



# Dinjerra Messenger

Term 1 No. 1 8<sup>th</sup> February 2018



The Department of Education & Dinjerra Primary School do not endorse the products or services of any private advertiser. No responsibility is accepted by the Department of Education or Dinjerra Primary School for accuracy of information contained in advertisements or claims made by them.

## From the Principal

I would like to welcome all our new families and welcome back our existing families for the 2018 school year. Every year is an exciting new challenge and 2018 will be no exception. Following our Review late last year we have a very clear road ahead to ensure that your children get the best possible education in their time with us at Dinjerra.

We are welcoming back Seaneen Watts from a year of professional learning at Yarra Primary School and we say Hola to Jose Ortega who is replacing Kat Grey who has returned to Sydney. Seany will be teaching at the Year 2-3 level and Jose will be our teacher of Spanish.

We have boosted our Literacy and EAL support for students by setting up a new team comprised of Nazlia Edwards and Michael Voulgarellis who will be supporting the classroom teachers in improving the literacy skills of our students.

We are still very hopeful of getting the funding for our re-development. We will find out for sure in May when the State Government Budget is handed down. Planning has continued over the past year with meetings with the architects and the Department of Education and Training occurring at least once a month. It is very exciting to plan for a new school, especially one that will be here to educate the children of Braybrook for most of this century. The current design plan is in the foyer near the front office.

On a personal level, my eldest daughter successfully completed her VCE last year and has been accepted into her first choice course at University. My youngest daughter is starting Grade 6 at her primary school and is already starting to think about the next big step that is secondary school, and I was finally coerced into attending a Queensland theme park over the holidays and I have almost recovered.

Parents are reminded that access to the staff car park is restricted to staff of the school, parents dropping off or picking up children from Kelly Club and parents of students who are unable to walk without help. Parents attending school council meetings are also exempt.

Graeme Smith  
Principal

### ANNUAL SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2018

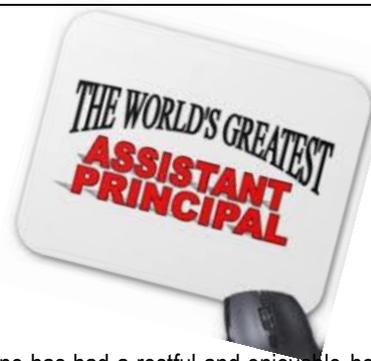
Each year the school runs an election to ensure that we have a functioning School Council to help me run the school. Our council has six Parent Representatives and four Department of Education and Training Representatives.

Next week we will publish a 'special' newsletter that will explain the time-line, provide information about what happens at Council meetings and will explain the eligibility requirements for each category of membership. There will also be nomination forms for parents to either nominate someone they think would be a great parent representative or to nominate themselves.

Please take the time to search your child's bag and read the 'special' newsletter. We will also place this on our web site.

**Graeme Smith. Principal.**

# From the Assistant Principal's Desk



Welcome back!

I too would like to extend a warm welcome back to all our Dinjerra families. I hope everyone has had a restful and enjoyable holiday and are ready for another year of wonder and learning. It has been terrific to see and greet many of you each day. I am very excited to begin the new school year and look forward to working with the whole school community to ensure the best possible teaching and learning for the students of Dinjerra Primary School. I'd like to extend a special welcome to our new and returning families to our school– thank you for trusting US with the education and wellbeing of your children.

You can help your child by being really positive about their school days and making sure that your child gets plenty of sleep. Going back to school is hard work for children and they will be extremely tired until they get used to the routines of getting up early for school. Even the teachers will be tired I'm sure.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to drop in and see me. My door is always open.

## Meet & Greet

You are invited to meet with your child's teacher on **Monday 19<sup>th</sup>** and **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> of February, 2018**. This is an excellent opportunity to meet your child's teacher and share information and discuss what will happen in your child's grade during this year. It is important that all parents/carers attend.

Meetings will be held between 3:30pm to 6.00pm on each night.

To book an appointment time, please complete the form sent home on Monday and return to your child's teacher by Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February.

