



Welcome to Grade 5!

We have had a fantastic start to the year, and all children seem excited and eager to be a part of the senior school.

The Grade 5 teachers this year are:

Hayley Gregory 5G: gregory.hayley.m@edumail.vic.gov.au

Javette Westlake 5J: westlake.javette.a@edumail.vic.gov.au

Jessica Holmes 5H: holmes.jessica.j@edumail.vic.gov.au

Brent Schuster 5/6S: schuster.brent.p@edumail.vic.gov.au

Amy Hille 5G: hille.amy.e@edumail.vic.gov.au

For the first half of Term 1 the students will be participating in many team building and fitness activities. The title of this unit is **'Effective Teams.'** This unit will incorporate a study of Kokoda, how mateship and teamwork helped the diggers overcome diversity. The finale of the study will be an excursion to the 1,000 steps Kokoda memorial walk. We will be requiring adult assistance for most of our activities, so please tick the assistance box on the appropriate notices if you are able to assist. Please note, helpers are required to have a current Working with Children's Check. Your support would be greatly appreciated; the more the merrier with these activities!

Dates to put in your diary:

February 12th:	Grade 5 students present at assembly
February 13th & 14th:	Meet the teacher evenings
February 15th:	Swim trials at Pines Swimming pool (optional)
February 16th:	Quarry walk (see over)
February 19th:	Whole school photos
February 23rd:	1000 steps excursion (note to come)
February 26th - March 2nd:	Beach Program – grade specific days and times (notice to come)
March 9th:	Curriculum Day
March 12th:	Labour Day public holiday

Homework Expectations

Homework assists students in consolidating classroom learning, fosters positive study habits and provides them with an opportunity to show responsibility for their own learning. Homework will begin next week and will follow a homework matrix. Students will be able to pick certain choice activities while other activities will be non-negotiable. The matrix will include 2 hours of reading, Mathletics task set by the teacher, Inquiry tasks and a selection of choice activities.

Homework will be set by the classroom teacher on Monday and will generally be due back to school on the Friday. Below are some ways that you can assist your child with their homework:

- Encourage them to take increasing responsibility with their organisation
- Observe and acknowledge their successes and ask how they are going with any class/homework
- Encourage them to set aside time each day to complete their homework
- Help them to complete their homework by discussing key questions while also encouraging them to complete their homework independently
- Contact your child's teacher if they are having any concerns regarding homework commitments or expectations.

Communication:

We have included our email addresses at the top of this newsletter for your convenience. We are all happy to use email as a communication tool. However, if you have important information that needs to be passed onto your child, please call the office as there is no guarantee an email will be seen and passed onto your child before the end of the day.

The grade 5 teachers will also be using Flexibuzz as a way of communicating with the parent community. Please ensure you have downloaded this free app.

Grade 5 Maths:

Our approach to the teaching and learning of mathematics at MEPS is through the 8 key factors, which are:

1. Teach Maths as a language
2. Focus on the Big Ideas
3. Teach Mathematical concepts using Maths literature and investigations
4. Topic based approach: Approximately 3 to 4 weeks per topic
5. Pre and Post-Test Topics
6. Teach Automatic Response
7. Teach the 9 Problem Solving Strategies
8. Student Reflections and Evaluation



Your child will participate in sessions that include these factors throughout the week, which enables point of need teaching for a range of learning styles. The classroom teacher sets Mathematics tasks each week which reflect areas being covered during class time. Teachers monitor and assess progress each week. If your child does not have access to the internet at home a note needs to be given to their teacher so that alternate arrangements can be made.

Grade 5 English:



Teachers at Mt Eliza Primary School use the CAFÉ reading program to assess, instruct and monitor student progress in reading. It provides tools for constructing group and individual lessons that provide timely instruction and feedback, ensuring that all students reach their potential.

We are greatly advantaged to be able to offer students a range of books that fit their specific reading level by using a reading program called 'Pro Literacy,' through the Scholastic Learning Zone. Students are initially tested and given a Lexile score, which enables them to choose a personal book within their reading grasp. These Lexile books will be a part of their reading homework.

Grade 5 ICT:

As we are using the 1:1 IPAD program this year, ICT will be incorporated throughout the curriculum in various situations.

Students are developing a range of skills that include:

- Cyber smart practice
- Creating and developing presentations
- Word Processing
- Using multimedia to communicate ideas
- Communicating electronically through See-Saw

Students and parents were asked to sign an acceptable usage policy that outlines the protocols students need to follow when accessing the school network (internet, emails and network folders). Most students have already returned these forms, if you have not, please see your child's teacher for another form.

Grade 5 Camp

We will be studying gold in Term 3 this year and we will be going to Sovereign Hill from the 19th-21st September. More information regarding camp will come closer to the date.



Reminder: To please bring in a box of tissues for our classrooms. Thank you to those who already have.

We are excited to be teaching your children this year. We all endeavour to provide a warm and caring environment where your child will feel safe and encouraged as they learn and grow. If you have any queries or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us.

We welcome you into our classrooms and hope to get to know each of you as the year progresses.

Kind regards,

HAYLEY GREGORY, JAVETTE WESTLAKE, JESSICA HOLMES, BRENT SCHUSTER & AMY HILLE

Grade 5 Quarry Walk- Friday, 16th February, 2018

As a part of our Team Building unit and a lead up to our 1000 Steps excursion, we will be partaking on a walk to the Mt Eliza Quarry where we will complete a team activity. We will be leaving promptly at 11:15am arriving back at school for lunchtime.



We would love you to join us on the walk, just meet outside the grade 5 classrooms, on the basketball courts at the end of recess. If in previous years **you have not given permission** for your child to attend **walking excursions** we require you to also fill in the permission slip below.

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Grade 5 Quarry Walk – Friday, 16th February, 2018

My child Grade has my permission to attend the walk to Mt Eliza Quarry on Friday, 16th February, 2018. I authorise the teacher in charge to consent where it is impracticable to communicate with me, to my child receiving such medical or surgical treatment as deemed necessary. I accept all operation, blood transfusion, and/or anaesthetic risks involved and the responsibility for payment of any expenses thus incurred.

I give permission to attend the Mt Eliza Quarry Walk:

YES, I would like to attend the walk

Name:

Contact no.:

Medical Condition details:

Please tick if your child suffers with the following Medical Conditions:

Asthma

Allergies (please specify) :

Other: