Primary House Captains and Sports Leaders

Primary House Captains
- Devils - Jaxon Foster and Edon Bernard
- Eagles - Declan Dwyer and Renae Gleeson-Natoli
- Sharks - Jack Faulkner and Angelika Brazendale

Sports Leaders
- Back Row: Jessie-Lea Everest, Brittany Johnstone, Jack Cross, Jacob Quaile, Jakeb Morris, Walter Jones, Brock Costello, Hunter Gibson, Daniel Best, Albert Brazendale

Department of Education
## Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MARCH</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Blessing of the Harvest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Open Afternoon - 5.00pm to 7.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Tiny Toddlers commence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Swimming Carnival - Primary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Swimming Carnival - Secondary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Long Weekend - Public Holiday - 8 Hour Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13th</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>First Full Day for Kindergarten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14th</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Early Birds commence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19th</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Grade 10 Parent Information Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20th</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Inter-High Diving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26th</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Parents and Friends Meeting - 7.30pm - Donna Ritchie Meeting Room</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Grade 7 and 8 Digital Photography students have made an enthusiastic start to the year and already have two assignments underway.

One task is to create a chain or sequence of photographs that link together by a feature in one also being present in the next. Each photo then links in a circle back around to the first photo. For example a snow covered landscape, a white owl linked to the colour of the snow, a tree because the owl is perched in a tree, and a bird perched in a tree with pink flowers linking to the pink blossoms in the previous photo and back to the snow covered trees at the start.

The next task is to complete a photographic scavenger hunt and then to create a collage based on the items found. Photographs can be of items found in nature or of man-made objects.

We have some keen and talented photographers so watch this space for more samples of their work throughout the year.

Example of a Photo Chain by Angela Neitzel

Flowers by Natasha Franklin
Jemimah Clifford’s shadow by Maddison Campbell
Tree by Toby Chugg
It’s not okay to be away ... nor to be late to school

When kids miss school, not only is their academic progress impeded, forcing them to catch up on missed work (which some never do), they often miss important interactions with their peers which can compound issues of social isolation and low self-esteem.

One of the most important things you can do to ensure your child has a bright future is to make sure he or she goes to school every day—and gets there on time.

It sounds simple, but it’s true.

The correlation between school attendance and children’s achievement levels is well-established. The more time kids spend at school, the more likely they are to experience school success.

Conversely, according to a report from the Victorian Auditor General, students who are regularly absent from school are at the greatest risk of dropping out of school early, and of experiencing long-term unemployment.

When kids miss school, not only is their academic progress impeded, forcing them to catch up on missed work (which some never do), they often miss important interactions with their peers which can compound issues of social isolation and low self-esteem. Also, many teachers tell me, it’s often the kids who can least afford to take time off school who are most likely to be serial absentees.

Of course, most people know this intuitively, yet school absenteeism is a huge problem in Australian schools—and much of it is parent-condoned.

It’s hard to get an accurate picture across the country but it would appear that Australian students miss an average of between 12 and 15 days per school year, with parent-condoned absenteeism highest among young primary-aged children.

That adds up to a year’s lost schooling over the school-life of a child.

In today’s highly competitive world, this rate of absenteeism is alarming, putting our kids at a distinct disadvantage.

That’s not a reason to be away!

It’s now commonplace for children to stay away from school for reasons that would have been unheard of just twenty years ago. These include staying away to celebrate their own or a sibling’s birthday, being absent because they stayed up too late watching television, going shopping for clothes, an extended long weekend, and kids not wanting to take part in a sports day or special school event.

This type of absenteeism sends a strong message to kids that parents don’t really value learning or their children’s school experiences.

Australian kids only spend 15% of their total time at school. They spend more time asleep than they do at school. So we need to maximise every day to get full value. That means turning up to school every day, on time.

Being late is not okay either

Missing a few minutes each day may not seem like a big deal but your child may be missing more than you realise if he or she is continually late.

Current research shows that mornings for most children are the most productive time of the day, with 10:00 am the peak period for productivity. When children arrive late and take time to settle as they inevitably do, valuable learning time is lost.

It takes strong parenting...

As a parent myself I know how persuasive children of all ages can be when it comes to taking a day off school. It takes a strong will to resist the persistent pressure that kids can bring to bear, particularly if they play the guilt card with comments such as “It’s not fair that I have to go to school today because Auntie is coming to visit!”

Nice try. But the answer should be “No!”.

As parents we need to make a commitment that our kids make the most of their precious time at school. That means that we send them to school every day, on time and ready to make the most of the school day.

Of course, there will be times, such as illness or genuinely extenuating family circumstances, when kids should be away. But these need to be a rarity rather than the norm.

