9th February, 2017

**DIARY**

**Term 1**

**February**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon 13th</td>
<td>Swimming Trials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 14th</td>
<td>Meet the Teacher Evening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 15th</td>
<td>Meet the Teacher Evening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 20th</td>
<td>Gr 4 - Life Education incursion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 21st</td>
<td>Gr 1 – Marine Life incursion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 22nd</td>
<td>Gr 4 - Life Education incursion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 23rd</td>
<td>Second-hand Uniform Sale – 8.30 to 9.00 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 24th</td>
<td>Gr 5 – 1000 Steps excursion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 27th</td>
<td>Grade 586 - Beach Program commences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 28th</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>     </td>
<td>Michael Grose – Spoonfed Generation 7.00 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**March**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri 3rd</td>
<td>Movie Night under the stars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 6th</td>
<td>Education Sub-committee Meeting – 7.00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 13th</td>
<td>Labour Day Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 14th</td>
<td>Gr 2 – Aboriginal Workshop incursion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 15th</td>
<td>Division Swimming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 20th</td>
<td>Second-hand Uniform Sale during assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Council AGM &amp; Meeting – 7.00 pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT A Meeting – 7.30 pm in the Library</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28th – 31st</td>
<td>Grade 6 – Canberra Camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 31st</td>
<td>Last day of Term 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Term 2**

**April**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon 17th</td>
<td>Easter Monday Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 18th</td>
<td>First day of Term 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 19th</td>
<td>PTA Meeting – 2.30 pm in Conference Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 24th</td>
<td>Education Sub-committee Meeting – 7.00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26th – 28th</td>
<td>Grade 4 – Phillip Island Adventure Camp</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund**

The Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF) is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF.

The allowance will be paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child. The annual CSEF amount per primary school student is $125. If you believe that you may be eligible for the CSEF you will need to contact the school to obtain and lodge a CSEF application form by **Monday, 26th February, 2017** so that payments can be made from March. More information about the CSEF can be found at [www.education.vic.gov.au/csef](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef).

---

**Second-hand Uniform Sales**

**Thursday 23rd February – 8.30 am to 9.00 am**

**Monday, 26th March – 2.15 pm to 3.00 pm**

The Second-hand Uniform sales are held in the foyer of the old hall. Please note that all yellow polo tops are selling for $1.00 each. All other items $3.00.

If you have any Mt Eliza PS uniforms you would like to donate to the school in good, clean condition, please leave them at the office.

---

**Values Awards**

Congratulations to our Values Award winners for this week!

- Summer 1D, Grade 1H, Grade 1M
- Riley 2S, Grade 2C, Grade 2E, Grade 2G
- Grade 4D, Harrison 4C, Eva 4H
- Heidi 5B, Abby 5OT, Indi Toledo 5J
Sports Report

School Sport Victoria fields State teams in a variety of sports: Netball, Football (Soccer), AFL, Basketball, Cricket, Hockey, Swimming, Cross Country, Athletics, Tennis and Golf. Team Vic is aimed at the elite performer and is part of SSV’s Gifted and Talented Program.

Students earn selection in swimming, cross country, athletics and tennis teams through the pathway of District to State competition. The Golf Team is selected through a selection tournament in August. Other teams are selected through school endorsement and registration as a prelude to Division, Region and State Trials.

In nominating / endorsing students for selection the emphasis is to ensure that year 6 students who are a genuine chance for State selection are given the opportunity. These students will be the standout player at their club and will have earned a reputation within their League / Association as being a player with extraordinary talent. If your child fits this tag please contact me.

David Hutchinson
hutchinson.david.d@edumail.vic.gov.au


Guitar Lessons

Positions for guitar lessons are now open for 2017. If you are interested please collect an information form from the school office and fill out the application attached and return it as soon as possible. Alternatively for more information you can phone Steph Born on 0418 140 742.

Outside School Hours Care

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.campaustralia.com.au.

tiqbiz Instructions

Have you logged onto tiqbiz yet? MEPS is now using an app to send out messages, newsletters and notices. See the details on how to download the tiqbiz app to your phone, tablet or computer on the last page of our online Newsletter.

PTA

Last Monday night the Annual General Meeting of the PTA was held and we had a great turn out with many new faces. We would like to congratulate standing President: Tarnya Cook and Treasurer: Karen McEvoy. And welcome Vice President: Nicole Valasis and Secretary: Catherine Trenham. We’d also like to extend a big thank you to the outgoing Vice President: Bernie Blackford and Secretary: Bianca Dobson. Thank you for your hard work last year on the committee.

