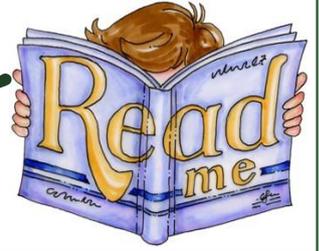




MEPS Newsletter

www.mtelizaps.vic.edu.au

Term 3, Week 1 2025 – 25th July 2025



DIARY

TERM 3 – 2025

WEEK 2

Wednesday	30	Year 3 Oz Harvest Year 4,5,6 MESC Production
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AUGUST

WEEK 3

Tuesday	5	Yr 5/6 District Basketball Yr 3-6 Australian Maths Comp
Wednesday	6	Prep C Nature Play - Local Yr 2 Hands-on Science Incursion 5T Kinder Visit
Thursday	7	Prep F Nature Play - Local
Friday	8	Yr 5/6 It's OK not to be OK Prep 100 Days of School Event

WEEK 4

Tuesday	12	Year 3/4 Wakakirri Concert
Wednesday	13	Prep C Nature Play – Overport Year 3 Oz Harvest 5D Kinder Visit
Thursday	14	Prep F Nature Play – Overport
Friday	15	Book Week – Dress UP Day and Parade!

WEEK 5

Monday	18	Scholastic Book Fair – Library 8.30am -8.45am and 3.15pm - 3.45pm
Tuesday	19	Scholastic Book Fair – Library 8.30am -8.45am and 3.15pm - 3.45pm
Wednesday	20	Scholastic Book Fair – Library 8.30am -8.45am and 3.15pm - 3.45pm Year 4-6 House Athletics Day Prep D Nature Play - Local
Thursday	21	Scholastic Book Fair – Library 8.30am -8.45am and 3.15pm - 3.45pm Prep H Nature Play – Local Cosy into a Book Day – Wear cosy and bring a Gold Coin Donation
Friday	22	Curriculum Day – No Students at School

WEEK 6

Wednesday	27	Year 3 Oz Harvest 5D Kinder Visit
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Thursday	28	Prep H Nature Play – Overport
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SEPTEMBER

WEEK 7

Monday	1	Yr 6 Urban Camp
Tuesday	2	Yr 6 Urban Camp
Wednesday	3	Year 6 Urban Camp Prep B Nature Play – Local Prep D Nature Play - Overport 5T Kinder visit
Friday	5	PTA Father's Day Breakfast

WEEK 8

Wednesday	10	Year 3 Oz Harvest Prep B Nature Play – Overport 5D Kinder Visit
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WEEK 9

Monday	15	District Athletics
Wednesday	17	5T Kinder visit
Friday	19	Last day of Term 3 – Early dismissal 2:15pm

***Further details to come regarding some excursions through Compass. Some additional events may be added throughout the term.**

UNIFORM SHOP

Opening hours – Term 3

- Monday: 8:30am – 11:30am
- Wednesday: 1:30pm – 3:30pm

Uniforms may be purchased online [HERE](#).

Processed orders will be delivered to your child's classroom.

FCW School Uniform Shop only accepts CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS.

***With the current ramp works happening out the front of the shop access is through the Old School Hall side doors (by the canteen).**

Zoe Grey – mteliza@fcw.com.au
Uniform Shop Coordinator

PRINCIPAL REPORT – MICHAEL KENT

Welcome to Term 3!

Dear Families,

I hope you and your families enjoyed the recent school holiday break and are feeling rested and recharged for the term ahead.

This term promises to be another fun-filled 9 weeks of learning. Our teachers have dedicated significant time to planning engaging curriculum programs and extracurricular activities. It's shaping up to be an action-packed term!

Key Dates and Events

Please refer to the comprehensive list of important dates planned for this term.

Team Newsletters

Next week you will receive a newsletter from your child's year level. This will outline the term ahead in relation to curriculum focus and events. Our highly valued specialist program will also contribute to these newsletters, bringing together all our learning areas. I hope you will find them comprehensive and helpful in building your understanding of what's happening around the school this term.

These newsletters will also highlight the events and activities that are pertinent to your child's class and year level.

