

Mt Egerton Primary School

Living and Learning Together Since 1856

Newsletter



Email: mount.egerton.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Web: www.mtegertonps.vic.edu.au

Facebook: www.facebook.com/mountegertonps

Principal: Janet Tuaine

Phone: 03 5368 9357

Upcoming Dates

JSC Milkshake Mondays

Weekly in Term 3

Chocolate & Strawberry \$2

Monday 17th August

Moorabool Kids Day Out

Friday 21st August

Junior School Zero Plastics Incursion

Tuesday 25th August

Book Week Dress Up Day

MARC

Wednesday 26th August

Whole School Werribee Zoo Excursion

Thursday 27th August

4-6 Escape Room - Building Social

Connections excursion with Glen Park PS

Monday 31st August

School Photos

Tuesday 1st September

School Council 3:30 pm

Friday 4th September

Father's Breakfast – 8 am

Wednesday 9th September

SSV Athletics

Principal's Message: It is hard to believe we are already at Week 5! There has been so much happening across our school, and it has been wonderful to see our students embracing the many opportunities available to them.

Welcome to Our New Students - We are very excited to welcome four new students to our Mount Egerton school community! A very warm welcome to Zander in Grade 5, Bella in Grade 3, Addy in Grade 2 and Brooklyn in Prep. We hope you and your families quickly feel at home at Mount Egerton Primary School. I know our students, staff and families will make sure our newest members feel welcomed, supported and part of our wonderful school community.

Excursion Reminders - We have some exciting excursions and activities coming up. Please keep an eye out for information and reminders regarding Moorabool Kids Day Out and our excursion to Werribee Open Range Zoo.

Our Grade 4–6 students will also be participating in a Building Social Connections excursion with Glen Park Primary School. This will be another great opportunity for our students to build friendships, strengthen their social skills and connect with students beyond our own school.

Proud to Be Your Principal - Recently, I had the opportunity to give a presentation about our school at our Principal Network meeting. I have to admit; I was initially quite nervous about presenting in a room filled with other primary and secondary school principals.

However, once I began talking about Mount Egerton Primary School, those nerves quickly disappeared. Speaking about our school came so naturally because I had the privilege of talking about something I am incredibly proud of – our wonderful students, dedicated staff, supportive families and the fantastic programs and opportunities we provide. It reminded me just how special our little school community is.

I could not be prouder to be the Principal of Mount Egerton Primary School. Thank you to our students, staff and families for the contribution each of you makes to our school and for making Mount Egerton such a wonderful place to learn, grow and work.

Mount Egerton Primary School respectfully acknowledges the Wadawurrung People, the Traditional Owners of the land on which our school is built. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in our community.



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Newsletter

Student Awards

- ❖ Congratulations to Zander for demonstrating our school value of Resilience. Zander has worked hard to improve at angles and measuring in math.
- ❖ Congratulations to Bella, Addy & Brooklyn F for demonstrating our school value of Resilience. All three students have shown resilience and adaptability coming to a new school.

Aussie of the Month – May

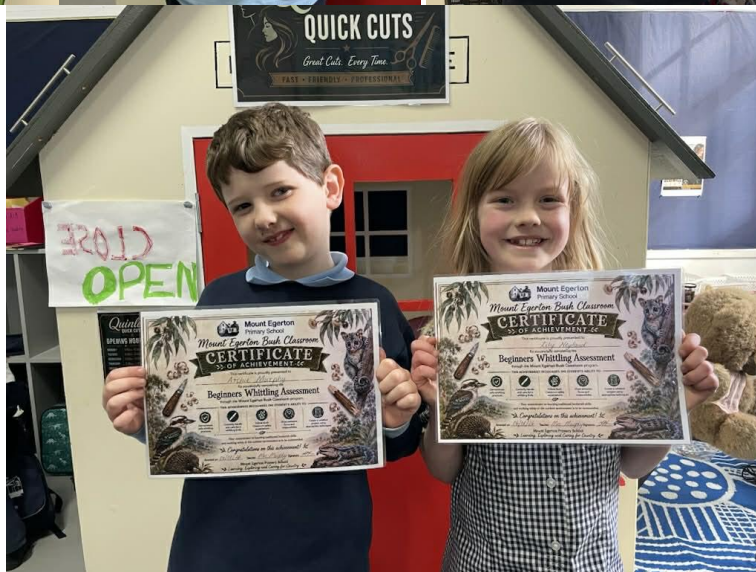
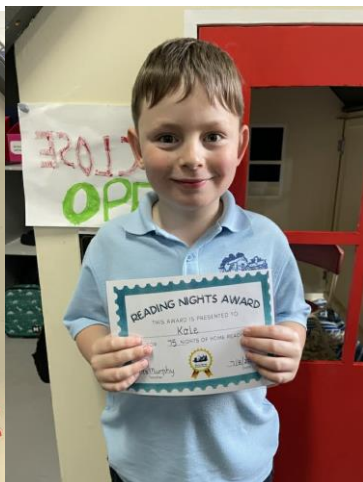
- ❖ Congratulations to Angus for receiving Aussie of the Month for July. Angus has demonstrated mateship and fair go by being an inclusive mate to new peers and for also giving new learning programs a fair go.

Bush Classroom Certificate of Achievement

- ❖ Congratulations Lily and Archie for successfully completing the “Beginners Whittling Assessment”. Well done!

Reading Awards

- ❖ Congratulations to Justin & Abby for reading 200 nights!
- ❖ Congratulations to Kole for reading 75 nights!



Resilience: Picking yourself back up and giving new experiences a go...

Perseverance: Challenging yourself to do your best...

Kindness: Being friendly, generous and considerate of others...

Community: Representing Mount Egerton with pride...



New Business Manager

A very warm welcome to Sree our new Business Manager!

We are delighted to welcome Sree to our school community. We look forward to getting to know Sree and working alongside her as she settles into her new role. We hope Sree has a wonderful and rewarding journey with us. Please make Sree feel welcome. Feel free to pop into the office on Thursdays, when Sree is working to introduce yourself and say hello.

🏀 SSV Basketball – What a Fantastic Effort!

A huge congratulations to our students who recently represented Wathaurung at the SSV Basketball competition. We are incredibly proud of the way you represented your schools and our district, both on and off the court.

Our boys' team had a fantastic day, winning 3 out of their 5 games, while our girls' team also performed brilliantly, winning 3 out of their 4 games.

Beyond the results, it was wonderful to see our students demonstrating great teamwork, determination, sportsmanship and resilience throughout the competition.

Well done to everyone involved – an outstanding achievement and something to be very proud of!



Our Grade 2–6 students have been doing an amazing job participating in the Young Fit Program. It has been fantastic to see our students challenging themselves and developing not only their fitness, but also their resilience, confidence and teamwork. Programs like this are about so much more than physical activity. Our students are learning to encourage one another, persist when things become challenging and work together as a team. We are incredibly proud of the way they have approached each session.



Book Week Dress Up Day – Tuesday 25th August

We encourage all students to come dressed as one of their favourite book characters. Dressing up for Book Week brings stories to life. It lets children step into the shoes of their favourite characters, celebrate a love of reading, and build confidence through creative play.



Mount Egerton Early Explorers Program – Next Session Thursday 10th September



The poster for the Mount Egerton Early Explorers Program (MEEEP) features a blue background with a magnifying glass icon over a globe, a small school building icon, and two circular photos. One photo shows a woman and a child in a garden, and the other shows a child writing at a desk. The text describes the program as a Pre-Prep learning program for children considering attending Mount Egerton Primary School for their Foundation year. It highlights the program's goal of ensuring a smooth transition to school and lists the benefits of participating. Contact information for Principal Janet Tuaine is provided at the bottom.

**Mount Egerton
Early Explorers Program
MEEEP**

Our Early Explorers Program, MEEEP, is a specially curated Pre-Prep learning program for children who are considering attending Mount Egerton Primary School for their Foundation year. The program is designed to ensure a smooth & connected transition experience for your child. Our Mount Egerton Early Explorers Program runs from term one to term four, offering several morning sessions.

Facilitated by our experienced Junior Room teacher, MEEEP will enable your child to:

- Become confident with Foundation routines & school.
- Meet staff & form friendships with other Junior room peers.
- Participate in engaging early literacy & numeracy activities. As well as enjoy indoor & outdoor learning opportunities.

