GENEROSITY - RESPECT - HONESTY - LEARNING AND GROWING TOGETHER

COMING EVENTS

WEEK 7
13/09 Junior primary assembly 2.30pm in gym
13/09 Governing Council meeting
16/09 Assembly

WEEK 8
20/09 School photos
21/09 School photos

WEEK 9
30/09 Last day of term 3, assembly 1.50pm
Early dismissal 2.15pm

CLASS PLACEMENT 2017

In 2014 staff worked with the Governing Council to develop a Class Selection Policy. Selection of classes is an intricate, time consuming and well considered process, which aims to best cater for the overall needs of each child. The policy provides guidelines to assist staff when making decisions about class placements:

GUIDELINES

- Class composition is based on expected numbers for each year level and where possible providing flexibility to allow for the placement of new enrolments.
- This school appreciates that sometimes, because of special circumstances, parents should have input into the class selection for their child.
- Whether a student remains with a teacher for more than one year is at the discretion of the school.
- Students need to be distributed evenly across classes within the school in accordance with DECD guidelines.
- At the end of third term (week eight), a note will be placed in the newsletter advising parents that the process is about to begin and requesting that parents put information in writing regarding their child’s needs. All requests to be submitted by the end of week one term four. This information needs to be completed annually, requests will not be carried over for future years.
- Requests must be child focussed and on the basis of a welfare issue - medical or social / emotional need.
- Recommendations from pre-school teachers will be taken into consideration when allocating reception students.
- Late submissions will only be considered in exceptional circumstances.
- Prior to class selection, students will be given the opportunity to list the names of up to three preferred classmates, to be acknowledged by parents.
- While all requests will be considered, allocation of students to classes will ultimately be at the discretion of staff.
- The process takes six to seven weeks to complete and is completed as part of the staff meeting schedule.

Next term we will begin organising classes for 2017. If parents believe they have information, which will help with their child’s placement, please put this information in a letter addressed to the Principal, marked ‘confidential’ by the end of week one of next term. We cannot promise that we will be able to meet every request; however, the information will be taken into consideration.

Sandy Davey, Kirsty Trahar, Sharon Day, Michele Waters
SENIOR STAFF

FAREWELL

We wish Melissa Hopkins all the best for her future as she moves into the next phase of her life journey, retirement. She has dedicated many years to the teaching profession and has contributed significantly to education at our school. Please join us in acknowledging her work.

Heart Foundation
Jump Rope for Heart

Our school is participating in the Jump Rope for Heart program. You can help your child support valuable research into heart disease by registering them online. It’s easy, safe and secure. Did you know heart disease affects two out of every three families? Help your child to have fun and support the Heart Foundation at the same time. Register online and simply press send to all your family and friends! It’s easy, safe and secure jumprope.org.au.
NUCLEAR CYCLE STUDENT FORUM

On Tuesday this week, four of our student leaders, Rachael K, Yashen S, Edward N and Darcy W flew to Adelaide with Mrs Trahar to attend a Nuclear Fuel Cycle Forum. 160 students and 60 teachers – including representatives from Ceduna, Mount Gambier, Coober Pedy, Roxby Downs and APY Lands attended to discuss the Nuclear Fuel Cycle Royal Commission and examine the recommendations from the Citizens’ Jury, before providing feedback directly to Premier Jay Weatherill.

Former Royal Commissioner Kevin Scarce AM presented to the group along with Chief Executive of the Nuclear Consultation and Response Agency Madeline Richardson.

At the Adelaide Oval in the Ian McLaughlin Room, Several Royal Commission people presented us with information about the importance of nuclear fuel storage in South Australia. Student leaders participated in group activities throughout the day with others students from around the state we discussed different areas of nuclear energy, safety, economic opportunities, community consultation, storage and the nuclear fuel cycle.

As Premier Jay Weatherill said “It is the generations of South Australians that will inherit our decision on this important question – that is why our views are so important.’

Our students were interviewed by BTN (Behind The News) about the day and their segment will be available to view online as of next week.