Timetable Change

We are already seeing positive results from our new timetable introduced this term. After some adjustments, students and staff have embraced the updated schedule. Here is a reminder of the session times:

TIME	ACTIVITY
8:45 – 9:35 AM	Learning Session 1
9:35 – 10:25 AM	Learning Session 2
10:25 – 11:15 AM	Learning Session 3
11:15 – 12:00 PM	Lunch Break
12:00 – 12:15 PM	Supervised Lunch Eating (in classrooms)
12:15 – 1:05 PM	Learning Session 4
1:05 – 1:55 PM	Learning Session 5
1:55 – 2:25 PM	Afternoon Recess
2:25 – 3:15 PM	Learning Session 6

Assembly

To maximise the learning time in the morning, our weekly Friday assembly will now be held at 2:45 PM.

NAPLAN Results

Families of students in years 3 and 5 will now have received the 2025 NAPLAN results. Whilst we celebrate the amazing achievements of our students, we are reminded that these results are only one small part of the assessment processes at MEPS. The results are only relative to the test administered on that one day of the school year. Learning progress takes many other forms, and we consider this is building a profile of a student's learning progress.

Be Safe

Please continue to observe all signage in the school's 'kiss and drop' and parking zones during drop-off and pick-up. Your cooperation will help ensure everyone to get to and from school safely and efficiently.

2026 Prep Enrolments

Enrolment acceptance letters for 2026 Prep will be emailed next week. If you have siblings starting Prep in 2026 and haven't yet submitted enrolment forms, please do so promptly to secure their place.

Wakakirri

Our Wakakirri performance is fast approaching! Congratulations to all students for their dedication during rehearsals. The performance will be at the Frankston Arts Centre on August 12. Special thanks to our specialist team in particular Donna, Jodie, and Lynn for their work in supporting the students to enjoy this opportunity.

Year 3 Feast Program

This term, Year 3 students will participate in the Oz Harvest Feast program, engaging in hands-on learning about agriculture, food handling, preparation, and sharing meals. Parental help is essential for success—please contact your child's teacher or classroom rep if you're able to assist.

Year 5/6 Lightning Premiership

Best of luck to all students participating in today's Lightning Premiership!

Year 5 Kindergarten Visits

Year 5 students will visit local kindergartens three times this term. They will leave MEPS at 9:30am and return at 11.15am.

5T	5D
Wednesday 6 th August	Wednesday 13 th August
Wednesday 3 rd September	Wednesday 27 th August
Wednesday 17 th September	Wednesday, 10 th September

Wellbeing Program

As part of our whole school wellbeing program, we have organised a session for our year 5/6 students focusing on positive mental health and strategies to support this. It's Okay Not To Be Okay is a registered charity that's mission is to advocate and create positive change in mental health. They do this by running community events, providing gift packs for those affected, running social media campaigns through all platforms that increase mental health literacy and raise awareness about the

support available. The charity recently won a local heroes grant and can visit our school to run their primary school wellbeing workshop free of charge.

Each class will receive a 50-minute wellbeing workshop with Georgia, who is a qualified social worker and joint co-founder of It's Okay Not To Be Okay charity. The aim of the workshop is to build mental health literacy, resilience and equip students with a tool kit to deal with tough times.

The workshop covers the following areas:

- **What is a feeling and emotion?**
- **What is mental health?**
- **What impacts our mental health?**
- **Tools to cope during tough times?**

I'm sure this will prove to be a positive session with lots of take aways. On review of these sessions, we will continue to consider further opportunities for our whole school in supporting this positive message. Further details and permissions have been shared on Compass.

MESC Production

Next week, Year 4-6 students will visit Mount Eliza Secondary College to enjoy their school production. A local walk permission is available on Compass.

Year 3-6 Mathematics Competition

The Australian Mathematics Competition (AMC) has been held annually since 1978. Mt Eliza Primary School students from years 3 - 6 are encouraged to participate in this internationally recognised competition which will be held on Tuesday 5th to Thursday 7th August 2025 during school hours. Students who participate will be supervised by staff on this day to complete the test. There are practice tests that can be accessed on the website. All students that complete the test will receive a certificate of participation or higher (depending on their result). Any interested students/families are asked to provide payment and permission as outlined in the recent Compass post.

Maths Enrichment Program

Our maths enrichment program will be recommenced next week. Running each week these sessions are for identified students in years 4-6 to support their mathematics program. This is a wonderful complement to our mathematics and our teaching and learning program.

Asthma / Anaphylaxis Plans

Please be reminded that parents are required to provide ongoing updated asthma and anaphylaxis plans to the school. These are required each year as part of our regulatory processes. This is a parental responsibility to provide these plans as the school cannot provide a safe and secure learning environment without up-to-date records.

