

DC WRAP

Diamond Creek Primary School
17 Clyde St Diamond Creek 3089
Ph: 9438 1108
diamond.creek.ps@education.vic.gov.au
www.diamondcreekps.vic.edu.au

Friday, 7th February 2025



Welcome to the 2025 school year. What a brilliant start we have had. It was terrific to see our returning families and students as well as welcoming our new families and students to the Diamond Creek Primary School community.

Our 2025 Preps have hit the ground running and have had a terrific start to their school days.



COMMUNICATION BETWEEN HOME AND SCHOOL

At the start of every year we ask families to ensure that they have their Compass login details up to date. Compass is our primary communication method and it is vital that families ensure their notifications are turned on so that they can keep up to date with important information including school events, excursions and emergency management procedures. If you have any questions about accessing Compass please contact the office. Currently all families have been asked to complete the 'General Consent', this includes photography, local excursion, ICT Acceptable Use Agreements and more. We have a large number of students who do not have permission to participate in these events as of today, which means that they will not be able to use ICT, participate in activities in the local community such as Coventry oval. Please log on to Compass and ensure that you have completed all permissions as this will ensure your child is able to fully participate in the wide range of rich learning experiences which teachers have planned to support them to thrive.

It is vital that we have clear and open communication between home and the school so that we can work in partnership to support your child. We understand that at times you may need to speak to your teacher, the best way to do this is to either send them an email or call the office to arrange a time to meet with them. Generally, teachers respond to parent emails within 2 school days. If the matter is more urgent than that e.g. a change in pick up arrangements, etc. please call the office so the message can be passed on to your child. Where possible please call before 3pm. One of the many wonderful things about DCPS is that we are a small community. A reminder that it is not appropriate to discuss school business with staff via their personal mobile numbers or outside of school hours.

WHAT'S ON AT DCPS

TUESDAY 11TH FEBRUARY
PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT 4PM

WEDNESDAY 12TH FEBRUARY
NO SCHOOL FOR FOUNDATION STUDENTS

THURSDAY 13TH FEBRUARY
DISTRICT SWIMMING TRAINING 7.30AM

MONDAY 17TH FEBRUARY
GR 5/6 BUTTERFLY-BODY BRIGHT

DISTRICT SWIMMING 7.30AM

TUESDAY 18TH FEBRUARY
PFT MEETING 9AM

WEDNESDAY 19TH FEBRUARY
DISTRICT SWIMMING CARNIVAL

NO SCHOOL FOR FOUNDATION STUDENTS

FRIDAY 21ST FEBRUARY
DIAMOND ASSEMBLY 2.45PM

ASSEMBLY

Today we had our first Assembly. Our Friday Assemblies are a terrific way of celebrating our student achievements, keeping in touch with what is happening around the school and connecting as a school community. Our usual assemblies starting at 3pm and Diamond Assemblies (Week 4 and 8 of each Term) at 2:45. In the event of extreme heat, rain, etc. assemblies will be held online with a Webex link being sent on the day to families via Compass.

EXTREME WEATHER CONDITIONS

With more hot weather heading our way please ensure that your child has their hat and drink bottle at school every day. We recommend that your child also applies sunscreen before school, teachers will encourage them to reapply at lunchtime. If you would like to supply your child with their own sunscreen please feel free to do so, otherwise the school has some sunscreen which students are able to use. If you do not wish your child to use the sunscreen provided by the school please inform your child's teacher.

In the event of extreme weather (heat/rain/wind/etc) students will spend a portion or all of recess/lunch inside as part of our emergency management processes.

BUILDING WORKS

As you know building works are continuing around our school with a number of projects continuing throughout the term. Unfortunately, at times this may change the areas where students can play or impact the carpark area. We will keep you informed of any changes which are necessary to keep everyone safe whilst the works are completed.

Currently we are working with the VSBA to rebuild our raised deck which will become an outdoor learning area and also to repair the 'Canteen' which is part of the Historic building. We appreciate your patience and look forward to these improvements to the school buildings being completed in the coming months.

MEDICATIONS AND MEDICAL ACTION PLANS

If your child requires medication to be administered at any time during the school year, please come up to the office to fill in the required authorisation paper work. Prescription medications need to be in their original packet with the child's name, doctor's name and prescribed dosage.

If you would like to keep antihistamines, Panadol, etc. at the school for us to administer please also come to the office to fill in the required paperwork and provide the medication in a labelled snap lock bag or container.

If your child has a medical condition such as asthma, anaphylaxis, etc. and required specific management please ask your GP to complete a medical action plan and return it to the school. If you would like a blank form to take to your appointment, please contact the office.

RESPECTING OUR NEIGHBOURS AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Diamond Creek Primary School is very fortunate to have wonderful neighbours who help to take care of our school community. Unfortunately, we have had a number of neighbours expressing concerns around our students behaviour when they are travelling to and from school.

If your child walks or rides their bike to school, please remind them about the importance of doing so in a way which is safe for themselves and those they are sharing the roads/foot paths with.

It has also come to our attention that at times we have parents blocking driveways, or parking too close to corners, pedestrian crossings, etc. please be safe when driving and parking around the school. To assist with the lack of parking we strongly encourage families to utilise our 'kiss and drop' zone. A reminder that this line should be moving at all times with the students only coming through the gate when your car is the first in line and stationary. If your child is walking to and from school please remind them where it is safe to cross the road and how to walk safely on the paths.

We are also aware that there is a large amount of litter in the area surrounding our school. Please speak to your children about the importance of using bins to dispose of their rubbish responsibly. We are very lucky to have wonderful neighbours and live in a beautiful environment. Hopefully we can all work together to look after our local area, including the local animals. I am sure many children came home very excited yesterday after we had a kangaroo visit us for the day taking shade under a shade of a tree. How fortunate we are to live, work and play in an area surrounded by beautiful natural environment.



SCHOOL SAVINGS BONUS

We are currently working with Department of Education and Compass to iron out some technical issues regarding the School Savings Bonus. We are confident we will have a solution shortly. This will ensure that families are able to access their School Savings Bonus with ease to support the education experiences of their child/ren. Once we have found a user friendly solution the office will be in touch via compass with instructions.

In the meantime, if families are wanting to allocate their School Saving Bonus for current events, please contact the office via email diamond.creek.ps@education.vic.gov.au

PARENT/ GUARDIAN INFORMATION NIGHT 11th FEBRUARY

Our parent / guardian information night will take place on Tuesday 11th February. This information night is designed to give our families an opportunity to hear about your child's learning structure and expectations for the year. Families will also have the opportunity to ask questions about the school year ahead. These sessions will take place at the following times:

Foundation-4pm

Grade 1/2- 4.30pm

Grade 3/4- 5pm

Grade 5/6-5.30pm

FAMILY NIGHT 28TH FEBRUARY

We are very excited to officially welcome all our families back to the 2025 school year with our annual Family Night on 28th February. This is a terrific chance to get together as a school community. It will begin at 4pm and conclude at 6pm, during this time we will have a Welcome to Country Ceremony, a range of activities for children and snacks available to purchase which will raise money for the PFT who are currently raising money for upgrades to the playgrounds and wider school resources. We encourage families to bring a picnic dinner.

VOLUNTEERS

Parent volunteers are an important part of support our students and school. In the coming weeks we will be sending out information regarding our parent helper program as well as our School Council elections. Keep an eye out for this on Compass. As the age old saying goes 'many hands make light work'. The school relies on parent volunteers to support the learning in the classroom, working bees, school council, fundraising and much more. We look forward to having as many families as possible actively involved in our school.

LUNCH ORDERS

We are currently in discussions with a local business regarding the potential for them to provide lunch orders to our school. We will keep our community informed of the outcome.

