

# McDonald Park School

## NEWSLETTER

Principal – Kirsty Trahar  
Chairperson Governing Council – Nerridy Miatke  
57 North Terrace, Mount Gambier, SA 5290  
Telephone 08 8724 9811 Fax 08 8725 0254  
Email – dl.1021\_info@schools.sa.edu.au  
[www.mcpark7.sa.edu.au](http://www.mcpark7.sa.edu.au)



Issue No 2, 14/02/19 - Week 3, Term 1

GENEROSITY - RESPECT - HONESTY - LEARNING AND GROWING TOGETHER

### COMING EVENTS

WEEK 4	WEEK 5	WEEK 6
Swimming room 6 20/02 Acquaintance Night 5.30pm to 6.30pm Governing Council AGM 7.00pm	Swimming room A3 Basketball skills clinic 01/03 Assembly, 2.30pm	Swimming room T3, T4, A1 & A2 <b>08/03 PUPIL FREE DAY</b>

### WORD STUDY AT MCDONALD PARK SCHOOL

Before the students returned to school this year, our staff engaged in a full day professional learning session on Words Their Way. This approach to spelling and word study will become consistent across our school this year.

#### What is Words Their Way?

WTW is a developmental spelling, phonics and vocabulary program. WTW is an approach to spelling and word knowledge that is based on extensive research literature and includes stages of development and instructional levels that are critical to the way students learn to read. A word study program allows teachers to provide differentiated efficient, effective instruction in phonics, spelling and vocabulary.

Word study teaches students to examine words to discover the regularities, patterns and conventions of the English language in order to read, write and spell. It increases specific knowledge of words – the spelling and meaning of individual words.

#### Why Word Study instead of a 'traditional' spelling program?

Research clearly indicates that memorization of lists of 'spelling words' does not promote the development of spelling skills. You may have noticed that your child works hard to practise and memorize a weekly spelling list, but still makes the same errors in their writing? This is because memorization doesn't make your child a good speller. Gradually and systematically building a solid understanding of the patterns of the English language is far more reliable.

#### Teaching strategies

In Word Study, teachers encourage students to compare and contrast features in words. One common method for doing so is by having students sort words. When sorting, students use their word knowledge to separate examples that go together from those that don't. This allows students to make generalisations about words and transfer this knowledge to new words.

In addition to sorting, students may:

- Hunt for words in their reading and writing that fit the pattern being studied,
- Construct a word wall illustrating examples of the different patterns studied,
- Keep a word study notebook to record the known patterns and their new understandings about words,
- Play games and activities to apply their word knowledge.

Teachers then assess students' pattern knowledge rather than their ability to memorize single words. For example, a teacher might have students work with twenty words during a word study cycle and then randomly assess students on ten of those words, also including additional words on the assessment that follow the pattern even though not on the initial spelling list. This allows the teacher to see if students are able to transfer their knowledge of the pattern to an unknown word.

**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.**

Wednesday, 20 February

**ACQUAINTANCE NIGHT**



5.30PM TO 6.30PM

sausage sizzle  
5.30pm to 7.00pm



**Governing**

**Council**

**AGM**

7.00pm

**MATERIALS AND SERVICES 2019**

**Reminder: School fees are due in full by 28 February unless paying in instalments or other arrangements have been made with Julie our finance officer.**

Thank you to those parents who have paid or have made arrangements to pay their school fees for 2019.

School card applications also need to be forwarded to the school office promptly to be processed for 2019. These forms need to be completed each year and are available from the front office or online at [www.sa.gov.au](http://www.sa.gov.au) and search 'school card'.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries regarding materials and services charges or school card.

All fees to be finalised by the end of term one, unless prior arrangements have been agreed to. Debt collecting process will proceed after this date as per Department for Education policy.

**LOWER SOUTH EAST SAPSASA 2019 DATES**

Date	Term	Event
Thurs, 21 Feb	1	District swimming day (Mount Gambier)
Mon, 18 March	1	Netball tryout day (East Gambier)
Tues, 19 March	1	Football tryout day (Reidy Park)
Tues, 26 March	1	District Athletics Day (Mount Gambier High School)
Fri, 29 March	1	State Swimming Championships (Adelaide)
April 8-12	1	Softball State Carnival (Adelaide)
Fri, 3 May	2	District Golf Day (Mount Gambier)
Fri, 17 May	2	Regional Cross Country (Naracoorte)
Mon, 20 May	2	State Athletics Championships (Adelaide)
Thurs, 6 June	2	State Cross Country Championships (Adelaide)
June 17-21	2	Netball / Football State Carnivals (Adelaide)
Thurs, 1 Aug	3	Soccer Tryout Day (West Gambier)
Fri, 2 Aug	3	Hockey Tryout Day (Blue Lake Sports Park)
Fri, 9 Aug	3	District Basketball day (Mount Gambier)
Fri, 16 Aug	3	Regional Golf Day (Naracoorte)
Fri, 23 Aug	3	Regional Basketball Day (Mount Gambier)
Aug 29 & 30	3	State Golf Finals (Adelaide)
Sept 9-13	3	Hockey / Soccer State Carnivals (Adelaide)
Thurs, 26 Sept	3	State Basketball Finals (Adelaide)
Nov 4-8	4	Tennis / Cricket State Carnivals (Adelaide)



