

Mt Egerton Primary School

Living and Learning Together Since 1856

Newsletter



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Principal: Janet Tuaine

Phone: 03 5368 9357

Upcoming Dates

Principal's Message:

Welcome back to Term 4! We hope everyone enjoyed a restful and enjoyable break. It is wonderful to see our students return with enthusiasm and smiles, ready for an exciting final term of the year.

Term 4 is a busy and rewarding time, filled with learning, celebrations and special events as we reflect on the achievements of the year and prepare for next year. We look forward to working together with our students, staff and families to make the most of these final 10 weeks of the school year.

School preparations for the bushfire season - As we enter bush fire season, please take the time to read/reread the information attached below. We are a Category 2 school. On elevated fire danger days, schools in the highest levels of risk take pre-emptive actions to minimise the risk of being caught in a fire in these conditions.

Our school will action its pre-emptive plan for relocation on a day forecasted as Extreme fire danger rating in our local government area (LGA), Moorabool Shire Council. Our school will also close on a day forecasted as Catastrophic fire danger rating in Southwest fire district. Mount Egerton Primary School will relocate to Gordon Primary School on these days.

School Council - Our final two school council meetings will be on Tuesday 28th October & Tuesday 24th November @ 3:30pm – all welcome

Curriculum Day & Melbourne Cup – Just a reminder Monday 3rd & Tuesday 4th November are days off.

School Concert – We are excited about our School Concert – The Wizard of Oz this term. Concert will be held on Thursday 13th November at the Mount Egerton Town Hall. It will commence at 2pm and go for approximately two hours with an intermission, where afternoon tea and drinks will be available.

Thank you for your continued support, please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions, concerns or requests. Let's make Term 4 a positive and memorable finish to the school year!

Freezy Friday!

Every Friday of Term 4

Zooper Doopers are \$1 each

Tuesday 21st October

MARC van

Tuesday 28th October

Concert Practice at Hall
School Council Meeting

Friday 31st October

World Teachers Day

Monday 3rd November

Curriculum Day – No Students

Tuesday 4th November

Melbourne Cup Holiday – No Students

Tuesday 11th November

Remembrance Day
Junior School Excursion - Pevan and Sarah Concert

Thursday 13th November

School Concert – Mount Egerton Town Hall

Friday 14th November

Whole School Zoo Excursion

Friday 19th December

Last day of term – 2:30 finish

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...*

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Student Awards

- ❖ Congratulations to Maisie for demonstrating our school value of Perseverance. Maisie has demonstrated perseverance with concert rehearsals, takes initiative in scenes and leads her peers. Well done Maisie!

Reading Awards

- ❖ Congratulations to Archie for reading 225 nights.
- ❖ Congratulations to Maisie for reading 175 nights.
- ❖ Congratulations to Lily for reading 125 nights.
- ❖ Congratulations to Abby for reading 100 nights.
- ❖ Congratulations to Finley for reading 50 nights.



Street Library

We are very excited to launch our new Street Library for the Mount Egerton community. It has been stocked with books for kids, teens and adults as well as a hot beverage exchange full of teas, coffees and milos. We are especially proud to have made it sustainable, using recycled and pre-loved materials. Special thanks to Paul from the Ballan Men's Shed and Paul Murphy for assisting us with this project.



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.

School preparations for the bushfire season

Each year, we undertake a range of activities to ensure the safety of our school and to prepare for bushfires and grassfires.

An important part of this process is communicating to parents what will happen when certain fire danger ratings are issued to help ensure the safety of students and staff.



Our school has been identified as being in one of the highest fire risk categories – and has now been identified as a Category 2. On elevated fire danger days, schools in the highest levels of risk take pre-emptive actions to minimise the risk of being caught in a fire in these conditions.

Our school will action its pre-emptive plan for **relocation** on a day forecasted as **Extreme fire danger rating** in our **local government area (LGA), Moorabool Shire Council**.

Our school will also **close** on a day forecasted as **Catastrophic fire danger rating** in **Southwest fire district**. **Mount Egerton Primary School will relocate to Gordon Primary School on these days.**

We will let you know when we are enacting our pre-emptive action plan by **Compass**. Please be aware that no one will be on site on days where the school has enacted this plan.

As part of preparing our school for the fire season, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan and reprioritised any maintenance works that may assist in preparing for the threat of fire and continually clearing our facility's grounds and gutters.

What can families and the school community do to help us prepare?

- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers.
- Keep in touch with us by checking Compass, reading our Newsletter and by talking to your child's teacher or any other member of the teaching staff about our emergency management plan if you have any concerns.
- Make sure your family's bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements if our school is relocated due to elevated fire danger or closed due to a Catastrophic fire danger rating. Further information can be found on the [CFA's website](https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au).
- Action your family's bushfire survival plan if your own triggers are met. Our school community may be spread out across many areas and some families may be at higher risk than others. Your family's safety

is critical, so please let us know if you are enacting your bushfire survival plan and if your children will be absent on these days.

- If your child is old enough, talk to [them about bushfires](#) and your family's bushfire survival plan.

You can find more information on emergencies, and preparedness actions here:

- VicEmergency app – that can be downloaded on your android and iOS mobile devices.
- VicEmergency Hotline (1800 226 226)
- Website <https://emergency.vic.gov.au>
- Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/vicemergency>)
- Twitter (<https://twitter.com/vicemergency>)
- ABC local radio, Sky News, and other emergency broadcasters

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the department's policy?