FEEDBACK

Diamond Creek Primary School is committed to continually seeking feedback from families, students and staff to continually improve our practices to ensure we are supporting our students and families. The feedback we gathered from families, students and staff in 2024 has led to a number of changes this year including;

- Informing the Behaviour Matrix which is included in this newsletter and has been implemented across the school.
- Providing additional supervision and support for students during recess and lunchtime.
- Improvements to our Wellbeing program across the school.
- And much more.

In the coming weeks we will be sending out a survey regarding the way we communicate with families. We look forward to using this information to guide future improvements.



Literacy Instruction at Diamond Creek Primary School

Hello families,

There has been a lot of coverage in the media about literacy instruction in Victorian schools recently. From this year, all Victorian schools are required to teach systematic synthetic phonics from years Foundation – Grade 2, with at least 25 minutes of explicit instruction in phonemic awareness and phonics.

At Diamond Creek Primary School, we have followed this approach for many years and our Literacy program follows a structured and evidence based approach that focuses on building students' speaking, listening, reading, writing and thinking skills. In the initial stages of reading instruction, students are encouraged to use their knowledge of letter-sound relationships to work out words. Students are taught sounds in a sequence, so letters that build many words (such as s, a, t, p, i, n) are taught first.

As your child starts learning sounds, they will bring home - and use in class - books that utilise the sounds they know. These are called decodable readers. Decodable readers have stories that use words made up of the letters your child has learnt. They will be able to work out new words from the letters and sounds they know, rather than guessing.

As students become capable decoders, we continue to build and develop skills in the 'Big Six' of reading instruction - oral language, phonological awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency and comprehension. In our spelling program, students are taught rules to apply when reading and spelling words. Spelling sessions also explore the units of meaning within words such as prefixes, roots and suffixes. Through word study and etymology (the history of words) students learn about how meaning influences the way words are spelled.

In Writing, students are taught the 'building blocks' of good writing – ideas, organisation, voice, sentence fluency, word choice, conventions and presentation. Students are engaged in all parts of the writing process, including planning, drafting, editing and publishing. Students also explore the systems and structures of language through explicit instruction in grammar and syntax.

Speaking and Listening is embedded across all areas of the curriculum. Effective communication in both expressive and receptive language are essential skills for all students and fundamental in the acquisition of literacy skills. Students develop these skills through formal and informal classroom activities, including Reader's Theatre, presentations and role plays.

Students from Foundation to Grade 4 also have access to the multi-award winning platform Nessy. Nessy has been rigorously developed and tested by literacy experts, educators and speech pathologists to ensure that all aspects of the program provide explicit and targeted activities that students enjoy.

Diamond Creek Primary School is committed to using evidence based practice. The 'science of learning' is well established and our literacy instruction reflects this; it follows a rigorous, predictable and research informed structure based on the most current information around how children best learn.

Should you require any further information about literacy instruction at DCPS, please don't hesitate to contact your child's classroom teacher or myself.

Haley Sageman



School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS)

We are excited to be involved in developing and implementing School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support at Diamond Creek Primary School, an evidence-based framework recognised as best practice by the Victorian Department of Education.

School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS) is a framework that brings together school communities to develop positive, safe and supportive learning cultures. SWPBS will assist schools to improve the social, emotional, behavioural and academic outcomes for children and young people.

- Through the implementation of SWPBS, teachers and students will have more time to focus on building strong relationships and classroom instruction. Staff and students will benefit from;
 - Increased respectful behaviour and positive behaviour
 - Increased time focused on instruction
 - Improved social-emotional wellbeing
 - Positive and respectful relationships among staff and students
 - A predictable learning environment with improved perceptions of safety and increased attendance.

Over the course of the last 12 months, the staff at Diamond Creek have been working hard to develop a mission statement and the SWPBS Behaviour matrix.

Our behaviour matrix is now on display in every classroom around the school. The matrix translates Diamond Creek's school values of **Respect, Cooperation, Persistence and Striving for Excellence** into expected behaviours within our school community.

This not only establishes a common approach and language to behaviour expectations but also allows for expected behaviours to be explicitly taught in every classroom and every setting.

How Can Parents/Carers Support SWPBS?

We believe that parental involvement is crucial to the success of SWPBS. Here are some ways you can get involved:

1. **Familiarise Yourself:** Take some time to learn about SWPBS and its core components, so you can reinforce these positive behaviours at home. We will continue to share information about SWPBS to the wider school community through our newsletter and website.
2. **Supportive Communication:** Maintain open and positive communication with your child's teachers and school staff to ensure a coordinated effort in promoting positive behaviour.
3. **Encourage at Home:** Reinforce the importance of positive behaviour, respect, and responsibility in your child's daily life.

We are excited about the positive changes SWPBS can bring to our school community, and we look forward to working together to create a nurturing and supportive environment where every child can thrive.

David Pitts



DIAMOND CREEK PRIMARY SCHOOL SWPBS BEHAVIOUR MATRIX

	In all Settings	Learning Spaces	Yard/Playground Walkways	Online/Digital Devices	Excursions/in the Community	Toilets
We show Respect by	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Being kind to ourselves and others Using manners Keeping the school tidy Allowing everyone to learn Looking after equipment Transition calmly and quietly Considering other people's ideas, opinions and feelings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listening and following instructions Actively listening We are on time and ready to learn 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walking on paths and breezeways Playing safely with others Demonstrating sportsmanship Eating in the correct areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using devices appropriately Being cyber safe Asking permission before sharing and posting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following expectations of the places we visit Maintaining an appropriate noise level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using toilets appropriately Giving people privacy Waiting outside quietly and patiently
We show Cooperation by	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sharing equipment Taking turns Encouraging and celebrating our peers Encouraging positive choices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helping others to learn Working together Working at an appropriate noise level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sharing school grounds Playing fairly Working together to solve problems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sharing school owned devices Encouraging each other to use technology safely 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sharing public spaces 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Going to the toilets in groups of 3 Reporting inappropriate behaviour and damage
We show Persistence by	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Having a growth mindset Using mistakes as a learning experience Being proactive Challenging ourselves as learners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seeking help when we need Giving all tasks a go Being open to new skills and ideas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accepting and following the rules of games 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learning new programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actively participating in excursions and community events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using toilets during break times
We Strive for Excellence by	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trying our personal best Celebrating effort Using class time effectively Wearing the correct uniform Taking pride in our work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encouraging and including others Taking risks in our learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using positive language when playing Being SunSmart Lining up when the music starts Playing safely with others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keeping our personal information private Using devices for educational purposes Accessing school related apps and programs Having devices charged and ready to use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walking safely around the community Representing our school with pride Being open to new experiences and learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Returning to learning promptly Transitioning quietly and safely Using the toilets for their intended use

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR 2025

TERM 1	IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2025
11.02.25	PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT 4PM-6M
12.02.25	NO FOUNDATION STUDENTS- EARLY YEARS TESTING
13.02.25	DISTRICT SWIMMING TRAINING 7.30AM
17.02.25	DISTRICT SWIMMING TRAINING 7.30AM GR 5/6 BUTTERFLY- BODY BRIGHT
19.02.25	NO FOUNDATION STUDENTS- EARLY YEARS TESTING DISTRICT SWIMMING CARNIVAL
21.02.25	DIAMOND ASSEMBLY 2.45PM
24.02.25	PUPIL FREE DAY- MEET THE TEACHER MEETINGS
26.02.25	NO FOUNDATION STUDENTS- EARLY YEARS TESTING
28.02.25	FAMILY PICNIC NIGHT
05.03.25	NO FOUNDATION STUDENTS- EARLY YEARS TESTING
07.03.25	CURRICULUM DAY
10.03.25	LABOUR DAY
11.03.25	FOUNDATION STUDENTS COMMENCE FULL TIME NAPLAN
12.03.25	NAPLAN
17.03.25	NAPLAN
18.03.25 – 26.03.25	SOMERS CAMP- SELECTED GR 5.6 STUDENTS
21.03.25	DIAMOND ASSEMBLY 2.45PM
04.04.25	TERM 1 CONCLUDES 2:30PM

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR 2025

22.04.25	TERM 2 COMMENCES
25.04.25	ANZAC DAY
29.04.25	HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY
8.05.25	HPV PARENT MEETING 6.15PM
22.05.25	DISTRICT CROSS COUNTRY
06.06.25	CURRICULUM DAY
09.06.25	KING'S BIRTHDAY
11.06.25	HOUSE ATHLETICS CARNIVAL
13.06.25	DIAMOND ASSEMBLY 2.45PM
23.06.025 – 27.06.25	CAMP WOORABINDA GR 5/6
04.07.25	HPV MOVIE DAY TERM 2 CONCLUDES 2.30pm

21.07.25	TERM 3 COMMENCES
15.08.25	CURRICULUM DAY
20.08.25 – 22.08.25	ANGAHOOK CAMP GR 3/4
08.09.25	PRODUCTION
16.09.25	PUPIL FREE DAY- 3 WAY CONFERENCES
18.09.25	GR 3/4 NETBALL DAY
19.09.25	AFL FOOTY DAY TERM 3 CONCLUDES 2:30pm

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR 2025

06.10.25	TERM 4 COMMENCES
8.10.25	COLOUR FUN RUN
24.10.25	GR 1/2 CAMP DAY GR 2 SLEEPOVER
27.10.25-31.10.25	GR 3/6 SWIMMING
03.11.25	CURRICULUM DAY
04.11.25	MELBOURNE CUP DAY
19.11.25 – 23.11.25	HPV ENERGY BREAKTHROUGH
11.12.25	GRADUATION
17.12.25	CAROLS
18.12.25	GRADE 5/6 CELEBRATION DAY
19.12.25	TERM 4 CONCLUDES 1.30pm

CAMP AUSTRALIA

Discover how Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) can support your family!

Your OSHC.

Before School
After School
Pupil Free Days



Virtual Info Sessions!

Join our upcoming virtual info session to learn about our programs, including the activities we offer, the benefits for children and parents, and how OSHC can fit seamlessly into your family's routine.



Learn more about our program and what's on in Term 1. Get details on registration, bookings, subsidies and more.

Monday **10 Feb** 2025

7:00pm

Tuesday **18 Feb** 2025

Reserve your spot now



Monday **10 Feb** Tuesday **18 Feb**


www.campastralia.com.au/virtual-info-sessions



Find out more
campastralia.com.au

Missed the sessions?

Visit your school's friendly coordinator or email us at oshc@campastralia.com.au

by  **Camp Australia**



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Look no further than the Australian Girls Choir because we encourage, challenge and inspire girls as they learn to **sing**, **dance** and **perform**.

**Join us at our
FEBRUARY OPEN DAY**



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WWW.BLUELIGHT.ORG.AU

PROUDLY RUN BY LOCAL
POLICE & VOLUNTEERS



**DIAMOND CREEK
BLUE LIGHT
DISCO**

14th FEB 2025

7-9.30 PM | 8 to 13 YEAR OLDS | \$8 ENTRY

Diamond Creek Community Centre
28 Main Hurstbridge Road, Diamond Creek

Contact: Snr Sergeant Wayne Spence 9438 8300

Please ensure children have an emergency number on them.

DIAMONDCREEKBLUELIGHTDISCO

Diamond Creek Blue Light Disco

**28 FEB
2025
5.00 - 8.30PM**

Twilight Market



**ELTHAM
COLLEGE**

Where community comes together



VACCA
Connected by culture

START YOUR FOSTER CARE JOURNEY TODAY

Have you been thinking about becoming a Foster Carer?
Are you able to provide Aboriginal children with a positive and nurturing family life?
Are you excited to support a child's cultural and emotional needs?