NATIONAL RECOGNITION WEEK
School Services Officers & Support Staff

Week four was PSA/CPSU National Recognition Week for School Services Officers. The PSA/CPSU is the union representing School Services Officers. At McDonald Park School we are very fortunate to have a terrific team of support staff helping to care for and educate your children and run our school. We’d be lost without them. In recognition of their efforts our school hosted a morning tea on Thursday, 18 August 2016. Most parents will have met some of the support staff including:

Sam Baker, Kelly Bernie Jan Boyanton, Michelle Clark, Samantha Clarke, Anna Doll, Kate Exelby, Kiowa Goodman, Shiloh Fennell, Jill Lewis, Shane Lewis, Bernie Manser, Jason McLean, Rachel McGregor, Julie McKinnon, Sue Moelder, Deb Neilson, Connie Nieto, Sonya Shepherd, Ev Stratman, Nicole Thompson, Linda Ward, and Bronwyn Waters.

2017 ENROLMENTS

During term four we will begin the process of setting up classes for the following year. It is essential that we know as soon as possible of any changes in future enrolments. If you know any new children who will be starting at McDonald Park in 2017 or of families leaving McDonald Park would you please contact us as soon as possible? The allocation of teachers and number of classes at each year level is dependent on accurate information so we appreciate your support in notifying any changes to the front office.

TRANSITION

Transition processes are underway for both secondary and preschool students. Sites have already been in contact to pass on information and begin planning to cater for needs of individuals.

Teachers from McPark will visit the kindy to meet children and will then stay over for a period of time. Activities will also be planned to familiarise children with school.

Transition days for both reception and high school visits will be on Thursday, 8 December and Friday, 9 December 2016.

CANTEEN HELPERS
Phone Michelle 87254221

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week Beginning</th>
<th>Mon 5th Sept</th>
<th>Mon 12th Sept</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Jo</td>
<td>Jo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Tamara</td>
<td>Tamara</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Laura</td>
<td>Amy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Deb, Belinda</td>
<td>Deb, Belinda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Deb, Bec</td>
<td>Deb, Jo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ponding season is in full swing during garden classes with students given the chance to identify creatures living in the frog ponds they have built over the past few years. There is a competition to see which class can correctly identify the most species, room nine being current champions. They are shown here demonstrating their winning technique.

New things you may notice in the garden are the paving and limestone bed that the class construction teams have made to tidy the end of the compost bays, the newly renovated garden seat shown here being road tested by a gaggle of girls at recess, and Squeak the guinea pig, who has come to join Rosie, Daisy and Marigold at guinea pig HQ. Squeak is shown here being introduced to Electra by her owner Alyssa.

Have you seen the wonderful ‘Endless Pleasure’ exhibition of garden art and objects at the Riddoch Art Gallery yet? Keep an eye out for a digital display of photographs of the school garden (you may be in it!) and on 12 September a static display of photos and objects. Both will be set up in the foyer. Tours of the garden will be also held as part of the event on 23 to 24 September, telephone 8721 2540 to book.

This group of boys were ponding during open lunch were so incredibly excited when they found seven tadpole shrimp. They thought was the catch of the season.

Sam Baker
GARDEN SPECIALIST

Earlier this month, the grade six and sevens were lucky recipients of a Japanese language and culture exchange here at McDonald Park School.

Eight Japanese exchange students visiting from Nishi Takarazuka High School, along with their teachers, the Mount Gambier High School Japanese teacher and three of his year 10 Japanese students came to present a Japanese workshop afternoon.

There were five workshops held: shuji (Japanese calligraphy), kendama (traditional Japanese wooden toy), yukata (Japanese dress), origami (Japanese paper folding) and a presentation / quiz session.

Students had a blast learning all things Japanese and trying some of the cultural activities we haven’t yet been able to get to in Japanese class. We were very happy to hear the main feedback from students was that everyone wanted more time to experience more workshops. Oh, and they wanted to eat Japanese lollies.

We look forward to inviting the next group of exchange students to put on another afternoon for us next year. A big ‘arigatouz’ to everyone who was involved!

