As I write this report, the National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) testing is taking place for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. I have spent some time in the testing areas assisting teachers with the running of the tests. I am delighted to say how impressed I am with those students who have been present for each of the tests and tried their very best to demonstrate their actual skills and knowledge. The data collected from these results assists our school in developing and implementing the teaching and learning programs relevant to our students’ needs.

The School Improvement Leadership Team continues to work on developing, leading and coordinating the school improvement process. The major role of the team is to drive and take responsibility for school improvement by engaging, motivating and influencing staff to create corporate responsibility for all students and to monitor the process of improvement and its impact on the learning, achievement and well-being of students. To help build their skills and capacity, the team will be attending some personal learning with the Bastow Institute in the area of ‘Creating a High Performance Learning Culture.’

This course requires a large commitment from the team members and is undertaken over a 6 to 8 month period. Over that time, the team will be working together to apply the learning from the course to our school context in order to secure improvement through a practice-based project. Our team consists of Jacqui Wiltshire, Leanne Strahan, Joel Cordwell, Lara-Jayne Wilson and Sue Holmes.

As the term progresses, a familiar face will be returning to Sherbrooke Community School after taking parental leave to raise her young family. Over the next few weeks, Sarah Corner will return to the school to commence preparations for her part-time return at the beginning of Term Three. We look forward to and welcome Sarah’s return.

Our next Pupil Free day is scheduled for Friday, June 3. We will once again be working with Tracey Ezard on creating a thriving and collaborative staff learning culture. The focus for the day will be on developing the visions and values of Sherbrooke Community School. We look forward to being involved in this work which will further enhance the teaching and learning at Sherbrooke Community School.

Until next month,

Sue Holmes
Principal
Students work with scientists at GTAC

Last month ten students attended the Gene Technology Access Centre in the ground of University High School in the City.

Not only did they work with scientists in two hands on workshops – one on the very latest research into Motor Neuron Disease and the other on addiction – but they had a very rare tour of The Florey Institute of Neuroscience.

The Institute is the largest brain research group in the Southern Hemisphere. What a privilege to see scientists at work and ask them directly about their research.

DD and Mitti were very proud of how our students interacted with the scientists and were not afraid to ask and answer questions.

“Our students had a very rare tour of The Florey Institute of Neuroscience.”

Pictures -

In the fabulous labs:

Each group had to learn what was going on behind the glass windows and then teach the others.

The two men in the photos are PHD students doing research at The Florey.
Breakfast Club Bonanza!

Our breakfast club will soon run five days a week thanks to a Victorian Government grant and a partnership with Foodbank Victoria.

We will receive foods such as cereal, milk, juice, baked beans, tinned fruit and oats. It’s very exciting to be able to expand our menu from toast, scones, croissants and fresh fruit.

And best of all, every one of our kids will be able to access a free healthy breakfast each morning before school.

Our every day School Breakfast Club will begin in term three and is available to every Sherbrooke student. All they have to do is come up to the canteen and enjoy a yummy breakfast with all their friends.

Breakfast will be served from 8.30am and close just before classes begin at 9am.

Our Canteen Manager, Laura, will coordinate this volunteer program.

Volunteer helpers urgently needed

Of course to run our expanded School Breakfast Club will take a team of enthusiastic volunteers - Can you help?

It is not a huge commitment, roughly half an hour of your time to help set up, prepare the food and chat to the kids. It’s actually a great way to start the day!

So basically if you can butter toast and pour milk on cereal - you’re qualified! Have a chat to Laura about how to get involved. Find her in the canteen or give her a call on 0428 375 227

Can you help?

If you are able to donate 1/2 an hour of your time please contact Laura on 0428 375 227 and let her know your name, number and which mornings you are available.
Moving stories heard at Holocaust Museum

Years 9, 12 and VCAL students took part in a moving excursion recently - a visit to the Jewish Holocaust Centre in Elsternwick. There they heard ninety three year old Primo Levi tell his story. Primo was held at the notorious Auschwitz concentration camp. He held the entire room enraptured as he told of his experiences throughout World War II as a Jew in Poland. He told the students a moving story about losing his best friend (or so he thought) and discovering he was still alive four days after liberation.

