

Mt Egerton Primary School

Living and Learning Together Since 1856



Newsletter

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Term 1 Week 1

Welcome to 2024

A big welcome back to all of our families at Mount Egerton Primary and a special welcome to our new Foundation students Lily, Archie and Remi!

I hope everyone had a lovely break. I was able to switch off and relax on my first cruise. I thoroughly enjoyed it and am already looking at another to plan!

We will be holding a welcome back to school afternoon tea for families next Friday after school. It will be a great chance to chat with staff and get to know each other. Staff will be supplying some light refreshments, so please come and enjoy.

2024 Staff

Our teaching staff for each day is outlined below. We will also be supported by Educational Support Staff Kathy Quinlan (9am-3:30pm), Shontae Bellman (9am-12:30pm) and Angela Burgoyne (Mondays 9am-5pm).

Senior teacher: Laura Millar (Monday-Friday)

Junior teachers: Tegan Bell (Monday/Tuesday; in the office Weds-Fri) and Lisa Filmer (Wednesday-Friday)

Tutor: Carly Milroy (Mon/Weds/Fri)

MARC Van teacher: Katie White (every second Tuesday)

Absences

If your child is absent for any reason, please log it in Compass. Please don't email staff this information. As all staff can access Compass, we can all see any absences (this eliminates messages forgetting to be passed on).

Late arrivals and early departures

If your child is late to school, parents will need to sign them into the Compass kiosk located in the foyer – tap on the 'parent drop off' button. If your child needs to leave early for any reason, parents need to sign them out using the Compass kiosk – tap the 'parent pick up' button and fill in the details. Please note students should be in class at 9:00am ready to start their learning.

Notes that need to be returned:

- 2023 consent and permission form
- ICT agreement

Upcoming Dates

Monday 5th February

Breakfast Club resumes (every day!)

Wednesday 7th February

Story Dogs resumes

Prep rest day

Friday 9th February

Emergency evacuation drill

Welcome to school afternoon tea 3:15-3:45

Monday 12th February

Eco-link incursions for P-2 and 3-6

Tuesday 13th February

MARC Van in

Wednesday 14th February

Prep rest day

15th-16th February

Ms Bell attending Maths training

Tuesday 20th February

School Council 3:30pm

Wednesday 21st February

Ms Bell at a Network meeting

Prep rest day

Thursday 22nd & Friday 23rd February

Parent Teacher meetings

Monday 26th February

School photos (costs to be advised shortly through MSP photography)

Tuesday 27th February

MARC Van in

Kindness: *Being friendly, generous and considerate...*

Wisdom: *Having experience, knowledge and good judgment...*

Integrity: *Being honest, respectful and having strong moral principles...*

Courage: *The ability to face challenges; bravery...*

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Parent teacher interviews

We are utilizing the Compass booking system for our parent teacher interviews, please select a time that suits. If there is no time that does suit and you would like a meeting, please contact your child's teacher.

Swimming

Swimming will be running differently this year due to minimum hours of swim staff needing to be paid, therefore we have needed to piggyback on another school's lessons. We will have two intensive weeks – our first week of swimming will be this term in week 6 (4th – 8th March) every day. Our next week will be held later in the year.

Reading

We have outlined the reading expectations with the students, and have attached the posters to the newsletter for parents. It would be great for families to chat to their children about these expectations. Reading bags and diaries will be sent home from Monday.

Assembly

Our assemblies will be held on Fridays at 3:00pm. Parents are welcome to attend.

Volunteers

If anyone would like to volunteer at our school – whether it be for breakfast club, in class assistance, yard work, sorting the library etc. Please speak to Tegan. All volunteers will need a Working with Children's Check, and complete an induction session.

Breakfast club

We will host breakfast club on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday each week. I would like to thank Ms Quinlan for continuing to run breakfast club twice a week and Andy Matthews and Lisa Jones for volunteering their time. Breakfast will be served from 8:30am – 8:50am. 8:50-9:00am will be time for students to finish eating so they are ready to start their learning at 9:00am. We will continue to receive donations Food Bank Victoria, however we will still require ongoing donations spreads of jam/peanut butter. If you are able to help out with any of these, it is much appreciated. We currently have no jam.



Welcome Lily, Archie and Remi!