Please contact Principal Janet Tuaine to arrange your child's participation in MEEEP for 2026!

Our Service:

- ✓ Engaging Pre-Prep Program
- ✓ Stimulating School Environment
- ✓ Qualified & Nurturing Teachers
- ✓ Creative, Fun & Hands-On
- ✓ Indoor and Outdoor Learning

03 5368 9357 | mount.egerton.ps@education.vic.gov.au | 58 Church St, Mount Egerton 3352

School Policies:

Child safety and wellbeing at Mount Egerton Primary School: Information for families and the school community

Mount Egerton Primary School is committed to providing an environment where students are safe and feel safe. Our child safety framework includes policies, codes and procedures that explain how we support and maintain the safety and wellbeing of our students and protect them from harm. These documents are available on our website: [Policies](#)

We are also committed to continuous improvement of our child safety framework. We are currently reviewing our child safety policies and practices to ensure they are up-to-date and effective.

Our students and families are important partners in this process. We welcome your feedback or ideas on ways we can improve our approach to child safety and wellbeing.

If you have any suggestions or comments, please contact Janet Tuaine - Principal on 53689357 or at janet.tuaine@education.vic.gov.au

VOLUNTEERS POLICY



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the principal

PURPOSE

To outline the processes that Mount Egerton Primary School will follow to recruit, screen, supervise and manage volunteers to provide a child safe environment, and to explain the legal rights of volunteers.

SCOPE

This policy applies to the recruitment, screening, supervision and management of all people who volunteer at our school.

DEFINITIONS

Child-connected work: work authorised by the school governing authority/provider of a school boarding services and performed by an adult in a school or school boarding premises environment while children are present or reasonably expected to be present.

Child-related work: As defined by the Worker Screening Act 2020 (Vic), child-related work is work that usually involves direct contact (including in person, over the phone, written and online communication) with a child that is a central part of that person's duties. It does not include work that involves occasional direct contact with children that is incidental to the work.

Closely related family member: parent, carer, parent/carer's spouse or domestic partner, stepparent, parent/carer's mother or father in-law, grandparent, uncle or aunt, brother or sister, including step or half siblings.

Volunteer worker: A volunteer school worker is a person who voluntarily engages in schoolwork or approved community work without payment or reward.

School work: School work means:

- carrying out the functions of a school council
- any activity carried out for the welfare of a school, by the school council, any parents/carers' club or association or any other body organised to promote the welfare of the school
- any activity carried out for the welfare of the school at the request of the principal or school council
- providing assistance in the work of any school or kindergarten
- attending meetings in relation to government schools convened by any organisation which receives government financial support.

This is a broad definition and means that volunteers who participate in school community activities, such as fundraising and assisting with excursions, are legally protected (i.e. indemnified) from action by others in the event of an injury or accident whilst they are performing volunteer schoolwork in good faith.

POLICY

Mount Egerton Primary School is committed to implementing and following practices which protect the safety and wellbeing of children and our staff and volunteers. Mount Egerton Primary School also recognises the valuable contribution that volunteers provide to our school community and the work that we do.

The procedures set out below are designed to ensure that Mount Egerton Primary School's volunteers are suitable to work with children and are well-placed to make a positive contribution to our school community.

Becoming a volunteer

Members of our school community who would like to volunteer are encouraged to speak with the principal and read through and sign the Child Safety induction pack (appendix A), as well as complete a volunteer OHS induction.

Throughout the year, the school may call on volunteers to assist with things like fundraising activities, this will be done via the newsletter and/or emails to families.

Suitability checks including Working with Children Clearances

Working with students

Mount Egerton Primary School values the many volunteers that assist in our classrooms, with sports events, on camps, during excursions, in breakfast club, and in other events. To ensure that we are meeting our legal obligations under the *Worker Screening Act* and the Child Safe Standards, Mount Egerton Primary School is required to undertake suitability checks which in most cases will involve asking for evidence of a Working with Children (WWC) Clearance and may also involve undertaking reference, proof of identity, qualification and work history involving children checks.

Where prospective volunteers are required under the law and this policy to have a WWC Clearance, the principal has the discretion to accept evidence of a WWC check application in order to commence volunteer work, provided the volunteer provides the school with evidence of the application outcome (clearance or exclusion) as soon as practicable after the applicant receives it.

