

McDonald Park School

NEWSLETTER

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Chairperson Governing Council – Nerridy Miatke
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Issue No 1, 31/01/19 - Week 1, Term 1

GENEROSITY - RESPECT - HONESTY - LEARNING AND GROWING TOGETHER

COMING EVENTS

WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4
Swimming rooms 1, 2, 5	Hockey skills clinic Assembly, 2.30pm	Swimming room 6 20/02 Acquaintance Night 5.30pm to 6.30pm Governing Council AGM 7.00pm

WELCOME BACK

Welcome back to the school year of 2019. We hope that you have had a lovely holiday with your children and are ready to embark on a year of learning and engagement.

This year we welcome Damin Sexton (upper primary Japanese), Lorraine Cox (PRT), Chloe Watson (rooms 8 and 9) and Rebecca Devlin (A1) to our team. We welcome back Naomi Aston (middle primary health) and Robyn Howard (student support worker – Friday).

2019 is the celebration of our school's 50th anniversary and we will be focusing on our school's history in a number of ways, including the Art Show, our biannual concert and our celebration day on Friday May 31st. If you were a student of McPark during that time or know others who were educated here please ask them to provide us with information about what you / they are doing now. We would like to showcase the achievements of past students, please send a current photo and a short description of current employment and achievements. The focus of our Art Show will be art across the 50 years. The theme for the concert is based on musicals and concerts across this time and returning down memory lane. On May 31st current students will be involved in creating a new time capsule, whilst the memories of the one that is currently buried will be on display in the gym along with other memorabilia. Tours of the school and a social event are also planned.

Over the next few weeks we will see our new initiative 'Lead learners' being implemented, with exemplary students assisting teachers to demonstrate our school vision and focus on growth mindset. This group of students have been working collaboratively with Sharon Day to develop a series of lessons that they will deliver to all classes. Through this approach we hope to raise awareness of our school vision, increase student voice and engagement.

Throughout the year we aim to continue to lift the profile of our vision and ensure that the school community is familiar with our vision's purpose and intent. 'McDonald Park School community will work collaboratively to develop respectful, thriving and engaged problem solvers'. We will continue to focus on spelling, writing and numeracy as our identified school priority areas. On Friday of last week, prior to students returning, staff participated in a professional learning day, focusing on spelling. A particular focus was ways to assist students to embed spelling rules and patterns, with the aim to transfer this into their writing. One strategy that you as parents will see or hear students talking about are word sorts. These can be done in a variety of ways but essentially provide students with repeated practice in identifying categories and patterns within the words. Each teaching team have developed targets specific to students that they will be working towards in the areas of spelling, writing and numeracy. Our staff meetings and professional learning days will be linked to fulfilling these targets and vision.

We would like to invite you to our Acquaintance and AGM Night on Wednesday February 20th. Classes will be open from 5:30 to 6:30pm, providing an opportunity for families to meet class teachers and find out a little more about the learning that is specific to that class. A sausage sizzle will be available during this time. Our Annual General Meeting will follow at 7:00pm. Please consider attending this annual meeting to hear about our achievements for 2018 and if interested in representing parents as part of the council.

We are looking forward to a 'thriving' year of learning and working in tandem with you the community to achieve that.

Kirsty Trahar, Sharon Day, Daniel Castle, Lia Jordan
SENIOR STAFF



McDonald Park School community will work collaboratively to develop respectful, thriving and engaged problem solvers.

2019 SCHOOL CARD SCHEME INFORMATION UPDATE

The School Card Scheme offers financial assistance with school fees (materials and services charges) for students attending government schools in that year.

Applications need to be completed via an application form at the beginning of each year.

Online application forms are available at www.sa.gov.au under the heading Education and Learning then by selecting the Financial Help menu. Families with students attending multiple schools may find this option of benefit with only one online application required to be completed per family.

