Our vision for Dixons Creek Primary School is to empower students to embrace learning; to achieve their personal best and to build their emotional, social and physical well-being so they may actively contribute to the local and global community in a child safe environment. All members of the school community will value, and REACH to be: Resilient, Energetic, Accountable, Caring and Honest.

PRINCIPAL PREamble
Sharon Walker

Tis the season to be jolly, however we all feel overworked and tired — parents, children and teachers. A lot is happening in the next few days.

1. The Puppet Production starts at 6.30pm on Friday night. Please meet on the oval where we will explain the movement around the 5 theatres. We are asking parents to see each play by moving around the school. Please bring a plate of supper to the staffroom if you wish to stay and chat afterwards. Each play takes about 20 minutes so there will be 100 minutes of theatre with five minutes movement between each. We anticipate starting the theatres at 6.45pm and finishing at 8.45pm.

2. Our ukulele and choir performers at the Yarra Glen Community Carols Night are very excited. Please meet Miss Bawden at 7pm behind the stage. Our BBQ roster is filled—thank you. Please bring muffins, eskies or BBQs to our stall on the night if you can from 5.30pm.

3. Children may wear free dress to the FunFields Picnic on Tuesday December 13. Bring all food, clothing, sunscreen, towels and drinks for the day in a small backpack. We leave the school at 9am sharp.

4. From Tuesday December 13 children may wear Christmas t-shirts, hats and other Christmas dress to school until the last day of school. This is a Parent Club idea and we think it is a great way to get into the Christmas spirit. Children may not wear ‘free’ dress—only Christmas themed attire.

5. Year 6 graduates are getting very excited about their special night. Thank you to Maree and Christina for their work on the table decorations.

6. Congratulations to Mille, School Captain and James, Vice Captain for 2017. Our House Captains are: Cobie, Curtis, Owen and Connor. The Junior School President is Erin. The formal presentations of badges will be in February 2017.

7. Please take time to say goodbye to Sandra Hannagan and Ryan Walker as they leave our school to take up positions in others. There will be a presentation for both on the last day of school at the final assembly—1.15pm—also Christmas raffle drawn.
HELPING YOUNG CHILDREN WITH NEW EXPERIENCES OR CHALLENGES

http://www.momentsaday.com

By Chelsea Lee Smith

Moving to new schools, homes, joining clubs, going on camps or excursions etc. can be a worry to young children. Often they cannot find the words to tell of their fears or worries. The following article shows how a simple felt board can be used as a way for children to speak about the way they feel. Often boards like this are used with children with disability or those receiving counselling.

‘Whenever my kids have faced a life change, such as moving to a new country or introducing a new sibling, I have tried to use creative play to help prepare them. In addition to the usual talks over dinner or while riding in the car, play allows the kids to bring up their own topics organically and allows the children to express themselves in a natural way.

Role play, puppets, and felt boards are great props to spark the play. Conversations can cover as much as your child is interested in talking about: from feelings, to fears, to all the practical details that they may be wonderful about.

Last year before we left on our trip around Australia, this camping felt board was a great addition to our conversations. There are lots of felt boards available on different themes to start with, and you can always create your own felt shapes to add as well. Here are some play prompts to use with a felt board:

- Which character is you?
- How do they feel?
- What do they want to do next?
- What are they most scared of?
- What are they excited about?
- Which character is mum/dad? What are they going to do?
- What do you think will happen when...?
- Do you think they will enjoy that?
- What can help them?’
OVERDUE LIBRARY BOOKS

Please return all library books to the school as there will be no more borrowing. We will prepare invoices for all books not returned to school by Wednesday December 14, 2016. The cost for a replacement picture story book is $25 and a paperback is $15.00.

PARENT PAYMENTS 2017

The invoice for the 2017 Parent Payments have gone out. The due date is December 16, 2016 as we have paid for the items and they are ready for distribution next year. The ‘Essential Learning Items’ must be paid for by parents as these items are given to the children in good faith that they will be paid for.

Parents with extreme financial hardship should see Sharon Walker or Kerrie McMurray in the office to set up a staggered payment plan. We will also accept a deposit of $100 per child by December 16, 2016 if needed.

