



31 July 2025 - Issue 11

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear families,

We are now well and truly in the depths of winter and I often take a moment to appreciate the beautiful winter days we get in inland areas such as Campbell Town. There is something special about the sun being low in the sky and often peeking through wisps of cloud or fog and the warmth when the sun comes through a window. I hope you pause to value the beautiful part of Tasmania we live in, too.

Typical to the season, we continue to be affected by staff and student absences caused by various bugs and viruses. I want to thank families for their proactive communication with us regarding student absences and your desire to see students attend school as regularly as possible. Although our school's annual attendance rate is tracking on par with 2024, it is still well below pre-Covid levels. Our Department recognises 90% as regular attendance and believes that anything lower than that is likely to have a detrimental impact on a young person's educational outcomes.

If you need any support with your young person being reluctant to come to school, please reach out to their Classroom Teacher or the Sector AST in the first instance.

External School Review next week:

You will have received various communications from me over the past few weeks about our External School Review. We are looking forward to this opportunity for feedback and growth and I will share the findings of the review with you in our next newsletter. The review will look into diverse parts of our school operations, including how we drive an explicit improvement agenda, how we have built an expert teaching team, how we build partnerships with families and our community and how our culture promotes learning.

If you haven't already replied to my email inviting you to participate in a family session, I encourage you to consider doing so.

NAIDOC Week:

I was thrilled to see the way students and staff came together to learn about and celebrate NAIDOC Week. First Nation's perspectives were incorporated into various classes and there were a number of other activities for students to engage in.

2026 planning:

I am now beginning, in earnest, the discussions within our school about planning for 2026, including staffing, class structures and specialist classes.

Several families have raised with me their appreciation for the straight-grades model in the Primary School this year.

Although in schools nothing can be locked in until it is locked in (as enrolment numbers, staffing and funding is subject to change right up until February), I want to use this opportunity to communicate my strong preference that straight-grades continue into 2026. Achieving this will be high on my priority list as we make the decisions that go into planning for next year.

To assist with our planning, I would ask that as soon as possible you notify me (through our office) if your young person will not be attending our school in 2026.

Fire drill

We held our second fire drill yesterday. This time, Tasmania Fire Service was in attendance and they tested our emergency procedures and evacuation efficiency. I'm pleased to say that we passed. Within four minutes the school was evacuated to the oval and everyone was accounted for just a few minutes after that.

Grade 10-11 transition

If you haven't already, can I please ask families of Grade 10 students to tune into Grade 10-11 transition planning. Whether

students are taking advantage of our senior secondary offerings or looking further afield, now is the time to be having discussions about class selections. I note there are flyers from Launceston College and Newstead College in this newsletter too. Mr Tom Hodge leads our Grade 10-11 transition processes.

StoryBox Library

Tasmanian primary school students are being provided free access to StoryBox Library - a fun and educational digital library you can enjoy at home! StoryBox Library is a subscription-based website and app featuring Australian storytellers reading hundreds of much-loved children's books. It's a fantastic way to nurture your child's love of reading and support their literacy development. With features like Read-Along, Closed Captions, Auslan stories, and engaging audio-visual content, StoryBox Library is designed to be inclusive and accessible for all children. Login details and further information will be shared with families as soon they become available to us.

Finally, I want to acknowledge families for the way they have adapted to changes in how adults move around the school at afternoon pickup; as a consequence of our recently published Respectful Visitor and Volunteer policy. With our necessary focus on Safeguarding over the past few years, I sometimes worry that it might seem to families that schools are trying to push you away. This is not the case – we welcome and in fact need your support, engagement and partnership. The changes we have made make it easier to identify any adult behaviour around our school that should cause us concern, which is something I think everyone will celebrate. I genuinely appreciate your ongoing support with this.

In partnership,

David Bryant,

Acting Principal



PREP WALKING EXCURSION

On Tuesday the 29th of July Prep students went on a walking excursion to the Old Anglican Cemetery as part of our HASS learning. This term, Prep students will be exploring geography by learning about special places. For the past two weeks we have been exploring First Nation's perspectives of special places and in particular we have been thinking about 'country'. We read a story called My Patch, predicted what we might see in a patch of bush and then visited some bush to record what we found.

Rachel Langiu

Teacher



WETHER CHALLENGE

A very big thank you to all the people who assisted in the feeding of the wethers over the holidays. This job was taken on by both staff and students and is very much appreciated. Thanks to: Ashlee, Lou, Linda, Makayla, Ruby, Charlotte, Callum and Leeza. Many of these people had multiple days and thanks for giving up some of your holiday time to ensure this program runs smoothly.

The wethers prior to the holidays had lost some weight. Thanks to David Talyor who donated some oats, we have been able to increase the grain the sheep are receiving. One of the first jobs after the holidays was to weigh the sheep. I am pleased to say they have all gained weight, with Landcruiser (No. 79) weighing in at 70kgs, way heavier than any of the others. He is now receiving a restricted diet and has been stopped from eating everyone's ration.

This term the aim of students is to start tidying the sheep up to have them looking their best for the big day at the end of term.

Jill Bennett

Ag Teacher



STUDENT ABSENCES MESSAGING CHANGES

Starting on Monday 11 August our school will be switching over to a new messaging platform for communicating student absences. This will replace our current Schoolzine SMS text message.