Paper application forms are available from the front office for families who prefer to complete their application this way and may be lodged with the school.

Eligibility for school card assistance is dependent upon the combined family gross income for the 2017-2018 financial year being within the following school card income limits.

Number of Dependent Children	Gross Annual School Card Income Limit	Gross Weekly School Card Income Limit
1	\$59,432	\$1,143
2	\$60,493	\$1,164
3	\$61,554	\$1,185
4	\$62,615	\$1,206
5	\$63,676	\$1,227
Each additional dependent child	\$1,061	\$21

We encourage families to review this table and apply as soon as possible if they believe they will be eligible in 2019, to enable your application to be processed.

More information on the school card scheme is available at:

<https://www.sa.gov.au/topics/education-and-learning/financial-help-scholarships-and-grants> or alternatively by contacting the school on 8724 9811 or in person at the front office.

2019 MATERIALS AND SERVICES INFORMATION

Invoices for 2019 materials and services (school) fees were posted in January to families, and are due in full by 28 February 2018. A payment plan option was included with the invoice, and if families would like to take advantage of this, the signed agreement and first instalment is due on 1 February 2018.

Payments may be made in person at the front office in cash, cheque or by credit card, over the phone by credit card or online by electronic funds transfer from your financial institution. McDonald Park School's bank account details for this are:

Account name: McDonald Park School
BSB: 633-000
Account number: 147553226
Reference: Please use your family code or invoice number as a reference when making payments via EFT.

The mobile payment app Qkr will be available as an additional payment method early in 2019. More information regarding this will be distributed to families when it is operational.

If you have any further queries regarding school fees or would like to discuss payment options, please contact the Finance Officer, Julie on 8724 9811 or in person at the front office.

ACQUAINTANCE NIGHT



We are very proud of our school and the fantastic programs and facilities that we offer. We welcome parents to come in at any time to have a look around or join in activities such as class reading, kitchen-garden lessons or helping out in the library. We realise however that this is not always possible to do during school hours and therefore invite families to come along to our **acquaintance night** on **Wednesday, 20 February** between **5.30pm to 6.30pm**. This is a great opportunity to take a closer look and meet your child(ren)'s teacher(s). A **sausage sizzle** will be held between **5.30pm and 7.00pm** before the **Governing Council AGM at 7.00pm**. We hope to see you there.

AGM

There are many ways in which parents and members of the school community can become involved in our school. Becoming a member of the Governing Council is one way that you can become involved in the school.

On Wednesday, 20 February 2019 at 7.00pm, we are holding our Annual General Meeting of the Governing Council. This is a great opportunity to hear what has been happening at our school and find out what the Governing Council has been involved in over the past year. It is also the time when we elect and organise our Governing Council for 2019.

What does a Governing Council member do?

You represent the views of members in the school community and encourage their participation. When the entire school community works together to support learning, children succeed, not just in school but throughout their lives.

The Governing Council:

- Provides a forum for parent, staff and student participation and decision making and ensures that the educational, social and cultural needs of the community are addressed.
- Plans for improvement in learning and wellbeing for all students through setting the values, vision, mission, site plan and local policies for our site.
- Allocates all of the resources available to the site to support the improvement of learning and wellbeing outcomes for all students.
- Monitors learning and wellbeing outcomes and reports annually to the site's community and the Minister of Education.
- Works collaboratively in the best interest of the site and its community.

Governing Council Sub-committees:

The Governing Council has the power to establish committees under its constitution.

We have sub-committees that give advice on finance and in the past, sport, buildings and grounds including the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program and fundraising.

We welcome new parents and encourage you to become involved. It is a great opportunity to be a part of your child's education and influence at the decision making level. It is also a way of finding out more about teaching and learning programs. If you wish to nominate yourself or another parent please fill in the form below and return to school.

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MCDONALD PARK SCHOOL GOVERNING COUNCIL

I wish to nominate myself
for Governing Council.

