at this year’s leaves dinner. High quality studio-style photographs will be available to purchase at www.studiotaumania.com after the event. Last year’s images were amazing so please show your support by buying individual photos or packages specially priced for Sheffield leavers.

Mark your final year with a memory to last forever...

Would you like your very own professional fashion shoot to celebrate your senior year? Studio Tasmania is offering a limited number of very affordable studio shoots for Sheffield leavers. You must book your appointment before November 1st to secure your place, but you can have your shoot at any time.

1 hour studio photo shoot including your choice of finished portrait, just $150

call 64911383 to book your time
47 Main Street, Sheffield  (Inside Fudge n’ Good Coffee)

TEEBALL

For Primary School Boys & Girls is starting in Latrobe
ages from 6 years (older children and seniors are welcome to assist).
WEDNESDAYS from 3.30pm to 4.45pm.
on Picton Grange Softball Ground (behind the Latrobe Football Grandstands)
November 11th – 18th – 25th
December 2nd – 9th – 16th
Only $40 – Registration (can be paid as 2 x $20.00 payments).

It’s a great way to develop skills & fitness while having fun and meeting new friends.
Our games are social and friendly with all equipment and uniforms supplied.
No knowledge is needed, we will teach you all you need to know.
Everyone is welcome!!

For more information contact Shelley Dodd.
Mobile: 0439 361 804 or Email: doddshp@bigpond.net.au

L&DSC is also looking for players for our C & B grade teams for any parents who would like to play.

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

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