SCHOOL PRODUCTION DETAILS

Please note the School Production will now be held in the school grounds on Friday December 9, 2016 at 6.30pm. The children and teachers have been working with Angie MacMillan, our Artist in Schools resident, to perform a series of small puppet theatres around the school grounds on this night. Angie has asked that all children wear black clothing for their performances so the puppets will be highly visible to the audience. It is suggested that children wear a black skivvy, black pants and black shoes for the performance. If families have extra, unwanted black clothing of this nature please leave in the office with Kerrie so we may help those who cannot buy these items. Please bring a plate of supper to share.

Meet at 6.30 on the school oval for a welcome and overview of the night.

Christmas Raffle 2016

Well it’s that time of year again. Due to popular demand, and because it’s a bit of fun, we will be having our annual Christmas raffle again this year.

Could each family please donate something towards the raffle that would help make everyone’s Christmas a little more special. Please place your donations into the office before Friday, the 16th of December.

A few examples are new: toys, games, books, chocolates, biscuits, CDs, decorations, vouchers, wine etc (nothing perishable please) to the value approximately $10 per family.

We will be drawing the raffle at assembly on the last day of term, Tuesday 20th.

Raffle tickets are $1 each. Please return tickets and money in the envelope by Friday 16th Dec.

Cassie Ralis and Parent Club
Mrs Hoogie’s F-1

Last week we had our long anticipated Maths party. We were able to have our lunch orders and put on a fabulous mental maths facts show for Mrs Walker. She was thrilled to see the young students equipped with such amazing knowledge!!! We also had a volume/capacity relay run and another session of B-Bot coding, which was great fun!

Thankyou to Michelle Maffescionni who came into our grade last week to teach us some fun and relaxing yoga skills. She also made and sent home a helpful poster for each student. We always love having helpers in our grade. A big thankyou also goes out to Eva, Meggy and Nana Jo – Tatum’s Grandma for coming in and supporting us with the final stages of our puppet show. If you would like to contribute or share exciting things with our grade you are always welcome! Perhaps you have some great Christmas craft ideas you would like to share!!!

MRS SCHABEL 1/2S

With the weather warming up, we have started to do some lessons and sports outside, which has been fun. We have excitedly been getting ready for our puppet show on the 9th December. That includes making finishing touches to our puppets, creating props and practise, practise, practise. To take away the performance nerves, we have also been doing some mindfulness meditation techniques. We hope to see you all on what should be a very exciting night.
MISS JACOBS 3/4 J

The excitement and anticipation for the premier of "Fenced" is building. The year 3/4s have been busy making the final touches on their puppets and creating props that will be used to enhance their performance. The children have come so far, guided by the expertise of Angie McMillian. Their characters are well and "truly" coming to life. They children also gained some great ideas from watching the grade 4/5s run through their puppet show. The grade 4/5s also watched the 3/4 children and they were able to give each other positive feedback and constructive criticism. The project has really opened the eyes of the children, exposing them to concepts they otherwise might not have learnt about. Many, many thanks to Angie and also Eva who has helped tirelessly to make the puppets that the children are creating spectacular!

"Chookas" for Friday! (that's 'break a leg' in the musical theatre world who deem 'break a leg to be bad luck)"

MISS BAWDEN

Yarra Glen Community Carols – Choir and Ukulele Performance

Dear Parents,

A final notice about Sunday evening’s performance. Students will need to meet behind the stage at 7pm in order to warm up and prepare for our movement on the stage. The concert begins at 7:30pm and we will be the fourth performers on the night, right before Santa comes along! Students are to take their ukulele’s home for the weekend to practise and bring them on the night. They will need to be there promptly at 7pm so that I can tune their ukulele’s and they can get microphones put on them. All students are invited to wear Christmassy clothing. If you have any questions, please come and speak to me.

Regards,

Hayley Bawden
4/5B have been learning about Alliteration. It’s commonly seen in poems and we saw it used by Daniel Radcliffe, AKA Harry Potter, when rapping Alphabet Aerobics by Blackalicious. We used this as inspiration to write our own rap for assembly. This is what we said...

Angry Adam actually abuses albatrosses. Academic accountants launch atomic bombs.

Bouncing basketballs bounce behind bumpers. Barfing Band-Aids. BOOM! BANG!

Cam calculates complicated crooked cracks while charging crazy criminals collecting cool combs.

Doug the deer dies when he declines disgusting desserts destroyed days ago.

Elastic elephants eat emu ears while embarrassing elderly echidnas.

Flying fish flew flapping fins. Falling fast freckled flew fast.

Golden goldfish gobbled up grand, gorgeous goats while grooming green grass.

Hideous hens hooked hanks horrific hog with hate horribly hanging it to heaven.

Illegal! Immature! Incorrect illusions! Do not impress the investigating internet.

Jealous judges go to jail to join the jolly jump club.


Lavender Lily laughed lazily loving little lambs lungs.

Mad Mum magnificently mowed while menacing at my magic Mohawk.

Naughty nocturnal nosy birds normally eat noble nuts with new names.

Obsessive Octopus occasionally is offensive when operating on ostriches.

Pickled popcorn pops pickles with his pen pineapple apple pen.

The quiet queen questioned her quokka with a quick quote about quality quilts.

Rabbits with rabies repeatedly run around rattlesnakes with radios radiating.

Sweet and sour sausages slither in the savoury section of the Sydney supermarket.

Trevor the Tiger likes tangy toothpaste and Tip Top toast, in tacos all the time.

Unicorns united under unfamiliar umbrellas updating unsuccessful universities.

Vain villains vowed vengeance on viola playing vapid vacation.

Warped waiters wandered weakly while wishing for warm, waterproof walnuts.

Xavier plays the xylophone while Xeroxing. Xava was being a xanthippe

Yodelling youths yelled at yellow yaks while Yasmine inhaled yellow yogurt on a yacht.

Zebras zig zag zombies in the zed part of the Zulu zoo
Congratulations to Chloe and Jason for being chosen as the winners of the first Jessie McHardie White Scholarships. This scholarship is offered to children in their final year of school at Dixons Creek Primary School.

Choosing children for individual awards is always difficult in cohorts where everyone strives to do their best and to demonstrate our REACH values. Staff deliberate and agonise over these choices. On occasions the final choice is only a fraction away from the second candidate but this is a life reality. When our children seek university entrance, interview for jobs or apply for loans etc. there will always be a criteria to meet and sometimes they will be disappointed. Dealing with disappointment is a valuable life skill and one that we need to help our children through in life.

Chloe and Jason have a long history of demonstrating the values we all desire in our children. Both children arrived here in 2010 as little ‘Preppies.’ There were 53 students enrolled in the school that February with eleven being new Preps in their first week of school. Of those first eleven children we have nine still with us. Our gorgeous Anna arrived a week later into this school year, making our Prep enrolment twelve.

We have been truly blessed with the achievements of this little band of Preppies.
YARRA GLEN COMMUNITY CAROLS NIGHT—SUNDAY

Thanks to everyone on the roster. If you have baked muffins please bring them to school on Friday in a named airtight container (will be returned), or bring directly to the stall from 5.30pm. The families bringing BBQs and eskies can bring directly to the stall, or eskies on Friday at school also.
Yarra Valley
Tennis Series

2016 YVTS Christmas Teams Cup

12 and Under Boys and Girls Event

(you can enter as a tennis club, primary school or your own team!)

Date – Wednesday 21st December (first day of school holidays)
Check-in Time – 8.15AM  Starting Time – 8.30AM  Finish Time – 12.00NOON

Venue Location – Yarra Glen Tennis Club, 14 Anzac Avenue, Yarra Glen

Description of Event

Each player must enter with a friend (teams of 2 players) and must be 12 and under as of 31st December 2016.

Each team will play against the other teams over a 3 hour period.

While the emphasis is on participation and enjoyment, there will be prizes for all winners on the day.

ENTRY FORM INFORMATION

Your Team Name: ____________________________ Your School or Tennis Club: ____________________________
Player 1 Information
Name: ____________________________
Birthday: ____________________________
Parent Name: ____________________________
Parent Mobile: ____________________________
Email: ____________________________

Player 2 Information
Name: ____________________________
Birthday: ____________________________
Parent Name: ____________________________
Parent Mobile: ____________________________
Email: ____________________________

NB: Once your entry form has been received (either via email, text or this printed form) you will receive an invoice for your entry fee ($20.00 per child) with bank account details to transfer the money into, and once payment has been made, a confirmation email that your team has been accepted. All payments must be finalised before the 20th December. YOUR TEAM IS NOT CONFIRMED UNTIL PAYMENT HAS BEEN RECEIVED!

NB: There are only a limited number of 40 team spots available, so enter as soon as you can.

To enter, send the entry form information:
By email to: yvts@series@outlook.com
By post to: Anthony Glynn, PO Box 528, Yarra Junction, 3797
By text to: 0433 832 335

For more information, contact Anthony on the above details.