The Department of Education annually assesses the fire risk of all schools and early childhood services with the support of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO). They are allocated a category of risk (categories 0 to 6). Schools and services that are categories 0-3 are published on the [Bushfire At-Risk Register \(BARR\)](#). Schools at some risk of bushfire and grassfire are published on the [Category 4 List](#).

The department's [Bushfire and Grassfire Preparedness Policy](#) requires schools at high risk of bushfire to enact pre-emptive action plans based on LGA-level fire danger forecasts. Conditions can vary significantly across the wider weather district, so using local forecasts helps us to respond appropriately to risks in our local area and maintain stability and educational continuity for our students and school community. This policy is consistent for all schools at high levels of risk, and this approach is supported by emergency services.

The policy also requires that all schools and early childhood services on the BARR and the Category 4 list close when a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast in their fire weather district. All school bus routes which travel in or through a district with Catastrophic fire danger must also be cancelled.

Why do we use the LGA forecast?

When the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) provides public fire danger rating forecasts, they use fire weather district areas. In Victoria, there are 9 fire weather districts, which include numerous Local Government Areas. As conditions can vary significantly across a wider weather district, the department uses BoM LGA forecasts for some pre-emptive actions to respond appropriately to risks in the local area and maintain safe educational continuity for students and the school community. LGA forecasts are a subset of the weather district ratings and while not issued publicly, are provided to emergency services and government departments to support planning and operational activities.

This policy is consistent for all schools at high levels of risk, and this approach is supported by emergency services, including the Country Fire Authority (CFA).

What do we do when our LGA has a different fire danger rating to the wider fire weather district?

As we respond to local conditions, there may be days during the fire season when our fire weather district, is forecast as an Extreme fire danger rating, but our LGA is at a lower level of fire danger. On these days our school operations will continue as normal; however, we will be acting in line with fire services' advice by:

- checking our Emergency Management Plan and taking any necessary preparedness actions
- actively monitoring our local conditions and warnings
- having plans and procedures in place for if a fire starts to support us to take immediate action.

While our school will continue to operate, we encourage our school community to consider their own [bushfire survival plan](#) and reassess any travel through bushfire risk areas. We encourage you to follow your family bushfire survival plan and the advice of emergency services.

There may also be days where our LGA is forecast as Extreme fire danger, but Southwest district is not. On these days we **will** enact our pre-emptive action plan.

When will our school be closed due to Catastrophic fire danger?

Our school will also **close** on a day forecasted as **Catastrophic fire danger rating in Southwest fire district**. Closure of the school due to a Catastrophic fire danger rating will be enacted when the BOM forecast and related public safety messaging is confirmed. Due to uncertainties in the forecast, the timing of this confirmation may vary. Information regarding potential or confirmed Catastrophic fire danger days will be communicated to you by **Compass**.

It is also important to be aware that:

- No one will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Catastrophic day.
- Out-of-school-hours care will also be cancelled on these days.
- All bus routes that travel through the Catastrophic area will be cancelled.
- School camps will be cancelled if a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast for fire weather district in which the camp is located, or if the travel involves passing through areas that have Catastrophic fire danger.

Families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan on Catastrophic fire danger rating days. **On such days, children should never be left at home alone or in the care of older children.**

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the Country Fire Authority (CFA) advises that when Catastrophic days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Catastrophic day.

Community News



Mount Egerton Nature Playgroup

Mount Egerton Primary School is offering playgroup!

Tuesdays 10:00am - Storytime in the portable building

Our Storytime playgroup is a free, lively, interactive session. We want children to discover the joy of reading with action songs, books and rhymes.

Storytime enhances communication and social skills, fosters imagination, boosts listening skills and improves language and literacy skills. BYO snack and water.

MT EGERTON REC RESERVE

UPCOMING EVENTS 2025

MAR 23	CAR BOOT SALE 10AM- 2PM
BONFIRE NIGHT 6PM	MAY 24
JUN 14	MAIDEN'S CIRCLE (TEEN GIRLS)
PAINTING + SIP 4PM KIDS/ 7PM ADULTS	AUG 16
OCT 25	HALLOWEEN PARTY 5PM
NYE PARTY 5.30PM	DEC 31

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
MT EGERTON REC RESERVE FB PAGE

LIL LUBLY TERM PLAN

Sessions could
CHANGE DATES.
Join Lil Lubly's on Facebook
to keep updated.

15TH OCT - TREATY WITH TARNI
22ND OCT - MAKE UP WITH BRITTANY
29TH OCT - HAIR STYLING WITH STACEY
5TH NOV - TRADITIONAL DANCE
12TH NOV - POOL SESSION
19TH NOV - BUSH WALK
26TH NOV - PAINTING/ END OF YEAR PARTY

STEPPING STONES TO DEADLINE

SATURDAY 25TH OCTOBER 2025 • 11AM-3PM

LIVE MUSIC • MARKET STALLS • FOOD TRUCKS • WELLBEING ACTIVATIONS
MENTAL HEALTH INFORMATION • COMEDY • KIDS ACTIVITIES • ARTS & CRAFTS
PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS

SAVE THE DATE! Music line-up to be announced soon
Free family friendly event

STEAMPACKET GARDENS • GEELONG • WADDA WURRUNG COUNTRY

THIS IS A DRUG & ALCOHOL FREE EVENT Funded by
Funded by Department of Health Victoria Public Intoxication Response




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.



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