Also a very warm welcome to all the new members of the PTA and we invite anyone wanting to join us to come along to our next meeting which will be held on Monday, 20th March at 7.30 pm in the Library.

For our first big event for the year we will be holding an Outdoor Cinema night at school on Friday, 3rd March! It will be a fun night to start the school year and welcome the new families to Mt Eliza Primary School. Bring along a rug, blanket and even bean bags for a fun filled evening of big screen cinema! More information to come.

We are looking forward to a great year and have many amazing events planned for the school.

UNIFORM SHOP NEW OPENING HOURS

Please note the new opening hours for our Uniform Shop are:

Mondays – 8.30am – 11.00am
Thursdays – 2.00pm – 4.30pm

Can Saver Plus assist you with school costs?

Join Saver Plus and match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to $300 for education costs including:
- school uniforms and textbooks
- computers, laptops and tablets
- excursion camps
- sports equipment, uniforms and lessons
- music tuition and instrument hire.

You may be eligible if you have a Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, are at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner), such as full-time, part-time, casual or seasonal work, and have a child at school or study yourself.

Contact Angie O’Toole or Terri Fallowes, your local Saver Plus Coordinators:
(03) 8781 7373
angie.otooler@bsl.org.au / terri.fallowes@bsl.org.au

Saver Plus is supported by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Laurence and is delivered in partnership with BSL and the Victorian Department of Education. This program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government.
The Parenting Masterclass

How to raise independent kids

“Never before has a generation of children been so dependent on their parents.”
– Michael Grose

Join us for our Parenting Masterclass

Date: Tuesday 28th February
Time: 7–9pm
At: Mount Eliza Primary School
1 Wooralla Drive, Mount Eliza

100% of the proceeds will be donated to The Smith Family, helping young Australians in need to transform their lives through education.

About Michael Grose

Michael has been sharing his insights and strategies with parents and teachers for more than 25 years. Michael has been the teacher and he’s been the parent. He’s written 10 award winning books including Thriving! and is currently touring Australia with his newest release Spoonfed Generation.

To book your ticket visit
spoonfedgeneration.eventbrite.com.au

Lose the bubble-wrap and step away from the helicopter!

Join bestselling author and parenting expert, Michael Grose for an interactive evening designed to challenge thinking and empower parents to raise independent, resilient and confident children.

Michael will share hands-on and practical strategies to help:

• Encourage independence
• Build strong, caring and cooperative family relationships
• Reduce anxiety
• Foster emotional intelligence

You’ll leave feeling empowered to move forward in raising your independent children.

Freecall 1800 004 484 Email office@parentingideas.com.au Post PO Box 167 Balnarring VIC 3926 Australia
Mt Eliza Primary School Council Election 2017
Information for Parents

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I would like to advise that the Notice of Election and Call for Nominations for the Mt Eliza Primary School Council is **Monday, 13th February, 2017**. Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and **must be lodged by 4.00 pm on or before Monday, 20th February, 2017**.

There are four parent member vacancies for 2 years, two community member vacancies for 2 years and two DET employee member vacancies for 2 years.

Please read the information below to give you a better understanding of our School Council.

**What is a School Council and what does it do?**
All government schools in Victoria have a School Council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within statewide guidelines. In doing this, a School Council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

**Who is on the School Council?**
For most School Councils, there are three possible categories of membership:
- A mandated elected Parent category - more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Training (DET) employees can be Parent members at their child’s school as long as they are not engaged in work at the school.
- A mandated elected DET employee category - members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of School Council. The Principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
- An optional Community member category - members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DET employees are not eligible to be Community members.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual School Council elections.

**Why is Parent membership so important?**
Parents on School Councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a School Council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

**How can you become involved?**
The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.
In view of this, you might seriously consider
  • standing for election as a member of the School Council
  • encouraging another person to stand for election.

Do I need special experience to be on School Council?
Each member brings their own valuable life skills and knowledge to the role, councillors may need to develop skills and acquire knowledge in areas that are unfamiliar to them. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

What do you need to do to stand for election?
The Principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for Nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All School Council elections must be completed by the end of March unless the usual time line has been varied by the Minister.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.

DET employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not engaged in work are eligible to nominate for parent membership of the School Council at that school.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the Principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail (or by hand) following the receipt of your completed nomination.

Generally, if there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Remember
  • Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do
  • Consider standing for election to council this year
  • Be sure to vote in the elections.

Please contact me if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,

Brett Bell
PRINCIPAL