**Bobby Kotevski**  
Assistant Principal

## DINJERRA PRIMARY SCHOOL

### STAFF LIST 2018

**PRINCIPAL:** Graeme Smith

**ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL:** Robert (Bobby) Kotevski

**BUSINESS MANAGER:** Jenny Smith

#### **EDUCATION SUPPORT STAFF:**

- Tuyet (Hong) Tran: Office Support & Library Tech
- Karen Jones: Office Support, OH&S and Integration Aide
- Valana (Val) Razmovski: Integration Aide
- Kerry Breeze: Integration Aide
- Carla Elgueta: Primary Welfare Officer

#### **eduSTAR.TSS SUPPORT:**

- Vladislav (Vlad) Duplyakin (3.2 hours a week on Friday Mornings)

#### **TEACHING STAFF:**

- Catherine Leahy: Learning Specialist; Grade 4,5&6L
- Ivy Leach: Learning Specialist; Grade Prep-1L
- Krystal Marcantonio; Grade Prep-1M
- Seaneen (Seany) Watts: Grade 2-3W
- John Carr: Grade 2-3C
- Emily Cinar: Grade 4,5&6C
- Nazlia Edwards: EAL & Intervention Support
- Michael Voulgarellis: Intervention Support
- Jose Ortega: Spanish (Tuesday & Wednesday)
- Debbie Domas: P.E. & Art Teacher

#### **CLEANING CONTRACTOR:**

- Malcolm (Mal) Parkinson

## Important Information For Parents Regarding Insurance

Parents are reminded that the Department does not provide personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students. Parents and guardians of students, who do not have student accident insurance/ambulance cover, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance/transport and any other transport costs.

In some circumstances, medical or other expenses will be paid by the Department where it is assessed that it is likely, that the Department is liable for negligent (careless) acts or omissions of its staff/volunteers. For more information about the claims process please go to <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/governance/Pages/claimsprocess.aspx>

Student accident insurance/ambulance cover policies are available from some commercial insurers, and can be obtained by parents/guardians for individual students.

Private property brought to school by students, staff or visitors is not insured and the Department does not accept any responsibility for any loss or damage.

## COMPLAINTS PROCESSES 2018

Fortunately, we rarely have complaints or concerns raised by parents. However, if something is worrying you it is best to try to resolve it as quickly as possible. If you have a complaint or concern about how your child has been treated, how well your child is learning, what your child is learning or about the conduct of any staff member at Dinjerra there are a number of ways to proceed.

If you are concerned about your child's progress, an aspect of the curriculum or about how your child is getting along with other children, please make an appointment to speak with your child's teacher. They know your child best and they are always the best place to start. If you are still unhappy after speaking with them you can then speak with the Assistant Principal or if it is about how your child is getting along with some other students, Carla Elgueta, our Primary Welfare Officer has some excellent strategies that should help.

If your complaint is about a teacher or an Education Support Officer you need to make an appointment to see the Principal. There are set processes for dealing with complaints about teachers and the Education Support Staff and the Principal will explain the process and lead it at the school. In serious cases, the Principal will contact the Conduct and Ethics Unit of the Department and seek their advice.

If your complaint is about the Principal, you can contact the Department of Education. The South Western Victoria Regional Office is sited in Footscray and their phone number and address is on line or available from the school. You can also speak with the School Council President who can give independent advice as the best way to resolve your issue.



## DINJERRA'S SUN SAFE POLICY

Australia is the skin cancer capital of the world. More than 11,500 Australian men and women are diagnosed with a melanoma each year, and an estimated 434,000 people are treated for one or more non-melanoma skin cancers. Skin cancer accounts for over 80% of all new cases of cancer diagnosed in Australia each year.

Luckily, skin cancer is almost entirely preventable and high profile awareness and information campaigns telling Australians how to save their skin have been in place for several decades.

Dinjerra's Sun Smart policy requires all students to have a school approved sun smart hat that they have to wear in the danger zones of Term 1 and Term 4 every year. If students do not have a school approved Sun Smart hat they are not permitted to play in the open at lunch and recess and they are unable to take part in outdoor PE activities and the Kitchen Garden program. A student without a school hat will not be able to attend an excursion during these danger terms.

Each classroom has 50 + sunscreen and students are expected to use it before going out to play.

### DRIVING SAFELY TO AND FROM SCHOOL



The Footscray Police have informed me that they will be patrolling South Road to ensure that all the road rules are being followed in our school zone. They will be looking for children not properly locked in to booster seats and seat belts, drivers using mobile phones and speeding through the 40 zone and going through the crossing dangerously.

Graeme Smith.

### Coles Supermarket Sports for Schools Vouchers.....

- This is for all you Coles shoppers out there in our community!!!!
- Every time you shop at Coles please ask for the Sports for Schools vouchers. You get 1 voucher for every \$10 that you spend at the supermarket.
- Bring these vouchers to school and post in the post box near the office area.
- The more vouchers we receive, the more **FREE** sports equipment we receive.
- The program runs from the **7<sup>th</sup> February till the 11<sup>th</sup> May.**
- The Sports Captains will be making decisions and ordering the equipment that Dinjerra will receive.
- **Thanks everyone start collecting now and place in the post box!!!!!!**
- Debbie Domas PE coordinator.

### On the Noticeboard

- BRAYBROOK COMMUNITY HUB – Kids Art Term 1 2018
- Commonwealth Bank – Student Banking

## Breakfast Club.

There are a number of students that come to school without having had breakfast and find it difficult to concentrate and learn in class. Late last year we decided to organize a Breakfast Club an initiative that many schools across the state have implemented to improve student's concentration and engagement in their learning.



Dinjerra Breakfast club kicked off this week. Breakfast club happens every Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 8:45am- 9:00am. Parents, teachers and volunteers operate the breakfast club on a rotating roster. During those times, they prepare toast with various spreads such as butter, jam and vegemite. The toast is served out of the canteen.

If you are interested in helping out and volunteering your time in the Dinjerra Breakfast Club or wanting to donate butter, jam or vegemite please contact Carla the Primary Welfare Officer on 9311 1598.

## SCHOOL WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR (SWPB) AT DINJERRA

School Wide Positive Behaviours (SWPB) was introduced at Dinjerra about five years ago. SWPB's has been operating across the world for well over 30 years and it has shown that schools following the program are safer, calmer and more cooperative places where students and teachers work together in a harmonious and friendly manner.

One of the first things we did when we introduced SWPB was to find the three key values that best summed up the way we wanted to set the tone for our school. The three values we agreed on were: **'We are Learners'**; **'We are Safe'**; and **'We are Thoughtful'**.

Instead of having 'rules' as such, we have expectations of how students will behave in the school and when coming to and from the school. These expectations are drawn up in a Matrix that our students created with their teacher. The Matrix has been printed and laminated and is in every classroom and across the school.

When a teacher believes that a student has clearly shown an expected behavior, the teacher can reward them with a reward token using Class Dojo. Students can 'cash in' their tokens when they reach a target for a range of big rewards such as lunch with the Principal; Cooking , board games and a lot of other fun things. The token system is an excellent way of encouraging good behavior. Unfortunately, there are occasions where we have to use negative reinforcements such as punishments when a student is unable to meet the expectations. The flow chart our teachers use to try to diffuse poor behavior that might lead to a punishment is available on the school web site as is the Matrix.

As a conversation starter, ask your children what our school values are and what behaviors each expectation might show. You will be proud of how much they know. So, remember at Dinjerra, **'We are Safe, We are thoughtful and We are Learners'**.

*Carla Elgueta*  
*Primary Welfare Officer - Dinjerra Primary School*

## CSEF

The State Government has financial assistance to help with paying for sports activities, camps and excursions. If you hold a Health Card or Pension Card or concession card you may be eligible for the \$125 government payment which helps towards the cost of your child's excursions and camps.

To apply for this assistance, please bring your current Health Care Card or Pension Card to the office and sign an application form (CSEF) as soon as possible. If you have already signed this application but have not supplied the office with your card, please bring it in as soon as possible as we must sight every card.

Thank you

The Office Staff

## Library News

Welcome back to school for 2018 and a special welcome to our new Prep class.

Library borrowing is now underway and we urge everyone to come and visit our Library to see our wonderful collection of books.

## Scholastic Book Club

Our first issue of Scholastic Book Club is going home today with the Newsletter. All money and order forms are due back on **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2018**. The more orders we get, the school earns bonus points and it goes towards books for our library.

## Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Time
Tuesday 13/02	School Council Meeting	7:00pm
Wednesday 14/02	No School for Preps	All Day
Friday 16/02	Scholastic Book Club Order due in	
Monday 19/02	Parent Teacher Interviews	3:30pm – 6:00pm
Tuesday 20/02	Parent Teacher Interviews	3:30pm – 6:00pm
Wednesday 21/02	No School for Preps	All Day
Mon, 12/03	Labour Day public holiday – children not required at school	All Day



**Kelly Club Dinjerra**

Kelly Club Dinjerra  
Program Phone: 0466 665 941  
[dinjerra@kellycluboshc.com.au](mailto:dinjerra@kellycluboshc.com.au)

Get along to Kelly Club Dinjerra OSHC program for loads of fun, sports, games, cooking, craft, arts, free time and healthy, yummy breakfast and afternoon tea provided for all children!

Opening times: **Before School Care 7.00am - 8.45am** and **After School Care 3.15pm - 6.00pm**

Prices start from **\$3.00 per session** with your CCB/CCR rebate connected with Centrelink.

Our programmes are approved, with government rebates and subsidies available.

Contact the program phone/email to book! 0466 665 941 [dinjerra@kellycluboshc.com.au](mailto:dinjerra@kellycluboshc.com.au)

Healthy regards,

**Nanda Bhoj** - Dinjerra Programme Coordinator