I have spoken to and
wish to nominate them for Governing Council.

Signed

STUDENT PERSONAL DATA

With your newsletter today you will receive forms with your child's student personal data, talent consent form, general consent form and an internet code of conduct. Please check your child's personal information form carefully, make changes and return to school with completed consent forms as soon as possible.

PARKING AROUND THE SCHOOL

A reminder to parents that for the safety of all children you may not park in the staff car park when dropping off or picking up children, unless you have a disabled permit. The gates will be shut from 3.15pm to 3.30pm each day and **must not** be opened. Thank you for your co-operation.



The school has been contacted by local residents on a number of occasions about cars being parked across their driveways, both before and after school. We ask that parents and caregivers be mindful where they park at these times as it makes it difficult for residents to come and go from their homes when this happens. This includes the grass area of neighbouring homes.

Thank you.

BELL TIMES 2019

8.55am	School begins
10.55am	Recess - out to play
11.25am	Recess finishes
1.05pm	Lunch - out to play
1.35pm	Lunch finishes
3.15pm	Dismissal

MCPARK ON FACEBOOK

McPark has a page on Facebook. Search for McDonald Park School and 'like' our page to keep up to date with what's happening. We will post information for parents and caregivers on a regular basis.



Our newsletter can be accessed online at
http://www.mcpark7.sa.edu.au/whats_happening.htm

PUPIL FREE DAY

Advance notice - the first of four pupil free days will be 8 March.

Staff will be working with consultant Simon Breakspear on effective change through learning sprints.

WELCOME TO NEW STUDENTS & THEIR FAMILIES



We welcome these new students and their families to McDonald Park:

Navaeh A, Samuel A, Saphira B, Lara B, Ember B, Charlotte B, Nicholas B, Destiney B, Summer B, Sailor B, James C, Benji C, Cruz C, Madelene C-H, Blake C, Mia C, Zahalia C, Judd C, Stella C, Harper C, Harlow D, Elyssa D-W, Rikku D-W, Baden D, Aisling D, Aarav D, Tanvi D, Willow E, Zaiden F, Hudson F, Paige F, Oliver F, Austen G, Nina H, Lucy H, Kade, J Anna L, Evan L, Ryan L, Djakobe L-J, Lara L, Skyla L-R, Ivy L, Gemma M, Meah M, Zander M, Seth M, Awa M, Samuel M, William M, Madalyn M-C, Jemima M, Kayleigh M Logan M, Neema A, Mululi P, Sophia P-W, Jonti P, Jack P, Kayleigh R, Dorothy R, Alexis R, Benji R, Tia R, Lilly S, Jordan S, Saiylah S, Bernice T-T, Fiona T, Lily T, Layla T, Aubery T, Rielyn T and Lukas V.



SCHOOL UNIFORMS

We currently have in stock the following uniforms:

- Summer dresses (size 4,6 & 8) \$16.50
- Hats \$8.00
- Black shorts \$16.50
- Red/black t-shirt \$28.50
- Green jumper \$29.50
- Pinafore \$44.00
- White shirt \$16.50
- Black fleecy pant \$16.50
- Girls black leisure pant \$23.00
- School bag \$60.00

MCDONALD PARK ACADEMIC AWARD WINNERS 2018

Reception:	Abbey B, Campbell B
Year 1:	Milla F, Austin M
Year 2:	Carey G, Kai M
Year 3:	Lucy E, Johee J
Year 4:	Jazz C, Riley F
Year 5:	Amelia H, Madden M
Year 6:	Yenna J, Ashley W
Year 7:	Layne B, Riley M

MCDONALD PARK ACADEMIC AWARD RUNNER UP 2018

Reception:	Jessica M, Bentley W
Year 1:	Olivia P, Braith A
Year 2:	Genevieve A, Harry L
Year 3:	Emily A, Cohen M
Year 4:	Lillyanna S, Ben F
Year 5:	Zoey N, Noah M
Year 6:	Ashriti S, Jack S