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School Council

As we have two school council members coming to the end of the 2 year term (although they are able to renominate), we need to call for nominations which may lead to a possible election if more people nominate than there are positions. We also have a co-opt membership available for nominations. A co-opted member can be from the wider community, as well as a parent/family member from the school. If you wish to nominate for School Council, or find out about what we do, please see Tegan for the appropriate form to fill in. I have included a time line for this process below. Please note: Due to having 2 DET members on school council already, we are unable to accept nominations from any DET member this year.

Event	Date
a) Notice of election and call for nominations	Friday 2 nd February, 2024
b) Closing date for nominations, decision made if ballot is required	Friday 9 th February, 2024
c) Date by which the list of candidates and nominators will be posted	Friday 16 th February, 2024
d) Date by which ballot papers will be prepared and distributed	Monday 19 th February, 2024
e) Close of ballot	Friday 23 rd February, 2024

MARC Van reminder

The MARC Van (Mobile Area Resource Centre) is a small mobile library that comes to our school once a fortnight. Mrs Katie White runs the MARC Van and on her day at school has a literacy and performing arts focus. Students have time to browse and can borrow items from the MARC Van – these need to travel to and from school in their reading bag. Students borrow the book for 2 weeks and return the book in order to borrow another.

Parent Teacher interviews

Parent/Teacher interviews will run in week 4 this term. Please book a time via Compass. If there are no times that suit, please speak to your child's teacher – Mrs Filmer or Miss Millar – to arrange an alternative time.

Code red days and emergency management

As we are a category 3 Bushfire At Risk school, we will pre-emptively close if a code red was determined for the central fire district. We would notify you in advance of a possible closure, and the day before, informing you the school will be closed. Please note, due to safety reasons no staff will be on site on this day either. Throughout the year we will also practice lockdown drills and evacuation drills, in case of an emergency which allows staff and students to practice the roles and expectations. We will be doing our first practice evacuation to the oval next week. Further details are at the end of our newsletter.

Policies

Just a reminder our policies are located on our website. Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#). Please take time to remind yourself of the school's collection statement, found on our website: www.mtegertonps.vic.edu.au

Face masks

If any students, staff or visitors wish to wear a face mask, they are more than welcome. We have some stock available.

Student awards

Congratulations to Archie for demonstrating our school value of integrity for contributing to class discussions and focusing on his learning.



HOME READING EXPECTATIONS



**READ A MINIMUM OF 5 NIGHTS A
WEEK**

**GRADE PREP: READ THEIR WHOLE BOOK
GRADE 2-3: READ AT LEAST 10 MINUTES
GRADE 4-6: READ AT LEAST 20 MINUTES**

**WRITE THE TITLE OF THE BOOK IN YOUR
DIARY AND HOW MANY PAGES READ**

**PARENTS MUST SIGN YOUR DIARY
EACH TIME YOU READ**

**BRING YOUR READING SACHEL, DIARY
AND BOOK TO SCHOOL EACH DAY**

HOME READING SCORING



EXCELLENT:
80+ NIGHTS OF READING

VERY GOOD:
65-79 NIGHTS OF READING

GOOD:
56-64 NIGHTS OF READING

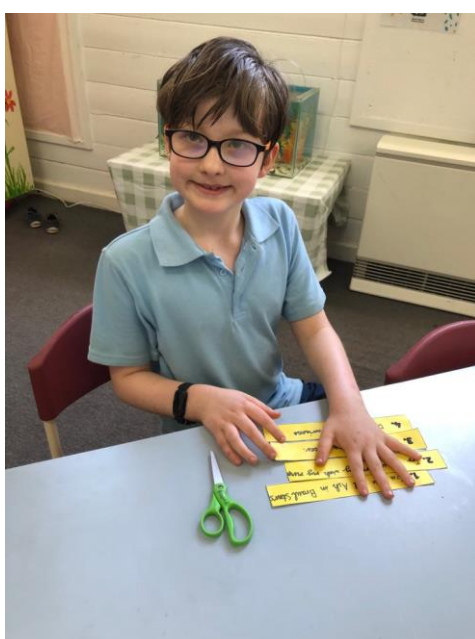
ACCEPTABLE:
40-55 NIGHTS OF READING

NEEDS ATTENTION:
LESS THAN 40 NIGHTS OF READING

Weekly Schedule:

Please note when we have the MARC Van attend, our Tuesday schedule alters to a literacy-based day that integrates other curriculum areas (such as the humanities)

Mount Egerton PS Term 1 2024 No Marc Van	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00am-10:00am	Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading
10:00am-11:00am	Writing	Writing	Writing	Writing	Writing
11:00am-11:30am	Recess				
11:30am – 12:30pm	Maths - Applied	Maths	Maths - Number	Maths - Number	Maths - Number
12:30pm – 1:30pm	LOTE	Laura - Civics with Seniors	PE (Laura)	Science/STEM (Laura)	LOTE
	Open Parachute	Kathy - PMP with Juniors			Respectful Relationships
1:30pm-2:15pm	Lunch recess				
2:15pm-3:15pm	Visual Art (Laura)	Critical and Creative Thinking (Laura)	Performing Arts (Carly)	ICT (Lisa)	Finishing off/Assembly (Laura)



OSHClub news:



Welcome Back to OSH Club

This week we have welcomed student's back to school and OSH club with a range of exciting and engaging activities planned. Students have been given a choice with activities and given ideas for future weeks. At OSH Club we are also open to many ideas of activities or adventures from other students, staff, or school families. To encourage an inclusive and enjoyable environment for all.

What's on at OSH Club in Week 2

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Food Sculptures <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Skewers	Meat Free Mania <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Toasties, Sandwiches or Wraps of choice	Café Design <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Platter	Easy Eats <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Pizza Scrolls	Rainbow Foods <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Fruit Platter
Science Investigation <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Making Snow	Arts and Crafts <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Key Rings- Window Art	Science Investigation <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Walking Water	Challenge Day <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Building Bridges▪ Outdoor Games	Designing <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Lego Figures

Mon-Fri 3pm - 5pm
Phone: 0484 939 821
Email: mtegerton@oshclub.com.au

oshclub.com.au
1300 395 755



Schools in Category 3 on the Bushfire At-Risk Register and the Category 4 list.

School preparations for the bushfire season

Each year, to prepare for bushfires and grassfires, schools and early childhood services complete a range of activities.

The Department of Education runs an annual fire risk assessment of schools and early childhood services. They are allocated a category of risk (categories 0 to 4) and are published on the Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR).



All schools and early childhood services listed on the BARR and Category 4 list will also close when a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast in their fire weather district.

When the Bureau of Meteorology provides public fire danger rating forecasts or fire weather warnings, they use fire weather district areas. In Victoria, there are 9 fire weather districts, which are based on Local Government Area boundaries. Our school is in the **Central**.

As part of preparing our school for the fire season, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan and undertaken annual grounds maintenance such as clearing the gutters, having slashing completed, ensuring our sprinklers are serviced etc.

What does this mean for our school?

Our school has been identified as being at risk of bushfire or grassfire and is a Category 3 school.

Our school will close on a day forecasted as Catastrophic fire danger rating in Central fire district.

What is the department's policy?

The department's [Bushfire and Grassfire Preparedness Policy](#) requires all schools and early childhood services on the BARR and the Category 4 list to 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.

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

Our school will close on a day forecasted as Catastrophic fire danger rating in the Central fire district.

Closure of the school due to a forecast Catastrophic day will be confirmed on the day prior and we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day. Any information regarding potential or confirmed Catastrophic fire danger days will be communicated to you via Compass.

Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, even if the weather forecast changes. This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. 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 action 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.

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 newsletters, talking to your child's teacher or any other member of the teaching staff about our emergency management plan.
- Make sure your family's bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is relocated, undertaking learning from home and/or closed] due to elevated fire danger or closed due to a Catastrophic fire danger. Further information can be found on the CFA's website.
- 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 actioning 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, warnings and preparedness actions here:

- VicEmergency app – that can be downloaded on your android and iOS mobile devices
- VicEmergency Hotline (1800 228 228)
- 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



2024 UNDER 12

DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

6 WEEK PROGRAM

ALL ABILITIES WELCOME

TRAINING PACK INCLUDES

FOOTBALL **DRINK BOTTLE** **TRAINING TOP**

REGISTRATIONS OPEN NEXT WEEK

VISIT [BFNL.COM.AU](https://bfnl.com.au) FOR DETAILS