Key Dates for 2015

**Fri 12 June**
Grade 10 RYDA
Grade 8 Excursion – Mole Creek Caves/Alum Cliffs

**Thu 18 Jun**
Socials “Back to the Future”

**Fri 19 Jun**
Immunisations – Grade 7 Students

**Tue 23 Jun**
Assembly K-4 (Railton Campus)
Bucket Filling Celebration

**Wed 24 Jun**
Reports Sent Home

**Mon 29 Jun**
Parent-Teacher Meetings

**Tue 30 Jun**
Parent-Teacher Meetings

**Wed 1 Jul**
Parent-Teacher Meeting
Assembly 7-10

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**Issue No. 8 : 11 June 2015**

**Dear Parents**

**Reporting**

In less than two weeks’ time, June 24th mid-year reports will be sent home with students. Reports will inform parents of their child’s approach to their learning, their progress and areas where improvements can be made during the second part of the year. All subjects will now be reported on against the achievement standards of the Australian Curriculum utilising the A-E rating scale. There have been some slight changes to the format of mid-year reports for this year, with the purpose of providing a more consistent and informative report for students, parents and carers. Any feedback regarding the format would be welcomed. I would like to thank staff for their hard work in preparing reports and encourage all parents/carers to take the opportunity to take part in parent/teacher discussions during the final week of term, Monday 29 June until Thursday 2 July. If you are unable to attend during this week I would encourage you to arrange an alternative time or a phone conference. Bookings can be made through the school office on 64 918 222 from Monday 22 June.

**Staffing**

Last newsletter I was able to update our school community of some recent staffing changes and the implications for our school. Over the past week I have been notified of some other developments in regard to staffing for the remainder of the year. I am pleased to be able to inform you that Mr Marcus Bakes has been successful in his application to continue acting in the AST role in primary, with Mrs Anna Maddick maintaining an AST role at Sheffield two days a week, with Mr Dane Hardy joining our staff from Reece High School to perform an acting AST role with leadership responsibilities across the 7-10 section of the school.
**YFCC Primary School Partnership Program**

Claira-Jane Duggan (CJ) from Youth, Family and Community Connections has been working in our school this year under the auspices of the Primary School Partnership Program. This program focuses on providing support to children and their families, with the ultimate goal of improving outcomes for students K-6. Over the course of term 1 and 2 CJ has been responsible for many initiatives that have led to positive outcomes for all involved. The ‘bucket filling’ theme has continued at our Railton Campus as well as across both campuses yoga and slipstream circus sessions and respectful relationship small group activities, all which have been thoroughly enjoyed by participants. On behalf of the school community I would like to thank both CJ and previously in this role Bec Mitchell for the tremendous contributions they have made to our school.

**Student Achievement**

Last week a contingent of high school students represented the school at the inter-high cross country event at Hellyer College in Burnie. Congratulations to Jayke Robertson who recorded a podium finish placing second in the grade 8 boys’ event. This is a tremendous effort and reinforces that whether it be academic, sport, the arts, food and hospitality, or agriculture our students are capable of great things! Well done also to Zane Richardson and Pyper Page who finished 8th and 14th respectively.

**Head lice**

Below I have included a link to a fact sheet on head lice developed by the Health Department of Victoria. This provides useful information relevant to the identification of head lice and the necessary treatment that should occur prior to a child returning to school. Please continue to monitor your child’s hair, particularly if you receive a letter informing you that there is a known case of head lice within your child’s class. Thank you for your cooperation on this matter.


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**Ron Daly**

Principal
The aim of the event is to provide students with a taste of a variety of careers and professions, especially skill-based trades. Students enjoyed the day, having the opportunity to try out a range of hands-on activities and have conversations with professionals working in these industries. Some of the activities that students participated in were: carpentry, nursing, plastering, mining, hairdressing, architecture, agriculture and automotive.

Due to the public holiday, we haven’t been able to hold our monthly meeting, however we do have some up and coming fundraisers to report.

We will be having a ‘bake up’ to cook various different types of goodies to sell through the coming weeks. The home baked goodies will be available to purchase from the canteen on Thursdays and Fridays or until sold out. All the proceeds will go towards our trip.

We would also like to announce that we will be holding another Movie Night at Cmax Cinemas in Devonport. Tickets will be on sale soon for a screening of the brand new movie Terminator Genisys on Friday the 3rd of July (the last day of term 2) at 6:45 pm. Ticket prices will be $16 per person. Please see any member of the Cambodia Team to purchase a ticket to this fun filled night.

