Clean Up Australia
Our students did a wonderful job earlier this week, picking up rubbish around the school grounds as part of Clean Up Australia. Congratulations to the SRC as they led the activity from planning to execution. They are also organising the Bulb fundraiser and have other events in the pipeline.

Community Barbeque
Today is the day RSVPs are due for our community event next Wednesday. Our VCAL students have been busy organising the event and they would appreciate you contacting the school on Monday by phone or text message (0427 016 460) to confirm numbers for catering purposes. We are looking forward to seeing you as well as a number of guests there!

Chrissy’s Book Review
I am pleased to introduce this week a new feature of our newsletter: Chrissy’s Book Review. As many of you know, Chrissy is an avid reader and a very keen and talented writer. I trust you will all enjoy reading her review and get ideas for books to read, borrow or gift.

School Council
I would like to congratulate the following office bearers:
President: Aaron Henderson
Vice-President: Brooke Greig

Christchurch
We all were shocked and saddened by last week’s events in Christchurch and the Department has issued the following advice to help families:

Tips for supporting children and young people
Common reactions
It is common to think about safety and predictability of the world when tragedies such as the Christchurch incident occur. Reactions are influenced by many factors:
• Knowing someone impacted.
• Identifying with the victims and survivors.
• Seeing and hearing terrifying images and discussions.

The developmental age of the person influences what they understand and how they respond. Some may be unaware, others will be following all the discussions and media coverage, looking for understanding.

What to say and how to care
Here are some ways you can make children and young people feel safe:
• Give reassurance that the incident is over.
• Keep to routines, as they are reassuring.
• Have time to listen and talk. Listen to concerns and worries and discuss strategies for feeling safe, dealing with worry and being able to take action. This helps in repairing safety and calm.
• Give a calm response to their concerns.
• Keep your explanations appropriate for their age and development. Start at their starting point: ask what the child/young person understands about what has happened and what their key worry is. Each child will have a different understanding and will find different parts of what has happened frightening or worrying. Very young children need simple, factual information balanced with assurances of safety. Older children will be appraising their own, and loved ones, safety. They may need help with separating reality from fantasy, and to dispel rumours.
• Reduce exposure to media coverage and conversations that are distressing and not age-appropriate.
• Monitor their emotional state. Changes in behaviour, appetite and sleep can be an indicator of anxiety or worry. Young children often express worry through bodily aches and pains.

Valerie Lobry
Acting Principal
Swimming Sports

On Friday the 15th of March, we went to the Skipton Swimming pool for our Inter school Swimming Sports. It was the 3-6s that went to compete. The first race took 10 minutes to start. It was fun. Then we went home. By Hamish and Ripley

On Friday the 15th of March, the grade 3-6s went to the Western Plains Swimming Sports in Skipton to swim against other schools. The schools competing were Derrinallum, Skipton, Linton, Rokewood and Lismore. We think we came 2nd or 3rd overall as a school, which was great. Everyone did their best in their swimming races. We cheered for everyone as they raced. We think we were the loudest cheer squad there. Jake’s mum came and supported us and some other parents did as well. There was a canteen that sold burgers, sausages, water and icy poles. On the way home we were singing baby shark, the wheels on the bus go round and round, incy wincey spider and twinkle twinkle little star, while Harley was snoring his head off, he was exhausted. It was a really fun day. By Jake and Clayton

The Swimming Sports

On Friday the 15th of March, the grade 3-6s went to the Skipton Swimming Pool on the bus, to compete in the Inter School Swimming Sports. Campbell and I had races that we got three third place ribbons in. This was great and fun. We had so much cheering going on around us which made it even better to race in. So many parents came along and supported us. Then we went back to school.

By Campbell and Harley
Do you work in the food industry?

Do you want to work in the food industry?

Do you and your staff have the appropriate qualifications?

All staff working in a venue that sells food are required to complete and hold a Food Handling or Food Safety Certificate.

The Food Handling Course is the minimum requirement and runs over 3 hours ensuring you understand the requirements to handle and store food safely and correctly. This short course will provide you with the nationally accredited Statement of Attainment ‘Use hygienic practices for food safety’ and is commonly called a Food Handling Course or an RSF (Responsible Service of Food) Certificate course.

Derrinallum P-12 College VCAL students are organising a course to take place on

**Wednesday 24th April, 2019 from 9.30am to 12.30pm.**

The course will be run by Peter Hermans from AVTES at the school.

Please register your interest and contact the school to leave your details for further information and the VCAL students will be glad to provide any assistance and keep you updated. We need adequate numbers to run the course so please support this local initiative.

Cost: $165. Payable prior to attending the course.
Congratulations to Taylor Monahan-Yr 5 who gave me the first correct answer to last week’s problem.

Last week’s question was: Three consecutive numbers (that is, three numbers in a row - 1, 2, 3 or 5, 6, 7 or 9, 10, 11) add up to 81. What is the middle number?

**ANS: 27 (26, 27, 28)**

This week’s question is: I am thinking of 2 numbers. When I add the 2 numbers, they equal 27. When I multiply (times) the 2 numbers, they equal 0.

What are the 2 numbers?

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**Student of the week**

Charlie Turner for saying the sounds and reading the word.

Wednesday Smith for her great organisation.

Austyn Howarth for improving and up-leveling his writing.

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**"Chrissy's Book review"**

**Title:** *Pastures of the Blue Crane*

**Author:** H.F. Brinsmead

**Suitable for:** Older readers

*Pastures of the Blue Crane* is a delightful novel set in Australia, and focuses on Amaryllis Merewether and her grandfather Dusty. The plot centres on them moving to the rural town of Bundoo, having been left a house in a will. There, they befriend the locals and begin to form a family bond. There are also plot twists throughout, which hold your attention and begs you to keep reading. The tale explores themes of family, friendship and perspective. It also is a form of a tale of maturing, and was an absolute delight to read. The suggestion for older readers is due mostly to the complex language used throughout the novel, but *Pastures of the Blue Crane* could be read with adult guidance. All in all, a delightful tale of family and friendship that simply begs to be read right through.

**Rating:** 5/5

With a wonderful storyline and captivating characters, it’s impossible to not love this book!

By Chrissy Kirk
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Helping your kids to...

Why STOP LOOK LISTEN THINK is important

Bus travel is one of the safest ways to travel to school.

Key safety concerns for children include:

- Crossing roads without looking
- Being distracted around bus stops by mobile phones, music players and other children
- Biking in the road

Some simple safety messages, outlined here, can help reduce these risks:

1. Stay well back from the edge of the road and wait for the bus to arrive.
2. In all directions for approaching traffic, have a clear view of the road.
3. About when it is safe to cross, only cross when the road is clear.

Bus safety... we ALL have a role to play.
Waiting for the bus:
- Children must not push, run or play around near the bus stop.
- Children must stay well back from the kerb or edge of the road.
- Allow plenty of time for children to get on to the bus stop.
- If the bus is late, children should remain at the bus stop until it arrives.
- Children must walk for the bus to stop completely before they approach.

Travelling on the bus:
- Children must stay seated, where a seat is available, and use seat belts if fitted.
- Bus aids must be kept clear of bags.
- Children should not distract the driver - so the driver can concentrate on getting them to school safely.
- Children must stay seated until the bus has stopped.
- Children should not rush to get off the bus.

Getting off the bus:
- What parents and carers should do...
- Understand that children may be travelling at high speed and therefore take longer to stop.
- Understand that it’s important to keep looking and listening for traffic while crossing.

What children should do:
- Never cross in front of, or behind, the bus.
- Never cross when the door is open.
- Never wear headphones or talk on their mobile phone when trying to cross, as you may not hear approaching traffic.
- Only think about crossing once the school bus has gone, and when they can see clearly both ways.
- Only cross onto a footpath if there is a clear view of the road, move on to a footpath if there is a
- Never cross the road if there is a
- Make sure you can see clearly both ways.
- Make sure you can see clearly both ways.