The last five weeks of the year is an exciting and busy time for schools and this is no exception at Sherbrooke Community School. During these last weeks we see students engaged in a variety of activities that represent the culmination and celebration of their year-long learning. Our VCE students have completed their final exams and are now looking toward to taking the next step, exams commence for the year 7-11 students, Roundtable presentations are being prepared ready for presentations in week 8 and the year 9 and 10 students spend a week at work experience. The very special VCE Graduation evening is being held on Wednesday 25 November at Skyhigh Restaurant in Mt Dandenong.

In addition, year 11 students commence the Head Start program in week 8 with the remainder of the secondary students starting the introduction to 2016 in week 9. It is important that all students attend school during this time as class work begins on the curriculum for 2016.

The staff have also been very busy working on the curriculum and assessment for the new year. The school improvement team’s work has centred on developing the list of non-negotiable agreed whole school practices. These practices fall in line with the goals listed in the School Strategic Plan. These will be shared with the school community once they have been fully developed.

Just a few reminders:

- The last Pupil Free Day for 2015 will be next Friday, November 20. Students are not required at school that day. Parents and carers are reminded to make other arrangements for their children on that day.

- The 30th Anniversary celebration of Sherbrooke Community School is being held on Saturday, November 21 in the school grounds from 11am-4pm. All are invited to come and celebrate this special time with us.

- It is also important to turn our attention to the potential of bushfires occurring in our area. School procedures as outlined by the Department of Education’s Emergency Management department for the bushfire season are firmly in place, as is Sherbrooke Community School’s in-school Emergency Plan. Our school is listed on the Bushfire At-Risk-Register (BARR) which means the school will be closed when a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined in our Bureau of Meteorology district. Your attention is directed to the following page that outlines clear procedures for these days. An information session for parents/guardians will be run at a later date.

Until next month

*Sue Holmes*
Bushfire At-Risk Register - Schools

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.bushbrooke.vic.edu.au/](http://www.bushbrooke.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](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au) or call the 24-hour Victorian Bushfires Information Line on 1800 240 667.
It’s festival time!

It’s time to celebrate our awesome school! Our 30 Years Festival and Reunion will get underway at 11am this Saturday, November 21 and you are all invited to join in the fun!

There will be lots of activities for the whole family - competitions, workshops, commemorative tree plantings and mural paintings, and more...

The entertainment will be non stop as we celebrate the talents of all our students past and present in both music and theatre. Some famous Sherbies performing will be John Marsden of Wild Turkey, Dom McKay, Kaisha Hekimian and Blin Vanheems of Daisy West, just to name a few.

Delicious food will be available from Lady Paella and Babaji’s Kitchen and try creating your own fruit smoothie by pedal power!

Browse a range of homemade items at our local market stalls, have your photo taken with old school mates or get your face painted - So much fun to choose from!

What’s on at the festival...

- Music by Sherbies past and present
- Tree Planting - dig it!
- 30 Years Mural - get painting!
- Amazing Race style challenge
- Photo booth
- Reunion tent
- Circus workshops
- Market stalls
- Theatre performances
- Heaps of prizes to win...
- And much more...

KINDNESS

Keep your thoughts positive because your thoughts become your words.

Keep your words positive because your words become your behavior.

Keep your behavior positive because your behavior becomes your habits.

Keep your habits positive because your habits become your values.

Keep your values positive because your values become your destiny.

- Gandhi
Phillip Island camp a great experience

Early this term our students experienced one of the best school camps ever.
Close to 80 students travelled to Phillip Island for the four day camp, while our prep to Year 2 students stayed one night and two days.

Students and staff took part in a wide variety of activities which included surfing, body boarding, a beach carnival, learning life saving skills, coastal discovery, sand sculpture, archery, orienteering, hut building, Ga Ga pit, hiking, biking, initiative courses and campfire fun.

Huge thanks to everyone who made this wonderful experience possible for our kids.
Students wow the crowd with

Congratulations to all students who took part in Performance Night. Every single performer rocked!

A special thank you to all the people who helped make the night very successful by operating the mixing desk and lights, photographing the event, our mc’s and caterers.

I would also like to thank Alice and Roderick for their dedication and contribution.

Keep an eye out for some encore student performances at the Sherbrooke 30 Years Festival on Saturday, November 21.

Sherbrooke rocks!
their musical performances
Sherbrooke boys are dodgeball champions!

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

Sherbrooke Year 9 and ten boys ventured to Bayswater to play in a dodgeball tournament recently. It was a battle of the small schools.

Our boys had to adapt to the bigger courts and slightly different rules.

We managed to win a couple of our pool games and won our way to the semi final.

The boys took the challenge on and comfortably won that match.

We took on Bayswater in the final. We attacked them hard and it paid off. We won the final with time to spare.

Well done team!
A great effort that we can all be very proud of.

Important Reminders!