We continue to thank everyone for their ongoing support for our trip, and hope to see you at our up and coming fundraisers.
Parenting Ideas Insights

Building parent-school partnerships

Words Michael Grose

Reading your child’s report

Reports can mean anxious times for children. Will my parents be disappointed or proud? This is the main concern of most children.

1. Are your expectations for your son or daughter realistic and in line with their ability?
   Expectations are tricky. If they are too high then kids can become off-putting, low and there is nothing to strive for. Pitch your expectations in line with your child’s abilities. A quick check of your child’s last report cards may provide you with a yardstick.

2. Do you believe that children learn at different rates?
   There are slow bloomers, late developers and steady-as-you-go kids in every classroom, so avoid comparing your child to siblings, your friends’ children and even yourself when you were a child. Instead look for individual progress.

3. Are you willing to safeguard your child’s self-esteem rather than deflate it?
   Self-confidence is a prerequisite for learning, so be prepared to be as positive and encouraging as possible.

School reports come in different formats. Some are prescriptive while some use grading systems such as A, B, C, etc., with room for teacher comments. Regardless of the format school reports should provide you with an idea of your child’s progress in all subject areas, their attitude and social development.

Here are some ideas to consider when you open your child’s report:

- Focus on strengths. Do you look for strengths or weaknesses first? The challenge is to focus on strengths even if they are not in the traditional 3Rs or core subjects.
- Take into account your child’s effort and attitude to learning. If the report indicates that effort is below standard, then you have something to work on. If your child is putting in the required effort, then you cannot say any more than that, regardless of the grading.
- Broaden your focus away from academic performance to form a picture of your child’s progress as a member of a social setting. How your child gets along with his or her peers will influence his happiness and well-being, as well as give an indicator to his future. The skills of independence and co-operation are highly valued by employers so don’t dismiss these as unimportant.
- Take note of student self-assessment. Kids are generally very honest and will give a realistic assessment of their progress. They are generally very perceptive so take note of their opinions.
- Discuss the report with your son or daughter talking about strengths first before looking at areas that need improvement. Ask for their opinion about how they performed and discuss their concerns.

After reports are read and discussed celebrate your child’s efforts with a special activity or treat. In this way you will recognise progress and remind them that the holidays are just around the corner when they can forget about assessment, tests and reports for a while.


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How Can YOU Support Your Child Develop Good Study Habits?

In term 3, we welcome back presenters from Elevate Education who will run two sessions with our grade 9 and 10 students. Elevate Education visited the school last year, working with our grade 9 and 10 students and staff on Time Management and Study Techniques and received very positive feedback from all involved. This is particularly important as our students hit the serious years of their schooling life where they are required to remember and become more independent with their study skills and strategies.

This year we have also organised for the presenters to run a Parent Seminar – how YOU can help and support your child develop good study habits – and also gain insight to the information students are presented with during their sessions at school.

The session will run for one hour and is designed to be run as an open forum. This will allow parents to ask the study skills experts any questions they have about being the parent of a secondary school student. Typical questions might be:

• How do I help my child become more motivated?
• How do I help my child improve their time management?
• What work should my child be doing?
• How do I help my child deal with distractions?

The presenter then answers these questions by highlighting critical techniques from the Elevate seminars, including:

• Creating realistic goals that actually work.
• Developing an effective study timetable that parents can help design.
• Providing parents with a road map of what work students should be doing and when.
• Understanding the impact of distractions and the best ways to manage them.

The presenter will also stay after the session to answer any additional questions that parents may have.

This session will be held from 6pm – 7pm on Tuesday the 4th of August in the grade 8 rooms. Look out for reminder details in our next newsletters and to register your attendance.
Community Notices

On Saturday 20th June, the Devonport Football Club will be hosting the Work Safe Tasmania Match of the Month. This is a great opportunity for the public to come along and see Devonport’s up and coming stars in both the TNL and NWFL. Four matches:

- 9.00am - NWFL U18, Devonport v Ulverstone
- 11.00am - NWFL Reserves, Devonport v Ulverstone
- 1.00pm - NWFL Seniors, Devonport v Ulverstone
- 3.45pm - TNL Seniors, Devonport v Launceston

Our local Auskickers will also be playing at half time in the TNL senior match. There will also be heaps of family friendly activities for the kids including:

- Free Face Painting & Jumping Castle
- The Devonport Junior Football Club will also be having a fund raising stall under the grandstand with all proceeds supporting Junior Footy.

MATCH OF THE MONTH

20th June
One adult admitted free with one child.
Valid 20/06/2015 only

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

Riverbend Youth Centre
Christian Holiday Camp
Registration Forms for all holiday camps are available at the school office. Camps are run from July to January. Email admin@riverbend.org.au