The new platform, called EdSmart is an Australian platform which is designed to improve communication in school communities by allowing electronic messaging i.e. SMS and emails. For now, it will be used to manage absence messages; the students main contact (enrolling parent/carer/guardian) will receive an SMS and email alert if your child is absent from school requesting a response. Note, the text message sender

will be a shortened version of our school's name - please keep an eye out for it!

Further information is available on the Department's website

Communicating with your child's school - Department for Education, Children and Young People (decyp.tas.gov.au)

Parents/carers will still be able to notify us of absences using the Schoolzine SZapp.

Lucy Powell

School Business Manager

SEESAW CLASS COMMUNICATION PLATFORM

At Campbell Town District High School we are working towards implementing Seesaw as a school/home communication tool. Seesaw is a communication platform that will give you a true window into the classroom - in the same place your child engages with learning everyday! Seesaw provides a place to meet all your instructional, engagement and family communication needs.

We are currently trialling this program in one class and want to inform you that we will implement Seesaw in a gradual, sustainable manner.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us or head to the Seesaw family resource website for more information <https://seesaw.com/family-resources/>

Halana Knowles	Amanda Lydon	David Bryant
Primary AST	Secondary AST	Acting Principal

SCHOOL BOOK FAIR



You're invited to our
SCHOLASTIC Book Fair

























Date 18th to 29th August

Time 8:30am till 8:50am

Place The Hub

3pm till 3:30pm

Find these books and more at the Fair!

EVERY DOLLAR EQUALS RESOURCES FOR OUR SCHOOL

 SCHOLASTIC



COMMUNITY NOTICES



Invites all parents to a
**Year 10 Parent
Information Evening**

Thursday 14 August

7.00pm in Main Hall (off Paterson St)

ALL WELCOME



Book your ticket using the link or QR code below:

<https://www.trybooking.com/DAXEP>



**FAMILY
INFORMATION EVENING**

Year 10 students and parents/carers are invited to come and learn about our courses, facilities, programs, culture and student support.

2026 COURSE & ENROLMENT INFORMATION

Tuesday 2 September 2025, 7.00 PM
Newstead College Auditorium

Enrolment information

Lana Davie
6332 3278

lane.davie@decyp.tas.gov.au



WWW.NEWSTEADCOLLEGE.EDUCATION.TAS.EDU.AU



Scan to RSVP

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2025 TERM DATES

Term 3: Monday 21 July to Friday 26 September
(Friday 31 October Kinder to Grade 12 Student Free Day)
Term 4: Monday 13 October to Thursday 18 December



"Together we will achieve"

Week 2 28 th July	29 th July	30 th July	31 st July	1 st August
Learning Conversations – Grade 6	Learning Conversations – Grade 6	Secondary Sport	Tax Building & Construction Careers Expo excursion – Selected grade 9-13 students	Newstead College "Six" performance – selected Secondary students
Week 3 4 th August	5 th August	6 th August	7 th August	8 th August
		11/12 Ag excursion – Riccarton, Campbell Town		Primary Sport v Westbury @ Westbury
External school review	External school review	Secondary Sport	External school review	Primary Assembly, 2.10pm
Week 4 11 th August	12 th August	13 th August	14 th August	15 th August
		Grades 3A and 3B excursion – QV/MAG, Launceston		Primary Sport v Longford @ CT
RACT driving lessons	Newstead College Careers Expo – Grade 11-13 students	Secondary Sport	Quad Bike training – selected students	Primary Sport v Cressy @ Cressy
Science Week	Science Week	Science Week	Science Week	Science Week
Week 5 18 th August	19 th August	20 th August	21 st August	22 nd August
			Book Week Dress Up Day	
		Secondary Sport	11/12 Sport and Rec excursion – St Marys DHS	Primary Sport v Brocklehill/Creek @ CT
Book Week	Book Week	Book Week	Book Week	Book Week
Week 6 25 th August	26 th August	27 th August	28 th August	29 th August
		11/12 Ag excursion – Watling Downs, Reibbia		
	Primary Assembly, 2.10pm	Grades 3A and 3B excursion – Hollybank Reserve	Theatre Elective students excursion – Theatre Royal Hobart	Primary Sport v Westbury @ Westbury
Week 7 1 st September	2 nd September	3 rd September	4 th September	5 th September
RACT driving lessons		Secondary Sport	11/12 Sport and Rec excursion – Cradle Mountain	Primary Sport v Longford @ Longford
Week 8 8 th September	9 th September	10 th September	11 th September	12 th September
School Association Meeting 9.00am	Bravehearts visit – Kinder to Grade 2	11/12 Ag excursion – Rokeby, Campbell Town		Country Gold trial games
Week 9 15 th September	16 th September	17 th September	18 th September	19 th September
		Secondary Sport	11/12 Sport and Rec excursion – Beta Park, Invermay	Primary Assembly, 2.10pm
Week 10 22 nd September	23 rd September	24 th September	25 th September	26 th September
RACT driving lessons		Secondary Sport	Country Gold Carnivals	Primary Sport v Evandale @ CT
				Mental Health Expo

Dates subject to change without notice