In the case of nominating for school council, the person must already hold a WWC Clearance to be eligible to nominate (it is not possible to nominate with only an application for a WWC Check).

Considering our legal obligations, and our commitment to ensuring that Mount Egerton Primary School is a child safe environment, we will require volunteers to obtain a WWC Clearance and produce their valid card to the office staff for verification in the following circumstances:

- **Volunteers who are not parent/carer/family members** of any student at the school if they are engaged in child-related work regardless of whether they are being supervised.
- **Parent/carer/family volunteers** who are assisting with any classroom or school activities involving direct contact with children in circumstances where the volunteer's child is not participating, or does not ordinarily participate in, the activity.
- **Parent/carer/family volunteers** who assist with excursions (including swimming), camps and similar events, regardless of whether their own child is participating or not.
- **Parent/family volunteers** who regularly assist in school activities, regardless of whether their own child is participating or not
- **Parent/community School Council members** sitting on School Council
- In addition, depending on the nature of the volunteer work, our school may ask the volunteer to provide other suitability checks at its discretion (for example, references, work history involving children and/or qualifications). Proof of identity may also be required in some circumstances.

Non-child-related work

On some occasions, parents and other members of the school community may volunteer to do work that is not child related. For example, volunteering on the weekend for gardening, maintenance, working bees, school council (where student members are not members), participating in subcommittees of school council, fundraising groups that meet in the evenings during which children will not be, or would not reasonably be expected to be, present.

Volunteers for this type of work are not required to have WWC Clearances or other suitability checks as they are not engaged in child-related work and children are not generally present during these activities. However, Mount Egerton Primary School reserves the right to undertake suitability checks, including requiring proof of identity and WWC Clearance, at its discretion if considered necessary for any particular activities or circumstances.

Training and induction

Under the Child Safe Standards volunteers must have an appropriate induction and training in child safety and wellbeing.

To support us to maintain a child safe environment, before engaging in any work where children are present or reasonable likely to be present, volunteers must familiarise themselves with the policies, procedures and code of conduct referred to in our Child Safety Induction Pack and ensure the actions and requirements in these documents are followed when volunteering for our school.

Depending on the nature and responsibilities of their role, Mount Egerton Primary School may also require volunteers to complete additional child safety training.

Management and supervision

Volunteer workers will be expected to comply with any reasonable direction of the principal (or their nominee). This will include the requirement to follow our school's policies, including, but not limited to our Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy, our Child Safety Code of Conduct and our Statement of Values and School Philosophy.

Volunteer workers are also expected to act consistently with department policies, to the extent that they apply to volunteer workers, including the department's policies relating to [Equal Opportunity and Anti-Discrimination](#), [Sexual Harassment](#) and [Workplace Bullying](#).

The principal (or their nominee) will determine the level of school staff supervision required for volunteers, depending on the type of work being performed, and with a focus on ensuring the safety and wellbeing of students.

The principal has the discretion to make a decision about the ongoing suitability of a volunteer worker and may determine at any time whether or not a person is suitable to volunteer at Mount Egerton Primary School.

Privacy and information-sharing

Volunteers must ensure that any student information they become aware of because of their volunteer work is managed sensitively and in accordance with the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#) and the Department's policy on [Privacy and Information Sharing](#).

Under these policies, student information can and should be shared with relevant school staff to:

- support the student's education, wellbeing and health;
- reduce the risk of reasonably foreseeable harm to the student, other students, staff or visitors; - make reasonable adjustments to accommodate the student's disability; or - provide a safe and secure workplace.

Volunteers must immediately report any child safety concerns that they become aware of to a member of staff to ensure appropriate action. There are some circumstances where volunteers may also be obliged to disclose information to authorities outside of the school such as to Victoria Police. For further information on child

safety responding and reporting obligations refer to: *Child Safety Responding and Reporting Obligations (including Mandatory Reporting) Policy and Procedures*.

Records management

While it is unlikely volunteers will be responsible for any school records during their volunteer work, any school records that volunteers are responsible for must be provided to the Principal to ensure they are managed in accordance with the Department's policy: [Records Management – Schools](#).