Similarly, any personal details that may change over time are required to be shared with the school. If your details have changed, please inform the office in writing as soon as possible.

Uniform Reminder

Please be reminded of the school's uniform policy that requires all students to wear appropriate and approved school uniform. Should any family be experiencing difficulties with purchasing uniform, please reach out to me or the office to discuss possible support.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Michael Kent

Principal

Respect, Resilience, Responsibility, Connectedness and Challenge

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL REPORT – DARREN THRESHER

Wellbeing- Online Safety

Earlier in the year the school welcomed in the Cyber Safety project who worked closely with our students and teachers to support our classroom and home promotion of safe and responsible use of the internet. This important, ongoing focus has continued to be incorporated into classroom wellbeing lessons to ensure we are working in partnership with families to educate children in understanding the complexities, benefits and challenges of using technology safely and respectfully. Some of the resources that the school utilizes to facilitate these conversations come from the Australian government's eSafetyCommissioner, who provides students, families and educators with advice in how to be (or parent) a responsible digital citizen who is able to deal with any problems if they arise. Below are some of the online safety basics they recommend for parents in setting your child up for success at home when online.

Kids 5 to 12

As children start to navigate the online world and interact with others more independently, they are more likely to be exposed to risks of bullying or [unsafe contact](#), to accidentally come across content not designed for children or overspending on [in-app purchases](#).

Your guidance can help them watch for risks and understand what is expected of them. Let them know you are always there to support them.

Advice for parents and carers

- Keep the computer or device in an area of your home that can be supervised. Check in regularly with your child to see what they are viewing.
- Stay engaged with their online activity. Consider setting up your own accounts with the sites they use most, or simply browsing the content, so you can see how they work and understand the risks. Show good privacy habits by asking your child before sending them a 'friend' or follow request. If they say they don't want to connect with you online, it may be a good opportunity to talk about risks and rules.
- Explore the online world with them to help establish that you can share online activities as a family. You might want to play games with them or do a creative project together.
- Think about social media readiness. Most social media sites have nominated age restrictions before they can register, although some sites are created especially for children under 12.

- Encourage respect and empathy. Teach your child to avoid sharing or posting things that may upset others.
- Start building resilience. Explain to your child that there are ways they can deal with material that worries or frightens them. This includes immediately telling you or another trusted adult of any concerns or uncomfortable material.
- Encourage them to learn about online safety by exploring the [kids](#) section of the Esafety site.

Technology tips for parents of kids 5 to 12

- Ensure your own devices are protected by a password or PIN, so your child can't accidentally come across content not intended for children.
- If you are thinking about giving them their own tablet or smartphone, check out [are they old enough?](#)
- If your child does have their own device, avoid logging into your own accounts on that device. This will prevent any content you have stored in the cloud that may not be child-friendly from synchronising (downloading or sharing to) your child's device.
- Use parental control tools you feel are right for the age and experience of your child. Be up front and get your child on board. Let them know these can be reviewed and changed as they get older, if they show responsible behaviour. Consider installing a 'child-friendly' search engine that will allow them to explore a limited number of sites.
- Check out [Raising Children NetworkExternal link](#)'s healthy screen time and quality media choices: 6 to 11 years.