It’s reassuring to know that you increase their chances of future success just by making sure they turn up to school every day. And of course regular school attendance also helps kids prepare for the workforce, where it will be expected that they turn up each day work-ready. The real world is unforgiving of those who stay away with NO EXCUSE.
It’s time to start practising! Cressy’s Got Talent will be on again later during Term 1 and we will be looking out for those students who have some hidden talents. This talent could be from a wide variety of skills such as singing, juggling, playing music, dancing, acting, telling jokes or anything else that could captivate an audience. The competition will be held in the Drama Room on the following Thursday lunchtimes:

- Heat 1 - April 26
- Heat 2 - May 3
- Heat 3 - May 10
- Heat 4 (if contestant demand requires) - May 17
- GRAND FINAL - May 24

Everyone is welcome to watch the Heats and/or Final for a 50c admission fee for each performance. The cost to enter is $2 a person or $5 for a group of 3 or more. The winner(s) (judges discretion) will be selected to perform in the Expressions Concert which will be held on July 26. The student Performing Arts Leaders will be taking entries after Easter so now is a great time to START PRACTISING!

Nelson Tabe - Music/ Drama Teacher

---

**Grade 10s visit Job and Skills Expo**

All Grade 10s this year will experience many opportunities to assist their transition from compulsory schooling to further education and employment. As part of our Inspiring Futures and Pathways program our Grade 10s visited the Albert Hall to attend the Job and Skills Expo last Friday. We viewed many stalls representing a wide range of career and pathway sectors and walked away with showbags of information and materials.

A big thank you to Mr Richard Goss for organising this valuable experience.

Katie Lester - Secondary AST

---

**Notices sent home since our last Newsletter**

- Headlice Notice - 1/2 Green/Oliver
- Class Information - 1/2 Richelme
- Class Information - 8 Andrews
- Active After School Communities Program 2012
- Health & Wellbeing Program - Grades 3, 4/5H, 4/5B, 6
- Class Information - 6 Whyman
- Class Information - 3 Long/Burston
- Family History - 3 Long/Burston
- Class Information - 1/2 Green/Oliver
- Mini News
- Swimming Carnival Information Grades 3 - 10
- Health & Wellbeing Program - Secondary
Homework Policy

Rationale:
- Homework benefits students by complementing classroom learning, fostering good study habits and providing an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning. It enables parents to become more intimately involved in their child’s progress at school.
- It is possible for a student to make satisfactory progress without undertaking some homework each night; however, students who achieve high awards (and those who have to struggle to succeed in a particular subject) recognize the important part homework plays in helping achieve that success.

Aims:
- To support and extend classroom learning.
- To develop positive study habits and self-discipline.
- To develop a responsibility for self learning.
- To inform and involve parents.

Primary:
Homework will consist mainly of:
- Reading activities to, with and by parents.
- Spelling activities
- Table revision and activities

If parents of students under Grade 5 would like their children to complete homework, this is to be requested of class teachers who will set and mark it.

Grade 5 and 6 students will complete homework which consists of the above components and the same tasks as outlined for Secondary students.

Homework will generally not exceed 30 minutes per day and will not be set during holiday periods.

Secondary:
Homework will consist mainly of:
- Tasks such as continuation of classroom work, projects and assignments, essays and research.
- Homework will generally not exceed 1 hour per day.
- It is acceptable for teachers to assign unfinished classroom activities as homework tasks.

Would $500 assist you with education costs?

You could receive up to $500 to help pay for educational costs including text books, computers, excursions and swimming lessons.

Saver Plus is delivered by The Smith Family in your local area and is looking for new participants.

You may be eligible if you or your partner:
- have a Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card
- are at least 18 years old
- have some regular income from work
- have a child at school, or attend accredited vocational training yourself

The newsletter will be handed out on a Wednesday to the youngest child in the family. Please check that your child has this information.

If you would like the newsletter to be emailed to you, please contact the office with your email address. 63976281
### DUE SOON

#### CURRENT SECONDARY ASSIGNMENT REMINDERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS / TEACHER</th>
<th>SUBJECT</th>
<th>DUE DATE</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Miss Weustenfeld</td>
<td>10B &amp; 10W English</td>
<td>5/3/2012</td>
<td>Response and Analysis assignment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss Weustenfeld</td>
<td>10B &amp; 10W History</td>
<td>7/3/2012</td>
<td>Asia Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss Bambridge</td>
<td>7B English</td>
<td>2/3/2012</td>
<td>Personal Biography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Nuttall</td>
<td>9N &amp; 9T Science</td>
<td>2/3/2012</td>
<td>Microscope labelling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Nuttall</td>
<td>9N &amp; 9T</td>
<td>6/3/2012</td>
<td>Images for writing seeds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Andrews</td>
<td>8A English</td>
<td>2/3/2012</td>
<td>Newspaper articles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Blackaby</td>
<td>9/10 Art</td>
<td>ongoing</td>
<td>Researching/collection images for notebooks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Marshall</td>
<td>7M Science</td>
<td>2/3/2012</td>
<td>Complete dichotomous key</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Professional Learning Focus - an opportunity to develop whole school priorities

Cressy teaching staff made the most of the three days professional learning prior to students returning. In 2011, our literacy learning was focused on developing reading comprehension and supporting students with effective strategies to access text. In 2012, we will build on this process and consolidate effective practices to deepend and enrich our programs.

At the beginning of the year staff members were provided with ways to further develop Walt, Wilf and Tib - a strategy that connects students to their learning outcomes and Blooms Taxonomy to develop higher order thinking skills.

Teachers were led through an intense insight into Writer’s workshop, an engaging approach to teaching writing, to enthuse our students to craft their writing skills.

This year with the introduction of the Australian Curriculum we are committed to embedding our three cross-curriculum priorities, one of which is Asia and Australia’s engagement with Asia. Teachers gained greater clarity about how we can empower our students to live and work in a global society.

Our teaching staff explored ways to strengthen support for all learners and we have partnered each member of the leadership team with a grade level, setting up co-teacher systems. This year, co-teachers will work alongside literacy teachers in block one to assist with flexible learning groups. We have developed ways to maximise collaborative planning opportunities to review data, student progress and design skilful scaffolding techniques, to ensure access to understanding for all our learners.

Our professional learning days were invaluable, providing time for intense teacher learning and an opportunity to develop whole school approaches. At Cressy our aim is to reflect, refine and provide quality teaching and learning to improve student outcomes. This is at the forefront of everything we do. We have set high expectations for staff and students alike and we are looking forward to a rewarding year.

Julie Pike - Assistant Principal
Student Banking

School Banking for students starts this week. **Our banking day is Wednesday.**

School Banking accounts can now be opened at any Commonwealth Bank branch. You no longer need to complete application forms and return them to school. Just go into any branch and ask to open a Youthsaver account for School Banking.

Remember to take identification for you and your child (such as driver’s license and birth certificate), you will receive a Dollarmites wallet and deposit book on the spot and be able to start banking on the next business day – it is that easy!

If you are a Commonwealth Bank customer with NetBank you have the option to open the account online as well.

From January 2012 when children make their first deposit they will get their first token and our school will also receive $5 commission. Thank you for supporting our school and teaching your child good saving skills.

---

LONGFORD BLESSING OF THE HARVEST FESTIVAL SUNDAY MARCH 4TH 2012

The pet parade is on again this year, starting at noon on the Village Green. Great prizes to be won! There are 6 categories you can enter: best behaved pet, best dressed pet, most unusual pet, pet with the best trick, owner-pet look-alike and harvest themed pet. Hope to see you and your pet there!

---

Introducing Kathy Hoare - Pathway Planning Officer

**Who?**

Hi, my name is Kathy Hoare and I work as a Pathway Planning Officer at Cressy District High School. All the students call me Kathy. I have been employed in a variety of jobs during my career and have spent a majority of my time supporting students of different ages from primary school through to university.

**What?**

I work with all Grade 10 students, either one-on-one or in small groups. My role is to help students develop a personal pathway plan and to support their transition into Year 11 or another form of further education, training or full-time employment.

**When?**

I’ll be working at Cressy on Thursdays. The best way to contact me is via the school office on 63976281. As I also work at Riverside High School and Deloraine High School, the best form of contact on any other day is via email. **kathy.hoare@education.tas.gov.au** I encourage all parents/guardians to contact me if you have any questions or concerns or would like more information on any aspect of your child’s transition from Cressy at the end of this year. I look forward to meeting you!

**Where?**

My workspace is located between the two Grade 10 classrooms.

**Why?**

To help students have the very best opportunity of getting a job and leading happy and healthy adult lives, all students completing Year 10 in Tasmania are required by law to continue participating in education or training programs until they turn 17. Finishing Year 10 is the beginning of a life-long journey of learning and education opportunities that will enrich your child’s life.

---

Reminder

If your child is away from school due to sickness PLEASE call our office on 63 976281 before 9.30am to let us know.
Pathway Planning update

Over the last few weeks I’ve been catching up with the Cressy students who have now become Launceston College and Newstead College Grade 11 students! Everyone has made a great start and it’s been nice to see how supportive they all are of one another. I’m hoping to profile some students over the next few months.

Quick stats on student destinations:

- 10 @ Newstead College
- 20 @ Launceston College
- 2 @ Tasmanian Polytechnic
- 2 confirmed in full-time employment
- 6 currently looking for full-time employment

Kathy Hoare - Pathway Planner

Grade 10 Science

Can you roll your tongue like Jesse Glover and some of his Grade 10 Bent classmates?

Which thumb is on top when you clasp your hands – left or right?

Welcome to the world of genetics, where Grade 10 students are exploring all those traits that are inherited through our genetic make-up. Or is it our upbringing that influences us more?

What is more important – nature or nurture? Grade 10 Science will seek to find out!!

Already we have “cloned” some plants, as Jesse Mattarozzi, Vincent Natoli and Curtis Hodgetts are doing, to assist our investigation into this ongoing scientific debate.

What will we find out?

Mr Titmuss - Grade 10 Science

Pea Straw for Sale

The Parents and Friends have bales of Pea Straw for sale. $5- per bale - pick up $6- per bale - delivered - local area.

Please call Petrina Goss on 0407 825 570
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>TEACHER</th>
<th>STUDENT</th>
<th>REASON</th>
<th>HOUSE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kinder</td>
<td>Mrs Bevan /Mrs Wootton</td>
<td>Cody Brinkman, Emily Hogarth</td>
<td>For being brave at Kindergarten.</td>
<td>Eagles, Sharks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Mrs Tubb</td>
<td>Whole Class</td>
<td>For making an excellent start to 2012.</td>
<td>Eagles x 4, Devils x 7, Sharks x 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 R</td>
<td>Ms Richelme</td>
<td>Kayden Herbert</td>
<td>For the thoughtful and responsible way he gives help and support in our classroom. Thankyou Kayden!</td>
<td>Eagles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/3 G</td>
<td>Mrs Green/Mrs Martin</td>
<td>Heidi Edwards, Tyler Reeves</td>
<td>Thank you for settling in so well. Welcome to Cressy!</td>
<td>Devils, Sharks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Mrs Long/Mrs Burston</td>
<td>Bailey Peart-Lawson, Hayden Johnstone</td>
<td>Working really hard to manipulate MAB blocks to make numbers to 100.</td>
<td>Devils, Eagles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5B</td>
<td>Ms Brophy</td>
<td>Nicholas Donaldson-Adams</td>
<td>Welcome to Cressy District High School.</td>
<td>Eagles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Mrs Whyman</td>
<td>William Porter</td>
<td>A focused start to the year.</td>
<td>Eagles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7B</td>
<td>Miss Bambridge</td>
<td>Alec Niekamp</td>
<td>A great start to the year.</td>
<td>Sharks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7M</td>
<td>Mr Marshall</td>
<td>Corey Campbell, Bianca Daley</td>
<td>For approaching all academic tasks in a positive manner. For a focused start to the year.</td>
<td>Eagles x 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8B</td>
<td>Ms Breaden/Mr Davis</td>
<td>Shamee Johnstone</td>
<td>Dedication to her schoolwork.</td>
<td>Eagles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8A</td>
<td>Mr Andrews</td>
<td>Jemma Rainbow</td>
<td>Great start to Cressy.</td>
<td>Eagles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9N</td>
<td>Mrs Nuttall</td>
<td>Nadine Lockett, Annick Witte, Kaitelin Campbell</td>
<td>Excellent persuasive writing work.</td>
<td>Devils x 2, Eagles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10W</td>
<td>Miss Weustenfeld</td>
<td>10W - Whole Class</td>
<td>For a positive start to the year.</td>
<td>Sharks x 3, Devils x 9, Eagles x 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speech &amp; Drama</td>
<td>Mr Tabe</td>
<td>Wade Musicka</td>
<td>A positive start to his Drama and Music Studies.</td>
<td>Sharks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art</td>
<td>Mrs Blackaby</td>
<td>Calum Pitt</td>
<td>Excellent attitude and sincerity displayed in Art.</td>
<td>Eagles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AST Primary</td>
<td>Mr Rae</td>
<td>Jack Cross</td>
<td>Displaying high level resilience skills and a “have-a-go” attitude.</td>
<td>Eagles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AST 7-8</td>
<td>Mrs Martin / Mrs Keenan</td>
<td>Lauren Spencer, Maddison Campbell</td>
<td>Great teamwork in Live Well - Eat Well.</td>
<td>Devils, Eagles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Principal</td>
<td>Mrs Pike</td>
<td>Kyle Quaile</td>
<td>Offering support during Breakfast Club.</td>
<td>Devils</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>