



**January 28, 2016**

## **Upcoming Events**

***Fri, Jan 29—9.30am***

**Parent Club Meeting**

***Fri, Feb 5, 11.30-1.00pm***

**Year 5/6 Science Incursion**

***Tues/Wed Feb 9 and 19***

**Meet and Greet—6-8pm**

***Tues Feb 16***

**Information Night, 6-7.30pm**

## **FORMS DUE BACK IN NEXT TWO WEEKS**

Year 5/6 Science Incursion

School Fees

Consents

CSEF

### **BRING IN:**

All black student assessment folders from 2015 are due back please

### **2016 TERM DATES**

**Term 1: 28 January to 24 March**

**Term 2: 11 April to 24 June**



## **PRINCIPAL PREAMBLE**

**Sharon Walker**

Welcome back to the start of the 2016 school year. I have just completed a couple of walks around the classrooms this morning and all is well. The children are happy, working diligently and having fun catching up with friends.

We all welcome Mrs Richelle Hoogenraad and Mrs Kylie Schabel to the school. Both new teachers are excited and proud to be teaching at this school—both being part of the local community for several years.

We also wish Mrs Hannagan, Miss Bawden and Miss Jacobs well as they all start teaching in new sections of this school. It is a year of change and we are sure that these changes will only make our teachers stronger and enhance their professional journeys.

There are many ways I will communicate with the school community this year. In 2015 Mrs Hannagan was able to implement one of communication priorities, that being to

change the format of the school newsletter. The new newsletter has been well received. In November we introduced the 'Dixons Dialogue' as an 'as needs' event calendar. Please keep this attached to the fridge, perhaps, so that you always have notice of special events coming up. We will try to attach costings to this also.

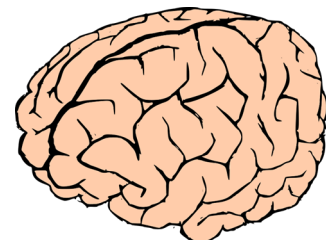
This newsletter will be placed on the school website. If you do not have Internet access please advise Kerrie in the office so a folder can be set up for you to receive hard copies of all community correspondence. The folder can be picked up on newsletter days, for instance.

Today you will receive the school fee invoice. Please pay this as soon as possible because all children have been given their supplies. We give out the materials in good faith that they will be paid for. In cases of extreme hardship please see me for a payment plan that can be spread out over the year.

## **SCIENCE INCURSION—YEARS 5/6**

Mrs Hannagan has arranged for scientists from Melbourne University to provide an educational session for Year 5/6 students on Friday Feb 5 from around 11.30am to 1pm. The students will investigate brain function and anatomy through dissection and presentations by scientists.

See Mrs Hannagan for more details.



### **CONTACT DETAILS**

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Dixons Creek Victoria 3775

Phone: 5965 2282 fax: 5965 2477 email: dixons.creek.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

School Payments Account: **BSB: 063-856 Account: 10018910**



Always stay positive when talking about your child's school and teachers. This models the need to think positively and to be resilient. Modelling negativity teaches that mindset to children. Mental health needs to be worked on just like physical health!

### Foundation Orientation Dates 2016

Wed May 4 and  
May 25

Wed June 15 and  
29

Wed July 27

Wed August 10  
and 31

Wed September  
14

Wed October 12  
and 26

Wed November  
23

Wed December 7  
(9am -1.30pm)



### Why talking about school is important

Talking with your child about the school day **shows you're interested** in what's going on in his life. This interest boosts his mental health, happiness and wellbeing. It can also have a very positive effect on your child's behaviour and achievement. It shows your child that you value school and education, which encourages him to value it too. Talking together about school also **helps you get to know more about what's expected of your child at school**, how she learns and how she handles challenges. It can help you understand when she's feeling less interested in school or experiencing problems.

When you're in touch with your child's feelings about school, you're more likely to see problems when they're molehills, not mountains. This way you can work on overcoming challenges together. And talking about school issues – such as school projects or friendship problems – is also a great chance for you to express your family values about things like teamwork, respect for self and others, friendships, relationships, problem-solving and so on.

### Strategies for talking about school with your child

Your child will probably be tired and hungry or thinking about other things when she first gets home. So **easing the transition from school or after-school activities to home** can help your child feel more like talking.

For example, you can simply let your child know that you're glad to see him, and talk about non-school topics for a while. Younger children will probably also like help unpacking their bags and going through any notes before you ask about school.

Saving questions about homework for later on can also take the pressure off!

Every afternoon or evening will be different. Even if your child usually loves to share her day with you, there'll be days when she doesn't want to talk. Sometimes it's a matter of sensing her mood and picking the right moment. Some days there might not a right moment at all, and that's OK.

**Simple, specific questions about parts of the day** can get your child talking. For example:

- What was fun?
- What did you like best at school today?
- What does your classroom look like at the moment?
- Who did you play with/talk to at school today?
- What subjects did you do today?
- What did you like most in your lunchbox?

## MEET AND GREET SESSIONS—FEB 9 AND 10—6-8pm

Teachers will be available for 'Meet and Greet' sessions on either Tuesday February 9 or Wednesday February 10. The purpose of these sessions is for parents to share information about their child to the new teacher. This information could include: anxieties, friendship difficulties, food allergies, specific strengths, personality traits, fears, academic difficulties, specific family situations etc.

Not every family will need, or want, to attend these sessions however we feel that some parents will have specific information that will make their child's transition to the new school year, easier.

Interview times will be kept to ten minutes. Please watch out for your form shortly.

## INFORMATION NIGHT

The principal, and teachers, will conduct a school Information Night on Tuesday February 16, from 6-7.30pm in the Year 5/6 room. Topics covered will include the school discipline policy, homework, uniform, School Council elections, Sexual Education, eSmart and Drug education programs for 2016.

At 6.45pm the teachers will conduct information sessions in their classrooms. Parents will have the opportunity to hear the teacher talk about classroom routines, expectations and specific curriculum.

We encourage parents to ask questions during both parts of the evening. If you can bring a plate of supper to share we will leave a few minutes to grab a bite to eat following the whole school session, before parents and teachers break away to class rooms.

## DIXONS DIALOGUE

This is a reminder sheet designed for quick reference

DATE	EVENT
<i>Friday Feb 5, 11.30-1.00</i>	<b>Science Incursion Years 5/6 Melbourne University – Brain Science – no cost</b>
<i>Tuesday Feb 9 and Wed 10 – 6-8pm</i>	Parent/Teacher Meet and Greet. Come along to tell the teacher about your child's individual needs, strengths, interests and well being. Preferred interview times will be distributed shortly
<i>Tuesday Feb 16 – 6-7.30pm</i>	<b>Information Night. The principal and teachers will present information about programs, discipline, classroom management and events. Bring a long a plate of supper to share.</b>
<i>Thurs Feb 25 - 3.30pm</i>	Year 2 Sleepover. Organise a tent, or share a tent, and get ready for the sleepover night at school. Teachers in attendance – Mrs Schabel and Mrs Hoogenraad – Cost \$20.00 per child
<i>Mon Feb 29– 6pm</i>	<b>Last meeting of current School Council – Thank you to Rodger Koth, Robert Burpee and Trudy Banks whose terms on School Council finish this meeting. All three councillors may nominate for new terms.</b>
<i>Wed March 2– all day</i>	Elected Year 6 children will be offered the opportunity to attend the Student Leadership Conference in Melbourne with Mrs Hannagan – Cost \$25.00 per child
<i>Fri 18/3 – all day</i>	<b>'Bullying No Way' activities</b>
<i>Fri 22/4 – 9-9.30am</i>	Anzac Day Ceremony Assembly
<i>Mon 2/5- all day</i>	<b>Curriculum Day – School Closed</b>

## YEAR TWO SLEEPOVER

Parents of Year 2 children please be aware that each child will need a sleeping bag and tent unless sharing with others. We leave it to parents to arrange sleeping details. It is great for a few children to share a tent however some children prefer to sleep alone. The tents are put up with the children on Thursday February 25, at 3.30pm. The \$20.00 cost of the sleepover includes entertainment, dinner, supper and Friday's breakfast. We encourage all Year 2 children to attend.