



# MEPS Newsletter



Available online – in colour  
on the web site

PO Box 305, Mt Eliza 3930 – Phone 9787 1385  
Newsletter is available on the web site address :  
[www.mtelizaps.vic.edu.au](http://www.mtelizaps.vic.edu.au)

21<sup>st</sup> December, 2017

## PLEASE NOTE EARLY DISMISSAL TIME TOMORROW, 22<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER

ON FRIDAY, 22<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER, (LAST DAY OF TERM 4), **THE STUDENTS WILL BE DISMISSED AT 1.00PM.** IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO COLLECT YOUR CHILD/CHILDREN AT THIS TIME, PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU MAKE ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS. IT CAN BE VERY UPSETTING FOR CHILDREN IF THEY ARE THE ONLY ONES LEFT ON THE LAST DAY OF THE SCHOOL YEAR.

### DIARY

#### Term 4

#### December

Fri	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Last Day of Term 4 – Students dismissed 1.00pm
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### Camp Australia

For more details on After School Care, Before School Care and School Holiday Program please phone Camp Australia on 1300 105 343. Registration is available online at [www.campastralia.com.au](http://www.campastralia.com.au).



**BOOK COLLECTION DAY - THURSDAY, 25<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY, 2018**

**SCHOOL RESUMES FOR ALL STUDENTS (GRADES PREP - 6)  
ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 30<sup>TH</sup>, 2018**

### Principal's Report

Firstly, I would like to farewell all those families who will be leaving MEPS this year. For some, it is their last child at the school. Most have had a long association with us and have been an integral part of our school community, contributing in so many ways to make this the great school it is. Thank you so much for all you have done and wishing you all the best for all you will achieve in the future.

I would like to wish all of our families a wonderful Christmas and summer break. 2017 has been a huge year and I have really enjoyed sharing the many successes our students have made throughout the year. I would like to thank our parents for their ongoing support of our school and their children and look forward to seeing you all again in 2018!

#### Staffing Changes

As previously mentioned, we wish Richard Barren good luck in his new position as Assistant Principal at Langwarrin Park Primary School next year.

We also wish Raelene Harvey all the best as she takes on the role of Acting Assistant Principal at Somerville Primary School for term 1, 2018. We know she will do an amazing job. We have employed Miss Sara Pompei as Raelene's replacement for term 1. Some of the students will know Miss Pompei from her work in the PE program this term.

I would like to congratulate Miss Hayley Gregory on being successful in taking on the role of Acting Leading Teacher for 2018. Hayley will work with the Senior School team for 2018. I would also like to congratulate Mrs Michelle Polley on receiving the position of Acting Leading Teacher for term 1 to replace Raelene in leading the Middle School. We are very fortunate to have so many talented staff members to support our school's ongoing growth and progression.

On Monday morning, Mr Jeff Dirago announced his retirement from the Education Department. Jeff has had a long and illustrious career, educating children for over 40 years. He has taught in a variety of schools both here and overseas and we wish him well in this next stage of his life. We have appointed Mrs Helen Ferguson to the role of grade 4 teacher for 2018. Mrs Ferguson has more than 15 years of teaching experience at a local Primary School and is looking forward to the new opportunity of working at MEPS.

On Wednesday we also appointed Mrs Melissa Shalagin to the position of Grade 2 teacher for 2018. Mrs Shalagin has been teaching for 11 years in Victoria, interstate and overseas. She brings a wealth of knowledge and skills to the Grade 2 team for next year.

I know it has been a busy time of year but I would like to thank our staff, parents and students for their patience and understanding as we have finalised our staffing arrangements for 2018.

**Brett Bell**  
Principal

## **Assistant Principal's Report**

The last couple of weeks of school are always so enjoyable, exciting and fun for the children. Last week we had Up Day and the students now know who will be in their class next year and where their classroom is, most children have also met their 2018 teacher. I'd like to thank Lynne Congiusta for taking the choir to the Mt Eliza Village Carols on Thursday and taking part in the community celebration.

Every grade level has been involved in an end of year celebration. Last Friday, the Grade Twos went Tree Surfing. The Grades 4, 5 and 6 have all had End of Year excursions this week. The Grade Threes had their Plank excursion, the Grade Ones had a big class party and the Preps performed their Christmas Concert. A busy week for everyone. Thank you to all the teachers for organising these experiences and the parents and grandparents for supporting them.

The Grade 6 Graduation was a terrific event. It is always a happy but emotional time watching the students finish their primary years of schooling. I wish the Class of 2017 all the best with their future and their secondary school education. I'd also like to make a special mention of my wonderful grade 6 Communication Leaders who I work with every week to organise the Assembly. They are a terrific team and have grown as leaders throughout the year, I am very proud of them!

A big thank you to the PTA for their work this year. I have loved working with such a high performing team. Thanks to Tarnya Cook for her leadership of PTA as the president and Karen McEvoy as treasurer. Please consider nominating for Office Bearer positions next year on PTA. They are a great bunch of people to work with and we appreciate everything they do for the students and our school.

The holidays are the ideal opportunity to check your child for headlice and treat if necessary. If every child returns to school lice free next year, we are less likely to have an outbreak.

Our last Assembly for the year is tomorrow morning at 8:45am. At this Assembly, we will be farewelling Richard Barren (Assistant Principal at Langwarrin Park PS) and Jeff Dirago (retiring). We will also wish Raelene Harvey good luck with her acting position as Assistant Principal at Somerville PS for Term 1 next year. We would love it if any past students or families could come along to the Assembly to acknowledge their contribution to our school.

Next year the newsletter will be available online for all families through the school website [www.mtelizaps.vic.edu.au](http://www.mtelizaps.vic.edu.au). In the interests of the environment and the many thousands of pages of paper that are printed every week, we will not be sending home a hard copy of the newsletter unless specifically requested by parents. If you do not have access to read the newsletter online, please let the office know next year and they will print a copy for you.

To encourage your child/ren to discuss their day when you meet them after school, try this conversation starter this week: "Who would you like to play with next year that you have never played with before??"

Have a great Christmas and summer holiday together and I look forward to seeing you all back at school on Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2018.

**Bev Harvey**

Assistant Principal

### PTA

Our first Annual General Meeting for 2018 will be held at 7.30pm on Monday, 5th February, in the Staffroom.

Next year all Office Bearer positions will be open for nomination:

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

If you are interested in any of the above positions, please notify me by email any time prior to the meeting – [tarnyacook@gmail.com](mailto:tarnyacook@gmail.com)

At the first meeting, you will be required to pay the Annual Membership Fee of \$1 to become a financial member for the calendar year. Only financial members have the right to vote.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the first meeting next year.

**Tarnya Cook**

PTA.

### Community Notices

- **Support the local Scouts !**

Buy your beautiful Christmas tree at the Humphries Road Scout Hall every week-end in December, from 8.00am until 2.00 pm.

Trees are also available at Frankston Bunnings every week-end from 9 am to 1 pm.

- **The Briars – January Holiday Programs –**  
“ **Nature’s Treasure Hunt**” Junior Rangers Program 6-10yrs

<https://jnr-ranger-prog-tickets.eventbrite.com.au> \$18.50 per child.

**Briars Bush Fairies – 3-5 year olds – 2 sessions per day**

<https://briars-bush-fairies-tickets.eventbrite.com.au> \$12.50 per child.

**After Dark Wildlife Walks in the Sanctuary – Adults and Children - \$15 Adult - \$12 Child/Concession.**

<https://after-dark-wildlife-walk-tickets.eventbrite.com.au>

Walks will be cancelled on days of Total Fire Ban when wind strength is at and above 35kph. These will be rescheduled or a refund provided.

All programs commence at the Visitors Centre. Booking and prepayment is essential. For more information and times the programs will be held please call The Briars on 5974 3686 or email: [the.briars@mornpen.vic.gov.au](mailto:the.briars@mornpen.vic.gov.au)

- **Frankston Hockey Club – Free Come and Try Day**

Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2018. Arrive at 4.30pm for a 5.00pm start. 2 Bloom Street Frankston Vic 3199

**All Equipment provided except mouth guards.**

Contact: Ross Hull – [rosshull3@gmail.com](mailto:rosshull3@gmail.com) –

Phone: 0487 888 032

[www.frankstonhockeyclub.com](http://www.frankstonhockeyclub.com)

*Thank you to the newsletter sponsors for their wonderful support of our newsletter this year.*

**HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY**

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO ANOTHER GREAT YEAR  
IN 2018**



**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**



# Grade 6 Graduation

*Congratulations to our Grade 6 students who graduated from Mt Eliza Primary School last night. It was a wonderful evening with all of our students speaking with confidence and ease.....and of course, all looked so grown up. There were a lot of very proud families and friends in the audience.*

*Thank you to the Grade 6 parents who put a lot of time, effort and planning to set up the hall, creating it into a 1<sup>st</sup> Class Reception Venue. It looked really amazing.*

*Sincere thanks also to the Grade 5 parents who catered for the event. What wonderful team work!*

*Lastly, well done and thank you to the Grade 6 teachers who have worked tirelessly towards preparing their students for the wonderful graduation they deserved.*

*Well done and good luck to everyone as you go forth  
into the next exciting phase of your life.*

## ***Congratulations to the following Award Winners***

<i>Jemma Harman</i>	<i>Physical Education</i>
<i>Archie Stringer</i>	<i>Physical Education</i>
<i>William Jukes</i>	<i>Visual Arts</i>
<i>Hannah Robinson</i>	<i>Visual Arts</i>
<i>Charlie Renaud-Moysey</i>	<i>Performing Arts</i>
<i>Louise Henley</i>	<i>Performing Arts</i>
<i>Max Morgan</i>	<i>Science</i>
<i>Tia Morton</i>	<i>Science</i>
<i>Meg Paton</i>	<i>Academic Excellence</i>
<i>Taj Penzo</i>	<i>Academic Excellence</i>
<i>Joshua Gillick</i>	<i>Jan Tyers Award (Thinking outside the Square)</i>
<i>Penny Cameron</i>	<i>RN Knight Citizenship Award</i>
<i>Mitchell Arnott</i>	<i>RN Knight Citizenship Award</i>

*The RN Knight Citizenship Award is for - Aptitude, Initiative, Reliability, Endeavour, Thoughtfulness,  
Responsibility, Consideration & Care*