Compensation

Personal injury

Volunteer workers are covered by the Department of Education and Training's Workers' Compensation Policy if they suffer personal injury in the course of engaging in schoolwork.

Property damage

If a volunteer worker suffers damage to their property in the course of carrying out schoolwork, the Minister (or delegate) may authorise such compensation as they consider reasonable in the circumstances. Claims of this nature should be directed to the principal who will direct them to the Department's Legal Division.

Public liability insurance

The Department of Education and Training's public liability insurance policy applies when a volunteer worker engaged in schoolwork is legally liable for:

- a claim for bodily injury to a third party
- damage to or the destruction of a third party's property.

COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Discussed in an annual staff briefing/meeting
- Included as a link in all invitations to prospective volunteers
- Made available in hard copy from the school office upon request

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

Mount Egerton Primary School policies and resources relevant to this policy include:

- *Statement of Values and School Philosophy*
- *Visitors Policy*
- *Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy*
- *Child Safety Code of Conduct*
- *Child Abuse (including grooming) – Identification and Response Policy and Procedures*
- *Inclusion and Diversity Policy*
- *Example School Child Safety Induction Pack* Department policies:
- [Child Safe Standards](#)
- [Equal Opportunity and Anti-Discrimination](#)

- [Privacy and Information Sharing](#)
- [Records Management – School Records](#)
- [Sexual Harassment](#)
- [Volunteers in Schools](#)
- [Volunteer OHS Management](#)
- [Working with Children and Other Suitability Checks for School Volunteers and Visitors](#)
- [Workplace Bullying](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	August 2026
Consultation	School council consultation – September 2026
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	August 2028

Mental Health Services and Support

Beyond Blue

24/7 mental health support service

1300 22 4636
beyondblue.org.au

headspace

Online support and counselling to young people aged 12 to 25

1800 650 890
(9am to 1am daily)
headspace.org.au

Kids Helpline

24/7 crisis support and suicide prevention services for children and young people aged 5 to 25

1800 55 1800
kidshelpline.com.au

Lifeline

24/7 crisis support and suicide prevention services

13 11 14
lifeline.org.au

Suicide Call Back

24/7 crisis support and counselling service for people affected by suicide

1300 659 467
suicidecallbackservice.org.au

13YARN

24/7 crisis support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

13 92 76
13yarn.org.au

Mensline

24/7 counselling service for men

1300 78 99 78
mensline.org.au

1800 RESPECT

24/7 support for people impacted by sexual assault, domestic violence and abuse

1800 737 732
1800respect.org.au

QLife

LGBTIQ+ peer support and referral

1800 184 527
qlife.org.au

If you are concerned about someone at risk of immediate harm, call 000 or go to your nearest hospital emergency department.



With delivery partners



Early Childhood Australia
A voice for young children



headspace
National Youth Mental Health Foundation

Funded by



Australian Government
Department of Health and Aged Care

Raising Children Australia is your complete and trusted online parenting resource.

At raisingchildren.net.au, we provide free, reliable, up-to-date and independent information to help your family grow and thrive together. We're funded by the Australian Government, reviewed by experts and non-commercial, so you know you can trust us.

Designed for busy families and full of tips and tricks for you to try, our content is easy to find and easy to digest. We have the answers to hundreds of parenting questions, where and when you need them.

Our articles, videos and interactive resources are tailored to different ages and stages, taking you from nurturing a newborn to raising a confident, resilient teen - and helping you to look after yourself as a parent too.

raisingchildren.net.au is here for you, every step of your parenting journey.



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we care

**care
as you are**

 Find out how to foster today
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You don't need to change your life,
to make a difference in someone else's.



Ford aussie hoops **TERM 3 REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!**

- LEARN THE BASICS OF BASKETBALL IN A FUN AND SAFE ENVIRONMENT.
- OPEN TO AGED 5 TO 8 YEARS OLD GIRLS AND BOYS.

TERM DATES:
20TH JULY – 7TH SEPTEMBER
SESSION TIME:
MONDAY 5.15PM TO 6.00PM
LOCATION:
BALLAN PRIMARY GYM - STEIGLITZ ST BALLAN.

Register:
<https://www.playhq.com/basketball-victoria/register/8872dd>