Our students asked some very insightful questions of Primo, who is now a celebrated author, and one of our students was even asked to read out a poem for Primo. Once the students had listened to Primo's story, they were able to experience and explore the Holocaust Museum, guided by second generation survivors. Students also participated in a lighting ceremony to acknowledge not only the 6 million Jews killed, but also to celebrate those that survived. The day concluded with a poignant reflection.

Despite the horrific nature of the Holocaust, the message conveyed throughout the day was one of hope and humanity shining through in the face of death and darkness.

This excursion supported the students’ texts that they are studying at present in English - The Complete Maus, The Diary of Anne Frank and Night.
The In2Science Workshops at Quantum Victoria offered another exciting opportunity for a group of Sherbrooke students recently. The year 7, 8 and 9 students joined students from three other schools to take part in these hands on learning tasks.

Quantum Victoria is an innovative centre bringing science and mathematics education to life for both students and teachers. For the first time, Quantum and In2Science are partnering to run workshops for students about STEM and STEM pathways.


Among the five workshops, Robotics and Engineering, 21st Century Skills: Programming and Materials of the Future were the most engaging and challenging workshops. Well done to all students!
Primary students at district athletics

A group of students from grades 3 to 6 participated in the district athletics at the Knox Athletics Track recently.

The day started with the 800m where Nathan Milligan put in an amazing performance.

Track and field events followed and each student got to participate in a variety of events.

The day stalled for a short time while a storm rolled past but that did not dampen the efforts or spirit of our students.

Everyone had a great day and should be very proud of their efforts and how well they represented Sherbrooke Community School.

School fees now payable on Compass

Compass has been updated to now include information on outstanding school fees.

Compass has the capability of being able to pay fees via Compasspay either in full or via monthly deduction from your credit card. You can also still come to the office and pay through the usual methods.

For families who have paid in full, paying via monthly instalments or paying by other means, your fees should not appear on Compass. Can you please check and if you have any queries please either see Dot or give her a call.

New Photo Date

Our whole school photo day will now take place on Thursday, June 9.

Students will have received their photo envelopes and these are still useable despite the different date.

You can order photos by returning the envelopes with cash or order and pay online following the instructions on the envelope.
Taking geology in their stride

The year 7/8 science students have been studying geology this term.

So we took a walk to Sassafras Creek to see how water can erode and to discuss how the Dandenongs are actually made up of extinct volcanoes.

Why don’t they look like volcanoes now, I hear you say? Well, it all happened about 200 million years ago and erosion and weathering have taken their toll.

In the photo Lucius helps Steven up the steep steps along the creek.

And mining for “chocolate crystals”...

The 7/8 classes also learnt about mining and had some first-hand experience. On an A3 sheet a muffin was placed as a mountain. They then had to draw in a bird’s eye view of the surrounding environment – trees, river, towns etc. Then using sophisticated tools (two toothpicks) they had to mine for the rare choc crystals that were selling for $200 each on the open market. Some did open cut mining, some did shaft mines, some did mountaintop removal and one creative student (David) mined his from beneath the mountain and had his mountain up on pylons so as not to ‘lose’ the mountain.

Most students discovered that mining is hard to do without disrupting the environment in some way except Freya who was so careful with her stockpile of crystals and tailings that they barely made any impact on the surrounds.
Slightly soggy Athletics Carnival...

We were greeted once again with torrential rain for our annual Athletics Carnival. And so the contingency plan was activated making use of our indoor spaces.

Events included: Tug of war, long jump, high jump, toss the turtle, crab soccer and throwing events. It has to be said that the energy, excitement and fun seen from all of the groups participating was the best that has been over the past 5 years since we started doing our sport carnivals. The sense of community, sportsmanship and that old fashion value of just having a go was clearly evident.

Well done to all of the students who participated, and to the teachers who helped to organise, run and record the events.

Overall scores on the day were very close, making for an entertaining afternoon. The final results were as follow: 4th on 182 points was red, 3rd on 218 points was green and 2nd on 250 points was yellow. This means that we have a new winner, in first, on 312 points - Blue! Congratulations to Blue house! Absolutely fantastic to crown a new champion!

“Rain didn’t dampen the spirits of our athletes.”
ICAS excitement

Sherbrooke students are excitedly gearing up for this year’s round of ICAS competitions.

The International Competitions and Assessments for Schools is an independent, quality skill based assessment program which rewards and recognises achievement.

Those students wanting to take part will be assessed in the following subjects:

- Science, May 31
- Writing, June 14
- Spelling, June 15
- English, August 2
- Maths, August 16

The exams will be moderated by Mitti and Adrien.

With great results in past ICAS exams, including high distinctions, we can’t wait to see what can be achieved in 2016!

Winter Menu survey success

Thanks to a massive response to our Canteen Survey we have been able to develop a great Winter Menu, which will not doubt be popular since the kids themselves helped design it!

It is warm and hearty and filled with meals the kids suggested. The clear front runners of our students’ favourite foods were: pumpkin soup, fried rice, butter chicken, jacket potatoes and sausage rolls.

We were expecting bolognaise to be a front runner in the pasta section, but in the end it was a pretty even split between bolognaise, carbonara, gnocchi and lasagne.

We’ve had some great new ideas too. Check out the menu and see if your idea is one we used!

You can download the menu from the school website or from the school documents section of “Compass”.

We will still have weekly specials, so keep your eye on Compass each Monday for news of what’s being featured that week.

DID YOU KNOW...

⇒ We have a loyalty card with freebies and discounts
⇒ Those ordering their lunch can add 1/2 price drink AND don’t wait in line
⇒ We have Gluten free and dairy free options available to order
⇒ There are vegetarian and vegan options available to order
⇒ We meet the national “Healthy Canteens” guidelines

Mug drive!

Thanks for sending in your old coffee mugs.

But we still need more!

We are putting together a “Mug Library” for use on soup days.

So, if you have any spare mugs lying around please send them in. Of course your child can bring in their own personal mug if they prefer.
Our forever puppy - coming soon!!!

It is with great excitement and anticipation that we await the arrival of our new school pup.

We have decided to get our own pup to keep forever, a female Golden Retriever. She will live with Leanne and come to school. The puppy is currently 5 weeks old and will be ready to leave her mum at 8 weeks. She will be flown down from NSW by Jetpets.

She will not be fully immunized at first (she’s too little) so we need to ask parents that they not bring their dogs into the school until further notice.

**Help name our pup.** If you have a suggestion, please let Leanne know.

And here she is! Her first photos - look how cute she is!

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**Getting ready for performance night!**

Get out you diaries!

Our first Musical Performance Night for the year will be on **Thursday June 9** and you won’t want to miss it!

The concert will start at **7 PM** in the hall and is a great opportunity for all music students (instrumental and classroom) to showcase their talents and gain valuable performance experience.

Performers will range from prep to year 12. There will an intermission and coffee/tea available on the night.

It will be rocking good fun!
Sherbrooke Community School

2017 ENROLMENTS

Sherbrooke Community School is holding a primary open day on **Tuesday, May 17**.

Sherbrooke offers children the opportunity to learn in small, flexible classes that can cater to each child’s individual needs. Come along to see our classes in action and talk to students, parents and teachers. Tours will run from 9-11am. All welcome.

311 Mt Dandenong Tourist Road, Sassafras or call 9755 2007 for more information
Sherbrooke students Alice and Jack Piggott were awarded their black belt in karate recently.

Students at the Golden Cobra Martial Arts Dojo in Selby, they have been training for eight years. Jack, a grade five student, did his grading on May 1, while Alice, from year seven, did her grading on May 7.

Both agreed that while it took a lot of focus and commitment, it was all worth it to achieve the goal.

"It was really hard work and I am proud that I did a good job”, said Alice.

As well as their black belts they each received a certificate and a new red gi.

It is said that the black belt signifies the beginning of the karate journey.

So Jack and Alice can both look forward to many more years of karate training, teaching, tournaments and competitions.

"Both agreed that while it took a lot of focus and commitment, it was all worth it to achieve the goal.”

Do you have a student success story to share?

The story can be about a past or present Sherbrooke students and can come from any area of their life - academics, career, sports, scouts, arts, anything.

So, please share! Send your information or story idea to laurajs67@hotmail.com or give Laura a call on 0428 375 227.
Our Orangutans’ School Reports

JUMBO

We’ve been really pleased with Jumbo’s progress. Now he’s older he’s getting more confident and has started playing further away from the babysitters, gaining just a little more independence.

Obama is Jumbo’s best friend and the two spend a lot of time together playing. Although Jumbo plays away from the babysitters, he quickly runs back to them if he perceives a threat or disturbance from the other orangutans.

The best time for a baby orangutan to learn is when they are alone with their babysitters, away from distractions, such as friends inviting them to play. This is the time where babysitters and technicians patiently and lovingly teach them essential orangutan skills, like which tree is best to climb. Jumbo is no exception and will pay close attention when he is away from friends. However, staff know to back off when he gets bored and walks away.

Besides learning to climb trees, Jumbo is learning how to build a nest. His nest skills are still basic. He likes to use a hessian sack, spread it on the ground, then wrap himself in it like a blanket. Simple but effective. It won’t be long before little Jumbo will be promoted to the next level of Forest School!

NITA

Nita shares her enclosure with Klara, Rawang and Leyka. They always seem to be doing their own thing and never quarrel. Things have been much quieter ever since Lexy was transferred to another Social Complex after her and Nita had a big fight.

Nita’s favourite activity is to play with a tyre swing, filling it with twigs and leaves to make it a little more nest-like. She’s quite happy to stay there and will only climb down when technicians arrive to give out fruit and enrichment toys.

The average orangutan at our Centre can consume a minimum of five kilos of food a day. But there’s always some orangutans that feel they can have more. Nita is one of those orangutans. Her favourite foods are bananas and corn so it’s always a good day when these are given out. Not one for missing out, Nita is quick to collect as much as she can, using her swing as a makeshift pantry. With this technique, she can eat at her leisure and watch all that is going on at Nyaru Menteng. However, Nita isn’t one to share and the normally amiable orangutan isn’t happy when her friends want some of her food. She’ll watch them from the corner of her eye and quickly gobble up her food if she feels she may lose anything. Nita is definitely one of our more greedy orangutans!
Community Notices:

ROADWORTHY Driving Program
With Terry Poole & Michelle Dodds

Welcome to Roadworthy Driving Program

Roadworthy Driving Program is a family owned business that has been successfully operated for over 16 years. As qualified instructors we provide individually tailored lessons in a calm, supportive and friendly environment.

Contact Us
Michelle: (Manual Lessons) 0439 322 767
Terry: (Auto/Manual Lessons) 0438 866 959
Website: http://drivinglessonseasternsuburbs.com/
Email: roadworthydriving@outlook.com

Roadworthy Driving Program has a high test pass rate and prides itself on teaching safe driving habits, for your lifetime.

Players Wanted!

Mountain Tigers Basketball Club is seeking junior players for the winter season.

Join your local club! Learn new skills and make new friends!
Saturday games - played locally!

No experience required!

Please contact Anne Heron for further details:
registrar@mountaintigers.com.au
Aussie Hoops is Basketball Australia’s official junior game development program for children aged 5—10 years.

PROGRAM DETAILS

WHEN: From Saturday 30th April to Saturday 18th June. (8 weeks total)

WHERE: Cockatoo Reserve Stadium
Mountain Road, Cockatoo

TIME: 10:00am until 10:45am

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.................. Birthday.................... 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............................................................................................................
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