MCDONALD PARK ACADEMIC IMPROVEMENT AWARD 2018

Reception:	Zunairah M
Year 1:	Zaive S
Year 2:	Miley C
Year 3:	Lexi M
Year 4:	Peniana C
Year 5:	Harmony C
Year 6:	Emelie W

STUDENT LEADERSHIP



The Student Leadership team for 2019 was selected at the end of last year. The process involved writing an application and for those students whose applications met the criteria to a high level, an interview. The quantity and quality of applicants were impressive, which made the final decision a difficult one.

The McDonald Park Student Leadership team for 2019 include: James T, Charlotte D, Kai A, Tonique B, Archie N and Keelie N. As a team they are looking forward to representing the school and putting some of their leadership ideas into practice.

CANTEEN NEWS

A copy of the 2019 canteen price list is attached to this week's newsletter. Please note price changes. If you are able to volunteer in our busy canteen, please contact Michelle on 8725 4221.

POLICE CHECKS FOR VOLUNTEERS

Many of our parents and guardians volunteer at our school to support their child's learning.

To make it easier for parents and guardians to volunteer their time, the Department for Education and Child Development has updated its relevant history screening policy and procedures.

As a result, parents and guardians who volunteer to directly support their child will no longer require a relevant history screening.

This will mean many of our volunteers can help out sooner.

A screening is still necessary for parents and guardians who are volunteering at school camps and sleep overs, as well as those hosting billets and homestay students.

As has always been the case, a screening is not needed to attend single events or activities at our school. These include concerts, fundraisers, swimming week or sports day.

Screenings are just one measure used to help keep children safe. Everyone who works with children plays a part in child protection, including watching out for inappropriate behaviour.

Find out more about relevant history screening and keeping children safe at www.decd.sa.gov.au.

If you have any questions about screening or these changes, please speak with school staff.

RESOURCE CENTRE

Welcome to 2019 in the resource centre. We look forward to another year of fabulous reading, inquiry learning and library events.

Library staff this year are:

Suzanne Harding (teacher librarian)
Nicole Thompson (SSO)
Sue Moelder (SSO)

We are grateful for the support of volunteers whose help assist our resource centre in being organised and progressive, which in turn benefits student learning.

Students will have a 30 minute borrowing session per week. We ask that all students bring library bags (cloth or plastic) to protect books. We also expect that students return books on time for others to borrow.

We welcome parents and caregivers into the library before school, or at other times that suit you.

Please see library staff if you have questions. We look forward to seeing you soon!

REMINDERS

- **Hats and Uniforms** – in terms 1, 3 and 4 all students need to wear a broad brimmed or bucket hat in the yard and during outside activities such as fitness and PE. Hats are available from the front office for \$8.00. We have a school dress code and we expect all students to dress accordingly. Most items are available for purchase from the front office. Please label all items of clothing. We have a lost property bin which is located in the main building near room one (under the stairs). Please check this regularly for lost items.
- **Hot weather** – All areas of the school are air-conditioned, which provides students with pleasant learning conditions at all times. For this reason we do not send students home when the forecast is 38 degrees or above. If parents wish to collect their child it is their choice. We also have an inclement weather policy and students are kept inside during break times on wet and very hot days.
- **Medication** – Please remember to ensure your child's medications eg asthma puffers, epi-pens, ADHD medicine are not past their expiry date and that you have supplied the school with the necessary medication and health care plan signed by your doctor.
- **Materials and Services** – Invoices and school card forms were posted out to families last week. Please see front office staff if you didn't receive one.
- **Nut Allergies** - DfE requires schools to promote and construct learning environments that are safe and supportive. Students and staff may have anaphylactic (severe allergic) conditions, that include nut allergies. This means that exposure at school may constitute a risk to the health and well being. It is not possible to guarantee that the environment will be completely free of potential hazards, however, compliance to reasonable guidelines will minimise the potential risks.
Where a parent of a child with an allergy to nuts or nut products has alerted the school to the fact (backed by medical evidence /documentation), the school will manage the situation in the following way:

Parents:

- Parents and caregivers being asked to take this into consideration when they are packing their child's lunch. Where possible pack an alternative to peanut butter, Nutella or similar, nuts, peanut cooking oil and other foods that may contain nuts.

Students:

- Students being encouraged NOT to share or purchase food for other students.
- Students being encouraged to wash hands after eating.
- Students bringing food that contain nuts or nut products being asked to eat that food away from any other students and to wash their hands after eating.

Staff:

- Staff supervising eating at lunch time in classrooms or another confined area.
- Staff made aware of students who have anaphylactic responses, including nut allergy



Finding Solutions

Counselling Service

Jodie and Maddy are Accredited Mental Health Social Workers who have worked in this industry for over 18 years between them. Both, Jodie and Maddy will work with adults and families, **Maddy will also work with children of any age, providing interventions through play.**

All clients who have a Mental Health Care Plan obtained through their GP will be entitled to a rebate through Medicare, or can be bulk billed.

Bulk Billing is Available!

For any enquires please contact us on the details below

Maddy Sturges M: 0422 166 641 | E: findingsolutions.maddy@outlook.com

Jodie Sturges: M: 0434 435 083 | E: findingsolutions.jodie@outlook.com

Address: shop 4 / 7-13 Compton Street Mount Gambier SA 5290



13 11 14 Telephone Crisis Support Line



There is currently a call into Lifeline every 32 seconds through the National Call Flow. There has never been a greater need for volunteers on the crisis line. You can help make a difference in someone's life.

The next nationally recognised training for Lifeline Crisis Supporters begins in February 2019.

If you would like more information about becoming a volunteer on the Crisis Support Line please contact Lifeline South East (SA):

Ph: (08) 8723 2299

Email: office@lifelinesa.com.au

www.lifeline.org.au/southeastsa

Lifeline South East (SA) on behalf of Lifeline Australia
RTO 88036.



NORTH GAMBIER NETBALL

TRIALS

All senior and junior players who are interested in trialling for the North Gambier Netball club in 2019 are required to pre-register. Past players should receive an email New players please email jbr07566@bigpond.net.au for a copy of the form.

Trials will be held Monday 11th and Friday 15th February at Vansittart Park Courts.

Juniors (U/11, U/13, U/15, U/17): 5.30pm

Seniors (C, B, A Res, A): 7pm

Attendance at both trials is strongly recommended, however if you will be absent apologies can be made to jbr07566@bigpond.net.au or 0438567367.

THE MOUNT GAMBIER LIBRARY PRESENTS

In Conversation with

ROSALIE HAM

Thursday 14 February at 7:00pm
Library Lovers' Day

Mount Gambier Library

From the number one bestselling author of 'The Dressmaker' comes a darkly satirical novel about a country town at war with the elements and one another.




Tickets \$6.00 available until sold out from the Mount Gambier Library
6 Watson Terrace, Mount Gambier SA 5290
or credit card payments via phone (08)8721 2540

