Welcome back to all students, parents and staff with a special welcome to our new families. We hope that your time at Sherbrooke Community School will be a happy and rewarding one, where you will develop new friendships and work towards achieving your personal goals.

A special welcome to the Villain family, who are visiting from France for the next six weeks. Zac, in year 11, and Maya in Prep, have settled in nicely and are especially enjoying our Australian summer. Kelly, their mother, is an ex-student of Sherbrooke, now residing in France.

I trust that the summer holiday season was relaxing and full of happy times. Although the school officially closes its doors during this period, quite a number of principal class members, teaching and support staff were here preparing for a seamless start to the new year. And what a great start it has been to 2016.

At our first Whole School Meeting in the hall, there was barely space to sit. It was wonderful to see so many faces representing many aspects of the school community.

There are many opportunities for parent involvement within the school: assisting at school camps, excursions and working bees, School Council, helping with Breakfast Club or in the school canteen, which is run every day of the week.

**The Whole School Morning Meeting has a new time slot.** Sherbrooke Community School places great value on this time for the whole school community to get together to share ideas as well as an avenue to pass on valuable information that effects the whole school. Many of our students regularly arrived late to school and missed this meeting. It is now being conducted at 11am just prior to the first break of the day. This means that classroom instruction begins promptly at 9am. Teachers are in their classrooms awaiting students’ arrival from 8.50 am.

Our student numbers, for a second year in a row, are at an all-time high. Most areas of the school are at capacity although there are still a few places available in primary and the senior school. At Sherbrooke we have high expectations of student learning and behaviour. We ask that every student makes a concerted effort to attend school on a regular basis, arriving on time, well prepared and strive to achieve their individual best. Our very capable teachers are here to support and assist them on this very important journey in reaching their goals.

*Continued on Page 3...*
School procedures for the bushfire season

Fire danger ratings and warnings are used in Victoria to provide clear direction on the safest options for preserving life.

Schools and children’s services listed on the DEECD Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) will be closed when a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined in their Bureau of Meteorology district. Our school has been identified as being one of those at high bushfire risk and is listed on the BARR.

Where possible, we will provide parents with up to four days notice of a potential Code Red day closure. A Code Red day will be determined by the Emergency Management Commissioner no later than 1.00 pm the day before the potential closure. Once we are advised of the confirmation of the Code Red day we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day.

Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast. This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to note that:

- No staff will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Code Red day
- School camps will be cancelled if a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined for the Bureau of Meteorology district in which the camp is located.

On these Code Red days families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan – on such days children should never be left at home or in the care of older children.

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the CFA advise that when Code Red days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Code Red day.

As part of preparing our school for potential hazards such as fire, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan.

What can parents do?

- Make sure your family’s bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is closed.
- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers. Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters, by checking our website http://www.sherbrooke.vic.edu.au/ and by talking to your child’s teacher about our emergency management plan.
- Most importantly at this time of year, if you’re planning a holiday or short stay in the bush or in a coastal area, you should check warnings in advance of travel and remain vigilant during your stay.
- If your child is old enough, talk to them about bushfires and your family’s bushfire survival plan.
- For up-to-date information on this year’s fire season, visit the CFA website at www.cfa.vic.gov.au or call the 24-hour Victorian Bushfires Information Line on 1800 240 667.
A word from our Principal - continued from page 1...

Welcome to Joe Liu, who has joined our teaching staff for 2015. Joe is our new Maths teacher replacing Nick Burke, who has taken up a position at another school. We wish both of them the best of luck in their teaching careers for 2016.

There have been many other people hard at work behind the scenes getting our school spick and span before the arrival of students on day one. Thank you to the parents who put in time over the holidays to clean and tidy classrooms.

Thank you also to Sebastian Cleaning who had the school buildings sparkly and bright and the grounds neat and tidy.

Sherbrooke Community School is located in a high fire zone. Please avail yourself of the policies that are available on Compass that outlines processes and procedures around this topic as well as other policies that the school has in place.

An information evening has been organised for the evening of February 18 to discuss many of these policies and other school requirements. Your attendance is strongly recommended. A barbeque for all families will run from 5.30pm.

The Principal position has now been advertised. Once the process has been finalised, the school community will be advised. The appointment takes place from the beginning of Term 2.

Wishing all of you the best as we all look forward to a productive 2016 school year.

Best Regards,

Sue Holmes  -  Acting Principal

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You’re Invited!

* Meet our new families
* Find out what’s new in 2016
* Get to know our great teachers
* Enjoy a picnic or our BBQ food
* Make new friends
* Ask questions

Sherbrooke Community School

To our picnic & info night

Thursday February 18, from 5.30 pm
Important info you need to know

2016 immunisations
Visit 1 – March 11, 2016
Visit 2 – May 6, 2016
Visit 3 – October 14, 2016

All year 7 students have now been given an immunisation pack.
Even if you do not wish for your child to receive the immunisation, please complete the relevant forms and return to the office.

Accessing Documents
If you have not received your Compass login, or have lost your old one, please contact Jacqui in the office.

All school policies, the canteen menu, copies of the newsletters, information concerning fundraising, working bees and other school forms can be found in the school documentation area.
To access these documents you just click on “two-person” symbol. Next choose “school documentation” from the drop down menu.

Funding - CSEF
Parents holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents, may be eligible for the Camps Sports and Excursions Fund.
The CSEF allowance will be paid to our school and will be used for expenses relating to camps, sports or excursions.
If you are the holder of a current Centrelink Health Card and you have not completed a CSEF Application Form for this year, please either complete the attached form on page 11 or drop into the office to complete one.

Applications close on June 3, however the sooner you apply, the less chance your child has of possibly missing out on certain activities.
For more information please refer the flyer on page 10 or speak to Dot in the office.

Public Transport – Student and Concession Travel
All students aged 17 years and over, or those requiring a half yearly or yearly Student Pass (regardless of age), are required to obtain a 2016 Victorian Public Transport (VPT) Pass Concession Card as proof of their concession entitlement. Applications are available at manned train stations or online at ptv.vic.gov.au

Once completed and attached with two photos where required, please come to the office and see me to endorse the form. It is the responsibility of the student/parent to then submit the application to PTV. Students school identification card is not sufficient proof when travelling on public transport.

Student accident insurance/ambulance cover
The Education Department does not provide personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students.

Parents and guardians of students, who do not have private student accident insurance/ambulance cover, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance/transport and any other transport costs.
Student accident insurance/ambulance cover policies are available from some commercial insurers.
GEMS take on new garden projects

Sherbrooke GEMs is a club for people interested in improving our environment. GEMs stands for “General Environmental Managers” and is open to all.

Volunteers work in our gardens every Wednesday from 11.20 to 11.50am.

This term we will be "out the back" - in the kitchen garden, making the frog bog and then designing an indigenous food garden there as well.

Anyone can join and even if it is wet we can do cuttings, setting seeds and other indoor activities in “The Shack”.

Hope to see lots of green thumbs next week - meet up in the kitchen garden.

New club for animal lovers

- The Animal Carers Club (ACC) is new to Sherbrooke and will meet every Thursday lunchtime at 11.20 to 11.50am.

  Members will be responsible for the care of our sheep and chooks with the intention of enlarging our farm, incubating eggs, extending the chook house area, getting animals into classrooms and so on. It all depends on the volunteers and what they want to do.

  Learn about our animals and get up close to them. All welcome.

Orangutan adoptees doing well

No school reports since last December, but we know all is well as the BOS people let us know if either of them is sick.

To support them for another year we must raise $240 which we did very easily last year when we had our onesie day for World Environment Day June 5th.

Think about what you can wear to be another sort of animal for the day.
A note from School Council...

Welcome back to Sherbrooke for 2016, and welcome to all the new families who are just joining our school community.

School Council fulfils an important role in the governance of the school and we have already started for the year, with the selection of a new permanent Principal in progress. Applications close shortly and all candidates, whether internal or external, will then face a rigorous process as Council appreciates that the successful applicant must be the right fit for our school.

With some parent members of Council finishing up their two-year terms at the end of March, there will be an opportunity for new members to join Council next month.

If you are interested in the work which Council does to support the operation of our school, please don’t hesitate to contact the office or find me at drop-off or pick-up time to ask.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the info night and welcome BBQ.

Rose Major
School Council President

Welcome families!

The welfare and integration team welcomes everyone in our school community including returning families and new families back for a new school year.

You will often find us in the Wellbeing Centre located in the portable closest to the car park with our Wellbeing noticeboard that is designed for students and families to easily access various opportunities such as diverse youth and parenting groups, information nights, local community activities, sporting and leisure groups and support resources.

The Wellbeing Centre can offer support to students and families in numerous ways including providing useful information, possible referrals to internal services (counselling, primary speech pathology, psychological assessments and school programs) and external support services, or even a friendly face.

We know at Sherbrooke that the best way to support students is to work with the student, their family, additional professionals supporting the family, teachers and support staff in a collaborative manner.

We are excited to be planning diverse programs including our Wellbeing Expo where members of the community volunteer their skills to teach our students activities that promote wellbeing in their everyday lives.

Please remember to visit the student wellbeing link on our school website where you can find information about our team, programs and useful links to external support services. http://www.sherbrooke.vic.edu.au/
Hello Sherbrooke!

My name is Zhouquan Liu, otherwise known as “Joe Liu” (Zhou = Joe). I am very excited to be the new maths teacher here at Sherbrooke Community School.

I was born in Guangzhou, China, where I completed my primary to tertiary education, and graduated with a Bachelor of Science (Mathematics Education). After three years of teaching maths at a high school, I moved to Melbourne to continue my education. In 2012, I graduated from The University of Melbourne with a Postgraduate Diploma in Secondary Teaching.

I did my first year of teaching at Casterton Secondary College and then continued at Elwood College, where I was involved in the Applied Learning Centre. There I developed an interest in using origami to teach mathematics (or maybe I just like folding paper and it is not related to teaching!)

I enjoy making models in both maths and science, especially making model rockets with my students to test whose model can fly higher and further. Last year, I directed a team of students to convert a DC motor to an exercise bike which demonstrated how electricity is produced and how different forms of energies are transferred.

When I am not thinking about school, I enjoy going for a swim, playing basketball, tennis, or going rock fishing. I also enjoy having a nice meal with my family and travelling to see different parts of the world (although so far that is only a dream).

I played basketball in the Casterton Amateur Basketball Association during my two years of teaching there. But unfortunately I ended up with a knee injury.

I am very grateful to start the next part of my journey in the supportive and caring school community that is Sherbrooke Community School.

I eagerly look forward to showing the beauty of maths to my students and fostering their love of learning mathematics.
Listen out for more lunchtime music

Thanks to all students who performed at our lunchtime performance at the end of term 4 last year. You all sounded beautiful and had a very appreciative audience!

We are looking forward to our next lunchtime performance planned for the end of term 1.

Students enrolled in singing or keyboard will be given the opportunity to perform at these informal concerts, as well as at our biannual whole school performances.

To enrol in our instrumental music program, download a form on Compass and return to Luc or the office.

"We won the final with time to spare. Well done team!"
- Joel

Malakie home for holidays

I was lucky enough to collect Malakie, our Guide Dog puppy, and bring him back for our final assembly for 2015.

He then spent Christmas with me whilst his trainer was on vacation. Within hours he had slotted back into the routine as if he had never left. He loved going to the beach and sometimes even fell asleep standing up!

He re-commenced training on the 11th of January and has now halfway through his training and passed the 8 week assessment. I will keep you updated with his progress.

- Leanne
Getting ready for Great Vic 2016

This year’s Great Victorian Bike Ride will be extremely picturesque with the team riding from the Grampians along the Great Ocean Road to Geelong. The ride goes from November 26 to December 4.

Team members will be camping and living the good life while doing the 540km ride. It’s a whole new world traveling by bike with 5 000 other people, from 12 to 90 year olds.

Everything is included in the cost – except a tent, bike and personal belongings. Each student is supported by a grant from school of $100, as the cost is quite high. For the nine day camp (food, activities, venues, first aid, bike mechanics etc) is $715. With the help from school that becomes $615. We will do a lot of fundraising to help bring this cost down as much as possible.

Those wishing to take part must make a commitment to train so they are fit and able to enjoy the ride. See DD for more details.

Or bike around the bay in a day

Another cycling event Sherbrooke will take part in will be Around the Bay In a Day.

The 100km ride will take part on October 9 and will be a good alternative for those thinking the Great Vic ride is too costly. The Bay ride will cost about $100. For that you will get lunch, a jersey and support on the ride.

The route is from the city to Frankston and back again.

Obviously, once again, training is the key. Most training will be on either Saturday or Sunday mornings, plus longer rides once the event date draws nearer.
Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF)

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund will ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities.

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance will be paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions, or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student will be:
- $125 for primary school students
- $225 for secondary school students.

How to Apply
Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Closing Date
You should lodge a CSEF application form at the school by 26 June 2015.

For more information about the CSEF visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef
CSEF Application Form

School REF ID

Parent/legal guardian details
Surname:
First name:
Address:
Town/suburb: __________________________ State: _______ Postcode: _______
Contact number:

Centrelink pensioner concession OR Health care card number (CRN)
☐☐☐☐ ☐☐☐☐ ☐☐☐☐ ☐☐☐☐ OR
☐ Foster parent* OR ☐ Veterans affairs pensioner

*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Student details

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<th>Student ID</th>
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I authorise the Department of Education and Training (DET) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry of my Centrelink customer details and concession card status in order to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Australian Government Department of Human Services (the department) to provide the results of that enquiry to DET.

I understand that:
- the department will use information I have provided to the DET to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to the DET personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.
- this consent, once signed, remains valid unless I withdraw it by contacting the school or the department.
- I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from the department and provide it to DET so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.
- if I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DET.
- Some personal information may be disclosed to the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services for the purpose of evaluation and monitoring of concession card services.

You are able to request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child’s school.

Signature of applicant __________________________ Date ______ / ______ / _______
CSEF eligibility
Below is the criteria used to determine a student’s eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF).

Criteria 1 - Eligibility

To be eligible for the fund, a parent or legal guardian of a student attending a registered Government or non-government Victorian primary or secondary school must:

- on the first day of Term two, or;
- on the first day of Term three;

1. Be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, that is, be a holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card (PCC) holder, OR
2. Be a temporary foster parent, and;
3. Submit an application to the school by the due date.

Parents who receive a Carer Allowance on behalf of a child, or any other benefit or allowance not income tested by Centrelink, are not eligible for the CSEF unless they also comply with one of (a) or (b) above.

Criteria 2 - Be of school age and attend school in Victoria

School is compulsory for all Victorian children aged between six and 17 years of age inclusive.

For the purposes of CSEF, students may be eligible for assistance if they attend a Victorian registered primary or secondary school. Typically, these students are aged between five and 18 years inclusive.

CSEF is not payable to students attending pre-school, kindergarten, home-schooled, or TAFE.

Eligibility Date
CSEF eligibility will be subject to the parent/legal guardian’s concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink on the first day of either Term two (1st April 2016) or Term three (1st July 2016).

Payment amounts
CSEF payment amount

The CSEF is an annual payment to the school to be used towards camps, sports and excursion expenses for the benefit of the eligible student.

- Primary school student rate: $125 per year.
- Secondary school student rate: $225 per year.

For ungraded students, the rate payable is determined by the student’s date of birth. For more information, see www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

How to complete the application form

NOTE: ALL SECTIONS MUST BE COMPLETED BY PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN

1. Complete the PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN DETAILS section.
   Make sure that the Surname, First Name, and Customer Reference Number (CRN) details match those on your Centrelink card - unless you are claiming as a Foster Parent or Veterans Affairs Pensioner. You will also need to provide your Centrelink card to the school.
   If you are claiming as a Foster Parent or a Veteran Affairs Pensioner, tick the appropriate box. In this case, you will need to provide a copy of documentation confirming your status as a temporary Foster Parent or provide your Veterans Affairs Pensioner Gold card to the school.
   The CSEF payment is paid directly to your child’s school and will be allocated by the school towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child.

2. Complete the STUDENT/S DETAILS section for students at this school.
   - enter SURNAME AND FIRST NAME in full.
   - enter the DATE OF BIRTH e.g. 15/06/2008.
   - enter the YEAR LEVEL unless the student is ungraded, e.g. attending a Special School or Language Centre, then enter ‘UNGRADED’ in the YEAR LEVEL column.
3. Sign and date the form and return it to the school office.

CSEF payments cannot be claimed retrospectively for prior years.
Queries relating to CSEF eligibility and payments should be directed to the school.

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Community Notices:

Belgrave Junior Football club

Now looking for new recruits

Auskick, U10s, U12s and our new U12s Girls team

Call Maxine on 0417 391 283

Or come along to training on March 7th at 5pm Belgrave Recreation Reserve, Reserve Rd (end of Best St) Belgrave

"A family club focused on mateship and having fun"
PIRATE DRAMA CLASSES

Call Olinda Community House on 0409 960 048 and enrol your pirate on board!
We will be setting sail Tuesday nights from 4pm mid February
Limited Stowaway’s spots available so leave your pirates name on the list now, for next term.

Also: Children’s birthday Parties! Call direct: 0415 450 146 for a Pirate, fairy,
Jungle animal, Ballerina, Hip Hop or Hawaiian hula party!
UPWEY CINEMA UNDER THE STARS

SHOWING:
INSIDE OUT
FRI 12TH FEB

ACTIVITIES START AT
6:30PM

MOVIE STARTS AT
DUSK

GOLD COIN DONATION
located at
VIEW ST. PARK
(ABOVE SKATE PARK)

SAUSAGE SIZZLE
FACE PAINTING
POP CORN

BRING A BLANKET & PICNIC
AN ALCOHOL FREE EVENT

UPWEY SHOPS OPEN FOR
FOOD & DRINKS
SUNSWANTED BASKETBALLERS

PLAYERS & TEAMS

SHERBROOKE BASKETBALL ARE LOOKING FOR PLAYERS OF ALL AGES TO JOIN OUR JUNIOR DOMESTIC COMPETITION.

The competition has grown from 8 teams to in excess of 30 teams in the last few seasons and we are looking to build on this growth by continuing to provide for families from the Yarra Ranges and Cardinia regions.

CONVENIENT LOCATIONS

All of our junior basketball takes place at Cockatoo Reserve Stadium and Monbulk College Stadium Saturday mornings and afternoons.

ALL AGES

We currently run competitions for Rookies (first timers and/or 9 and under), Under 10s, Under 12s, Under 14 and Under 16.

THE SHERBROOKE DIFFERENCE

We welcome participation and can accommodate any age group/gender. A competition can be included, so long as there are four teams entered.

TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST

Pam Ball - pam@sherbrookebasketball.asn.au

FOR MORE INFORMATION

James Carradice
juniors@sherbrookebasketball.asn.au
Aussie Hoops is Basketball Australia’s official junior game development program for children aged 5—10 years.

**PROGRAM DETAILS**

**WHEN:**
From Sat. 13th February - Sat. 19th March; Sat. 16th April - Sat. 23rd April
(No sessions on Sat. 12th March—Labor Day)

**WHERE:**
Monbulk College Stadium
David Hill Road, Monbulk
Mel Ref 311 J3

**TIME:**
10:00am until 10:45am
(approx.)

**COST:**
$70 for new players
$50 for returning players

**All Participants Receive:**
- 1 x Peak Aussie Hoops backpack
- 1 x Spalding size 5 Aussie Hoops basketball
- 1 x Peak Aussie Hoops reversible singlet

**FURTHER INFORMATION**
Email: hoops@sherbrookebasketball.asn.au or
juniors@sherbrookebasketball.asn.au

Detach and bring with cheque made payable to: Sherbrooke B.A., P.O. Box 1121, Upwey. 3158.

Name: ............................................................ Age: ............. Birthdate: .......... Gender M/F

Address: ........................................................................................................................................

Postcode: .............. Phone number: ............. What school do you attend? ...................

Parents Names: ....................................................................................................................................

Do you require any medication? Y / N If yes, for what condition? .....................................................

Singlet size:  8  10  12  14  Email Address: .................................................................
NEW PLAYERS WELCOME

UPWEY TECOMA JFC
NOW RECRUITING
U16 PLAYERS

FREE ‘COME & TRY’ TRAINING
CONTACT COACH GLENN STEPHENSON
0417 999 708 or u16coach@utjfc.com