Hanzawa Sensei
JAPANESE TEACHER

From the 23rd to the 31st of July I was in Maroochydore, Queensland representing South Australian Football Championships. We played five games over seven days with two rest days in between. We went through the pool stage undefeated beating Northern Territory by 141 points, Tasmania by 60 points and Queensland by 21 points. In the semi final we beat Western Australia by 17 points which put us into the grand final. Unfortunately we lost to Victoria by 40 points in the grand final. Overall it was an awesome experience and I hope to make the under 15 side in a couple of years.

Mitchell S
**SAPSASA FOOTBALL**

On the 15th to the 19th of August I represented McDonald Park School in the Lower South East SAPSASA football team. We played very good consistent football and tried our best. I thank Mr McShane for coaching us and for always keeping the team occupied such as taking us out to Bounce and out for tea. We won six games and unfortunately lost three. We were in division one and came third out of 41 teams. SAPSASA was a great experience. *Tyrone M*

From the 15th to the 19th of August I was in Adelaide representing the Lower South East in SAPSASA football. The competition was split up into four divisions and we were in division one. We played nine games over five days having two games a day and one on the last. All games were played at West Beach. We won six of our games and lost three. This ranked us third out of the 41 teams competing. It was a really good week and I wish I could do it again. *Mitchell S*

On the 15th of August, 22 year 6/7 students from the Mount Gambier region went up to Adelaide to participate in the SAPSASA football state carnival. We played nine games across 5 days. We won six but unfortunately lost three to Lower Eyre Peninsula, Southern and East Adelaide. If we won against Lower Eyre Peninsula we would have tied three ways for first. But other than that it was an awesome week and I had fun making new friends. *Tyrone R*

**SAPSASA NETBALL**

On the 15th to the 19th of August, I participated in SAPSASA netball in Adelaide. The carnival was held at Priceline Stadium, home of the Adelaide Thunderbirds. My team played nine games and won five. The weather was quite hot, which was a challenge because we were used to the cold and wet. The coaches were great and my team was fun to play with. I really enjoyed the experience and learnt heaps. *Madison C*

On the 15th August, Madison, Gemma and I went to Adelaide for SAPSASA netball. We played nine games from Monday to Friday. Unfortunately my team didn’t win a game, but most of them were pretty close. I enjoyed the experience and recommend it to other girls. *Jenna H*

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

What is emergency foster care?

Sometimes children need urgent placement with a foster carer because there are concerns for the child’s immediate safety. These placements can occur any time, day or night, including after hours and on weekends.

‘Emergency’ does not mean you start today. All foster carers receive thorough training and assessment to ensure the children placed with you are safe and that you have the skills needed to provide quality care.

For more information, visit the Families SA website or contact Program Officer, Foster Care Services, Maria Krahling 8226 6617.

**WORKING BEE**

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

A group of students from the ‘Green Team’ recently participated in the YELP forum and spent some time developing a plan for greening the slopes on the oval. Their plans involve significant plantings on the sloped areas and to help them with preparation we are holding a WORKING BEE between 10.00am and 12.00pm on Sunday 11 September to complete the following tasks:

- clear dead weeds
- prepare holes for planting
- remove debris

If you are able to help out on the day we would really appreciate it. Just half an hour of your time will make a difference. Please complete the tear off slip and return it to school by Friday, 9 September.

Thank you for your support

Members of the Governing Council

..................................................................................................

MCDONALD PARK SCHOOL WORKING BEE

Name: _______________________________________
Child(ren)’s name(s): __________________________
I/we can help with: ____________________________
.................................................................
.................................................................
I am able to bring the following tools:
.................................................................
.................................................................
STORIES IN FAIRYLAND

We held our annual ‘Stories in Fairyland’ sessions Tuesday and Wednesday night last week. As always, students arrived dressed in pyjamas to a library lit with fairy lights and tea light candles. This year they also arrived to an outback scene: tents, campfires, flies and an old fashioned outback toilet (the Book Week theme being ‘Australia: Story Country’). We thank Mrs Trahar, Mr Bigg, Mrs Davey and Mr Lewis for coming in costume and delighting us with their story telling. We also thank families for attending. Almost 100 children came over the two nights - lovely memories for us all! We ended the evening around a bonfire (cellophane and torchlight do wonders) sipping milo and eating Anzac biscuits and iced vovos - a perfect way to end a night in the bush before going home to bed.