City of Mount Gambier

OUR STAFF 2019

Principal		Kirsty Trahar
Deputy Principal		Sharon Day
Senior Leader		Daniel Castle
Student Wellbeing Leader		Lia Jordan
Aboriginal Education Teacher		Katherine Bundy
Teacher Librarian		Suzanne Harding
Permanent Relief Teacher		Lorraine Cox
Room	Year Level	
A1	Foundation	Sue Wilson
A1	Foundation	Rebecca Devlin
A2	Foundation	Amy Pitkin
A3	Foundation	Melissa McCracken
A1, A2, A3	Foundation/Yr 1	Karen Fox
A5	Science	Sally Strachan
1	Yr 1/2	Deanne Spencer
1, 2	Yr 1/2	Katherine Bundy
2	Yr 1/2	Lydia Huitema
3	PE	Sonya Jolly
5	Yr 1/2	Rose Cooper
6	Yr 1/2	Trudi Dew
T1	Yr 2/3	Kate Eldridge
T2	Japanese	Amber Deppeler
T3	Yr 3/4	Carrie Bisnov
T4	Yr 3/4	Briony Schleuniger
T5	Yr 3/4	Katelyn Squire
T6	Yr 2/3	Michelle Schulz
7	Yr 5/6	Laura Dempsey
8	Yr 5/6	Ashleigh Hutchinson
9	Yr 5/6	Shelley Boylan
8, 9	Yr 5/6	Chloe Watson
10	Year 4/5	Karen Mitchell
11	Yr 4/5	Paul Bigg
12	PE	Daniel Castle
12	Health / Cooking	Naomi Aston
N1	Japanese	Damin Sexton
N2	Health / PE / Cooking	Sallyanne Morgan
N3	Yr 6/7	Andrew McGregor
N4	Yr 6/7	Vanessa McLean
N5	Yr 6/7	Erin Munday
N5	Yr 6/7	Damin Sexton
N6	Yr 6/7	Helen Widdison
N6	Yr 6/7	Stacey Tilley
SSO	Bronwyn Waters	Elaine Hart
	Samantha Clarke	Shane Lewis
	Julie McKinnon	Clinton Meyer
	Evelyn Stratman	Jill Lewis
	Sue Moelder	Shiloh Fennell
	Nicole Thompson	Sonya Shepherd
	Jan Boyanton	Leigh Symons
	Anna Doll	Samantha Blackall
	Connie Nieto	Robyn Laurenson
	Liz Ferguson	
Aboriginal Communities Education Officer		Bernie Manser
Student Welfare Worker		Robyn Howard
Canteen		Michelle Clark Deb Neilson
Grounds		Anthony Ingram
Grounds Trainee		Riley Rolph

MCDONALD PARK SCHOOL—TERM 1 2019 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(Events subject to change at school's discretion if need arises)

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
WEEK 1	28/1 AUSTRALIA DAY HOLIDAY	29/1	30/1	31/1	1/2 Assembly 2.30pm
WEEK 2	4/2 Swimming lessons rooms 1, 2 & 5	5/2	6/2	7/2	8/2
WEEK 3	11/2 Hockey skills clinic	12/2 Hockey skills clinic	13/2	14/2	15/2 Assembly 2.30pm
WEEK 4	18/2 Swimming lessons room 6 Hockey skills clinic	19/2	20/2 AGM / Acquaintance night	21/2	22/2
WEEK 5	25/2 Swimming lessons room A3	26/2	27/2	28/2 Basketball skills clinic	1/3 Assembly 2.30pm
WEEK 6	4/3 Swimming lessons Rooms T3, T4, A1 & A2	5/3	6/3	7/3 Basketball skills clinic	8/3 PUPIL FREE DAY
WEEK 7	11/3 PUBLIC HOLIDAY Adelaide Cup	12/3 Swimming lessons Rooms 10, 11 & T5 Artist in Residence	13/3	14/3 Basketball skills clinic	15/3 Assembly 2.30pm
WEEK 8	18/3 Swimming lessons Rooms T1 & T6 Artist in Residence	19/3 Governing Council meeting	20/3	21/3 HARMONY DAY Basketball skills clinic	22/3
WEEK 9	25/3 Swimming lessons Rooms T1 & T6 Three way conferences	26/3	27/3	28/3	29/3 Assembly 2.30pm
WEEK 10	1/4 Three way conferences	2/4	3/4	4/4	5/4
Week 11	8/4 Year 6/7 Creswick camp	9/4	10/4	11/4	12/4 Assembly 2.30pm Early dismissal 2.15pm