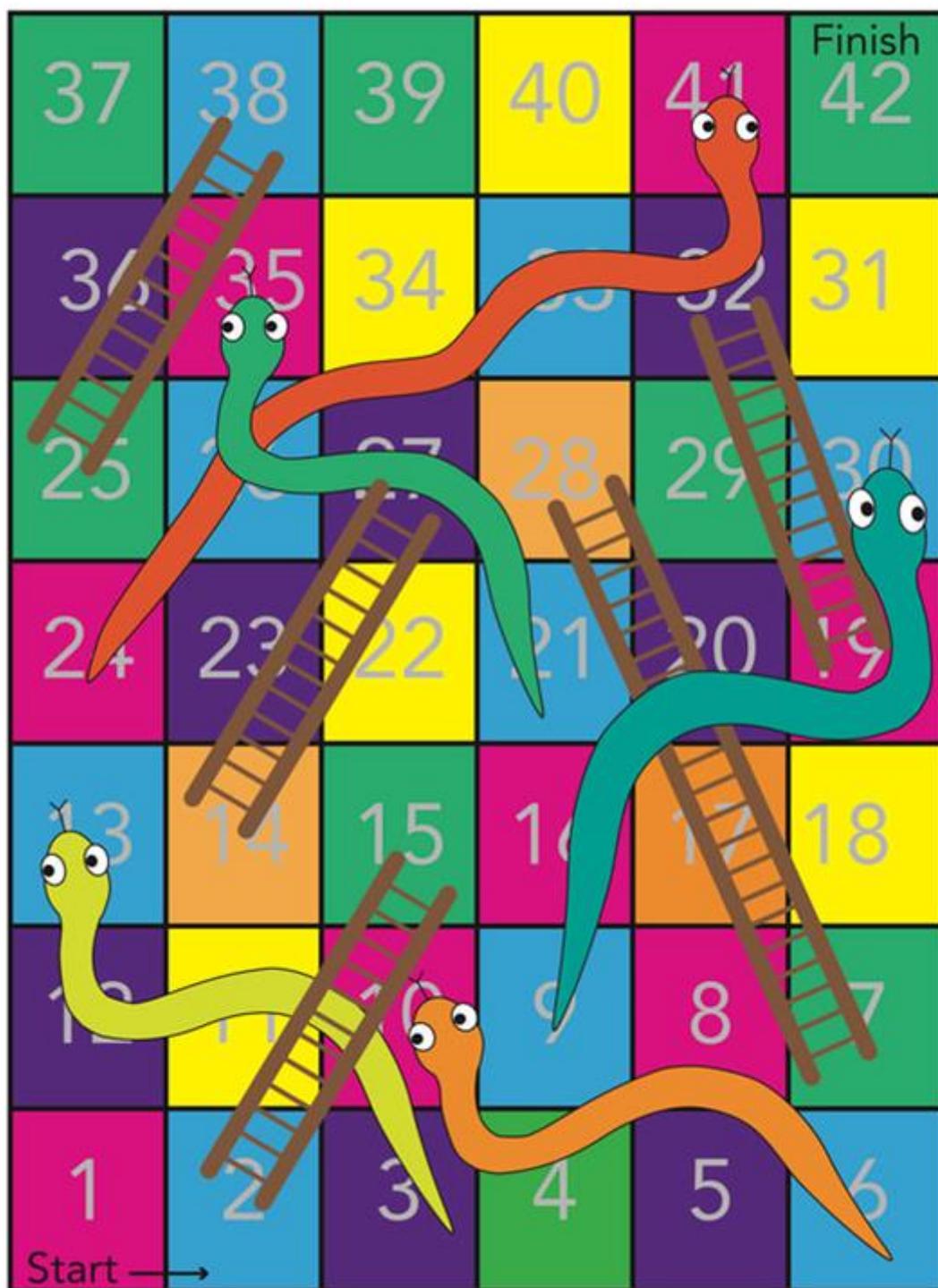
A Mathematical Moment

James Russo, creator of SURF maths, completed his PhD at Monash University with a focus on effective use of mathematical games in primary classroom learning. One of his key findings, was the need for balance between skill and luck being needed to create a game where the mathematics remained central to the overall success of the game. If a game was just luck, like snakes and ladders, it was less engaging for students to play and little mathematical learning could occur. Sometimes a simple change of the rules was all that was needed to bring the mathematics into focus. Below is a game of snakes and ladders with a slight rule change to make the mathematics more important in determining the outcome.

Rule change: Play with two dice not one. With each roll, you can do an addition or subtraction with the numbers rolled to determine where you move next. (If you want extra challenge you can include multiplication or use three dice instead).

Darren Thresher
Assistant Principal

Snakes and Ladders



SPECIAL GROUP LEADER PHOTO ORDERS

Special group photo letters have also been distributed to students involved in **MEET**, **SRC**, and **Year 6 Leadership** groups last term. These letters include a **QR code** for viewing and ordering the photos.

Copies of these group photos are also on display at the office if you'd like to take a look in person.

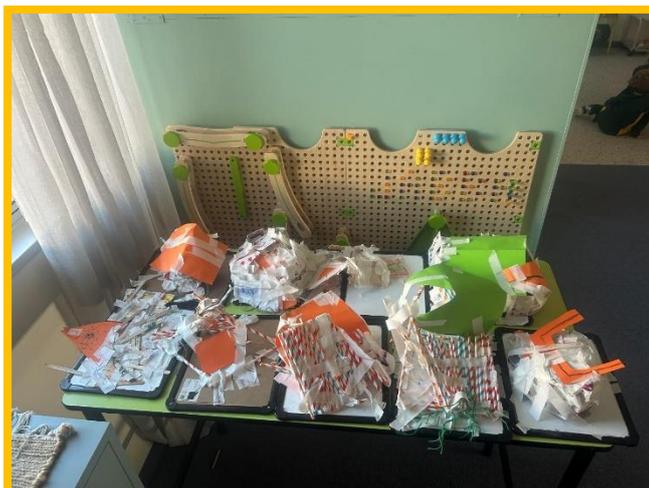
Please note: Special group photo orders must be placed by 21 August 2025.

