Dear Parents and Guardians,

I would sincerely like to welcome our new families to the Dinjerra community and welcome back those who are returning for another year. The year has started off very smoothly and all classes appear to have settled down very quickly and are working very well.

We have a couple of new staff members and they are a welcome addition to the great team here at Dinjerra. Carmel Kelly has joined us to help us better cater for our students who do not have English as their first language at home. Carmel has a great deal of experience in developing and delivering these sorts of programs in a range of schools in both Victoria and Queensland and she will be a great support for our students and teachers.

The second new staff member is Giselle Bustos who is replacing John Carr in the role of classroom aide. John, who is a fully qualified teacher, is replacing Joy Dunstan who is on leave for the first half of a year.

Last year the State Government introduced a new initiative where eligible families in primary schools were able to access $125 to help pay for camps and excursions. The money can’t be used to pay for uniforms or books. Details of eligibility and an application form are available at the front office. It has to be applied for in Term 1 so don’t leave it too late.

Election for School Council will be coming up very soon. I will provide this information as soon as I receive it from the Department and that should be within the next couple of weeks.

A reminder to parents that all students need to have a school hat if they are to play in the yard or do PE in the yard. This is all part of the school’s Sun Smart policy and occurs in Term 1 and Term 4 every year. The hats are Sun Smart approved and are cheap and available from the front office. As someone who was not Sun Smart as a child and young man and who has had a large number of skin cancers burnt off and cut out (including a melanoma on my neck) I am passionate that this generation of young people will not suffer as I have.

Regards,
Graeme Smith
Principal
Important Notice for Parents  29.01.2016

At the beginning of every school year we are required, by the Department of Education, to be given a new action plan for children who have asthma, allergies or anaphylaxis. These conditions may improve or worsen through time so plans may change from year to year. This is why we are required to have the new plans.

If your child has asthma and/or an allergy/anaphylaxis, could you please see your doctor as soon as possible for a new plan and send a copy to the school along with a clear, up-to-date passport sized photo. If you do not have a photo, we will ask you for permission to take a photo here at school so that all teachers are aware of your child’s special medical requirements if a problem arises.

Thank you.
Karen Jones
First Aid coordinator

Graeme Smith
Principal

Hoax phone calls to Victorian schools

You will have read in the papers or seen on TV that there have been hundreds of hoax phone calls to schools across Australia and in a number of other countries.

Our school has not received such a call but I wanted to inform you that, like all schools, we have an emergency management plan in place for situations like this, and we practise it throughout the year. Those schools that did receive a threatening call enacted their emergency management plans and they worked well.

While we wait for the police to catch and punish those responsible, I ask you to be aware that we will always make the safety of your children our number one priority. If you have any questions please see me, Bobby Kotevski or your class teacher.

Kind Regards,
Graeme Smith. Principal

School Banking Reminder

Students should bring their weekly deposit in the yellow wallet and hand it to their teacher or at the Office on Tuesday mornings. Your child will receive a silver token for each deposit and when they have 10 tokens they will receive a cool prize!
Kelly Club outside of school care program is back up and running again for an exciting 2016!

Term one programs are on at Dinjerra Primary School.

**Before School Care (7am – 8.45am) and After School Care (3pm – 6pm) programs run Monday - Friday.**

We offer exciting sessions focused around sports, games, cooking, art and craft activities, structured ‘free-time’ and we provide healthy breakfast and afternoon tea.

Our programs are approved, with subsidies available, prices starting from just $3.00 with your rebate!

Join us this term for summer fun, wet and wild, summer sports, and a special Easter week!

For more info and to book, phone Lara: 0466665941 or email dinjerra@kellycluboshc.com.au

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**Physical Education News**

Please remember that in term 1 your children need to have a broad rimmed or legionnaires hat to play outside and take part in physical education. Remember **NO HAT NO PLAY!!**

It is very exciting for our children in grades 5/6, this year, to be able to participate in the Footscray District Interschool Sports every Friday. Terms 1 & 3 will be our coaching and practise terms. In Terms 2 & 4 we will be having competition matches against other schools in our district. The first games we will play for winter sport will be Football with John Carr, Netball with Catherine Leahy and Soccer with Debbie Domas.

To participate and be safe in these lessons they need to wear good running shoes. They should also wear their shorts or tracksuit pants with the school tee shirt. It is compulsory to wear a hat in terms 1 & 4 for outdoor activities.

Your children have Physical Education and Sport on the following days.

**Thursday – Grade Prep L, Grades 1/2 C and 1/2R, Grades 3/4 V and 3/4W**

**Friday – Grades 5/6 C and 5/6L** have interschool sport practise and games and also their PE lesson.

Thanks everyone

Debbie Domas Physical Education
Become a Foster Carer!
All sorts of people make great Foster Carers and offer a home for a vulnerable child.
They are tradesmen, nurses, sales reps, shop assistants, teachers etc.
They are couples, singles, from different cultural backgrounds, with or without their own children.
They are people who have the desire to give a child a safe and welcoming place to stay.

To receive an information package please call Liesl Trenfield on 93967400 or email liesl.trenfield@anglicarevic.org.au

It is easy to become an Anglicare Foster Carer, call us NOW to talk about how.

You will make all the difference!

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.

Uniform Shop
The Uniform Shop is closed on Wednesdays, but is open every other day of the week for your convenience.

On the Noticeboard
1. Koorie Emergency Relief Program
2. Maribyrnong Grants Program
3. 10th Footscray Scout Group
4. Albion Football Club