BOOK ROUND TABLE TIMES
Don’t forget to book your times for our round table presentations. Round tables will take place from November 23 to 27 from 9.10am to 3.10pm. On Tuesday November 24 appointments are available from 9.10 to 5.10pm. Book via Compass or call Dot in the office on 9755 2007.

PARENT FORUM
All parents are invited to a forum on Thursday, November 19 to give their opinions about our BOYD Program (Bring Your Own Device) being made available in 2016. Come along to the library at 3pm - All welcome.

INTENTIONS FOR 2016
Please let Dot know as soon as possible if your children will be returning to Sherbrooke next year. This is essential for school planning, budgeting and funding. A quick call is all that is needed.
Malakie passes assessment

Malakie passed his assessment and will now commence training to be a Guide Dog. He will be assessed every 4 weeks but needs to reach the benchmark by week 8. Fingers crossed!

This time, no news in the next 8 weeks will be good news (meaning there are no concerns about his progress).

From Hector’s training we know the first stage is learning to go around obstacles.

A big thank you to all students, staff and parents who supported his training.

School reports for our orangutans

Jumbo has graduated from the infant group to forest school 1. (There are nine levels) Jumbo had shown really good development with his climbing, so his babysitters thought it was time to move him to forest school.

Unfortunately on his first day of the new class, Jumbo didn’t feel ready. He spent most of his time clinging onto his babysitter and following her everywhere. He was nervous and restless.

Thankfully Jumbo soon got used to his new group and is now used to being away from his babysitter. A classmate, Rawang, helped Jumbo break out of his shell by asking him to play.

After a couple of months at forest school Jumbo plays with new friends, Adil, Laura and Dila. But some things haven’t changed - Jumbo still cries when he wants his milk.

Apart from that his is an active orangutan and loves swinging on the hanging roots. His graduation to forest school means he is now learning the skills of a wild orangutan.

Nita is a bit of a loner. When she does socialize, she prefers to sneak off to other forest groups to play with younger orangutans. She is cheeky and likes to steal food from the younger ones as she knows they won’t put up a fight.

Because she plays with the younger ones she prefers to play on the ground rather than up in the trees. She loves the mud and puddles of the rainy season.

She has poor nest building skills - it just becomes a mass of foliage and branches without much structure. Learning is not helped by her playing hooky and hiding in the bushes.

Recently Nita suffered from a fever and was at the clinic in Nyaru Menteng for a couple of weeks. Since then she has the habit of giving herself an early mark from school to go back to the clinic and play. She knows she shouldn’t and when caught she runs up a tree. She also likes to steal the shoes of staff at the clinic - she chews on them and hides them up trees. She is definitely on of our cheekiest residents!
COMMUNITY NOTICES:

Creswick Woollen Mills is a family business established in 1947 in a Victorian country town between Ballarat and Daylesford. Creswick proudly designs in Australia a range of knitwear, accessories and homewares with a focus on natural fibres.

10% of store purchases will be donated to Sherbrooke Community School

Valid until 28th November 2015 | Must join the loyalty club | Not in conjunction with any other offer

Shop 3, 383 Mount Dandenong Tourist Road, Sassafras • 9755 3030 • www.creswickwool.com.au
Open to Primary kids in Grades 4-6 in 2015 (& 9 year olds in Grade 3). There are 4 levels kids can work through. The 4th level is a Leadership Training level, and in the May 15 camp our first leaders came through from that level, after much hard work!

All activities are fun activities, from low ropes, initiative activities, wall climbing, games, drama and challenging interactive sessions.

Commenced in Feb 2003, this camp has continued for one reason only - because it works! It causes kids to be much more confident and increases their self esteem!

Visit www.kidsofgold.org.au to see who we are, what we do, and to download a form for the Feb 16 camp. The form and website have more on how the camp started and where it is situated in the beautiful Yarra Valley.

For New Campers
Fri 12th - Sun. 14th Feb 2016
$65 Full Fee*

Held at Lyrebird Park
Beenak Rd, Yellingbo
Melways 308 K10

*Cost of $65 is subsidised by sponsors such as Bendigo Bank, Bunnings and Yarra Ranges Council.

Contact Kids of Gold
0418 170 027 (Jenny) or 9737 9475 or 0415 427 396 (Gary) to hold a place and/or find out more.
Moores Road Medical Centre
5 Moores Road, Monbulk
P: 03 97521087

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- Skin Checks
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- Children’s Health
- Childhood and Travel Immunisations
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- Minor Surgical Procedures
- Employment Medicals (additional fees apply)
- Practice Nurse On Site

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OR CONTACT YOUR LOCAL FRANCHISEE

Martin Hall
0412 823 324
Martin.Hall@afdfranchisee.com.au

You're invited to Sherbrooke Community School on Saturday, Nov 21st from 11am! 311 Mt Dandenong Rd, Sassafras