BOOK WEEK - AUSTRALIA STORY COUNTRY

Book Week is here again! We celebrate over two weeks at McDonald Park School. Library connection and book sharing lessons have been spent this term immersing ourselves in the shortlisted books which has created great excitement for our passionate readers. We held our own voting system and the most popular books were ‘Piranhas Don’t Eat Bananas’ and ‘Fish Jam’. The actual winners by the CBCA judges can be found on http://www.cbca.org.au/ the Children’s Book Council of Australia website.

This year, classes have had hour long sessions in the library over the two weeks creating the following activities from craft materials:

Rec/1 classes:  a favourite shortlisted book scene (which were put in small cardboard suitcases).
Downstairs and ark classes:  three or more scenes from a favourite shortlisted book (presented in foil trays).
Year 6/7 classes:  book trailers.

All creations were photographed for display and then unpacked so that the next class could use the materials. Book trailers and scenes are being put into slideshows. Please visit the resource centre to see these displays. Students were enthralled by the opportunity to express themselves using the wide variety of craft materials available. Their conversations, teamwork skills and end results were admirable.

Our Book Week parade was also a huge success. This year, more than ever, the anticipation of the looming parade was infectious. Conversations and plans surrounding costumes were happening long before even the library staff were having discussions! We are proud of the enthusiasm, commitment and initiative of our students. A special thank you to all adults in the background assisting with costume preparation!
BOOK WEEK
CELEBRATING SUCCESS
AWARDS - TERM 3, WEEK 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Presented to</th>
<th>By</th>
<th>For</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joshua P</td>
<td>Mrs Cooper</td>
<td>a big improvement in joining in and a great oral presentation on James Cook.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logan C</td>
<td>Mrs Cooper</td>
<td>a big improvement in reading and writing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bennett M</td>
<td>Mrs Bisnov &amp; Mrs Schleuniger</td>
<td>a positive attitude to all learning tasks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Savana N</td>
<td>Mrs Bisnov &amp; Mrs Schleuniger</td>
<td>effort and improvement in reading.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hayley P</td>
<td>Mr Opitz</td>
<td>being focussed on your own learning and having a positive outlook on tough times.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jett D</td>
<td>Mr Opitz</td>
<td>working independently and collaboratively in a range of tasks to build on your own learning and supporting others.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isabella S</td>
<td>Ms McAuley &amp; Miss Pratt</td>
<td>being an organised leader and role model during science investigations about materials.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruva S</td>
<td>Ms McAuley &amp; Miss Pratt</td>
<td>showing more grit to complete tasks and for having a go at problem solving by herself.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethan H</td>
<td>Miss Michalski</td>
<td>improvement during lesson time, being more considerate of others and working cooperatively in groups.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryder W</td>
<td>Miss Michalski</td>
<td>his enthusiasm during creative writing tasks resulting in him producing some unique stories, poems and songs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brooklyn J</td>
<td>Mr Couchman</td>
<td>improved effort and focus in mathematics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hayley dN</td>
<td>Mr Couchman</td>
<td>consistently high participation, focus and effort in all learning areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Imogen R</td>
<td>Mrs Aston</td>
<td>increased effort and focus during maths.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashton B</td>
<td>Mrs Aston</td>
<td>her excellent contribution to discussions during literature circles.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violet P</td>
<td>Mrs McLean</td>
<td>continually displaying growth within all learning areas, especially literacy and her positive approach to school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sophie M</td>
<td>Ms Munday &amp; Mrs Tilley</td>
<td>engaging portrayal for the class play as Lady MacBeth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gage P</td>
<td>Ms Munday &amp; Mrs Tilley</td>
<td>outstanding portrayal of MacBeth in the class play.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jayk N</td>
<td>Mrs Widdison &amp; Mrs Tilley</td>
<td>improved work ethic generally and great work in maths.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claire R</td>
<td>Mrs Widdison &amp; Mrs Tilley</td>
<td>maintaining an excellent work ethic and setting a great example for others.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

COMMUNITY NEWS

SOUTH INDIANS BASEBALL CLUB INC
REGISTRATION DAY
Sunday, 11 September 10.00am to 12.00pm
Mount Gambier Baseball League clubrooms, Blue Lake Sports Park
ALL PLAYERS WELCOME
Phone Travis: 0448 697 073

EAST GAMBIER CRICKET CLUB
Junior registrations will be held at the East Gambier Football oval, Sunday, 25 September 2016 from 10.30am.
Registration is for all junior teams from under 10 to under 16. All existing and new players are most welcome, a light training on the oval and in the nets will be followed by a sausage sizzle in the bbq shed.

East Gambier Cricket Club is a family friendly club and we invite both boys and girls aged 10 and over who are interested in playing cricket at club level for the first time, to come and give it a go. For further information please contact Grant Humphries on 0408 858 650 or Mardi Little on 4037 596 635.

CENTRAL BASEBALL CLUB
Come and try and registration day
Sunday, 4th September, 12.00pm
At BLSP Baseball Clubrooms

New Junior Players
‘Come and Try Baseball’ is aimed at players aged eight and over interested in playing for the first time and will start at 11.00am at the under 12 diamond.

Past/Current Players
For those who have previously played with the club, come along to the clubrooms from 12.00pm and register for the season.
New players are always welcome and are encouraged to come along. A sausage sizzle will be provided on the day.
If you are unable to attend on Sunday, please ring Andy McClean 0408 299 921, Darren Keding 0400 841 104 or email centralbaseballclub@hotmail.com.au

HEAD SPACE MOUNT GAMBIER
headspace Mount Gambier is an inclusive and safe space for young people aged 12 to 25, this includes those who identify as sexually or gender diverse, or are unsure about their sexual or gender identity.
If you are interested in joining a youth group for sexually and gender diverse young people, we want to hear from you!

We are currently running a survey to gain interest for this group. If you are keen, please head to https://headspacemtg.typeform.com/to/yKwKA7.
Alternatively you can contact Imogen Millais – Youth Worker by calling headspace Mount Gambier on 8725 0443 or emailing ImogenM@unitingcommunities.org.
COMMUNITY NEWS

T-BALL
COME AND TRY
BOYS AND GIRLS OF ALL AGES
COME AND TRY T-BALL
FRIDAY 16TH, 23RD & 30TH SEPTEMBER, 2016
BLUE LAKE SPORTS PARK COMMENCING 5.30 P.M.
ALL EQUIPMENT PROVIDED
ENQUIRIES TO ROGER CHUCK PH: 0408 943 828
Come along and learn the skills of hitting, throwing and catching from some of our accredited coaches.

Out of the Shadows into the Light
World Suicide Prevention Event
Suicide is the leading cause of death for Australians under the age of 44. Lifeline believes most suicides are preventable and we all have a role to play.
Join us for a free community breakfast and a walk in the light of a new day. Show your support and commitment to preventing suicide and remembering those lost to suicide.
Supported by City of Mount Gambier, District Council of Grant & Rotary Club of Mount Gambier Lakes
Mel Hirth Lookout
Saturday September 10th
7:30am for breakfast
RSVP ESSENTIAL by 2nd September:
For Merchandise & Catering, please REGISTER Online at:
www.counsellinglifeline.org.au/find-a-warden
Or Email: office@lifeline.com.au
Or Phone: 8723 2299

CHASING ASYLUM
3.30 pm on Sunday, September 4, 2016
City Hall, Mount Gambier
$15
The screening will be followed by a community Q&A. A session and screening of local film "Unpacking Our Baggage" will be presented. Local talks are also scheduled.
Further details on our Facebook Page: Facebook.com/MountGambierScreening
Tickets available at Metro and at door
Proudly brought to you by: