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

It has been a pleasure to step back into the school and to again enjoy the beautiful landscape, dedicated staff, smiling parents and children who love to be at school—harder now with these cold mornings!

Thank you to all those who have welcomed me back. I thank Mrs Hannagan and the staff for keeping the school functioning so well despite some drama with the weather and our beloved pine trees.

I really enjoyed my three weeks being a full time grandma doing the school run, kinder duty and playing with a twelve week old baby. All tiring but brought back so many memories of being a young mum to three children.

You may have noticed our new vision and values statement at the top of this page. School Council have now approved our work. Thank you to the children, parents and staff who worked on developing a meaningful statement. We will now begin the work of embedding this vision and values into our every day work.

Please have a think about the REACH values and talk about what they mean at home. It is important that the whole school community model these behaviours. Look out for more information about each value in coming months.

On Wednesday of last week, Mrs Hannagan and I went to a briefing about the new ‘Child Safe Standards.’ We came away feeling really positive about the work we have been doing around child safety since the beginning of the year. Our ‘Child Safe’ policy has been developed and will be attached to a future newsletter.

We all must work tirelessly to ensure every child feels safe from abuse in every environment.

Over the coming two weeks we will be working hard to get the student reports to you. Please look out for the June Student reports and the ‘Interview’ time sheet on Thursday June 16. Three way interviews will be conducted on Tuesday June 21 from 12.30pm.

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We all contribute to the self esteem of others in our lives. Parents and teachers play a crucial role in modelling behaviours that will enhance self-esteem in children. How do you display the REACH values?

Our new school values have been decided—we will all REACH to be: Resilient, Energetic, Accountable, Caring and Honest. What will the children be taught about these values and the relationship to their daily lives?

Firstly self-esteem and self-concept can be nurtured by others around us. When we help others, are honest and are accountable for our actions, others give praise, admiration and positive feedback. We in turn feel great and are more likely to repeat these positive behaviours. There is a ‘payback’ to oneself for good deeds to others.

When we are resilient we learn that we can deal with tough situations and this makes us feel stronger. Learning from mistakes and difficult events feeds our self-concept.

Being energetic in all we do helps us accomplish our goals and this in turn feeds our self-esteem. When we achieve what we set out to do we feel good about ourselves and our lives. Exercise will keep our bodies and minds healthy too.

We will base our lessons around these child friendly definitions of the five values:

**Being resilient means that whatever bad times you go through you can always bounce back again and be yourself.**

**Being energetic means putting a lot of effort into all you do.**

**Being accountable means taking responsibility for your own actions.**

**Being caring means considering the wellbeing of others.**

**Being honest means being truthful and fair.**

Our new ‘Bounce back’ program has many resources to help teach these values to our children. All research shows that when school and home work together the results are greatly enhanced. Perhaps parents may like to adopt these values for home too and think about how each family member demonstrates these values within their own lives.

In the coming weeks we will give our values logo design to a graphic artist so we can start to use this on all our official documentation. We feel really positive about this new vision and the values that support it.

Thank you Sandra Hannagan for your great artwork.

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**PARENTS PHOTOGRAPHING CHILDREN IN CLASSROOMS OR ON EXCURSIONS**

Please remember that parents do not have the right to photograph other people’s children without permission from their parent. Some of our families have not given permission for their children to be photographed other than for the class photos.
GRANDPARENT’S DAY

What a fantastic morning the F-2 children had on Friday June 3, with their grandparents and special friends. It was hard to move in the two rooms. Our visitors thoroughly enjoyed working with the children and watching them perform their special songs and poems.

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend. Thank you to teachers Richelle Hoogenraad and Kylie Schabel for their preparations for the morning and to Jodie Crawford for her fabulous scones.
On Friday, June 3, we welcomed our grandparents and special friends into the classroom. We wrote stories about being an insect for the day. We all wrote about a problem that we encountered as that mini-beast. Some of us were killed by snail bait or insect spray. Some of us were squashed or put in jars and left to die! The bees amongst us died after stinging someone who stepped on us! Our grandparents and special friends were able to help us write.

After that we sang to the visitors and Mr. Shortis, Soren’s grandpa, read to us. We enjoyed eating our play lunch with our grandparents who enjoyed fresh scones baked by Mrs. Crawford.

Later in the day we revised the three mental Math’s strategies and then learnt about prescription and non-prescription medicines.

We had so many visitors on Friday including Tildy’s cousin and Mrs Walker’s two poodles!
YEARS 3-6  Miss Jacobs, Miss Bawden and Mrs Hannagan

The Year 5 and 6 children enjoyed a great day at the ‘Aussie sports’ event. Thank you Mr. Devisser for offering this opportunity to our school again.

The year threes and fours have been enjoying their science sessions on Wednesday afternoons. For the last two sessions the children have been working through a unit called "Strong Shapes." The children were initially given the challenge of changing a piece of A4 paper through cutting or folding to make a "strong shape." The aim was to discover what sort of design would be the 'strongest.' The strength of the children's designs were tested by stacking Jenga blocks on top of the paper. In the next Science lesson the children were given the challenge of creating a 50 cm bridge. They had guidelines they needed to follow for creating their 'bridge' and were allowed to work in small teams for their investigations. The children discovered that triangles often proved to be the strongest shapes and when they used concertina folds in their bridge designs they were able to hold more weight.

This week the 3/4 students have taken their Explorer discoveries to the next level. They have each selected an explorer, ranging from Christopher Columbus to James Cook and Zheng He, and over the next few weeks they will plot their travels on maps, watch videos and read diaries of their first hand recounts and explore the consequences that exploring can have on both the explorer as well as the people and places that they 'discovered'. The students are already brimming with excitement to find out exactly what it took to discover a brand new place and what amazing things they experienced when they landed. There will be a few sad endings of course but I’m really looking forward to seeing how the students turn their research into presentations for each other at the end of term.

PARENT CLUB TRIVIA NIGHT

We are all really excited about our upcoming Trivia Night on Saturday August 27, 2016. The night begins at 7.30pm in the Yarra Glen Memorial Hall.

Tickets are now available from the office for $20.00 each. Make up a table of 10 and come along for a night filled with much fun and laughter. Start saving up your gold coins for the coin tosses and bring along cash or cheques for the silent auctions—no credit card facilities.

We are desperate for items to auction. Do you have a brand new gift that sits in the cupboard unused? Could you approach a business for a voucher or gift donation? Monies raised by the night will go towards our new gazebo project and in beautifying the children’s quiet area.

TICKETS WILL BE SOLD ON FIRST IN BASIS SO START PLANNING YOUR NIGHT!
Parents and carers are offered a formal parent teacher interview in June of each year. This year we have decided to offer a ‘three way’ interview where the student can also participate. Children should bring along their portfolio and discuss their perceptions of progress throughout the first semester of school. Having the child there gives added insights into their feelings, weaknesses, strengths and motivation.

We have set aside Tuesday June 21, from 12.30pm onwards, for the interviews. Teachers will send home appointment slips on Thursday June 16, with the student reports. Parents must return the slips on Monday June 20 to the school office. Mrs. McMurray will fill in times and return them that night. Interview times will be allocated on a ‘first come’ basis.

If Tuesday June 21, is not suitable for any parent they can always arrange an alternate time with the class teacher.

The quick ‘turn around time’ is due to the report distribution timeline and the need to coincide interview day with the specialist timetable to allow all teachers to be available for interviews.

From the Art Room

Term 2 is quickly coming to an end. The Yr 4/5/6 children have been enjoying some new additions to the Printing unit including gelli-plate and screen printing and are now involved in the Modelling unit, working with clay. The 5/6H class are carving clay tiles, while the 4/5B children are concentrating on clay construction and specifically joins. 3/4J, following their Collage unit, have been looking at the work of Monet and the Impressionist movement, painting a landscape. The F/1/2 classes are now working on the Printing unit. Autumn is a lovely theme to inspire us with the beautiful warm colours of the leaves of deciduous trees. These colours translate well to the earthy colours of aboriginal cave paintings, which 1/2S have been attempting to recreate; while F/1 have been inspired by the illustration work of Eric Carle, printing on tissue paper and creating a "beautiful butterfly".
AFL Victoria

Holiday Programs

5-8 Years
Footy Fun Day

9-12 Years
Skills Battle

Come join us!

Wednesday 6th July
Futsal Oz Mt Evelyn
19-23 Hereford Rd,
Mt Evelyn 3796

$60

A day packed full of footy fun! Come and test your football skills. Lots of games and fun to be had.

Contact: Dean Rice
dean.rice@afl.com.au
9735 5448

Register now at
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KREATIONZ
CHEER & DANCE
YARRA JUNCTION
OPEN DAY ~ 1:00 TO 3:00PM
SATURDAY 9TH JULY 2016
AT Upper Yarra Secondary College Gymnasium
FREE WORKSHOP SCHEDULE
1:00 - 1:30pm - 11 yrs and under Jazz
1:30 - 2:00pm - 11 yrs and under Cheerleading
2:00 - 2:30pm - 12 yrs and over Cheerleading
2:30 - 3:00pm - 12 yrs and over Contemporary
YARRA JUNCTION STUDIO OFFICIALLY OPENING 12TH JULY