## GOVERNING COUNCIL 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 .....

## RESOURCE CENTRE

Thursday morning book sharing in the resource centre with Room A1 foundation students. What a perfect way to start the day! Thank you to our wonderful parent volunteers.



## FROM THE CANTEEN



### Munch & Crunch Box - \$4.00

Crackers, cheese, French onion dip, carrot, celery, cucumber.

### Wiggly Worm Box - \$4.00

Cheese sandwich, mini muffin, seasonal fruit, carrot, cucumber.



## COMMUNITY NEWS

### SA DENTAL SERVICE

#### Keep your kids smiling

Dental care is FREE for ALL babies, preschool and most children under 18 years at School Dental Service clinics. The School Dental Service is a Child Dental Benefits Schedule provider.

Call us now for an appointment!

Your local clinic is Mount Gambier Dental Clinic, 8721 1633, [www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/sadental](http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/sadental)

### TANTANOOLA FOOTBALL CLUB

Junior colts (under 14)  
Training Tuesday, 5 March 5.00pm  
Junior colt enquiries to Josh  
0409 337 923  
All new players welcome.



### EAST GAMBIER JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

#### Junior clinic with senior players

Sunday, 17 February  
Under 12 10.00am to 11.30am, clinic commences at 10.30am  
All new and existing players welcome (turning 6 and up), meet your coaches

followed by food, refreshments and registration online registration available sports voucher registered club. Enquiries to Nathan Stratford 0427 979 238.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### FFSA REGIONAL CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

The Football (Soccer) Federation of South Australia (FFSA) has recently invested in opening the first regional centre for football excellence in Mount Gambier. Trials starting next week, **Monday 11 February** and **Wednesday 13 February**, under 10/11 boys, under 12 girls, under 12 boys and under 14 girls.

A local teacher, Nathan Fleetwood has been appointed head coach and is a talented player with outstanding coaching credentials. It is a year round program. To be considered for the program you will need to attend both trials. The program is open to a limited amount of players. For information on trial times and age groups please [Nathan.fleetwood.ffsa@gmail.com](mailto:Nathan.fleetwood.ffsa@gmail.com). To secure a spot in the trials go to the following link and complete the registration form <https://form.jotform.co/30130537009846>.



### UNITED WOMEN'S SOCCER CLUB

Want to try girls' soccer? All abilities welcome, ages 8-15

Under 15 and Under 12 girls

Junior registration and training commences

**Wednesday, 20 February at Malseed Park, 5.00pm.**

Bring runners, boots and drink bottle.

Contact Matt 0402 393 073 or Tanya 0427 824 374 for details.

\*All primary school registered players are eligible for 2019 Sports Vouchers (\$100)\*



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](mailto:findingsolutions.maddy@outlook.com)

Jodie Sturges: M: 0434 435 083 | E: [findingsolutions.jodie@outlook.com](mailto:findingsolutions.jodie@outlook.com)

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

## WANT TO DANCE? MOUNT GAMBIER JOIN US FOR A FREE TRIAL!

[WWW.DANCESA.COM.AU](http://WWW.DANCESA.COM.AU)



### DanceSA is opening in MOUNT GAMBIER!

At DanceSA School of Performing Arts you will experience recreational dance fitness classes which celebrate individuality, diversity and creativity!

Join the DanceSA Family of 16 years, come and trial our dance classes.

Experience a fusion of dance styles in every class.  
Jazz, Contemporary, Hip Hop with Ballet Fundamentals.

Dance classes available for ages 3 years and up, of all experience levels!  
Classes commence Term 1 2019

### RIPLEY ARCADE STUDIO

Commercial Street West, (parking off James Street) Mount Gambier

FREE trial lesson with great fees and family discounts  
AMAZING performance opportunities

NO costume making, NO expensive shoes, NO need to join multiple classes

REGISTER FOR YOUR SPOT AT A FREE TRIAL DAY!

0408 988 483 | [info@dancesa.com.au](mailto:info@dancesa.com.au)

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