DESIGN AND ENGINEERING IN STEM

Last term the Prep students focused on Chemical Science. They investigated and explored where materials came from, how the properties of different materials could be changed and what was needed to enable this to happen.

To conclude this unit of work, they worked in teams to design, develop, create and test. Students were given a material (straws, cards or sticks), a roll of masking tape and a ball of string. Their challenge was to work together and build a house that was safe from the Big Bad Wolf (AKA a hair dryer).

The results were amazing. Many houses remained 'safe' under the pressure of 'huffing and puffing' and there were many satisfied engineers. The smiles and cheers said it all.



YEAR 6 TO 7 TRANSITION

Thank you to the families who have already returned their year 7 placement acceptance slip.

A reminder that the year 7 placement acceptance slip must be returned to your child's classroom teacher by **Tuesday 12 August 2025**. **Please note: the year 7 placement acceptance slip MUST be completed and returned, even if your child is going to an independent secondary school.**

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the office.

ATTENDANCE



It is important to note that if your child/ren will be absent, you must notify the school via the Compass Education App. Compass Education provides a Parent Portal which includes the ability to mark your child/ren absent if you know your child/ren will be absent from school. Parents will need to download the Compass Education app to access this service (which is available on both Apple and Android devices).

Steps to add an absence

1. Open the Compass App.
2. Click on your child's photo at the top of the Home Screen
3. Click on **Attendance**
4. Click the blue + icon
5. From here parents can key in all information required for the absence, including dates, times and most importantly, the reason for the absence.

****Please note if parents do not enter their child's absence, you will receive a text message letting them know that the child's absence is unexplained, with a link to provide an Attendance Note on the Compass Education app and a phone call may also be made from the school as a reminder if not actioned.***

If you received a text saying your child is absent

1. Click on the link in your text message OR Follow steps 1-2 above then,
2. Click the un-explained tab at the bottom
3. Select each unexplained absence date and complete.

The **Compass Parent Guide** can be viewed or downloaded from the school website [here](#).

BOOK WEEK



Children's Book Week
16–23 August 2025

BOOK AN
Adventure



Book Week is launching at MEPS in WEEK 4 of Term 3! Upcoming, book inspired events to look forward to:

Book Week dress up – Friday August 15th

Dress up as your favourite book character! There will be a parade at the 9am Assembly.

Cosy into a Book Day – Thursday August 21st

Wear something cosy to school and bring in your favourite book to read. Gold coin donation to raise funds for the Indigenous Literacy Foundation!

Scholastic Book Fair – Monday 18th to Thursday 21st August

The MEPS Scholastic Book Fair will be held in the library. Open mornings 8:30am – 8:45am and afternoons 3:15pm – 3:45pm. A great opportunity to purchase some wonderful titles to encourage readers of all ages. Payment via card or cash.

Book Week Theme Poster Competition – Prizes to be won!

Optional competition – Design a NEW Book Week theme in poster format. Submissions due Wednesday 13th August, winners announced at Assembly on Friday 16th.

Book Week Buddy Activities

Spend time with your older or younger buddy doing adventurous book things.

Pop them in your calendar & start planning your costume.



2026 PREP ENROLMENTS – DUE THIS FRIDAY 25 JULY!

Enrolments are now open for all families looking to enrol their children for Prep 2026. Prep 2026 Enrolment forms can be downloaded from our website [here](#). Enrolment forms along with your child's birth certificate and immunisation certificate can be returned to the office by hand or via email to Barbara.rogers@education.vic.gov.au

Prep enrolments are due by Friday 25th July



The poster features the Mt Eliza Primary School logo in the top left corner, which includes the words 'RESILIENCE', 'RESPECT', 'RESPONSIBILITY', 'CHALLENGE', and 'CONNECTEDNESS' around a central tree icon. The main text reads '2026 Prep Enrolments NOW OPEN' in large, bold letters. A circular inset on the right shows a young child in a green school uniform and hat, smiling. At the bottom, the website 'mtelizaps.vic.edu.au' and phone number '(03) 9787 1385' are listed, along with the school's motto 'TOGETHER WE GROW'.