VACCA is seeking carers who are open to a journey that is both challenging and rewarding.
If you've ever considered becoming a foster carer, now is the time to start your foster care journey.



Visit our website to find out more: www.vacca.org



Basketball Star Academy Skill Based Weekly Program FREE TRIAL SESSION

FOR 5-14 YEAR OLDS

VENUES & DAYS

SUNDAYS: GREENHILLS P.S OR MERNDA PARK PRIMARY FROM 9AM

MONDAYS: MARYMEDE CATHOLIC COLLEGE 3:45PM

WEDNESDAYS GIRLS ONLY: SOUTH MORANG P.S FROM 5PM

THURSDAY: ST.HELENA SECONDARY COLLEGE OR MERNDA PARK P.S FROM 5PM

TAKING TERM 1 ENROLMENTS

PROGRAM DESIGNED TO TEACH ALL ASPECTS OF BASKETBALL
DRIBBLING/SHOOTING/DEFENCE AND GAME SITUATIONS FROM
EXPERIENCED COACHES

GREAT FOR BEGINNERS OR LOOKING TO UP SKILL YOUR GAME

ENQUIRE NOW
CALL: DANIEL
PH: 0480 566 736
EMAIL: VIC29.BASKETBALL@SPORTSTARACADEMY.COM



RECYCLE 4 CHANGE

We have a new recycling bin located in the school breezeway (near toilets). We invite families to bring their recyclable cans and bottles (which have the 10c logo) to help raise money for the school. Our school receives 10c for each drink container recycled.

VICTORIA'S CONTAINER DEPOSIT SCHEME



**YOU CAN MAKE A
DIFFERENCE**

DRINK CONTAINER PICK UP SERVICE



**recycle4
change**

www.recycle4change.com.au
enquiries@recycle4change.com.au
1300 329 742

Recycle 4 Change is proudly operating 2 automated collection depots as part of Victoria's Container Deposit Scheme.

We are providing a commercial pick-up service for your recyclable drink containers. Each container earns a **10c refund**.

CDS
VIC


VICTORIA
State
Government

COMMUNITY




Did you know the SCR Group's donation bin located in our school car park earns money for the school? Donate your pre-loved clothes, shoes, handbags and accessories and help raise money for our school!

If you notice the bin is full, please let the school office know or contact 1300 687 261

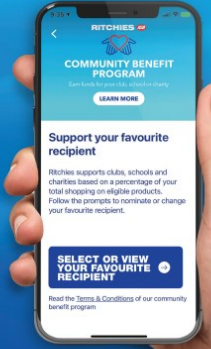


NOMINATE US TODAY





AS PART OF THE RITCHIES COMMUNITY BENEFIT PROGRAM and help us generate extra funds.

DIAMOND CREEK PRIMARY SCHOOL

- Download or update the Ritchies Card App
- Search and select our name when prompted to nominate a club, school or charity
- Every time you shop at Ritchies and scan your app or card, Ritchies will contribute a percentage of the total to us*



*CONDITIONS APPLY. Go to ritchies.com.au/loyalty for further information.

	HEADSPACE	1800 650 890 https://www.headspace.org.au/
	KIDS HELPLINE	1800 55 1800
	LIFELINE	13 11 14
	BEYOND BLUE	1300 224 636 https://beyondblue.org.au

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SOCIAL MEDIA

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Find us on:
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Diamond Creek Primary School

<https://www.facebook.com/diamondcreekprimaryschool/>

D.C.P.S. Fundraising page

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/225269211351369/?ref=share>

DCPS School Garden

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2708150985908518/?ref=share>

DCPS Uniform Buy, Swap and Sell

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/221797872947034/?ref=share>