To start primary school in 2026, your child will need to **turn 5 years old by 30 April, 2026**. Schooling is compulsory for children who have turned 6 years old.

Prep (Foundation) application for enrolment can be completed between the **22 April and the 25 July 2025**.

How do I enrol my child in their first year of primary school?

1. Find your local school on findmyschool.vic.gov.au website, which hosts the most up-to-date information about Victorian school zones.
2. Click to download the Prep (Foundation) enrolment information pack.
3. Click to download the Factsheet for Prep (Foundation) enrolment 2026.

4. Submit an enrolment application for Prep (Foundation) by **Friday, 25 July 2025**.
5. You will be notified of the outcome of your application between **Monday 28 July** and **Friday 8 August 2025**. If you receive an offer, you should accept the offer by **Friday 22 August 2025**.
6. Take part in enrolment information and transition sessions during Term 4 2025.
7. Your child will start Prep (Foundation) from a date advised by our school, in 2026.

School Tours can be booked online via Try booking [here](#) or by clicking the flyer below.

If you require further information regarding Prep Enrolments, please contact the office on (03) 9787 1385.



The flyer features a background image of a child in a green school uniform. In the top left, a yellow circle contains the text 'MT ELIZA PRIMARY SCHOOL TERM 3 TOUR DATES'. In the top right, the school's circular logo is displayed, which includes the words 'RESILIENCE', 'RESPECT', 'RESPONSIBILITY', 'CHALLENGE', and 'CONNECTEDNESS' around a central tree icon. A chalkboard graphic in the middle right says 'Come see our school in action'. A list of tour dates is provided in the center. At the bottom, a yellow-bordered box contains contact information and a QR code.

**MT ELIZA
PRIMARY SCHOOL
TERM 3
TOUR DATES**

- Wednesday 23 July | 9.30am
- Wednesday 6 Aug | 3.30pm
- Thursday 21 Aug | 9.30am
- Wednesday 3 Sept | 11.00am
- Wednesday 10 Sept | 9.30am

**TO BOOK A TOUR CONTACT OUR
OFFICE STAFF OR BOOK ONLINE VIA QR CODE BELOW**

(03) 9787 1385



“ Mt Eliza Primary School develops a love of learning through interesting and engaging lessons. They develop a sense of belonging, showing a real interest in my child. Teachers are warm and embracing. **MEPS Parent / Grade 2 Child** ”

SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL THROUGH RITCHIES IGA

We are excited to announce an opportunity to support our beloved Mt Eliza Primary School by simply doing your regular shopping at any participating Ritchies IGA supermarket or liquor store across VIC, NSW or QLD.

By nominating **Mt Eliza Primary School** as your preferred charity through the Ritchies Community Benefit Program, a percentage of your total sales (above \$10) will be donated back to our school each month. It's a simple yet impactful way to contribute to our school's ongoing growth and development.

Signing up is easy:

2. Scan the QR code provided to download the Ritchies app.
3. Register and activate your membership.
4. Select "**Mt Eliza Primary School**" as your nominated charity.
5. Shop as usual and feel good knowing you are helping our school with every purchase.

Terms and conditions apply. For more details, visit [Ritchies Card Terms](#).

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to our school community.



NOMINATE US TODAY
AS PART OF THE RITCHIES
COMMUNITY BENEFIT PROGRAM
and help us generate extra funds.

**Mt Eliza
Primary School**

- 1 Download or update the Ritchies Card App


- 2 Search and select our name when prompted to nominate a club, school or charity
- 3 Every time you shop at Ritchies and scan your app or card, Ritchies will contribute a percentage of the total to us*



*CONDITIONS APPLY. Go to ritchies.com.au/loyalty for further information.



RITCHIES 
Where the Community Benefits

SECONDHAND UNIFORM SHOP

Term 3 Opening hours – 8:30am – 9:00am

- Thursday 31st July
- Thursday 14th August
- Thursday 28th August
- Thursday 11th September

NB: There are a lot of uniforms in lost property, in the 3/4 building. Please ensure that your child's name is on their uniforms so that they can be easily returned.

CAMP AUSTRALIA

Before and After School Care is available in the Old School House. To register your child please phone Camp Australia on 1300 105 343 or register online at www.campaustralia.com.au